



Stepping into others' shoes

When Jesus was living among his people, He came close to those in distress and showed His care for them. Today, we see people living in despair in different parts of the world, but we may not really know what struggles they encounter. Are you willing to “step into their shoes” to better understand how they feel?

Refugee board game

Alpha Au, OM staff in Hong Kong, served refugees in Greece in 2016. Knowing the many risks that Syrian refugees took in arriving in Greece, he wanted to design a board game around the plight of the refugees.

“I designed the Borderlines refugee board game and made it available for sale in 2019. I use this board game to let participants experience the situations that refugees have to face when fleeing their homes to help them understand how the refugees feel. I received many positive feedbacks from players. Some players tried to learn more about the history of Syria. A Portuguese brother told me he thought more deeply about the refugee crisis and how believers should respond to it,” Alpha said.

Experiential activity

Alpha has the desire to help us “step into others’ shoes” in a world full of sufferings. Two years ago he joined the OM Global Experience Team to design experiential activities with international teammates.

“Human trafficking is a global problem and victims are often unable to get help. We designed a simulation activity in which participants are hired by a jewellery company to perform tasks like mining, production and sales, thereby forcing them into being exploited,” Alpha shared.

OUR PURPOSE

We want to see vibrant communities of Jesus followers among the least reached.

How to support us?

Make your cheques payable to "Operation Mobilisation (HK) Ltd". Transfer your donations to our account 082-5-026461 at HSBC, please send us your bank receipts. For online donations, please visit www.omhk.org/online-giving-en Donations of HKD 100 and over are tax deductible in Hong Kong.



The trial version of the simulation was held in August 2021. Participants shared:

- “From the beginning I felt frustrated because I didn't know what could happen. I think this reflects the real situation!”
- “The mining pit was so dark. It looked and felt real.”
- “I could feel the helplessness of forced labour.”
- “Though sex exploitation could not be presented overtly in the simulation, I could feel the oppression.”



Borderlines Refugee Board Game

Price: HKD250 (HKD220 for five sets or more)
Shipping cost not included

Place order



Borderlines – how to play





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2nd Biannual Report 2021

Missionary support in a time of turmoil





Missionary support in a time of turmoil

Pandemic, political instability and natural disasters have impacted the whole world. These events create further challenges to the OM Hong Kong team who are committed to provide continuous support to overseas mission workers. Some workers caught the virus; others had to be emergency-evacuated from the field. This pressured, intense time felt like an inescapable emotional roller coaster.

To stay or to leave

Travel bans have been enforced for more than a year. Everyone is subject to quarantine arrangements whether they return to Hong Kong or is assigned to serve overseas. This necessitates advance, detailed planning and involves unexpected costs, not least of which includes substantially higher air fares for radically reduced route options. Whether to stay on the field or not has become a tough decision.

Usual practice is no longer feasible

Ongoing support of workers' physical needs is now a difficult challenge. For example, some workers have to be on medication. Pre-coronavirus, medicines were usually brought by friends. Now

access to medication is through the postal system; often unavailable when threatened by deteriorating political or coronavirus circumstances.

Unexpected changes

Many times what has appeared feasible but changes happened unexpectedly, such as:

A worker had already bought his air ticket with a valid travel visa but was detained in the airport.

After purchasing an air ticket, the flight was subsequently cancelled on the day, as the airline rechartered the plane.

A worker was scheduled to return home after assignment but decided in view of tightened immigration controls to delay her return. As she had no financial provision for the extended stay, she needed to urgently raise fund.

Support from Hong Kong team

Some responses to the needs of overseas workers in the past year:

"At the beginning of 2021, political instability required a couple to be evacuated urgently from the field. As each have different nationalities, we needed to check whether each would be constrained by different immigration controls when buying air tickets. After eventually finding a ticket with reasonable routings and at a fair price and confirming the booking, we still had no guarantee that further coronavirus restrictions would not prevent the couple from leaving. Their air tickets had run into many last minute changes and each amendment further delayed the trip for at least 10 or 15 days. We relied on prayers to face all these challenges."

"In these chaotic times, some workers are waiting to start their assignments while others are being detained in the country that they are due to leave. We can only advise of all possible options but cannot make any decisions on their behalf. It is not easy for workers to make the choice to either leave or stay. We try to understand their emotional needs, pray with them and seek guidance from God. Thanks to our Lord, we are able to leap over all the obstacles we have gone through."



Mission in a Pandemic

Judy Wong followed God's call to join OM's Missions Discipleship Training+ (MDT+) after working for two years after university graduation. She faced lots of challenges before setting off for South Africa in February 2020. It turned out to be quite a journey of faith.

Can I really go?

The MDT+ includes a one-year training and internship programme. Judy said, "The visa application was quite time-consuming. I visited the consulate a few times and could only get a six-month visa. I felt disappointed but God cleared the way for me. In the end I managed to get a one-year visa! Although my trip was delayed I was able to arrive in time for training. When I set off, the risk of coronavirus was very high. I put on all my protective clothing before boarding the flight."

After a long flight, Judy arrived in South Africa safely. Due to coronavirus, some in person training sessions were changed to online sessions. Judy said, "I felt ambivalent because I wanted to reach out to people there but was at the same time afraid of being infected. I didn't want myself or my teammates to be infected!"



During the pandemic, Judy could see the challenges for churches in South Africa. "In Hong Kong, church services could switch to online mode to comply with the restrictions. But the situation in South Africa is different. The internet access charge is high and most people cannot afford to join meetings online. This makes caring for believers a very hard thing."

The way back home

Judy was thankful that God protected her throughout the mission training. When returning to Hong Kong, travel restrictions were in place and entry into Hong Kong from South Africa was banned. "Finding suitable flights was not easy. Some people asked me to extend my stay in South Africa. Some told me to return home as travel restrictions could be tightened anytime," Judy said.

Judy decided to return home by an unusual route – via a flight to Thailand to quarantine before returning to Hong Kong. "Going home safely was a challenge. This time I experienced the challenges of a mission worker serving during a pandemic. I could see that such workers really need prayers and support. Now I am back in Hong Kong. I am going to commit more efforts in caring for mission workers," she concluded.