

Team East Timor Missions Update

July 2021

Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth

2 Timothy 2:15 – “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

Sunday Worship



Gods is working in us abundantly through the riches of His grace. Starting first week of July, we hold our worship service on the grounds within the compound because we cannot be accommodated in the worship room anymore. The church officers made that decision in order to have a more comfortable space for social distancing in a naturally fresh open environment during the modified lockdown. The heat of the sun during midday does not give any discomfort to the worshippers under the knitted sunscreen net. We merely focus on the songs and message of the Lord Jesus on which the Holy Spirit keeps our hearts burning every time we have fellowship. We are greatly more encouraged by the presence of these brethren in their desire to be with us. Most of them help us in connecting with locals by bringing their contacts and friends to the church. We are so thankful to the Lord that even in the midst of a pandemic the Word of God is very powerful and convicts sinners by faith thru hearing the gospel of salvation. The children, though we keep them controllable as we have been teaching them discipline and good morals, may not be so receptive to the message of the Word delivered by the Pastor, but they have the heart to fellowship with us by attending Sunday services religiously and giving offertory songs. It's a little bit hard sometimes when we do our worship service because the kids kept on moving and are restless. We are praying that we can find a better temporary shelter for future church gatherings. All of us enjoy the lunch fellowship after our worship service. Thank you, Lord God, for the provisions.

Bible Study becomes a Field Bible School



The Field Bible School students, we have six regular students to start.



Field Bible School Students in every Sunday afternoon sessions



Brother Ernest is giving a testimony and leads the worship service



Brother David does his preaching and reporting the Basic Bible Doctrine of "The GodHead"

Real Baptism and also *Things that Differ*" by Cornelius Stam. Every Friday, we have vesper hour with the field Bible school students. This schedule is part of the training where students give sermons, reporting, lead worship service, and render special songs. Our Field Bible session is extended every Sunday afternoon. The discussion lasts for 2 to 3 hours including question and answer portion. The Field Bible school students all are church members whom we desire to train to become partner workers in the country as soon as possible, by God's grace. Praise God for their in-depth interest to study theology aside from their consistent support to the congregation and bringing their families to the church.

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The regular Bible study we had is now upgraded into a Field Bible School starting this month. The goal of the team is to finish the curriculum in two (2) years for the members by doing a serious and deep study of grace doctrine, the dispensations,

prophecy and mystery. We are aiming that even before this course ends, we can disciple workers in this Grace Church here in East Timor. We follow the same curriculum that we used in the Philippine Field Bible Schools using the reference books of Charles Baker - *The Bible Truth, Dispensational Theology* and

Saturday and Sunday classes



We have divided Saturday classes into four departments from morning until afternoon. The English tutorial classes of Ciony and Noemi are improving. We observe that the students are getting more interested in their studies. Their reading and comprehension skills have gradually developed. In the Beginners class, kids have learned to start writing alphabets the proper



way. We limit the number of students in every session to give them better attention and wholesome learning by teaching discipline. Normally children in here are compulsive and have disorderly behaviour during classes. The kids' parents have been encouraged seeing their improved learning. Though some of them

are religious fanatics, parents have expressed their thanks to the Team for our efforts in helping them, especially in the very low state of their educational standard in addition to five months of no classes for all elementary government schools and a few private schools. We are praying for these children and the college students that they will learn not only English but also the Word of God. We also teach them songs to prepare for every Sunday worship and share Bible stories. Nurturing these children phase by phase may take much time, but we believe it is worth the labor so that they will hear the grace of God along the way while we teach them. Sunday afternoon classes have been conducted for the youth who desired to learn English faster and reinforce what they learned during Saturday classes, including queries and other lessons. The Philippine History and Current Event class for John and Jirah and the son of the Santos couple, Melchizedek, is also held after the special English class to help them keep up with their lessons diligently while they're away from normal school classes.

On-line schooling and seminars



Pastor Aaron, Ciony and Mary Ann Santos (church treasurer) are studying a two-year online Master of Ministry course from Asia Pacific Institute of International Studies (APIIS) based in Singapore. The primary purpose of the study is to dig deeper into Asian religious ministries reaching unreached people groups by identifying more of their culture, doctrines, customs and different religions. We pray that this could help us connect with more people groups, being equipped with a new strategy of reaching lost souls in the country where we are living/immersing. This Master of Ministry course is free for all 100+ students coming from 18 countries. Weekly, we have zoom meetings and instructional learning (including exams). APIIS

has also provided us all the materials to enhance our very slow internet connection. This study also aims to help more church leaders, workers and missionaries with teaching and leadership skills so maximum results may be achieved in our field of endeavors especially in cross-cultural communities. We are the first batch of trainees from East Timor. Praise God for all these favors!

The last week of June, the Team, together with the Santos couple, was able to attend an 18-hour training in online methodology like basic making/editing videos and colorful classroom presentations for kids and children and other innovative teaching strategies. Goducate School in Iloilo City, Philippines offered this free training. Many schools in the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia also participated. Goducate instructional approaches are designed as home-based learning/home schooling methods which have been applied to online teaching techniques since the pandemic started.

July 18-20, our same group availed ourselves of a free enhancement training conducted online by Sing Your English (SYE) Academy, Jakarta. This training was comprised of 12 extensive hours with demo projects on teaching kids and children. These methodologies have been shared to us for English face-to-face and online lessons. Due to poor internet connection, all training and reference materials for our lessons were given to us freely. Sing Your English (SYE) curriculum is an Indonesian based institution which has helped provide innovative teachings to some provincial schools in Indonesia. Our batch, "Training the Trainers, SYE," was also attended by trainers from Malaysia and Indonesia. We are happy to share our achievement of taking 2nd place in over all competitions. We received the *Most Excellent Effort Award* among the 3 Teams, taking into consideration all our time and patience to comply with the rules during the training and video clip presentations since actual online demonstrations weren't feasible on our part. Also, we were given the *Most Energetic Team Award* for faithfully and actively participating in every part of the training.

The NGO Application



July 2, 2021, was the signing of our NGO application at the office of the Ministry of Justice. We are so happy that the registration is now signed and accepted after many months of processing! We are now waiting for the public posting of the NGO name of

our organization for 15 working days to ensure there is no opposing party, and thereafter, for legal documentation, notary public and transmission to the Senate/Parliament. The last stage of processing, which is standard operating procedure for NGOs will be deliberation

by the Parliament who then has the final approval to award the NGO license to us. Parliament may call us all, as officers, to be present during Senate hearings to answer queries regarding relevant matters and/or clarification. We are praying that the registration will be pushed through and released before this year ends. The NGO application was signed between the Director of the Ministry of Justice and the NGO officers. We have been processing our application for an NGO for about 3 years already, and it has been rejected twice. We experienced hardships in reconnecting and pursuing this application. Just recently, the Team realized that other NGO applications here have normally taken 3 years or more to finish processing and be approved. We pursue this NGO application because among its benefits are: 1) members of TCM-Philippines or TCM-USA can freely enter the country without the difficulty of processing supporting documents, 2) the renewal of Team members' visas will be faster and easier to process and we won't be so upset by so much red tape in transacting official business in various offices, and 3) most importantly, establishing a religious organization under the umbrella of an NGO as an agent of moral and literacy programs is more acceptable here than establishing a direct religious organization, which the state is normally opposed to. We praise God for pushing us more to trust His merciful help in dealing with this NGO process. At the outset, we are grateful for you all, dear brethren, for standing beside us all throughout our deeds and struggles in our field work in East Timor. To God all be the glory!

1 Timothy 4:16 – Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

Thanksgiving Prayers

1. We thank God for good health, protection and His provisions.
2. Thankful for the growing ministry, the church, the Bible study and extension classes for children.
3. For the Field Bible School students who are willing to be trained.
4. For the opportunity to attend free seminars, schooling and trainings online.
5. For the Lord giving us connections to people who are very responsible and cooperative for the work.

Prayer Requests

1. Pray that the church will grow with full understanding in the grace of God.
2. For the Field Bible School Students; books for them to study further.
3. The NGO registration be approved at the Senate and subsequently be released soon.
4. For the missionary kids in their face-to-face classes.
5. For provision of a video cam, projector and printer/scanner.

For some questions and suggestions, please feel free to contact us at:

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