

Dear Friends and Prayer Partners

We are stepping into Australia's warming spring from a chilled winter where the COVID-19 pandemic was lingering for another 3 months in the cold season from July to September. With the first glimpse of spring in October, the coronavirus here seems gradually under control.

A resounding greeting from Ken and Florence in Brisbane! The theme of this newsletter is "A Mission in the Chaos". We are grateful to report to you that our ministry on university campuses in Queensland is returning to normality. Thanks God that we have resumed on campus meetings since the beginning of semester 2.

With a humble start, we developed a Covid-Safe Plan in compliance with the university requirement to allow us to conduct physical gatherings. Jesus said, "*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.*" (John 14:27)



Hope in the Chaos

Striving in the chaotic time of health crisis, we have decided to resume physical gathering on the university campuses. We step into faith from social isolation to meeting student face-to-face. At the start of Semester Two in July, with the relaxation of social distancing announced by the government, we returned to campus.



Grace in the Chaos

Thriving in the unprecedented times, we are blessed that everyone is still holding up well in health. We have started the weekly Catalyst fellowship. Prayer and Bible study meetings have resumed. English Class and Chorus in the Court are held. Outreach on campus is also started. The resumption is never easy nevertheless unhindered.



Mission in the Chaos

Practicing gratitude during trials is a resounding teaching in the Bible (James 1:2). We help students stay positive to reduce stress; celebrate the good things to lift depression whilst prayer is a powerful connection with God to ask for help (Phil 4:6-7). Help out the emotional and spiritual needed is our mission in the chaos.



Digital Winter Conference 2020

Ministry online has become a viable alternative amidst the social distance restriction. On 14-16 July, Power to Change convened the Digital Winter Conference (DWC) nationally. This conference would normally be on-site state-based.



The Theme

The theme of the DWC is "Send Me". We are grateful that there were more than 400 missionaries, students and guests participating across Australia and from overseas. John North, Omar Djoeandy and Candice Seiwert were our keynote speakers.



The Calling

The main topics were: "Here I am Lord Send Me", "Being Fruitful as the Sent Ones", "Redefine Success according to Jesus" and "Where have we been Called". We also had optional workshops and dedicated sharing groups participated in various regional sites and homes.



The Mission

The concluding statement of mission of DWC is "May our response to Jesus forever be" The response is manifested in different contexts of digital outreach, global mission, local & international student ministry and returnee program. While the conference concluded, our mission remains.



Mission Matters 2020

Mission Matters is an annual mission conference convened on Mt Tamborine in Queensland. It was held 25-27 September this year. The world at present is in turmoil and missions still matter. Mission Matters is a time to refocus and a place to rethink our response to God, and ask "What is God's next step for me?" which is the main theme of the conference this year. Florence and Ken participated. We were overjoyed to see many of our students also participated passionately.



Belle's Testimony

Belle, our dedicated student has the following reflection after participating in the DWC: *"During DWC I had learnt many things about myself, God and my relationship with Him! I feel the Lord calling me to serve Him and be a witness for Him! I want to serve Him every day of my life. During this time God revealed to me that He has chosen me. God has placed Jesus in my heart. Yes Lord, Send Me!"*



Since February this year Florence has been Belle's discipler. Belle has a mission heart for God and compassion for people. She is new to Power to Change but she has stepped up as student leader. She will join Summer Project of Mission to Townville in December and Beyond Brisbane Project in 2021. Florence is excited to see how God is guiding her in her life.

Levi's Reflection

Levi, our faithful student has the following reflection after participating in the DWC: *"The meaning of 'Send Me' is complete obedience to God. This is a response to God's love. Just like in Isaiah 6:8 'Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying 'Whom shall I send?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!' From this conference I realized God reminds me 'Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.' (Rom 12:2). Still I need to learn more in my life. Therefore, I continue to study the Bible daily; pray for our nation and the world for those who need God's help. Besides, I need to learn how to preach the Gospel."*



Last July, Levi was a freshman to study Bible with Florence. At first, she was shy. With God's wisdom Florence helps Levi build confidence through the Scriptures. Seeing God works in her life, Levi steps out of faith to share the Gospel with strangers. Her life has changed. After participating in the DWC, Levi is willing to preach God's word to unbelievers. God prepares Levi to accomplish her desire. When time came, Levi shared God's word and helped lead Jasmine to the Lord. After Florence shared the vision of the Great Commission with Levi, Levi has stepped up to be a student leader and worked out a Bible study plan for new believer Jasmine. With the completion of the First Steps Program, Jasmine was baptized on 18 October. Levi is so excited to help in a Bible study group for two new students. Together they will participate in Beyond Brisbane Project 2021. Also, Levi and Florence met a seeker Sophie on campus and they have started Bible study. God builds up Levi's life and Levi learns to serve God. Levi shares testimony; gives talk; leads games and becomes MC in fellowship meetings now. In all things God works for good.

Family News

This quarter sees the sadness, joy and well wishes in our student family. While we empathize for the coping of grief in Henry's family for the passing of Henry's mother, we rejoice for the baptism of 3 students. We wish well for Vicky whom Florence disciples. Vicky planned to be baptized before returning to her home country by the end of August. Due to the epidemic, her return was delayed, Vicky waited patiently. The day of baptism finally came where several non-believing students were touched to consider coming to church. Florence's birthday was on 8 Oct.



Praise & Prayer

- Praise God that three students Vicky, Jasmine and Carolyn were baptized on 18 Oct. Pray that the Lord keeps them close to Him and they testify in the Lord.
- Pray for the comfort of God and empathy of people for the passing of Henry's mother in August.
- Thank God that at DWC, Levi and Belle responded to the Lord: "Please send me! Please help me and serve the Lord with great zeal!" Pray that Florence and Levi are helping seeker Sophie, who will accept Christ as her personal saviour.
- Grateful! For Beyond Brisbane Project 2021, a short mission training will be held on 10-23 Feb. 21 students will participate. Pray for Florence and the team in preparing the Launch Night on 2 Nov. Ask God to provide each student with the \$430 support they need by 13 Dec.
- Through our fellowship, outreach, Bubble Tea and Questions Cuisine, ISM has come to meet 13 seekers to discuss faith. The goal is to reach 20 by the end of the year. Pray God to open their hearts to explore their faith and make decision to receive the Lord.
- Pray for the returnees we are following up and ask God to help them strengthen their faith.
- Pray for the students to do their assignments and prepare well for their exams in November. They need to be healthy for everything to do well!
- Pray for the well being of our body, mind and spirits to serve the Lord with strength, and to bear more fruit!

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

Yours in Christ,

Ken & Florence

Kenneth and Florence Chan