Issue 5 - April 2014 SEAPC magazine TRAVEL ISSUE **Short Term Missions**

Changed
My World

p.13

If I Were to Go

Welcome to the SEAPC Quarterly Magazine. Each part of this magazine, from cover to cover, was created with you in mind and with the goal that its contents would encourage, inform, and inspire you to share Jesus with your sphere of influence. At SEAPC we believe that every man, woman, and child should have the opportunity to know about Jesus Christ and to experience the power of prayer. Thank you for being a part of this growing community and for trusting this network with your gifts, talents, resources, and time. Through your prayer, changes are coming to the nations we serve.

It is April, and around the world people are finalizing their plans for summer travel. We, too, are counting our banked frequent flyer miles, working out our budgets, looking for deals on sunglasses, cameras, and flip flops, while weighing the decisions on where to go, what to do, and how much to pay. This quarter's magazine is all about travel and will hopefully lead you to participate in short-term missions.

I must confess that I have been on an incredible perpetual short-term missions trip for most of my life and am a bit biased in my thoughts about your summer travel plans. That being said, there are some valid questions that I have been asked by people who are considering a short-term missions trip.

"Wouldn't it be better if I just sent in the money it would cost to go to the people who need it?" "Can I really make a difference in just two weeks?" "If I go, what will I be able to do?"

The purpose of short-term missions is to lead people to the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Let me endorse the fact that short-term missions starts in your home, travels to your neighbor's house, and also to the ends of the earth.

The questions are valid and our answers are these: If God has put a desire in your heart to share Jesus to a specific person or group of people, then I want to encourage you to use every resource you have to do just that. Jesus changed the world in three days; imagine what we can do with Him in two weeks. And if you go, with a broken and a contrite heart, carrying the burdens of the souls of the lost, on a mission to change the world, all things are possible for you to do.

I have found that God works very well with the least likely candidates who have made a choice to follow Him. There are those who are led by the Lord to go, those who are led to stay and pay for others to get there, and those who are called to pray. I thank God for each and every one of you who are making the choice this month to participate in short-term missions.

Please enjoy the travel adventures shared in this issue, the principle teachings on why and where we go, and the beautiful pictures and stories captured during SEAPC vacations with a purpose. Thank you for your giving and prayers.

Young girl living at the Daya
Children's Home, Kerala
India: supported by
SEAPC Coins for Kids

Matthew Geppert,
President, SEAPC





2014 SHORT-TERM MISSIONS TRIPS / 3 SEAPC Global Community

HOW MANY ATTACK LAMBS FIT IN A CHURCH VAN? / 5 Mark Geppert

LIVES CHANGED, STARTING WITH MINE / 7 Darren Lim

I AM GOING ON A TRIP / 9 Kids Page

A VISION THAT BEGAN WITH A PURPOSE / 11 Cassandra Tsai

TRAVEL ISSUES / 15 SEAPC Global Community SOWING SEEDS OF CHANGE / 17 Darren Lim

A PLACE FOR ALL / 18 Financial



SEAPC Magazine is a publication of
South East Asia Prayer Center (SEAPC)
seapc.org | facebook.com/seapc
PO Box 127, Oakmont, PA 15139 | 412-826-9063
info@seapc.org

FREE COPIES ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH OUR OFFICE AND ONLINE







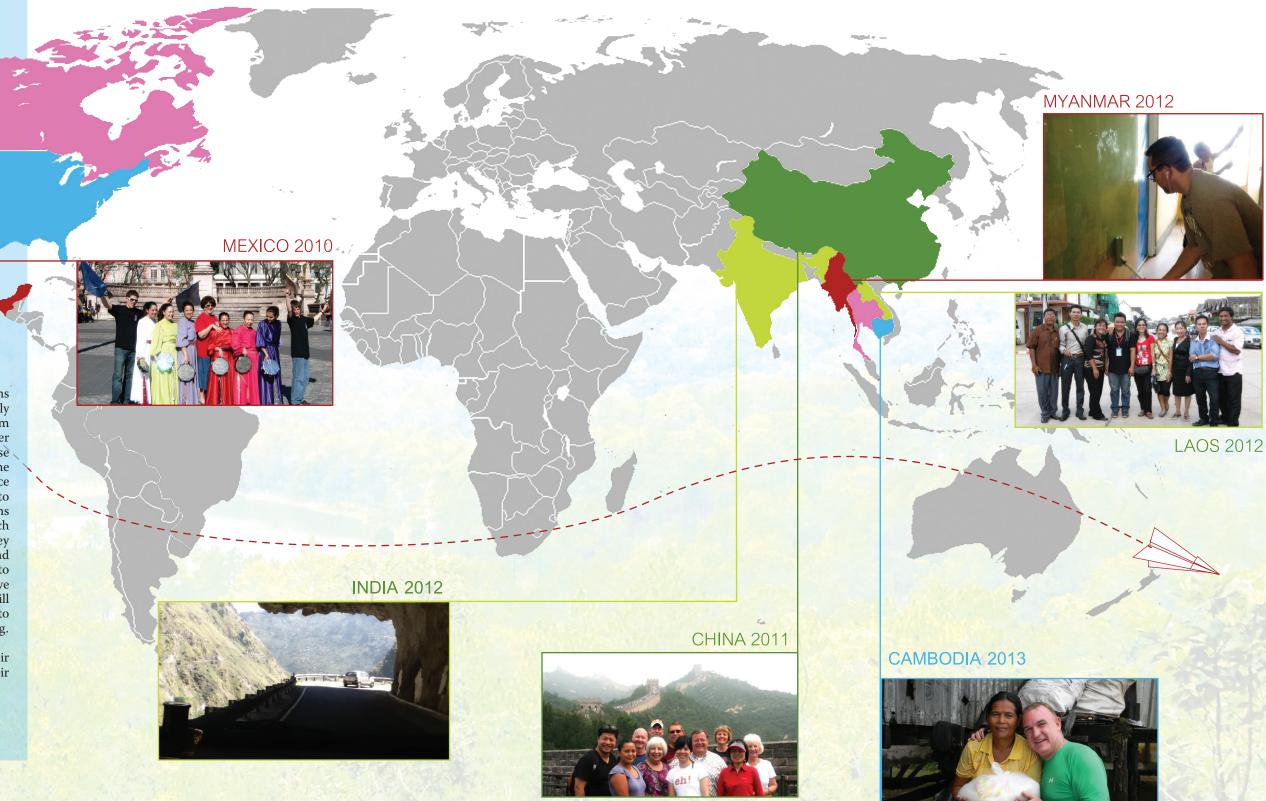
2014 Short-Term Missions Trips



Singapore

Going on a global short-term missions trip can be a lot of fun and extremely fruitful. This year, short-term teams from around the world will be joining together with friends living in these nations. Those teams will join these friends with the following understanding: "Every place your foot shall tread I have given unto you." Our friends living in these nations stand on their own in faith and have each watched God establish the ministries they serve. Each is totally independent and reliant on God. When God leads us to bring short-term teams to serve them, we go with the confidence that our God will place our feet on the ground He wants to bring change to, and changes are coming.

Please pray for them. Pray for their ministries. Participate with us for their success!



3



How Many Attack Lambs Fit in a Church Van?

So the question is: "How short is a short-term missions trip?"

I heard the shots ring out from across the street. Leaving my sofa, I dashed out to the porch with some cover provided by a brick column. I saw that my neighbor had responded in the same way and, calling to each other, we determined that the shots had been fired in a home across the street. While watching for any egress from the house, he called the police while I called upon the Lord.

Total distance traveled: 12 feet. Total time elapsed: 30 seconds. Total cost involved: none. Result: there were no more shots, the police arrived a few minutes later, the domestic dispute was resolved and the weapon and shooter taken into custody.

Any change of location for the purpose of prayer can be considered a prayer mission. When the boys were teenagers, I regularly prayer walked their rooms; binding any discerned wicked spirits and inviting the Holy Spirit to make an abiding place of their room and to speak to them while they slept. During those years, I made daily trips to their school athletic facility and used the track and fields to spend what I called the "hour in motion." This prayer walk was all about focusing on the school facility, faculty, student body and any intrusion by wicked spirits. Not coincidently, the school experienced a wonderful touch from the Lord. When asked about so much of Jesus in a public school, the union steward responded, "It used to look like Halloween in these halls, look at it now."

Our town is one square mile. So a walk around the perimeter takes a little more than an hour (hills) and gives an excellent cardio workout. As a Cub Scout, I earned a merit badge by completing a map of the town including the schools, post office, police and fire stations, banks and churches. This was part of the "Know your neighborhood" training for every scout. We were taught to map out the key places in the town and places that shaped our lives. So now you know where the Attack Lambs' "Five Pressure Points" came from. Any eight-year-old should know them.

For years, when home from walking nations, I have walked this town. As I walk, I pray for the people who live in the well-kept houses. Our town requires lawn care and maintenance. The sidewalks are also kept in very good shape so the walk is not

a danger to ankles and knees. Over the 60 years that we have lived here, the amount of crime and domestic disputes has been proportionate to the level of prayer maintained. From time to time we have moved away and other prayer walkers have as well, and drugs have come back to the schools and homes burgled.

When this happens, we have to redouble our efforts in prayer; binding the wicked spirits and inviting the Holy Spirit to make an abiding place of every home in town.

So a local trip can be 12 feet in 30 seconds or 4 miles in 75 minutes. Of course, if you stop to pray for specific places, this time can increase. These hours of motion, or prayer walks are a double blessing: the prayer is good for you, and the exercise is wonderful. Perhaps you do not have an hour a day to walk and pray; or, like us, you live in a place in which the weather is often not conducive to an outdoor journey.

Cars are great. You can get in a car and really expand your short-term missions plan. You can drive to the 5 prayer places (government, commerce, communication, education, spiritual activity), park the car, turn on some praise and worship tunes and get together with God for His will to be manifest in that place. You can say or sing things like, "Thy kingdom come" or "Reign King Jesus Reign over all the peoples of the earth". You can make a shortterm trip to a neighboring community, a county seat, or to your state capital, make your map, plan your time, and pray for the county or the state in which you live. In many eastern states, this does not require an overnight stay. You may be able to find 3 others to join you and you can share the cost of fuel and enjoy a nice lunch together. Now you are a short-term team.

Your team may grow to 2 or 3 cars or even a borrowed church van, and you are a mobile prayer ministry. Now you can consider a short-term trip to your state capital with an overnight and 24 hours of focused prayer. Cost can be shared by team members. You can preprogram the music with breaks for prayer as you travel. Now you are forming an experienced prayer team that can think of traveling to the national capital to pray.

One of our SEAPC board members formed a group of bicyclists in Florida. Loading their bikes on an

Am Track they took the overnight to Washington DC. Arriving in the morning, they cycled around the key buildings in the National Capital and prayed at each pressure point. In the evening they took the return train to Florida. Time involved: 2 days. Cost: train ticket and lunch. Results: immeasurable in temporal terms.

Vacations with a purpose allow us to take our children to key historic places in America, teach them our Christian heritage, pray for the nation and restore some national pride in their generation. My father would load up the car and we would travel with Perry on Lake Erie, or Washington at the Delaware, or with Lincoln at Gettysburg. To this day I can lead a tour of Pittsburgh with all the history you can endure.

Prayer birthed the nation, prayer built the nation, and prayer will sustain the nation. You can bring prayer to the grounds and doors of your schools. You can invoke the name of Jesus at local, county, state, and federal government centers. You can consecrate the land and remove the wicked spirits. You can, if you will, make every journey a short-term prayer mission.

Please join with us from June 15 through July 25 and make daily short-term missions trips in your community. God is using SEAPC to knit together short-term teams for the Americas; the U.S. and our neighbors, Canada and Mexico. Through the Attack Lambs training we are mobilizing millions to pray for their community and to make a trip between July 1 and 4 to their state or provincial capital. They will touch the 5 pressure points and call upon the One who is able to save, heal, and deliver. We are joined in this endeavor by 2 good friends, Cindy Jacobs and Dick Eastman. Please mobilize your group, or church, or network to join with us in these 40 days of prayer purpose.



Written by Mark Geppert

Lives Changed,
Starting
I like vacation travels an as much. It is such a great to travel. Many would lil able. I also have had a issues — from food pois unfortunate incidents at



Written by Darren Lim Communications Director, SEAPC I like vacation travels and travelling on short-term missions just as much. It is such a great blessing to have had the opportunities to travel. Many would like to but are not physically or financially able. I also have had a fair share of some of the typical travel issues — from food poisoning to delayed or cancelled flights, to unfortunate incidents and injuries. To be able to travel on shortterm missions and have the opportunity to experience another culture, see another country, bless the people, and share the Gospel with them is worth putting myself outside my comfort

As an introvert and an INFP personality type, I respond intuitively, to beauty, and with the heart, focusing on cooperation, compassion, empathy, and morality. This is why, when asked about my most memorable experience of a trip, I would often describe a visual image etched in my mind, the travelling company that I was with, or of strangers who became unique individuals impressed upon my mind. I vividly remember picturesque China identically depicted as a typical Chinese painting, was embraced by the loving, generous, god-loving, fun-loving, and food-loving attributes of my short-term missions team, and the name of our Tibetan guide sounded like "Pi Ka Chu" (the cartoon Pokemon) who was chatty and warmly affable.

Sent forth by my local church, our particular short-term missions team included individuals and families with children, and ages ranging from 4 to above 65 years old. The team focused on a few areas of service and ministry, and has more than doubled

in number in 4 years to having 30 members now. Some are not fluent in the visited country's native language, and some do not even speak it. But that did not quench their desire to serve and to bless; well, they just let the team interpreters do the job.

I believe a short-term missions team should have well-planned objectives, is all-encompassing, and as long as one is willing and able to go and serve, this person should be encouraged to be a part of the team, to bless and to be blessed. Any person joining the team should be assured that the programme is thoughtfully organized and have his or her needs taken care of. This helps ensure that the team is focused on their ministries while at the same time being able to enjoy their stay overseas.

Many have returned from short-term missions with testimonies of their lives being changed. I am of no exception. Indeed, every trip is different but the end result is always the same – a part of me changes each time I return from a mission trip. My perspectives changed for the brighter, so did some of my values and convictions which changed for the better and stronger. My spirit felt refreshed and ministered to due to the fact that we had to make the extra effort to draw close to God in order to minister effectively to others; not forgetting, the change in luggage weight from all that shopping (who would buy 2 kilograms of Pu Er tea), and a change in the form of additional body weight from delicious meals (steamboat for dinner and local cakes for supper every night). As you can see, change is a constant, and usually within 2 weeks after my return, another change would take place: I would lose all that extra weight I had put on, which is not ideal for my unusually slim stature.

I digressed a little. I want to encourage you to join a short-term missions team if you are able. Go and experience for yourself. One avenue is through SEAPC, where it offers several opportunities to go on a short-term missions every year. SEAPC is dedicated to changing lives and the key is through prayer; pray and ask God to change the lives of others through you. Or, join up with a team from your local church. Again, pray and ask God for the opportunity to change lives through you. When God does, not only will the lives of others be changed, you can be sure that yours will be changed as well. That is the nature of God – that He loves the person that you are reaching out to as much as He loves you. Bless because you are blessed.



Our Missions Team







I AM GOING ON A TRIP

... Pretend this is a missions trip to the Himalayas of northern India. On your trip you will take these things:





Read Luke 10:1-20 every day until the next SEAPC newsletter comes to your house. Read it out loud to your parents or with a friend or just out loud to yourself. The Bible says that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.

What do a car, tree, and an elephant have in common?

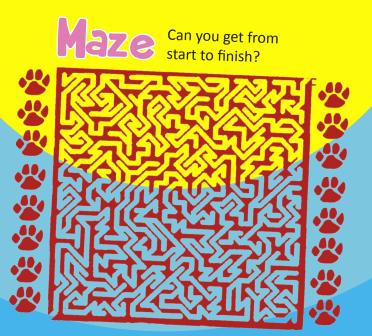
(answer below)

When Jesus sent out the 70 other people to every place where He would go — He said not to take anything with you. That takes a lot of faith but I know missionaries who have done this and it worked! We will need to read Luke chapter 10 many times to build up that much faith. Jesus sent the 70 out lions with authority over demons. People were saved, healed and delivered by the power of the Word.

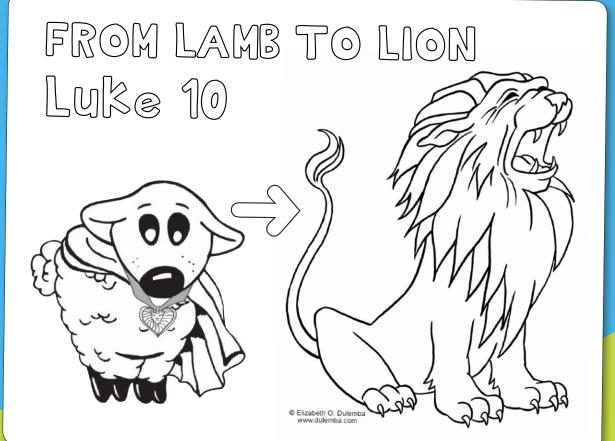


How many times can you find the word "Lion" here?





Color Page



Parents: At our website, are more children's activities with Leo the Lamb and parents can order a copy of Mark Geppert's The Attack Lambs book for their own inspiration.



RIDDLE: They all have a trunk! WORD BLANKS: bible, passport, backpack, flashlight, pajamas, sunglasses, toothbrush, and snacks



If you asked me three years ago if I would ever go on a missions trip, I would not have hesitated to say no. Three years ago, I heard a speaker talk about his time of service in India as a missionary and he painted a picture of himself sitting in his home looking at his wall. He thought he had a tiled wall with grout lines. He mentioned how peculiar he thought it was that the grout lines looked as if they were moving. Upon closer inspection, he noticed the wall actually did not have grout lines but instead, had lines of ants marching along the wall. After listening to that speaker, I remember announcing, with certainty, to a car full of people that the man's ant story was gross and there was no way I would ever go on a missions trip.

Our Lord has an incredible sense of humor and the power to transform anyone. I can say this because, despite my earlier proclamation, I found myself considering a prayer-walking journey through Beijing, China, and Tibet a short three months later. The decision to obey God's calling did not come without difficulty. I wrestled with God. How could I go? I have two young children at home - could my husband manage both of them on his own? We had childcare costs to cover - how would I finance the trip? What if I did not like the food? What about the sanitary conditions? I am not spiritual enough - I have not even read the bible in its entirety - who am I to go on such a trip? One by one, God dealt with each of my concerns. By August 2011, I found myself willing to surrender and trusted that even though there was nothing special about me, God would use me for His purpose as long as I just made myself available. Not only did God come through for me in 2011, He did it again when I found myself praying through the mountains of Tibet in 2012.

If you asked me three years ago what I do for fun, adventure and excitement, the last thing I would think of saying would be to go on a prayer walk. As

I sit here reflecting on my missions trips since 2011, I have no other adjectives but adventurous, fun, exciting and fulfilling to describe them.

If you asked me three years ago what my five or ten year plan was, my answer would be to carry on with life as I had been, with a focus on climbing the corporate ladder and preparing my children for a future of doing the same. Yet, God has shaped and moulded me such that when my ten year-old son, Christopher, approached his father and myself in 2013 to tell us he wanted to join SEAPC on a missions trip to Cambodia, I realized that the Lord had greater plans for Christopher than to just climb any corporate ladder. In July of 2013, I went with Christopher to Cambodia. As I sat in a children's home in Battambang, I asked the Lord to show me how I could make a longer lasting impact on the nations that was bigger than me going for two weeks a year. Twenty-two Cambodian children were praying the sinner's prayer and receiving Jesus Christ as their

Lord and Savior when the Lord opened my heart to bringing a ministry to Canada that would influence Canadians to change others' lives through prayer.

As SEAPC is beginning to move forward in Canada, I have had the pleasure of serving our Lord with three other people. David and Sonia Chung, and my husband Joe share the same vision of building a ministry that empowers Canadians to change lives through prayer. We are asking that you keep us in your prayers and that God will grant each of us wisdom and courage as we navigate the various challenges of establishing this new ministry in Canada, and that, however we do this, it is all done with the purpose of fulfilling God's plan.

Photos: (left to right) Cassandra in Tibet; Christopher praying for a girl in Cambodia; Christopher eating a spider, Cassandra and a girl in Cambodia; Cassandra.

11



I first met Matt and Jessica and soon afterwards Mark and Ellie over ten years ago. I loved to hear the stories about Tibet, Guatemala, Cambodia; all the amazing places where God was doing amazing things. I always felt in my heart, "God, if you can do those things there, you can do them here!" That created a wander-lust in my heart to go along with Matt or Mark to see them happen myself. My wife encouraged me and the congregation always indicated they would support me but there was always a reason I couldn't go. "Someday" became my wish; "tomorrow" was my excuse.

oppression seeking the power and protection of the Spirit to bring the Gospel to a nation that needs hope and healing. It was not what I imagined, nor what I expected. It was harder. It was better. It was what God wanted for me.

It has been three days since I was back from India and I am still working through the jet lag and getting used to American food again. I am still processing what I experienced and what it means for my life and my congregation. I have a feeling I will be processing for a long time; there was so much so fast, it was a buffet of the move of God. I'm stuffed.

into ministry in conditions I cannot imagine;

ten days in India experiencing a church under

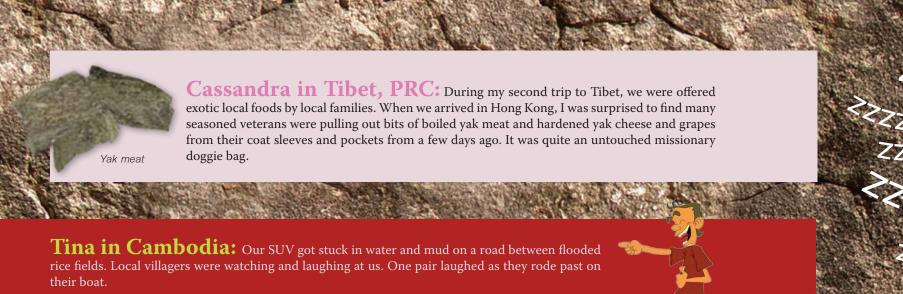
I have only one regret coming back: I regret it took me ten years of making excuses. I know God does things in His time, and this was a God thing. But who knows what God things I missed because of the tyranny of the urgent.

Some wonder why we do short-term missions. I didn't change the world, but my world was changed. I didn't lead hundreds to Christ, but I got to share my faith and learn by watching others share theirs. (Ask me about Lun in the temple in Vientiane some time.) My prayer was that what I learned I could bring back, and my spiritual luggage couldn't hold all the lessons I learned. Pray for my congregation as I prepare to share it with them over the months ahead. John Wesley said, "Prayer changes us." I think the same principle applies: missions changes

I want to leave you with three suggestions. One: GO. Don't put it off. SEAPC offers plenty of opportunities and can help you find others. Stop making excuses. Someday is today. Two: listen more than you talk. I learned more from the students at the Bible college, from their faith and obedience, than I could offer them from 3 years of seminary and 3 years of doctoral studies. And that says nothing about the teachers and the pastors I met from whom I could gain another entire degree in spiritual service. You don't know everything, so listen to what God is saying. Three: PRAY. I learned first-hand it is the South East Asia PRAYER Center for a reason.

Blessings upon blessings, shaken down and overflowing.

Picture: Don Brown in India



Pastor Sinai in Cambodia: I spend most of my time travelling to villages visiting church planters and the orphanages in different provinces. One late and tired night, with a team in a remote province, I heard someone snoring so loud that it sounded like a tiger – this person was literally sound asleep. One Singaporean actually thought that there was a tiger under the house! A wild tiger, at night, and it was hunting us! He was so scared that he was about to jump down and out of the house through the window and run for his life. Then his friend held and pulled him back, and told him that it was not a tiger. He did not believe him, so we woke everyone up to confirm that it was not a tiger. It was just an American guy snoring.

TRAVEL ISSUE

Jeff Yuen in U.S.: In San Francisco, my friends and I were looking for the Church of Satan so that we can prayer walk the place (and hopefully pray for some of its members). When we revealed our intent to the cab driver, she freaked out because the GPS co-ordinates for that place immediately vanished from her GPS screen. We did not manage to find the location. However, we led the spooked-out cabbie to Jesus that day!

Hubert in India: We had been on the road for as long as I can remember. It seemed like a never ending journey. Preaching the Gospel has never been more real. We had just came through the Karakoram Highway into Pakistan, spoke to Moorlas and Imans, Islamic scholars and Hajis, seen the death looks on potential suicide bombers. Now we were on our way to Islamabad and then to Lahore, onward to India. As we arrived at Rawalpindi, I decided that we need to pamper ourselves. Looking at my wallet, we had just enough money for a good meal. So once we were off the bus, we decided to go to eat pizza. Both of us were like uncouth man gobbling down the pizza until we could hardly move. Then we took the night bus, and we were on our way to Lahore to go into India. Within a few hours, our stomachs began screaming at us and we hoped it was not true but it was. We had diarrhoea and it was really bad. So, our journey into India started with us visiting the toilet "religiously". My advice to people going to the Indian sub-continent: plug all your holes.

Christie in Cambodia: We have a small, red miniature pinscher named Jax. He is always nibbling at the feet of our guests — especially Khmer repairmen. In response to these nibbles, I shout "Come, Jax! Come!" He usually responds by coming to my feet. But the Khmer have often looked at me incredulously, with wide eyes and a nervous smile. I have since learned that the Khmer word that sounds like "come" means "bite". "Bite, Jax! Bite!" Mystery solved.

Darren in China: I am familiar that in China, they do not often say what they mean. Once, my pastor and 2 others were on house visits from village to village with a local guide. They set off at dawn and asked the guide how long the journey would take them. It would be about 1 hour of additional walking after alighting from their transport. With their backpacks filled with gifts, they prepared themselves mentally for the hour walk. After an hour, they asked if they would be arriving soon and "Ma shang" (immediately) was the reply. So they walked on. They were still walking half an hour later, so they asked the guide again. "Ma shang, ma shang!" Steeling themselves, they walked on. With their backpacks feeling heavier, they asked again after another half an hour of walking. Again, "Ma shang" was the reply. This went on and by the time they arrived at the first house, they had walked with the expectation of "immediately" in their mind for almost 3 hours. We have now made this experience into a joke amongst the short-term missions team. We would laugh and tell each other "Yes" and "Ma shang" when we do not intend to meet each other's requests.

Ma Shang! Ma Shang!



Sowing Seeds of Change



Fridge magnets – almost everybody has one stuck on the doors of their refrigerator, or maybe even one too many of countries they have visited. Take a vacation to Paris, and chances are you would return with an Eiffel Tower keychain. You have not visited Southeast Asia if you leave without having tasted the street side hawker food. Turn a corner at the end of your street, and it is your regular grocer's who has been there for a couple of generations. From shops selling souvenirs to local food stalls and grocer shops, these are common examples of microeconomics within a community in motion; where there is an exchange of goods and services.

Economic development through microeconomics within the community is one of the platforms that SEAPC sows into. We are dedicated to changing lives through prayer. Prayer is key, where we pray for the people and ask God to open the door. We also work among the people on the platform the Lord opens. Through prayer, the Lord also connects us with people who would like to utilize SEAPC as a channel to make a difference in people's lives.

SEAPC seeks to serve those in impoverished situations by empowering them through education and skills so that these communities are able to have a sustainable living. One example is the Garden of Hope Farm – a project initiated by SEAPC, and it serves to eradicate poverty by bringing hope to the farmers of Laos and prosperity to the communities in Laos. If you would sow into this project through sponsorships of a monthly contribution of \$125, the reach is far beyond with every contribution, and the fruit is great. Each of the 15 students in Garden of Hope receives a biblical education, farming education, shelter, and food.

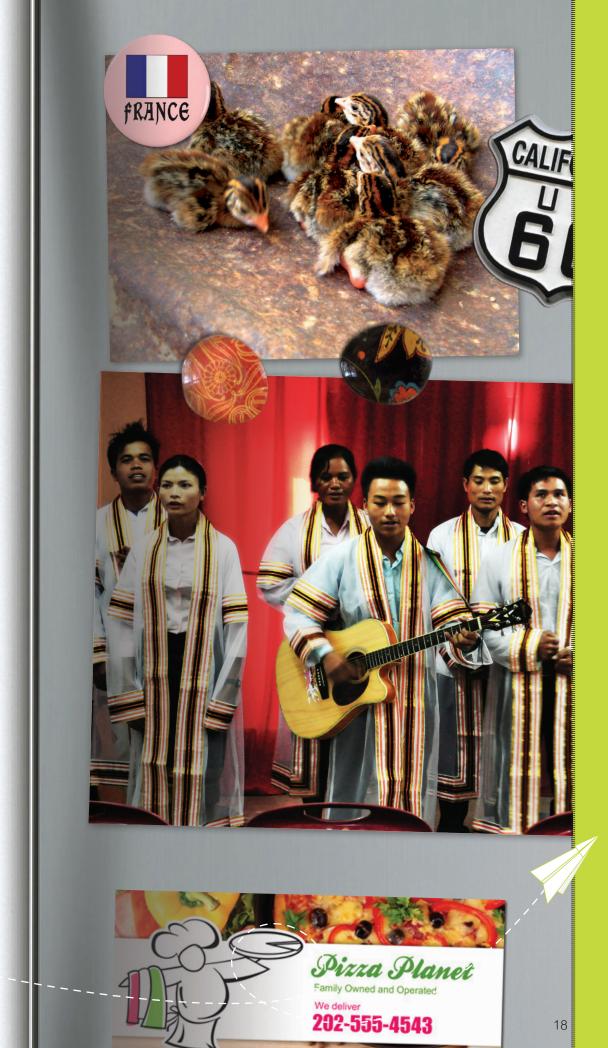
If you have the opportunity to go on a short-term missions trip to Laos, make the Garden of Hope a 'must see' on your itinerary, and don't forget to make it a 'must bless' as well. Literally, the fruits that your giving has sown into on the farm will make it all worthwhile. Just ask Hubert.

Thank you, and God bless you abundantly through your faithful giving.



Written by
Darren Lim
Communications
Director, SEAPC

Opposite page: Garden of Hope guinea fowl chicks (top) and graduates in a worship performance (bottom)



A Place For All

There are multiple ways to get involved in short-term missions. It is not exclusive to going on a trip. The Lord puts us in different positions to bring Him glory. We, at SEAPC, like to break it up into 3 main ways to get involved with short-term missions. The first way is to go and serve. The second is to pray. The third is to pay. We all fit somewhere in these categories.

⇒ GO

Several times a year, there are opportunities to go on short-term trips. There are always opportunities to India, Cambodia, Myanmar, Laos, Mexico, Thailand, and others. These trips can cover a lot of different aspects: from prayer walking, teaching students, evangelistic outreach, repairs to buildings, and just spending time loving on kids. If you can do one of these things, then you are equipped to go. For more information on opportunities, please call our office. (412.826.9063)

⇒ PRA

If you are a prayer warrior or intercessor, you can be a part of short-term missions.

"Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men." (1 Timothy 2:1 NKJV) Please pray for these teams. For specifics on prayer teams please call our office (412.826.9063) or sign up for our praise and prayer email.

⇒ PAY

The third way to be a part of short-term missions is to pay. The average trip cost is \$3,000. Please prayerfully consider blessing someone to go and serve in short-term missions. There is no shortage of people willing to go, but there can be difficulty in obtaining the necessary funds.

Please be a part of missions in any way. The fruit from these opportunities is life and nation changing.

""For 'whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.' How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent." (Romans 10:13-15 NKJV)



Written by
Tony Wimer
Director of Contributor Relations,
SEAPC

