



CHOIR TEAM RETREAT CUM MISSION TRIP TO KUALA LIPIS – WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH : 11TH TO 14TH MARCH 2010

Egged on by the enthusiastic encouragement from Pastor Leslie, 14 members from the combined choir embarked on our retreat cum visit to Wesley Methodist Church, Kuala Lipis, Pahang, West Malaysia from 11 to 14 March, 2010.

We left Singapore for the 9 hr train ride and reached the cosy town of Kuala Lipis by 3.30am and thereafter proceeded straight to the hotel.

The next day at 10am we were given a 4 hr talk by Pastor Leslie on BUM (Basic Understanding of Missions) with topics like “The Challenges and Opportunities in Missions”; “Tips on Short Term Missions Trip” and “The Local Church and Mission.”

This proved to be an eye-opening and enriching lecture. The pastor emphasised on the dos and don'ts of going around doing missionary work at ground level and the need to be sensitive to local customs and norms. This is best achieved if the missionary team works with one heart and work closely with the local pastor (if any). He peppered his talk with many interesting incidents based on his vast experiences. We are really thankful to him for these sharing.

On Saturday morning, we visited the church built on a hillock and was built of concrete. We had our choir practices and was pleasantly surprise by its good acoustic. The person in charge of the church is Dr Richard Chan, a dentist by profession and has a congregation of 17 dedicated members. With the help of family members, Richard virtually runs a one-man show. Every Saturday night, without fail, he would use his car to pick up the church members for services. He is the worship leader, usher, lead singer (using his guitar) and also deliver the message. Such commitment and dedicated perseverance demands our utmost love and respect for him. Praise the Lord!

We had a wonderful worship service that evening starting at 8pm. There was about 50 of us including visitors from Raub (a 2 hour drive, mind you) and also from Bentong. The congregation was greatly enriched by Pastor Leslie sermon entitled “Empowered to reach out” based on Mark 16: 14-18 especially vs 17 – “And these signs will accompanied those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues:” After the service, we mingle with our fellow brethren sharing and encouraging one another reminding them that they are not alone and we will always remember them in our prayers.

On Sunday noon we began our journey home, bringing with us sweet memories of our delightful fellowship with our Christian friends in Kuala Lipis. God willing, we might make it a yearly affair.

To God be the glory!
Roger Chong
On behalf of the combined choir.
27.3.10



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TESTIMONY BY ALEX CHEW

I would like to share a short note about our trip to Kuala lipis.

I want to thank God for giving us, especially myself the opportunity.
I believe God wants to show or tell me many things, thru this meaningful (quality) trip to Kuala Lipis.

First, He showed me or rather tell me to be patient and to have endurance.
He showed me in the book of Mark where Jesus went from places like Nazareth, Capernaum, Bethsaida, Jerusalem and so on for His ministries on foot and yet with no complains and here I am a train ride from Singapore to Kuala Lipis and back to Singapore (only 9 hour per trip) yet I have lots of complaints, telling others about my discomfort train ride (God telling me “Alex, tahan” meaning “endure” in Malay.)

Second, God showed me about the faithful people from the church over in Kuala Lipis, they are so warm and close-knit and other sister churches are also supportive spending long distance to be with them worshipping together.

I think if given another chance, I will not hesitate and would like to meet up with them.

Again let me thank God for you Pastor Leslie, for the vision and your planning
May God bless your ministry.

In His service
Alex Chew

