



HIMN November Newsletter

Issue: November 27, 2013

FEATURE TESTIMONY OF THE MONTH

This essay was written by Salena Huang, the teenage daughter of Ms. Wanchan Ohyan.

Houston's proximity to the Mexican border means a constant presence of migrant workers waiting for work opportunities. As a first generation American, I saw these men lining the streets as part of normal Houstonian life. However, my mother was drawn to their situation, a strange affinity between a Chinese immigrant to the Hispanic people, a practicing lawyer to illegal immigrants. She would bring me to visit these men, which I initially considered a nuisance. On Saturday mornings, my mother would wake me up early to serve these strange aliens food and drink. During the winter holidays, she would recruit me to scrounge around for men's clothes other necessities and small gifts to give.

I clearly remember standing outside one winter, attempting to play Christmas music on my flute with numb hands and cold lips. The crisp winter air nipped at my face and hands and crept between the layers of my jacket, and the open air dispersed the sound from my flute. Because of the frigid weather, my flute refused to respond, and to add to my frustration, there was nowhere adequate to place sheet music. The other musicians shared my frustrations, and my mother's ignorance of musicianship mortified me. I was thoroughly miserable.

Gradually, however, I acknowledged the value these visits brought. Despite our flawed performance, the workers still sang cheerily. Their gratitude shone through though they had little to appreciate. While I may have felt lousy outside mid-December, I realized that these men endured so much more. Their skimpy, ill-suited clothing provided little warmth. Some tried to layer T-shirts while others wore an assortment of clothes and hats, including an item that looked suspiciously like a women's coat. Nevertheless, in the face of grueling hardships, these men refused to resort to begging. They stand outside daily, dawn to dusk, enduring scorching hot Texas summers to blistering cold winters -- all in the hope of finding honest work. My mother may have taught me compassion but these men taught me tenacity.

So while many perceive migrant workers as simply nuisances, I cannot help but appreciate them. Where others see worn, weathered faces, I see a rugged beauty. Their steadfastness embodies the very core of American individualism that we pursue through democracy and capitalism. These men remind me to continue striving not just as an aspiring engineer and musician but also as a friend, a daughter, and a sister. They allow me to believe that our ties can transcend both race and nationality.

PRAYER ITEMS

1. **HIMN's Winter Clothing Drive:** pray that we will get enough clothes to give to the migrant workers.
2. **HIMN's Christmas Sharing Events:** pray that our special Christmas Sharing Events will be inspiring, encouraging and successful to bring lost sheep back to God's kingdom.
3. **Spiritual Growth and Revival:** Adan Lera, Ivan Matos, and Cesar Rodriguez who repented from their sins and Miguel Angel Kiau who reconciled with the Lord. Please pray that these new believers will find a church nearby. Please pray for Miguel's wife Yadira Perez Cruz as well. Also, please pray that all the workers who are believers will remain strong in their faith through all the hardships they face.

11/2/2013 SHARING EVENT AT BELLAIRE

Andrew's Report:

I arrived at the Bellaire location at 8:15 AM. Kris, who brought the water, arrived at around 8:30 and Pastor Joel arrived at around 8:35. Kris began at around 8:40 with a word of prayer. We tried to gather the workers together so that we can preach to them but they would not get together. I suspect that they stick together based on their country of origin.

Since they would not get together, Kris and I passed out tracts and bottled water while Pastor Joel preached to them one-by-one, one-on-one. We talked to every worker standing on the parking lot of Jasmine's Asian Cuisine as well as the Shell gas station. My college friend Femi Bada arrived at 9:20 just as we were wrapping up. I introduced him to Kris and Pastor Joel and told him a little bit more about our ministry. I ended our time together at 9:30 with a closing prayer.

While waiting for Kris and Pastor Joel to arrive, I heard a song called "Love Take Me Over" by Christian artist Matthew West. In the song, Matthew West asks God takes all of him while filling him up with his love. The chorus of the song goes like this:

Love, take these words that I'm speaking
Love, take these thoughts that I'm thinking
Love, take me over
Love, fill up all of my space and
Love, stand right here in my place
Love, hear this prayer that I'm praying
Love, take me, Love, take me over
Love, take me over



Kris' Report:

Andrew and Kris arrived at the location around 8:30AM and Pastor Joel arrived shortly after. We did not have anyone with permit to serve food that day but Kris brought bottled water for the migrant workers.

We prayed together before starting the event. Because we did not have food, it was more difficult to gather the migrant workers. We passed out tracts and water and hoped that they would gather. We noticed there were fewer workers that day, perhaps due to the colder weather.

We walked around the parking lot, and proceeded to Shell gas station. Pastor Joel stopped and spoke to several people individually, some for a long time. We then walked back toward the parking lot that we started. We tried to gather the workers but they refuse to come, so Pastor Joel started to speak to these migrant workers individually. Most of these workers look familiar and have come to know us throughout the year. They welcomed us with smiles but did not show much interest in us any more.

We reached about 25 workers that morning but none received Christ. I continue to pray to God that our message and actions sowed the seeds in their hearts and that soon they would realize their need for Jesus Christ.

Praised the Lord for His saving grace in us and may He continue to use HIMN to further His kingdom and bring His lost sheep back to Him.

11/9/2013 SHARING EVENT AT WEST PARK

Andrew's Report:

I arrived at the West Park location at 8:20 AM. Lucy, who brought the water, arrived at 8:40. We waited for a third volunteer named David Wang to arrive but when I learned that he had arrived at the wrong location due to a mix up, I decided to start our sharing event at 9:00.

Lucy and I passed out tracts and bottled water to all the workers under Highway 59 and the Shell gas station. I was surprised when one of the workers said "thank you" to us in Mandarin Chinese so I replied with a "muy bien" (which means "very good" in Spanish). It was a brief but exciting cultural exchange. We ended our sharing event at 9:30 AM.

Please pray for the unsure future of HIMN. We need more and steady volunteers, especially Spanish speaking volunteers who not only speak the language of the migrant workers but are also familiar with their culture as well.

11/16/2013 SHARING EVENT AT WOODRIDGE

Paco's Report:

Showed up Sister Wanchan Ohyan and me. We started around 8:45 am, Sister Wanchan brought juice and sandwiches. We started praying together and then when we were about to start our work for the Lord, we founded a woman preaching by herself to around 30 persons and we waited she finished her speech and then I took the post and our Lord moved this group around 40 persons. They listened really carefully and at the end two persons Adan Lera who really repented from his sins in front of the rest of the workers and Miguel Angel Kiau who reconciled with the Lord and he ask to pray for his wife Yadira Perez Cruz. After this point we continued giving juice and sandwiches around 85 persons and then we took another small group and two more persons prayed to repent from their sins and accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior, their names are Ivan Matos and Cesar Rodriguez. Please pray for all those new believers; they can found a Church where they can grow and they can found permanent job and they will be a light to their friends and families.

"And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd" Mark 6:34

In the love of Jesus!!

Paco Ramos.
Servant of the Lord

11/23/2013 SHARING EVENT AT WEST BELLFORT

Mrs. Wanchan's Report:

Joel Lara preached; Kris Tsao, David Wang & Wanchan Ohyan helped

Gloomy & chilly weather

Coffee & baked potato w/ cheese, green onion, bacon

David Wang, a retired engineer, is an unbeliever but willing to help out. Pray for him, so he can become a believer one day.

Baked potatoes, a new kind of food that was served on that day, gave a warmth in migrant workers' hands and their hearts as well during cold early morning.

Thanks to everyone's help, especially brother Joel Lara.

Wanchan

Kris' Report:

Pastor Joel, Wanchan, and Kris arrived around 9 AM. It was a cold, clear day.

We prayed together and set out to greet the workers standing in the parking lot. Initially most men showed very little interest as we handed them tracts. Thankfully Wanchan brought hot coffee, which was very welcoming in such a cold day.

We gathered about 20 men and served them coffee, but as soon as the coffee was served, they started to disperse again. So we brought out the tray of hot potatoes and put it on the car. This is when they decided to stay and listen to the sermon. Pastor Joel delivered the gospel to them and afterwards we served them hot baked potatoes.

Although no one was saved that day, we pray to God that our message and actions of love sowed the seeds in their hearts which will grow and make them realize they need to look to Lord Jesus to be saved.

We prayed together for God to continue to use this ministry to further His kingdom and bless those people that we are able to reach every Saturday.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

What: HIMN Christmas Sharing Events

When: 12/7/2013 (Bellaire), 12/14/2013 (West Park), 12/21/2013 (Woodridge), 12/28/2013 (West Bellfort)

Where: Bellaire, West Park, Woodridge, and West Bellfort

Time: 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM]

Team Leaders: Kris Tsao (Bellaire), Pastor Oleg Xu (West Park), Wanchan Ohyan (Woodridge), Benjamin Tzeng (West Bellfort)

Activities:

Hand out food, drinks, gifts, and winter clothing

preaching the gospel

musical performances

For more information, please email Andrew Wang at andrew.himn.org@gmail.com

Charitable Food Safety Classes

Required to share food and drinks on streets with migrant workers in accordance with Houston city ordinance.

Important for successfully accomplishing our goals of sharing gospel with migrant workers.

Class Location: The Beacon, 1212 Prairie St., Houston, Texas 77002

Class Time: December 21, 2013. 12 PM to 1:30 PM

