

Door to Door Evangelism

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise (Proverbs 11:30).

During one Sunday door to door evangelism at YISHUN, an elderly lady was greatly surprised to hear that Jesus Christ had resurrected. A middle-aged man heard the gospel for the first time. Sometimes we also face oppositions even before we shared the gospel message. “Can’t you see, we have our own religion.” “Why are you disturbing us?” “Take your tracts away!” The doors were quickly slammed on our faces at the mention of Jesus, the Saviour of the world. Occasionally, we picked up the discarded tracts that landed at the void deck.

However, there are many tell-tale signs and warnings we learnt and observed in the course of door to door evangelism at HDB flats. A fresh coat of paint hurriedly applied at sections of the stairways, and at the door and gate where the floor was stained with droplets of red paint serves only to indicate that the residents along there will not respond to any knocks on the door. When there are temples in the neighbourhood, ~~you-we~~ are likely to receive insistent negative responses from the devotees. The lower floors of a typical HDB flat are usually occupied by Malays. When ~~you-we~~ find them at the higher floors, the likelihood is that ~~you-we~~ will encounter more of them residing in the same block. Thus when a Malay community celebrates a wedding at the void deck, there would be amplified music, singing and drumming. The whole block is in a celebratory mood even for their Chinese and Indian neighbours. ~~Your-Our~~ appearance under such conditions would only invites an annoyed response.

Why then do these brethren continue to assemble on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month and spend the afternoons speaking enthusiastically to strangers? Are they not stressed out by the ordeal? What is their secret?

I neither pose such questions to them nor need their answers. Where do we get our strength for such an endless task? We are not made of such ~~strenuous unbreakable~~ stuff as though we never felt dismayed, discouraged or burnt out. The secret is that we have always been encouraged by our good heavenly Father who knows when we need such strength and in such proportion and is never late in topping up our emotional tank! Yes, He knows our every need. Such is the assurance we get from His words. Our faith is strengthened each time we share the gospel. When a person humbles himself, turns from his sins, believes and trusts God for his salvation, we see a miracle unfolding right in front of us. We rejoice in God’s marvelous grace and not in our work of eloquence.

Indeed, we learnt patience aplenty from rejections. We also learnt never to give up. A domestic helper patiently completed her Bible correspondence course over several months and in due time she accepted Christ as her Saviour.

This brought much encouragement to her mentor. About a decade ago, children listened innocently and attentively to the message of “Why Did the Dinosaur Die Off?” Their father allowed them to enroll for the Bible correspondence course. Unexpectedly they turned up at the Yishun Life Children’s Club for more Bible lessons. After many months of patient sharing of Bible stories, a small number of children confessed their sins and trusted in Jesus Christ. Their teachers experienced God’s grace in no small measure when these little ones have their names written in the Book of life. When we did a follow up visit by giving an elderly person a Tamil Bible, his family requested us for more frequent visits in particular during the Christmas period.

There is also no doubt that the preaching of the gospel will not get any easier if we observe what has already happened in neighbouring countries. “My family and I worshipped in the Grace Reformed Evangelical Church in Hong Kong, their worship service was very similar to ours.” One of the elders shared with us that it was almost impossible to conduct door to door evangelism in their housing estates as the entrance to the lifts is guarded by security. Outdoor evangelism could only be conducted occasionally at the parks where elderly people went for exercise and social gatherings. They face great challenges to share the gospel in a rat race society whose lifestyle is very much influenced by acceptable social standing.

Before the door of evangelistic opportunities is shut in our society, let us pray that we will remain faithful in sharing the gospel till Jesus comes!

The programme for a typical Sunday evangelism session:

After about two years of cessation during and at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, we thank the Lord for the recent government easing policy. We therefore will resume our Door to door Evangelism from Sunday May 15, 2022. Wearing of mask is encouraged but optional.

Meet in church at 12:15pm (at Beulah Centre L2 E-DD Room). After we gather, we either travel by church van or personal transport (some will go straight to the block). Before we depart we have a short prayer for the Lord to grant us good weather and safe journey. We have lunch around the vicinity of the block. At 2pm we begin evangelism, with a prayer for the Lord to send us to His harvest field with His words and to prepare the heart of the people we will meet. Each member will be given a packet of tracts. We pair the members two by two, either one English or Mandarin speaking. Explain where to begin and when to end (we usually stop at 3:30pm). If the block is finished and there is still sufficient time the next block will be indicated. We usually start of at the common corridor, and then the individual staircases. Around 3:30pm at the same void deck we started, we gather to share testimonies and ended with a thanksgiving prayer.

At times some members will follow up on the previous contact at the next evangelism session.

Article by Bro Amos Hoon



D2D at Yishun in Nov 2019 before the Pandemic