

2013 Summary Report of APAC Emerging Leaders' Event

The Psalmist says, "May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face shine upon us, that God's ways may be known on earth, God's salvation among all nations. May the peoples praise You, O God; may all the peoples praise You (Psalm 67:1-3)."

What God has done during the APAC Emerging Leaders' event was a reflection and testimony of God's gracious hands and divine blessing. Bringing the 26 selected participants from 8 different countries of the APAC region was a tremendous shower of God's blessings. And what is unique was that, not all participants were young emerging but there were also elders and deaconesses of the local church, and a missionary from Cambodia☺ Both the Kairos Course training and the 4 days actual mission exposure bear much results and fruits to every individual and to the Thailand C&MA churches. Praise God for giving us a wonderful and trained Kairos Head Facilitator. It is a double blessing from God! Hearts are transformed, vision renewed and challenged, and passion for God and for the lost is deepened and revived. The following are some excerpts of what God has spoken to the participants. May your heart will rejoice and be encouraged:

"I gained a deeper appreciation of what missionaries are doing in the foreign field. I understood why missionaries have to go through period of studying the language & culture of people they minister to ... I really love the Kairos training since it has refreshed me again of the foundations of God's plan for the whole world ... and it was packaged in a way that you can't miss the challenge of getting the heartbeat of God for all nations. I would say that Kairos gave us the theoretical aspect, while CPE opened our eyes to see how we can apply it right there in Thailand. Partnering with the church people in Thailand in reaching out to their contact people with whom they have set appointments for us to meet, was a very practical way of applying Kairos. The whole of Kairos plus CPE has given me foresight on what I can do when I get back home to my church. I have been thinking about discussing the experience with my church leadership, and seeing to it that we as a church could continually be part of the APAC program. If we can send a team regularly to attend Kairos & CPE, we could multiply the people who would catch the vision of reaching the unreached for Christ. One of our elders with us, even thought of partnering with APAC, particularly in supporting individuals who can be trained in the Philippines as ministers or missionaries and send them back to their own people groups to reach the rest of the people for Christ (Rev. Joselito Antonio- Philippines)."

"Mission is not a piece of activity we want to shove into our already busy life. It is rather a core of any activity of this life. It is the heart of our life. This understanding will help me to encourage and mobilize my students so that they will have the right understanding about how to integrate mission into their life. My short term goals are: to have Kairos Course in my church for all youth, to do evangelism and to disciple youth how to do it with CPE dialogue, and send my students for a mission trip (David Paksoal- Indonesia)."

"I was so blessed and really challenged through APAC Event. Words cannot explain how precious the event for me. God has spoken to me through our speakers, our leaders, and the local Church which we visited ... God reaffirm His calling to me and what responsibility that I have in our church of Myanmar. My prayer is 'Lord here I am, use me for the extension your kingdom and your glory ... and what I want to do is to mobilize and challenge our church members, especially Youth and prepare them to be missionaries (Rev. Vanro Sanga- Myanmar)."

“I have learned and accepted a magnificent truth that God has a great plan for all and He calls and challenges His followers like me to get involved and not get stuck only in self-service. God desires not only individuals to be saved but also for nations to gather and worship Him as only true God. And as I come back to meet some Christian family and friends, I hope to challenge and encourage them to be involved in missions ... I’m also praying and following the Lord in service for at least 6 months-1 year on the mission field soon. For the Lord but gives a compass and not a map, I thank Him for leading me to APAC Youth and for increasing my faith as I move forward to follow His direction (Christy Mae Sandaga – Philippines).”

“The story of a young 15 year old boy in the church we partnered with was a highlight to me. His parents are strong Buddhists, and opposed to Christianity. Every Sunday he tells them he is going downtown, and then does so, despite it being the opposite direction from the church, so that he is not lying. Not only this, but he walks, 6 kilometres, in order to save his bus money. Why? So he can have something to give to God ... How many of us would be willing to walk that far, in the heat, to go to church? How many of us would make that sacrifice in order to put 20c or 50c in the offering basket? This young man, a new Christian, had more dedication to God, more understanding of sacrifice, and lives out biblical principles more than most Christians I know. His life is a challenge to me ... the one message I would like to take back to churches and Christians in my area is this: The rest of the Asia Pacific region is moving forward in reaching others with the message of Jesus. Will we continue to linger in complacency and comfort, and be left behind? We have the financial ability and the personnel to do more to reach our area of the world, and it is time to rise up and do so ... I want to challenge the Australian churches that the time has come to stop building bigger and better buildings, innovative programs, and fancy extras. The time has come to work with others to build the kingdom of God ... move from holding onto the blessings of God to sharing them with others (Jannah Cooper –Australia).”

The second blessing is the souls who prayed to receive Christ. There are 39 of them and from these 39 who decided to follow Christ, 8 are teachers (3 are university professors and 5 are elementary and high school teachers). All in all, the Gospel message was shared to 167 individuals.

All the glory belongs to God! On behalf of the APAC member bodies, I am deeply thankful to God for all of you (APAC) who prayed and extended your financial assistance towards this event, to Aman Gupta from C&MA Australia who facilitated the Kairos course training, and for Joel Van Hoogen, CPE Director together with his CPE personnel who wholeheartedly partnered with us in evangelism ministry. May the good Lord will keep our partnership stronger and stronger as we continue to mobilize our APAC Emerging Leaders towards Missions and have a part to bless our Churches in bringing people into God’s Kingdom to worship and praise Him.

Indeed, all our labor together in the Lord is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:58)!

Blessings,

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