

CCCGA YOUTH/ENGLISH MINISTRIES
REFLECTIONS ON 2005

In looking back on 2005, it was an exciting year in many ways:

Messages

A number of series were presented to our youth, including:

- “If God Is Really God ...” (Dealing with Authority & Submission)
- “Getting Ready” (Joshua: the apprentice, warrior and leader)
- “Getting Oomph Into Our Faith” (Hebrews, Chapter 11)
- “Jonah, The Reluctant Prophet” We can run, but not hide from God)
- “What Will You Do With God?” (Knowing about vs. serving Him)

Each of these series was aimed at teaching God’s sovereignty and His desire that we seek His kingdom and righteousness above all else.

Sunday School

The High School Sunday Class spent this year dealing with three topics:

1) a video series, “Velocity,” dealing with teenage issues involving a personal relationship with Jesus Christ; 2) a course on “The Secret of Knowing God’s Will;” and 3) our current course is “That All The World May Know,” a video series published by Focus on the Family. Peter Ting and Phil Woodrow have shared the teaching responsibilities for this class.

The Junior Class has spent the entire year on “The Attributes of God – From A to Z ,” taught by Blossom Woodrow, with assistance from Alex Chien, Yuh-ling Li and Kegang Wang.

Praise Team

Peter Ting has done a superb job of bringing together a select group of musicians and nurturing them toward the goal of developing spiritual leaders within the Youth Ministry. James and Sophia Hsia, Jeanne Lee, Daniel Li, Dennis Pu, Frank Tan, Maggie Wang and Richard Wang have participated as this year’s Team members. There is a growing emphasis on personal spiritual growth, Christian fellowship and musical excellence as the Team meets every Saturday afternoon for study, sharing and practice. God has truly blessed this aspect of the Youth Ministry under Peter’s capable leadership.

Activities

Our youth took advantage of the ministries of the Capital District Youth For Christ by attending EXCEL Weekend in Saratoga Springs. A number also attended Word of Life’s Annual Snow Camp Weekend in Pottersville and a week- long summer camping experience at the WOL Island in Schroon Lake. All of these have provided opportunities for spiritual awakening and growth as well as interacting with other Christian youth from other parts of New York State.

There have been numerous opportunities for our youth to meet informally at various homes for: the Friday Night Movies (the 1st Friday night of each month); birthday and graduation parties; a St. Patrick Day Celebration; school vacation and back to school parties. All of these have been supported by the parents of our youth for which we are very grateful.

Devotions

During the past year a weekday devotional originating from Tyndale Publishers has been sent out to 70+ youth, family members and friends of the Chinese Christian Church of Greater Albany, with Phil Woodrow adding personal notes and commentary. The response to this has been extremely positive.

Equipment

Due to a personal "love gift" from Drs. Gary and Fina Griffith, the Youth Ministry has been able to upgrade its equipment during 2005. The list of items purchased as the result of this gift includes: 4 microphones, stands and booms; 5 music stands; an overhead projector; and a 25" Toshiba TV with companion VHS and DVD Player. We praise God and thank the Griffith's for their love and generosity. We also thank the Dr. C. James Li Family for donating a new screen to compliment the overhead projector. All of this has enhanced our teaching ministry.

Acknowledgments

First and foremost, we wish to thank and praise God for His grace that has covered the Youth/English Ministry this year. Four of our youth were baptized, publicly declaring their faith in and commitment to Christ. It is our prayer that James Hsia, Jeanne Lee, Daniel Li and Richard Wang will continue to grow in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the days ahead. It is also noteworthy that Ren Fang, who moved to Cincinnati in March, also received Christ as His Savior & Lord and was baptized this fall.

We also wish to thank Pastor Hsia, the CCCGA Board of Deacons and the many parents for their ongoing support of this Ministry that began in 2001. Such encouragement has added greatly to the joy in serving our Youth.

Peter Ting, as implied earlier, has brought a refreshing determination into the Ministry toward the goal of developing spiritual leaders through the Youth Praise Team, Sunday school and the creative use of our worship hour... and for this we are very grateful.

Finally, we wish to thank our home church, Clifton Park Community Church, for their ongoing prayer support as well as the use of their library and office facilities to compliment our teaching and preaching efforts throughout the year.

Sincerely in Christ,

Phil & Blossom Woodrow