

Dear Fellow Travelers (companions),

Peace to you! Picking up a pen to write down personal prayer requests is becoming less frequent. It has been 16 months since I last wrote, and I can only say that time flies. Here I am, six years into my missionary journey!

Pilgrimage Journey ---- God was with me.

As I finished my second term, FiCF gave me a three-month sabbatical leave but stipulated that I must spend half that time on retreat or further study. I decided to join the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage (French Way). This section of the 800-kilometer journey begins at the French Basque borders and ends in Spain. I walked alone for 39 consecutive days, passing through countless mountains, jungles, wilderness, small towns, and big cities. The highest temperature was 42°C, and the lowest was 8°C. In the first week, I walked carrying 13 kg of luggage. I was so tired. Even though my body was tired and aching all over, my soul was satisfied because between heaven and earth, there was only God and myself. A spiritual dialogue unfolded and as a result, God's powerful healing hands untied the knot in my heart which had been tightening since I was a child. On the journey, I encountered countless blessings and most importantly, I witnessed His presence time after time. "I did not meet God at the destination because He was with me all the way." What a blessing this is!

**The Significance of 70 + Dinner Engagements**

In early September, I returned to Hong Kong for an extended vacation. Perhaps because I had been away for more than two years, many friends wanted to see me. So I went to 70+ dinners and saw many, many friends. I emphasize this number not to brag about my popularity. The meaning of the number is not in the number but in the message behind it. Six years ago, my missionary trainer said at the send-off ceremony, "Send-off ceremony is exciting, but by and by, supporters and followers will become less and less." Six years later, I have more and more friends on my missionary journey. I know this is all grace. God wants me to see His grace.

I Cried!

While in Hong Kong, I found out that I would take over the job of Vice Principal of the elementary school when I returned to Cambodia. I was psychologically prepared, but I needed time to process it. I went alone to Tsim Sha Chui, crying, and I asked myself why I was crying. Slowly, I discovered I was scared because this was no easy task. On top of that, I felt that I was not capable enough. Although spiritually, there was a lot of "I know." I still have to deal with my feelings. At that moment, I suddenly felt I must pray for myself and I must pray for my spiritual life. I had asked for capability six years ago when I set foot in Cambodia. Still, this time I knew I must pray for me, "the person." What I needed was not capability but that I could become a vessel that pleases God. I hope to have more of the qualities of a servant leader and serve with love, humility, and patience.

New Work Arrangements

In addition to my new job, I have had to juggle overseeing the two Homes. So every day I go to work is a race against time. Working in a school means less time in the Homes, but the previous sabbatical and holiday proved that the local coworkers could handle it independently. How I should adjust my work and role will require thinking and processing. Some time ago, I was having dinner with a coworker about to leave her job, and she asked me, "Do you know what a vital role you play in the Homes? It's to encourage your coworkers."



She reminded me even though I have less time to spend with them, I must still remember to encourage everybody. She said the Cambodians want positive encouragement. Her reminder is so meaningful. Everybody needs encouragement—the coworkers at the two Homes, the school, and the teachers.

New Family Members

I must introduce two new family members – two kittens; the mother's name is Emma, and the daughter's name is Anuel, which means Emmanuel. I was planning to take home a stray cat at the end of the year, but God provided more than I asked. On August 11 of last year, the mother cat came to the Pleroma Home for Girls and delivered four kittens, three of which were adopted. I gave them the two names in remembrance of the time, and again, God showed me His presence on my pilgrimage. The cats are now my daughter and granddaughter. They are exceptional and very loving. They do not destroy things in the house. They are my "Angel Cats." Their company added a lot of fun to living alone.

Thanksgiving and Prayer Requests:

1. Thankful for my parents' good health. I was finally able to have a reunion with them last year. They were delighted. I hope that they will become believers soon.
2. Pray for the fundraising for the Organization. The pandemic and the current situation made a huge impact, and we dare not move forward with some projects, such as Project 20/20.
3. Pray that the Lord will give me wisdom on intervening with school operations.

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In Christ, Heather