Day 7, 8 November 2018

This is the second day of the youth camp. We arrived the night before last. We were told some lived in the mountains had to walk for two days to catch a bus, then rode for two days, after that walked for another 20 minutes to arrive at the camp which is at the local church. The church is a brick building with tin roof about 20 feet by 40 to 50 feet. When we arrived, I saw some women brought duvets with them. I thought they have just been shopping for beddings, not until the evening

that I knew what they were for.

**[INSERT DSCF0215]**

We were asked to get ready for 6:30am because our translator Ashish who was born in Panchkal wanted to take us out for a coffee, the best coffee one could experience, organic coffee grown and roasted in house. After about 15minutes' mountain road we arrived at a shop probed up on stilt on the mountain side. Part of the shop was like a veranda sticking out on the side on the mountain looking out to other mountains. The view was breath taking. It was misty, you can hardly see anything in the distance but the tip of the mountains floating on clouds like a scene in a fairly tale.

**[INSERT DSCF9960/0007/9983/9997]**

After coffee, (we really only went for the coffee), we winded round the mountain back to our host family to have breakfast. The campers had already started worship. They had their quiet time at 6am, then worship even before breakfast at 8:30am

The church was only about 100 yards up the road from the host family. We leisurely strode over after 9am ready for the 9:30 session. I shared on Jesus' parables of the pearl of great value and the lost coin. I don't think I did very well. I cut my talk short being conscious of the time as there was another session straight after ours. I shouldn't have worried. For them, time table is for reference only as I discovered later that evening.

The next session was by their own speaker. We didn't understand their language so we just return to our lodging for a rest then we had our lunch prepared by the pastor's wife. Many a time we asked them to sit with us and eat, but the always said no. Then they said it was their custom to let the guests eat first before they eat. I think it was because they didn't want their guests not to have enough to eat. As our next session was not until 4pm so after lunch our host Sanjiv took us to have a little tour around Panchkal town. When I say town, it was a stretch of shops, may be about 200m along the high way and a few more behind them set back from the road. We walked through fields of rice and different vegetations, saw many fruit trees of fruits that I have eaten but never knew the tree, nurseries supported by the government that they cultivate their plants. Due to the location being in the mountains, all the farm lands are of little pockets of fields, like our allotments but of a bigger scale and more randomly scattered out.

**[INSERT DSCF0106/0431/0117/0073/0071/0103]**

We got back to the church before 4pm for the afternoon session. Sharon and Pei Ling shared their testamonies. The plan was, after their sharing, I would give an alter call for anyone wanted to be prayed for to receive the Father's love. Their dinner time was 5pm. By the time I went on stage it was well past 5 o'clock. So I said whoever wanted to go can leave and those wanted to be prayed for could stay behind but the translator instead of translating he said to me that everyone would stay and after I prayed for them their own team would carry on. So our team started to pray for them. When I said whoever wanted to be prayed for come forward, there were no one came forward, because the whole congregation moved forward

There were over 200 people in the hall. Even when they are standing up it was quite tightly packed. As we hugged them and prayed for them, they started crying, falling over. It was so difficult to squeeze pass the rows of bodies to pray for each one of them.

5 o'clock, dinner time, nobody moved. 6 o'clock came and went, nobody left. 7 o'clock, they were still there waiting to be prayed for. I was ready to leave but seeing so many of them were still waiting, and the team were still praying, so I carried on. At the end, well pass 8 o'clock, people had already thinned out. I put on my jacket, picked up my rucksack ready to go. Then the translator Ashish signalled me to the stage. About 6 or 7 ladies with a young girl were kneeling on the floor wanting me to pray for them, so I did. By the time I finished it was about 9pm. The hall was cleared of men, but the ladies started to bring out their duvets and made bed. The hall was their place of rest for the night. The day was supposed to finish at 7pm after dinner. Of course, time table was just for reference only. On time was accidental, run over was expected.

We finally came back to the house and be served with noodles which was a welcome treat. Their stable diet is curry. After dinner we wanted to pray for the pastor and his family who rented their accommodation there. So we all squeezed into their daughters' bed which also served as the sitting room to pray for the family. The pastor and his family have lived with Sanjiv's family for many years and only about 2 years ago Sanjiv became a Christian and about 2 weeks before we arrived, his mother became a Christian. After we prayed with the pastor's family Sanjiv's mother came in and asked to be prayed for. She had pain in her legs. I thought I had a very long day, I had enough now, let the young people do that, so I sat back and pray silently, and the rest was praying in Jesus' name. So we pray healing over her but after a couple of rounds of prayer the pain was still there. Then Elliot felt there was a blockage. After asking a few questions we were told of her unfortunate life story and her unforgiveness towards her sister-in-law. Elliot indicated I should pray for her to receive the Father's love. I helped her to forgive those who hurt her and caused her pain, release them and give her hurt and pain to God and receive from Him peace, joy and love. Then we prayed again for her leg. After that she smiled and said she felt good.

For the whole trip, I felt I was receiving all the time. Being very well looked after by my team especially the Birmingham lot. Being so honoured by all our hosts. They prepared meat for us when they don't have meat very often themselves. Let us eat first to make sure we had our fill. Treating us as esteemed guests. The only thing significant I feel I offered was helping this dear lady, after over 50 years of emotional pain, find joy and peace in the Lord. And for me, if it is just for this one lady, it has made my trip worthwhile.