



Team Expansion

East Asia

Scott & Angie
PAGEL

旅行

PLANTING CHURCHES IN NORTHERN TAIWAN

2008 — April

“In the World—But Not Of the World”

That title is an application we might make from the following verses...

2nd Corinthians 10:3 - “For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does.”

1st John 2:15 - “Do not love the world or anything in the world.”

Philippians 2:14-16a - “Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life...”

Matthew 5:13 - “You are the salt of the earth.”

But like so many biblical principles, it is easier to say (or type) the application than it is to live it.

Here are a few ways our family has tried to live out this principle during the last few weeks...



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RIGHT: Bethanie and her friend Caitlyn Edwards choreographed and performed a traditional Chinese dance number for an arts festival held at one of Taipei's large elementary schools. A real hit!



LEFT: Joshua's kindergarten class took a hike up some of the foothills near our apartment. He doesn't care for the classroom, but he liked going on the hike with his classmates and with Scott and some of the other parents.



ABOVE: “Lemon” lived with us for most of February. Her life has been tough and often painful, but she has shown that she can make some wise choices.

Pictures of our Family, Friends, Ministry and Taiwan:
<http://picasaweb.google.com/sqjtaipei>

To receive (fairly) regular email prayer updates:
Send a blank email to: pagelsintaiwan-subscribe@yahoo.com

To download past newsletters and financial reports:
Visit our website at: <http://pagels.teamexpansion.org>

What's Been Happening

Previously, we shared about starting a youth group... we've met a few times, but find it difficult to find times that work for everyone since the students here are so busy with school and after-school school and after-after-school school. Yeah... you get the point. We try.

We want to correspond with you via the blog and email updates... but we haven't done much via those methods lately. Please accept our apologies... we know that some of you really appreciate hearing from us in those ways and we do intend to resume posting.

A few months ago, the children's minister at Christ's Church of Oronogo (Jim Wickenkamp) contacted us about the possibility of his high-school daughter, Kayla Wickenkamp, spending some time with us this coming summer. We like hosting groups occasionally, but are really looking forward to Kayla's time here and the individual time we'll get to spend with her as she helps us in many ways over the summer.

Angie attended the Taiwan Missionary Fellowship Ladies Retreat in Taidong April 1-3. She was quite sick leading up to the retreat and actually decided not to go, only to feel better later in the day. We put her on a plane and she was able to enjoy the rest and fellowship facilitated by those organizing the retreat.

For Easter, our house church decided to go to another church and watch their Easter musical. We were not really sure what to expect but we didn't expect to see what we saw... however, it was really good! It was directed toward young people and was performed by the youth from that church as a gift to the community. I'd say it was about equal parts independent film, Hero! (the Rock Opera), Godspell, traditional Easter Cantata, High School Musical, and Taiwanese night market so it is a little hard to describe. It was very moving and shared a powerful message of redemption.

On March 22, Taiwanese elected former Taipei Mayor, Ma Ying-Jeou as their next president. I was about 15 feet away from Mr. Ma a few years ago when I attended an elaborate ceremony at Taipei's Confucius Temple on Confucius' birthday. He was an excellent speaker and very engaging. I'm not sure he would have been my choice, but I can see why the Taiwanese people like him. Taiwan faces many threats and challenges in the coming months and years and we will pray for President Ma as we prayed for Presidents Chen and Lee before him.

A group of students from Central Christian College of the Bible came to Taiwan for a visit on their spring break. We enjoyed meeting with them and eating with them and showing them around Taipei for a few days.

A Note from Team Expansion's President

A few weeks ago during one of our training programs, a new Team Expansion worker recounted to me the story that had prompted him to join up. He had been serving as a summer missions intern in Asia. In talking with a couple of nationals he had just met, while seeking to learn more about the culture there, he asked them "what the typical local might think of Jesus." As the answer came back, he came face to face with how desperately some people still need the redeemer. They replied, shaking their head, "Jesus? Who is he?"

With all of today's communication systems, media, and the Internet, perhaps it's hard for us to digest the fact that there might still be some 2 billion people who still, for the most part, remain in that same situation. Yet it's true. And from that moment on, this new recruit made up his mind that he would live his life, God willing, to reduce the number of people in that situation the best he could. That's what Team Expansion is all about -- and we're confident that's why you're partnering with us to send your favorite Team Expansion missionary for exactly that same reason. May God be glorified by whatever we can possibly do for Him.

Doug Lucas—Louisville, Kentucky



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A "super toilet" developed in Taiwan that uses less than half the amount of water per flush of a regular toilet is set to hit the US market early next year. Chen Wei-lung, an assistant professor at Chaoyang University of Technology's Department of Industrial Design, developed the "super toilet" in cooperation with local industry.

The "super toilet" uses just 4 liters of water per flush, two-thirds of the amount used by standard water-saving toilets. Regular toilets use about 9 liters of water per flush. Despite using less water, the "super toilet" is as effective as a regular toilet. In a test the "super toilet" flushed away 99 of 100 resin balls, exceeding the standard of 95 set for new toilets.

(From: <http://www.taipetimes.com/News/taiwan/archives/2008/03/20/2003406331>)