

SAM AND SHAN-SHAN CHRISP

with Jasmine (9) and Elijah (6)

Serving the Lord in Taichung, Taiwan

Working with Campus Evangelical Fellowship (CEF)



Dear friends,

Happy Christmas to you all! We've just finished a week's worth of many different Christmas celebrations with various groups and friends. Whilst there are no public holidays during Christmas (some students even had exams on Christmas day!), it's still quite a festive time. School and Uni's put up Christmas decorations, and doing Kris kingle style gift swapping is a popular activity. So it's certainly the easiest time of year to invite people to events.

Celebrating Christmas over food & stories

On Christmas Eve we squeezed lots of students from China Medical Uni around our dinner table for a big meal together. We cooked lots of roast food, but we had some rice cooked as a backup, as we expected, some students just have to have their white rice with every meal! Afterwards we sang carols, listened to a bible story, and encouraged students to join us in reading the bible to know more about Jesus. Many of them were non-Christian newcomers, probably coming along for the food & culture more than anything, but we hope that through hospitality and sharing, we can create relationships that will lead to interest in the gospel.

The next day the Chung Hsing Uni held their Christmas event. In the evening we went around the student dorms on campus singing Christmas carols, and then held a small Christmas event with students sharing how God had been at work in their lives during the year, and some reflections from the Gospel stories of Jesus' birth.

Pray for students to be brave in following up the newcomers who came along, and for God to be at work softening hearts to the gospel.

Preparing for the CEF national bible camp

In two weeks time (Jan 14-18) the CEF national bible camp (similar to AFES NTE) will be on again during the winter break. This year we'll be taking students through the book of Acts. Sam will be leading a strand group again, and doing another seminar on how to read the Old Testament.

Pray for the 400+ students coming to discover the joy and benefit of studying God's word for themselves, and to be gripped by the gospel of the risen Jesus.

Give thanks

- Give thanks for freedom to celebrate Christmas openly in Taiwan, and the ease of inviting people.
- Thank God for the many non-Christian students who came along to Christmas outreach events.

Please pray

- Pray for God's word to be taught faithfully at the CEF national bible camp.
- Pray also for many high school discipleship camps which CEF is running over the winter holidays.
- Pray for Shan-Shan and the kids whilst Sam is away leading on the CEF camp!