

STEINER SNAPSHOTS



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Nathan, Beth, Jonathan, Chris, Kaitlyn Steiner

A 1977 Grand Marquis, Emergency Exit Signs, and the Summer Term of SYME Taiwan What do they have in common? Glad you asked!

When I was 17, a guy where I worked declared he had found the car of his dreams. In order to buy his dream car, he needed to sell the car he currently owned, which turned out to be a 1977 Grand Marquis. It had a big engine and looked pretty good. He was only asking \$500, and I knew I wasn't going to get a better deal than that so I bought it.

As soon as I bought it, I began seeing "my car" everywhere I went. I never really paid much attention to the brand before, but every day, every where I went, I would notice there were other cars on the road similar to mine. The same thing has happened with every car I have bought since then.



When is an Exit Sign too old? This last June I noticed a man in uniform peering through the glass doors of our office. We soon learned that he was the equivalent of the city fire inspector checking out our office. There had been a complaint that we were possibly running an unauthorized business, and he was there to see if we were up to code. After looking around for a few minutes,

he promised to be back within a week for an official inspection and left.

This type of inspection was actually one of my biggest fears during the first few years of starting SYME in Taiwan. But when it finally happened, the Lord graciously allowed me to bump into someone two hours later who'd had a similar experience. He assured me it was no big deal and told me what he had done to resolve the issue.

It turned out that he was right. It was no big deal, and now we are officially inspected and approved. One part of the process involved replacing all of our emergency exit signs. Now wherever I go, I notice if the exit signs are the same as what we now have in our office.



The Summer Term at SYME. We had 42 students between the ages of 18 and 28. Eleven students told us in the beginning they were not Christians. In the last few weeks, four accepted Christ as their Savior, and two were baptized. Six students have indicated that they have chosen to follow Christ so far this summer.

This summer our goal was to introduce all of our students to Jesus Christ and His Word in such a clear and personal way that after they leave SYME they will never forget who He is and what it is like to be near Him. Right now most of these students are at a university or starting their first full-time job. As they walk through their daily lives, we want them to keep remembering what they learned and keep seeing God in it, just like they did at SYME. *(Con't)*

Thank you so much for the grace you have shown us through your encouraging words, prayers, and continued giving.
You are a very important part of our team in Taiwan.

If you feel the Lord is leading you to help in our ministry in Taiwan, please send all financial contributions to: Word of Life, PO Box 600, Schroon Lake, NY 12870. Easy Online Donations and Electronic Funds Transfer can be found at: www.chrissteiner.wol.org. (Please make checks payable to "Word of Life" and in the Memo section include: ID #07217C). A response slip is also attached to insure your gift is properly designated.

(Con't)

When they argue with their room mate, a coworker, or a family member, we want them to remember the times we talked about forgiveness and loving your neighbor. When they take a trip to the beach or to the mountains, we want them to remember "the watchmaker" and to think about how they were designed by God and made to know Him and His will for their lives.

Every time they pass a temple on the street or a god-shelf in their homes, I want them to remember what it was like to pray with Christians and to see God answering their specific prayers. When they pass a Christian church, I want them to remember the fun and fellowship they had this summer; and I want them to be drawn into that church



and join the body of believers where they live.

When our Christian students go back to their churches, I want them to know that they can serve, lead, and have an impact before they are 40 or 50 years old. I want our students to see God, and Jesus, and His plan for them everywhere they go like the car you buy and then notice everywhere. Like the exit signs I see in every building I walk into, I want our students to be **tuned into** and **focused on** God in a way they won't ever forget.

SYME



Testimonies from August

Two young men came to a saving faith in Christ this term and were baptized. Before they were baptized, I asked them to explain to the rest of the students how and why they decided to believe in Jesus.



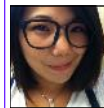
Roman explained about his upbringing and how in the previous year his sister had become a Christian. He was amazed at how her life had changed. She suddenly started caring personally for him and his family. He wondered if God would be able to help him out of his destructive life style. When he came to SYME, someone told him if he wanted to know God, he needed to talk to God and be specific in his requests. So he started to do that and was amazed when God answered his specific prayers. After a series of answered prayers, he found himself talking with God and acknowledging his need and desire to follow Him. Then he wanted to be baptized.



Kevin shared that as a young man he had become very angry and hard to get along with and that he couldn't stand to be around any of his family members. Some of his family had become Christians, but not him. He came to SYME for the English, thinking he could survive the Christian part since it was only 8 weeks. As he read the Bible, he became convinced it was true, that it was God's Word, and it could change him. He prayed for God to help him not be so angry. That weekend he discovered he could talk to his family without getting angry. This amazed both him and his parents. He continued to pray and the following weekend God used a conversation with his mother to help him have peace about giving his life to the Lord. The next week he was baptized.



Sandy was a returning student. We felt she was close to trusting Christ in her life. We also found out she was terribly afraid of how her family would respond if she became a Christian. After watching Roman and Kevin get baptized, she expressed that she wanted to become a Christian, but was still very scared of her family. She talked with God, thanking Him for Jesus dying for her and saving her. She told God she was ready to be a Christian and asked for help because she was still so scared of her family.



When I first met **Pammy**, I asked her if she was a Christian. She told me she wasn't, but she believed everything about the Bible was true. A few years before she had asked her mom if she could be baptized. Her mother became very angry and threatened to put her out on the street if she became a Christian, so Pammy decided she couldn't be a Christian.

This week I asked her if she was a Christian and she said yes she was. She said that while she was at SYME, she felt she was no longer just following whatever the teachers told her, but that her relationship with God had become personal. Her prayers had changed from just asking for what she wanted, to thanking God for the hard things in her life, and to wanting to follow Him. Pammy remembered reading a part of the Bible that said if you are a Christian lady your family will get blessings through you. Now she wants to go back to her home and find ways to bring God's love to her family. Her mother worships idols daily and though she appears to be strong and has raised three children as a single mom, Pammy is beginning to realize that her mom must in fact have many worries and fears. She hopes that her mother can find God's peace in the same way she has found God's peace this semester. She hopes that one day her mother and her family will all call themselves Christians.



PRAISES:

1. Nathan's health has been doing much better the past 2 months!
2. Smooth transition for Jonathan going to Chinese elementary school!
3. Six students accepted Jesus during the past month.
4. God is providing help so that Beth can attend Chinese classes. Her goal is to be able to share the gospel in Chinese!
5. Twenty-three students attending this fall term!

PRAYER:

1. Our landlord has asked us to move out of our apartment. Please pray that God would provide a more stable apartment for us. This is the first time we have moved during a school term. Please pray for stamina and for a smooth transition!
2. We have two churches that can no longer support us due to their budget cuts. Pray that God will meet our need!