

MINISTRY TRAINING - ASIA

mt-asia@sbcglobal.net

www.sunsetinternational.org



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SUNSET INTERNATIONAL BIBLE INSTITUTE

IS IT 2009 ALREADY?

In May of 2003, I began my work with Sunset. In the first year I had three different titles. My job title was descriptive of my work. So, you can see, my point of emphasis changed drastically during the year 2003-04.

I found my niche when I was appointed Dean of Ministry Training/Asia. That work is dear to my heart and it has been a genuine pleasure to serve in this capacity. Pardon me while I reminisce over the work God has allowed me to do since 2003.

MY FIRST TRIP

I accompanied Rudy Wray and Royce Sartain to Asia in 2003. At that time we had only one ministry training school in Asia. That school was located in Batam, Indonesia. Winston Bolt served as resident Dean for BBC and is still doing a marvelous job of training faithful spokesmen of the word.

PHILIPPINES

Our first stop was in the Philippines where we visited

two of the three schools being conducted there. These schools were being added to our family of schools under the name Philippine International Bible Institute (PIBI). Charles T. Smith directed that work and continues to do so today. We have added another school in that country bring the total to 4 PIBI schools. It was exciting to meet the Pilipino staff members in the school. They were mature, Bible educated men who not only taught Bible to the students but also mentored them in the life and work of a minister. Needless to say, the work there has progressed greatly since 2003.

KOREA

Our next stop was Seoul, South Korea. Our intention was to follow up on a request to open a school in that city. While there we visited Korean Christian University and the Bible Correspondence Center (BCC). We found an instant bond with the brethren doing the work at BCC and after our return to the



George & Hilda Carman

States opened SIBI-KOREA in 2004. Hence Seoul International Bible Institute had it beginning. It began with a bang! About 50 students took the first courses. That number dwindled down to the mid 20's over time but we certainly had many dedicated students. Our first dean was Jay Cho. Before too long he resigned and Jerry Cantrell became our interim Dean for nearly 2 years. Soul began as a Branch School but in 2007 we changed the status to an Associate school and named Sang Yang as Dean. He also serves as the director of the BCC program in Seoul. He is a very talented man and works diligently to train faithful spokesmen of the word in Korea.

We recently put 3 video conferencing units in Korea and hope to see them utilized in a way to enhance the teaching of the word and to glorify God.

Dr. George Carman serves as Dean of International Ministry Training - Asia for the Sunset International Bible Institute. See our website at: www.sunsetinternational.org. The Carman's mailing address is: 8413 Cactus Flower Dr., Fort Worth, TX 76131. Phone: 817-847-8877 or 817-980-6575 (cell). Overseeing congregation: Netherwood Park Church of Christ, 5101 Indian School Rd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110

IS IT 2009 ALREADY? (continued)



Training Faithful Spokesmen of the Word in Asia

MY TRAVEL FACTS:

- I have traveled 552,109 miles with American Airlines since 2004. I probably traveled another 250,000 miles on other carriers.
- Sunset now have over 50 training schools worldwide.

THANK YOU!

We want to thank everyone who supports our work financially. You can rejoice in what God is doing in Asia. Please know that you are very much responsible for making good things happen on the other side of the world. May God bless you with good health both spiritually and physically during 2009.

George & Hilda Carman

BANGKOK, THAILAND

In July, 2005 we reached an agreement with Bangkok Servant Leadership Institute and they became an associate school in our Sunset family of schools. This was especially sweet for me as the Director of that school is Patinya Thitathan, a longtime friend and co-worker. When I directed the Thai-Lao School of Preaching in Fort Worth, Texas (1983-85), Brother Patinya was my right hand man.

He has been training men to be church leaders for many years. His school fits our model of ministry training and it was a joy to have them as one of our schools. I have been to Thailand on multiple occasions to teach in the school and to bring lessons designed to mature the local church.

They now have video conferencing equipment which we hope to utilize to spread the Gospel and train students.

CAMBODIA

In 2005 we reached an agreement with the Batesville church of Christ in Batesville, Ar, to open a Branch school in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The school opened with 9 students and has continued to make progress in spite of the fact we had no resident Dean on site for the first 2 years of operation. We faced many problems but in spite of them, the work went forward. James Lork and his brother Tawn kept things together until we obtained the services of Rich Dolan in 2007. Since then, the work has made great strides towards becoming what we envisioned it to be

from the beginning. Dennis Welch joined the team in 2008 giving us three fulltime workers. Tawn Lork is the other staff member. I will be visiting Cambodia this month (Jan 2009) and hope to see first hand the great things God is doing through His servants there.

SINGAPORE

I first visited Singapore while I was teaching in Batam Bible College late in 2007. I visited again in May 2008 and before long we reached an agreement to open a Branch School out of the Pasir Panjang congregation. They provide us with a school board and a place to meet. The first classes met in January of 2008 bringing the number of schools in Asia to 9. Charles Cook serves as resident Dean and Tom Goracke is Dean of students. To date, classes have met only on week-ends but beginning this month, fulltime students will begin their studies as well. That will give us 2 tracks for the school in Singapore. We hope to utilize video conferencing sometime in the near future to further enhance the work there.

What a journey it has been since the year 2003! Who knows what God will do in the year 2009. I expect to see a school in Malaysia, students in India, and students from other Asian countries before 2009 ends.

Please forgive me for reminiscing. I just wanted to take you along with me as I looked back at what God has done in Asia since 2003.

ASIAN TRIP IN JANUARY

Hilda and I will travel to Singapore, Cambodia, and Thailand this month. It will be a fast trip (2 weeks) so pray that God will give us strength for the journey.