

## 牧養與傳承 Pastoral Care and Inheritance

Esther傳道 Pastor Esther

中國基督教播道會恩福堂 E.F.C.C. Yan Fook Church



前排左三為Esther 傳道  
The third from the left in the front row is Pastor Esther

2016年，那時密匠剛剛發展柬埔寨的工作，中國基督教播道會恩福堂的年輕人就跟著我們一同到鄉村服侍。當時密匠還沒有自己的地方，大家只在村民的屋前進行活動，就是這樣，恩福堂的年輕人每年都到柬埔寨短宣，與孩子及村民分享上帝的愛。

當中Esther傳道每年都推動年輕人參與短宣；經教會導師介紹下，她認識了密匠，並十分認同密匠的理念，就是不但為生活在街上的孩子提供生活需要，更讓他們可以讀書，培養正確的價值觀，讓他們將來可以自力更生，有改變的能力，脫離行乞的生活。因此，她邀請年輕人一起參與短宣，服侍密匠的孩子。「這是一個牧養年輕人的好機會，因為他們在香港習慣舒適的生活，透過在落後的地方服侍，他們可以突破自己的限制，例如體驗在衛生情況較差及炎熱的天氣下生活及服侍，而每次短宣也讓年輕人對生命及對上帝有更深的經歷及體會。例如他們可以親身經歷上帝的真實，不會只停留於信二代的二手信仰；也會重新將上帝放在首位，成為生命的主。」Esther傳道也期望透過短宣讓年輕人擴闊對上帝國度的視野，不只看重自己在香港所擁有或缺乏的東西，而是看見上帝在其他地方的工作及祝福。

Esther傳道是年青時候信主的，她親身經歷過有導師們同行的寶貴，因此她十分看重牧養年輕人的生命，這與密匠的理念不謀而合。「人的生命不會因為聽一篇道或上一次課程而有很大的改變，最重要的是有屬靈導師同行，協助疏理成長中的掙扎，幫助年輕人理解信仰，突破自己。當生命變得更扎實，就能面對日後在職場或世界的挑戰，在洪濤中站立得穩。」密匠也是這樣與孩子及家庭同行，讓他們認識耶穌，成為他們生命的倚靠。

Esther傳道的牧養工作也是轉化生命的事工，對她來說，生命轉化就是被耶穌更新故有一些不合乎聖經的思想及行為。她認為密匠能夠真正幫助孩子們轉化生命，讓他們脫離一生行乞的視野，學習聖經的價值觀，生活及生命上得以被改變，以致可以選擇將來的路。Esther傳道更著重傳承，「自己有一天會老去或離世，怎樣交棒給下一代，培養他們成為日後的領袖是十分重要的。因此我致力做門訓、教導聖經、幫助年輕人整理生命及面對成長的問題，也教導他們如何服侍及成為領袖，培養他們有領袖的視野。」誠然Esther傳道所作的，也是密匠所看重的，我們期望同工及孩子們都能成為日後的領袖，有耶穌的生命去祝福更多有需要的人。

In 2016, when Metta had just developed our ministry in Cambodia, the youths from the E.F.C.C. Yan Fook Church followed us to serve in the village. At the time, we did not have our own place, and we only held activities in front of the villagers' houses. Afterwards, the young people of Yan Fook Church go to Cambodia every year for a mission trip to share God's love with the children and the villagers.

Pastor Esther encourages young people to participate in the mission trip every year. After being introduced by the church tutor, she got to know Metta and agrees with Metta's mission, which is not only to provide life needs for children living on the streets, but also to help them study and cultivate the correct values, enabling them to be self-reliant in the future in addition to having the ability to change as well as moving away from the life of begging. Therefore, she invited young people to participate in the mission trip to serve the children in Metta. "This is a good opportunity to shepherd young people, because they are used to a comfortable life in Hong Kong. By serving in impoverished areas, they can break through their limitations, such as experiencing poor sanitation and living and serving others under hot weather. Also, each mission trip allows young people to have a deeper experience and understanding of life and God. For example, they can experience the reality of God in person, and they do not just stay in the second-hand belief of the second generation of believers. They will put God as their first priority again, recognizing God as the master of their lives." Pastor Esther hopes that through the mission trip, young people can broaden their vision of God's kingdom, not only to value what they have or lack in Hong Kong, but to see God's work and blessings in other places.

Pastor Esther started believing in the Lord when she was young. She has personally experienced the value of having mentors to walk with her. Therefore, she thinks it is important to shepherd the lives of young people, which coincides with the mission of Metta. "A person's life will not be greatly changed by listening to a sermon or taking a lesson. The most important thing is to have a spiritual mentor to help clear up the struggles in growing up and help young people understand their beliefs and break through themselves. When your life becomes vigorous, you will be able to face the challenges in the workplace or the world in the future, and stand firm in the torrent." Metta also walks with the children and the families this way, leading them to know Jesus and become their life's reliance.

The pastoral work of Pastor Esther is also a life-transforming ministry. For her, life-transformation means those thoughts and behaviors that do not conform to the Bible are renewed by Jesus. She believes that Metta can really help children transform their lives, let them get rid of the vision of begging in their lifetime, learn the values of the Bible and consequently change their lives and living so that they can choose their future path. Pastor Esther puts more emphasis on inheritance, "One day I will grow old or pass away. How to pass on to the next generation and train them to become future leaders is very important. Therefore, I am committed to discipleship, teaching the Bible, and helping young people organize their lives and tackle the problem of growing up. We also teach them how to serve and become leaders and cultivate them to have a vision of leadership." It is true that what Pastor Esther has done is also what Metta values. We hope that our co-workers and children can become leaders in the future and have the life of Jesus to bless more people in need.