

## Testimony

✎ Cordelia

As many people know I have been looking for a job since I heard about my company's situation in the beginning of 2004. When the news first hit me, I had many struggles. I questioned God: “What about my status?” “Is it time for me to go back to Singapore ? “Why after half a year of working in the company that HE miraculously provided I am going to be faced with job loss again?” were among my other questions. I was feeling down for sometime and remember going to work everyday, fearing that I may be laid off anytime. Then God began to remind me and encourage me through HIS words. HE assured me that HE is with me always. Even though I didn't understand, my fears went away and somehow I felt that God gave me the strength and faith to believe that HE is in control.

Thus, I began my job search process and it was long and tiring. For many months I juggled between work and job search. Many times I was exhausted and disheartened, but I still had to go on. I went from no response to getting some interviews; to finally receiving verbal offers, but once the employers heard about my need for working visa, I was rejected. God encouraged me throughout these times and sustained me in my job. So many times I am already in the possible layoff list, but God shown me great favor with my boss that he kept shielding me from the management and fought for my stay. They literally extended me month by month till the company finally shut down its operation in the U.S. in March of 2005. I was the last one to go. God extended my work for 8 months.

During my search, I consulted with several immigration attorneys regarding

my situation. I was told that since the beginning of 2004 it has become really difficult to apply for the working visa transfer. It was especially difficult for accounting major. On top of that there were other hindering or limiting factors such as the size of the hiring company and the need to transfer within 60 days from my last employment. On top of all these, the fee for the work visa has increased quite significantly (which translates to higher hiring cost to the hiring company).

When I finally got laid off, it was surprising that I wasn't fearful or worried. God gave me the peace and hope that HE is with me and that HE is in control. Regardless of whether I find a job and stay or go back home, I know HE is with me. As I continued my job search throughout the whole time my cell group's brothers and sisters, my pastor and pastor's wife and my parents prayed for me and with me. Each time their prayers encouraged me and sustained me.

Time past quickly and my “deadline” drew closer but still nothing happened. At the end of April and the beginning of May, of which two companies that I felt I did not do exceptionally well, called me up after my second interviews with them and offer me a position. When I got the two offers, I was so surprised and stunned that it took several minutes before reality hit me. I have nothing but thanksgiving and gratefulness to my God. To cut the long story short (well, I know it's not that short. ;) two companies offered me a position and are both willing to sponsor my working visa. I know it was a GREAT MIRACLE! My God works exceeding abundantly, above all that I can ask or imagine. He showed me that absolutely nothing is impossible for HIM. My mind and my situation may be limited, but HE is not limited. HIS ways are not our ways, and HIS

thoughts are not our thoughts. I got two job offers, of which the company that I joined was willing to wait for me, sponsor my working visa and sent my case for expedited processing (faster but cost more) and I got my approval in time within 60 days from my last employment. God totally blew my mind. My brothers and sisters in our cell group were so excited when they heard about my job offer, because not only mine, but their prayers were answered. Everyone, myself especially is blessed by this answered prayer. It was more than a job that I got, but more than that was the experience of God's love, faithfulness, provision and work. To God be the glory! ✝

## Children's Testimony

✧ Brenda Li

**W**ell...I grew up in the church...There I learned about the Bible and experienced God's love. Knowing Jesus more gave me the joyfulness in my life. Having God in my heart changed my life in various ways. ✝

✧ Jeff Kiu

**W**hen I was a baby, I was brought by my mom and dad to the church and the Priest blessed me. When I was three years old, I went to the Sunday school and learned about Jesus. So I was lucky that my family is Christian. ✝

✧ Brandon Lee (Age: 12)

**B**efore I felt God's presence, I was a worrisome little kid, who always locked the door at night because I was afraid of robbers. My whole family which consists of my big brother, my mom, dad, and me, have been to church as long as I can remember(which is when I was a baby), but I wasn't really believing in God. For me when I was really small, church was a time to socialize, have fun with friends, and play. We would run around like crazy yelling and screaming as I and my little gang of friends tore down the hallways.

But that life changed when I suddenly had a high fever. No matter what kind of medicine my mom bought me, the fever would never go away. When my mom took me to the doctors they were puzzled and said they could do nothing about it. My mom(being as she is) never gave up on me. She stayed by my side and sometimes stayed up the whole night to wet blankets. Then finally, she told

me to pray to God, to forgive my sins so I may be healed. Well since I wasn't paying attention to the Bible lessons during Sunday school, I asked her to tell me about it. When my mom told me that Jesus Christ can heal any sickness and can forgive everything I did wrong, I started praying from my heart.

A few weeks later I got completely better. The doctors called it a miracle, but I know that I got healed because of God! ✝

✧ Steven Tsai(Age: 8)

**W**hen I was 5, I used to help little kid's classes along with my sister. I helped them by worshiping and other activities. But I never went to any classes. Sometimes, I didn't even go to church to help. We didn't know much, especially my dad. When we didn't have Jesus in our lives we were full of trouble. I never cared about who made the earth or I was very shy and lonely.

One day, my mom found "Tree of Life". She thought it was a better church for our family. So my sister and I went here from then on and started learning more about Jesus. I accepted the Lord to be my Savior. That's how I became a Christian. Now our family is happier and it's easier for me to stop doing wrong because I can call on Jesus' help. ✝

✧ Fay-Yao(Age: 8)

**O**n August 2004, I got a Bible in V.B.S. Inside the Bible are ways to accept Jesus Christ. I followed the ways and accepted Jesus as Savior and believed He died for my sins. ✝

✧ Ingrid Mao(Age: 10)

**I** had the biggest experience ever, when I went to the Thailand mission trip. After I saw the children who were poor, I was so thankful to have a family and God. When I saw them worshiping, I was dazzled. I had never seen such passionate praise. That was a big change for me to get to know God more. ✝

✧ Terence Hu(Age: 10)

**B**efore I came to Tree of Life I didn't know about Jesus. When I first came to Tree of Life I was shy, but in a month or two I made more friends and I wasn't shy any more. I learned many things at church as Jesus is merciful and if you do something bad don't be afraid to tell somebody that you do it. I used to not want to come to church but in about a year I wanted to come to church. I am glad that I am a Christian and that Jesus is with me because he helped me several times when I was in trouble. ✝

✧ Henry Hwang

**O**ne time I had a math test. It was multiple choices and only had 15 problems, and I knew all the formulas, but I could only finish 10 before time is up because we had to match our work with our answers. If I had all 10 problems correct, I would still get a D. This would ruin my math test grade average. Mr. Young, my math teacher, said that he would not give us anymore extra time. Miraculously, the next day he just decided that he hopes we would learn to work quicker the next time and gave us 15 more minutes! Thanks to God, my grades were saved and showed me that He effects our lives, big and little. ✝

✧ Jeffery Lee

**G**od not only cares about big problems, but he also cares about little ones. One day when I was walking around in a mall, I suddenly found out that the book I was carrying was gone. I thought, “Oh great, I must have left it somewhere in the mall.” The mall was gigantic, and I didn't know where to find it. I prayed a quick prayer and I tried to find my book, but I didn't find it. Just when I was about to give up, I suddenly found my book on a bench. I prayed to God and thanked Him. This experience showed me that God does care for minor problems, and He takes care of them. ✧

✧ Eileen & Agnes

**T**o go to Prayer Mountain or not was the very hardest decision. Later then I decided, “Okay, I'll go!” I went with Priscilla and Ingrid. Our teachers was Auntie Agnes. On the way to the Prayer Mountain it was raining, and Auntie Agnes asked us to pray for sun to come out and nice weather. So we did, and as we are closer to the prayer mountain the weather became nicer and brighter. No more rain! So auntie Agnes had a wild offer asked us if after the prayer we want to go to the Santa Cruz Board Walk. It sounded so tempting and exciting but we don't know if we should go or not.

After we prayed and worshiped the morning session, we ate lunch and enjoyed the outdoors—fresh air, tall red wood trees, green grass, two rabbits to chase after and some beautiful flowers. We went back to our prayer room for the afternoon session. But just remembered the invitation from the morning and we need to make a decision. We each were asked to spend some quiet time to seek for God's will if we should go to the Board Walk or not. During this prayer I asked God if we should go, but in my mind I was reminded that I was sick. I still

wanted to go and pushed off this reminder. Auntie Agnes called Pastor Jih to ask for all the parent's permission. While waiting for the parents, we worshiped some more and Auntie Agnes said that God does thing with order and we should go home this time and plan it well with the parents. So after talking with each other we decided not to go. Interestingly as soon as we decided not to go, Pastor Jih called again and said that I have a cold and it is better not go this time. All confirmed our decision. Praise God. Seeking God's will is hard, we often put in our own desires and get it mistaken to God's will. But God is faithful to take care of us. ✧

✧ Priscilla Jih

**E**very year I usually go to the snow with my family. Before this year my ears always hurt when I go to really high places. So last Christmas I prayed God would help my ears so that they won't hurt. On the way there my ears didn't hurt and on the way back my ears didn't get plugged and it didn't hurt. I was so excited and happy and I thanked God for answering my prayer. I was really scared but I know that I can always trust God and that He is always there for me. And He will help me when I have troubles. ✧

✧ Ingrid Mao

**O**n March 28th, 2005 Auntie Agnes took me, Priscilla, and Eileen to Prayer Mountain. In the afternoon, we were deciding on whether we should go to Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk after we were done or not. We decided to pray and ask God. During private time, I kept hearing God telling me not to go today, maybe another day because I had to practice piano. Auntie Agnes called Pastor Jih and asked him if it was okay. He called the other parents to make sure. After

a while, Pastor Jih called that Eileen's mom is concerned about her sickness, so we decided not to go this time. We will plan and arrange the trip another time. I learned from this experience that whenever I need help, rely on God and ask Him. He will help me to make good and reasonable choices. ✝

✎ Jason Kiu (Age:11)

**F**irst, I didn't know about God. Then my mother and father told me about God. Suddenly at that moment I accept God into my life and I asked God to forgive me. That's how God entered into my life. At that following day, my parents took me to a church, I was about 3-4 years old. Now every Sunday I would go to church. Now I am a true Christian. God told me to be honest and not be selfish.

Now I am not afraid, because God is always beside me. ✝

## How I Met Jesus

✎ Angela Liu (Age: 10)

**D**ad's friend introduced Jesus to him

Dad talked to us

We went to church at a Sunday worship ceremony

At age 5, I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior

What I Was Like and Valued Before Christ

Selfish

Think that I am the boss

Always want people to follow me

Bad attitude

Test scores

First place

What I Am Like and Valued After Christ

Family time

Friendship

Private time

Bedtime stories

Books

Play time

Love

Better attitude

Not selfish

Do my best ✝

## Youth's Testimonies

✎ Priscilla Jih

Throughout the years I have learned and experienced so much at Tree Of Life. Being the pastor's kid, I was basically at every service and special event. Even though I had to go to everything, I have learned and grown so much closer to God. Before, I never really felt that God spoke to me but these recent years I have learned to listen to God and experienced times that God has spoken to me, especially through my daily devotions. I feel that God really lit that fire for Him these past few years. I am so glad that I was able to participate in the mission trips to Thailand. Through those trips, I have really felt close to God and it was the start to a real and wonderful relationship with God. Before, going to church was basically a routine, but the Thailand trip really gave me a perspective of how great God really is, and what my relationship with Him could be like. God really touched me, and these past years I have been growing into a better relationship with Him and I hope to continue to grow with Him.

Recently I have really been able to use my talents for God. Teaching in the morning classes and helping in VBS has been really exciting. I have really seen God's power and help throughout these 10 years. I have really seen how God helps and answers prayers, even if it seems like it is just a simple request. I thank God for listening to my prayers and working through me. I also thank God for the opportunity to learn so much and be able to have a great time in our youth group. I am so glad that I am able to have fun and also grow in my walk with God.

Over the years, I have always had a lot of fears, one being scared of death. It

has always been a struggle, so on my birthday, my dad gave me a card and he searched my name "Priscilla" and it means old... and one suggestion was that it was to give a long life to whom bears that name. God knew my fears before I was even born, and that just made me trust Him so much more. Through this circumstance I was really touched about how much God really knows and understands me. This encourages me to just put my trust in the Lord.

I am so glad that I was able to be a part of this church and I am really excited to see what else He has planned for us in the next coming years. I hope to continue a strong relationship with God and as I grow up, I will use my talents for God. In the next years, I want to continue to serve God whole heartedly and continue to trust in Him. I want to thank the Lord for providing and protecting us the past 10 years and I am so grateful that I am able to serve such a loving, caring, faithful, and real God. ✎

✎ Jason Hoang

As one of the few children who were here from the beginning, I have been able to watch Tree of Life grow and mature, just as I have these past years. To think that we started as but a few families and friends meeting in a house, and now worshipping in an actual building is only a testament to God's faithfulness to his promises. I have grown much since the beginning, even going as far as becoming a man.

The friends and family I have gained from Tree of Life are beyond anything money can buy and I would never trade them for anything. I remember when we met at NPU, I remember the weekly equipment setup and storage at Newark Community Center, and I remember the meetings outdoors in the park. To see our family grow and finally find a home has been one of the greatest blessings on my

life. It gave me aunts and uncles who love me and support me whatever I go through, and it gave me brothers and sisters who take joy in Christ beside me.

I suppose what I really mean to say is that I love everyone here, and thank you for the 10 years of love, joy, peace, and growth. ✝

✎ Dennis Gan

Last month, in February, God showed how awesome He is. One day, I was walking home with my friend Nick when it started raining hard. Just the other day, my mom got me a new umbrella so I thought, why not use it. I searched my backpack and found no umbrella, so, I thought: “Uh, oh, now I am going to get soaking wet before I get home.” I decided to pray to God and ask for deliverance from the soaking wet rain. And all of a sudden, it stopped raining. I thanked God for this miracle and now all I had to do was to face my parents and tell them that I lost my umbrella. That was just what I did, by the grace of God, my parents weren't that angry as they usually would've been. The next day, when I was in first period, my teacher told me that he found my umbrella. Once again, another miracle because many people at my school would just take or vandalize stuff that is not theirs when it looks nice.

God doesn't just care about your big problems; he cares about all of your problems. From problems like losing a belonging or more serious ones like relationship problems between your family and friends. God cares about all of them and many times He solves them in a way that exceeds your own expectations. ✝

✎ Amanda Hoang

I have experienced nearly every aspect of the fact that “God will provide.” One day, I was walking my dog to Weibel Elementary school when my dog

decided to poo on someone's beautiful green lawn. I was like, “Oh great...” I looked around and lo and behold, I found a Styrofoam cup hidden in a nearby bush. Hooray! So I used the cup to scoop the poop into the bush. As I was doing so (but not the right way), I saw a plastic bag stuck in another bush! Then I took the poop out of the bush and put it in the plastic bag. So I got to experience God's provision, picked up my dog's poop, and cleaned up the environment all in one event. Praise God! :) ✝

✎ Christine Tsai

After the summer of 2004, God showed me how great he was. Until last year, my father was a smoker and was not a Christian. I prayed for him every night for 2 years. Nothing happened until last summer. My mom, my brother and I were in Taiwan to visit our relatives. My dad stayed home to work and to take care of our dog. On my birthday in Taiwan, my father called me and told me he had quit smoking. I was so happy for him, I cried and thanked God. It was the best birthday present I've had in my entire life. I came home from Taiwan earlier than my mom and brother because I was homesick. Because my dad had to work, I was home alone all day. On Sundays, I would ask my dad to take me to church. He did, and also stayed and listened to Pastor Jih. From then on he would go to church every Sunday. When my mom and brother came home, we went to church as a family. In August, my father was baptized. I was again so happy, that he decided to accept Jesus as his savior. My father is a person that I am very proud of. Now our family is a Christian family. I thank God that he has answered my prayers. ✝

✎ Winston Twu

**M**y real introduction to Jesus was because of a girl. Some one who I really cared about influenced me to start going to church. After this introduction, I learned how Jesus would figure into my life. Jesus has always proven that He is here for me. He is my refuge in times of hardship, depression, what have you. Whenever I felt down, I would just pray for things to get better. So instead of not having anyone to turn to, Jesus was always there. ✚

✎ Marge Chao

**F**ather, Lord, Friend. In my times of tears and distress. Almighty, sovereign, Omnipotent, great King. Do you know Him? He is a lover, supporter, career, and helper. Do you know Him? He is the conqueror of death, powerful creator, sinless leader. Do you know Him? Make that choice today to walk with the King of kings, lover of sinners who will never leave you and never forsake you. ✚

✎ Jason Hoang

**B**efore the end of the winter quarter, on Dec. 17th at the Irvington High School Youth Alive (Christian Club) held a Praise Night called “Reconciliation”. I was tasked with getting the building, securities, and all the required signatures. I started in Sept; the event was planned for Dec. and finally came to the week before I was frustrated. I still needed to get the building and security arrangements, hard to get to the right teachers and all. It just seemed to be no way...I prayed: “God, I give up. You do it or it won't go through.” Within that week, all the signatures were signed just like that, and the arrangements were made. The event was great, and it was wonderful to see a public high school held a Christian Praise Night. And God made it all possible. ✚

## The testimony of Battle Cry Conference

✎ Priscilla Jih

**B**attlecry was really fun and I learned a lot from it. On the first day we learned about not being in the pig pen. I learned that I should die to myself and really go after God. Each day there were different singers like delirious, Jeremy Camp, Toby Mac, Pillar, Michael Gungor, and KJ52. I really enjoyed all the wonderful music. On Saturday we learned about all the different diseases that you can get from sex. Before there were only 2 diseases and now there are 200 diseases!!!! I was very surprised. I think that it was worth it to go to battlecry because I felt God was there and this generation needed this so that God will still be in our lives as we will continue to grow closer to God and so that there will still be God in our lives in the coming generations. I really learned a lot from this conference and hope that next year we can be more numerous and experience god even more! Overall I had so much fun and I thank God for giving me this opportunity. ✚

✎ One of the youth

**I**n this conference, God seemed to speak to me in many ways. It was as if God tapped me on the shoulder and said: “XXX, stop living your life the way it is.” It really, ermmm... scared me kinda. But then I realized that this was the time to let God work through me. I guess He had been trying to get me out of “the pigpen” for a long time. I believe I should respond by being more faithful to God and not ignore him. I also shouldn't hide my faith because of what people

think of me. I should just give everything that's keeping me from God and focus on Him. Amen. ✝

✎Christine Tsai

**B**efore leaving to Battle Cry, I did not think of this weekend as a cry for our generation. I simply thought it would be like any other youth conference, and it would be fun because I got to skip Chinese school. When the conference started, I knew my first impression of the weekend was wrong. The worship was amazing; there were really good bands, playing really awesome songs!! I could really feel God's presence there with us. I felt God was speaking to me, because for quite some time, I've been wondering why I wasn't as close to Him as I used to be. After many weeks of prayer, God used this conference to answer my prayer. I was shocked when the speaker asked, "Do you wonder why you aren't on fire for God anymore, or feel as close to him as you used to?" It was like he was talking about me. This was shocking to me, that God would give me such a direct answer. The reason why I was drifting away from Him was because I was still stuck in the "pig pen", or in other words, in order to be blessed or to feel God, you must get rid of the garbage in your environment. God is truly amazing; He always answer prayer! In the Battle Cry conference, they also talked about the dangerous traps in our generation, such as MTV, music, alcohol and drugs, images, technology, etc. These things could make our generation the last Christian generation in America. (This is NOT good!!) I think every teen should attend this conference, both Christians and non-Christians, to learn about the dangers of this generation. This weekend made me closer to God, and I can't wait until next year. And as I have told many people, I think Battle Cry was AWE-SOM RAD INSPIRING S00PER FUNN AMAZING EXCITING!!! ✝

## Thailand mission Trip 2006

1. What I liked about Thailand was when I saw the children rejoicing and excited when we passed them. I was impressed by how serious they worshipped God. The kids came back from school at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Then they would play. When I saw them laughing, I felt something in my heart. At first, I could not tell what it was, then, I knew that God put love in my heart for the children. I am so thankful for parents, good food to eat everyday, and clothes. I smiled whenever I look at the pictures that some kids gave me when we left.

✎Jane Dong

**D**uring the eight days I was in Thailand, I realized God was bigger than what I perceived him to be. I used to think God was confined to what He could do. During this trip, I also learned to really worship God. Before when I worshipped, I would not let myself worship freely with my physical body. I would hold on to everything and let my mind wander. I would just not let go and let God take hold of me.

When we were there as a team, I really had to think of others. I had to think about how my anger would affect the mission team. Then God would tell me that I would weaken the team if I voiced my anger immaturity. I remember that God told me to take a deep breath and forgive them as He forgave me. The longer I was in Thailand, the more I seemed to forget about the things I held onto at home. The more time I spent with God, the more I wanted to leave all the hatred and revenge in my mind to God. Now, I actually want to read the Bible because I want to see what He has to say to me. It's amazing how God changed the way I

acted and thought within eight days.

I praise God for bringing me back to him with a real desire to know him. It's not something someone forced me to do, but it's actually what I want. I want God to work in me and make me more like him.

So if someone asks why I want to go back next year, my answer will be that I want God to change my life just like those children in Thailand. I want to be rooted in God's word. Sure, I love everyone there, but God is the real reason I would like to go back. He's real and genuine, and He's there for me forever. ✝

✎ Ingrid Mao

**T**he trip to Northern Thailand this year was a lot different than when I went last year. The kids looked the same, but they were more mature. I was really impressed that kids their age could speak English, if they studied. I made a new friend this year. She gave me a picture of her, and on the last day when we were shaking everyone's hands, she said "See you next year!" in perfect English.

This year, I learned about forgiveness, friendship, and bravery for myself and the kids. They always have a smile on their face, good days or bad days. They helped me understand that when there's bad news. You shouldn't just feel bad, you should look upon Jesus because you can always count on Him.

The first night when we arrived at the New Life Center, I saw how the kids sang and danced in worshipping God. I could feel the power of their voice. The kids were closing their eyes and lifting their arms. I felt the presence of the Holy Spirit was amongst us. That was a very important lesson for me. I'm glad there are people like them in my world. ✝

✎ Amanda Hoang

**A**s many of you might not know, I was originally not going on this mission trip. Yet the path was opened through much prayer and constant seeking of God's will. However, before I got the green light to go, I asked God that if it was truly what he wanted for me, that he would bring me there and use me. Once I was able to go, I knew that my purpose on this trip was much greater than simply "playing" with the children or smiling at them. At Thailand, I served on the worship team, acted in Bible story skits, but even better, was a channel of prayer and counselor to my fellow team members. I was very much changed by this trip. This year, I went and my eyes were opened. I realized that there were people my own age leading an entire congregation of 200+ children, and I was amazed. At those moments, I felt God was telling me that I should stand up and be a leader back in America. I no longer should or have to stand in the back or hide in the corner and keep myself small, but be bold and courageous, ready to be used by Him. God revealed His faithfulness to me on this trip, from beginning to end. He showed me through the processes of getting my passport and several of my plane tickets. My plane ticket from ChiangRai to Bangkok was a few hours earlier than the others, and I would be alone in the Bangkok Airport to wait for them. Also, my ticket from Taipei to San Francisco was 4 hours later than the others. Supposedly, both of the planes were full so no one could get in, but our specific focus was unity, so we prayed that since we went as 1 group, we would come back as 1 group. Each time I was worried that I would be traveling apart from the rest of the mission team, I was reminded to trust God and know that since he brought me all the way here he would not abandon me. I was touched by the love of God I found in my team members and learned about the power of prayer in all things, as we came together and put our trust in Him. As soon as our full faith

was in Him, he paved the way and I was able to fly with at least one team member. I praise God for the opportunity to go on this trip and being able to experience Him in such an amazing way. ✝

✎ Annie Yu

**A**t first, I really didn't want to go to Thailand. My mom walked into my room and told me she'd signed me up, and I was totally surprised and rather angry that she'd just signed me up for something again without asking me or even telling me beforehand, and this time it was for a whole week at a foreign country at the other side of the world.

When we first got to Thailand, I was a bit hesitant of letting myself enjoy being in a place when I really wanted to go back home and talk to my friends in the comfort of my room with a computer and comfortable seat. I found myself in bumpy car rides and place with no hot water and hard beds. And there was definitely no computer there. Pretty soon I decided that since I was already in Thailand, I might as well enjoy it because it wasn't like I could just fly back home if I kept feeling resentful.

When we met all the kids, it really amazed me on how happy they were. I was uncomfortable with the hard beds, cold water, different conditions, the excessive bugs, the manual work, etc. However, they seemed not to notice their "poor situation" as I thought it to be. The kids seemed totally happy with their life, so close to God, and they were so excited to see us. I got to really enjoy being there and didn't even miss my computer, cell phone, and music that I was accustomed to having daily. I learned that people actually woke up at 5 or 6 am every day during the summer to worship God and give Him praise when I thought everybody my age woke up around 10 at the earliest. I learned that you

could be happy and content without things I never imagined that I wouldn't have, like my computer and my books. I am really glad I went to Thailand, since I've learned a lot about God, discipline, and what I really don't need to have in order to live a good life ✝

## Thailand mission Trip 2007

✍ Priscilla Jih

This year's trip to Thailand was good and I did enjoy it a lot. God really helped throughout the many hours of the plane ride both there and back. In the beginning I actually wasn't that excited to go even though it was my second time and I had such a wonderful time two years ago. But when we got there I really felt joy being in Thailand again. Each place was really special and I will miss it a lot. I enjoyed watching the shows the students prepared and I once again felt the presence of God in the three areas.

When we were in the first two places in our trip I felt that things were going pretty good and I had been enjoying the trip so far. But as we went to New Life center and the San Diego team left, that's when I experienced God the most. When we got there the youths found out that we each had to lead our own small group. I felt nervous speaking in Chinese to them because I'm not that fluent... So I asked God to help me in leading this group. As we split up into the groups I felt God was helping me by reminding me how to say what I wanted in Chinese. This part of the trip was a great part because I really knew that God is ALWAYS there for me. In the end I learned a lot about the girls in my group and I am so thankful for God's help in that situation.

So once again I left Thailand with so much more than when I first arrived. I thank God for His protection and help throughout this trip and I am so glad that I was able to experience the Thailand Mission trip again. I hoped to continue to have the "closeness" with God. Now that I am back in the US I am still trying my best to maintain having some special time with God. By doing this I now have a closer and stronger relationship with God.