

Ugly Duckling

by Li Yi Lun

Article from Growing up Global, Cindy Loong, Shepherd International Church Limited, Hong Kong. Used with permission.



When I was with the children of pastors and missionaries, I recognized my own young shadow in them, just like the story of the ugly duckling who did not know who he was. The duckling put his best effort to intermingle with those who did not know or want to acknowledge him.

Little Ugly Duckling

The Gospel Church of Faith, Hope and Love in Hong Kong was my spiritual home. At the present I am equipping myself in the United States. This is the 10th year. I have had opportunities to serve in different capacities and places. I have experienced the full grace of God and become God's blessing to others. Whenever I come back to my mother church, the Gospel Church of Faith, Hope and Love, I feel like I am entering a spiritual gasoline station. Here in the station, I can take a rest from my service, obtain enough strength from God, and get back to service.

In April 2003, when Hong Kong was at the peak of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) epidemic, I went back there to attend the First Annual Youth Developmental Camp. At the camp, I had the opportunity to share with the young people regarding how missionaries came to China in the late nineteenth and the early twentieth centuries, and how those missionaries offered themselves to God in their youth and let Him use them as He saw fit. I also shared with them how God called me to serve Him.

On the flight to and from Hong Kong, everyone aboard the airplane had to wear a mask. In Hong Kong, no one shook hands, and all I could do was nod at them and pass my greetings to them with my eyes. When I went back to the United States and went to school, everybody at school was afraid of me, treating me like an alien from outer space. They feared that I was contagious. God, however, gave me this opportunity to challenge the young people to rethink their purpose in life, and to consider following the footsteps of our Lord Jesus Christ. I felt my trip to Hong Kong was not wasted at all!

Surprisingly, not three months later, I had another chance to go to Hong Kong. This time I joined the Hong Kong Missionary Kids Caregivers Group to Bangkok, Thailand to run a camp for the missionary

