

Ordinary People, Extraordinary Faith

# Evelyn Kong

Age 38, Nurse

As part of AMC Missions Month 2023, we bring to you inspiring stories of church members who have answered the call to share God's love with the nations.

## The Blessing Is Found in Going

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One of my earliest mission trips was to Cambodia when I was 22 years old.

At first, my dad did not allow me to go. He was concerned about my health and safety as he felt that I was going to a developing country.

But I had such a strong desire to go that I wrote him a letter for the very first time in my life to ask for his blessings. Thankfully, he finally agreed!

That experience opened my eyes to see what joy is, and what it means to have simple faith.



*Building friendships with the youths: For 3 months, Evelyn co-managed a student hostel in Timor-Leste*



*Evelyn with AMC members Wendy Chiang and Chen Qiuluan in Prek Omperl, Cambodia, which she has visited several times for mission trips.*

## TESTIMONY BY EVELYN KONG

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*Evelyn with the medical mission trip team to Cambodia in 2011.*

Partnering with Prek Omperl Methodist Church, we conducted basic health teaching, organised an evangelistic programme, went on house visits and taught a guitar class, among other things.

As much I wanted to bless others, I was blessed by the hospitality of the locals and the many life lessons I brought home.

Since then I have been to Cambodia and Timor-Leste several times with teams from our church.



*Evelyn helped to relieve Uncle Joseph and Aunty Grace of their duties at Sundermeier Home so that they could return to Singapore for a sabbatical.*

My most impactful mission experience has to be my longest trip to Timor-Leste in 2019.

A year ago, I had learnt that the house parents of Sundermeier Home, a student hostel in Gleno, wanted to return to Singapore for a short sabbatical.

Uncle Joseph and Aunty Grace from Bedok Methodist Church are both in their 70s, and that would be their first break in three to four years.

Hearing that, my heart was stirred. I felt God nudging me to stand in the gap, literally.

## TESTIMONY BY EVELYN KONG

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*Evelyn with the TRACKERS team from Singapore and missionary to Timor-Leste, Rudy David Wong, whom she managed the hostel with.*

I shared this with my cell group, and they encouraged me to approach my work supervisor.

God answered my prayers – I was granted no-pay leave for three months!

Another answered prayer was when my parents gave me their blessings after meeting AMC's missionary to Timor-Leste, David Chan, at a Christmas dinner.

With the support of my parents, workplace and church, I left for Sundermeier Home on 2 February 2019.



*A weekly Sunday service at Sundermeier Home.*

It was an unforgettable three months that pushed me out of my comfort zone.

I shared God's Word fortnightly on Sundays for devotions, hosted a youth mission team from TRACKERS, co-managed the hostel of 37 youths and even did relief teaching at St Paul Methodist School.

It also gave me a glimpse of a missionary's life.

Most of my previous trips were usually one to two weeks long, so it was hard to build deep friendships and see fruits in my ministry.

But this time, I had the chance to live with the youths – we ate, did laundry, slept in the same compound and did marketing together.

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*In February 2023, Evelyn and a team from AMC (Loh Han Chew, Linus Chua and Vivien Lee) travelled to Cambodia to connect with our ministries there, which includes Prek Omperl Methodist Church.*

The extended time spent with them (and also with the pets) will always have a special place in my heart.

Personally, I also learnt that I could actually be so independent, and that gave me courage to move out and live on my own in 2022.

Currently I'm serving in AMC's missions committee and I'm also the main liaison for our Cambodia ministries.

This year, I made a trip to the three ministries in February to understand their needs and see how we can collaborate with them.

We no longer have our own missionaries in Cambodia, so this was my first trip after the COVID-19 pandemic to reconnect with the ministry heads there.

As a member of the missions exco, I also plan events and trips as well as check in with the missionaries and those who support our work, including representatives from WSCS and prayer intercessors.

I would like to share with the AMC community that God gave each of us different gifts and talents, so just avail yourself to go and be a blessing. We are blessed to be a blessing! 🙌