

Thanks, Praise, and Revival Camp

2018.3.26~2018.3.31



■ Timothy Yamakawa

(Pastor/TLCCC Tokyo Antioch Church)

Thank you for your intercessory prayer. Thanks, Praise and Revival camp was held from Monday, 26 March to the 31st this year. In Miyako Hybrid hotel, Torrance, outskirts of Los Angeles, we had holy meetings early in the morning and night time everyday. On the 2nd and 3rd day, we were divided into two groups, which are a group for prayer at Bonnie Brae house, which was the starting point of the latter rain revival, and a group for Hollywood street praising.

There was a testimony of thanksgiving given by Pastor Kamidate from Baton Rouge church, testimonies by Pastor Asano from New York church and by Pastor Duncan from San Diego church. An useful presentation about praising was given by Mr. E.J during the music seminar in one of the holy meetings. There was a surprise water baptism of a local person after the night holy meeting on the second day.

There was a memorial meeting of Rev. Merlin Carothers during the 4th night holy meeting, where we watched Rev. Merlin's message of "One will bring 1 million people", which was spoken before, which made us recalled his message. In the main message of Pastor Akimoto, it was spoken that Los Angeles, which was the starting place of the latter rain revival and San Diego, where Rev. Merlin used to be active are the spiritual points as well as Israel and Patmos. Message of thanksgiving and praising was also spoken.

On the last night, Brother Steve came with two other guests to attend "Gospel Show Case", watched 11 praise teams perform and had gave good evaluation and encouragement. 3 black gospel professionals has commented that "Hanairo" (flower color) and "Jujika ni shu yesu" (Lord Jesus on the Cross) sung in English are very good songs. Our original gospels from CDs' "Kaze no hibiki" and "Yasuragi no uta" were highly evaluated. A Japanese tourist lady, who happened to listen to our praising on the street of Hollywood came to the hotel to which it takes about an hour by car to watch our "Gospel Show Case", and interestingly attended our holy meeting following that.



6 staffs including me from “The Vision” joined in this camp and we worked as care-takers of street praising teams at Hollywood. Many teams sang J. Gospel from 10 until 15 o'clock in the strong Summer-like sunlight at 2 places, one in front of Kodak Theatre and the other in front of Forever 21. J.Gospel echoed in Hollywood, with people passed by and people who stopped and listened for long time. As we expected from Mr. EJ of “The Vision U.S.A”, he gave two music seminar during the holy meetings, where he stressed on arrangement and presented of necessary equipments to make music. We had lectures about copyright in the U.S.A, vision and concrete details of the up-coming work of J.Gospel in the U.S.A and the world, which made this camp meaningful and rich in content for staffs of “The Vision”.

As usual, children enjoyed in Disneyland and Universal Studio, which were prepared as “their programme”. Many people participated in the daily prayer programme in Bonnie Brae house, where was the starting place of Azusa street revival, and had deep prayer time. This camp was filled with blessing.

■ **Setsuko Yamamoto**

(Pastor/TLCCC The Servant of God Nagasaki Church)

Thank you for your prayer. Thanks, Praise and Revival camp was held in Los Angeles from 26 March to the 31st. Altogether 42 people, including 34 from Japan and 8 from the U.S.A had joined the camp.

We had three days from 27th until 29th March for prayer time in Bonnie Brae house, where revival took place and two days of 27th and 28th for street performance in Hollywood. We had early morning holy meetings and night holy meetings every day at Miyako Hybrid hotel, Torrance and we were spoken messages from God through Pastor Paul Akimoto from Romans 8:28 and 1 Thessalonians 5:18. Short messages were spoken through other Pastors, too. In the messages of Pastor Akimoto, God spoke that the area from Los Angeles to San Diego was one of Spiritually important areas. The messages reminded us of prayer meeting at Church-On-The-Way, Los Angeles, in that we were given promise of Revival and of orchestra.

The message said that we were given a few very rare relationship with God's instruments like Brother Steve, who is somebody in gospel world in Los Angeles and Rev. Merlin Carothers, who used to stay near San Diego.

On the 28th night, we watched Rev. Merlin's message in a movie during the memorial meeting of Rev. Merlin. On the 29th, we had invited black-gospel leading people in the “Gospel Show Case” who listened to our singers' gospel and we received their evaluation. There were 11 singer teams participated, more than half of which was the 2nd generation Christian. I thought God is using the new generation.

I was blessed by praying in Bonnie Brae house, the house number of which is 216. I didn't notice about the number, but a Pastor told me that this is the number that is same with Acts 2:16. I was touched, because the verse says, "No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel, "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people, Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams."(Acts 2:16-17)

I felt that the Lord's work, which was like those happened during Azusa Revival or much stronger ones will happen very soon in this end time, when the Revival has started already. Pastor of Los Angeles church said in her testimony that Bonnie Brae house was opened for Prophecy seminar and charisma meeting after she was looking for venue for the meeting on the 25 December and could not find one at all. I think it was God who did this.

I remember the incident when I went to Los Angeles on a team just after a great earthquake there. When I was praying in the Prayer Chapel, God spoke to me to dedicate myself to Him. When I answered, "Not Yet", there suddenly was an aftershock shake that made me jump up, and I answered, "I will dedicate myself, God!" It reminded me that Los Angeles was the spiritual point for me, too.

We listened to Rev. Merlin's message in a movie with the theme that we will bring 1 million people to Christ. He said that the Holy Spirit has made a boy who had no ability of writing a person who can write. Even if professors said, "You have no ability to write", he kept on writing for mission work and his book was translated into 59 languages. I was very touched by this story. In the early morning holy meeting on the last day, there was an invitation to decision making prayer of thanksgiving no matter what will happen. We have "decided our mind to give thanks" at the venue altogether. It was a great experience. I felt like I was given the origin of blessing.

