



Miss M. Fong – 1939 (Edition 1)

Miss Minnie Fong, a Chinese sister born, educated and converted in New Zealand, was commended by the Greymouth assembly and left to serve the Lord in Canton, China in January 1939. She was accompanying Miss Clare Shirtliff and because of the war between Japan and China it was felt advisable for her to stop off at Singapore. By the grace of God she has faithfully served there ever since.

In her early years in that city she found many opportunities in visiting the lepers, hospitals and schools to speak to people in Cantonese. She was associated with the Chinese assembly and when the Japanese forces occupied the city she stayed on and helped nurse the sick and wounded, in the P.O.W. Camps during 1942. "Restricted freedom" was the term used for her activities in 1943. During those years she was remarkably kept safe and did a tremendous job in encouraging the Chinese assembly.

At the end of the hostilities she was repatriated to New Zealand but after a very short visit returned to Singapore. The post-war years witnessed difficult times in that city as corruption and violence increased. Nevertheless the Word of the Lord was greatly blessed to all who believed and many were saved especially amongst the Chinese women. Miss Fong maintained a constant programme of visiting but obviously that was predominantly amongst the women, and often she longed for some full time worker to witness amongst the Chinese speaking men. Her Hillman car was amongst one of the 76 stolen in one month in 1958. It was returned with both bumpers dented. As a precaution she locked the gear lever in reverse to the seat and that proved adequate. Though the Lord blessed her ministry it was not easy and one woman she led to the Lord made her decision after being visited continually for seven years.

In recent years the Lord has touched the hearts of some older people. A devout Buddhist of over 80 was saved and baptised. A woman dying of cancer was led to the Lord and Miss Fong marvelled how readily her mind grasped the truth. Early in 1974 an old woman of over 80 was saved and threw away her Buddhist prayer beads. The gospel – the power of God to salvation.

[Source entry includes an uncaptioned photo of Miss Fong.]