

Hello everyone!

It's Monday morning, the sun is brightly shining, and I'm on a train to Taipei. The scenery at times is quite spectacular. I was in Hualien for a little less than three months and I've now been called to serve in a city named Sanxiong. From what I've heard it is the ghetto of Taiwan. It's apparently a whole different world up there compared to Hualien.

Wow! I wish you could see the ocean the way I'm seeing it right now. The huge waves crashing in against the rocky coast, the fishing boats being gently tossed about, the mountains, the trees, the rice fields - it's all so beautiful. Please excuse my sloppy writing; my book here is leaning against my knees and I, like the fishermen, am being rocked from side to side.

Hualien was great! I had a couple of great companions and worked with a number of other fantastic missionaries. The members were also great. You always hear how loving the people you serve is a key to being a happy and successful missionary - well the Taiwanese people make that so easy. I didn't see a lot of success in Hualien as far as baptisms go, but I saw daily miracles more the less. The missionaries there will continue to work with some families and singles that I had been teaching and hopefully help them overcome the obstacles that are keeping them from being baptized. We as missionaries can only do so much, then it is up to the investigator to do their part. This part is so simple - it is to everyday pray and read the Book of Mormon, as well as attend church each Sunday. Anyone who does this can gain a testimony of the divine mission of our Savior Jesus Christ and the truthfulness of the Book of Mormon. A desire to keep our Heavenly Father's commandments and be baptized

just naturally follows that testimony. This has taken a while to write because my pen only hits the paper when we're in a tunnel or at a station. I don't want to miss this opportunity to see the coast.

Now for my big news, oh, wait a second... I wanted to tell you about one of our investigators first. His name is brother ~~E. (30.51:3)~~. He is nineteen years old and has a real desire to know the truth. He has read and prayed daily and attended church for the first time two weeks ago. It is so easy to tell the difference between someone who follows those steps and someone who doesn't. You can see their progression, increased understanding, and their increased confidence and happiness. It is such a wonderful sight. Unfortunately for us, he moved last week. But fortunately for him, we set him up to meet with the missionaries in his new area and he still has a baptismal date set.

I'm here now, but my luggage and bicycle aren't. The moving company says that they shipped it to the wrong place, so we'll get it in 2 days - I hope! Amazingly, all I packed in my carry on bag was my ~~spare~~ proselyting clothes and supplies, my underwear and toiletries - all a missionary really needs! A missionary who finished his mission left his bike here, so that's taken care of too.

The big news is about my new companion. His name is Elder Cheng and he was born and raised here in Taiwan. He apparently has the worst English in the whole mission, which means that all communication will be in Chinese. Although it may be difficult, I am very grateful for this opportunity. Of the <sup>approx.</sup> 160 missionaries in this mission, there are only about 7-8 natives. It's rare to ever have a native companion here, especially when you're as new as I am. I'll need your prayers more than ever now. Thank you!

Wishing you all the best! Love, Elder Schuyler ~~████████~~

Hello! It's May 4<sup>th</sup> and I've been here in Sanchong for over 4 weeks now. Things are good! Very busy! I wanted to write more, but I don't really have time right now. I will let you know more about what's happened here in my next letter.

Thank you all for your letters! You know who you are. I've also made an effort, and to this point been able to respond personally to those who have written me. I will continue to do so - and again, thank you! It is such a wonderful blessing for me to hear from you my friends and about what's going on in your lives. I care about you all very much and pray that you are all doing well.

Until the next time! Love from Taiwan!

Elder Tyron Shultz ~~2000~~