

## 2016 CNH District Mission Agency Mini-Grant Event Reflection: Merced HMong New Year Booth

Merced HMong New Year Celebration was held on December 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> in Merced. At the event, different vendors and organizations sold, displayed, and showcased their goods and services. St. Paul HMong congregation in Merced had a booth out at the event reaching out to the HMong people with the Gospel. Thank God for the mini-grant from our CNH District to help make this outreach possible. Thank you very much!

We handed out over three hundred brochures and six hundred business cards. We met and talked to many people. When we talked to the people, we asked for their contact information for future follow-ups. We shared Christ and prayed with those who needed prayers.

An elderly, Non-Christian woman who was sick and hospitalized two to three times a month, since October, needed prayers. A young lady shared her struggle with spiritual warfare. She wants to follow Christ because of her illnesses. However, she still wants to respect her husband who has parents practicing shamanism. She asked to have a Bible in the HMong language. An elderly shaman said she knows that God is calling her but she's not ready to let go of shamanism. Through the practice of shaman chanting, she can be in spiritual contact with her children in Laos. A mid-age man came looking for a book of wisdom at our booth. Of course, Pastor Doua Xiong had a great talk with him about wisdom, the Ten Commandments, the Bible and gave him the Small Catechism in HMong. These are just a few examples of the different conversations we had with different people.

Based on this experience, we learned that the HMong continue to live in fear and hold strong to prestige. They fear that following Jesus their family will disown them. They will lose their status in the HMong community, if they to follow Him. We know it is not easy for many, including the HMong, who have been enslaved by Satan to follow Christ. Together, let us continue to pray that the Holy Spirit will lead these and those who have heard the Gospel into Christ. We hope to know more about these people. We plan to visit and build relationship with those who we talked to at the event. They will also be invited to any of our future church activities, with the hope that they will join us in worship in the future.

Again, we thank God for this mini-grant. It has helped us reached out to and touched the souls of many HMong people in Merced with God's saving grace. It was truly a great first time experience for our congregation. We hope to look forward to the next one in December 2017.

Blessings to all,

Sue Xiong  
St. Paul HMong Congregation  
Program Outreach Director  
[sxiong@stpaulmerced.com](mailto:sxiong@stpaulmerced.com)  
651-216-8457



Sharing Christ and His victory over death with a young lady (center) who wants to follow Christ.



Pastor Doua praying for an elderly, Non-Christian lady who needed prayers.



Pastor Doua Xiong inviting a grandmother to follow Jesus.