

APPENDIX 43

Table 74: Different areas of evangelistic work (ZCF)

Classification	F	P(%)	CR
1. Online Bible study	20	19.05	2
2. Evangelism in park	1	0.95	8
3. Street evangelism	6	5.71	7
4. Mass evangelism	8	7.62	6
5. Mission points	17	16.19	4
6. Financial support	21	20.00	1
7. Direct participation	20	19.05	2
8. Foreign missions	12	11.43	5
Total (multiple responses)	105	100.00	

F: Frequency

P(%): Percentage

CR: Comparative Rank

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ABSTRACT

The title of this dissertation is "Worship as a factor of evangelism in selected Filipino diaspora churches in Grace International Ministries Ltd. (GIM), Hong Kong SAR, China." The Statement of the problem is as follows: "What critical analysis can be made of worship as a factor of evangelism in the GIM churches in Hong Kong SAR, China?" In response to this problem, three sub-problems were formulated and investigated through the use of literary research method and field survey.

Chapter one discussed the following first sub-problem: "What is the significance of worship to evangelism in the book of Acts?" In response to this sub-problem before making a formal study, the researcher made the basic assumption that the significance of worship to evangelism in the book of Acts can be identified. The book of Acts contains the following significance: (1) general information of the book of Acts; (2) worship in the book of Acts; and (3) the effects of worship on evangelism as found in the book of Acts. The researcher chose these three major ideas due to the fact that there is parallelism between worship in the book of Acts and GIM churches' worship experience.

Chapter one stated that it is appropriate to know the origins of the early Christian worship and its significance to evangelism. General information of the of Acts was given to show its religious background. This chapter noted that Acts is compounded by different religious worldviews. Religious practices around the Roman empire was diversified. Political conditions also shaped and influenced the book of Acts since Christianity originated during the Roman rule. The cultural and socio-economic background contributed to the lives of the people and affected the situation in the book of Acts.

The research showed that worship is found in Acts as evidence by the teachings of the apostles, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayers. The study pointed out that worship is foundational to the tasks and life of the church. Acts showed how worship activity functioned as a tool for believers' devotion to Go. Another idea discussed in this chapter was the elements of worship which portrayed and traced to Jewish practices. This chapter noted the elements of worship as follows: (1) preaching; (2) breaking of bread; (3) prayer; (4) hymn singing; and (5) offering. It also showed how people would worship in the Temple, synagogue, and house churches. The effect of worship to

the believers ushered them in the evangelistic activity of the church which continued daily. These information were gleaned from literary research.

Chapter two dealt with the following second sub-problem: "What is the common understanding of worship as a factor of evangelism among selected GIM churches?" In dealing with this sub-problem prior to the conducting of the study, the researcher made the basic assumption that the common understanding of worship as a factor of evangelism in GIM can be delineated. This chapter was developed by presenting the following sections: (1) the general profile and basic information about the fourteen selected GIM churches and their respondents; (2) the distinctive features of worship, and (3) their involvement in evangelistic work.

Field survey showed that there are twenty one member churches and mission points that comprise GIM, and out of the twenty one, the researcher selected fourteen churches as sample respondents. This chapter discussed the common understanding of worship among the GIM churches in relation to evangelism based on the responses of the respondents. The general profile of the selected GIM churches pointed out the composition of the member churches. Two hundred seventeen respondents from fourteen churches participated in the survey.

An examination of the data revealed that International Filipino Church was organized first and Filipino Baptist Church Tsuen Wan Chapel was last. In terms of the largest number of respondents, Refuge Baptist Church had twenty five member respondents. The survey showed that nine hundred fifty members comprised the fourteen selected churches in which River of Life Baptist Church has the highest membership with one hundred thirty members. Accordingly, members tended to stay longer as the church got older.

The church worship attendance is a vital factor in determining the condition of a church. This chapter showed that the majority of the church membership were actively participating every time in the worship service. Survey showed how worship became a part of respondents' way of life. This chapter also presented the data based on the field survey which regards the distinctive features of worship among the selected GIM churches. Research pointed out that each church maintained a distinct feature of worship. The results of the survey indicated that member churches have varied opinions as to the effectiveness of each feature of worship. This may be due to the fact that members belong to different cultural groups.

In this chapter, the order of worship and arrangement were also explained. There were seven parts in the worship service being practiced by the fourteen selected GIM churches. Field survey disclosed that respondents prioritized the order of worship and acknowledged as equally important among factors that comprise meaningful worship. Each church has a distinct order of worship. The data showed how the selected GIM churches were involved in different evangelistic activities. Field survey disclosed that each church challenged her congregation to participate in evangelistic activities.

Chapter three dealt with the following third sub-problem: "What are the strengths and weaknesses of GIM practices of worship related to evangelism in light of the book of Acts?" Prior to conducting the study, the researcher made a basic assumption that the strengths and weaknesses of GIM practices of worship related to evangelism in light of the book of Acts can be enumerated. The chapter noted the areas of strengths of GIM worship practices as follows: (1) vigorous stress on preaching; (2) sensitivity to worship and prayer; (3) community singing; (4) emphasis on Scripture reading; (5) stress on giving; and (5) pastor's emphasis on evangelism.

The researcher also presented the areas of weaknesses as follows: (1) members' lack of commitment to evangelism; (2) lack of preparation of worship leaders; (3) lack of pastor's giving of an invitation; and (4) lack of a conducive meeting place for worship. This chapter noted that the weaknesses contributed to the cause of ineffectiveness of evangelistic activities in GIM.

This research, therefore, succeeded in exploring worship as a factor of evangelism. Combining literary research (chapters one and three) and field survey (chapter two), this dissertation specifically identified and analyzed the worship practices of the selected GIM churches, analyzed and discussed the strengths and weaknesses of worship practices relative to evangelism, and demonstrated from the book of Acts how significant worship is to evangelistic activities among churches in GIM.

Related to the conclusion made, the following implications seem inevitable to follow: (1) there is a need to formulate a biblically-sound theology of worship that supports the evangelistic activities of GIM churches; (2) there is a need to design evangelistic strategies based primarily on the member-churches' sound theology of worship; (3) there is a need to conduct a

study on the use of contextualized forms of worship that could enhance the local evangelistic strategies of GIM churches; (4) there is a need to conduct training on worship that would strengthen the cultural identity of each member-church of GIM; (5) there is a need to develop effective financial programs that would help the GIM churches improve their worship places, purchase lots, and consequently construct buildings; (6) there is a need to increase the degree of congregational participation in worship and evangelism; (7) there is a need to develop communication skills for leading worship and evangelism on the basis of the people's cultural diversity; and (8) this dissertation did not include the use of indigenous musical instruments in worship. The diverse and rich cultural heritage of GIM churches require the study of the effectiveness of the use of indigenous instruments of music for worship purposes and how they could contribute to the increase of awareness by using such indigenous tools and methods for evangelism.