

Elaine Lin, 30 years

Location: Mission to Paitan, Sabah Malaysia

Mission: To help the local community with Clare's Missionary, Nov 2011

Duration: Approximately 1 week

Takeaways

Giving and receiving:

My idea of a mission trip is to bring joy to the less privileged to the best of my ability and to spread the love of Christ. The trip to Paitan in 2011 fits this idea and that's why I decided to go again in Mar 2013. Staying in the village and being with the locals throughout the trip helped me understand how it is like to stay in a house without electricity and with limited water. Playing with the children made me realise how simple things can fulfill them and make them smile. Being in such a different environment drew us participants, closer to one another. We had our share of fun amidst the challenges of the trip. All these helped me to reflect on my own life.

Lasting impressions:

I was struck by the warm welcome given to us by the villagers, the satisfied faces of the children when they were having their meals, their happy faces when they received a simple balloon, the smartly dressed villagers wearing their best outfit to attend a mass in the village.

I will definitely continue to go on mission trips. Being able to contribute to someone's joy brings me so much happiness. Through mission trips, we give but we receive even more.

