



Chinese Union Mission First Grace Link Lessons In Chinese

The first *Grace Link* lessons in Chinese (one set—children's and teacher's copies—for Kindergarten and one set for Primary) have just rolled off the press! Mrs Serene Chong-Yau, the Children's Ministries director for the Chinese Union Mission (CHUM) and her assistant, Mrs Joyce Ng-Sham labored long and hard to get this important task completed in good time. Trying to accomplish this on a shoe-string budget has kept these two ladies working long



hours on editing the translation done by college students. Another faithful volunteer, Ms Asa-Ann Wong, has helped with the editing of the final manuscripts.

The next steps that CHUM will take will be to promote, distribute these quarterlies and more importantly, train teachers to use this new approach to teaching the Bible to ensure that children not only know the Bible at a cognitive level but be led to translate this knowledge into lessons learned and incorporated into the fabric of their lives. Also, *Grace Link* encourages and challenges children to witness and share what they have learned every Sabbath with their friends, family and significant others they come into contact with.

Now that these lessons are in print, they will not only benefit the territory of the Chinese Union, but will be available to Chinese-reading populations world-wide. To order these lessons or find out more about them, contact Mrs Serene Chong-Yau at the Chinese Union Mission. Her email is: chong_serene@chumadventist.org.

Japan Union Conference--Grace Link Seminar

The first formal training for using the *Grace Link* curriculum was held in the Japan Union Conference from September 30 and October 1, 2006. About 70 sabbath school teachers for children and children's ministries leaders came from as far north as Hokkaido and as far south as Okinawa to the Tachikawa Church for this event.



The Children's Ministries Director of the General Conference, Dr Linda Koh, and her counterpart in the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, Dr Sally Lam Phoon led the group in an understanding of the philosophy behind *Grace Link* that underlies the exciting and creative approach to teaching the Bible. It is hoped that the Bible is not taught only from a cognitive standpoint so that children know the Bible stories, but that the knowledge is taken to higher levels of learning where children can apply the principles learned as well as to share what they have learned in very practical ways.

Children's Ministries is intentional in training our children to be a part of the church's mission to "Tell the World." Every *Grace Link* lesson is designed with specific ways of getting children involved in sharing the gospel truths with their parents, friends and other significant adults in their lives. Numerous demonstrations were given on how Sabbath School can be taught that will cater to every learning style and every child. Creativity was bursting at the seams as the participants came up with their own presentations of teaching the Bible stories.

The *Grace Link* lesson quarterlies (primary level) produced by the Sabbath School Department of the General Conference have been translated into Japanese. Plans have been mooted to translate the beginner and kindergarten levels by next year.

SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION



SPD Children's Ministries Expo '06

Over 125 delegates participated enthusiastically at the division-wide Children's Ministries Expo on

August 18-20, 2006 at Colloroy Retreat Center in Sydney. The theme Pass on Your Faith speaks directly to all participants. Keynote speaker Bailey Gillespie challenged all participants to pass on their faith to their children by living exemplary lives. In addition, the participants were also treated to over twenty workshops, inspiring praise and wor-