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Duration serving at your current place: 1 year & 9 months
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I'm Samuel, a Taiping-born chap who's currently attached to a semiconductor company in 'Taugeh land', also known as Ipoh. Come Feb 2008, I'll celebrate my 2nd year anniversary in Ipoh. This is my 2nd job, after my attachment with a construction company upon graduation where I was based in KL. The transition from KL to Ipoh has been smooth. I have all but praises for this city which I've grown to love and cherish. I guess Ipoh does not warrant being called a small town, as it is quite big & it's really a conducive place to raise a family. Allow me to just share my perspective of life in Ipoh..

Ipoh – minutes away

One major advantage- staying in ipoh, everywhere is relatively near, by near I mean that you get to reach destinations within half an hour. You don't get caught in major traffic jams or spend long periods of time on the road.

Ipoh- food galore

A major attraction of Ipoh is undoubtedly her good food, reasonably priced & spoilt for choice. Anywhere you go, the koay teow is silky smooth, taueh is crisp & fat. Sweet smelling coffee is another major attraction. Kedai Kopi Sin Yoon Loong was where Ipoh Old Town White Coffee originated.

Ipoh-moderately developed

Ipoh maintains an image of not being too overdeveloped, suffocated by sky scrapers. On the contrary, ipoh is blessed with plenty of land as evidenced by the many roundabouts you'll find in and around ipoh city. There are few industrial zones around ipoh. Manufacturing and semiconductor industries are among some of the income generators for this state.

Ipoh-spiritually thriving

Spiritually, Ipoh has many mainstream as well as independent churches. I'm worshipping at Canning Garden Methodist Church. The church is very much involved in missions and also social concerns work. Fundamental to all this is her emphasis on prayer & developing prayer life. Joining cell group has encouraged, strengthened and edified my spiritual walk with God.

Ipoh-community based

As mentioned earlier, Ipoh is still very much a family oriented place. You see kids in tow with their mothers at the wet market, families coming out in droves at the public playground where you can jog, play a game of football & cycle.

Looking back...

In retrospect, it has been an incredible journey thus far. God really opened doors for me when I decided to be nearer to my sweetheart who was attached to Taiping Hospital when I applied to come back to Perak. There was an opening in a semiconductor company & my immediate boss really took me under his wing. The move was also made pleasant as my aunt opened her home for me & I had the privilege of coming home to home-cooked food!

To serve or not to serve..

It took me one year to finally settle down. During my 1st year, I decided not to get involved in any ministry as weekends were spent back in my hometown in Taiping. Not having any commitment to serve, I slowly found myself driving all my energy towards my work. Yes, I turned into a workaholic. I was working extremely long hours & chalked up for myself a huge sleep debt. I started to skip cell meetings. My work became a priority & it took a toll on my relationship as well. God, in his grace, taught me & convicted me of my weaknesses & I made a commitment to nurture my relationship with my girlfriend & renew my walk with Him.

So now, praise God, I've started serving in the area of kids' ministry and music ministry.

Against all odds...

It amazes me how far I've come. In a way, God has taught me humility & to learn to trust him & not rely on my own strength. ***"Not by might nor by power, but by my spirit," says the Lord Almighty (Zechariah 4:6).*** More often than not, we tend to take matters into our own hands choosing not to let go & let God. God has shown that He is more than enough & yes, there'll be times when things don't go the way WE want it to, but definitely God is Great & He knows BEST! The best part of all, I really thank God for my better half who is now my fiancé. The move to Ipoh really cemented our relationship to the point where she said yes when I popped the question. Had I not realize or decided to ignore the telling signs that my relationship was on shaky ground, it would have been for naught. My dear Meng Lee has been my source of encouragement & my listening ear. If I have learnt one thing from her, it's that I shouldn't dwell on the bad stuff, the hurtful stuff, the disappointing stuff. Instead, focus on the good, the wonderful, the happy. That's her motto in life & I've since learned some pointers from her. The Bible says ***"Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable- if anything is excellent or praiseworthy- think about such things."*** Phil 4:8

Prayer Points

1. Develop discipline and consistency in prayer life
2. To be salt and light in the workplace- things are not always rosy, what counts is our attitude- that will be our legacy. **CONSISTENCY is the key!**