Church Planting Among Chinese Restaurant Workers

Kewen Dong retired 10 years ago from a job in medical research to take on the burden of his people, the Fujianese immigrants of Fujian Province. He felt called to fully devote himself to reaching his people and raising up church planters to do the same.

Through a connection to the Chinese restaurant industry, Dong met many fellow Fujianese immigrants. It was throughout this time he witnessed the overworked, exploited, and underserved immigrant restaurant workers living in small towns along the east coast of the United States.

“Most of these people live in small towns with very few Fujianese-speaking communities or churches to influence their lives,” said Dong, who is a church planter of the Heavenly Bread Church of Virginia Beach.

Dong is committed to reaching out and connecting with the displaced Fujianese workers living across the U.S in partnership with local Baptist churches, BGAV, and state Baptist conventions. To date, Dong has established new works in Virginia Beach, VA; Petersburg, VA; and Elizabeth City, NC.

Out of the love of the Lord and souls, Dong, a visionary church planter of the movement of restaurant workers’ church planting, is making large personal sacrifices, traveling great distances regularly to visit restaurant workers across cities across the country.

He keeps expenses low by choosing to board at hotels with little heat in the winter. Dong also has an enormously challenging schedule, as he holds midnight discipleship trainings and Bible study classes to accommodate the busy schedules of restaurant workers.
Dong and the church planting team share a bold vision to start 100 new Chinese churches and worship groups in America’s small cities before 2025.

“BGAV will cooperate with this ministry partner in evangelizing all people groups in every ethnic and/or cultural context by developing and applying disciple-making ministry models with the Acts 1:8 focus,” said Sang Shin, Asian Church coordinator, Mosaic of Growth Venture Development.

For more information about church planting for your church, contact:
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