

## Another Weekend

This past week had very limited visibility, less than a mile, because of air pollution made visible by the humidity. On Saturday night and overnight we had a cool front pass with lots of thunder, lightning, and rain, replacing the air. Here are clear-sky (sun visible) photos, before and after.



On Sunday we were taken to the city center, where European settlements were made in the 1800s. Buildings tended to be only two stories high, with lawns and gardens.



A house in the English area.

A fountain in the Italian area.

We saw a modern “China House” decorated with a coating of old pottery.



Some of our team did shopping in an area of the oldest preserved Chinese buildings. Then we had a river boat ride, seeing some interesting architecture, especially bridges along the way.



A double deck bridge.

A working Ferris Wheel is across the bridge. On Sunday we drove under it.

On the next page is the tallest building in Tianjin. Its glass walls are not only tapered but pleated.

Today, Sunday, we went to this building, built about a hundred years ago. We were served a good lunch along with some deaf people. Ten years ago people at this authorized church were only old women. Five years ago still no men. Now there are about a thousand people associated, all ages from pre-school to elderly and lots of men. There are also blind people but we did not see them. Old people tend to attend the first service, middle aged the middle service, and young



Tallest building in Tianjin.

adults the 1 PM service which we attended, including two of our students. Music was done with enthusiasm with Chinese words and tunes. Perhaps there were about sixty people there of that age group. The topic was the Joseph story from the first book. Several people were near us to tell us in English what was being said. Afterwards we met with some of those young people in the basement for a sharing session. This was the best such fellowship I have experienced in all my trips to China.



Lunchtime



Kitchen crew



Ed Holroyd, 22 July 2012



Our team of American teachers.