



Christian Brethren Secretariat Malaysia

2025

# diakonia

One Lord, One Mission, One Heart

**Vol. 1**

# HOPE IN TIMES OF UNCERTAINTY

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

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# Messages

## CBSM Chairman's Message



Greetings in the precious Name of our dear Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We are thankful to the Lord that the Diakonia magazine has been regularly published for

many years, covering various themes and topics related to the Assemblies and their ministries. We have been blessed and encouraged by many of the articles that were written. We are excited that Diakonia 2025 will be published in two volumes this year! Once again, we thank the Lord for the editorial team's passion, initiative, and commitment in producing the Diakonia. We also thank the Lord for those who have contributed articles in the past and for this latest publication.

The theme chosen for this year, **"Hope in Times of Uncertainty,"** is timely. We must be reminded not to lose heart despite sufferings (2 Corinthians 4:16-18), and to continue faithfully in the Lord, holding fast to the sure hope in the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Times of Uncertainty** are often anxious and troubling. It can mean distress, disasters, destruction, and even death. The fear of the next deadly pandemic, of impending terrible natural disasters, of another great economic depression, of the outbreak of deadly modern warfare is real. The Lord describes how it will all spiral into times of far greater catastrophic

dimensions, so much so that people will faint in terror (Luke 21:26). Times of uncertainty will also hit the church in the form of opposition and increased persecution.

We certainly know of the great troubles ahead as revealed in Scriptures, yet we may be so caught up with the things of this world and live as if they will not happen. May Diakonia 2025's theme about Times of Uncertainty ahead of us spur us to have a greater awareness and not to take lightly what God has said about the future. The Lord Jesus also exhorts us not to be terrified as things unfold (Luke 21:9), but to watch and pray always (Luke 21:36). But praise the Lord that there is hope for believers in times of uncertainty, and to ultimately stand before the Lord Jesus in glory.

*Luke 21:36 "Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."*

John writes that, having such a great hope of seeing the Lord Jesus, we should strive to purify ourselves, just as He is pure. How we carry ourselves as believers while navigating through times of uncertainty. May we be a firm witness and testimony of the hope that is found in Christ.

Enjoy reading this first volume of the Diakonia 2025 and all the articles written and be encouraged and motivated to continue to serve the Lord faithfully, especially in bringing the Gospel to the lost.

Thank you.

**Chiew Sai Kee, Chairman.**

**CBSM 2025**

# Messages

## From CBSM General Secretary's Desk



Pray for the Trustees who each are elders in their home assembly and often have responsibilities beyond their own assemblies. CBSM continues to work towards serving

the assemblies better. Our goal is to enable and encourage brethren to work together in unity by facilitating communication and cooperation. This is often challenging since we all have our differences, but we have the same Lord, same Mission and the same Gospel.

We are grateful to the assemblies who have prayed and contributed to the running of CBSM. We shall endeavor to serve the assemblies more effectively.

## ALC 2025 (Assemblies Leadership Conference)

One of the key events organized by CBSM is the ALC, held every 2 years. The objective of the conference is to bring the assemblies together to learn, partner, network and encourage each other. 2025 is the year of ALC. We're privileged to have Andrew Cowell of GLO Australia to be our Keynote speaker on the theme, "**Radical Discipleship**". The conference will be held in Ipoh's 1969 Business Suite on 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> Sept (Sunday night through to Wednesday morning). Do block your calendar and prepare to attend this "**Radical Discipleship Conference**" conference.

At this conference, we will also be electing the **trustees** for the next term, i.e. **2026-2027**. Pray that the Lord will move the hearts of the brothers/elders to take up this role for the edification of the assemblies in Malaysia. Nomination forms will be made available to the elders.

## e-Invoicing

Our attempt at Government Recognition has been a slow arduous process. We are now embroiled in e-Invoicing. We are thankful for some other denominations who organized briefing/seminar by knowledgeable brothers and sisters. Having attended the briefings, CBSM although not the experts, will share the gleanings from the briefings.

Some key items that we need to take note:

1. Each assembly must apply for **TIN** (Taxpayer Identification Number). (Individuals will already have the number, namely the Income Tax File number.) The easiest and most recommended method is to use NECF membership certificate to apply for the TIN, which means assemblies have to join NECF as members. We were told that with NECF membership, getting a TIN is pretty much automatic.  
<https://mytax.hasil.gov.my/>
2. There are basically 2 broad categories for e-Invoicing.
  - a. **Outgoing monies:** For purchases (including utilities and services), we need only to give suppliers our TIN and name of assembly and a few relevant details. There



is also a process to pay individuals for services such as cleaners, gardeners, etc. Honorariums and gifts to individuals and organizations will need to be e-invoiced. (recipients of gifts may have to declare as income, yet to be fully understood and clarified).

- b. **Incoming monies:** When receiving monetary gifts, we will need to create e-invoices. There are a few scenarios, such as weekly offerings, marked gifts, gifts from overseas. The procedures are clearly described and straightforward. Assemblies receiving gifts for use of halls, badminton courts, etc., will need to be e-invoiced. These may be considered church income depending on classification.

1. Each assembly will need to create an account in MyInvois to key in all individual and grouped invoices. The procedures are available at the MyInvois Portal;

<https://myinvois.hasil.gov.my/content/> .

2. More information is available at LHDN website: <https://www.hasil.gov.my/en/e-invoice/>

## Youth Rally

Following a successful Youth Rally on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2024 at PJGH, another Youth Rally is being planned to be held in Ipoh for the northern assemblies, notwithstanding that all assemblies are also invited. See separate article.

## Church Revitalization

1. **Church Planting:** Phase One of the Church-Planting effort and training is the launch of **Spiritual Maturity Course**. This aims to prepare individuals to be mature spiritually, ready to plant churches or assist in church planting. We are thankful to the Lord for some 50 brethren who have signed up and are currently attending the course. Phase 2 will be a more specific Church Planting Training.

2. **Diakonia Training Institute (DTI):** CBSM has engaged with ACCS (Australian College of Christian Studies) to offer Accredited courses for Diploma and Degree in Theology. The lectures will be conducted in Malaysia and will provide Theological training for all who would like a formal training for more effective ministry, especially those considering “full-time” ministry. See separate article.

3. **Workers Trust Fund:** A joint Trust Fund between the CBSM and CASM (Chinese Assemblies Secretariat Malaysia) has been set up to assist assemblies needing financial aid to support their ministry workers. Contact CBSM for more information.

4. CBSM continues to reach out to smaller assemblies who need assistance.

## Legacy Fund

CBSM has a Legacy Fund, available for assemblies and agencies who may need some funds to start or renew their mission efforts. This fund has been contributed by the brethren who have gone to be with the Lord. There are some guidelines to ensure the fund is used well, one of which is that it is limited to RM50K. Write to CBSM if your assembly or agency has a mission's project that needs funds to: [cbsm0709@gmail.com](mailto:cbsm0709@gmail.com).

Teo Pek Bing

General Secretary CBSM

## Small Steps to Strengthen Your Spirit and Mind

### 1. Hold onto God's Word

When anxious thoughts rise, anchor yourself in truth. Let the living Word of God steady your heart.

*"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God..." — Isaiah 41:10*

*"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives..." — John 14:27*

*"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." — Psalm 46:1*

#### Reflection Questions:

- Which Bible verse has comforted you in times of anxiety or fear?
- How can you make Scripture more present in your daily routine?
- What truths do you need to remind yourself of today?



## From Editor's Desk



## WELCOME!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with deep joy and gratitude that I welcome you to Diakonia 2025. As

we journey through these pages, we are drawn together by our shared faith, a common hope, and a profound love for our Lord Jesus Christ.

In a world marked by constant change, noise, and uncertainty, this publication serves as a space for spiritual renewal. It is our prayer that each article strengthens your faith and encourages you in your daily walk with Christ.

Published by the Christian Brethren Secretariat of Malaysia (CBSM), Diakonia is more than a magazine - it is a ministry of connection and encouragement. It aims to:

- Promote unity among Assemblies through shared activities and testimonies
- Serve as a hub for timely, prayerful, and cooperative action
- Strengthen the collective witness of the Malaysian Brethren community

This year, we will be releasing two digital editions: **Volume 1 in August and Volume 2 in December 2025**. Our 2025 theme, ***“Hope in Times of Uncertainty,”*** is drawn from 2 Corinthians 4:16–18 - a powerful reminder that even though we face trials, God is constantly renewing us from within.

## Holding onto Hope in a Troubled World

We live in a time where crises whether personal, national, or global can leave us shaken. Questions about peace, endurance, and the future are on everyone's minds. Yet Paul's words ring clear: “Do not lose heart.” His hope was not rooted in circumstances, but in the eternal work of God. Despite enduring persecution, Paul saw suffering as a path to spiritual renewal. His perspective challenges us today: to view hardships not as setbacks, but as opportunities for God's transformative power.

## The Paradox of Renewal

Faith teaches us that even when life breaks us outwardly, God is working inwardly. Like a seed that must fall onto the earth before it grows, our struggles often become the soil for spiritual growth. While the world seeks visible success, Scripture tells us that true transformation begins in the unseen where God shapes our character and deepens our dependence on Him. Hope in Christ does not erase suffering, but lifts our eyes beyond it. What we endure is not wasted. It is preparing us for an eternal glory that far outweighs our momentary troubles.

## Hope as a Discipline of Faith

Fixing our eyes on what is unseen is not passive. It is a daily, deliberate act of faith - a discipline that calls us to trust in God's promises even when life is uncertain. This



kind of hope is not based on wishful thinking but on the unchanging nature of God Himself. The God who led His people through the wilderness, who calmed the storm, and who conquered death is the same God who walks with us today. He is our firm foundation, our living hope.

## Diakonia: A Ministry of Hope

The word Diakonia means “service,” and as believers, we are called to embody hope through our actions. Whether we’re comforting the brokenhearted, advocating for justice, or extending kindness to the marginalized, we become vessels of God’s love in a hurting world.

Our service becomes a tangible expression of the Gospel. It shows that our faith is not only personal, but also public, meant to be shared, lived out, and offered freely to others.

## A Hope That Endures

Let us be reminded: today’s challenges do not define us. God is at work even in hardship renewing us for something greater. Paul’s words encourage us to lift our gaze to eternal realities. Let us fix our eyes on Christ, walk in faith, and serve in love. Even in the most uncertain of times, we press on—because our hope is eternal.

## A Note of Thanks

I want to express my sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to this edition, the writers, designers, editors, and prayer supporters. Your time and effort have helped make Diakonia a meaningful blessing. You can access Volume 1 (Digital Edition) at:

→ <https://www.cbsm.com.my/site/diakonia/>

May this issue inspire you to hold fast to the living hope we have in Christ whose promises are sure, whose love never fails, and whose grace is sufficient in every season.

In Him,

**Samuel Chandy, editor.**

Email: [sam@elim.my](mailto:sam@elim.my)



**Top Left to Right:** *Teo Pek Bing (Sg Nibong Gospel Hall, Samuel Chandy (Seremban Gospel Chapel), Dr Khong Yoon Loong (Bukit Mertajam Gospel Centre),*

**Bottom Left to Right:** *Rodney Tan (Melaka Gospel Chapel), Selina Tan (Bandar Puchong Gospel Centre), Joel Chooi (Bandar Sunway Gospel Centre), Daniel Ewe (Bandar Sunway Gospel Centre), Yap Yoke Chin (Temerloh Gospel Chapel)*

# From around the assemblies (Overseas)

## Ministry and Mission in Kathmandu Nepal

Amar Tamang ([kmcnepal\\_201115@yahoo.com](mailto:kmcnepal_201115@yahoo.com))

### Trusting in You, LORD – From the Beginning Until the End

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.” – Proverbs 3:5*

We praise and thank God for the joy and privilege of serving Him in Nepal—a land rich in natural beauty, various cultures, and religious diversity and deep spiritual needs. For 15 years, His faithfulness has led us thus far and sustained in this journey of sharing Christ's love. There have been trials, uncertainties, and many small and big difficulties, yet the Lord has never let us down.

Despite strict religious societies and anti-conversion laws that limit open evangelism, we have been pressing on to share the love of Christ with relatives, friends, and neighbors. Many hesitate to follow Christ openly due to fear of rejection or legal trouble. Still, we hold on to the promises of God that every seed of the gospel planted will grow in His perfect time.

Though the work is not easy, and the visible harvest remains small, yet we rejoice in the few souls who have come to Christ. Even in our moments of little faith, the Lord has carried us through and made us stronger in His Spirit. Every transformed life is a testimony of God's power.

*As Scripture says, “So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.” – 1 Corinthians 3:7*

We press on in Chalnakhel, Kathmandu, and beyond—serving with courage, love, and wisdom. The harvest is plentiful, though the workers are few. But we are confident that the Lord, who called and sent us, will continue to work through us. We believe that every prayer, every act of love, and every word shared is not in vain. *“Your labor in the Lord is not in vain.” – 1 Corinthians 15:58.*

### A Journey of Faith Since 2010

The ministry known as Kathmandu Mission Centre (KMC) began on July 17, 2010.

Looking back, my journey began with small and uncertain steps. I didn't know where God was leading me, but I decided to trust and obey Him. Along the way, I faced many trials and challenges, but one thing has always been true, God never left me. He walked with me through every difficult moment and used each one to grow my faith and make me stronger.

By God's grace, my wife Shanta Rai and I, our daughters Sujika and Shikshita, and a few believers, some new to the faith and others who had walked with the Lord for some time, came together. In total, we were just 13 people when we started. But we believed that God had brought us together for His purpose.

## From around the assemblies (Overseas)

We walked by faith, not by sight. The road has not been easy. Many times, we didn't know what would come next. But God was always there—guiding us, providing for us, and giving us the strength to keep going. All glory to God for how far He has brought us. It's about His grace, His faithfulness, and His power to work through ordinary people for His extraordinary purposes.



*God's Servants : Mr & Mrs Amar Tamang – Our Missionary in Nepal. Mentored by the Late Mr. Daniel Devaraj (Taiping Gospel Hall)*

### **How God Used a Visit from Malaysia to Encourage and Strengthen His Work in Nepal**

In 2010, during the early days of Kathmandu Mission Centre (KMC) in Imadol, Lalitpur, a special visit took place that became a historic moment in the ministry's journey. Mr. Lee Min Choon, Chairman of GLO Malaysia, sent Mr. Wong Sai Weng, one of the elders, and his wife

Aunty May from Life Chapel, to visit and encourage the young fellowship.

Mr. Wong Sai Weng was our guest speaker at a two-day reunion camp on October 29–30. The camp brought together 30 participants: 11 Nepalese believers, who had returned from working in Malaysia, came from their villages to attend, and the other 19 were regular members of the KMC house fellowship, both new and older believers.

The highlights of the camp happened on Saturday morning, October 30, when the believers, along with Mr. and Mrs. Wong Sai Weng, shared the Lord's Supper (breaking of bread) together for the very first time. It was a joyful and meaningful moment that brought everyone closer in faith and unity in remembrance of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Mr. Wong Sai Weng also spoke God's Word during the camp. His message on "Living in Unity" encouraged and strengthened everyone. Many were touched by the teaching and felt renewed in their commitment to follow Christ together.

Before returning to Malaysia on November 1st, I had a conversation with Mr. Wong Sai Weng and his wife, Aunty May about the challenges that the ministry was facing. Amar Tamang shared about the financial difficulties of running the Church from his small rented flat (home). He also explained the need for a bigger place to have worship services, offer hospitality to returnees from Malaysia, organize Bible seminars, host Christmas outreach programs, and have space for an office.



## From around the assemblies (Overseas)

After returning to Malaysia, Mr. Wong Sai Weng called a meeting in Taiping Gospel Hall with CBSM, TGH, NTGH, MMS Trust and GLO Malaysia on March 5, 2011. As a result of that meeting, CBSM helped coordinate financial support from the assemblies in Malaysia to support the growth of the ministry at KMC.

This partnership is a wonderful example of how God works through His people across two countries to build His Church. It shows the power of unity and faith in action.

*“And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus.” — Philippians 4:19*



### 2<sup>nd</sup> Remarkable GLO Bible Seminar Taken Place at KMC in 2011

From October 8 to 12, 2011, Kathmandu Mission Centre (KMC) in Imadol, Lalitpur, hosted its second GLO Bible Seminar—an event that greatly strengthened the faith of the

believers. Mr. Nyanen Thiran, an elder from Bangsar Gospel Centre, and his wife, Auntie Glory, visited as representatives of GLO Malaysia. Mr. Thiran led four days of Bible teaching, bringing clear, practical, and impactful lessons from God's Word on “Defending the Christian faith”. A total of 28 believers participated in the seminar. Many were young in faith, and the teaching helped them grow in their knowledge of the Bible and their commitment to follow Christ.

The seminar became another key moment in the journey of KMC. It not only equipped the fellowship with strong biblical foundations but also inspired them to continue walking in faith with greater confidence.



## From around the assemblies (Overseas)

### Faithful Partnership for God's Work in Nepal

Over the years, CBSM, Nepal Mission Committee and GLO Malaysia have played an important role in helping God's work grow in Nepal. In 2012, Mr. Thiran led the first GLO-CBSM mission trip with a team of 16 mission workers from various assemblies in Malaysia. In 2013, the team grew to 17 members. These mission trips have continued in the years since, bringing encouragement, Bible teaching, and spiritual support to local fellowships.

The mission outreach in the Dhading hills, especially in Ree village, began in 2012 through Surjayman BK and was further developed in 2015 by John Prakash Tamang after the major earthquake. In 2014, the ministry also expanded to Madi, Chitwan, where Abraham Dhan Sunar now leads the growing fellowship.

This ongoing partnership between Nepal and Malaysia is a beautiful example of how God brings His people together across nations to build and strengthen His Church for His glory.



### A Journey of Faith Continues ...

We are grateful to share a significant step of progress in the history of KMC—by God's grace, we were able to purchase a piece of land in Chalnakhel area (Dakshinkal Municipality Worda No. 1), southwest of Kathmandu. Measuring 2,395 sq. ft., it was used for the construction of the Kathmandu Mission Centre (KMC). On October 1, 2023, the land was legally transferred to the assembly. This was only possible through the generous gifts of brothers and sisters, especially the assemblies in Malaysia. Through the coordination of the Nepal Missions Committee, the Lord touched their hearts and provided the full amount of NPR 9,100,000 (approximately RM319,000).

We thank God for His perfect timing and the provision. This land now serves as a permanent base for setting up mission work in Kathmandu—a place set apart for His glory and the growth of His kingdom in Nepal.

### A New Chapter Beginning: Moving to Chalnakhel in Kathmandu

For 14 years, God allowed us to minister faithfully in Imadol, Lalitpur. Many children, youth, and adults came to Christ during that



## From around the assemblies (Overseas)

time. Some of them are now serving in KMC Chalnakhel, while others have moved to their villages or even abroad for studies and work—in places like Japan, Dubai, Cyprus, the UK, Turkey, and Malaysia. We continue to stay connected with them through virtual Bible study and praying for them that they will remain strong in their walk with the Lord.

In His perfect plan, the Lord led us to relocate and carry on the ministry to Chalnakhel Dakshinkali Municipality Worda No.1 on July 1, 2024. Though the area is spiritually very challenging, with strong Hindu and Buddhist influence, we have experienced God's leading, peace and provision. The ministry now continues from a rented hall at the "Chalnakhel Prayer Tower," which is part of a Christian organization that runs a disabled center.

We have also rented two flats nearby the prayer tower—one for Bro. Amar Tamang and his family, and another to be used as a guest room, office, and store. These are temporary solutions, but God has given us peace, unity, and a strong sense of purpose as we settle into this new community.

### **Christ's Light Shines in Chalnakhel: First Christmas Outreach**

This past Christmas, the distant area of Chalnakhel in the southern hills of Kathmandu city became a blessed ground for sowing the Gospel seed. On December 25, 2024, we at KMC Chalnakhel Assembly were privileged to host our first Christmas Evangelistic Program at our new ministry location.

Over 100 people turned out to hear about Jesus — these includes neighbors, friends, relatives, and curious seekers. Many of them had never heard the true meaning of Christmas. They only knew it as the day Jesus was born. But in His faithfulness, God opened a door for the light of Christ to shine into their hearts.

The Sunday school children, under the guidance of Sis. Shikshita, Rupa and Shanta presented a lively action song. Their joy-filled expressions and childlike faith were a picture of heaven's delight. The youth then took the stage, singing gospel-centered songs with boldness and clarity. Their voices carried the truth that Jesus came to seek and save the sinners.

Two powerful testimonies were shared. Sister Rupa Limbu and Brother Manoj Shrestha told how they came to believe in Jesus, how He changed their lives, and why everyone needs Him.

The message of the day was delivered by Brother Amar Tamang, who preached from Luke 2:10–11 and John 3:16. He proclaimed the Good News of great joy—that Jesus, born in Bethlehem, is the Savior of the world.

The program concluded with a joyful Christmas lunch, lovingly prepared by the sisters and brothers of KMC. Around shared plates and heartfelt conversations, the warmth of Christian fellowship was felt deeply—a unity bound together by the love of Christ.

As we continue to serve and evangelize in this place, we hold tightly to the promise of Psalm 126:5–6: "Those who sow in tears will reap with shouts of joy. He who goes out weeping,

# From around the assemblies (Overseas)

bearing seed for sowing, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.”

## Fruitful Ministries Amid Challenges

Despite longer travel distances, physical limitations, and spiritual resistance, the believers at KMC Chalnakhel continue to gather every Saturday morning for the Breaking of Bread and additional ministries. We thank God for the regular activities such as:- Worship services, Prayer meetings, Youth fellowship, Children’s ministry, Ladies’ gatherings, Relatives & Neighborhood gospel outreach are still going strong by the grace of God alone. We ask for your prayers for the non-Christian children and their families in Chalnakhel, that their hearts may be softened to receive the love of Christ. We also praise God for those children and a few adults already attending Church meetings.

## A Call to Trust and Obey

As we reflect on this journey from the beginning in 2010 to this new season in 2025, we stand in awe of God's faithfulness. He has carried us through every difficulty and trial and provided all our needs.

We praise and thank God for a blessed and notable day in the history of KMC–Chalnakhel Assembly on April 14, 2025 (1st Baishakh 2082), the beginning of the Nepali New Year. On this occasion, Bro. Amar Tamang was recognized as an elder (pastor/shepherd), and Bro. Manoj Shrestha as deacon, serving alongside with deacons Lakpa Bomjan and Prakash Tamang—together forming the

oversight team for the assembly to grow in every area.

*“He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.”*  
– 1 Thessalonians 5:24

## To God Be All the Glory!

### Prayer Request

1. Please pray for God to give us boldness and wisdom as we share the love of Christ in Nepal, a nation with a strong Hindu and Buddhist background. Strict religious rules, imposed anti-conversion laws and fear of rejection often keep people from following Jesus openly.
  2. Please pray for God to open the hearts of the people in Chalnakhel. Ask Him to break down every barrier that keeps them from knowing and believing the truth. Pray that many lost souls will understand the message of the Gospel, repent of their sins, and trust in Jesus Christ to receive His peace, forgiveness, and salvation.
  3. Please pray for God to grant the oversight team at KMC- Chalnakhel Assembly wisdom, strength, and a Christ-like heart to shepherd His Church, and for the Holy Spirit to empower them to feed the Word faithfully, care with love, protect them, reach the lost boldly, and serve in unity to build up His Church in this new place.
  4. We praise God for a significant step forward—municipal approval has been granted for our building design in Chalnakhel!
- Please pray for God’s provision of the necessary funds and guidance in selecting a reliable contractor.

## From around the assemblies (Overseas)

5. Pray that the Lord would graciously meet the financial and physical needs of KMC.
6. Praise God for the ongoing online Bible study at KMC, Chalnakhel Assembly. Pray that the Holy Spirit will stir a deeper hunger for His Word, encouraging more brothers and sisters to regularly join.

***We thank God for CBSM, GLO Malaysia, and the various assemblies in Malaysia for their faithful partnership in the Lord's work in Nepal. Their earnest prayers, fellowship, and support have been a great blessing, empowering the mission and advancing God's Kingdom.***

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### Small Steps to Strengthen Your Spirit and Mind

#### Talk to God Honestly

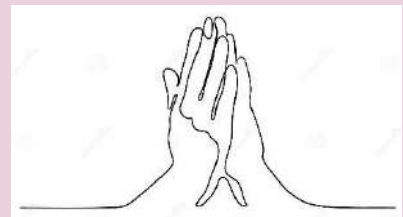
You don't need fancy words to pray. Just be real. Tell Him your fears, your weariness, and your doubts.

***"Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you." — 1 Peter 5:7***

***"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." — Psalm 34:18***

#### Reflection Questions:

- Are there emotions or thoughts you've been afraid to bring to God?
- What might happen if you were completely honest with Him in prayer?
- How can you create more space in your day to talk to God?



## From around the assemblies (Overseas)

### **Myanmar in Crisis: Earthquake and the Kingdom That Cannot Be Shaken**

*An Update from Gospel Outreach Worldwide (GOWW)*

Priscilla Tan ([goww2005@gmail.com](mailto:goww2005@gmail.com))

Myanmar continues to face tremendous hardship in 2025. Still reeling from the aftermath of the military coup in February 2021, the country remains gripped by political instability, widespread civil unrest, and military violence. This prolonged conflict has led to thousands of deaths, mass displacement, and a worsening humanitarian crisis marked by economic collapse and food insecurity.

On 28 March 2025, a powerful earthquake struck central Myanmar, compounding the suffering of an already fragile nation. The disaster damaged vital infrastructure, displaced many families, and hindered relief efforts due to the ongoing conflict and unrest. Among our few Brethren Assemblies in Myanmar, the Mandalay Gospel Centre (MGC) was the most affected, being situated near the epicenter.

Emergency relief was quickly mobilized through the generous support of Malaysian assemblies and believers coordinated by Gospel Outreach Worldwide (G.O.W.W). In the first phase of emergency response, 27 families from MGC received rice, cooking oil, and 200,000 MMK (approximately RM200) per household.



*Pic 1: Earthquake victims taking shelter in temporary tents*

These necessities were a lifeline for many, as the majority have been unable to work and have no choice but to sleep outdoors due to continuous aftershocks, over 200 of which have been recorded, including a magnitude 5.1 tremor on 13 April. Money for the second emergency response has been sent over, and aid will be distributed not only to believers, especially the six families whose homes were damaged, but also to those suffering friends and neighbors, many of whom are still living in tents.

Our fellow brethren play a critical role in responding to the needs of their communities. The Mandalay Gospel Centre, comprising approximately 80 believers in worship, has stepped up, ministering not only to their own members but also reaching out to neighbors and gospel contacts with compassion and love, by providing both physical aid and spiritual hope.

## From around the assemblies (Overseas)

The long-term impact is equally concerning. Many of the brethren in Mandalay who previously worked as security guards in banks and office buildings are now facing the threat of unemployment, as many of those structures were either destroyed or deemed unsafe. With growing fears of unemployment, the economic future for these families looks bleak.

In Monywa, another Brethren Assembly with over 50 members and growing outreach, the need for teaching, training, discipleship, and a larger meeting place is becoming increasingly urgent. Recent gospel efforts have drawn more individuals toward Christ, and as the local believers continue to serve faithfully, the prayer is for more workers to rise up and for structured teaching to strengthen the faith of new believers.



*Pic 2: MGC providing clean water to neighbors affected by the earthquake*

Mandalay Gospel Centre and Monywa assemblies are growing rapidly, but lack consistent teaching, age-specific ministries, and mature shepherding. There is an urgent need to train and raise leaders who can disciple the flock in sound doctrine and guide the church with wisdom and care.

As Myanmar begins to recover from the earthquake's devastation, continued prayers and support are essential for healing, rebuilding and renewing hope. As Myanmar continues to grapple with political instability and compounding hardships, we believe by faith, that God is actively at work through our fellow brethren. We pray for peace in a land torn by strife, for softened hearts that are hardened by fear and pride. We pray for reconciliation among families and believers where there is division. We also remember those grieving the loss of loved ones and homes after the earthquake.

We continue to invite Malaysian Churches and individuals to partner with us, to constantly remember the Churches in Mandalay and Monywa in continuous prayer. May the Holy Spirit empower them to be beacons of light in the darkness. May our Lord raise up shepherds to lead with compassion and truth, and by mercy, may the gospel of our Lord Jesus advance to see more souls brought into, and kept in the kingdom that cannot be shaken; to the glory of our triune God.

Let us therefore not grow weary in supporting them. Continue to pray for:

- Peace in Myanmar, and for the healing of the land and its people.
- Provision for those who have lost their homes and livelihoods.
- Believers in Mandalay and Monywa to grow in the knowledge of our Lord and be firmly built upon the Word of God.
- Faithful shepherds to be raised for teaching, discipleship and pastoral care.



## From around the assemblies (Overseas)

- Open doors for the gospel to reach more hearts in this broken land.
- Strength, wisdom, and focus for Tin Htay-May and Mok Khai-Ni Ni Win as they serve in Mandalay and Monywa.

Even in suffering, we give thanks that God's purposes remain unshaken. May the Holy Spirit empower the assemblies in Myanmar to stand firm and shine brightly and may the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ spread through this land, drawing many into the kingdom that cannot be shaken, to the praise of His glorious grace.

In Christ,

**GOWW**



*Pic 3: Distribution of food and financial aid to 27 families from MGC as part of the first phase of emergency relief*



# From around the assemblies (Overseas)

## Myanmar Brethren Ministry

David Muon (Mang Muon Thang)

[mangmuonthang5271985@gmail.com](mailto:mangmuonthang5271985@gmail.com)



First and foremost, I thank God for this unexpected opportunity to introduce myself to our Brethren families around the world.

My name is Mang Muon Thang, but I go by the name of **David Muon**. I was saved and baptized in 1997, and by God's grace, I completed my B.Th., B.D., and M.Div. in India in 2013. I am currently residing in Yangon, Myanmar, where I attend the Dagon Christian Assembly and serve as an evangelist, primarily ministering among the Buddhist community. Before stepping into full-time evangelism, I taught at a Bible college from 2016 to 2024. I am blessed with a beautiful and godly wife, Priscilla, who stands faithfully by my side in ministry and life.

Myanmar is going through difficult times. Politically and economically, the situation is worsening, making our mission both urgent and challenging. While political awareness and caution can help navigate certain dangers, the economic crisis is beyond our control. We survive day to day, depending entirely on God's grace. In a single phrase: **We Are Struggling**.

Despite moments of fear, I have never doubted God. I believe in His sovereignty. Though these crises have taken a mental and emotional toll, they have also deepened our relationship with the Lord. My family and I continually seek Him

through daily prayers and by reading His Word. This spiritual discipline has been our anchor in the storm.

In 2024–2025, God showed His mercy and grace to my family by providing a job that has allowed us to survive in Yangon. When I first decided to move here, I had no idea how we would survive. But each breakthrough taught me the power and necessity of faith. God's loving character reassures me daily, and Hebrews 11:6 has become my life verse: **"Without faith it is impossible to please God..."**

My walk with God has become a living testimony that faith in Him brings hope even when there seems to be no way forward.

## The Beginning of the Brethren Assembly/Church in Myanmar



(1881-1929)

## From around the assemblies (Overseas)

The Myanmar Brethren Church, also known as Myanmar Brethren Assemblies, is part of the broader Brethren movement, which emphasizes simplicity in worship, strong biblical teaching, and a commitment to evangelism. The church's establishment in Myanmar is linked to the arrival of Protestant missionaries and the spread of Christianity in the country.

Christianity in Myanmar has a long history, with Protestant missions gaining momentum in the 19th century. The Brethren movement, which originated in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century in England, eventually reached Myanmar, where local believers embraced its teachings and formed assemblies. The Myanmar Brethren Church is one of the evangelical and Pentecostal churches that emerged in the country, focusing on self-sustaining congregations and missionary work.

The Brethren Church movement began with believers who embraced the biblical truths preached by Dr. Adoniram Judson. The pioneers of the movement included:

- Brother U Ba Wa (son-in-law of Rev. U Enn)
- Mon brother U Yong
- Burmese brother U Shwe Dwe
- Brother U Maung Maung
- Brother U Tun Nyein (compiler of the English Myanmar Dictionary)
- Brother U Maung Pu
- Brother U Nay Dwe

These seven men began gathering in homes and in 1881, officially started worshiping as a church at U Maung Maung's house, located at No. 41, Shin Oo Tan Street, Yangon. They referred to

one another as "brother," which later led to adopting the name "Brethren Assembly" in 1884.

The movement spread gradually. In 1978, an assembly was planted in Phaitu village in Northern Chin State. Between 1978 and 1984, the number of assemblies grew to 11. By 1994, there were 28, and by 2008, the number had grown to 87.

As of 2019, the Myanmar Brethren Assemblies comprises 121 churches with 121 mission fields and 333 ministers. However, many of these assemblies are still in need of resources such as church buildings and transportation (motorcycles) for traveling to remote villages in the Chin Hills.

### Key Statistics of Myanmar Brethren Assemblies/Churches (1978-2019)

Details	Total
Total number of Myanmar Brethren Churches Fellowship within 40 years	121
Full-time Ministers	333
Full-time Elders/Pastors	134
Full-time Missionaries in Foreign Country	9
Part-time Missionaries in Foreign Country	7
Baptized Church Members, according to the statistics of Nov. 2018	1,209
Bible College and Seminary	7

### Local Assemblies/Churches within the Eight Mission Fields

1. Yangon Mission Field – 28
2. Upper Myanmar Mission Field – 15
3. Southern Chin State Mission Field – 15
4. The Middle Part of Myanmar Mission Field – 5
5. Chindwin and Naga Hills Mission Fields – 33
6. Myitkyina Mission Field – 4
7. Kayah Mission Field – 4

# From around the assemblies (Overseas)

## 8. The Eastern Part of Shan State Mission Field - 17

**For further information please contact David Muon:**

- Email: [mangmuonthang5271985@gmail.com](mailto:mangmuonthang5271985@gmail.com)
- Phone WhatsApp: +959 266005429
- Facebook: Sie David Muon

## **Myanmar Brethren Churches Fellowship (MBCF)**

1. Leading & Chairman: Rev. Dr. Tin Maung Tun
2. General Secretary: Rev. Dr. Kap Khan Khup
3. Treasurer: Rev. Dr. KapCin Thang
4. Field Directors:
  - (a) Rev. Kyaw Soe
  - (b) Rev. Philip CinSuan Nang
  - (c) Rev. Saw NyuntOo.

## **My Vision for Ministry**

### **1. Free Education Centre “Evangelization through Education”**



We recently opened a Free Education Centre in Yangon,

funding it from our own limited income. Our goal is to reach children, educate them, and lead them to Christ. However, sustaining this ministry long-term will require outside support for rental costs and teachers' salaries.

### **2. Free Sewing Craft Class – “Evangelization through Craft”**



We are planning to launch a free sewing craft class this year, should God provide the needed resources. My wife is currently learning the craft, and once ready, she will teach others, using the opportunity to share the gospel especially with adult women.

## **3. Sending Ministers to Unreached Areas**

There are many villages across Myanmar with believers but no ministers or churches. Through a project called AMP (Achieve Mapping Project), we have collected data to identify such areas. One example is Ket Thu Yway village in the Ayeyarwady Region where believers are without pastoral care. We see immense opportunity to plant new Brethren Assemblies in such regions and welcome strategic advice and partnership.

## **Final Thoughts**

Though our journey has been full of hardship, it has also been full of grace. My family and I remain committed to God's calling. We are trusting Him for provision, protection, and continued fruitfulness in the many ministries we are leading and managing.

Please pray for Myanmar and for the mission of the Brethren Church. May the gospel continue to be spread, and the name of Jesus be glorified in this land

## **Cost estimation per month**

1. Expenditure for each teacher is US\$100.
2. Expenditure for each swing machine is US\$150.
3. Expenditure for each minister is US\$200.

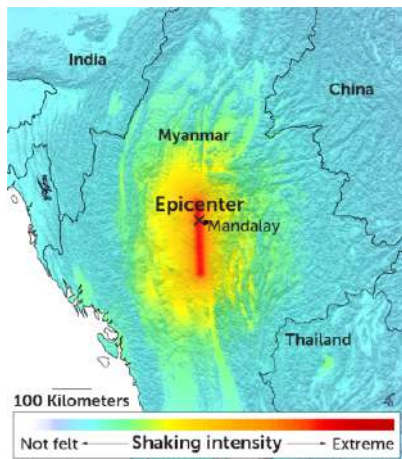


# From around the assemblies (Overseas)

## Grace Amid Ruins: Myanmar's Earthquake and the Call to Christian Solidarity - A Nation Shaken

Samuel Chandy; [sam@elim.my](mailto:sam@elim.my)

On March 28, 2025, Myanmar was struck by a catastrophic 7.7-magnitude earthquake - the strongest in nearly a century. The quake devastated central Myanmar, particularly Mandalay and Naypyidaw, resulting in over 3,600 deaths, more than 4,500 injuries, and hundreds still missing. Over 10,000 buildings collapsed or were severely damaged, leaving millions without shelter, food, or clean water.



The disaster's impact extended beyond Myanmar's borders. In Bangkok, Thailand, a 32-story building under construction collapsed due to the quake, causing at least 22 deaths.

### Relief Amid Conflict

The earthquake compounded Myanmar's ongoing humanitarian crisis, already strained by a civil war following the 2021 military coup.

Over 3 million people were displaced even before the quake. In response to the disaster, the military junta declared a temporary ceasefire until April 22 to facilitate relief efforts. Opposition groups, including the People's

Defense Force and the Three Brotherhood Alliance, also announced unilateral ceasefires. Despite these ceasefires, challenges persist. Reports indicate that the military continues to restrict aid access in opposition-held areas, and there have been allegations of attacks on relief convoys.



### International Aid and Christian Response

The international community has mobilized to assist Myanmar. China pledged \$137 million in humanitarian aid, deploying over 30 rescue teams, including medical personnel and disaster assessment experts. The United States committed \$2 million in emergency aid, while other countries like India, Singapore, and Malaysia have sent rescue teams and supplies. As Christians, we are called to respond with compassion and solidarity. Many organizations are actively involved in relief efforts, providing essential services to affected communities. Local churches in Myanmar are also offering shelter and support to survivors.



# From around the assemblies (Overseas)

## A Call to Prayer and Action



In this time of immense suffering, we are reminded of our shared humanity and the Christian call to serve those in need. Let us pray for the people of Myanmar, for healing, peace, and the strength to rebuild. Let us also consider supporting reputable organizations working on the ground to provide relief and aid. May our faith inspire us to act with love and

compassion, embodying the teachings of Christ in our response to this tragedy.

Please continue to pray for Myanmar - for peace in the midst of turmoil, for comfort and provision for those impacted by the earthquake, and for strength as we bring the hope of the gospel to those in need.

If you feel led to support this relief effort, donations can be sent to the Gospel Outreach Worldwide (GOWW) account as follows:

1. Account Name: **Gospel Outreach Worldwide**
2. Bank Name: **Public Bank**
3. Account Number: **3104421019**
4. Reference: **Myanmar Earthquake**
5. Email: **goww2005@gmail.com**

Thank you for your prayers and support.

## Small Steps to Strengthen Your Spirit and Mind

### Connect With Others

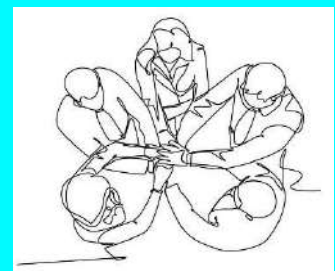
Don't isolate. God created us for community. Reach out to trusted people who can pray for you and lift you up.

*"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."* — **Galatians 6:2**

*"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up..."* — **1 Thessalonians 5:11**

#### Reflection Questions:

- Who in your life encourages your walk with God?
- Have you been honest with others about your mental or emotional struggles?
- How can you support someone else who may be struggling?



## From around the assemblies (Overseas)



### “Hope in Times of Uncertainty”

*“Therefore we do not lose heart.*

*Though outwardly we are wasting away,  
yet inwardly we are being renewed day by  
day...” 2 Corinthians 4: 16-18*



J. Campbell White, secretary of the Laymen's Missionary Movement said in 1909: "Most men are not satisfied with the permanent output of their lives. Nothing can wholly satisfy the life of Christ within his followers except the adoption of Christ's purpose toward the world He came to redeem. Fame, pleasure and riches are but husks and ashes in contrast with **the boundless and abiding joy of working with God for the fulfilment of His eternal plans**. The men who are putting everything into Christ's undertaking are getting out of life its sweetest and most priceless rewards."

Since I was twenty-one, I have seen my parents and their generation, one by one, succumbing to the 'outward wasting away' spoken of in the Bible. What then should be the permanent output of my life that would offer me the sweetest and most priceless rewards?

By God's Grace, may I bring a number of Cambodians into His Eternal Kingdom, and in the end, to have them stand with me before the throne of God, worshipping Him and enjoying the abundant life with Him in the new heaven and new earth that's full of joy unspeakable and full of glory. This is the eternal joy set before me that keeps me going. Thank God we can begin to experience a foretaste of this joy in the present too.

I was involved in the church planting work at Suong, Cambodia, from 2004 to 2017. Later, due to lack of man-power, the work ceased during the Covid years.

Last Christmas, two of my first-generation-students from Suong came to spend Christmas with me in Penang. They were my best Christmas present. During the Christmas service at IGGC, I was filled with joy to have Rathy and Chanthy stand with me “again” to worship God. I say “again” because it happened first in Suong, last Christmas in Penang, and I envision us standing together again before the throne of God to worship Him in future.

## From around the assemblies (Overseas)

Rathy and Chanthy's been living in Phnom Penh since they left Suong for their tertiary education. Now, Rathy is a medical doctor with a Master in Hospital Management. Chanthy graduated with a degree in Law. Both of them got married and they've been working in Phnom Penh for a number of years. Meantime, back in Suong, when the church closed down, the members had dispersed. So, last Christmas, when Rathy and Chanthy shared their plan to return to Suong in 2 years' time and to open their place for the believers at Suong to gather again, I was filled with joy to see how they have grown, and that they now have the desire to revive and continue the work in their hometown, Suong. Please pray for them that they will be kept on course and their plans to revive the work will be guided and blessed by God.

Back in Kampong Chhnang, after the grade 12 national exam, I had taught a few students from the book, "What the Bible Teaches". Thank God that Ly Huot, who has gone to study in Phnom Penh since January this year, is now using the same book to teach a group of university friends. It gives me great joy to see how he is growing as a disciple and learning to make more disciples for Christ.

While we work with God for the fulfilment of His eternal plans, may we fix our eyes on Jesus; and for the joy set before us, endure the challenges along the way, being renewed day by day as we approach the finish line where joy unspeakable and full of glory awaits us.



By His Grace,

**Annie Khoo**

15/05/2025

✍

♥ LOVE GOD

♥ LOVE OTHERS

♥ MAKE DISCIPLES

✍



## From around the assemblies (Overseas)



### MISSION NEWS UPDATE

#### A VISION COMES TO LIFE

In 2022, the Lord placed a vision in the hearts of the KAPASAN Church—to reach the people of Coron, Palawan with His love and salvation. That vision has begun to unfold. A piece of land in San Nicolas, Coron, owned by Brother Bags and Sister Lyn, has been identified as a potential site for ministry. Coron is a vibrant island municipality in northern



Palawan with over 65,000 residents, including the indigenous Tagbanwa community. After two years of prayer and preparation, the Lord opened the door. From October 27 to November 1 2024, Elder Murel Espiritu and his wife, Sister Jesmar, along with Bro. Bags and Sis. Lyn, visited the land for the first time. Their trip included a prayer walk and an earnest plea for the community's spiritual readiness. This paved the way for the first Medical Mission held on November 19, 2024, at the San Nicolas Covered Court. Dozens of locals both adults and children received not only medical attention but also the life-giving Word of God.

#### Hope in Times of Uncertainty

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NIV) – “Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.”

And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household" -Acts 16:31. Entrusting the Word Fellowship (ETWF) Church in San Carlos, Binangonan, Rizal, celebrates sixteen years of God's faithfulness and amazing works. Throughout these years, the church has experienced both challenges and triumphs, consistently witnessing God's love and mercy. Currently, the church is expanding its mission and outreach activities, reaching local villages and other

## From around the assemblies (Overseas)

parts of the Philippines. God is equipping and empowering His people within the church to prepare for these missions, advancing His Kingdom

The event was made even more special by the participation of our Malaysian partners from Agape Chapel, long-time prayer warriors and co-laborers in ETWF'S Church Planting Ministry.

As we look ahead, Entrusting the Word Fellowship Church continue to lift up the Coron Mission in prayer. We remain confident that the Lord will accomplish His greater purpose in His perfect time.

✍️ "Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will do it." – 1 Thessalonians 5:24

## TESTIMONY

### MIRACLES DO HAPPEN!

#### "A Living Miracle: My Mother's Testimony of Healing" by Miracle De Los Santos

My mother, *Milagros*—whose name literally means "MIRACLE"—has always been the picture of health.

At 68, she had never been hospitalized, took no maintenance medications, and consistently had normal lab results. That's why it came as a devastating shock when, on December 10, 2024, she suddenly became unresponsive and was rushed to



the hospital. The

diagnosis: *ischemic stroke, pneumonia, and*

*heart failure*. As a nurse, I understood the grim reality. But as a believer, I clung to faith. Overwhelmed yet strangely at peace, I prayed a bold prayer: that if my mother would only live bedridden, the Lord would take her gently. But if He would grant her more years, may she live strong and whole free from limitations. Medically, it seemed impossible. But *nothing is impossible with God*.



God brought Psalm 145:17-19 to my heart, "The Lord is righteous in all his ways, and faithful in all he

does. The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them." And HE did! The joy on the faces of our church family





## From around the assemblies (Overseas)

was indescribable. As a nurse, I can't explain it. But as a child of God, I can declare: He healed her. *All glory, honor, and praise belong to the Lord - our Healer and Miracle Worker.*

### Children's Ministry



### Youth Ministry

Agape Chapel Malaysia team with Kuya Peter Tan, Sister Carin and Brother Eric Cheong



### Young Professionals

ETWF Young Professionals Retreat at Ezperanza Home Ministries Inc., Lucena City, Quezon Province last November 1 and 2, 2024

Recollection at Vicente Madrigal Memorial High School attended by 875 Senior High School Students (10 Apr)





# From around the assemblies (Overseas)

## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

ETWF Women & KAPASAN ladies  
at the Women's Conference 2024 in Emmaus  
Bible Camp, Malolos, Bulacan  
November 30, 2024. "Family Matters"



## ETWF COUPLES FELLOWSHIP 2025

Theme: "Building Together" 2 Peter 3:18

"But grow in the grace and knowledge of  
our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him  
be the glory both now and forever!  
Amen."

## BIBLE STUDIES



The Senior Citizens of San Carlos  
during their Bible Study with Elder  
Murel A. Espiritu at ETWF, San  
Carlos last APRIL 9, 2025



PREPARED BY  
JESMAR S. ESPIRITU / MARIA FLOR IAN N. SEBASTIAN & ETWF NEWS TEAM

# From around the assemblies (Local)

## Nilai Gospel Chapel's Proposal for Endorsement and Blessing

### *Sales of Fully Furnished Sanctuary Home Room for Elderly Folks – An Update since 2024*

Andrew Peng, [nilaigc2016@gmail.com](mailto:nilaigc2016@gmail.com)



Nilai Gospel Chapel (NGC) is a Brethren Assembly that provides opportunities for growth in the love, knowledge, worship & service of Jesus Christ as well as fellowship with believers in a Christ-Centred & Biblically Oriented environment.

NGC (English) had its first inaugural worship on 20 December 1998. Four assemblies, namely

Jalan Imbi Chapel (JIC), The Life Chapel (TLC), Bangsar Gospel Centre (BGC) & Seremban Gospel Chapel (SGC) agreed to come together in September 1997 to start the English work in Nilai in view of the potential growth of nearby new industries, colleges & Universities.

There was a serious need for a Christian managed home care for the old-aged people in Nilai. Hence, in 2019 a plot of land was offered to NGC and was subsequently purchased. The land is situated near Nilai Springs Villas. This project is named “NGC Sanctuary – Community Living” We are writing to present a comprehensive proposal for the establishment of a fully furnished sanctuary home for elderly folks within our church community. This project aims to create a safe, comfortable, and nurturing environment for our elderly.



As believers, we share a common bond and a calling to care for those in need, particularly elderly believers who have dedicated their lives to the faith. The proposed sanctuary home is a testament to our shared values and a tangible expression of our commitment to providing them with the utmost care, support, and dignity as they enter a new phase of their lives.

# From around the assemblies (Local)

## Key Salient Points:

### 1. Purpose:

To build a fully furnished sanctuary home for elderly folks within a Christian community.

To provide a safe and comfortable living environment for seniors and elderly believers.

### 2. Financial Commitments & Project Updates

We have a total of 10 suites for Phase 1 with the balance 9 suites taken by 8 partners in mission with one of them assisting us by taking another suite so as not to overburden our Project funding.

#### A. NGC (English Assembly) Pledge

- Total commitment: RM260,000.
- RM160,000 for 1 Ground Floor suite
- RM100,000 for 1st Floor dormitory
- excludes furnishings for these units and common areas.

#### B. Interest-Free Loan from Partner Churches

- Jalan Imbi Chapel & Bangsar Gospel Centre have graciously and verbally pledged:
- RM100,000 each ( interest-free loan)
- Repayable over 5 years (RM20,000 annually per assembly)
- Prayer Need: For the project's cash flow to sustainably cover these repayments post-opening



#### C. Phase 1 Progress

- 10 suites total (Ground Floor)
- 9 suites already taken by 8 mission partners
- 1 partner generously took an extra suite to ease the funding burden whilst waiting for additional new partners to opt-in.

##### PAYMENT SCHEDULE

PROJECT - Lot 26410, Jalan NSV 1/3, Bandar Nilai Utama, Mukim Lenggeng, Seremban.

DESCRIPTION	PAYMENT %	PAYMENT AMT	TENTATIVE DATE
DOWN PAYMENT	10%	170K	Jul-24
PLAN APPROVED BY AUTHORITY	5%	85K	Jan-25
COMPLETED GROUND BEAM, SLAB, COLUMN	15%	255K	Mar-25
COMPLETED ROOF BEAM	15%	255K	May-25
COMPLETED BRICK WALL	10%	170K	Jun-25
COMPLETED ROOF TRUSSES AND METAL ROOF	10%	170K	Aug-25
COMPLETED PLASTERING / PLASTER CEILING	10%	170K	Oct-25
COMPLETED FINISHES WORK	10%	170K	Nov-25
COMPLETED EXTERNAL WORK	5%	85K	Dec-25
OBTAIN CF	5%	85K	Jan-26
RETENTION	5%	85K	1 YEAR AFTER CF

#### D. Potential Phase 2 Expansion

- Considering adding 6 more suites/rooms (1st Floor)
- Would require an additional RM500,000 funding
- If approved, would extend timeline by ~6 months



# From around the assemblies (Local)

## E. Operational Sustainability

- Finalizing maintenance fee structure
- Developing long-term revenue model including:
  - Annual maintenance fees
  - Tiered pricing options
  - Usage benefits for residents

## F. Prayer Requests

- Provision: For God's faithfulness in meeting all financial needs
- Wisdom: In planning repayment schedules and cash flow management
- Unity: Among all partners and stakeholders



### 3. Current Status:

The project has commenced. The progress of this project is seen as a mission effort for the Kingdom, relying on the wisdom and provision from God to move forward.

Given the complexities and the need for approval and financial management, seeking wisdom and God's guidance is essential for the successful completion of the project.

If you are interested and have other queries on this project, you are welcome to contact us so that we may answer any concerns that you may have.

Your support and guidance are crucial for the success of this project, and we are confident that with your endorsement, we can bring this vision to fruition and positively impact the project to complete earlier.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

In His Service,

**Andrew Peng**

**Nilai Gospel Chapel, 6896, Jalan Besar, Pekan Nilai, 71800 Nilai, Negeri Sembilan.**

Email: [nilaigc2016@gmail.com](mailto:nilaigc2016@gmail.com)

Contact: +6017-3012388 (WhatsApp Only)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/share/1Ek6BfrHMc/>

# Touching Lives

## Nurturing Young Lives Through God's Grace: The Story of SLS

Pastor Phang ([phksly@gmail.com](mailto:phksly@gmail.com))

In 2009, Seremban Gospel Chapel launched the Student's Learning and Support Programme (SLS), a ministry born out of a deep desire to serve children in our community through holistic care and education. What began with a few small classrooms, a team of committed church volunteers, and a handful of neighborhood children has, by God's grace, grown significantly over the past 16 years.



Today, SLS supports more than 150 students across three centers in Seremban, Rasah Jaya, and Seremban 2. Many of these children come from underprivileged homes, where parents may be separated or burdened by financial struggles, making access to quality childcare and education

difficult. SLS offers affordable, and often subsidized, support tailored to each family's financial situation.

We welcome students from both primary and secondary schools across Seremban. At SLS, we offer more than just academic support, where our program includes daily transportation, nutritious meals, homework supervision, and additional tuition. But our mission goes beyond academics. We are deeply committed to nurturing character and essential life skills. In a world filled with digital distractions, we guide students toward healthy routines and personal responsibility, encouraging them to clean up after meals, wash dishes, and even cook simple meals like rice. Beyond the classroom, we create opportunities for growth through outings, camps, and educational seminars that enrich both the mind and soul.



Boosting Student Focus and Comprehension with Technology



# Touching Lives

For our secondary school students, we offer multimedia tuition classes in Bahasa Malaysia, English, Mathematics, Science, and History. Each student is provided with access to a donated computer, enabling them to engage in interactive, technology-enhanced learning. This approach has proven highly effective, with many students demonstrating significant improvement in both academic performance and self-confidence.

## Guiding Young Hearts: Sex Education from a Christian Perspective

In October 2024, we held a special talk on sex education for children and teens. The session was led by Mr. Tan, a seasoned counsellor from our church with over 20 years of experience in marriage, family, and sex education. Delivered in a fun and relaxed atmosphere, the session welcomed both students and their parents, with around 60 people attending the talk.



In December 2024, our students participated in a vibrant Christmas carnival in Lobak, Seremban.



This joint celebration brought together churches from the area to rejoice in Christ's birth and raise funds for the poor. Our students shared about SLS, giving personal testimonies of how the program has touched and transformed their lives.

# Touching Lives



More recently, in early 2025, we hosted a STEM Carnival - our very own science camp. Dr. Khong, a Christian scientist known for his ability to address children's questions on science and faith, led the event. Through hands-on experiments and inspiring talks, students explored the wonders of God's creation. We welcomed around 50 children, including 5 from the Burmese refugee community that our church ministers to.

As we look ahead, we continue to rely on God's provision and the faithful prayers of His people. SLS is more than an educational initiative - it's a ministry of hope, transformation, and the love of Christ in action. We invite you to join us in prayer, partnership, and support as we sow seeds for the next generation.

## SLS Donation Drive 2025

Annually, our church organizes donation drives to sustain these vital initiatives. We invite anyone moved by our mission to contribute to our ministry through online banking to the account provided below.

Bank Name : **Hong Leong Bank Berhad Malaysia**

Account Number : **011 001 40522**

Account Name : **Seremban Gospel Chapel (Chinese)**

Please forward your transaction slip to the person in charge of the donation drive, Brother Khoo Jay Sern +6012-2286535. An acknowledgment receipt will be issued for each donation. For more information about the SLS program and our church, please visit our YouTube channel via the QR below.



Student's Learning and Support Programme



# Touching Lives

## E.G.G. (Evidence of God's Grace)

Lim Tse Hwei, Melaka Gospel Chapel

This year, our youth group began a project close to our hearts. We call it the **E.G.G. Project—Evidence of God's Grace**. During the quiet moments before or after our weekly sessions, our teens take time to write down moments that stirred deep emotions—anger, anxiety, sadness, or gratitude. Each emotion is marked by a different coloured paper:



**Pink** for anger, **Yellow** for anxiety, **Blue** for sadness, and **Green** for thankfulness.

Each note is dated, folded, and placed in their own personal jar—shared only with God. These jars, slowly filling over the months, will remain sealed until the end of the year. Then, each teen will open their E.G.G. jar and reflect on their year. We pray they will see how the Lord has walked with them through every high and low. Some of

their notes carry the weight of very real struggles.

One teen has no memory of her biological parents, having been abandoned as a baby. She battles daily tension with the woman who took her in. Another pair of siblings recently lost their grandmother. Their mother, a single parent, struggled to cover the cost of burial. One teen quietly admitted that her jar contains a lot of Pink paper. The person she's angry at most? Herself.

I wonder: Will a year be enough for this teen to begin seeing the love however imperfectly expressed offered by her foster mother? Will the support given to the grieving siblings help heal their hearts? Will the teen angry at herself come to realize the boundless grace of God, who offers second, third, and fourth chances?

The truth is the painful and messy moments often leave deeper marks than the joyful ones. These jars aren't magical. They won't transform lives overnight. But sometimes, when I find myself reaching for Yellow or Pink paper, I pause. I see these teens writing their own notes beside me.

And I choose a green one instead. I'm thankful. Thankful that they have a way to be heard by each other, and by their Heavenly Father who listens even when no words are spoken. Thankful that their notes lead to

# Touching Lives

honest conversations, and that they allow us a glimpse into their hearts. Thankful that they spend these afternoons with us not lost behind screens or elsewhere, but here, sharing life.

No, the jars aren't magical. But perhaps what they contain can point our teens to a greater truth:

That in the good, the bad, and the ugly, **"My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness."** - 2 Corinthians 12:9



## Small Steps to Strengthen Your Spirit and Mind

### Care for your body

Your physical health matters to God. Rest, nourishment, and movement are part of His design for wholeness.

*"Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep... 'Get up and eat.'"* — 1 Kings 19:5

*"Your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit... therefore honor God with your bodies."* — 1 Corinthians 6:19–20

#### Reflection Questions:

- Are you getting the rest and care your body needs?
- What practical step could you take to improve your physical well-being this week?
- How might taking care of your body help renew your mind?



# Touching Lives

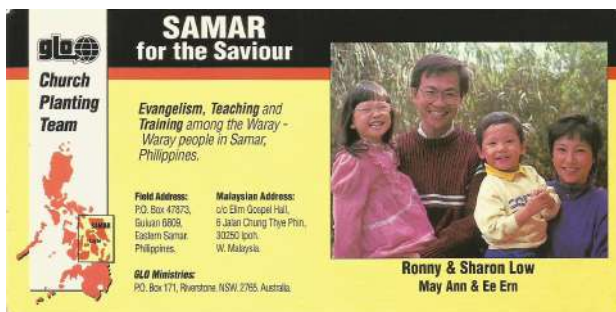
## Path of Grace

Low Kheng Onn (Ron); [nexusdr7@gmail.com](mailto:nexusdr7@gmail.com)

The song leader asked from the pulpit, “Do you remember the song I taught you last week?” He then led the congregation to sing. The lyrics pierced deep, and I began to weep.

It was the closing chapter of our missionary journey. The Lord had called my wife Sharon and me to serve as missionaries in the Philippines in 1989. We were studying in a Bible school in Australia. I wasn’t thrilled about it, mainly because I believed that being a missionary would not provide financial security.

I recall a morning many years ago. I was visiting a man who had stepped down from full-time ministry due to age. He sat in his pajamas, staring blankly as his children played in the garden of their rented house. He was a pale shadow of the man who once came to my parents’ home to remove Chinese idols. The memory haunted me—I dreaded ending like him if I served God full-time.



We left for Australia in 1995 to pursue an audio ministry course with GLO Australia. By 1996, we began church planting in Eastern Samar province. There was a threat from the NPA, the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, but more formidable threats lay elsewhere. In 1997, there was a dengue outbreak in our village of Guiuan. I donated blood to an eleven-year-old boy who was hemorrhaging badly. He died half an hour later. Therefore, when my seven-year-old daughter Annie developed a high fever, I was super-anxious.

The village hospital advised us to travel to the next island for better facilities. We rented a fishing boat instead of waiting for the overnight ferry. The sky was clear when our little

family—our youngest child was only six months old—set off for Leyte Island. However, super typhoon Winnie<sup>1</sup> was near and lashed our boat for hours. Although ships sank elsewhere in the Philippines, we landed safely. Both Annie and I were admitted to hospital as I had developed a high fever as well. Sharon worked tirelessly to take care of us and our two sons. Unknown to us, she had dengue too. But God gave her extraordinary strength.

1997 was also the year a fellow missionary and friend from our sending church passed away in Africa. After completing the required first tour of duty of three years, we decided to serve nearer to Manila. However, our sending church “de-commended” us, perhaps traumatized by the death of our friend. We spent a year in limbo.<sup>2</sup> I met my ex-boss from a valuation company. After hearing my experiences, he said, “Well, I wouldn’t expose my family to danger.” I understood the gravity, but I was prepared to stay faithful to God’s call. Hence, when another assembly in Kuala Lumpur offered to be our sending church, I did not hesitate. By 2000 we began serving in Rizal Province, near Manila.

The EDSA II uprising in 2001 in Manila warranted caution, but again, the real threats lay elsewhere. The Filipino assembly we had settled into became embroiled in a scandal. The full-time worker at the centre of it all deflected attention by labelling me a usurper of his assembly! Others took sides, revealing un-Christian attitudes. The experience shook me to the core. I was disillusioned. If Christianity hadn’t changed these people, what was the point of being a missionary? This crisis led me to pursue theological studies. I am currently in the final lap of a Doctorate in Theology in Clinical Pastoral Psychotherapy (CPP). Differences in values and doing ministry became reasons for the parting of ways with our

<sup>1</sup> The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (n.d.) *Typhoon Winnie - Aug 1997*.

<https://reliefweb.int/disaster/st-1997-000179-chn>

<sup>2</sup> We worshipped at Bandar Sunway Gospel Centre. The assembly remains in partnership with us to this day.



# Touching Lives

sending church, and once again I was “de-commended” in 2013. Our missionary years were ending.

Our youngest child wanted to finish his high school education in Mindanao, and we decided to remain in the Philippines one more year for that. A brethren missionary asked, “You are no longer commended by your assembly. What are you doing here?” She went on to insinuate we were enjoying a missionary discount dishonestly at our son’s school. Unknown to her, the school was aware of our circumstances and had graciously allowed our son to finish his education. Despite the cold reception from some, two assemblies welcomed us warmly.<sup>3</sup>



Refusing to be in limbo, I decided to serve as a chaplain in a supermarket in General Santos City. I partnered with GCF Marikina, a conservative Baptist church. Marketplace ministry was new territory, and I implemented insights from CPP. It was effective. The manager of a department store in the same mall asked me to be their informal chaplain too. We had access to hundreds of people. That year, we baptized eight people. After we left, the new pastor baptized over 20.

In early 2015, Sharon returned to Malaysia to prepare for re-entry while I wrapped up our ministry. One morning, between services at the department store and the supermarket, a wave of self-pity hit me. In 1995, we had the emotional support of many assemblies in Malaysia. We had a house and a car. Now, we were returning to nothing. The house had been sold, and half the proceeds had been used in the mission field. The other half financed our children’s education. At 54, how was I

supposed to start over? “So, this is how it ends after years of serving you?” I asked the Lord. Seeking solitude, I went to a friend’s Filipino Chinese church service.

The song leader asked from the pulpit, “Do you remember the song I taught you last week?” He then led the congregation to sing 恩典之路 - The Path of Grace.<sup>4</sup>

*Lord, you are my guide  
The shepherd of my life  
Through the hills and valleys  
You’re always by my side*

*Calling me by name  
You’ve chosen me with love  
Blessing me abundantly,  
Your promise will never change*

*Every step we take,  
You lead us with your grace  
Your love, your hand  
Will hold us close to you...*

After the weeping, I felt that no matter what might come after, the Lord would be there.

“Re-entry - the time you return to your home country for good – may even be worse than your first months in the mission field,” said a seasoned missionary. He was right. It took about two years for us to adjust. It was hard for others to understand what we were going through in our minds and emotions. One story is sufficient to illustrate the strangeness. One day, stuck in a traffic jam in Ipoh, I noticed that every car around me bore a registration plate starting with “A,” denoting Perak state. I was suddenly overwhelmed by emotions, and I thought, “I am home at last.”

The Lord opened doors for ministry in Kampar through a local church.<sup>5</sup> We befriended university students. Though that ministry ended during the Covid-19 pandemic, we maintained friendships and cheered them on

<sup>4</sup> Translation taken from Boon Chua (2015) 恩典之路 - 中英文歌词 (The Path of Grace - English & Mandarin Lyrics). YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CeRAvi7d2A8>

<sup>5</sup> The Westlake Community Church, Kampar. I remain a commended worker of Antioch Network Community.

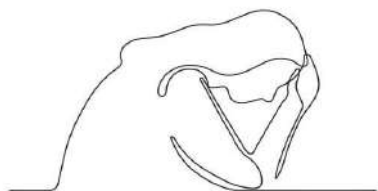
<sup>3</sup> I am touched by Rod Miano, then full-time worker of Emmaus Christian Brethren Gospel Chapel, and Eric Arabit, then full-time worker of Polomolok Christian Brethren Church.



# Touching Lives

## Finding God's Peace When Your Mind Feels Heavy

Dato' Dr Lai Fong Hwa, Datin Indranee Liew



Does the constant busyness of life leave you longing for stillness and peace? If you're

wrestling with anxiety, depression, burnout, or emotional exhaustion, know this: you're not alone—whether you believe in God or not. But for those who follow Christ, there's deep comfort in remembering that our help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth (Psalm 121:2).

### It's Okay to Struggle

Being a Christian doesn't mean we're protected from mental health challenges. Even the most faithful can feel overwhelmed by pressure, wounded by loss, or shaken by uncertainty. Some carry scars from the past. Others silently battle shame, guilt, or fear that won't go away. But here is the beautiful truth: God sees you. He cares deeply. And He offers healing.

Sometimes, we feel pressure to always appear 'strong in the faith,' as though admitting our struggles means we're failing. But Scripture tells a different story. Think of Elijah, the prophet who—after calling fire from heaven—fled into the wilderness and begged God to take his life (1 Kings 19:4). Or David, the poet-warrior who confessed, 'I am weary with my groaning; all night I make my bed swim' (Psalm 6:6). Even Jesus, our Savior, wept at Lazarus's tomb, felt anguish in Gethsemane, and cried out from the cross.

These stories remind us that struggling doesn't separate us from God's love. He meets us in our brokenness. He walks with us through the valley—not just on the mountaintop.

## Finding Calm in the Storm

Philippians 4:6–7 gives us a powerful promise: 'Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.'



This peace isn't a magical escape from reality. It doesn't mean the storm disappears. It means that even in the storm, God's presence becomes our anchor. His peace guards us, even when circumstances don't change.

And remember: seeking help for your mental health is not a sign of weak faith—it's often a courageous act of trust. God can bring healing through many paths, including therapy, medication, and professional support.

## Small Steps to Strengthen Your Spirit and Mind

### 1. Hold onto God's Word

When your thoughts race, find your anchor in Scripture. Memorize these verses:

- Isaiah 41:10 – 'So do not fear, for I am with you...'
- John 14:27 – 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you...'
- Psalm 46:1 – 'God is our refuge and strength...'

### 2. Talk to God Honestly

Prayer doesn't need fancy words. Just be real with Him. Share your fears and exhaustion. He already knows, and He cares deeply.

- 1 Peter 5:7 – 'Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you.'

# Touching Lives

- Psalm 34:18 – 'The Lord is close to the brokenhearted...'

## 3. Connect with Others

God created us to be in community. Don't isolate yourself. Find trusted friends who can support you, pray with you, and remind you of hope when you can't see it.

- Galatians 6:2 – 'Carry each other's burdens...'
- 1 Thessalonians 5:11 – 'Encourage one another and build each other up...'

## 4. Care for Your Body

Rest, healthy food, exercise, and good sleep are vital for our mental well-being. Even Elijah needed rest and food before he could hear God again (1 Kings 19:5–8).

- 1 Kings 19:5 – 'Get up and eat.'
- 1 Corinthians 6:19–20 – 'Your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit...'

## 5. Be Mindful of What You Take In

Limit exposure to negativity and noise. Choose worship and encouragement over constant worry and endless scrolling.

- Philippians 4:8 – 'Whatever is true, whatever is noble...'
- Proverbs 4:23 – 'Above all else, guard your heart...'

## 6. Remember Who You Are

You are not defined by your struggles or negative thoughts. You are a beloved child of God, held and redeemed.

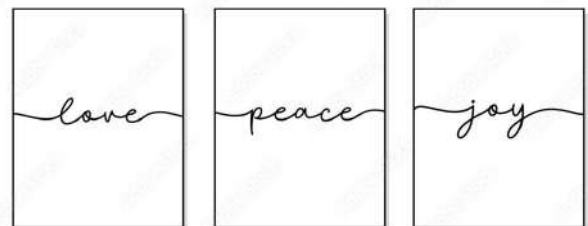
- 1 John 3:1 – 'See what great love the Father has lavished on us...'
- 1 Peter 2:9 – 'You are a chosen people...'

## You Are Cherished and Not Alone

If you're reading this and feeling like you're the only one struggling, please know that you're not. Others are walking similar paths, and more importantly, the Good Shepherd is right there with you. He's gentle, patient, and He longs to restore your soul (Psalm 23:3).

Taking care of your mental health and growing in your faith aren't separate journeys; they're part of becoming whole. When you feel weak, remember that God's strength shines brightest (2 Corinthians 12:9). In your questions, He offers His presence. And as you seek Him, He whispers peace.

Hold onto hope. Healing is absolutely possible, and God's peace is closer than you think.



**For More Information, please contact:**

### Dato' Dr Lai Fong Hwa

- Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist
- Cognitive Behaviour Therapist
- Family Therapist

### Datin Indranee Liew

- Mental Health First Aid Instructor (UK)
- Learning & Behaviour Support Consultant

**Contact: WhatsApp: 012 534 2022**

# Touching Lives

## Faith Over Fear: Trusting God in Uncertain Times

Samuel Chandy ([sam@elim.my](mailto:sam@elim.my))

Uncertainty is a part of life. We experience it in many forms - economic instability, health challenges, relationship struggles, or even global crises. In such moments, fear can creep into our hearts, whispering doubts and making us question God's presence. Yet, as believers, we are called to live by faith, not fear.

*"For we live by faith, not by sight." — 2 Corinthians 5:7*

Faith does not mean the absence of fear; rather, it means choosing to trust in God's promises despite our fears. True faith requires us to surrender our worries to the Lord and believe that He is working all things for our good (Romans 8:28).

### Fear is a Weapon of the Enemy

Fear is one of Satan's greatest tools. He uses it to weaken our faith, paralyze us with doubt, and keep us from walking in the fullness of God's purpose. We see this in the story of Peter walking on water. When Peter focused on Jesus, he was able to do the impossible. But the moment he looked at the wind and waves, fear took over, and he began to sink.

*"But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, 'Lord, save me!'" — Matthew 14:30*

Like Peter, we may feel overwhelmed by life's storms. But Jesus is always near, ready to lift

us up. The key is to keep our eyes on Him, not on our circumstances.

### God's Promises Are Greater Than Our Fears



One of the most powerful ways to overcome fear is by holding onto God's Word. The Bible is filled with promises that remind us of His constant presence, His faithfulness, and His power to deliver us.

- Isaiah 41:10 — *"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."*



# Touching Lives

- John 14:27 — *“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”*
- Deuteronomy 31:8 — *“The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”*

When we fill our minds with God’s truth, fear loses its power over us.

## Faith in Action: Trusting God Daily

Faith is not just believing in God. It is actively trusting Him in every situation. Here are some practical steps to strengthen our faith in times of uncertainty:

### 1. Pray Continually

Prayer shifts our focus from our problems to God’s power. Instead of allowing fear to control our thoughts, we can bring every worry to the Lord.

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” — Philippians 4:6-7*

### 2. Stand on God’s Word

Reading and meditating on Scripture strengthens our faith and reminds us that God is always in control. When fear arises, we can declare His promises over our lives.

### 3. Surround Yourself with Faith-Filled Believers



Faith grows in community. When we surround ourselves with godly friends, we receive encouragement and accountability to keep trusting in the Lord.

*“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another.” — Hebrews 10:24-25*

### 4. Remember Past Victories

Looking back on how God has been faithful in the past helps us trust Him for the future. The same God who provided for us before will continue to do so.

*“Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases.” — Psalm 103:2-3*

### 5. Step Forward in Obedience

Faith is not just about believing; it’s about acting on that belief. Sometimes, trusting God



# Touching Lives

requires us to take a step forward, even when we don't have all the answers.

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." — Proverbs 3:5-6*

## Finding Peace in God's Presence

The greatest antidote to fear is the presence of God. When we draw near to Him, He fills us with His perfect peace. Jesus assures us that in this world, we will face trouble, but He has already overcome it.

*"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." — John 16:33*

No matter what uncertainties we face, we can have confidence in our Savior. *He is our refuge, our strong tower, and our ever-present help in trouble (Psalm 46:1).*

## In conclusion: Choose Faith Over Fear

In every season of life, we are given a choice: to be consumed by fear or to place our trust in the unchanging God. Fear paralyzes, but faith empowers. Fear looks at the storm, but faith looks at the Savior.



As we navigate uncertain times, may we stand firm in faith, knowing that God is always with us.

*"When I am afraid, I put my trust in you." — Psalm 56:3*

Let us walk boldly in faith, knowing that our God is faithful, His promises are sure, and His love for us never fails

## Reflection Questions:

1. What are some areas in your life where fear has taken hold?
2. How can you actively choose faith over fear in those situations?
3. Which Bible verse speaks to your heart the most during uncertain times?

May this be a season where we grow deeper in trust, standing firm on His Word and living out our faith with courage.

In Christ,

**Samuel Chandy**

[sam@elim.my](mailto:sam@elim.my)

# Touching Lives

## Diakonia Training Institute Malaysia

Onn (Ron Low) [registrar.dti@gmail.com](mailto:registrar.dti@gmail.com)

On November 4, 2023, the green light was given at the Malaysian Assembly Leaders Conference at Petaling Jaya Gospel Hall for the setting up of theological training that will be accredited by the Australian government through the Australian College of Christian Studies (ACCS, formerly Emmaus Bible College, Australia), leading to a Diploma of Theology and Bachelor of Ministry.

This was an initiative of Peter Tan of Agape Chapel and a CBSM trustee. Onn (Ron Low) was asked to do the preliminary preparation. Earlier, Onn had consulted Dr David Smith about this in the Philippines on Oct 26-28, 2023. The 2023 ALC was a great encouragement to do all that is necessary for the establishment of what would be known as Diakonia Training Institute.

This theological training is for training leaders, not a focus on theology per se. Yet theology is necessary. Can we picture the raising up of spiritual leaders without a firm foundation in theology?

### DTI Vision and Mission

#### **Vision:**

To revitalize the assemblies for the expansion of the kingdom of God.

#### **Mission:**

To equip workers through theological education and ministry training

Does your assembly need DTI? Please refer to the Theological Training Assessment below.

The following subjects will be covered:

### Diploma of Theology

### 8 Courses in 2 years

1. Critical Thinking & Writing
2. Old Testament Introduction
3. New Testament Introduction
4. Biblical Interpretation
5. Introduction to Theology
6. Spiritual Formation
7. Biblical Theology
8. Evangelism and Discipleship

The Bachelors of Ministry can be done via Pathways by doing an additional 16 subjects.

The first course is planned to start on August 9, 2025. It will be held on Saturdays from 12.30 to 3.30 pm at the Petaling Jaya Gospel Hall. The following are the current faculty:

#### **Lecturers**

- **Steven Yam, Master of Theology**
- **Steven Foong, Master of Divinity**
- **William Yeong, Master of Divinity**
- **Onn (Ron Low), Master of Divinity**

# Touching Lives

We intend to have other qualified and ACCS accredited lecturers.

A dozen people attended a 3-hour preview of the first course held at Agape Chapel's The Living Room on May 17, 2025.

A preview of the Old Testament Introduction is planned for July 5.

## Theological Training Assessment

Take a moment to take stock of your assembly

	Item	Not on our radar	Ongoing
<b><i>Our assembly is training men and women to...</i></b>			
1.	Cultivate and sustain a personal and close relationship with the Lord through spiritual disciplines		
2.	Prepare and deliver sermons/ devotionals/ messages whether biblical or topical		
3.	Write devotional and bible study material for church members		
4.	Be comfortable sharing the gospel in creative ways with people from different backgrounds		
5.	Build and shepherd a small group		
6.	Disciple others in evangelism and making disciples		
7.	Provide godly counsel to people in need		
8.	Be leaders within the framework of plurality of eldership		
9.	Provide pastoral care and promote mental health		
10.	Plant a church or develop and execute a church revitalization plan		

In what ways can Diakonia Training Institute come alongside to help?

**Contact us:** registrar.dti@gmail.com

## CHRISTIAN BRETHREN OF MALAYSIA PROPERTY TRUST BERHAD

Ng See Yen ([ngseeyen@yahoo.com](mailto:ngseeyen@yahoo.com))

### HISTORY

Christian Brethren of Malaysia Property Trust Limited was incorporated under the Companies Ordinance, 1940 to 1946 as a Company limited by Guarantee on 3rd July 1962. The name was changed to Christian Brethren of Malaysia Property Trust Berhad (Trust) on 15th April 1966. It was also resolved at a meeting of Directors of the Trust held at Elim, Ipoh on 29th September 1962 that all the directors and each new Director shall subscribe to a Statement of Doctrines and Practices. Any Director of the Trust who withdraws from assembly fellowship for reasons of disagreement with the Doctrines and Practices held by the assemblies or any Director who has been excluded from assembly fellowship under discipline instituted by the assembly concerned shall be called upon immediately to retire/resign as a Director.

### OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of the formation of the Trust was:-

1. To take over as trustees all those properties previously held by Stewards Company Limited of the United Kingdom and to enable other properties to be vested in the Trust.
2. To help the local assembly to safeguard their property.
3. To deal with officialdom on matters related to land ownership.

4. To ensure that the properties vested in the Trust be used for the furtherance of the Gospel and the teaching of the Word of God.

### TITLE DEEDS

There are at present 113 titles lodged with the Trust. Some properties are in the process of transfer to the Trust while a few others have just been purchased. There are also a few assemblies whose properties are in the name of the Trust but have not submitted the property titles to the Trust for safe keeping. All assemblies are responsible for the maintenance, management and upkeep of their individual properties which are vested in the Trust. This includes ensuring adequate insurance is taken to cover the property for fire and flood, paying the yearly quit rents and assessments. The Directors of the Trust are not responsible for any financial obligations or undertakings of any property vested in the Trust.

### MANAGEMENT

The affairs of the Trust are managed by a Board of Directors. The representation on the Board is as follows:-

- *Two directors representing the assemblies in the northern region. Two directors representing the assemblies in the central region.*
- *Four directors representing the assemblies in the Klang Valley.*



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- *Two directors representing the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur.*

## MEMBERSHIP

Assemblies who have properties vested in the Trust can be members of the Trust. Assemblies with a membership of less than 50 can nominate one person to be a member. Those with over 50 members can nominate two. All assemblies who have properties in the Trust contribute an annual sum to the Trust to defray expenses. Assemblies with more than 50 in their congregation contribute RM500 per annum. Assemblies with less than 50 in their congregation contribute RM150 per annum. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Trust is usually held in the month of June. The attendance of members at the AGM is to comply with the requirements of the Companies Act, 2016 and to discuss or raise matters related to their properties.

## CONCLUSION

The Trust operates purely as a registering body and for all practical purposes the control and care over each property registered in the Trust's name remains solely in the hands of each respective Oversight wherein the directors are merely the legal custodians of the land titles. In addition, the directors are entrusted with the sacred duty of drawing the attention of any Oversight in the event their property is being used for purposes that may fall outside the scope of the Doctrines and Practices subscribed to by all participating assemblies. The Trust has no capital and therefore is not in any position to make grants

or loans to assemblies to purchase or develop properties. Its expenses are met by contributions from all participating assemblies.

In today's complex world of legalities, we firmly believe it is essential to have this central registry, to protect the assemblies' property rights now and in the future by having them registered in a company that has a continuous legal existence. It also provides a base for uniting the assemblies in their outreach of the gospel. Assemblies whose properties are registered in the names of individual trustees and are interested in vesting their properties in the Trust as trustees or who need further information are welcomed to contact the Company Secretary.

## MARKS KINDERGARTEN

Ms. Sung Sim Gek ([geksung@gmail.com](mailto:geksung@gmail.com))



In November 1975, the Oversight requested Mr. Roger Dahlberg to help set up the

kindergarten. A creatively planned playground, a Disneyland wall mural, and animated alphabet paintings by our talented young brother Teoh Teik Boo and his team certainly marked our Kindergarten as one of the most attractive Kindergartens in Taiping.

A team led by Ms. Foong Mee Lian went to Kuala Lumpur, and with the help of Bro Ng Tieh Chuan of KL, they began shopping for children's books and all the essentials that were required to set up the kindergarten. "As busy as a bee" was Ms. Foong's description for this organizing team. Brother Tieh Chuan came up with the bright idea of using the 'Bee'



image as the school logo with the motto 'Ever Bright At Work And Play' which is still known today.

**MARK** this Man (Mr. Harry Freeman Marks the longest-serving Missionary in Taiping 1900-1952)

(From: *The REMINISCENCES TAIPING GOSPEL HALL 1880 - 1980 - Chapter 2*)

Named after Mr. H. F. Marks, in December 1976, the Kindergarten was granted approval for registration under the name MARKS KINDERGARTEN. A dedication service was held for Marks Kindergarten on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1977. The kindergarten started operations on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1977 with 30 children. With the help from Mr. Roger Dahlberg, Ms. Foong Mee Lian as the 1st Principal, Ms. Sung Sim Lian as the teacher and together with a helper and a gardener, they formed the dedicated team that spearheaded Marks Kindergarten in the Year 1977.

Over the years, the enrollment had doubled from 30 to 60 and the Lord kept on adding. More staff were added to the kindergarten. Praise the Lord for meeting all the expenses. After 10 years of her dedication to nurturing Marks Kindergarten to its full maturity and with the Lord's blessings, Ms. Foong retired in December 1987. In the year 1988, Mr. Ooi Hoay Yam, an Elder of Taiping Gospel Hall and a retired Headmaster of King Edward Primary School took over from Ms. Foong

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Mee Lian. The kindergarten grew with an overwhelming number of 12 classes and 300 children in its enrollment. Facing all challenges and trusting in God's power in the midst of difficult circumstances arising from both the kindergarten and the church, Mr. Ooi, held on to the school's principles and built up the kindergarten again for a few more years. He had to give up his post at the end of 1997 to seek medical treatment.

In the year 1998, Mr. Daniel Jevraj, the Chairman of Marks Kindergarten, came to manage the administrative work of the kindergarten.



In 2000, Ms. Chee Cheng See, became the Acting Principal of Marks Kindergarten. Despite the drop in enrollment, Marks Kindergarten managed to sail on in a stormy sea and reach out with the gospel to the children through Chapel Class, channeling them to Sunday School. Upon Ms. Chee's resignation at the end of 2002, Ms. Sung Sim Gek took the position as the next principal.

Moving onward from 2003 with the Lord's leading and with much prayer for Marks Kindergarten, some new changes were made with more outdoor activities organized. A class for 4 years old and a Mandarin lesson class for 6 years old (optional) were introduced for the school. The Chapel Class was still in progress with help from GLO students for their practical training in the Children's Ministry syllabus, handling over 80 children aged 5 & 6 years old.

Between 2004 - 2017, these were exciting years for Marks Kindergarten, with more outdoor activities.

2018 and 2019 were crucial years for Marks Kindergarten. A sudden drop in enrollment occurred with 2 teachers' immediate resignation. Not knowing what plans the Lord had for us in this situation, we trusted in the Lord's will and moved on with only 2 classes in session.



The year 2020 when Covid-19 pandemic set into the country, followed by MCO and lockdowns in schools, we then realized that from 2018 to 2020 with a time frame of 3



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years, the Lord was preparing the school to face the calamity which took a turn of events. After the pandemic period, when schools reopened, there were many changes in the education system. Government primary schools and government departments now have their own kindergartens and play schools, which greatly affected the enrollment of children in the private sector, and Marks Kindergarten was also not spared.

## Isaiah 55: 8-9

*For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways, saith the  
Lord,  
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways,*

*and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

We wait upon the Lord, trusting in His plan for a new direction with new dimensions here in this beautiful compound of Taiping Gospel Hall which He has provided for us.

## Marks Kindergarten

Annual graduation & concert  
School assembled on stage for  
National Anthem



## Small Steps to Strengthen Your Spirit and Mind

### Be mindful of what you take in

What you listen to and watch impacts your heart. Protect your peace by choosing what is life-giving.

*"Whatever is true, whatever is noble... think about such things."* — **Philippians 4:8**

*"Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it."* — **Proverbs 4:23**

### Reflection Questions:

- What kind of content fills most of your mental space each day?
- Is there anything you need to cut back on to protect your peace?
- What helps you feel more spiritually centered and encouraged?



# Touching Lives

## **CBSM Church Revitalization Task Force (CRTF)**

Chiew Sai Kee ([tcjjj@hotmail.com](mailto:tcjjj@hotmail.com))

The CBSM Church Revitalization Task Force (CRTF) was set up after the ALC 2021 and convened its first meeting on the 2nd of October 2021.

It is specially tasked to study, facilitate, equip, and provide resources to the smaller assemblies, in partnership with CBSM and its board of Trustees. It also seeks to explore the deployment of “full-time” worker/s to small assemblies and to establish a partnership with the Chinese Assemblies Secretariat of Malaysia (CASM) with the purpose of revitalizing small assemblies.

### **Visitations**

Elders in the CRTF started connecting with selected smaller assemblies in the northern and east coast regions, either through Zoom meetings or physical visitations.

As a result of the visitations, we have been able to network with a few assemblies. In collaboration with the CASM-CBSM Full-Time Workers’ Trust Fund, we have helped in the funding of two “full-time” workers at two English assemblies, Bukit Mertajam Gospel Center (BMGC), and Taiping Gospel Hall (TGH). The Workers Trust Fund helps by partially supporting the workers. The Workers’ Fund is also supporting two other believers who are serving at Kuala Kangsar Gospel Hall (KKGH). We appeal to the English assemblies to contribute gifts to the Workers’ Fund above.

In our collaboration with KKGH, we have a CBSM Elder who sits on the committee of KKGH and also serves as one of the signatories. CRTF, networking with Dr. Khong Yoon Loong of Christian STEM Nexus, has been able to run a regular STEM program at TGH, drawing children to the assembly. Dr. Khong has also been running STEM programs at various other assemblies as well.

### **“Full-time” workers**

Besides networking with assemblies, one of the goals of the CRTF in revitalizing small assemblies is by way of equipping, training, and providing full-time workers to be assigned to these assemblies. This is most challenging, and we pray the Lord will call many to come forward and move out to smaller assemblies to serve full-time there. It is encouraging that there are assemblies intentionally educating and encouraging members to consider seriously full-time ministry, as and when the Lord calls them.

CRTF is happy that CBSM, in collaboration with the Australian College of Christian Studies (ACCS), a brethren educational entity, set up the Diakonia Training Institute (DTI), providing accredited courses. DTI, with its board of lecturers from assemblies, has started conducting introductory courses now before it officially opens for student enrolment. On the 17<sup>th</sup> June, one such introductory course, “Fact vs Fiction: Empowering Critical

# Touching Lives

Thinkers to Influence and Edify,” was conducted. It is our prayer that DTI will be the platform where assembly members, “full-time” workers, or those considering serving “full-time” can come on board and be trained.

## **Church Planting**

Church planting is another focus of the CRTF. Assemblies in Malaysia have hardly been planting churches over the last ten years. With the focus on encouraging more to consider serving the Lord full-time, providing infrastructure like DTI and financial support, CRTF hopes to be able to network with assemblies in this area. CRTF is beginning to move in this direction by providing some courses on Spiritual Maturity in collaboration with Biblical Eldership Resources (BER). The present cohort with fifty registered participants runs for 6 months and will graduate in July.

## **Further Networking**

CRTF has supported Biblical Eldership courses for elders and ministry leaders with leadership succession goals in mind. At ALC 2023, a booth for the BER School of The Shepherds (SoTS) courses was set up. Many, including non-Elders, have benefited from the courses, learning the biblical principles of the Shepherd Elder.

CRTF is also working with another task force, the Youth Revitalization Task Force, reaching out to encourage our younger generation of assembly youth. Since IBCM8, Kuala Lumpur, a group of committed young adults has successfully organized last year’s one-day Youth Rally 2024 at Petaling Jaya Gospel Hall (PJGH). They have planned this year’s three-day Youth Rally 2025 (for youth aged 12-23) in Elim Gospel Hall, Ipoh, this coming June. With the rising cases of mental health issues, CRTF collaborated with Datuk Dr Ang Kim Teng, from SSGC, to run the Mental Health First Aid Course (MHFA). Three such courses have been successfully run, and we had several elders and assembly members who participated.

## **Conclusion**

Many assemblies are reaching out to smaller assemblies to help with their ministries. Such collaboration and networking are helpful. CRTF will continue to help enhance such collaborations, and assemblies can reach out to us. God willing, we can do something together.

**Reported by,**  
**Chiew Sai Kee**  
***Chairman, CRTF***



# Touching Lives



## Partners In the Harvest 2025 - Phuket | Thailand

Onn (Ron Low) [registrar.dti@gmail.com](mailto:registrar.dti@gmail.com)

### Welcome Message

#### **Sawatdee!**

The word “Sawatdee” (สวัสดี) in Thai is a polite and common way to greet someone. 'Sawatdee' is not just a way to say hello; it's a blessing of goodness, fairness, and prosperity. By saying 'Sawatdee', you're wishing someone well in their life, reflecting the deep-rooted Thai value of caring for others' well-being

And this is exactly what the theme 'Mission of the Heart' stands for in this conference. We are acknowledging that the most important commandment is to love God and our neighbour as ourselves (Mk 12:28-34). What are missions if it is not motivated by our love for God and our neighbour? How is this reflected in the way we do evangelism, community outreach, and the way we disciple others?

#### **1 | PITH Conference Information: Plenary Topics**

**1. Heart Connection** – The importance of the heart in ministry and mission.

**2. Soul Connection** – Connecting with intention for wellbeing and growth (includes discussion/modelling soul-to-soul connection).

**3. Heart Care** – The importance of self-care in ministry (includes discussion on how to care for self in ministry).

**4. Church Care** – Pastoral Care in the Church (includes demonstration of how an elders' meeting prioritising pastoral care looks like).

**5. Youth Care** – How to connect and care for youth today?

**6. Care as Mission** – Putting care at the heart of mission (includes panel illustrating Care as Mission).

#### **Workshop 1. How to Counsel Others (Ron Low)**

This workshop explores ways of counselling people in various seasons of life and at different stages of their faith. Participants will understand what goes into becoming a counsellor who can be a channel of God's

wisdom and comfort to people. Whether people are seeking support, direction, goal setting, coping strategies or working through personal challenges to improve wellness and life satisfaction, the Christian can learn to counsel people effectively. Case studies and discussions will facilitate learning while Q&A sessions will address specific concerns of participants.

**Workshop 2. Creating a Church Culture of Care (David Smith)** The church is called to “build itself up in love” (Ephesians 4:16). Yet somehow in the frantic pace of church life the loving care of the heart is often overlooked. Caring is at the very heart of God. Does your church have a culture of care? What is a culture of care? What does God require of us as shepherds and carers of his people? And how can a local church practically create such a culture and ministry of care that honours the caring heart of God. We will consider these and other questions in the following three sessions:

**Session 1. “God Cares”** In this workshop we look at how God cares for us and how we are called to care for others.

**Session 2. “Caring Conversations”** In this workshop we look specifically at creating space for intentional pastoral conversations and the listening and communication techniques that are required.

**Session 3. “Care Strategies”** In this workshop we look at how to create an effective care strategy for the local church.

**Workshop 3. Counselling Issues (Anne**

**Dryburgh)**

Caring for suffering people in our churches is often complex. The things people go through and how they experience them can be complicated. To be able to help them well, it is crucially important to be informed about the issues that they face. In the counselling issues track, we will explore three areas that cause a lot of suffering and need a lot of care: abuse, depression, and the influence of social media. During each session we will seek to come to a basic understanding of the issue, how people respond, basics about what the Bible says, and some suggestions about how we can help.

**Workshop 4. Caring as Mission (Ben Matthew)**

Caring as a Mission within the context of pastoral care and counselling emphasizes the Gospel’s transformative power as a reflection of God’s love in action. It involves seeing the act of care not merely as a response to individual needs but as a missional endeavour that embodies the gospel’s call to heal, restore, and reconcile all nations. This approach bridges the gap between the church and the world, where the caregiver becomes a vessel of divine compassion, addressing emotional, spiritual, and relational brokenness. This elective will seek to help participants develop deep empathy, active listening, and culturally sensitive interventions and appreciate how ‘Caring as Mission’ fosters an environment where individuals experience holistic healing, and the church fulfils its role as God’s witness

# Touching Lives

of restoration and hope to the world.

## Workshop 5. Youth Identity (Godly Koshy)

Identity defines a person; it's an amalgamation of various things that create a sense of self. As each person passes through life the different encounters allow for the development of one's identity, like people, possessions, achievements, social media, beliefs and so on. Till adolescence the identity of a child is usually that of the parents but during the teenage years they start to explore and develop their own identity. So, it is all the more important for them to figure out their identity early on otherwise they will be in a place of identity confusion. The importance of providing an environment, a safe space to thrive and develop their identity is essential during this life stage. As parents, siblings, mentors and churches we have a very important role in helping them form their identity in Christ, not condemning them but answering their questions and patiently coaching them. We will look at some ways to help them in this pursuit of forming their identity.

## 2 | PITH Conference Information: Plenary Speakers



**DR BEN MATHEW**  
(USA) – With his family from India and being born and raised in Canada, Ben has always appreciated the integration of

cultures and ideas and was blessed to be involved in several ministries in his home, church, and community. With degrees in Counselling, Psychology, and Theology.

Ben also enjoys the integration and collaboration of various academic disciplines. He earned his bachelor's degree in Biblical Studies from Emmaus Bible College and continued his graduate work at Dallas Theological Seminary, earning an MA in Counselling and a PhD in Psychology from Northcentral University. Ben worked in the Dallas area for several years in private practice and at the nationally known Minirth Clinic, specializing in adolescent rehab and treatment of mental health issues. For the past two decades, Ben has been involved in higher education, helping to develop students and others to think critically and holistically about their faith, profession, and care for others. I have served for over 20 years at Emmaus Bible College in various positions, most recently as a Professor and Chair of the Counselling Psychology department. Ben is a Board-Certified Counsellor (NCC) and currently serves as a Professor of Clinical Counselling in the Graduate Counselling Programs (MA & PhD) at Columbia International University (ciu.edu). He also maintains a small counselling practice as a Licensed Professional Counsellor in South Carolina, where he lives with his wife, Jenna, and their four children.



**GODLY KOSHY**  
**RAJU** (India) –



# Touching Lives

Godly along with his wife Becky and son Evan are missionaries serving in Pune, India. They have been involved in ministry for over 10 years in Bangalore and now Pune. They are both engineers but as the Lord called them for ministry, they pursued their Bible and Counselling from Emmaus Bible College. Godly did his masters in Family Life Education from Bangalore. Currently they are helping with a church plant in Pune, youth ministry with the assemblies and Crossroads and as a Counsellor at Urban India Ministries. He is part of the faculty for the MA in counselling offered by UIM. Godly is the author of a book "Basic Counselling" used by Emmaus Academy, India and has helped establish Streams of Water – India, a team of youngsters that helps reach assembly youths in various ways. In his free time, he loves spending time with the community, exploring new foods, biking, playing sports and aquascaping.

### 3 | *PITH Conference Information:* **Conference Schedule**

**DATES:** 25-28 July 2025

**CONFERENCE CENTRE:** NH Boat Lagoon Phuket Resort Address: 22, 22 Thap Krasattri Rd, Ko Kaeo, Mueang Phuket District, Phuket 83000, Thailand **AIRPORT SHUTTLE:** Provided from Phuket Airport to Conference Centre.

**4 | *PITH Conference Information:* Post-Conference Mission Exposure Trip Options (29<sup>th</sup> July – 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug 2025) to Chiang Mai, Phuket & Bangkok, Thailand; Bukit Mertajam, Penang, El Shaddai Centre,**

**Klang, Malaysia and Palawan, Philippines.**

**Mission Objective:** To engage PITH's participants in a cross-cultural experience that fosters spiritual growth, deepens their understanding of global missions, and builds relationships with the local mission agency and or local church, while supporting, assisting and encouraging their ongoing ministry efforts.

### **Mission Goals**

#### **1. Spiritual Growth**

- Provide opportunities for PITH's participants to deepen their faith through prayer, reflection, and witnessing God's work in a cross-cultural context.
- Promote faith as participants step out of their comfort zones to a new environment.

#### **2. Cultural Understanding**

- Help participants gain a greater understanding of the host culture, its strengths, challenges, and how the Gospel is expressed uniquely within it.
- Promote cultural humility by listening, learning, and building mutual respect with the local community.

#### **3. Encourage the Local Church or Mission Agency**

- Strengthen and encourage the host church or ministry through fellowship, prayer, and shared worship experiences.
- Support their ongoing efforts by participating in their ministries and showing solidarity in their challenges.

#### **4. Exposure to Global Missions**

# Touching Lives

- Expose participants to the realities of global missions and the diversity of the global church.
- Inspire a deeper commitment to the Great Commission, whether through prayer, giving, or future involvement in missions.

## 5. Relationship Building

- Build meaningful relationships with the local community that reflect the love and unity of Christ.
- Foster connections that create potential opportunities for future partnerships and collaboration in ministry.

## 6. Practical Engagement

- Assist in activities that contribute to the

local ministry's efforts in a way that is sustainable and aligned with their long-term goals.


- Serve as learners, working under the leadership of the local church/mission agency to ensure cultural appropriateness and effectiveness.

## 7. Reflection and Application

- Encourage the participants to reflect on what they learn during the trip and consider how they can apply those lessons in their daily lives.
- Encourage the participants to share their experiences and inspire their home churches to engage in missions.

ASIA PACIFIC (PITH) - July 2025		Friday 25	Saturday 26	Sunday 27	Monday 28
Daily Theme		Heart to God	Heart to Others	Heart to Care	Heart to the World
Breakfast	7:30		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
Prayer and Praise	9:00	Registration	Plenary 2 Godly Koshy "A Healthy Heart"	Plenary 4 Ben Mathew "A Shepherd's Heart"	Plenary 6 Ben Mathew "A Heart to the World"
Plenary	9:30				
Coffee & Tea	10:30		Small Group Reflections	Youth Panel	Heart of Worship
Plenary	11:15				
Lunch	12:30	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Network Electives	14:00	Registration	Workshop 1	Workshop 3	Depart
Coffee & Tea	15:30	Registration	Workshop 2	Free Time	
Network Electives	16:00				
	17:30				
Dinner	18:00	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	
Prayer and Praise	19:30	Plenary 1 Ben Mathew "A Heart to God"	Plenary 3 Godly Koshy "A Heart to Others"	Plenary 5 Godly Koshy "A Heart to Care"	
Evening Plenary	20:00				

### Assembly Leadership Conference



**CBSM** CHRISTIAN BRETHREN SECRETARIAT MALAYSIA


**CBSM INVITES YOU TO  
ALC 2025**

**RADICAL  
DISCIPLESHIP**

**ASSEMBLY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2025**  
14-17 SEPT 2025 | 1969 BUSINESS SUITES | IPOH GARDEN

**OUR CONFERENCE SPEAKER**  
Andrew Cowell serves at Riverstone Community Church and as Co-Director of GLO Ministries Australia. Having served in Malaysia and as a missionary in Indonesia, he brings rich ministry experience and sounds the call to follow Christ fully and to make disciples in fulfilment of the Great Commission.

**PLACES ARE ON A FIRST  
COME FIRST SERVED BASIS**



**SCAN (OR CLICK)  
TO REGISTER TODAY**





## ALC 2025 REGISTRATION INFO

DATE: 14-17 SEPTEMBER 2025

VENUE: 1969 BUSINESS SUITES IPOH @ IPOH GARDEN



SCAN (OR CLICK)  
TO REGISTER

We're excited to welcome you to the upcoming  
Assembly Leadership Conference (ALC 2025) in Ipoh!

Please read the important details below before registering

### ACCOMMODATION & MEALS

We've arranged the following:

- Hotel accommodation for up to 89 Full Board participants (includes lodging + meals)
- Meals for up to 120 attendees in total (The extra 31 people will have to arrange their own accommodation in Ipoh)
- Accommodation is limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis, according to registration order
- Payment will be collected on 31st August 2025

### IMPORTANT NOTES

- Most rooms come with queen-sized beds, and twin-bed rooms are in limited supply. Room assignments will be arranged by the committee fairly and on a best effort basis. Where needed, participants of the same gender may be asked to share a queen bed, especially those registering together or from the same fellowship
- If you're registering as a married couple or would like to request a roommate, please indicate that in the registration details
- Once Full Board capacity is reached, any further registrants selecting that option will be reassigned to the "Own Accommodation + Meals" category and notified accordingly by the committee

### EARLY BIRD PRICING FOR REGISTRATION BY 15 JULY 2025

OPTION	INCLUDES	EARLY BIRD	STANDARD
Full Board (Campers)	Hotel Stay + All Meals (3 Breakfast / 2 Lunches / 3 Dinners)	RM 500	RM 600
Own Accommodation + Meals	No Lodging ( 2 Lunches / 3 Dinners)	RM 250	RM 300
Conference Only	Sessions Only (No Meals or Lodging)	FREE	FREE

\*Note: Conference only attendees also required to register



# Touching Lives

## Bethesda Hall Depot Walk Easter Conference 2025 - "From Death to Life"

### BHDW EASTER CONFERENCE 2025



Picture: Speaker **Teo Pek Bing** sharing the gospel.

### "FROM DEATH TO LIFE"

Dear brethren, greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Recently, Bethesda Hall Depot Walk held its annual Easter conference on 18<sup>th</sup> April and 20<sup>th</sup> April. A small committee, led by one of our deacons Ryan Kwan, was formed to lead, plan, and execute the proposed schedule. Good Friday and Easter Sunday saw over 300 attendees coming through our doors. We rejoice at the fact that many heard the gospel through song, word, and action. The gospel was preached by Teo Pek Bing, and the meetings were chaired by one of our locally commended workers, Brandon Chan.



Picture: **Brandon**, one of our locally commended workers, chairing the meetings.



Pictures: Our children, youths, and young adults each gave a performance through song to the LORD. Many non-believing parents came to witness their children perform and many heard the gospel.



Picture: **Isaac Nithyan** boldly proclaiming his faith through the waters of baptism. A baptism service was conducted at the end of the Easter Sunday service. 4 brethren testified boldly of their faith.

# Touching Lives

## CBSM Youth Rally 2025 Elim Gospel Hall - What Matters Most



### CBSM Youth Rally 2025

#### *What is the Youth Rally?*

- An initiative to support youth development within Brethren churches, part of the bigger picture of the revitalization of the assemblies.
- A place to foster a sense of community and encouragement among the youths, that they are not alone in their faith and struggles.
- A platform to bring attention to current topics concerning youths, by :
  - i. engaging and developing their understanding & growth through sessions, workshops and group discussions,
  - ii. reflecting on God's word and applying it to these topics,
  - iii. inspiring them to return to their home churches and participate in the work & ministry of their own fellowships & community

#### *New format in 2025*

This year's CBSM Youth Rally is special!

Dates: **19th to 21st September**, overnight stay (3 days 2 nights)

Venue: **Elim Gospel Hall, Ipoh**. Accommodation is being arranged with Elim Gospel Hall.

Theme: **IRL Connections: Being Authentic**



# Touching Lives

This year, we are focusing on our relationships. We chose this theme, wishing to address the lack of authentic connection among the youths today. Despite living in the era of the Internet where our phones are able to let us communicate with people all around through social media – yet there is something missing. We hope to share reflections & lessons on making lasting and real connections as of God's family.

Age of Participants: **12 – 23 years-old**

We welcome Helpers & Group Leaders too: 24 years-old & above

Registration for ALL:

**Open in June 2025**, follow us on Instagram **@CBSMYOUTHRALLY2025**



# Touching Lives

## Penang Easter Conference 2025 - The Triumphant Cross



As in every year, the Penang Assemblies held their combined annual Easter Conference during the Easter weekend this year. As in the previous years, the Easter Conference was held at Burmah Road Gospel Centre attended by about 200 to 300 members of the assembly and public.

Each assembly takes their turn in organizing the Easter Conference and this year, it was the turn of Bukit Mertajam Gospel Centre (BMGC). The Conference is a three evenings event starting on Easter Friday and ending with Easter Sunday. Usually a baptism will be held on Sunday followed by a good dinner. Every assembly in Penang does their part either in presenting song items or preparation of refreshments and of course the venue host will also prepare the place for the meetings.

This year, our brother Cheah Wing Choong from Jalan Imbi Chapel was the speaker with the theme the Triumphant Cross with the sub-topics over the 3 evenings covering – The

Transcendent Christ, The Traumatic Christ and the Triumphant Christ.

The Annual Easter Conference has been a good platform for evangelism, for the wider assemblies to work together, for fellowship and for the Word of God to be heard by many.

Easter has come and gone and some things to reflect on.

Firstly, something from Psalm 133:

*How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!*

*It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe.*

*It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.*

Though BMGC was the organizing committee, we could not have done this without the help and cooperation of all the other assemblies. We are just too small to do something like this. It was like precious oil to us and a tremendous encouragement, to have brothers and sisters from the bigger assemblies to come forward to do their part. And I believe because of that, the Lord has blessed us in some ways through the conference.

One tough job of the Conference is finding a speaker. The speaker must be known by some, if not most, should not be controversial to any if possible and from a well-known origin, preferably. BMGC do not know a lot of people so in a way, a tall order for us. I think the Lord already thought of that long before we even get our act together. Last year through work in the STEM ministry, I landed up in Jalan Imbi Chapel. Through the course of events, I had a chance to meet the elders



## Touching Lives

there. Among them was brother Cheah Wing Choong. And when asked, it did not take him long to agree to drive up north to share the Lord's Word with us. And so, we had our speaker. I am reminded of Paul's exhortation.

In 2 Corinthians 9:8

"God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work."

And so, we praise Him!!

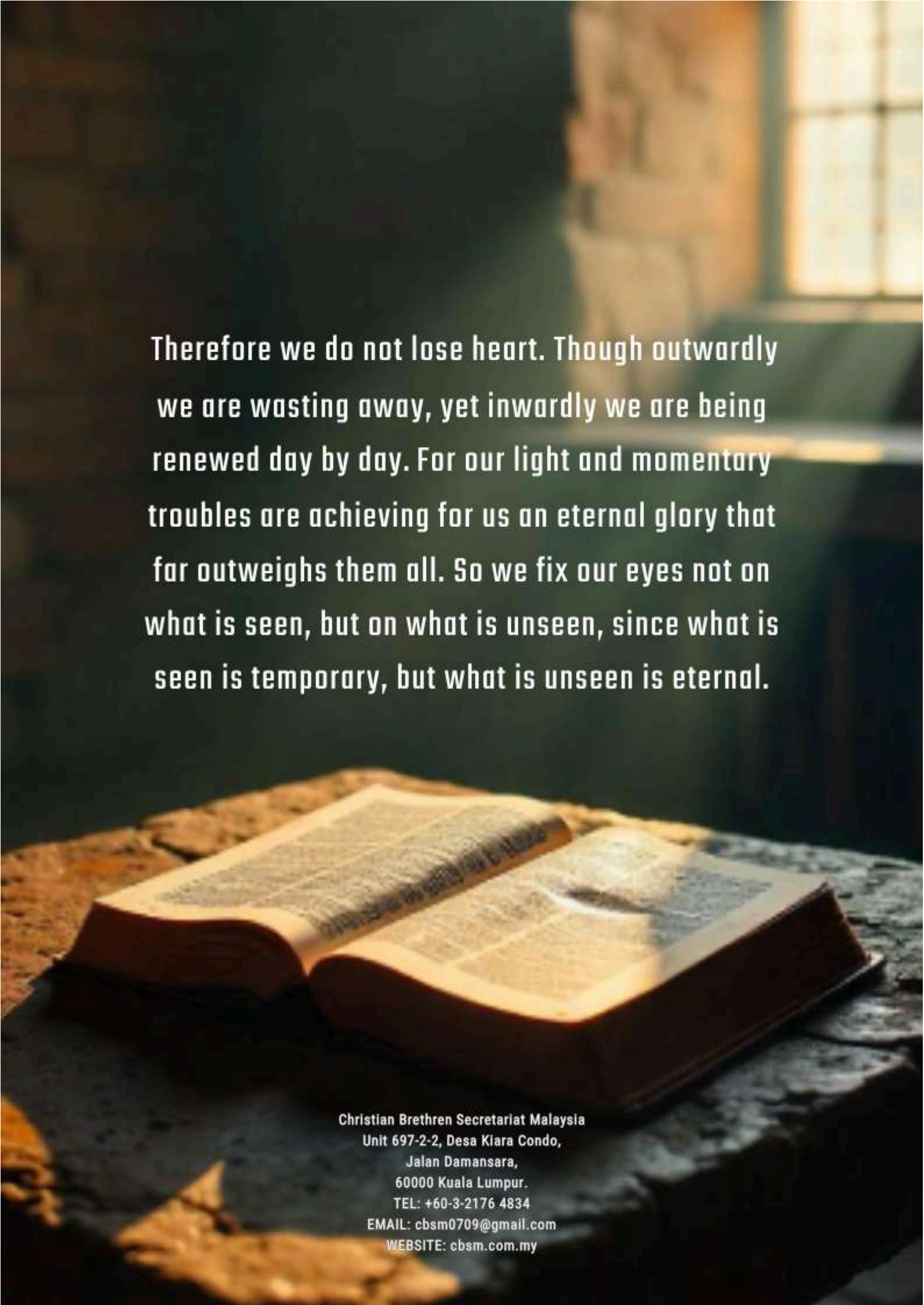
Three solid evenings with our attention focused on Christ. How this is needed in this day and age, where the presence of the Lord and His voice is drowned by the glaring visibility and loud cacophony of the world competing to capture our attention. For 3 short evenings, we get to delight and meditate on the One, and Only One (The Transcendent Christ), who through humility, even to the

cross, and obedience, even unto death (The Traumatic Christ) dies for us and is now seated at the right hand of the Father (The Triumphant Christ). This, our brother Wing Choong has brought to us so eloquently.

Post conference, I was pondering; *"wouldn't it be great if every now and again, the Assemblies come up in force, together, to do something to make some impact and catch the eyes of the community or even the nation?"* As Jesus taught us in Matthew 5:16

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Perhaps, the Easter Conference achieved that in a small way. It might be worthwhile to consider how to amplify this cooperation to increase the visibility of the Assembly for His glory.



Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

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