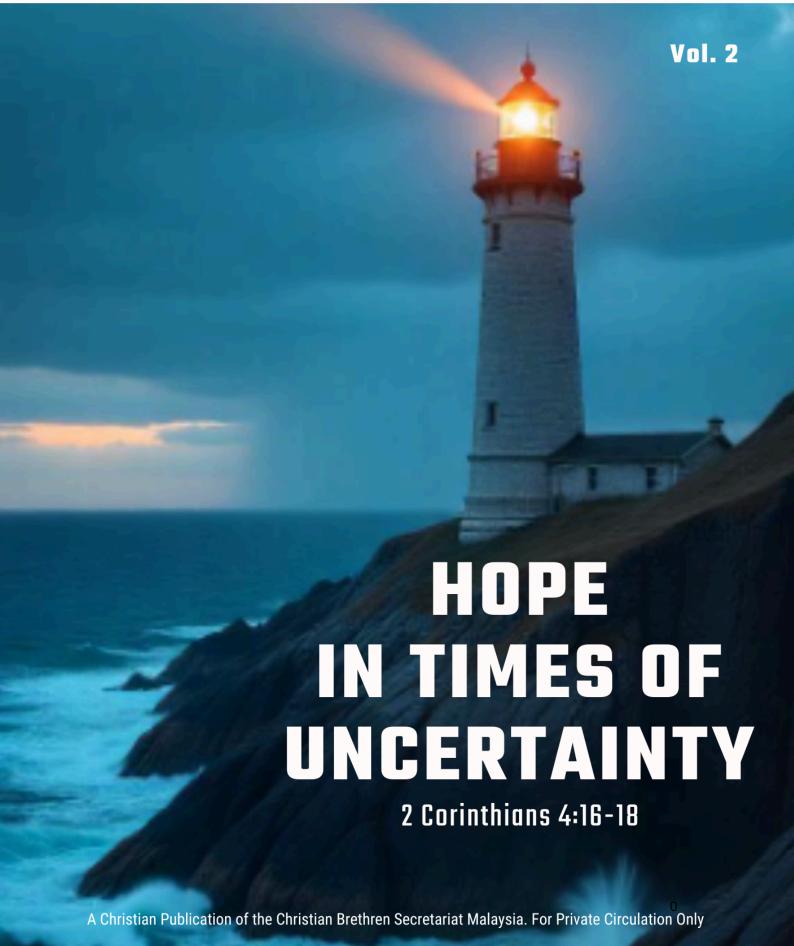


# diakonia

One Lord, One Mission, One Heart



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#### **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 second 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

#### From the 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. This year we're privileged to have Andrew Cowell of GLO Australia to be our Keynote speaker on the theme, "Radical Discipleship". The conference was held in Ipoh's 1969 Business Suite on 14th – 17th Sept (Sunday night through to Wednesday morning). Read about it in this issue.

#### 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 had organized briefing/seminar by knowledgeable brothers and sisters.

The latest from LHDN (7 July 2025) is that Religious institutions or organisations established exclusively for the purpose of religious worship or the advancement of religion, need NOT implement e-Invoicing. However, if the church is charging for services, rental, etc., e-Invoicing is required. For turnover not exceeding RM 1 million, implementation date is July 2026.

More information at LHDN website:

- 1. https://www.hasil.gov.my/en/e-invoice/
- https://www.hasil.gov.my/media/sfmnjwg g/specific-faq-donations-or-contributions. pdf

#### Youth Rally

Following a successful 2024 Youth Rally at PJGH, another Youth Rally was held in Ipoh on 19th – 21st September 2025. Some 75 youths attended.

#### **Church Revitalization**

- 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.
- 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.
- 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 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 is in need of funds. cbsm0709@gmail.com

Teo Pek Bing
General Secretary CBSM

### From DIAKONIA 2025 Editor's Desk

#### WELCOME!



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, It is with deep joy and gratitude that I welcome you to Diakonia Volume 2, 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

#### 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." This 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 2 (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

#### Diakonia 2025 Editorial Board



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 Chool (Bandar Sunway Gospel Centre), Daniel Ewe (Bandar Sunway Gospel Centre), Yap Yoke Chin (Temerloh Gospel Chapel)

#### **En Fu Care Prayer Letter**

Liew Meow Choo, 06-5296143

## 恩福之家

#### **Dear Prayer Partners,**

Since the beginning of the year, we've been honored to share the vision of **Grace Haven** with 14 churches. If you haven't yet heard about this exciting retirement home ministry, we invite you to take a moment to learn about it and help us spread the word!

For the past 20 years, En-Fu Care has been a home of God's grace for 55 lonely and destitute elderly people. Our purpose with the new Grace Haven is to expand this mission, enabling our residents to live a healthy, fruitful, and purposeful retirement—physically, mentally, and spiritually. We hope that Christians will unite in facing the challenge of an aging population so that the elderly may live out their golden years with dignity and meaning.

We sincerely thank you for your donations, prayers, and promotion of this ministry, so that together in Christ we may fulfill this mission. As of October, operational expenses are still outstanding in the amount of RM 100,879.63.

#### **Prayer Items**

- Thanksgiving: We thank the Lord for providing the True Light Centre as a temporary home for the past 18 months.
- Although space is limited (11 residents), they are safe and cared for.

- Renovation & Moving: Pray for the speedy and successful renovation of the old building (RM 350,000 needed), so our elderly can move back into better living conditions soon.
- Construction Progress: Give thanks that the current stages are progressing smoothly.
   Pray for continued quick approvals and completion of the remaining stages by May 2026.
- Financial Provision: Please pray that the Lord will move churches and individuals to respond actively and generously to the remaining RM 4.09 million building needed.
- Leadership & Co-workers: Pray for the Board of Home of Grace and all co-workers, asking God to grant us wisdom, gifts, and grace to manage every aspect of the ministry.

#### Ways to Give:

1. For Daily Operational Expenses: Pusat Jagaan Orang Tua Berkat

Ambank: 1502012001727

Please indicate: Operation Use

2. For Grace Haven Building Fund:

En-Fu Care (M) Bhd

Maybank: 504030224530

Please indicate: Building Fund

"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.

1 Chronicles 29:4



Renovation Cost of Old Building RM 350,000

Grace Haven

Construction Cost : RM 9,026,958.12
Amount Raised : RM 4,933,505.59
Outstanding : RM 4,093,452.53
Unit Sponsor : RM 500,000.00
Free Interest Loan : RM 255,000.00



Thank you for your partnership in prayers and giving, as together we serve the elderly with the love of Christ.

#### **EN-FU CARE (M) BHD**

Lot 1594, Jalan Sin Ban Bee 2, 77000 Jasin, Melaka. (Temporary Address)

TEL: 06-5296143 / 012-3812013





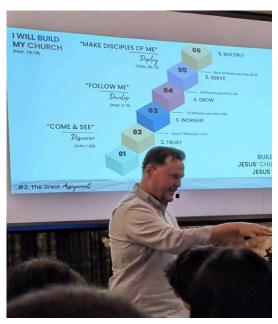
ASSEMBLY LEADERSHIP
CONFERENCE 2025

14-17 SEPT 2025

#### **Assembly Leadership Conference**

We've just concluded ALC 2025 (Assembly Leadership Conference) with the theme, Radical Discipleship. Our keynote speaker was Andrew Cowell, Co-Director of GLO Ministries Australia. He also serves at Riverstone Community Church. We held it in 1969 Business Suites in Ipoh. Knowing that cost could be prohibitive for some, we offered the option to attend the conference without staying at the hotel.

It was a time of much learning, fellowship and even fun. We had 142 delegates, of which 30 were **under 30 years** of age. We thank the Lord for younger ones who were eager to attend. The ALC originally was meant for church leaders. As time went by, we wanted not



only current leaders but potential leaders among brothers and sisters. Even those who do not aspire to be leaders, and can benefit from the conference. All can learn, fellowship and grow. Many years ago, we changed the name to Assembly **Leadership** Conference where all believers are welcome.

Andrew Cowell taught us in 6 plenary sessions on **Radical Discipleship**, moving from chair 1 to chair 6. To know what this means, listen to the recordings on the link below. The slides are also available at the same link. There was also time for a forum where panelists responded to questions from the floor. We thank them for their candid responses. Discipleship in our assemblies have been rather ad-hoc at best. Andrew Cowell gave us not only the methods but also the tools. **Pray** that we will take Discipleship to the next level at all our assemblies.



Forum Panelists

There were workshops on Women's ministry, Mental Health and Marriage & Family Life. A new feature in this ALC was Testimony Night. It was a light-hearted time filled with song items and moving testimonies, all quite impromptu. We witnessed song items by father & daughter, father & son, newly composed song, and several solos and duets. Everyone enjoyed the evening and we ran over time! The audio recording is also available. There were also brief reports/updates from various ministries.





Marriage & Family by Benny Kong



Mental Health by Ron & Mason



Workshop Women's Ministry by Janice Wong



Our Conference Chair belting out his solo piece!



Father's composition duet



Father & daughter duet



Uncle Ukelele!



Youngest to give a testimony!





Impromptu special Youth session.



One of the display tables



Our welcome and registration ladies!



At the Elders' Meeting, we confirmed the trustees for 2026-2027. Elections are held every 2 years at ALC. We welcome 2 new trustees; Dr. Wasu Kasimani (Batu Gajah Gospel Hall) and Chen Choon See (Island Glades Gospel Centre). The trustees from the previous term have agreed to remain on the board. We now have 14 trustees who work together to serve the assemblies. We also have a new Chairman, Adrian Low (Klang Gospel Hall). We thank Chiew Sai Kee (Temerloh Gospel Centre) who has served as chairman for 2 terms (4 years). Sai Kee will remain as a trustee. Pray for the trustees and the new chairman that with the Spirit's enabling we will be able serve the assemblies.

Link to ALC audio recordings and slides : <u>ALC</u> 2025



#### **AGING WITH CHRIST**

MIRACLES and BLESSINGS SINCE COVID & PANDEMIC

(First written in June 2023)

Betty Tan, tanbett@gmail.com

The Lord God, my Heavenly Father, is providing for all my present needs. But some months ago I began to become anxious about the future. I was 85 then. I love living here, among so much greenery & nature. The house is big & old. The garden is big. Trees are falling over. Who is going to help me, to take care of me when I become blind, & lose my hearing? I was getting depressed, & called on God everyday. Then one day, I suddenly felt a PEACE, an unexplainable peace beyond understanding that has remained in me to this day. It's a MIRACLE. So I'm able to get on with life each day as my Heavenly Father leads me!

A MIRACLE that happened three years ago in 2020, just before the pandemic, was when I met a young lady called Sue. When the pandemic was announced, she offered to do my shopping. She has been doing this non-stop for three years until today! This is a MIRACLE! And a BLESSING! The amazing thing is that God brought us together, though we are of different faiths, she being very anti-Christian. I decided not to say anything until she asked. Matthew 7:6.

I was beginning to get different health problems. A friend introduced me to HPUPM, a new semi-govt teaching hospital, not far from home. This is a MIRACLE, because I was getting different ailments & had to see different

specialists. Most of the ailments were caused by aging, like eczema, osteoporosis.

I had to do a colonoscopy, then laparoscopy. Because of my backaches, I was x-rayed on the spine which showed an old fracture. It was made worse when I hurt my back, causing aches, pain, stiffness, tightness, immobility. I had to often rest & lie down. I go for physiotherapy regularly & do it at home daily.

I'vs begun to realize that I'm really aging and cannot fully recover at 86. I have to adjust to a new lifestyle! Because of my AMD which leads to gradual blindness, I'm so thankful to the Lord for providing others to take over guiding the three-weekly Bible Studies. I know God is allowing all this pain so that I'll truly have empathy for those who are suffering, and so be able to comfort & encourage them to trust the Lord.

It's now 2025. At 88, I had wondered why I'm still around. God's answer is in Psalm 71, especially verses 17-18. It's to reach out & bless younger generations of all ages. So I continue with small-group Bible Studies which I had started since the 1980s. I've been so excited at the many lives which have been saved and transformed that I've written a book about it: TRANSFORMED THROUGH CHRIST! Now it's done online as well as one-to-one when needed. One Study is now with Sue! Finally she asked about Christianity!!! There are individual contacts which keep me busy too.

#### **GREAT IS OUR LORD GOD!!!**

Sharing an amazing video of fruitful aging <a href="https://share.google/vgyXEd3eEKEfe6VUo">https://share.google/vgyXEd3eEKEfe6VUo</a>



#### **Annie's Anecdote**

"Therefore, **if anyone is IN CHRIST**, he is a new creation" ~ 2 Cor 5:17

"CHRIST IN YOU, the hope of glory" ~ Col 1:27 "My prayer is not for them alone.

I pray also for those who will believe their message, that all of them may be one, <u>Father</u>, <u>just as You are in Me and I am in You. May they also be IN US</u> so that the world may know that You have sent Me." ~ John 17:20-21



At our Sangkhim Galilee Home Fellowship, we were filled with heartfelt awe as we discussed and meditated on the significance of these verses and what it means to us. Thank God for the 4 groups that meet twice a month in different homes, our church members are more connected as we grow together in our faith. It is also a place to invite yet-to-believe family members and neighbours to join us. Thank God in our last meeting, Chanthy's father declared



his faith in Christ again, this time with more understanding and a deeper conviction.

15 year old Ly Minh, 16 year old Pheakdey and 17 year old Meng Heng, learning Bible doctrines from "What the Bible Teaches." They are encouraged to share what they have learnt to others after each session. Praying that they will grow to have a discipleship mindset.











Thankful to God for former students who are now able to partner with us when they are able to. During his short break from postgraduate study in dentistry, Thay San came to provide dental check-ups to 25 of our people at Sangkhim Church including 5 students from The Bible Centre (TBC). Thanks to Hanna, our Japanese nurse and missionary intern, helped to organise and assist Thay San during the



check-up. Eli, my former guitar student, helped me teach guitar to the TBC students during his school holiday.

TBC student, Sambath, whom I thought was hopelessly lacking the ability to follow rhythm turned out to be the best at playing the keyboard because he followed instructions and was diligent to practice every day.

The TBC students observe the different dynamics involved in leading Bible study

groups of different levels – children, teens & adults. Discipleship doesn't only happen during Bible study but it is RELATIONAL and it is a life-on-life process of modelling Jesus' teachings and training others to become like Him, ultimately empowering them to make more disciples. It involves investing personally in a few individuals, teaching them to obey all of Jesus' commands, and mobilizing them for his ongoing mission.

The 5 TBC students went on a practical training trip to Sohan's village to share the gospel. Thank God 3 people prayed to believe and the TBC students had an encouraging experience. TBC student Sohan will follow-up on the progress of the three new believers in her village.



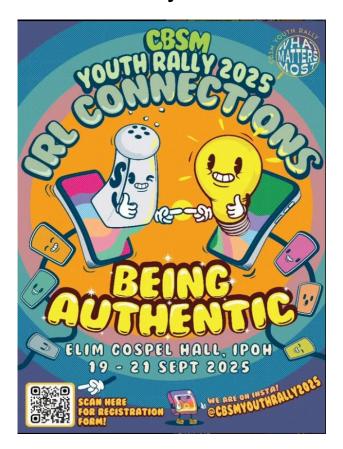




We had our youth camp from 18-20<sup>th</sup> September and we thank God 7 students indicated they want to know more about the Lord Jesus. Pray for spiritual understanding and genuine salvation. The TBC students will follow-up on these students together with our youth leaders. Pray for our TBC students and youth leaders that they will grow in their spiritual maturity and leadership as they learn to make disciples for the Lord. The TBC students will graduate on 31<sup>st</sup> October. May the Lord deploy them to expand and establish His kingdom.

By His Grace, *Annie Khoo*(04/10/2025)

#### **CBSM Youth Rally 2025**



Just as the springs of Elim were a refresher for the Israelites' Exodus from Egypt in the wilderness, Everyone involved in the planning and execution of CBSM Youth Rally 2025 were all in many ways, refreshed as they encamped in the town of Ipoh.

This year's theme of authentic connections have certainly been on display with the focus on developing more meaningful relationships with one another just as we come from various assemblies across our nation.

The three day two night rally consisted of several main sessions with several workshops for addressing communication and discipleship and navigating difficult relationships. For the workshops, the rally invited 3 main speakers for

age group brackets, categorized from secondary schools to young adults.

Exodus 15:27: "Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees; and they camped there by the waters"

The symbolic significance of Elim can be divided into three segments:

- 1. Provision
- 2. Rest and refreshment
- 3. Abundance and completeness

Just as Elim was a symbolic representation of restoration, renewal and provision, the time spent in Elim over the 3 days & 2 nights comprised of abundant 'fe-lou'-ship makan sessions as we explored the historic old town of Ipoh and most importantly, reaffirming our identity in the Lord Jesus Christ as salt and light of the world in the various sessions and the workshops.

With the goal of helping fellow Brethren in the Lord get to know one another better, encouraging one another, many participants and helpers who have journeyed far and wide across the country made this event a successful one. Amongst others, some made new friends during their time spent at Elim and some have revisited old ones as well.

Attending the Youth Rally this year was an encouraging experience for me. The workshops on navigating difficult conversations and

discipleship taught me a lot about handling things I often find challenging in my daily life with grace and honesty, and about walking alongside others in their walk with God. I really enjoyed meeting new friends and learning together. Overall, the rally reminded me that growing in faith also means growing in how we love, listen, and lead others well.

#### - Abbey Chan, BSGC

Once again, I was blessed with the opportunity this year to help organize and plan the Youth Rally, and having been a participant in this work in different ways - I was even more blessed to see how God works among His people, even more so this year. This year was a special year as the team's prayers for greater connection and care to be built among the youths of this generation began to be answered. During the 3 Day, 2 Nights stay at Elim Gospel Hall, I witnessed bonds being forged, friendships

reignited, and a sense of vulnerability, the willingness to open up and share among the youths of this generation. The daily devotions, laughs made during games, and stories shared during mealtimes and the gathering of these believers to praise and worship our God has been an amazing and encouraging sight for me.

I give thanks to the Lord, for being able to be a part of the Rally, and I give thanks even more so - for the connections formed, in the current generation of youths, and even the inter-generational bonds with the kind elders in the faith, who had steadfastly supported and prayed for everyone.

I pray that this year's rally serves as a reminder to everyone, about the blessing we have to be brothers and sisters in Christ, rejoicing and praising His Name, and building each other up.

- Andrew Tan, Youth Rally Chairman





#### Student's Learning and Support Programme

Rasah Gospel Chapel Community Centre (GCCC), situated in Seremban under the oversight of Seremban Gospel Chapel, serves as a vibrant hub of community activities and spiritual growth. Since its establishment, the center has played a pivotal role in uplifting the local community through various ministries. Church services are held on Sundays.

Even before its inaugural church service on January 8, 2023, GCCC was actively used for educational and community services. These included tuition classes and a childcare center, alongside initiatives like praise dance sessions, all aimed at fostering holistic development.

#### Student's Learning and Support Programme

Central to GCCC's mission is the Student's Learning and Support Programme (SLS), which not only supports academic growth but also nurtures emotional and spiritual well-being among students. Many young lives have been transformed through this initiative, with numerous children discovering a newfound enthusiasm for learning and encountering Jesus Christ for the first time.

On weekdays, the center buzzes with activity, welcoming more than 100 students ranging from preschool to secondary school age. The dedicated team includes Pastor James, overseeing operations, 12 teachers engaged in the tuition center, as well as a driver and security guard.

#### A Morning of Fellowship and Giving

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." Galatians 6:9-10



Funds were raised through the sale of coupon books, priced at RM20 each. From the break of morning, our church grounds were filled with the energy of preparation and the aroma of food being cooked. By 8:00 am, visitors had already started to arrive—some still in their sports attire

On Tuesday, 16th September 2025, our church -- Rasah Gospel Chapel Community Centre (GCCC) Seremban once again came alive with joy, laughter, and fellowship as we held our annual Charity Bazaar. This yearly event is organized to raise funds in support of our church's SLS ministry, a cause close to our hearts.



after completing their morning exercise—ready to enjoy breakfast and support the cause. As always, food was the heart of the bazaar. Local favourites such as laksa, siew pao, egg tarts, and fried noodles drew long queues, while the dessert counters offered waffles, cakes, and other sweet treats that delighted both young and old. Beyond food, there were stalls selling fresh vegetables and eggs, adding to the lively market atmosphere.



Entertainment and fun were not forgotten. A games counter invited people to enjoy board games, while children flocked to the play corner where they could win prizes and take-home happy memories.

By around 9:00 am, the bazaar was packed with people of all ages. The air was filled with cheerful chatter, the clinking of plates, and the spirit of fellowship. Truly, it was a morning that reflected the warmth of our church community.

The event concluded at 12:00 pm, leaving us all with grateful hearts. Although we did not reach our full target for coupon sales, the day was a great success in many other ways. Each of us felt God's presence and blessing throughout the event, and we trust that He will continue to provide for the needs of our SLS ministry.

We thank God for the support received and for every volunteer, donor, and visitor who made this event possible. May this spirit of giving and unity continue to strengthen our church and community in the days ahead.

#### **SLS Donation Drive 2025**

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

Bank Name : Hong Leong Bank Account Number : 011001 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 on the SLS program and our church, please visit our YouTube channel via the QR below.





传道人与神学教育基金

#### FULL-TIME WORKERS AND THEOLOGICAL TRAINING FUND

c/o: No. 264-4-2, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Wisma Mutiara Genting, Jalan Ayer Jernih, Off Jalan Genting Kelang,Setapak, 53200 Kuala Lumpur. Email: <u>casm.secretariate@gmail.com</u>

Anson Lim, anson\_2003@yahoo.com, h/p: 019 -2779584

To: All Elders, Deacons and Believers in the Lord

Date: 30th June 2025

Dear Brethren

Re: Update of FULL-TIME WORKERS AND THEOLOGICAL TRAINING FUND

(" the Worker's Fund") (as of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025)

Greetings to you in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

- 1. The Workers' Fund was established in 2019 for the training and engagement of Lord's workers for the Assemblies, especially for those lacking the resources.
- 2. Currently, the Workers' Fund is providing financial support to the following Lord's Workers:
  - a) Pastor Calvin Tan (Bukit Mertajam Gospel Centre, Chinese)
  - b) Pastor Peter Chit (Taiping Gospel Hall, English)
  - c) Brother Tan Guan Choo (Kuala Kangsar Gospel Hall, English)
  - d) Sister Wong Swee Sin (Gopeng Gospel Hall, Chinese)
- 3. Local Assemblies which are in need of the Workers' Fund for the engagement and training of Full-Time Workers are encouraged to contact the Workers' Fund for financial assistance.
- 4. We treasure your continuous support for the Workers' Fund. Its details are below:

a) Account: Setapak Gospel Centre

b) Bank : Public Bank Berhadc) Account No. : 3206 7310 08

d) Person in charge: Pastor Anson Lim

## Hope in Times of Uncertainty: Lessons from Paul's Letter to the Philippians.

Samuel Chandy, <a href="mailto:sam@elim.my">sam@elim.my</a>

#### Introduction

Uncertainty is not new to God's people. The Apostle Paul himself wrote some of his most encouraging words while chained in a Roman prison, unsure of his own future. Yet, instead of despair, Paul filled his letter to the Philippians with joy, thanksgiving, and unshakable hope. His words continue to strengthen the church today, reminding us that hope in Christ is not tied to our circumstances but to God's unchanging promises.

#### 1. Joy in All Circumstances.

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4)

Paul does not tell believers to rejoice only when life is good. He commands joy in the Lord, even when situations are dark. Christian joy is not denial of hardship; it is rooted in the unshakable reality of God's presence. For today's believers facing economic uncertainty, illness, or even spiritual weariness, Paul reminds us that joy is a choice of faith, not a product of comfort.

#### 2. Hope through Christ's Strength.

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

This verse is not about personal success, but about enduring trials with Christ's power. Paul knew hunger, rejection, and imprisonment, yet testified that Christ gave him strength to persevere. In our own seasons of weakness,

Christ enables us to stand firm, just as God told Paul: "My grace is sufficient for you, for my

power is made perfect in weakness." (2 Corinthians 12:9).

#### 3. A Future Secured by God's Love.

Paul never minimized suffering, but he saw it through the lens of eternity. He declared:

"The sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed to us." (Romans 8:18)

Even in our most uncertain moments, God's love holds us fast:

"Nothing... will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:39)

Hope is not wishful thinking; it is confidence in God's eternal plan.

#### 4. Living as People of Hope.

Paul's encouragement to the Philippians still applies today: Pray with thanksgiving (Philippians 4:6–7). Fix your thoughts on what is true, noble, and praiseworthy (Philippians 4:8). Keep pressing forward in faith (Philippians 3:13–14).

When we live with this hope, we become living testimonies of God's faithfulness in uncertain times. The world tells us to fear uncertainty. Paul tells us to rejoice in Christ. Even in prison, he wrote words of victory, because he knew his future was secure in the Lord. May we, like Paul, hold fast to this hope and encourage one another with the assurance that God is with us yesterday, today, and forever.

## PARTNERS IN THE HARVEST (PITH) 2025 REPORT

Peter Tan, Member of PITH Advisory Board, IBCM Board, captainpetros777@gmail.com

Inspired by the success of IBCM 2 in Rome 1996, some Malaysian leaders on their own, felt it was time to have an Asian conference focused specifically on world missions, and seeking to mobilize the younger ones into world missions. An initial consultation of leaders from different Asian nations (Singapore, Philippines, India, Australia, Malaysia) was held in Malaysia in 2001, and this led to two attempts to hold an Asian wide mission conference, culminating with it being formally named and launched as Partners In The Harvest (PITH) in 2009.

The 1st PITH Conference was in Petaling Jaya Gospel Hall, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia with the theme: "Count Me In! Partners in the Harvest". About 250 delegates from 16 countries attended this conference.

The 2nd PITH Conference was held in the Philippines in 2013 with the theme "Pass It On" and was attended by 214 delegates.

The 3rd PITH Conference was held in Jogjakarta in 2016 with the theme "Ready Feet – Reaching the Unreached with the Good News" (Romans 10:14-15).

The 4th PITH Conference was due to be held in Port Jackson, Malaysia in June 2021, however, due to Covid-19 and the fact that IBCM8 will be

held in Kuala Lumpur, in June 2023, a virtual conference was held on September 18, 2021. Over 700 participants registered to participate.

This year, the fifth PITH Conference drew 331 delegates 1 from 23 countries. The 2025 conference theme was "Mission of the Heart." The basic premise is that Christians love God and their neighbour (Christian and non-Christian) from the heart as they engage in missions. Any other motive will fall short of the Greatest Commandment. As such, this year's plenary topics moved away from purely missions to spiritual care:

- A Heart to God
- A Healthy Heart
- A Heart to Others
- A Shepherd's Heart
- A Heart to Care
- A Heart to the World

Ben Mathew from the USA was one of the plenary speakers. With degrees in Counselling, Psychology, and Theology, Ben currently serves as a Professor of Clinical Counselling in the Graduate Counselling Programs (MA & PhD) at Columbia International University. The other plenary speaker was Godly Koshy Raju from India. Godly did his masters in Family Life Education from Bangalore. Currently, he and his wife are helping with a church plant in Pune.

In keeping with the theme, the electives focused on care as well:

 How to Care for Others (Kheng Onn (Ron Low) and Ann Choo)

- Creating a Church Culture of Care (David Smith and Sanja Zurovac)
- Caring as Mission (Ben Mathew)
- Youth Identity (Godly Koshy Raju)

The Youth Panel, led by Ann Choo,was a vibrant event that provided feedback as to what young adults are thinking about the assemblies in the region. They include:

- Dreams for a stronger church, a Christ-centred community that has "believers on the go, churches that grow, and communities that glow"
- Young adults that care, and contribute with their skills and talents
- Intentional focus on relationship with God and good exposition of the Bible
- Intentional discipleship community-focused rather than just individual
- A rejection of consumerist culture
- Empowerment for youth and encouragement for their participation in assembly work

Following the PITH conference, PITH delegates Ronny Low and Mason Tan held a workshop on mental health at the Assembly Leadership Conference held in September, 2025. Ann Choo and her committee provided age-appropriate workshops on Communication, Difficult Relationships **Navigating** and Mentorship/Discipleship at the CBSM Youth Rally held in September, 2025.

With support from CBSM and the assemblies, the CBSM Youth Rally will prepare not only for the 2026 Youth Rally, but the NEXTGEN PITH Conference to be hosted by Malaysia in 2027.

NEXTGEN PITH 2018 was held in Pampanga in Luzon, Philippines on 26-29 December 2018. It arose out of the PITH 2016 conference in Jogjakarta. The PITH organizing committee endorsed the need for a youth mobilize conference to them towards discipleship, church-planting and cross-cultural mission. It targeted believers between 18-35 years old from Asia Pacific countries; 147 youths from 7 different nations and from close to 50 assemblies were able to reach out in unity to a total of 9 unreached peoples through 9 teams over two days. Delegates shared the Gospel with over 200 children & youth. Ann Choo has initiated discussions for NEXTGEN with representatives from various countries. The 6th PITH Conference will be held in the Philippines in 2029.

PITH is never just about just learning new things. It is a gathering of God's people across regions, connecting and forming friendships that can lead to partnerships in fulfilling the Great Commission. Malaysians comprised about 10% of the delegates at the PITH Conference. Yet many Malaysians had been working hard behind the scenes to make the conference a blessing to the nations. In the years running up to PITH 2029, may the Lord raise up many Malaysian brethren to play strategic roles both in Malaysia and the region.

The PITH conference committee is pleased that conference objectives have been fulfilled. Registration numbers for the conference reached the target, with good representation from countries in Asia and Oceania. Participants have shared that they have been much blessed by the conference. Their mission vision has been broadened and deepened.

More collaboration and partnership were established between assemblies, mission organizations and individual participants.

Praying and looking forward to seeing and experiencing the growth of the PITH movement in reaching out to more people for Christ.

All for the glory of God!



## Pan Malaysia OA Mission: Work among the orang asli - Then & Now: A Journey of Hope from Shadow to Light

Chris Tay, Bandar Puchong Gospel Centre

In 1985, the mission ministry at Petaling Jaya Gospel Hall (PJGH) officially took over the Orang Asli (OA) work. But for the pioneers and for our retiring PMOAM chairman, Ong Hock Chye, the journey started even earlier.

He remembers a time when sharing hope among the OA communities was truly a walk into the great unknown. I'm told he often jokes that back then, he was the original Waze, relying on his gut and a whole lot of prayer to find the way! He often reminisces about those early years, speaking of a time when life was much simpler, yet infinitely harder for the Orang Asli.

These were the days before highways or handphones. For the Orang Asli, that period meant more than just a lack of technology; it was an era where their communities were marginalized and often disconnected from the rest of the country.



Photo Circa 1970s. Left to right: Bah Cherbah's Mak Mertua, Bah Jasin, Bah Mat,

This evocative photo, taken sometime in the 1970s, captures a moment in front of the headman Bah Cherbah's humble home at Batu 6, Tapah. Before their first church building was completed in 1985, this very house served as the vibrant hub for the congregation, a place of worship and fellowship from around 1974.

We stepped into this work facing steep cultural barriers. Progress was measured one small, prayerful step at a time, but through it all, our faith in God was our guiding light. PMOAM built its foundation on an unwavering belief in the Great Commission, a deep conviction that Christ's love could transform lives, and the selfless example of Jesus Christ Himself.

Today, in 2025, we are humbled as we stand in the light of God's faithfulness. The handful of churches we began with in Perak and Pahang have grown into a remarkable testament to His work. Over four decades, we've witnessed countless lives transformed and vibrant churches planted. We now work with 37 churches in Pahang and 18 in Perak, supported by a dedicated and growing team of OA workers: 19 in Perak and 11 in Pahang. It is clear that this wasn't just our efforts; it is the tangible work of the Holy Spirit. We're also incredibly grateful for the assemblies and other churches who partner with SSIOA to help some of the OA churches.

Yet, our journey is far from over. While the infrastructure and facilities have changed dramatically over the past 40 years, the fundamental challenges remain. We continue to face the pressures of a changing world, but the core biblical messages of **boldness**, **selfless service**, **and growing strong in fellowship** are our anchors. We are reminded that just as God went before Joshua to do "wonders in their midst," He continues to go before us today. The work of spreading hope continues, not in the absence of challenges, but with the courage and strength to face them together.

PMOAM New Leadership Team (Effective 1/10/2025)

We are delighted to announce the new leadership team who will lead us into this next season:

Chairman: Chang Yow LooiDeputy Chairman: Dennis Lee

• **Treasurer:** Chris Tay

Coordinator - Perak: Chong Chee WaiCoordinator - Pahang: Charles Ng

Advisor: Ong Hock Chye

#### Partner with Us

Pan Malaysia OA Mission

Public Bank Berhad

Account number: 3192916101

Please email transfer advice to pmoam1@gmail.com or WhatsApp to +60123962232 / +60143386141.

#### For further information, you can contact:

Ong Hock Chye: +60122221762

• Chris Tay: +60123962232



#### **Myanmar ministry**

In the years since Covid-19, it would be quite fitting to say that "it not only rains, but it pours" in Myanmar. From the pandemic, to a military coup in February 2021 that resulted into a prolonged civil war, enforced conscription of young people into the army and soaring inflation.

In the midst of all that chaos, a devastating 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck central Myanmar on 28 March 2025, with Sagaing, Mandalay and Naypyidaw being the worst hit areas. The earthquake, followed by repeated aftershocks, resulted in over 3,800 reported deaths and more than 5,000 injuries. More than 50,000 homes were either destroyed or severely damaged and critical infrastructure including agriculture, education, transport, and water systems were heavily disrupted. And the relentless airstrikes by the regime left many more people displaced.

According to the United Nations, the humanitarian crisis in the country has grown even more urgent due to the earthquake, with projections estimating that over 21 million people may require aid in the coming months as access to food, water, shelter, and medical care becomes increasingly limited.

It was reported that the regime routinely blocks, redirects or intercepts aid to the affected areas. And in isolated incidents, churches and pastors have been persecuted or imprisoned for providing aid or shelter to the displaced.

The expat community too have not been spared from the distressing situation with tighter restrictions for visas and running businesses, more erratic power cuts and soaring prices. However, the full extent of the devastation in the

the country may not be fully known as the country is isolated by widespread internet blackouts.

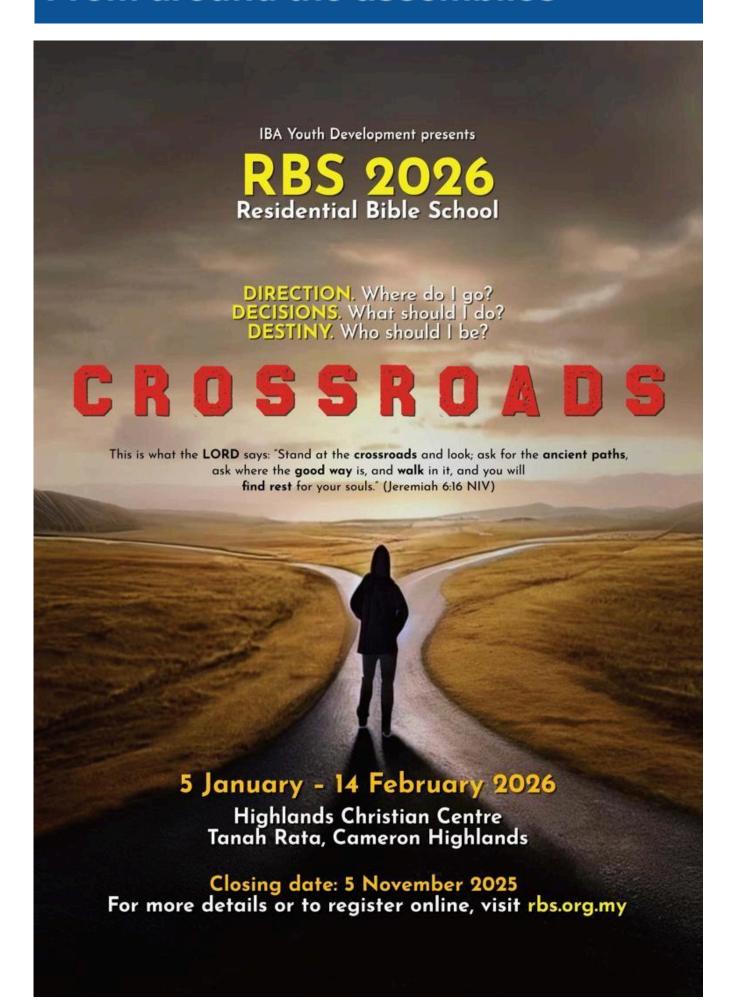
The next general election is scheduled to begin on 28 December 2025, but it is widely criticized as a tool to legitimize continued military rule amidst the ongoing conflict. This is a matter of concern and grief for many in the country. The courage and unwavering faith of the church and believers amidst this challenging time are a testimony of perseverance and trust in a faithful God. Let us continue to stand with them in prayer —

- Pray for an end to the violence and conflict across the country and humility among leaders to pursue peace and justice.
- Pray for divine protection and provision over displaced families and refugees.
- Pray for restoration of schools and learning centers, and access to education for all children, especially in rural and conflict-affected areas.
- Pray for the young generation, many of whom have left the country for safety, that they will find hope in the Lord.
- Pray for the church and mission agencies in Myanmar to be a beacon of hope and love. Pray too for protection and provision as mission agencies and workers there serve to help rebuild areas and people affected by the recent earthquake.

#### Resource:

https://www.unocha.org/ Mizzima News, esp. 26 April 2025 (Antonio Graceffo)

(Y.E. has served in Myanmar for about 15 years, but has recently returned to Malaysia due to visa restrictions.)



## Report from Mabvuku Evangelical Christian Brethren Assembly CMML in Zimbabwe

Anderson Mutema (Pastor) Mabvuku Assembly CMML Email: andersonmutema60@gmail.com Cell: +263 772 672 999

The Mabvuku Evangelical Christian Brethren Assembly (CMML) is an active part of the Christian Brethren movement in Zimbabwe. Located in the capital city of Harare, our Sunday Breaking of Bread gathering typically includes about fifty people.







Our primary fellowship programs include Gospel Ministry, Women's Ministry, Youth Ministry, Sunday School Ministry, and the Wednesday Bible Study (currently focused on the Book of Genesis).

We maintain strong fellowship with other CMML Brethren Assemblies across Zimbabwe through twice-yearly "Big Sunday Services." These large gatherings, which can draw over two hundred people, include Breaking of Bread and Gospel Ministry.

Furthermore, our men participate in monthly **Men's Breakfast meetings** organized by Bethany Chapel in Harare, where they focus on Biblical Manhood Principles.

#### **Succession Plan**

As part of our commitment to developing future Biblical Church Leaders, we have implemented a structured succession plan:

- Youth and young adults are strongly encouraged to enroll with Emmaus Worldwide Ministries for a deeper understanding of the Word of God.
- Once a month, the youth are given the opportunity to **lead the Sunday Services**, providing them with practical, hands-on training for future assembly leadership roles.

#### **Community Outreach and Future Goals**

The Mabvuku Assembly runs several social programs designed to support our community:

 Table Banking: Believers contribute cash as seed capital to help others start their own small businesses.



#### **Prayer points:**

Join us in prayer that the Lord will provide for the security of our church premises as the main gate entrance into the church premises is damaged.  Food Bank: Believers donate groceries and cash, which are distributed to the needy, including widows, orphans, and single mothers.

The assembly has established an Education Fund for the benefit of the less privileged children in the assembly. Join us in asking the Lord to lead brothers and sisters worldwide to express their passion in helping fellow Brethren in need.

If you are led by the Spirit of our Lord, do pray for us or be involved in a practical manner with the prayer points above.



Our assembly is facing significant financial strain, exacerbated by local economic hardships, the lingering effects of **COVID-19**, and the impact of **erratic rainfall** due to climate change.

A critical need for the security of our church premises is the repair and replacement of our perimeter fencing and main gate. The current gate and fencing are damaged, and we urgently seek to install a new gate and a more **durable perimeter wall**.

#### REPORT ON HONG KONG/CHINA

#### September, 2025

The history of Gospel and Assembly testimony in Hong Kong is a relatively young one, for when the People's Republic of China commenced in 1949, and the communist party-CCP having gained control of China, thousands of refugees flooded into Hong Kong (HK), then a British Colony. It continued to practise their well-known "benevolent-benefactor" outreach and reception principle. Many of the missionaries that had been operating in China, were forced to leave their Inland labours. They therefore began an earnest Gospel outreach testimony in Hong Kong among those who had taken refuge in the British Colony.

Similarly, the "Boat-People," refugee vessels poured into H.K. from war-ravaged South and North Vietnam.

An assembly of the Lord's people had commenced at the turn of the 20th Century on Hong Kong Island. This meeting was composed of Chinese who could speak English along with some resident Europeans. Material needs were of course an extremely acute need at that time and remained so as long as the refugee problem continued throughout the 1960s. A work was achieved to meet the acute social needs of many. Praise GOD that during the 60s and 70s, the local brethren and missionaries together became further exercised as to the establishment of the New Testament Church pattern, so that assembly testimony in the Chinese language began its real growth.

Initially, there was one English speaking assembly and later, five Chinese speaking assemblies came into being. Through education. medical work, correspondence courses. school fellowships, open-air preaching, and the printed page, opportunities proceeded and abounded among the five million then living in the very crowded conditions on Hong Kong Island, in Kowloon and the New Territories.

Then in 1980, we witnessed the marvellous answer to prayer as the door once again opened to enable entry into the provinces of Mainland China. There was access for witnesses and the work of the Lord, although still restricted and restrained. This was a living miracle of joy. For thirty years, there had been total closure but now there was limited access into the vast thirty-three provinces and municipalities.

The population in Hong Kong grew from 1.5 million in 1950 to 7.5 million today.

As the new decade 1980 began, some very persecuted saints of GOD were released from Inland China prisons. Gospel testimony began once again and it was wonderful that thousands received their first copy of the New Testament or the entire Bible in Mandarin. GOD's Word, despised, destroyed, burned and forbidden for more than thirty years, was now gladly received, distributed and read by many empty, hungry hearts.

In 1997, the historic handover of Hong Kong to Beijing's control was peacefully accomplished with the guarantee that Hong Kong would be allowed its separate system of governance for fifty years.

Much has changed however, Gospel witness continues assisted greatly by commended full-time servants such as Silas So Man and Thomas Yiu Kwong Yin, and others. There are now multiple widespread Gospel outreaches operating and some very effective local assemblies continue in Tsim Sha Tsui, Mongkok and Tsuen Wan.

Monthly printing projects of considerable size continue through the ministry of the CHRISTIAN BOOK ROOM, a literature

ministry begun within China, that has continued to operate for more than 100 years. The CBR maintains 5 warehouse / distribution facilities in Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Shandong, Beijing and Australia.

(Please note and understand that due to the need of wisdom and care to protect believers from interference, it is unwise to include too much identifying information.)

#### Requests for prayer are -

- Gospel Outreach in Hong Kong and further into the Inland Provinces to continue.
- Faithful Leadership in responsible oversight and care in the assemblies.
- Courage and faithfulness to the Lord Jesus and His Word.
- Ongoing outreach among Inland House Churches.
- Assembly Gospel Literature publication
   for effective, safe and widespread distribution.

#### Teaching as a Vocation: A Sacred Calling to Shape Hearts and Minds

Indranee Liew

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men." — Colossians 3:23

## 1. More Than a Profession: A Divine Vocation

In the eyes of the world, teaching may appear simply as a job—a career that provides income, stability, and a measure of social contribution. But to the Christian teacher, teaching is **far more than employment**. It is a **vocation**, a divine calling that springs from God's heart for truth, wisdom, and human flourishing. When God calls someone to teach, He entrusts that person with a sacred duty: to nurture minds, shape character, and reflect His image through love and truth

#### 2. The Teacher as God's Co-Worker

Every lesson, whether in a classroom or through a casual conversation, becomes a small act of creation. The Christian teacher partners with God to bring order to chaos, light to ignorance, and hope to confusion. Jesus Himself was called Rabbi—Teacher—and His example remains the model for all who teach in His name.

He taught with authority, yet with profound gentleness. He saw potential where others saw failure. He turned every moment into a learning opportunity. To teach like Christ is to see beyond the test scores—to **touch eternity** through the lives of those we serve.

#### 3. Cultivating the Whole Person

The Christian vocation in teaching does not stop at academic achievement. It reaches deeply into the **moral**, **emotional**, **and spiritual dimensions** of every learner.

When a teacher prays for their students, listens patiently, forgives quickly, and models humility, they become a **living curriculum**—a reflection of the Gospel in human form. The Christian classroom is thus transformed into a **sanctuary of grace**, a place where truth and love walk hand in hand.

#### 4. The Altar of the Cross and Perseverance

Teaching as a vocation also involves the cross. It means enduring fatigue, misunderstanding, and disappointment. It requires **perseverance** when results are slow and gratitude is scarce. Yet, in these trials, Christ is near. He reminds His teachers, "My grace is sufficient for you." The classroom is not merely a workplace, but an **altar**—a place where love is offered, sacrifice is made, and God's purposes unfold through daily faithfulness.

#### 5. Redeeming the Ordinary Through Love

Every small act—marking papers, organizing room, or mentoring а struggling the student-is holy when done with love and intention. Christian vocation dignifies the ordinary. When we teach algebra or grammar with patience, we quietly reveal the order of God's creation. When we teach history, we remind students that human events move under God's sovereignty. When we teach art, we echo the boundless creativity of the Creator Himself.

#### 6. A Call to Faithful Presence

To fully live out teaching as a vocation is to practice **faithful presence**—being fully present to God, to our students, and to the moment. It means showing up with integrity and compassion, even when unseen. Our

success is ultimately not measured by fame or position, but by **faithfulness**. As Jesus said in Matthew 25:21, "Well done, good and faithful servant." Those words, more than any earthly reward, are the true and lasting goal of a teacher's life.

#### **Reflection Questions**

- How does viewing teaching as a vocation change the way you approach your daily work?
- In what specific ways can you reflect
   Christ's heart His patience, truth, or grace to your students this week?
- What "small" acts in your teaching might God be using for an eternal impact?

#### **Indranee Liew**

10 October 2025

## Teaching as a Vocation: A Sacred Calling Across Every Stage of Learning Indranee Liew

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men." — Colossians 3:23

## 1. A Divine Calling, Lived Across the Seasons of Education

For thirty-five years, I have walked the halls of countless schools, stood before diverse classrooms, and witnessed the miraculous unfolding of potential in thousands of young hearts and minds. I've weathered the storms of national exams, celebrated the quiet victories of a lightbulb moment, and carried the weight of students' silent struggles. Through all those seasons—from the triumphs to the daily challenges—my deepest lesson has been this: teaching is not merely a job you do; it is a purpose you live. It's this enduring truth that transforms the often-difficult routine of the classroom into a powerful, sacred calling.

To the world, teaching is a career—a means to earn and progress. But to the Christian, it is a vocation—a sacred invitation to partner with God in shaping lives, forming character, and illuminating truth. Each lesson, whether in a preschool classroom or a university hall, becomes an altar where faith and learning meet. The Christian teacher is not just a dispenser of knowledge, but a bearer of light. In every stage of education, God reveals a unique joy—a glimpse of His heart for every age and season of human growth.

## 2. The Joy of Teaching Youngest Learners: Seeing the World Through Wonder

To teach the youngest learners is to step onto holy ground. Every discovery—a colour mixed, a seed sprouting, a song sung—becomes a spark of divine wonder. Kindergarten teachers live out the words of Jesus: "Let the little children come to Me."

In their laughter, simplicity, and trust, teachers glimpse the kingdom of God. The joy of teaching at this level lies not in academic progress but in the **miracle of beginnings**—where curiosity is sacred and every "Why?" is a doorway to creation itself. Each hug, each wide-eyed question, and each little prayer whispered before snack time remind us that the foundations of faith are laid in love and joy.

## 3. The Delight of Primary Education: Guiding Growth with Grace

The primary years are filled with questions, energy, and rapid exploration. Children begin to form concrete ideas about themselves and the world, testing boundaries, seeking approval, and needing models of courage and kindness.

The Christian primary teacher delights in this stage, where minds stretch and hearts awaken. Lessons in reading or science quickly become lessons in **perseverance and integrity**. When a child learns to say, "I can try again," they are also learning faith in action. Here, teaching is **discipleship in miniature**—nurturing not only literacy but life skills, and not only knowledge but wisdom rooted in God's truth.

## 4. The Privilege of Secondary Education: Walking Beside Their Becoming

To teach teenagers is to enter a dynamic space of identity, emotion, and purpose. It is a profound privilege to stand with them as they wrestle with the questions that shape their souls: Who am I? What do I believe? Where am I going?

The Christian secondary teacher becomes a steady voice amid the noise-not imposing answers. but embodying grace. demonstrate that faith is not fragile, that truth still stands, and that hope endures. There is deep pleasure in seeing students find their convictions, use their voices, and begin to glimpse their God-given potential. classroom becomes а community faith-in-the-making, where guidance is offered through patience, humour, and prayer.

## 5. The Bliss of Tertiary Education: Mentoring Mind and Calling

Teaching young adults in college or university brings its own kind of sacred satisfaction: the bliss of seeing **independent thinkers** emerge. These students stand at the threshold of the world, full of ideas and uncertainties.

The Christian tertiary educator's task is to mentor more than minds—to help shape conscience. compassion, and calling. Discussions move beyond textbooks into truth. Faith is tested. eternal reason sharpened, and values clarified. At this stage, the teacher is a witness to the unfolding of God's plans in each life. There is no greater joy than seeing a student discover that their chosen vocation—whether in business. science, or art—can also be their ministry.

#### 6. One Sacred Call, Many Expressions

Whether one teaches finger-painting or philosophy, spelling or sociology, the call is the same: to **teach for the glory of God**. Every classroom, from preschool to postgraduate, is part of one grand narrative—the story of redemption, wisdom, and human flourishing under the Lordship of Christ.

Teaching as vocation means loving each learner as an image-bearer of God. It means sowing seeds of faith, courage, and curiosity, trusting that in due time, they will bear fruit.

#### **Indranee Liew**

10 October 2025



## KAPASAN-CAFA NEWS

KAPASAN-CAFA: United in Mission, Rooted in Christ

KAPASAN-CAFA is more than just a network of churches — it's a growing family united by a shared calling to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. Together, these churches are committed to proclaiming the good news of salvation, helping believers deepen their faith, and building communities anchored in God's Word.

At the heart of KAPASAN-CAFA is a desire to live out the teachings of Christ. Members actively show His love through grace, service, and compassion — not only within their churches but in the neighborhoods they serve. Whether through evangelism, discipleship, or worship, they work hand in hand to reach more people with the message of hope and eternal life.

This fellowship is a beautiful example of unity in the body of Christ. Churches encourage one another, share resources, and collaborate on outreach programs — all with the goal of strengthening their witness and expanding God's kingdom. It's a movement fueled by faith, love, and a deep commitment to see lives transformed by the power of the gospel.

The heartbeat of this mission is captured in Jesus' words from Matthew 28:19–20: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."



## ENTRUSTING THE WORD CHURCH, 2 TIM. 2:2 KASINAY INC.

ETWC-Kasinay celebrated its 13th Church Anniversary August 31, 2025, the new Clubhouse in Greenridge, Binangonan, themed Rizal, "Celebrating 13 years of God's faithfulness"









#### Celebrating 27 Years of God's Faithfulness.

Palangoy Gospel Chapel (PGC) recently marked a beautiful milestone — 27 years of ministry, growth, and unwavering faith. With the theme "Equipped to Go, Empowered to Grow," the celebration was a heartfelt reflection on God's steady hand throughout the church's journey. As the founding church of KAPASAN, PGC looked back with gratitude at nearly three decades of serving the Lord and reaching lives for Christ. The anniversary wasn't just a celebration of the past — it was a call to press forward. The congregation was invited to reflect on how each one can continue to be equipped for service and empowered to live out God's purpose. Together, the church lifted prayers for renewed faith, deeper commitment, and boldness in advancing the mission God has entrusted to them. It was a time of joy, unity, and spiritual renewal — a testament to the incredible work God continues to do in and through His people.

#### Men's & Women's Fellowships



August 3, 2025 PGC celebrated Women's Friendship Day with faith-filled fellowship, worship, Bible study, and fun games. They also meet monthly and hold weekly care groups to continually support one another and grow in faith together.



#### Faith at Home, Fellowship at Heart

A small, home-based gatherings where men come together to grow in faith and build deeper connections. These care groups create a space for honest conversations, prayer, and sharing life's journey — all within the comfort of their homes. Through these meetings, they strengthen their walk with Christ and support one another in leading their families with love and purpose.





## ENTRUSTING THE WORD FELLOWSHIP: 2 TIM. 3:16 INC.- SAN CARLOS

#### A Testament to God's Faithfulness and Growth

At ETWF Church, we continue to stand in awe of God's unwavering love and faithfulness. His hand is clearly at work, drawing new hearts into His family and expanding the reach of His mission. Each new soul added is a reminder that the Lord is building something beautiful among us.

With a clear vision from God, our church leaders remain devoted to sharing His Word and reaching more lives. And even through seasons of challenge, our community stands firm — growing in faith, deepening in spiritual maturity, and leaning on the strength that only God provides.

The presence of the Lord is felt in every gathering, every home, and every heart. He is our source of hope, our guide, and our strength as we walk this journey together. We give Him all the glory, remembering the words of Jesus: "Let the children come to me... for to such belongs the kingdom of Heaven" (Matthew 19:14).



Grateful to the Lord for the blessing and privilege to share the Gospel at the Department of Education, Rizal, once a month during the Gospel Hour.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY Centered on God's Love and Joyful Learning

Our Children's Ministry is alive with joy! Teachers recently joined a seminar to prepare for DVBS, learning how to guide kids in discovering God's miracles every step of the way. Through songs, stories, and play, we see God moving — helping children grow closer to Him. All glory to God!
"Let the children come to me..." (Matthew 19:14)

#### Sportsfest 2025

Hue Can Do It! For an entire month, more than 40 Saturday Schoolers filled their weekends with laughter, learning, and worship. Through fun games, new friendships, and the loving guidance of their teachers, the children discovered the joy of God's Word and celebrated every moment of growth and blessing. It was a season of faith, fun, and unforgettable memories — all for the glory of God.





#### **DVBS 2025**









Youth fellowships create a warm, supportive community where young believers can deepen their faith, form meaningful friendships, and live out their Christian values together. Through Bible study, prayer, worship, and service, they grow spiritually and develop leadership skills, feeling encouraged and empowered to make a positive difference in their church and beyond.





#### FRIENDSHIP DAY

"Bee My Friend: You Bee-long Here (Eph. 2:13)" on April 6, 2025. Classmates, friends and youth around the Chapel attended these activities.

#### CAREER FAIR:

June 1, 2025
Theme: "Called to Dream: Finding
Your Future in God's Plan
(Proverbs 16:3)



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#### SPORTSFEST:

Theme: "Run the Race of Faith (2 Tim. 4:7)"

#### COOKFEST

Theme:
"Savoring the Temple:
Cooking to Glorify God
(1 Cor. 10:31) on July 27,
2025.

Prepared By:
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#### **BPGC Toddler's Playgroup**



#### **STARKIDS 2026 INTAKE**



