

Today's Students, Tomorrow's Pastors  
Today's Seminary, Tomorrow's Churches

香港浸信會神學院  
Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary



# Newsletter

August 2014



President's Word

## Developing Empathy: A Caregiver's Understanding



Joshua Cho

### Understanding the Lives of Care Recipients

Every person desires to be loved and cared for by others. There is always the hope within each of us that we will be accepted and treasured. We also desire the events and experiences of our lives to be recognized as authentic and valuable. The above observations describe human nature and our basic human needs.

We have to ask ourselves, "How can we provide care for others which fulfills their basic need for love and nurturing?"

While providing care for others, we must respect and understand the life experiences of each care recipient. To gain this kind of understanding, caregivers must enter into the inner world of each care recipient and connect with the recipients' innermost

thoughts and feelings. Only by doing so can the caregivers achieve empathy and an understanding of the recipients' experiences—which can be completely foreign to the caregiver's own thoughts and feelings.

Empathy is the feeling a caregiver has when they are able to identify with another person's experiences through careful listening, understanding, and communicating. It is not a technique but rather an artful skill acquired through patient learning and practice. This ability to understand others is above all a virtue. Empathy describes our compassionate understanding of another person and his/her world. The focus is on experiential understanding and not experiential explanation. Empathy allows caregivers to enter into another person's life and their experiential world.

### **Responding with Empathy**

How do we enter into the experiential world of others?

To achieve an empathetic understanding of each care recipient's situation, caregivers must engage in a process of inquiry, allowing them to feel along with the recipient

by asking a series of questions. If and when necessary, the caregiver will repeat or vary the manner in which they ask questions until s/he can comprehend the experience or situation as described by the care recipient. In other words, the caregiver seeks to 'sense' the innermost feelings of the recipients through a line of questioning.

The 'sense' described above is an intentional and active response to another person's emotions. To be able to respond to another person's emotions, a caregiver must employ his or her imagination to enter into the person's consciousness, to read their body language, and to understand their perceptions, feelings, and thoughts.

The influential psychologist Carl Rogers was the first among his contemporaries to incorporate the term "empathy" into the vocabulary of academic Psychology. Carl Rogers describes a counselor who possesses empathy as one who accepts the inner "frame of reference" of the counselee. Such a counselor senses another person's private world as if it were the counselor's own. What Carl Rogers means is that a counselor must perceive the world through the eyes of the counselee. In other words, a counselor seeks to understand the counselee in the



same way as the counselee understands himself or herself. A counselor, by entering into the experiential world of the counselee as another person, feels that person's emotions. According to Rogers, self-abandonment is essential to be able to feel at home with another person's attitudes, emotions, and thoughts. Achieving a sense of empathy is crucial to psychotherapy.

### **The Practice of Empathy**

Most of us are aware of the differences between the perceptions and experiences of individual persons. So it is not surprising to find that a counselor's world made of his/her life experiences and beliefs vastly differs from the world of the counselee. Such differences in perceptions and experiences often create tremendous barriers and difficulties that may impede a person's ability to understand another person. The experience of a counselor entering into the counselee's world will be similar to the cross-cultural experience of a person who may be confronted with communication barriers and difficulties when immersed in a foreign country or culture. It is not unusual for a counselor to feel overwhelmed by the unfamiliarity of the beliefs and/or languages present in the counselee's world. However, the said barriers and difficulties can be overcome if empathy can be achieved. Empathy enables us to sense another person's ideas and feelings in the context of his/her world, which is often alien to a counselor. Empathy is also instrumental when learning other languages and engaging in cultural intermediation in order to understand others' ideas and feelings.

To understand the counselee's ideas and feelings, a counselor must temporarily set aside his or her own ideas and feelings. Instead, s/he temporarily believes what the counselee believes; sees what the counselee sees; and treasures what the counselee treasures. That is to say, s/he must attempt to perceive matters with the other person's presuppositions, to learn about the person's beliefs, and to adopt the person's point of view—as if it were the only way to perceive the world.

However, the self-abandonment necessary for empathy does not mandate that a caregiver abandon his

or her own presuppositions, beliefs, and values. The kind of self-abandonment necessary for empathy is exercised only as a temporary measure for a certain period of time as the caregiver seeks to genuinely understand the care recipient's point of view. The caregiver should neither forsake his or her own distinctiveness nor give up the boundaries that define his or her identity. There should not be a total immersion in another person's world.

### **Changes in Perception Affect Changes in Behavior**

In other words, a counselor must try to see the world from the other person's point of view without passing judgment. S/he should not attempt to live in the life of the counselee. Instead, the counselor must crossover and enter into the counselee's distressed world by leaving his or her own world of order and stability. The counselor, after having perceived the counselee's world, will come out of the counselee's world and will then communicate her or his perception of the counselee's world to try to address the issues present. What comes next is the counselor's reframing of the problems for the counselee. This gives the counselee a different perspective on his/her problems. The exercise of reframing a situation or certain experience requires a change in the frame of reference for the counselee. The counselor will first adopt the counselee's frame of reference for perceiving the counselee's problems. Once the counselor thoroughly understands each problem, s/he will put the problems in perspective within a different frame of reference by reordering the facts and restructuring the same situation or experience which is troubling the counselee. Once the counselee can perceive his or her problems in a new way, a change in the counselee's behavior and his/her response to the problems is likely to occur.

The cultivation of empathy is essential for a caring ministry because empathy can bring about positive changes in the lives of troubled people. Yet, serving with empathy is often an intense and highly challenging task. Empathy is an acquired skill that demands time and patient training to develop. Ideally it will become second nature

for all caregivers.

### **Pastors and Care Recipients Share in Life-Renewing Grace**

Therefore, it is necessary for our pastoral leaders to possess empathy so that they can excel in their caring ministry. With empathy, pastors are able to put aside judgments and enter into the worlds of others. Through their imagination and their ability to understand and sense the others' experiences, pastoral leaders can experience life-renewing grace along with all those who receive pastoral care.

When pastoral leaders and pastoral care recipients share their feelings and thoughts with each other, we can then dedicate our prayers to God. Together we can ask for guidance and assistance from Jesus Christ in order to face grief, fear, doubts, regrets, and mourning—and to embrace joy and thankfulness. We can wait for God's words and use these words to reframe our own situations and experiences. In this way, we will renew our perceptions of our situations and experiences by adopting God's perspectives. Such renewed perceptions and meanings could affect a change in our behavior and our responses to these situations and experiences. We will be able to see the manifestation of God's power within each situation

and challenge. We will also see how God leads us through difficulties. In this way, we can experience the faithfulness of God, the comfort of His words, and the Hope given to us through God's promises.

### **Developing Empathy through Hospitality**

Pastoral leaders must commit to the development of empathy within themselves—even if it means exerting intense self-discipline—for the sake of helping their care recipients. We should realize that empathy is essential to any good moral character. Like the many other aspects inherent in a good moral character, empathy will only become second nature through the practice of self-discipline and nurturing.

I truly hope that the teachers and students of HKBTS will develop empathy and that it will become their second nature. Both the Seminary and the churches will benefit from the learning and discipline of empathy as we continue the practice of hospitality in carrying out the teachings of the Bible and in the every day practice of our spirituality. It is wonderful to envision that we can pray and sing with people who are different from us. We can share together even through our struggles.

I pray to God that He will endow such a great gift on the Seminary.





The Seminary's Distance Education Program (DEP) was founded in 1998 and is now entering into its sixteenth year. The vision of DEP is to equip lay Christians in theological education by evolving out of the traditional learning module where students must all meet at a fixed time and place into a modern method of learning that allows students more flexibility. Because DEP's self-study program is driven by each individual student's needs, each student can plan their own course schedule according to their individual aspirations and limitations.

DEP has become a very successful program over the years. It has popularized theological education by enabling more lay Christians to be theologically equipped, and it has provided the opportunity for some students to listen to God's call to full-time ministry while studying in the program. During DEP's sixteen years, 31 DEP students have resolved to take the path of consecration and switched to studying full time in the ministerial preparation program.

DEP is now offering 8 study programs, including 6 correspondence programs and 2 online programs. Besides targeting lay Christians, DEP has also launched "special training" ministries to serve communities with special needs and economic difficulties, providing them with theological education.

## Stepping into the Sixteenth Year of Distance Education

### Learning Communities

DEP currently averages 310 students every quarter who come not only from Hong Kong but also overseas places, including Macau, Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, United Kingdom, U.S.A., Canada, Australia, Ireland, East Africa, West Africa, and Israel.

DEP students come from all walks of life and occupations. Some begin the program with very little education, but by applying themselves in a systematic way they complete the Certificate Program in Biblical Studies and Diploma in Christian Studies progressively. Some begin the program with master degrees or doctoral degrees and may already be working as

### Students' Sharing

From the start of the Certificate Program in Old Testament Studies until its completion, it took me a total of nine years. At first, I studied for my baby's sake as I hoped that he/she would begin studying the Bible in my womb and keep growing with the help of God's word. However, I could only complete one lesson during my pregnancy. After I had given birth to my son, I was always busy. Later, when I learned that my child had the symptoms of a slow language learner and that he was inexplicably sensitive to certain foods, I resigned from my nursing position to care for my child full time.

Although I had temporarily suspended my studies, God's timing is most appropriate. The other day, a member of the DEP staff called

professionals. Some students commute between Hong Kong and Mainland China, travel overseas regularly for business trips, hold jobs with irregular working hours. While some students have disabilities, some may have familial obligations to care for the less able in their family. Nevertheless, through DEP these students can successfully complete theological training and be enabled to offer better service to God and men.

### **DEP's Certificate and Diploma Programs**

#### **Certificate in New Testament Studies (correspondence and online programs)**

1. The Gospel of John
2. The Gospel of Mark
3. The Gospel of Matthew
4. The Gospel of Luke
5. The Acts of the Apostles
6. Romans
7. The Letters of Paul
8. The General Letters
9. The Book of Hebrews
10. The Book of Revelation

#### **Certificate in Old Testament Studies (correspondence version, online version)**

1. Genesis
2. Exodus
3. Leviticus/Numbers
4. Deuteronomy
5. Joshua
6. Kings I & II
7. The Wisdom Literature
8. Psalms
9. Isaiah
10. Jeremiah
11. Ezekiel
12. Daniel
13. Minor Prophets

#### **Diploma of Christian Studies**

1. Understanding the Bible
2. Biblical Background
3. New Testament Survey I
4. Old Testament Survey I

me, prompting me to choose to continue with my studies even though four and a half years had passed. Because it is a correspondence course, I have full control over when and where I complete my courses. Whenever my son went to school, I would find the time I needed for the coursework. My son often saw me studying the Bible and accordingly, developed a keen interest in the Bible. I resolved to teach him all that I had learned.

The Bible study helps me to know God in greater depth. I enjoy solitude as I can be alone with God and listen to His voice. In studying the Old Testament, I was worried about whether I could understand the books of Major Prophets and Minor Prophets for fear that the scriptures might be too difficult for me to understand. However, God led me to experience His grace: Seek and you will find; knock and “the door will be opened”. Now, to my amazement, I have completed the Old Testament Studies program. With a heart full of excitement and expectancy, I will begin taking the Certificate Program in New Testament Studies.

**Lee Sze-chung**

*This year's graduate of the Certificate Program in Old Testament Studies,  
a new student of the Certificate Program in New Testament Studies.*

Nowadays, you can find all kinds of online theological courses and educational materials, however, these programs and sources of information are not systematic and mostly fragmentary. Taking the HKBTS's Distance Education courses has enabled me to study the Bible systematically and in greater depth so that I can understand God's will and teachings. I have already benefited a lot from the study.

Throughout the study process, God has spoken to me through the course assignments. Again and again, He has given me guidance coupled with admonishment and reproof. I find that exercising self-control is one of the most important things to learn to do. For me, focusing the attention on the course assignments on a regular basis is a great challenge. In addition to working a full time job, I also have to maintain a balance between my family responsibilities and Christian fellowship while engaging actively in Christian service.

I thank God for His supporting grace as He has led me to complete both the Diploma and Higher Diploma programs in Christian Studies one after another. There are eight other members taking the DEP program in our Chinese church in Dublin, Ireland. The study enables us to share amongst ourselves and apply the lessons we have learned. We can also work together to solve difficult problems. We are truly thankful for the opportunity to further our studies through this correspondence program which



*Hoi-shan and two students from Ireland with their families visited the Seminary. Together we took a group photo.*

5. History of Christianity
6. New Testament Survey II
7. Old Testament Survey II
8. New Testament Survey III
9. Old Testament Survey III
10. Introduction to Theological Studies
11. Christian Education
12. Basic Christian Doctrines
13. Counseling Principles & Skills
14. Christian Ethics
15. Stewardship
16. Apologetics

#### **Diploma in Biblical Studies**

1. Understanding the Bible
2. Biblical Background
3. New Testament Survey I
4. Old Testament Survey II
5. History of Christianity
6. New Testament Survey II
7. Old Testament Survey II
8. New Testament Survey III
9. Old Testament Survey III
10. Hermeneutics
11. Daniel
12. Ezra
13. The Gospel of John
14. I Corinthians
15. Hebrews
16. Judges

#### **Higher Diploma in Christian Studies**

1. History of Christian Thoughts
2. Hermeneutics
3. Introduction to Missiology
4. The Acts of the Apostles
5. Ecclesiastes
6. Romans
7. Numbers
8. Hosea
9. Revelation

#1-3 compulsory subjects

#4-9 choose any 3 subjects

#### **Higher Diploma in Biblical Studies**

1. The Acts of the Apostles
2. Ecclesiastes
3. Romans
4. Numbers
5. Hosea
6. Revelation

is available in Chinese even though we are half-way around the world. On behalf of our church, I express our gratitude to all of you for your service and persistence!

**Wong Hoi-shan**

*Student of the Higher Diploma Program in Christian Studies.*

### **The Tutors' Team**

DEP offers 54 courses for students to study every semester: 23 courses in New Testament and Old Testament Studies programs and 31 in diploma and higher diploma programs. Apart from the 5 subjects courses which have the Director of DEP serves as the tutor, 29 tutors are appointed to provide guidance to students on different subjects in the certificate and diploma programs.

Most of the tutors are Seminary alumni who are working as pastors, ministers, preachers, and missionaries serving in different churches or Christian organizations. We thank God for providing us with a team of tutors who are capable, dedicated, and who value distance education. These tutors mark students' assignments and offer advice to students while fulfilling their own busy ministerial duties.

### **Sharing from the Tutors**

Thank God for His grace to allow me to join the DEP family as a tutor in the New Testament Program upon the completion of my theological training at HKBTS. ~~I have felt both nervous and excited!~~ I feel nervous because I have been worried that my theological knowledge is inadequate and that I may make mistakes while marking students' assignments. However, I am excited at such a blessing from God that I can pursue studying God's word together with the students and share their learning and life experiences. What great grace it is!

I still fondly remember the days when I was a DEP student. Each time I studied or worked on my assignments, I received instructions and admonishment from the words of God. After turning in the assignment, I checked the mail box every day as I expectantly waited for the tutor's remarks and comments. The most pleasant and joyful thing was to receive encouragements from the tutors! This past learning experience enables me to understand my current students' expectations. Therefore, I try to ensure that I mark students' assignment as soon as possible and give my feedback to each student's sharing from the depth of my heart. Every time I find them getting encouraged and edified by the word of God or getting excited about learning more about Christ our Lord, I thank God for them. Meanwhile, I remind myself to allow the word of God to take root in me!

**To Pui Yuen-ye**

*New tutor, Certificate Program in New Testament Studies*

To be able to become a tutor of DEP is both a responsibility entrusted by God and also a precious gift from God. Over the course of being a tutor, I have experienced that in all things our Lord of abundance works for the good of those who love Him and who have been called according to His purpose.

In the twinkling of an eye, I have been a tutor for DEP for over two years. What

impresses me most must be the seriousness and the honesty in both the studying and the sharing of a class of students from Mainland China. They turned in a thick pile of assignments, which truly made me feel their inner yearning to do well in their pastoral ministry and their eagerness to learn more as they realize their own inadequacies. I can see that God not only uses me as their help and support, but also tempers me and shapes my life through the marking process so that through their words, I can come to reflect and understand His will in a deeper, broader, and more three-dimensional way. I hope that I can help my students grow with what I have learned.

I have never thought that serving as a DEP tutor would demand that the relationship between the tutor and students be so close. Although we are weak and inadequate, God can establish these sons and daughters with His strength and abundance. Thank God for His leadership and may all the glory be to God!

**Sin Tak-yin**

*Tutor of "Christian Ethics", Diploma in Christian Studies Program*



## Program Development

### 1. Devising and Revising the Curricula

Besides recruiting a group of capable and dedicated as well as spiritually robust tutors, the biggest challenge is composing the teaching materials. On the one hand, we need to regularly revise and rewrite our early curricula; on the other hand, we also need to compose new teaching materials. Composing new teaching materials is analogous to the experience of giving birth to a new born baby after a ten-month pregnancy.

The Higher Diploma Program in Biblical Studies is the most recent teaching material we have created in recent years. The program has a total of 6 subjects and the number of words in the teaching material amounts to tens and even hundreds of thousands of words. The burden of writing such a curriculum

is never easy. We began writing the teaching material in October 2010. After the completion of writing four subjects, we offered this new program beginning in March 2012. The writing of the remaining 2 subjects has also been completed in September 2013.

### 2. The Newly Offered Online Programs

In April 2012, DEP offered the Online Certificate Program in Old Testament Studies which adopts an online platform and the program content is exactly the same as the correspondence version. To facilitate further studies for lay Christians, we later offered the Online Certificate Program in New Testament Studies in January 2013, and this program takes the place of the former eClass format.

### Topical Seminar

To broaden students' vision, DEP holds a topical seminar twice every year (with an exception due to our Fifteenth Anniversary Thanksgiving Meeting held in October last year). The seminar, which is usually held on a Saturday afternoon, offers a learning opportunity to students and is open to brothers and sisters of our churches.

Thank God for using these seminars which draw enthusiastic responses from the attendees. In the past school year, the topics of the two seminars were "Forgiveness vs. Justice?" and "The Search of the Jesus of the Four Gospels" presented by our teachers, Dr. Freeman Huen and Dr. Jonathan Lo, respectively.

### Special Training

At present, the communities that we serve include visually and hearing impaired Christians and those who come to Christ in correctional institutions. In these ministries, we have developed a partnership with The Hong Kong Christian Kun Sun Association Ltd. and the Christian Ministry for Visually Impaired Persons for over ten years.



## 1. The Onesimus Training Project

Since 1999, DEP, in cooperation with The Hong Kong Christian Kun Sun Association Ltd., has been providing training for Christians in the correctional institutions. There are over 50 Onesimus students currently taking the certificate or diploma programs and one student in particular is our DEP "fan" who has finished the Certificate in New Testament and Old Testament Studies, and the Diploma in Biblical Studies. Currently he is enrolled in the Diploma in Christian Studies and will graduate this year.

At the Seminary's Silver Jubilee Joint-Programs Graduation Ceremony in 2012, family members of the graduating students attended the ceremony to receive the diploma of graduation for these students. The joyful and pleasant facial expressions of the family members of this group of students that day is still unforgettable for us. This has become a driving force that invigorates us to continue doing our best to serve these Onesimus students.

## A Student's Sharing

Unknowingly, I had stayed in prison for twenty years but I had not seen a way out! What will my future be? I had prayed to Yahweh about my worries ....

In 2000, upon recommendation from Rev. Wong, I began taking DEP. Though my initial response to enroll was to satisfy Rev. Wong (here I must apologize to Rev. Wong), today I cannot help but offering up to God my thankfulness. I praise God for granting me the wisdom and strength so that I can complete three different programs. How beautiful and wonderful is God's grace! He has enabled me to simply focus on doing the course assignments and forget about the things that had been bothering me. "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." (Matt 6:34) Through His words,

God calms my soul so that I can live in peace and joy and have the strength to overcome various predicaments. The fact that God has tolerated and cherished such a foolish student like me makes me feel greatly ashamed. Is this not the way the love of God is manifested? This is what I always think.

I have come across many problems in the course of doing the assignments. Besides providing me with Rev. Wong who always comes to visit and teach me, God also sends forth many Christian soldiers to come close to me to be my guide. Some are unexpectedly front-line staff workers here who inspire me to explore what the truth is whenever we have a chat. I am truly thankful for my DEP tutors who have persistently taught me with their tolerance, love, and patience. They inspire me to think from new perspectives so that I can realize God's salvation in greater depth and renew my hope in life. What God has prepared for a sinner like me is always sufficient. I have never lacked anything. May all the glory be to God!

**Ah Yuk**

*An Onesimus student*

## 2. Spiritual Light Project

Beginning from 2001, DEP has cooperated with Christian Ministry Center for Visually Impaired Persons to offer training to the visually impaired Christians. Up to now, four classes of Certificate Program in New Testament Studies and one class of Certificate Program in Old Testament Studies have been offered. Over the past 10 years, through the provision of the learning materials, textbooks in Braille characters, tutorial lessons, topical seminars, and computer tools, these students have studied tirelessly. At the DEP Graduation Ceremony 2009, an elderly Ms. Tang, who was blind and aged 82, received her Certificate in New Testament Studies from President Cho. She broke the record as the DEP's oldest graduate. The touching scene that day still remains vivid before our eyes.



## A Student's Sharing

It was about twelve years ago when I began taking the Certificate Program in New Testament Studies offered by DEP. At first I studied and did the assignments with the help of the Braille characters (alphabet for the blind) and audio tapes. The staff in the the Christian Ministry Center for Visually Impaired Persons translated the Braille characters into written Chinese for the tutor to mark. After marking, the tutor spent a lot more time than usual to give students her feedback (the corrections and comments) by recording her voice into a cassette tape and then distributing them to each student. Later, I learned to use one of the Chinese input methods on the computer to do my assignments. At first, to avoid making mistakes, I wrote the answers in Braille characters and then input the answers into the computer. Soon afterwards, in order to save time and paper I directly input the answers through the computer.

As I took the New Testament Studies beginning with the Gospel of Matthew all the way to the book of Revelation, comments from my tutor Ms. Chan were very beneficial to me. I still remember her words of encouragement: "You are putting greater and greater efforts into doing the assignments and your written Chinese has kept improving." After taking the New Testament Studies, I have gained much more Biblical knowledge and the computer skill with which I input my written Chinese has also improved a lot! Later, when I took the Old Testament Studies, a new Chinese input method helped my studies progress even further. In fact, my husband also studies in the same program with me but we do not forget our good Christian character and we will not copy one another's assignments.

The Spiritual Light Project offered by DEP takes into consideration the needs of the visually impaired who want to study the Bible and allows us to learn like any other person. I thank God for this! There are donors who have contributed to a scholarship fund for our studies and this grace has become a driving force for us to work hard at our studies. Therefore, I dare not become lazy but always try hard to complete my course assignments within the permitted time limit. The group of students in the Spiritual Light Project sometimes gathers together and has gradually formed a mutually supporting fellowship.

**Lau Pik-ha**

*Student from the Spiritual Light Project*

## Future Development and Needs

### 1. To Train Christians in Individual Geographical Areas

Under the leadership of God, DEP has actively developed ministries in cooperation with different churches in Hong Kong and overseas as well as with Christian organizations to train Christians by group in individual areas. We welcome individual churches or Christian organizations that have a burden and are willing to financially support our "special training" ministries to contact us.

### 2. Possibility of Offering a Degree Program

We are preliminarily thinking about the need and possibility of offering a degree program besides the present certificate and diploma programs. Considerable resources are required for a degree program, so please pray for the Seminary so that we can follow God's will and guidance.



*The Ninth Graduation Ceremony (October 18, 2009)*



*A Day of Fun and Barbecue for DEP (April 13, 2014)*

## Academic Affairs News

- **Summer Mission Trips**

In June, our students participated in a number of mission trips which included the Seminary's choir, the Hill Singers, going to Baoshan and Yunnan. There was a cultural exchange visit to Huizhou organized by the Missions Department of the Student Union. In addition, many of this year's graduating students visited Nepal. Our students visit various places in the Mainland and overseas in order to broaden their horizons and learn to serve and care for other people during the mission trip activities.

- **Faculty Retreat**

The Faculty Retreat was held from August 12 through 14 and the theme was "Fun and Challenge in Teaching and Learning".

- **Spiritual Formation Camp**

All of the Seminary's teachers and students will participate in the Spiritual Formation Camp held before the beginning of the school term from August 21 through 23. The theme will be "From God's Call to Community". Rev. Philip Yeung, Honorary Chaplain and Visiting Professor of the China Graduate School of Theology, has been invited to conduct a workshop on Meditation with Scripture in the morning of August 22. Through silence, worship, active listening, and meditation on God's words, students will reflect on the relationship of God's call with the community of disciples as they learn to live out the community life.

- **Convocation and Academic Seminar**

The Convocation Ceremony of the school term 2014-15 will be held on August 26. Dr. Tony Sher, Assistant Professor of Old Testament, will be the speaker of the Academic Seminar held on the day after the Convocation.

## Visitors

- Dr. Chan Chi-ho, Assistant Professor of Social Work Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, visited the Seminary and gave a speech on "Logo-Healing: Co-Walking with Suffering" on April 1.
- A team of 13 supervisors in the Asia region from Wycliffe Bible Translators Ltd. came to visit the Seminary on May 21.

## Presidential Trips

- President Cho went with the administrative staff of the Baptist Convention of Hong Kong to Beijing and Shanghai for an academic and cultural exchange visit in February.
- In April, he went with staff workers from the Baptist Convention of Hong Kong to Myanmar and Northern Thailand for an academic and cultural exchange visit.

## Faculty News

- **Dr. Andres Tang**, Professor of Christian Thought (Theology and Culture), spoke on the topic "The Pastoral Perspective on Occupy Central" at a meeting organized by the Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary Alumni Association on May 6.
- **Dr. Jonathan Lo**, Visiting Assistant Professor of New Testament, presented a paper on the topic, "Sharing the Blessing of the Peacemaker: An Exegetical Analysis of Matt 5:9", at a conference on May 24 organized by the Asia Pacific Region Convening Committee of the Society for New Testament Studies.
- **Dr. Freeman Huen**, Assistant Professor of Practical Theology (Social Ethics), presented a paper on the topic, "'Patience as Method'—John Howard Yoder's Epistemology of Peace", at the Seminar on June 9 organized by the Koinonia of Chinese Christian Theologians.

## *The Singing Angel*

*Who Has Sung in HKBTS for 27 Years*

### **The Retirement of Mrs. Helen Wan**

Over the past 27 years, Mrs. Helen Wan has continuously trained generation after generation of students in church music at HKBTS. She not only improved students' vocal skills, but also helped them attain a proper attitude in their ministry and spiritual lives. Many alumni remember how Mrs. Wan helped them to learn vocalization. They have not forgotten her instruction: Offer up to God the most beautiful and sincere praise through joyful songs. We thank Mrs. Wan for her dedicated efforts in teaching and for leading the Seminary's choir, the Hill Singers, and organizing the Annual Concert of Praise year after year.

On the occasion of the Awards Presentation Ceremony on May 22, Dr. Cecil Chan, Chairman of the HKBTS Board of Directors, on behalf of the Seminary presented to Mrs. Wan our best wishes and expressed our gratitude by giving her a memorial ornament engraved with "The Lord is my strength and my song" (Psalm 118:14). Indeed, the Lord is our strength and our song. We pray that He will continue to lead Mrs. Wan's life and ministry ahead.



## **Lay Theological Education Department**

**Student Recruitment 2014-2015** (Classes are conducted in Cantonese)

### **Master of Christian Studies Program (Major in Christian Communication)**

Aim: To enable lay Christians with a university education to integrate Christian faith with communication theories so that they can engage in theological reflection on the present situation and setting of our society by effectively communicating the Christian message.

The new school year will begin in October (those who enroll before July 16 will have a 50% discount in registration fee).

### **Bachelor / Diploma / Certificate Program in Christian Studies**

It is a part-time evening program and students can study the following programs:

**Certificate Program:** Certificate Program in Christian Studies, Certificate Program in Music Ministry

**Diploma Program:** Diploma Program in Biblical Studies, Diploma Program in Music Ministry, Diploma Program in Care and Counseling Ministry

**Bachelor Program:** Bachelor Program in Biblical Studies, Music Ministry, or Care and Counseling Ministry

If a student who has completed the certificate/diploma program enrolls and is accepted into the diploma/bachelor program, all his related credits hours (subjects that he has passed) will be exempted.

The new school year will begin in October (those who enroll before July 4 will have a 50% discount in registration fee).

### **Women's Theological Training Diploma/Certificate Programs**

This program provides holistic and practical theological training for women and seeks to establish a mature Christian understanding to aid them as they successfully pursue individual growth and meet their familial responsibilities, serve in church, and face the challenges of modern living.

The new school year will begin in October (those who enroll before August 31 will have a 50% discount in registration fee).

### **Children Ministry Diploma / Certificate Program**

The program is designed to provide holistic and systematic technique and basic theological training in children's ministry to lay Christians devoted to ministering to children aged from 6 to 12.

Classes in the new school year will begin in October on every Tuesday (those who enroll before July 31 will have a 50% discount in registration fee).

### **Early Childhood Ministry Diploma / Certificate Program**

This program is designed to teach holistic and systematic ministerial techniques together with basic theological training for lay Christians devoted to ministering to new-born babies and infants up to five years old.

Classes in the new school year will begin in October on every Friday (those who enroll before July 31 will have a 50% discount in registration fee).

### **Certificate in Mission Ministry Program**

This program is designed to provide holistic and systematic ministerial techniques together with basic theological training for those interested in understanding and joining church mission ministry.

Classes in the new school year will begin in October (those who enroll before August 18 will have a 50% discount in registration fee).

### **Public Seminar together with an Introduction of LTED Programs**

#### **Public Seminar on “Telling Good Stories · Living a Good Life” together with an Introduction of the Women Theological Training Diploma/Certificate Programs**

Speaker : Mr. Lee Kam-hung (Publisher of Christian Times Ltd.)

Date : July 8 (Tuesday)

Time : 10:00 – 11:30 am

Venue : The Seminary's Mong Kok Education Center

#### **Public Seminar on “Church History Studies That Would Be Able to Shake the Foundation of Christian Faith” together with an Introduction of the Bachelor/Diploma or Certificate (with Bachelor Level) Programs in Christian Studies**

Speaker : Dr. Nathan Ng (the Seminary's Associate Professor of Christian Thought - Church History)

Date : July 14 (Monday)

Time : 7:30 – 9:30 pm

Venue : The Seminary's Mong Kok Education Center

#### **Public Seminar on “Citizens of God's Kingdom · Integral Mission” together with an Introduction of the Certificate in Mission Ministry Program**

Speaker: Dr. Chan Nim-chung (Chief Executive of CEDAR Fund)

Date : August 14 (Thursday)

Time : 7:30 – 9:30 pm

Venue : The Seminary's Mong Kok Education Center

Admission to the above seminars is free, however, no admission will be granted once the quota is filled.

For enquiry and enrolment: 2711 2552 Email: ltedinfo@hkbt.edu.hk

Webpage: [www.hkbt.edu.hk/lted](http://www.hkbt.edu.hk/lted)

Address of Mong Kok Education Center: 10/F, Chung Kiu Commercial Building, 47-51 Shan Tung Street, Mong Kok.

## Distance Education Program

### Exploring Truth · Reflecting upon Faith · Equipping for Ministry

#### Student Recruitment for Fall Term 2013

The new diploma programs will begin in September 2014 while the certificate programs can begin at any time

Correspondence Program	Program Description	Admission Requirements	Date of Commencement	Registration Deadline
Diploma in Biblical Studies Program	Through an in-depth study of a specific book of the Bible, students are trained to do systematic hermeneutics and Bible study.	Secondary school leavers with their church pastor's recommendation	September and March	<b>September semester:</b> Hong Kong: August 10
Diploma in Christian Studies Program	Designed for equipping students for ministry, the program helps students strengthen their foundation in the Christian faith, doctrine and theology.			Overseas: July 10
Higher Diploma in Biblical Studies / Christian Studies programs	Further studies for students having completed the diploma program	Completion of the diploma program and with a church pastor's recommendation		<b>March semester:</b> Hong Kong: February 10  Overseas: January 10
Certificate in N.T./O.T. Studies Programs	Introductory programs in biblical studies, leading students to study a specific book of the Bible systematically	All are welcome	Register at any time. Concessions in fees are available. Students can begin at any time.	

**Elective students:** Students can choose any subject offered in the correspondence programs according to their own personal interest. For details, please log on the "Distance Education" website.

Online Program	Program Description	Date of Commencement
<b>On-line version</b> Certificate in New Testament Studies Program  Certificate in Old Testament Studies Program	<b>Description:</b> * For those interested in studying the Bible, the program's contents are identical with the correspondence program.  <b>Features:</b> * Course work is received and handled through the platform in the website to ensure efficiency and time saving. * Students can read and download learning materials and course work directly from the website. * Upon completion of course work, a student may upload it for their tutor to mark and provide comments. * Students can download the marked course work with the tutor's comments or search for program information.	* Students can begin at any time with fee concessions. * Trial study of the online program is available at <a href="http://elearning@hkpts.edu.hk">http://elearning@hkpts.edu.hk</a>

For enquiries, call 2768 5105, email [deinfo@hkpts.edu.hk](mailto:deinfo@hkpts.edu.hk), or log-on to the DEP website at [www.hkpts.edu.hk/dist](http://www.hkpts.edu.hk/dist).

## Publication News

*Hill Road* (Issue 33) was published in July and the theme is "Peacemaking". The five thematic articles in this issue are: "An Eye for an Eye' as Law and Ethics" (Wong Fook-kong), "Peace with God, Peace with Man: A Preliminary Study of the Meaning of *Selamim* in the Old Testament" (Tony Sher), "Sharing the Blessing of the 'Peacemaker': An Exegetical Analysis of Matthew 5:9" (Jonathan Lo), "Anthanasian Principles on Maintaining Conflict and Making Peace" (Nathan K. Ng), and "Patience as Method — John Howard Yoder's Epistemology of Peace" (Freeman Huen). There are additional articles of interest included along with several book reviews. *Hill Road* is available in local Christian book stores or can be obtained at the Seminary or its education centers. For enquiries or subscription, please call 2768 5168.

*Theology of the Pastoral Letters:*

*Succession of Paul's God-Centered Vision*, written by Dr. Sam Tsang, the Seminary's Associate Professor of New Testament, will be published in late August. He asks the question, "What did the audience need to know in order to understand the content of the Pastoral Epistles?" Dr. Tsang explores the message and theology of the Pastoral Epistles

by providing an inter-textual study of the biblical theology and rhetoric of these books. Through the methods suggested in his book, Dr. Tsang hopes to help readers better understand both the theology and content of First and Second Timothy, and Titus.



## Financial Report

### General Fund, 1 February 2014 - 30 April 2014

	HK\$
Income	7,357,342.16
Expenditure	<u>(7,980,031.62)</u>
Surplus / (Deficit)	<u><u>(622,689.46)</u></u>



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I will support The Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary by

- praying for the Seminary's theological education ministry
- contributing \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for
- Education Fund     Others: \_\_\_\_\_
- Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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- Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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Amount: HK\$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Credit card donations are denominated in HK\$)

The bank charge for credit card donation will be paid by the Seminary.

\* You may inform us to terminate this monthly donation at any time.

- Please send cheque or bank deposit slip with this reply to the Seminary at 1 Nin Ming Road, Sai O, Sai Kung North, N.T., Hong Kong.
- Receipt will be issued and donation is tax-deductible.
- Your name and donation amount will appear in the Seminary's *Newsletter*. If you do not wish them to appear in the *Newsletter*, please tick the right box.
- Your personal data will only be used for issuing receipt and Seminary's administration purposes.
- For donation enquiries: Tel : (852) 2715 9511  
Fax: (852) 2761 0868

*Thank you for your support !*

Publishing Supervisor: **Joshua Cho** Editorial Consultant: **Stephanie Lo** Editor: **Ernest Ho** Translators: **Celia Juergens, Ernest Ho**

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Tel: (852) 2715 9511 Fax: (852) 2761 0868 Website: <http://www.hkbts.edu.hk> Email: [bts-inquiry@hkbts.edu.hk](mailto:bts-inquiry@hkbts.edu.hk)

Production: **ABC Arts Centre** Printing: **Sun Art Printing Company**



DONORS REPORT FOR MARCH 2014

Education Fund (Church / Organization)

九龍國際浸信會	13,001.50
大埔浸信會	12,000.00
元朗浸信會	25,000.00
屯門浸信教會	500.00
牛池灣竹園潮語浸信會	10,000.00
以馬內利浸信會	4,000.00
石澳浸信會福音堂	5,500.00
沙田浸信會	23,000.00
赤柱浸信會	3,000.00
旺角浸信會	30,000.00
青山道潮語浸信會	3,000.00
紅磡浸信會	3,500.00
香港(西區)潮語浸信會	5,000.00
香港天樂浸信教會	3,000.00
香港仔浸信會	16,541.55
香港浸信教會	117,250.00
香港浸信教會顯理福音堂	8,000.00
香港聖己地城浸信教會	1,200.00
香港懷恩浸信教會	30,000.00
荃灣浸信會	40,000.00
基磐浸信會	1,500.00
將軍澳浸信會	500.00
深荃浸信會	500.00
新生命浸信會	3,000.00
新希望浸信會	1,500.00
置富浸信教會	2,000.00
筲箕灣浸信會	5,000.00
銅鑼灣浸信會	3,500.00
浸信宣道會恩禾堂	8,000.00
基督教九龍五旬節會佐敦堂	1,000.00
基督教四方福音會柴坪堂	1,000.00
基督教宣道會華基堂	1,500.00
基督教華人神召會旺角堂	500.00
基督教豐盛生命堂	1,000.00
香港培基教育機構	5,000.00
啓明基金	300.00
蘆作坊	500.00
HK\$	<u>389,793.05</u>

Education Fund (Donor)

Dr. & Mrs. Mui Chi Wing David	1,500.00
Ho Pui Shan	500.00
Lam Chun Hung	3,000.00
Lo Ying Hum & Wong Shui Kau	10,000.00
Yeung Yuk Wan	5,000.00
Tiffany Lau	10,000.00
Tong Siu Chun	1,000.00
Woo Hau Ying Bertha	600.00
方志強	100.00
王紹良	300.00
王群	800.00
白智信伉儷	500.00
朱活平伉儷	300.00
何仲儀	1,000.00
何偉明	200.00
何錦燕	500.00
何顯雄伉儷	30,000.00
吳炳榮伉儷	8,000.00
吳國傑伉儷	500.00
宋景昌	500.00
李瑞芳	7,000.00
李錦霞	1,500.00
胡文恩伉儷	500.00
徐詩雅	300.00
徐慧儀	500.00
曹偉彤	10,000.00
梁志美	5,000.00

梁廣華伉儷	500.00
梁耀黎光	1,000.00
梁麗嫦	300.00
莫莊雅	100.00
許鋒威	400.00
陳美德伉儷	1,000.00
陳偉倫	200.00
陳偉權	1,100.00
陳證光	500.00
陳麗英	500.00
勞家怡	500.00
馮德華	300.00
黃華娟	100.00
葉麗芳	1,000.00
劉永生	300.00
劉建紅	600.00
劉振剛伉儷	30,000.00
劉錦昌伉儷	2,000.00
蔡慧英	200.00
劉炳光伉儷	2,000.00
黎嘉賢	300.00
盧美娟	1,000.00
鄺振華伉儷	4,000.00
龐凌玉珍	1,000.00
羅佩珊	100.00
羅凱慈	500.00
譚嘉敏	500.00
關志偉	100.00
關德華伉儷	140.00
蘇玉貞	500.00
溫祥、黎琮珍	400.00
凌氏	500.00
無名氏	100,000.00
無名氏	10,000.00
無名氏	5,000.00
無名氏	3,000.00
無名氏	1,000.00
無名氏	500.00
無名氏	500.00
無名氏	500.00
無名氏	400.00
無名氏	300.00
無名氏	300.00
無名氏	200.00
無名氏	100.00
無名氏	76.40
無名氏	52.00
無名氏	31.30
無名氏	HK\$ 270,699.70
無名氏	RMB 15.00

Scholarships and Prizes

香港浸信教會婦女部	20,000.00
陳禮文伉儷	20,000.00
HK\$	<u>40,000.00</u>

Faith, Hope, and Love Project

溫恩智伉儷	HK\$ 100,000.00
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Fund for Training Ministry in China

盧炯志	HK\$ 30,000.00
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DE: Special Need Training Program

無名氏	HK\$ 100.00
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Lay Theological Education Program

教會行政事務證書課程同學	480.00
杜桂鵬	525.00
蔡麗桃	500.00
無名氏	200.00
HK\$	<u>1,705.00</u>

Distance Education Program

Ernest & Sylvia Ho	1,000.00
何鏡煒伉儷	3,000.00
鄒小寶	500.00
無名氏	1,000.00
無名氏	300.00
HK\$	<u>5,800.00</u>

Local Filipino Program

張智理伉儷	6,500.00
陳麗英	200.00
溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
HK\$	<u>6,900.00</u>

Theological Education for the Hearing Impaired

張智理伉儷	1,000.00
黃智惠伉儷	3,000.00
溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
HK\$	<u>4,200.00</u>

President Council

陳維智	100,000.00
無名氏	20,000.00
HK\$	<u>120,000.00</u>

Annual Concert

九龍城潮語浸信會	2,000.00
香港仔浸信會	2,000.00
荃灣浸信會	2,000.00
深水埗浸信會	2,000.00
愛群道浸信會	1,000.00
Kwan Yee Man	500.00
王紹良	1,000.00
何孟晉	500.00
李明珠	1,000.00
招志強伉儷	3,000.00
倪承恩	1,000.00
容志賢	500.00
徐沛然	1,000.00
袁鄧光	500.00
區德全	200.00
區寶芳	1,000.00
張學明	300.00
梁志美	5,000.00
梁溢長	1,000.00
陳偉生	2,000.00
陸澤潛伉儷	2,000.00
楊謝金玉	1,000.00
葉麗芳	500.00
歐陽學治	800.00
蕭潔明	500.00
霍禮成	500.00
鍾瑛	500.00
蘇玉貞	500.00
黃楹方	100.00
仔浸寶昌	6,000.00
無名氏	5,200.00
無名氏	100.00
HK\$	<u>45,200.00</u>

**DONORS REPORT FOR APRIL 2014**

**Education Fund (Church / Organization)**

九龍國際浸信會	14,410.00
上水浸信會	15,000.00
上環浸信會	4,000.00
大角嘴浸信會	8,992.00
大埔主恩浸信會	1,000.00
大埔浸信會	12,000.00
以馬內利浸信會	4,000.00
尖沙嘴國語浸信會	5,000.00
紅磡浸信會	3,500.00
香港(西區)潮語浸信會	5,000.00
香港仔浸信會	15,603.75
香港浸信教會	117,250.00
香港堅尼地城浸信教會	1,200.00
粉嶺浸信會	37,500.00
基石浸信會	2,600.00
將軍澳浸信會	500.00
深荃浸信會	500.00
第一城浸信會	3,750.00
愛群道浸信會	6,000.00
置富浸信教會	2,000.00
筲箕灣潮語浸信會	25,000.00
銅鑼灣浸信會	3,500.00
觀塘浸信會	3,367.00
香港華人基督教聯會	70,000.00
基督教宣道會華基堂	2,000.00
基督教豐盛生命堂	1,000.00
基督教華人神召會旺角堂	500.00
基督教四方福音會彩坪堂	1,000.00
啓聞基金	300.00
	HK\$ <u>366,472.75</u>
Chinese Indep. Baptist Church-S.F.	US\$ <u>540.00</u>

**Education Fund (Donor)**

<b>Robert Tung</b>	3,875.00
方志強	100.00
王群	800.00
白智信伉儷	500.00
朱活平伉儷	300.00
何仲儀	1,000.00
何偉明	200.00
何錦燕	500.00
何譚惠如	1,000.00
吳炳榮伉儷	8,000.00
吳國傑伉儷	500.00
李瑞芳	7,000.00
林威烈	1,000.00
冼志儉	2,500.00

胡文恩伉儷	500.00
徐承順伉儷	20,000.00
徐美鳳	500.00
徐詩雅	300.00
張憲銓伉儷	1,000.00
梁廣華伉儷	500.00
梁麗嫦	300.00
莫莊雅	100.00
許鋒威	400.00
陳偉倫	200.00
陳麗英	500.00
勞家怡	500.00
馮德華	300.00
黃華娟	100.00
葉煥章	300.00
趙偉舜	500.00
劉永生	300.00
劉桂江	600.00
蔡慧英	200.00
黎嘉賢	300.00
盧美娟	1,000.00
薛聲明	2,000.00
龐凌玉珍	1,000.00
羅佩珊	100.00
羅凱慈	500.00
譚嘉敏	500.00
關志偉	100.00
關德華伉儷	140.00
溫祥、黎琮珍	400.00
無名氏	10,000.00
無名氏	3,000.00
無名氏	1,000.00
無名氏	1,000.00
無名氏	1,000.00
無名氏	500.00
無名氏	500.00
無名氏	400.00
無名氏	300.00
無名氏	200.00
無名氏	100.00
無名氏	59.90
	HK\$ <u>78,474.90</u>
<b>Edna Wong Church Music Development Fund</b>	
無名氏	930.00
徐承順伉儷	10,000.00
	HK\$ <u>10,930.00</u>

**Lay Theological Education Program**

蔡艷桃	500.00
無名氏	200.00
	HK\$ <u>700.00</u>

**Distance Education Program**

Ernest & Sylvia Ho	1,000.00
何鏡煒伉儷	3,000.00
鄒小寶	1,000.00
無名氏	300.00
	HK\$ <u>5,300.00</u>

**Local Filipino Program**

TEFL 2014 Graduates	2,700.00
白中興	5,000.00
張智理伉儷	7,275.00
陳麗英	200.00
溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
	HK\$ <u>15,375.00</u>

**Theological Education for the Hearing Impaired**

張智理伉儷	1,000.00
溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
	HK\$ <u>1,200.00</u>

**DE: Special Need Training Program**

無名氏	HK\$ <u>100.00</u>
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**Rev. Lau Siu Hong Theological Training Fund**

黃雅忠	HK\$ <u>50,000.00</u>
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**Annual Concert**

粉嶺浸信會	2,000.00
錫安浸信會	1,000.00
Hui Siu Mei	500.00
朱活平伉儷	2,000.00
吳承士、吳幼靜伉儷	2,500.00
陶國良伉儷	200.00
	HK\$ <u>8,200.00</u>

**Dr. Carter/Edgar Morgan Memorial Scholarship &**

**Trust Fund**

香港美南浸信會差會	306.67
徐承順伉儷	10,000.00
	HK\$ <u>10,306.67</u>

**Faith, Hope, & Love Project: Research & Dev. Fund**

馬沃明	HK\$ <u>500,000.00</u>
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## Precious Moments

### **April 5, 2014 The Fifth Graduation Ceremony of the Theological Education Program for Filipino Leaders (TEFL)**

TEFL is offered by HKBTS in cooperation with the Philippines Baptist

Theological Seminary and this year there are 35 graduates, including 5 degree students, 8 diploma students and 26 certificate students (4 students were awarded certificates from two different programs). Over 300 people attended the ceremony. Professor Jerry Juergens, the first Program Director of TEFL, presented diplomas and certificates while Dr. Armand Canoy, President of PBTS, conferred degrees as well as delivering the message to graduates.



### **May 5 Concert of Praise 2014**

The Annual Concert of Praise was held at the Academic Community Hall of Hong Kong Baptist University. This year's theme was "On Earth as in Heaven". The contents included singing from the Seminary's Joint Choir, the playing of musical instruments, testimonies from faculty and students, inspirational dancing, and a message from Dr. Jonathan Lo. There were over 800 people present, and we altogether offered up to God our songs of praise as we sang joyfully from our souls.



### **April 8-10 Expository Preaching Week**

The Expository Preaching Week is held annually in April with a teacher doing an expository preaching for three consecutive days during the morning chapel. Dr. Lindsay Robertson, Associate Professor of Christian Thought (Theology and Philosophy), was the speaker and he preached from the Book of Daniel 1-2 and 4-5.





**May 8 Commissioning Ceremony for Our Graduating Students**

In the glistening candlelight of the Commissioning Ceremony, our graduating students received words of congratulations, blessings, and prayers from the Seminary community as they were commissioned to go out to serve in different ministry fields to light up countless lives with the grace of Christ. That morning, President Cho officiated the ceremony and Dr. Vincent Lau exhorted these graduating students on behalf of the faculty.



**May 22 A Sharing Meeting with the President's Council**

Members of the President's Council met in a sharing meeting before the Awards Presentation Ceremony to exchange views on the direction and development of the Seminary. Valuable recommendations were made to President Cho. We are grateful for the concern of the President's Council members about the recent condition and the needs of the Seminary. May God bless them richly for their love and service to the Seminary.



**May 22 Directors Installation Ceremony**

On the evening when the whole seminary was rejoicing, at the same time we held the Installation Ceremony for a new term of Directors. Altogether we offered our thanksgiving and prayers to the Lord who leads us forward.

**June 13-15 An Exchange Visit to Huizhou**

The visit was organized by the Missions Department of the Student Union. Led by their teacher, Dr. Eric

Kwong, a team of 30 teachers and students went with brothers and sisters from Mong Kok Swatow Baptist Church to Huizhou, visited churches at Jiang Bei, Xiao Jin Kou and Yang Tian. They also made a visit to the home of the elderly. Our students took part in evangelism, training classes, Bible study groups, children's Sunday School, and they sang in a Sunday Worship Service as the choir. They also had an exchange with local Christians and prayed with them. Through the trip, they came to have a personal understanding of the local churches' needs and conditions. They were touched by the people they met who had a simple, genuine faith in the Lord.



**June 3-10 A Trip of Love to the Mainland by the Hill Singers**

The Seminary's Choir, the Hill Singers, went on an 8-day trip of love to the Mainland. Our students, led by their teacher, Mrs. Helen Wan, visited different places to provide training and to give testimonies with the gospel songs. We thank God for His care and protection of our students who experienced God's love. What the students gained surpasses what they gave.

