

Newsletter

February 2013

Poverty of the "Non-Poor"

Joshua Cho

Poverty of the "Poor"

Poverty can be defined as a deficiency. The poor lack adequate food, safe shelter or clean drinking water. In this world, many are not provided with medical or social services. The poor often lack access to information and their children lack educational opportunities. The poor are generally ignorant of their legal rights and cannot afford lawyers, making them easy prey to bullying. They know not how to seek justice. We can conclude that the poor are generally dis-empowered; they may be deprived of their rights or may lose their rights. But this dis-empowerment impacts different social groups quite differently. Thus we must learn to see how children, teenagers, the elderly, women or the handicapped experience dis-empowerment in different ways.

The dis-empowerment of children and teenagers means there is a shortage of available resources for their developmental growth.

Very often, poverty among children can be all-encompassing as it makes them helpless, vulnerable and unable to protect themselves. Such children are among the poorest of the poor. In moral terms, such children often do not have loving, capable, and responsible parents to love and care for them properly and who fail to teach them right from wrong. These children are not taught to empathize with others — to rejoice with them or to feel their pain. Such children cannot know the happiness of "doing the right thing" or the remorse of "doing the wrong thing." As they grow up, their role models may only be those adults who get used to seeking violent means to solve problems and committing crimes. These poor teenagers are often forced to leave school to become underage laborers or even worse. Some are sold into child prostitution or recruited to be sea pirates or guerrilla fighters.

The dis-empowerment of women can be both physiological and social. Statistics from the United Nations verify that the world's women generally receive less education than men, and women constitute two-thirds of the world's illiterate population. Statistics also reveal that while women make up two-thirds of the world's labor force, women earn one-tenth of the world's income and

President's Word



own less than one percent of the world's property. These poor women tend to be found in areas of extreme poverty.

Poverty of the “Non-Poor”: Their Identity Is Broken

In countries or regions where the majority is made up of the “poor,” a handful of the “non-poor” occupy positions of great authority and honor. Many “non-poor” live among the poor to take advantage of them. They are likely to be police officers, politicians, and landlords, and they establish their power through commerce, the courts and the political system. These powerful “non-poor” will use religious organizations, the media, the legal system, and the government to justify their power. They create stories, justify their actions, and create social systems to establish themselves in their powerful positions as absolute lords over the poor. They are united with one another, seeking all possible ways to consolidate and expand one another's power and authority. They use means of cheating, violence, and intimidation to bully the poor. In commerce, the “non-poor” snatch goods from the poor by forcing the poor to sell their goods to them at prices far below the fair market price. These greedy people know the poor are desperate and have little power to resist them. This is how the poor become victims of unfair trade practices.

The result is that the “non-poor” dominate the poor, playing god by controlling their poor victims, and become tyrants ruling over the poor and treating them as their captives. Accepting such a captive identity and expecting command and protection from the powerful “non-poor,” many poor people surrender their freedom to

them. Obviously, these poor people lack a sense of self worth. They consider themselves fated to be worthless, not good, impotent, and unproductive lackeys to their captors. Such poor people are filled with so much self-despising, self-withdrawal, and self-loathing so that they do not demand their rights to exert their free will. Unable to act independently and robbed of all hope, they forfeit their humanity. These people are at the lowest level of poverty. This kind of poverty is a thorough poverty, total poverty.

However, there are many places where the non-poor and the poor overlap. While the non-poor are not impoverished, they also experience the poverty of the poor. Their identity is likewise broken but in a different way. This is because when the non-poor play god in other people's lives, they lose their true selves. The very act of protecting their honor and plundering other people's right creates poverty within them. They are exceedingly poor because they live lives in terror, loneliness, and void. This kind of poverty is unique among the non-poor. When the non-poor take advantage of the social system for personal gain, they fear others will cheat them likewise. That explains why they always seek monopoly and fight to win, but the more they get, the more worried they become: Worried about failure and about losing what they have. Even when they see something true and good, they will still doubt its value.

It Is Hard for the “Non-Poor” to Believe in God and Experience the Gospel

What is most regrettable is that these “non-poor” find it harder than the poor to believe in God and experience the gospel. Mark 10 records that a rich man, when faced with the hollowness of his life, asks Jesus for eternal life and wants the assurance that his goodness qualifies him for eternal life. That is why he actually “runs” up to see Jesus.

It is unusual that a rich man would run up to see Jesus. Then in the blazing Palestinian sun and before the

eyes of strangers, we see him knelling before Jesus to ask, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" (Mk 10:17) What a stunning act!

However, Jesus' response is even more stunning. First of all, Jesus refuses being called "good teacher." He says, "Why do you call me good? No one is good — except God alone." Why does Jesus answer that way? Perhaps, the rich man, like other people, thinks that Jesus possesses some special power or wisdom that enables Him to solve the problem of eternal life. Therefore, the rich man regards Jesus as good. In the same way, we today look to good professional people such as a social worker, a counselor or a psychiatrist to seek ways to solve our problems. However, some questions are what social workers, counselors, and psychiatrists cannot answer. None of these experts can answer life's basic question; only God can answer the basic question of life.

This may explain why Jesus refused to provide the so called best professional advice and to be called "good teacher." He did not want to be reduced to be just an outstanding professional. Instead, Jesus Christ challenges the rich man to return to life's basic question: Does the rich man accept that God is the basis of his life?

Is God the Basis of Man's Life?

Jesus Christ goes on to remind the rich man to refocus his life on God and to listen afresh to God's commandments. Jesus says, "You know the commandments: Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, do not defraud, honor your father and mother." The expression of genuine faith is to listen to God's commandments.

However, the rich man is not yet ready to receive the Words of Jesus Christ and he looks disappointed. He considers himself to be good already and is sure he spends his life doing good. He said, "Teacher, all these I have kept since I was a boy."

At that moment, Jesus looks at the rich man with loving kindness and tells him the hard truth: "One thing you lack, go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." (10:21) The young man is asked to leave everything behind and follow Jesus.

After listening to Jesus' answer, the rich man cannot accept Jesus' Words, regarding them as too demanding. He was troubled. Must one really sell everything one has and give to the poor in order to inherit eternal life? He cannot accept the Words of Jesus Christ. For that reason, Jesus Christ says, "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." (10:25) In other words, it is hard for those rich people who trust in themselves or have worldly power to inherit eternal life. Without knowing it, they trust themselves or value their material possession more than God. They are unable to give up their possessions and to allow Jesus to be all they have.

The Door of the Gospel Is Open to the "Poor" Non-Poor

As we know, here Jesus Christ emphasizes that, while it is hard for the rich to enter the kingdom of heaven, it is not impossible. Poverty itself is neither the necessary nor the sufficient condition to enter the God's kingdom. The mystery of the kingdom of heaven is that God stands at the door of God's kingdom which he has prepared for all people, both the poor and the non-poor. If a person recognizes that he is poor in spirit and considers himself to have nothing at all, and is willing to put everything into God's hands, God will become all that he has. It is in this way that the door of God's kingdom remains wide open for the "poor" non-poor. The non-poor can likewise experience freedom from the world's power or authority and the joy of being in God's arms, and enjoy the *shalom* of being in His presence.

(Scripture quotations are taken from the NIV Bible.)

Students' Testimonies of God's Call

The Fisher-girl Chosen by God

Lai Suk-fun (M.Div. I)



Suk-fun, Kam-wah and their children

The Small Wish of a Fisher-Girl

"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb." (Ps 139:13) From an early age, I have deeply appreciated the meaning of this scripture verse. I was born into a Christian family and even while in my mother's womb, I had gone to church. I consider my parents' greatest gift to me is their enabling me to come in contact with the gospel and making it possible for me to know the Lord Jesus personally. This opportunity was also the most beautiful blessing in my life.

I remember when I was in junior secondary school, I heard my grandma exclaim in perfect contentment, "Thank heavens! My daughter can be a pastor! What a good thing it is!" Grandpa and grandma were fisher people. In the old days, most of their children had had no opportunity for education. Although my aunt, my father's younger sister, had been a fisher-girl, she could not only graduate from secondary school but could also finish her seminary training. She dedicated herself to be a pastor, much to the joy and satisfaction of my grandma. Under the imperceptible influence of my grandma, I had incubated my own secret wish that God would choose me, also a fisher-girl, to be a pastor.

"Pardon Me for My Little Faith, But Please Wait Until I ..."

In 1980, I went to study in The Hong Kong Institute of Education. After three years' training, I became a qualified teacher deeply engaged in the work of education. At that time, I took an oath, promising God: "Allow me to work in school for ten years. After ten years, I will leave the teaching post to serve you full time!"

Ten years passed me as quickly as flowing water. When I was 31 years of age, I remembered that ten years earlier, I had promised God to be a pastor. However, as I looked at my new-born daughter and my five-year-old son, suddenly the pressure of my family's financial burden was pressing so heavily on me that I lacked the courage to give up the steady income of my teaching post. As a result, I flatly refused God's call to me and answered Him by saying, "O Lord, I am sorry but this is indeed impossible at present! Pardon me for my little faith but please wait until I am 45. Then I will take early retirement and serve you full time...."

The Ups and Downs of Life Are Not Predictable

The years passed by quickly. During this period

of time, I enjoyed my work as a teacher and was pleased to commit myself to serving my own church. Meanwhile, I also found our family life pleasant. Then in 2004, I faced a dramatic turning point in life. That year, just after we had moved to a bigger flat, my husband, Kam-wah, faced difficulties in his job and was consequently laid off. Our family finances were suddenly strained. We had to sell the flat at a loss to reduce the burden of a big mortgage. We had to start everything from scratch. From this incident I realized that the ups and downs of life are beyond human control! I had always presumed that my husband's job was secure and I never imagined that our safe world would collapse. Nothing in life is ever completely safe.

Approximately half a year later, when Kam-wah managed to find a job, his income was unstable. However, both of us thanked God for the period of time during which Kam-wah was looking for a job because God gave us more time to build up a closer husband-wife relationship. This time also helped us experience the truth of God's promise in Psalm 23: "The Lord is our shepherd and I shall not be in want." Despite being in dire financial straits in our daily living, God allowed our hearts to be filled with peace and joy. However, at that time I did not recall my promise to serve God full time. It seemed I had forgotten all about it.

God Called Again When I Was 45 Years Old

Then in February 2008, God made His call to me loud and clear. It came through a sermon in one Sunday Worship Service and it reawakened my resolution to set out on the road of consecration. During that worship service, my pastor told us the story of Mary who took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume, and poured on Jesus' feet. Mary unreservedly poured out the bottle of perfume, which would cost her a year's wage, all for her Lord Jesus. She loved the Lord Jesus deeply. Because of her close relationship with Jesus, she seized that crucial moment. Our pastor challenged us to give our all in response to God's love and encouraged us to put aside our work to study in the church's one-year church ministry program. At that moment, the lyrics of the hymn we sang moved me deeply: "All that has been achieved can be discarded and all my failure can also be"

At that moment I wanted to respond to God's call, yet I still had many inner struggles. As a result, I still could not gather enough courage to walk down to the front.

Three days later I joined the church's Wednesday evening prayer meeting. That evening, our pastor preached from the same scripture text again and called all those willing to forsake everything and commit themselves to the Lord to walk down to the front to make the commitment. At that time, my heart was melted by the love of God and I could no longer resist God's call. At last, I plucked up my courage to walk down to the front. When our pastor prayed for me, I could not stop my tears from slowly flowing down as I deeply experienced the great love of the Lord Jesus. I did not want to miss the opportunity again and I was determined to consecrate myself to the Lord. In the past I could never have imagined that I had almost forgotten my pledge of consecration to God but God in His great wisdom had never forgotten. Right then I recalled my promise to God: "At the age of forty five... at the age of forty five..." Amazingly, God has never forgotten my promise and He has renewed His call to me when I was forty five years old.

One Year's Wage One Year's Study Expense

After responding to God's call, I began to consider quitting my job to begin full time seminary training. When I shared the idea of serving God full time with my husband, he strongly supported my decision and encouraged me to "take a step forward." However, in my heart, I was still worried about the family's financial needs for I did not want to impose a heavier burden on my husband. In March not long after our conversation, Kam-wah suddenly received a sizeable bonus from his company, an amount that was equal to one year of my salary. It seemed that God was saying to me, "Do you still have no faith in me? I am your shepherd and you shall not be in want. Do you not know that I, your God, have the power to provide for your family's needs? Trust in me!" I have always been one with little faith, yet God still takes care of me. At that time, I came to feel deeply that God cared for me in my weaknesses. He actually cared so much for me personally!

So, I summoned enough courage to leave my teaching post after some 25 years in the education field

and I enrolled to study in my church's ministry training program. The study that year not only enriched my self-understanding but also provided me the opportunity to reflect on my spiritual life. It helped me begin to acquire theological knowledge systematically. After completing a year's training, the Lord led me to enter into full time ministry in my own church where I served as an assistant minister.

“My Power Is Made Perfect in Weakness”

I joined the church's ministry team but then in those two years, the church was going through a series of personnel changes, and as a result the pastor and several ministers resigned in succession. Seeing my mother church facing so many difficulties, my heart was bleeding. The result was that my spiritual condition was at its lowest level. All along, I held fast to God as I believed that, through it all, God must have a purpose to allow me to be in my present ministry post. In those tough times, I learned to pray earnestly for the church with the strong conviction that God would take good care of the church He continued to love. As my prayer life was strengthened, the personnel problems within the church did not obstruct my commitment to God. Instead, this experience taught me to realize that man is by nature weak and in

constant need of God's mercy. Facing different challenges, we must claim the Christian truth and stand firm as we trust in God's Word. God's Word must remain our standard and guide in life so that we do not drift with the changing currents of the world.

After serving two years in my church, God led me to enter HKBTS to receive three years' full time seminary training. As I return to study in school, I need to overcome all kinds of obstacles. Being one of little faith, I indeed fear that I lack the ability to handle the pressure of full time study. But the Word of God encourages me again and again: “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” (2 Cor 12:9) Whenever I recall Jesus' sayings, my faith is soon restored and I dare to march forward without fear. Since God has provided for me abundantly in material, I believe He will also give me sufficient ability and care for me with all that I need. Since my past experience of God's call has been so good and true, I am truly convinced that the experience of these few years of seminary study will similarly be good and true as I can know the Lord who called me all the more deeply.

“O Lord, thank You for patiently waiting for my response after so many years! O Lord, I am willing to submit to You!”



Students' Testimonies of God's Call

God's Call to Me Remains Unchanged for Ten Years

Chan Tsz-chiu (M.Div. I)



Tsz-chiu and Kit-ming

Lingering between Consecration and Desertion

As early as ten years ago, the thought of serving God full time began to emerge. In the past months, my mind lingered between consecration and desertion. I had once made up my mind to follow my yearning to serve God full time, then there was also a time when I felt downhearted, shedding tears as I refused to accept God's call.

As a child, I followed my elder sister to church where I came to know Jesus in Sunday School. At that time, I enjoyed going to church on Sundays to have fun with other children. However, I had some doubts about the Bible stories but I had never dared to mention them to anyone. In primary four, I studied in a school with no religious affiliation. Unknowingly, I gradually drifted away from God.

My remaining primary and secondary school life quickly passed by. In 2001, I began to study in Shu Yan College and came to join Shu Yan Students Christian Fellowship. Through their fine Christian witness, God helped me once again take my Christian faith seriously and I renewed my consecration to God. Despite my inner struggles and doubts that I still could not live a good Christian life, the Bible gave me a definite answer: Christianity demands that a Christian should not only confess his sin and believe in Jesus' resurrection, but he also needs to submit his life's sovereignty to God. This

instruction from the Bible awakened me and I once again asked God to come into my heart, as I dedicated my life's sovereignty to Him.

In these fiery years of my studies, I also learned to read God's Word and listen to what He was saying to me. The instructors in the fellowship led us to do group Bible study and taught us how to follow Christ as His disciples according to the teachings of the Bible. Studying the Word of God amazed me. I was astounded to find that the scriptures I read as a university student were much more in-depth in meaning than the Bible stories I had heard as a child. At that time I deeply felt that if I could bring a person to God through His Word that would be very meaningful. Therefore, I determined to be a pastor, dedicating myself to teaching people the truth in the Bible. Soon after that, I had had lunch with my mother and I asked her, "If I studied in a seminary to become a pastor, what would you say?" Her immediate active and positive response was music to my ears. It was a confirmation from someone who might have refused me. From then on, the seed of "studying in a seminary to become a pastor" began to grow in my heart day by day.

During Spiritual Depression I Experienced God's Wholly Acceptance

After graduation, I was able to find a job quickly but soon after that my Christian pilgrimage fell to a low ebb. From 2006 to 2007, I went through a period of spiritual

depression when I did not read the Bible, pray, do personal devotional, and join any Christian worship or fellowship. I doubted myself fundamentally. When I faced my true self, I considered myself to be unworthy of being called a “Christian,” nor even a “good person.” Although I was not indulging in a life of luxury, I was like someone lost on the open sea as every day I led a meaningless life without direction.

Yet, the grace of God is sufficient as He led me to work in an organization serving mentally handicapped people. I was able to move into their quarter and live with them. During that time, even when I lost my temper for no good reason a few times, they continued to accept me, even taking the initiative to talk with me and forgiving me again and again. God made use of the experience in those days to lead me to reflect: Did not the pure, true love, and tolerance of this group of mentally handicapped people reveal to me that God not only deeply understood my deep-rooted bad habits but also accepted me wholly as a sinner? I came to realize how my own sinful nature had been troubling me and I knew that I needed to return to God's grace once again.

From Self-Negation to God's Affirmation

In 2008, I returned to my mother church, Kwun Tong Swatow Baptist Church, and began learning and growing once again. Two years later, I had the opportunity to share with the pastor my resolution to serve God full time. He encouraged me to bring along “the scripture verse that goes to the depth of my heart” to a retreat where I could search for God's will. Just when I was all prepared and about to go on my retreat, I was suddenly beset by my dark side which made me feel unworthy of God's call and caused me to question my true motives for serving God full time. On the way to the retreat center, I became aware of a certain building. One side of its outer wall had been repainted, making it look clean and tidy as well as new and bright. However, the paint was peeling off in many parts of the other side of the wall so that it looked extremely ruined. The image of this building helped me realize that God knows both my bright outlook and my gloomy inside. Despite my own unworthiness, I was encouraged to know that God clearly knows who I am. I then was able to pluck up my courage to continue going forward in search of His will for my life.

After arriving at the retreat center, I continued to

pray, read the Bible and sing hymns, and to study the scripture narrative on the “rich young man” recorded in three of the gospels. It was this passage that struck me to the depth of my heart. Every time when I considered practicing literally the teaching of “selling everything you have,” I was worried and wondered whether I would have to sell everything I had. That day, when I studied that passage in detail, I found that I had missed another key point: “Give to the poor.” It turned out that I had focused on “selling everything you have” and failed to notice that the scripture reminds me to share what I have with those poor in spirit. I had missed that the scripture verse calls me to teach the biblical truths I know to those who are poor in spirit, sharing with them the love of God, and caring for my brothers and sisters in need.

Leaving the retreat center, I saw at the entrance the warm light of the setting sun through the branches of a big tree. This picture reminded me of an almond tree branch mentioned in the first chapter of Jeremiah as God's promise that He will certainly keep watch to make sure His Word is fulfilled. On that day, God reaffirmed that since He had called me, He would ensure I would have enough faith to follow Him in going forward and to learn to store up treasures in heaven.

How Can I Race with Horses?

Three months later, in mid 2010, I began working as an administrative clerk in my mother church. At that time, I was taking a certificate program in Christian Education. Joining the ranks of those serving in my mother church enabled me to have more learning opportunities and to embark upon a journey of an in-depth reflection of my Christian faith. At my work post, I needed to cope with all kinds of problems that were related to my church's shepherding work, to determine my own view among diverse opinions, and to find a balance between accommodating love and giving clear guidance. After a year and a half, I found myself physically and mentally exhausted and I also saw that my passion for the gospel was gradually fading.

In December 2011, I went through a non-peaceful Christmas Eve. That night I felt depressed and I wanted to quit my post to avoid my current predicament by using the excuse that I was applying to study in a seminary. But in fact, not only did I want to resign from my work at the church, but I even also wanted to cast aside my call from

God! Just when I could stand it no more, a scripture verse popped up in my mind: "If you have raced with men on foot and they have worn you out, how can you compete with horses? If you stumble in safe country, how will you manage in the thickets by the Jordan?" (Jer 12:5)

Having finished the church's Christmas Eve activity, I returned home and found my wife sound asleep. Then I alone prayed to God in the sitting room. When I prayed, I began confessing that I had abused God's gift by saying something I should not have said, that at times I was presumptuous, and that I had many evil thoughts, even to the point of assuming that I was acting in a righteous way. At that moment, the picture of "racing with horses" once again hovering in my mind. I became aware that God knew well what an awful state of mind I had been in. Still, He kept telling me clearly: "If you could not help feeling tired upon walking a certain distance along this path today, how can you compete with horses in the future? In the days to come, as a pastoral worker, you have to face situations much more difficult and complicated than today's problems, are you willing to face them by counting on me?" Both God's warning and consolation enabled me to affirm my consecration and response to God's call to be a pastor to proclaim the Bible's truth. Perhaps the road in the future will be more difficult than today's road, but I am convinced that whatever may happen, God will still be with me and make me a fortified city, an iron pillar, and a bronze wall. Through His support, I will have renewed strength from Him to face everything.

The Call from God Has Never Changed

Reflecting upon my struggle and my wanderings

along the road of consecration throughout the past ten years, one thing is for sure: God has been calling me from the very beginning. He shepherds those who are poor in spirit and those thirsty for righteousness, bringing them back to Him with teachings in the Bible. Although I must face my own limitations and all kinds of difficulties, none of these will stop me from continuing to commit myself to serve God because He has always kept watch over the call that He put in my heart.

Before I applied to study in the seminary, I had asked my mother once again, "What would you say if I go to study theology and to become a pastor?" Her response was no longer as active and positive as before but she was still willing to support me with other family members. In face of this problem, the things I had to consider were admittedly different from those of ten years ago for I now had a family of my own and I had a completely different set of commitments. I thank God for my mother's support and also for my wife, Kit-ming, who had always co-walked with me in these few years. She has not only gone through the whole process of how I have experienced God's call, but has also fully supported me to set out on the road of consecration.

Throughout these ten years, God's call to me has not changed. God, who is the author and finisher of my faith, has paved the way for me, leading me to study and be trained at HKBTS. From now on, I am willing to study the Bible in greater depth. I also hope that God will strengthen me in my weaknesses and rebuild my life so that I can offer up to Him service that is pleasing to Him and become a servant who shepherds His sheep, teaching them faithfully.

Student Recruitment 2013-14

Date of Application for Admission

Hong Kong : January 1–June 14

Overseas : January 1–April 30

Date of Admission Examination

Individual arrangement within the Seminary's office hours

For enquiries:

Telephone: 2768 5130 Email: admissions@hkbts.edu.hk Webpage: www.hkbts.edu/hk

Academic Affairs News

The Full Time Ministry Seminar

The Full Time Ministry Seminar was held on October 27 last year. That day Dr. Andres Tang, Professor of Christian Thought (Theology and Culture), gave a talk on "What Is the Purpose of Studying Theology?" Other program features included introduction to HKBTS's study programs and seminary life, sharing from new students and alumni, and meeting with professors and seminary students. All these help participants know more about God's call, full time ministry, and the Seminary's study programs.

Joint Programs Graduation Ceremony

The Seminary's Joint Programs Graduation Ceremony of the Main Program, Lay Theological Education Department, and Distance Education Program was held on November 25 at Kowloon City Baptist Church. This year there were 36 graduating degree students (together with those diploma and certificate students in the same program), and 273 graduates from the diploma and certificate programs. Nearly 1,300 guests attended the ceremony.

Faculty Movement

Dr. Jonathan Lo has been appointed Visiting Assistant Professor of New Testament effective January 1, 2013. Dr. Lo received his Doctor of Philosophy degree from University of Edinburgh and his research interest includes the Old Testament in the New Testament, the Gospels, Christology, Christian Origins, Biblical Theology, and Biblical Greek.

Dr. Alexander Mak, Assistant Professor of New Testament, left his post on January 1. We thank Dr. Mak for his faithful service to the Seminary in the past and pray for God's blessings for His servant as He will lead him to set foot on a new ministry path.

Dr. Lindsay Robertson, Associate Professor of Christian Thought (Theology and Philosophy), will be on deputation in Australia from January to June.

The Winter Intensive Courses

The Winter Intensive Courses were conducted from January 7 to 11. The two courses offered were: "Advanced Homiletics" taught by Dr. Sam Tsang, Associate Professor of New Testament and "Ezra and

Nehemiah" by Dr. Tony Sher, Assistant Professor of Old Testament.

Visitors

- Alumna Kong Choi-lin paid a visit to the Seminary on August 30, 2012.
- Alumnus Ooi Hio-kee visited the Seminary on September 11.
- Dr. Perry Shaw, Professor of Christian Education at the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary visited the Seminary on September 17.
- Alumnus Rev. Chan Kam-hung paid a visit to the Seminary on October 4.
- Chris Barnden, Director of Ministries in Australian Support Team of Global Interaction visited the Seminary on October 6.
- Rev. Terry Smith, Director of Partnerships and Initiatives for Canadian Baptist Ministries paid a visit to the Seminary on October 11.

Faculty News

Dr. Andres Tang, Professor of Christian Thought (Theology and Culture) spoke consecutively in September and November, 2012 at the bi-monthly meeting organized by The Chinese Christian and Missionary Alliance Joint Development Group for the pastoral coworkers. Dr. Tang's topic was "Viewing the Eschaton from the perspective of Hope" and "Church: The Community of the Eucharist" respectively. On November 24, Dr. Tang spoke on the topic "A Christian Reflection on Contemporary Moral Collapse" in the "Dialogue between Christianity and Chinese Culture Series" organized by the Education Department of The Hong Kong Chinese Christian Churches Union. Dr. Tang's article, "Spirituality, Is First and Foremost a Theological Issue," has been included in *The Radiance of Spirituality* (Hong Kong: Editorial Board of Spiritual Formation International, 2012). His other article, "The Church in Disorder: To Think about the Nature of the Church from the Salvific Activity of the Triune God" has been published in *The Church Not Being Church* (Hong Kong: Logos, 2012).

Lay Theological Education Department

Application for enrolment in the following programs has begun:

Diploma / Certificate in Lay Theological Training Program (*Teaching is conducted in Cantonese*)

January to March quarter:

Subject	Lecturer	Venue	Date / Time
Personality, Temperament and Ministry	Mrs. Fan Cheng Nai-yu	Mong Kok Education Center	(Class A) 7/1 – 4/3; classes are suspended on 11/2 (Mon, 8 lessons) 7:15 – 9:45 pm (Class B) 9/1 – 6/3, classes are suspended on 13/2 (Wed 8 lessons) 7:15 – 9:45 pm
Care and Counseling for Infants and Children	Mrs. Ng Lee Kam-lai	Mong Kok Education Center	15/1 – 12/3; classes are suspended on 12/2 (Tue, 8 lessons) 7:15 – 9:45 pm
Book Study (NT): Hebrews	Ms. Vivien Tsang	Mong Kok Education Center	3/1 – 28/2; classes are suspended on 14/2, (Tue, 8 lessons) 7:15 – 9:45 pm
The Many Faces of Death	Rev. Lam Wai-lim	Mong Kok Education Center	24/1 – 21/3; classes are suspended on 14/2 (Thu, 8 lessons) 7:15 – 9:45 pm
Continuing the Great Commission: Evangelism as Viewed from Various Angles	Mr. Kwong Wai-chi	Mong Kok Education Center	31/1 – 28/3; classes are suspended on 14/2 (Thu, 8 lessons) 7:00 – 10 pm

Class Location:

Mongkok Education Center	(10/F, Chung Kiu Commercial Building, 47-51 Shan Tung Street, Mong Kok)
Applied Theological Education Center	(8/F., Christian Building, 56 Bute Street, Mong Kok)
The New Zone of Deepwell Emmanuel Church	(Flat 2A, Chan Kee Commercial Center, 48 Castle Peak Road, Sham Tseng, New Territories)

Diploma / Certificate Program in Elderly Ministry

To provide training for those ministers, lay Christians and Christians working in the social service sector and who are interested in knowing more about the elderly and the challenges faced by our aging population. The certificate program can be completed in one year. Lessons will begin in April and classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday evening.

The program content includes the following topics: Caring Ministry for the Elderly, Family Ministry for the Elderly, Evangelistic Ministry for the Elderly, Education Ministry for the Elderly, Recreation and Sport Ministry for the Elderly, Church Music Ministry for the Elderly, Looking at Death from Different Angles, and Practicum.

The deadline for enrolment is March 15 (Late applicants can still apply)

Youth Ministry Diploma Program

The program provides systematic training in ministerial skills and basic theological equipping for Christians who want to understand the youth community and who are committed to joining the youth ministry.

The program can be completed in approximately two and a

half years. Classes will begin in April and are held on Monday evening. The program is open to late applicants.

The program content includes the following topics: The Family and Youth, Leading a Lively Worship Service, Process and Skills in Counseling, and Games and Adventure.

The deadline for enrolment is March 15 (Late applicants can still apply)

Diploma / Certificate Program in Church Administration and General Affairs

The program provides holistic and systematic training for those currently serving as church administrative staff and those interested in serving. The Certificate Program can be completed in one year and lessons will begin in April and are held on Tuesday evening.

The program content includes the following topics: Individual Spiritual Formation, The Art of Relating to One Another in a Group, Personnel and Administrative Management Skills.

The deadline for enrolment is March 28 (Late applicants can still apply).

For enquiries or application: call 2711 2552 or log on our website: www.hkbs.edu.hk/lted to download an application form.

Distance Education Program

Exploring Truth Reflecting upon Faith Equipping for Ministry

Student Recruitment for Spring Term

The new diploma programs will begin in March 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	March and September	March semester : Hong Kong: January 1-June 14
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: January 1-April 30
Higher Diploma in Biblical Studies / Christian Studies programs	Further studies for students who have completed the diploma program			September semester : Hong Kong: August 10
		Completion of the diploma program and the recommendation of a church pastor		Overseas: July 10
Certificate in N.T./O.T. Studies Programs	Introductory programs in biblical studies and leading students to study systematically a specific book of the Bible.	All are welcome.	Register at any time. Concessions in fees are available. Students can begin at any time.	
Elective students: Students can choose part of the subjects offered in the correspondence courses according to their own personal interest. For details, please log on the “Distance Education” website.				

On-line Program	Program Description	Date of Commencement
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On-line Certificate in Old Testament Studies Program

On-line Certificate in New Testament Studies Program

- * Using a new on-line platform (Moodle).
- * For those interested in studying the Bible, its contents are identical with the correspondence program.

Features:

- * Students' course work is marked by experienced tutors; course work is handled efficiently and quickly through the platform on the webpage.
- * Students can read directly and download learning materials and course work on the webpage.
- * Students can upload the finished course work on the web for the tutor to mark and give comments.
- * Students can download the marked course work with the tutor's comments or search for program information
- * A new experience in an on-line study with a pluralistic design. Students can begin at any time with fee concessions.
- * Trial study of the on-line program is welcome:
<http://elearning.hkbts.edu.hk>

For enquiries, call 2768 5105, email to deinfo@hkbts.edu.hk, or log on the DEP webpage www.hkbts.edu.hk/dist.

Spiritual Light Project

"The Fourth Class of Certificate Program in New Testament Study"

"The Fourth Class of Certificate Program in New Testament Study," jointly offered by HKBTS and the Christian Ministry to Visually Impaired Persons (CMVIP) is suitable for visually impaired persons who want to study the Bible. There is no minimum academic requirement for applicants. Students taking this program must know how to work with Braille to read

and write basic Cantonese, or they can read enlarged Chinese characters and hand in assignments through the Word file. The program consists of 10 subjects and is expected to complete in 3 years. There are tutorial lessons, topical seminars and small group discussion. The class will begin in early March with a quota of 20 persons. Application fee is \$200. Deadline for application will be February 10. For application or enquiries, call CMVIP at 2777-7762 or the Distance Education Program office at 2768-5105.

Pastoral Continuing Education Center

Courses and talks offered from January to March

Course / Talk	Lecturer	Date	Time
Contemporary Politics and Religion Relations	Dr. Ying Fuk-tsang	7/1	9:30 am – 12:30 pm
Identity and Service of Rest in the Lord	Dr. Cheung Kwok-ting	14/1, 21/1, 28/1	9:30 am – 12:30 pm
The Biblical Foundation of Public Vision in Pastoring a Church	Dr. Philip Chia	14/1, 21/1, 28/1	2:00 – 5:00 pm
Servant Leadership	Dr. Sam Tsang	15/1	7:30 - 9:30 pm
Ezekiel: The Vision of the Future	Dr. Wong Fook-kong	18/2, 25/2	2:00 - 5:00 pm
Music Guide: This Is Contemporary Church Music	Mr. Sanson Lau	25/2, 4/3	9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Pre-Marital Counseling	Mrs. Ho Wan Mei-yee	4/3, 18/3, 25/3	2:00 - 5:00 pm
Proper Management Makes Serving God Leisurely and Carefree!	Mr. Cheung Kam-shing	11/3, 18/3, 25/3	9:30 am – 12:30 pm
How to Digest Movies into Nutritious Food for Thought	Mr. Wong Ying-fuk	11/3	2:00 - 5:00 pm

For detail of the content of each course, please log on our webpage: www.hkbts.edu.hk/pce.

For application or enquiries, you can contact us at 2768 5179 by phone, 2630 1391 by fax or pce@hkbts.edu.hk by email. Application forms can be downloaded from the Seminary's website.

Alumni Association members and graduates of HKBTS, ministers and seminary students from Baptist churches are entitled to tuition fees concession. Fee concession also applies to students in our ministerial training program. Students taking degree programs in our Lay Theological Education Department, and full time students in the 14-member seminaries of the Hong Kong Theological Education Association. For details, please refer to the application form in the program pamphlet.

Student Union

The Student Union Executive Committee took office in January. Please pray for the Student Union that they will have the necessary support for all their responsibilities this year.

Chairperson : Lam Lai-yi
 Vice-Chairperson : Chan Pak-yui
 Secretary : Lam Sik-cheung
 Treasurer : Leung Wing-cheung
 Spiritual Devotion : Shum Ching-kwan
 Mission : Lam Mei-ling
 Daily Living : Cheng Ka-man



New and old executive members, President Cho, S. U. teacher advisors, and Dean of Students' Affairs took a group photo at the Inauguration Ceremony.

Publication News

In November, Dr. Wong Fook-kong's new book, *Seasons of Our Lives: Spirituality of the Poetic and Wisdom Literature*, the second volume in the Seminary's Christian Spirituality series, has been published. Dr. Wong reflects on what spirituality means in different seasons of a Christian's life – spring (beginnings), summer (to have and to hold), fall (acceptance) and winter (letting go). Dr. Wong show us these seasons through the lenses of poetic and wisdom literature. Specific issues discussed include the meaning of contentment, dealing with pain and suffering, facing mid-life and coming to terms with death.



Hill Road Journal (issue 30) was published in late January with the theme "Mission." There are a total of six theme articles. These articles are translated into Chinese and published in this issue. Five are from Dr. Brian Stanley who was the speaker in last year's Baptist Mission Week and one is written by the Rev. Pak Loh. (1) "1792 — William Carey and the Rediscovery of the Great Commission," (2) "1910 — New Partners in the Great Commission: Baptists from East and West at the World Missionary Conference in Edinburgh," (3) "1974 — Redefining the Great Commission: The Lausanne Congress," (4) "The Biblical Foundations of Christian Mission," (5) "What Has Evangelism to Do with the Environment?" The sixth article, entitled "Dancing with the Missional Theology: From Lausanne Covenant to Cape Town Commitment" is contributed by Rev. Pak Loh, Director of Mission Dynamics Center. Besides, there are several papers and book reviews. *Hill Road Journal* is available at the Seminary or in local Christian bookstores, for enquiries please call 2768 5168.

HKBTS Concert of Praise 2013

The Eye of Faith

Date : April 28 (Sunday)
Time : 7:30 pm
Venue : Academic Community Hall, Hong Kong Baptist University
(224 Waterloo Road, Kowloon)
Speaker : Dr. Eric Kwong
Conductor : Mrs. Helen Cheung
Choir : HKBTS Joint Choir
Accompanist : Ms. Yip Chun-sze

No ticket is required Free Admission All are welcome

Enquiries : 2630 1257 / 2715 9511

Webpage : <http://www.hkbts.edu.hk>

This program is subsidized by the Performing Arts Venue Subsidy Scheme

R e p l y

I will support The Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary by

☐ praying for the Seminary's theological education ministry

☐ contributing \$_____ for

☐ Education Fund ☐ Others: _____

Name: _____
(Mr / Ms / Rev / Dr / Mr & Mrs)

Address: _____

Tel: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Donation Methods:

☐ **Crossed cheque** payable to
"Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary"

☐ **Cash** either deliver to the Seminary or direct deposit into our
Hang Seng Bank Account No. "242-0261 44-003"

☐ **Monthly Autopay** by Bank Account —
autopay form will be forwarded to you

☐ **Credit card:** ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD

☐ One-off Donation ☐ Monthly Donation*

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(Same as signature on credit card)

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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 !

Financial Report

General Fund, 1 August - 30 November 2012

	HK\$
Income	9,268,546.01
Expenditure	(9,902,059.72)
Surplus / (Deficit)	<u>(633,513.71)</u>

DONORS REPORT FOR AUGUST 2012

Education Fund (Church / Organization)

九龍國際浸信會	11,092.80
土瓜灣浸信會	23,000.00
大埔浸信會	12,000.00
屯門浸信會	500.00
牛池灣竹園潮語浸信會	2,000.00
以馬內利浸信會	3,750.00
沙田浸信會	7,000.00
紅磡浸信會	3,500.00
香港(西區)潮語浸信會	5,000.00
香港天樂浸信會	628.40
香港仔浸信會	13,261.15
香港西區浸信會	40,000.00
香港浸信會	108,300.00
香港堅尼地城浸信會	1,200.00
柴灣浸信會	3,000.00
荃灣浸信會	40,000.00
基督浸信會	1,500.00
將軍澳浸信會	500.00
置富浸信會	2,000.00
銅鑼灣浸信會	3,500.00
錫安浸信會	5,351.00
觀塘浸信會	2,520.00
宣道浸信會佐敦堂	5,000.00
基督教四方福音會彩坪堂	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
啓聞基金	300.00
HK\$	<u>297,903.35</u>

Education Fund (Donor)

方志強	100.00
王群	700.00
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
吳炳榮伉儷	8,000.00
吳國傑伉儷	500.00
呂志華	1,000.00
李志孝伉儷	3,000.00
李錦霞	1,700.00

Lay Theological Education Program

婦女普及神學文憑課程	500.00
教會行政事務文憑課程	680.00
吳秀華	900.00
岑麗嫻	500.00
杜桂鵬	1,000.00
劉惠容	900.00
蔡艷桃	500.00
蕭桂娥	2,000.00
無名氏	200.00
HK\$	<u>7,180.00</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	500.00
無名氏	300.00
HK\$	<u>5,300.00</u>

Local Filipino Program

Diane Kay Lam	299.00
Po Annabel C.	587.00
Samuel Yip	587.00
張智理伉儷	6,000.00
趙啓迅伉儷	587.00
溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
HK\$	<u>8,260.00</u>

Theological Education for the Hearing Impaired

張智理伉儷	500.00
溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
HK\$	<u>700.00</u>

Faculty Retreat

Chung Yun Kin, Albert	HK\$	<u>1,000.00</u>
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Mrs. Sue Mau Memorial Scholarship & Bursary

冒懷慶	HK\$	<u>20,000.00</u>
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Canadian Pastoral Training Project

Canadian Baptist Ministries	HK\$	<u>20,000.00</u>
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HK\$ 52,590.00

DONORS REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2012

Education Fund (Church / Organization)		Education Fund (Donor)			
九龍國際浸信會	13,591.20	方志強	100.00	溫祥、黎琮珍	400.00
上水浸信會	15,000.00	王紹良	300.00	無名氏	141,000.00
大埔浸信會	12,000.00	王群	700.00	無名氏	1,000.00
元朗浸信會	18,500.00	白智信伉儷	500.00	無名氏	500.00
牛池灣竹園潮語浸信會	2,000.00	朱活平伉儷	300.00	無名氏	500.00
牛頭角浸信會	18,000.00	何仲儀	1,000.00	無名氏	400.00
以馬內利浸信會	3,750.00	何偉明	200.00	無名氏	300.00
尖沙嘴浸信會	50,000.00	何錦燕	500.00	無名氏	300.00
西灣河浸信會福音堂	6,051.00	吳炳榮伉儷	8,000.00	無名氏	200.00
沙田浸信會	7,000.00	吳國傑伉儷	500.00		HK\$ 178,240.00
紅磡浸信會	3,500.00	呂志華	1,000.00	Lay Theological Education Program	
香港(西區)潮語浸信會	5,000.00	李少梅	1,000.00	香港浸信會幼稚園教育協會	5,000.00
香港仔浸信會	17,152.75	李志孝伉儷	3,000.00	田敏兒	300.00
香港浸信教會	108,300.00	胡文恩伉儷	500.00	蔡艷桃	500.00
香港堅尼地城浸信教會	1,200.00	徐詩雅	300.00	蕭桂娥	2,000.00
恩典浸信會	10,000.00	梁廣華伉儷	500.00	無名氏	200.00
柴灣浸信會	3,000.00	梁麗嫦	300.00		HK\$ 8,000.00
基磐浸信會	1,500.00	莫莊雅	100.00	Distance Education Program	
將軍澳浸信會	500.00	許鋒威	400.00	Ernest & Sylvia Ho	1,000.00
富安浸信會禧年堂	5,000.00	陳志強	3,000.00	何鏡輝伉儷	3,000.00
圓洲角浸信會	5,000.00	陳偉倫	200.00	鄒小寶	500.00
愛群道浸信會	5,000.00	陳麗英	1,000.00	無名氏	500.00
置富浸信教會	2,000.00	勞家怡	200.00	無名氏	300.00
銅鑼灣浸信會	3,500.00	馮德華	300.00		HK\$ 5,300.00
觀塘浸信會	2,535.00	黃仲麒	200.00	Local Filipino Program	
香港浸信會神學院校友會	1,280.00	黃華娟	100.00	張智理伉儷	6,000.00
中華錫安傳道會慈雲山錫安堂	800.00	楊妙珍	700.00	陳麗英	400.00
東方基督教會美光堂	7,790.00	楊謝金玉	2,000.00	溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
基督教四方福音會彩坪堂	1,000.00	葉煥章	300.00		HK\$ 6,600.00
基督教宣道會華基堂	1,500.00	劉永生	300.00	Theological Education for the Hearing Impaired	
基督教華人神召會旺角堂	500.00	劉建紅	600.00	張智理伉儷	500.00
啓聞基金	300.00	蔡慧英	200.00	溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
	HK\$ 332,249.95	鄧兆栢	500.00		HK\$ 700.00
Brooklyn Chinese Baptist Church	US\$ 300.00	鄧炳光伉儷	1,000.00	President Council	
		盧美娟	1,000.00	譚日旭	30,000.00
		薛聲明	1,000.00		
		龐凌玉珍	1,000.00		
		羅佩珊	100.00		
		譚嘉敏	500.00		
		關志偉	100.00		
		關德華伉儷	140.00		

DONORS REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2012

Education Fund (Church / Organization)

九龍國際浸信會	12,000.00
上環浸信會	5,100.00
大埔浸信會	12,000.00
元朗浸信會	18,500.00
屯門浸信教會	1,000.00
牛池灣竹園潮語浸信會	2,000.00
以馬內利浸信會	3,750.00
尖沙嘴國語浸信會	5,000.00
沙田浸信會	7,000.00
旺角浸信會	953.50
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	1,500.00
香港仔浸信會	12,947.60
香港浸信教會	108,300.00
香港堅尼地城浸信教會	1,200.00
粉嶺浸信會	37,500.00
基磐浸信會	1,500.00
將軍澳浸信會	500.00
第一城浸信會	3,750.00
富亨浸信會	2,600.00
愛群道浸信會	5,000.00
置富浸信教會	2,000.00
銅鑼灣浸信會	3,500.00
觀塘浸信會	2,597.00
香港培基教育機構	2,000.00
浸信宣道會恩禾堂	8,000.00
基督教四方福音會彩坪堂	1,000.00
基督教宣道會華基堂	1,500.00
基督教粉嶺神召會	20,000.00
基督教華人神召會旺角堂	500.00
啓聞基金	300.00
	<u>HK\$ 291,998.10</u>
Chinese Indep. Baptist Church-S.F.	<u>US\$ 540.00</u>

Education Fund (Donor)

Yu Kwan Mei	800.00
方志強	100.00
王紹良	300.00
王群	700.00
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
何寶霞	100.00
吳炳榮伉儷	8,000.00
胡文恩伉儷	500.00

徐詩雅	300.00
曹偉彬	5,000.00
梁廣華伉儷	500.00
梁麗嫦	300.00
莫莊雅	100.00
許鋒威	400.00
吳國傑伉儷	500.00
呂志華	1,000.00
李志孝伉儷	3,000.00
陳偉倫	200.00
陳錦鴻	500.00
陳麗英	500.00
勞家怡	2,200.00
馮德華	300.00
黃仲麒	200.00
黃華娟	100.00
楊妙珍	700.00
葉玉梅	100.00
葉煥章	300.00
劉永生	300.00
劉建紅	600.00
蔡慧英	200.00
鄧兆栢	500.00
鄧炳光伉儷	1,000.00
黎嘉賢	300.00
盧美娟	1,000.00
薛聲明	1,000.00
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
主知名	80.00
無名氏	13,200.00
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	255.00
無名氏	200.00
	<u>HK\$ 54,575.00</u>
Connie Pong K. L.	200.00
Dr. & Mrs. William J. Lacy	1,000.00
	<u>US\$ 1,200.00</u>

Lay Theological Education Program

岑麗嫻	500.00
杜桂鵬	1,000.00
蔡艷桃	500.00
蕭桂娥	2,000.00
無名氏	200.00
	<u>HK\$ 4,200.00</u>

Distance Education Program

Ernest & Sylvia Ho	1,000.00
何鏡煒伉儷	13,000.00
鄒小寶	500.00
無名氏	500.00
無名氏	300.00
	<u>HK\$ 15,300.00</u>

Local Filipino Program

九龍國際浸信會	590.00
張智理伉儷	6,365.00
溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
陳麗英	200.00
	<u>HK\$ 7,355.00</u>

Theological Education for the Hearing Impaired

張智理伉儷	500.00
溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
	<u>HK\$ 700.00</u>

Canadian Pastoral Training Project

Canadian Baptist Ministries	<u>HK\$ 32,000.00</u>
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DONORS REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2012

Education Fund (Church / Organization)			Lay Theological Education Program		
上水浸信會	15,000.00	林華瓊伉儷	10,000.00	蔡艷桃	500.00
屯門浸信教會	500.00	胡文恩伉儷	500.00	蕭桂娥	2,000.00
牛池灣竹園潮語浸信會	2,000.00	徐詩雅	300.00	無名氏	200.00
以馬內利浸信會	3,750.00	張光海	20.00	無名氏	100.00
尖沙嘴浸信會	39,395.30	梁廣華伉儷	500.00		HK\$ 2,800.00
竹園浸信會	4,000.00	梁麗嫦	300.00		
旺角浸信會	300.00	莫莊雅	100.00	Distance Education Program	
紅磡浸信會	3,500.00	許錦威	400.00	Ernest & Sylvia Ho	1,000.00
香港(西區)潮語浸信會	5,000.00	陳偉生	3,000.00	Liang Che Ban, Benny	500.00
香港仔浸信會	17,403.90	陳偉倫	200.00	何鏡煒伉儷	3,000.00
香港浸信教會	108,300.00	陳麗英	500.00	梁玉笑	500.00
香港堅尼地城浸信教會	1,200.00	陸澤潛伉儷	1,000.00	鄒小寶	1,000.00
恩約浸信會	5,000.00	勞家怡	200.00	17/11 專題講座	280.00
恩潮浸信會	5,000.00	馮德華	300.00	無名氏	1,000.00
荃灣潮語浸信會	1,000.00	黃仲麒	200.00	無名氏	500.00
基磐浸信會	1,500.00	黃華娟	100.00	無名氏	300.00
將軍澳浸信會	500.00	楊妙珍	700.00	無名氏	300.00
博愛潮語浸信會	6,029.00	楊謝金玉	2,000.00		HK\$ 8,380.00
置富浸信教會	2,000.00	葉煥章	300.00	Local Filipino Program	
銅鑼灣浸信會	3,500.00	劉永生	300.00	The United Mission of Hong Kong	42,259.29
樂滿浸信會	2,500.00	劉建紅	600.00	Filipino Baptist Churches	
觀塘浸信會	9,462.30	蔡慧英	200.00	張智理伉儷	6,000.00
鑽石山浸信會	7,500.00	鄧兆栢	500.00	陳麗英	200.00
香港伯特利教會榮光堂	1,000.00	鄧炳光伉儷	1,000.00	溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
基督教四方福音會彩坪堂	1,000.00	黎嘉賢	300.00		HK\$ 48,659.29
基督教宣道會華基堂	1,500.00	盧美娟	1,000.00	Theological Education for the Hearing Impaired	
基督教華人神召會旺角堂	500.00	薛聲明	1,000.00	張智理伉儷	500.00
啓聞基金	300.00	謝任生伉儷	500.00	溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
HK\$ 248,640.50		龐凌玉珍	1,000.00		HK\$ 700.00
		羅佩珊	100.00	Ming Yee Theological Scholarship Fund	
		譚嘉敏	500.00	北角浸信會	HK\$ 462,200.00
Education Fund (Donor)				Graduation Ceremony	
方志強	100.00	關志偉	100.00	牛頭角浸信會	500.00
王紹良	300.00	關德華伉儷	140.00	恩潮浸信會	200.00
王群	700.00	溫祥、黎琮珍	400.00	彩坪浸信會	300.00
白智信伉儷	500.00	無名氏	10,000.00	置富浸信教會	500.00
朱活平伉儷	300.00	無名氏	3,000.00	筲箕灣浸信會	300.00
何仲儀	1,000.00	無名氏	1,000.00	觀塘浸信會	200.00
何偉明	200.00	無名氏	500.00	觀塘潮語浸信會	300.00
何錦燕	500.00	無名氏	500.00		HK\$ 2,300.00
吳炳榮伉儷	8,000.00	無名氏	400.00	Fund for Missiological Education in Asia	
吳國傑伉儷	500.00	無名氏	300.00	孔楊邦鐸	HK\$ 500,000.00
呂志華	1,000.00	無名氏	300.00		
李志孝伉儷	5,100.00	無名氏	200.00		
		無名氏	26.20		
		HK\$ 62,686.20			

Precious Moments



October 21, 2012 Parents' Day

Parents' Day is the time for "a family's get-together." This year's theme was "The Road of Grace" with the purpose of inviting students' family members, relatives, and friends to come to the Seminary for a sight-seeing tour, getting together and feasting. The hope is that they will understand that full time ministry is a road blessed by God's grace. In the chapel meeting, there was a gospel message (preached by a teacher), followed by a time for students and alumni to share their testimonies of God's grace.



October 27, 2012 Full Time Ministry Seminar

"Full time Ministry Seminary" was specially held for brothers and sisters interested in exploring full time ministry, in having the opportunity to reflect on God's call and in knowing more about the Seminary's study programs. In the picture, our teacher Dr. Andres Tang was delivering a message entitled, "What Is the Purpose of Studying Theology?"

November 8, 2012 All Seminary Prayer Meeting

This was the second all seminary prayer meeting during the fall semester. The entire seminary community prayed first for the teachers, then students and finally for the staff, voicing our specific needs before God's throne of grace.





November 17, 2012 Distance Education Program Topical Seminar

Regular topical seminars are held through the Distance Education Program. The speaker of this particular seminar was Dr. Anna Lee, Assistant Professor of Old Testament at the Seminary. She spoke on the topic, "The Prophet Who Loves Reading the Bible: Application of 'Intertextuality' as Viewed from Zechariah." These public seminars are designed for Christian brothers and sisters, and these seminars often receive enthusiastic responses.



November 25, 2012 Joint Programs Graduation Ceremony

On that day at Kowloon City Baptist Church the Joint Programs Graduation Ceremony was held. The Ceremony celebrated with graduates from the Seminary's Ministerial Preparation Program (the sixty-first class), Lay Theological Education Department (the thirteen class) and the Distance Education Program (the twelve class). In the 2011-2012 school year there were 36 graduating degree students (together with those diploma and certificate students in the same program) and 273 graduates from the diploma and certificate programs. Thank God for nearly 1,300 guests who joined the ceremony in offering up our praise and thanksgiving to God.



President Joshua Cho delivered the graduation address entitled, "The Gospel of Jesus Christ: An Integral Mission."



Student representative Leung Lai-bun gave the Graduates' Speech and presented a souvenir to the alma mater.



December 17, 2012 Christmas Worship: The Prince of Peace

Every year, the Christmas Worship Service was jointly organized by HKBTS and the Alumni Association. This year's theme was "Prince of Peace." On this day, the entire seminary community came together. The group included teachers and students, staff and alumni who together offered up their worship to God and commemorated the Savior's birth. This is also a day of celebration when alumni return to the alma mater for their annual reunion. In recent years, a large number of alumni have made it a tradition to meet old friends on this special Christmas celebration. Their joyous laughter fills the Seminary with Christmas spirit.