

一所为基督徒

提供神学培训与教育的

神学院



靠神满满丰盛，白白舍弃为主

9/10

- 院长的话
- 国际日

11

- 学生毕业感言

12/13

- 领袖基础培训（一）
- 讲师文章 – 郭义宏讲师

14/15

- 校友消息
- 财务报告
- 7月课程
- 回应表格

16

- 浸神25周年感恩庆典
- 基督教圣经与事工证书课程
- 9-11月课程

Volume 9 • Issue 3

2014年5月 • MiC(P)129/10/2013



孙宝玲院长的话

开拓前路：面对困惑，抓紧应许

耶和华的仆人摩西死了以后、耶和華曉諭摩西的帮手嫩的儿子约书亚、说、我的仆人摩西死了。现在你要起来、和众百姓过这约但河、往我所要赐给以色列人的地去。（书1:1-2）

摩西离世之后，约书亚带领众以色列人继续他们的旅程。尽管他们知道将要去的地方是应许之地，然而这个旅程还是充满了许多未知之数。因此，对约书亚和以色列会众而言，在兴奋之余，必然也带有一些焦虑和惧怕。对我们而言，我们在跨越生命某些阶段之时，这岂不是我们的写照？当我们从单身进入婚姻，然后晋升为人父母；转换事业跑道，之后面临退休；曾经健壮的身体渐渐衰老。当然，毕业也意味着一个新的开始，从一个阶段进入另一个阶段。

人在探索未来道路时，必定是喜忧参半。尽管未来的旅程充满应许，其过程也必然有许多困惑的时刻。事实上，应许和困惑是钱币的两面。就定义而言，应许是未来将会实现的事。而因为有未知的因素，过程中有所困惑自是不能避免。应许和困惑，确知与未知，这些都是现实的真实面。在面对这些生命的实际状况，装备是不可或缺的部分，然而信、望、爱更是让我们能够继续走下去的基础，犹如呼吸的空气。训练和装备能预防我们犯无知的错误，并且让我们有处理危机的能力。在神里面的信、望、爱却能让我们在困惑和充满挑战的处境当中，刚强勇敢的继续往前行。探索生命未来的道路，就是与神同行，在过程当中更深的认识神：

只要刚强、大大壮胆、谨守遵行我仆人摩西所吩咐你的一切律法。

出版 浸信会神学院(新加坡)
1023 Upper Serangoon Road,
#01-01 Baptist Centre,
Singapore 534761
电话 65-6472 0091
传真 65-64720071
www.bts.org.sg

总编辑 孙宝玲博士
执行编辑(英文) 冯俊三博士
执行编辑(华文) 黄文侨博士
承印 Melati Fine Printing and
Trading Services

不可偏离左右、使你无论往那里去、都可以顺利。。。我岂没有吩咐你么。你当刚强壮胆。不要惧怕、也不要惊惶、因为你无论往那里去、耶和华你的神必与你同在。（书1:7-9）

5月17日下午2点在救恩浸信教会，我们将见证22名毕业生（13位来自英文部，9位来自中文部）即将跨出门槛，离开浸神进入另一个与主同行的阶段。有些已经很清楚接下来的道路，无论是继续进修神学或是牧养教会，然而另外有些仍在寻求神指引他们前面的道路。无论是清楚或是仍在寻求，摆在前面的道路必然包含确知和未知的因素。在浸神的年日，他们所接受的训练和装备将帮助他们应对未知和困难。然而，要真正成为神忠心的仆人却不仅拥有知识和技巧，他们需要有刚强勇敢的心以及智慧来面对意想不到的挑战。他们需要你们的纪念，好让他们在服侍的旅程以及在生命的其他阶段，更认识主，每一天更亲密与主同行。

感谢神：

1. 22名毕业生将跨过门槛迎接上帝为他们预备的应许。
2. 在上帝恩典的保守之下，我们的校友在他们的事奉岗位刚强勇敢服侍上帝以及神的百姓。

祈求神：

1. 我们的校友以及所有上帝的仆人在服侍的旅程认识主更深。
2. 我们的校友和所有上帝的仆人被上帝的应许激励，在困惑当中以刚强和勇敢的心面对。



国际日

（2014年3月28日）

3月28日是浸神一年一度的国际日，来自不同地区和国家的学生都展现他们各自文化的特色，使这日充满色彩和欢乐！除了让人尽兴的节目，还有许多不同地方的美食供品尝。这一天不只是浸神全体师生和同工参与，还有浸神校友、浸联会的同工、金殿堂的弟兄和一些教会的弟兄姐妹，都一起与我们同乐。

国际日当天，星期五的早晨学生代表穿着传统服装，在众人的欢呼声中列队走向台前；其中当然包括浸神首个来自韩国的学生！节目方面，集合各个不同地区和民族的表演，载歌载舞、有话剧——学生的呈现不仅让大家笑声连连，更是一个让我们认识和欣赏其他不同文化的机会。

就我个人而言，国际日的意义在于它提醒我上帝的话‘我又告诉你们、从东从西、将有许多人来、在天国里与亚伯拉罕、以撒、雅各、一同坐席。’（太8:11）。这是一个很严肃，同时也是一个非常美好的信息，透过浸神国际日所展现的‘在爱中合一’指向那更美更好的，将来与主同在的日子。让我引用‘角斗士’（Gladiator）当中的一句话，“我们在今世所做的将在永恒发声”。但愿浸神每一年的国际日在永恒继续发出美好的声音。

Lydia Chuah, ADCS报道



学生毕业感言



庆贺浸神第23届毕业生，他们将在5月17日举行毕业典礼。以下是所有中文部毕业生的感言。

“从我能进入浸神学习，到今年顺利毕业，是上帝对我的怜悯和恩待，并且祂透过学院老师的授课和生命的教导，装备我更加明白祂的旨意。”

伍艳珍

“感恩神领我到浸神接受神学教育。塑造了我更加委身基督的生命；加增了我许多属灵的知识与事奉的能力；让我经历了神无比的丰盛。谢谢浸神成为我人生的祝福，我以浸神学生为荣。”

周锦

“面对熟悉而陌生的事奉之路，我不禁犹豫和茫然。但上帝对我说：「我向你所要的是什么呢？只要你行公义，好怜悯，存谦卑的心，並每日与我同行。」我只有低下头说：「主啊！我在这里，请差遣我。」”

江安华

“在我一生中一直给我特别的帮助，那一定是上帝！在我服侍生涯中帮助我成长的，那一定是女皇镇浸信教会！在我神学装备上突破的，那一定是浸神！谢谢女皇镇浸信教会！谢谢浸神！更感谢上帝！”

赖敢芳

“感谢神，藉“浸神”和“实习教会”，丰富更新我。不能随意透支夜晚的安息，不当只求自己的益处去支出；学业、实习、毕业和之后，都是服侍，且持续委身在基督里！因为身体、金钱、时间、生命都是神的！”

杨红

“你们务要坚固，不可摇动，常常竭力多作主工，因为知道你们的劳苦，在主里面不是徒然的。”（林前15：58）

詹青严

“唏嘘中，感叹浸神的七百多个日子，匆匆而来，急急而去。虽然岁月流逝，上帝的恩典却历历在目，主的呼召依然持定在心中。。。”

郭存武

感召而来，穷学而思；上下求索，受启达知。如期而至，满载而归；只待寸草，忠报春晖。

黄娥珍

从呼召到这一刻，经历了无数次的困难时期，在学习之路上，如无上帝的恩典。靠着自己是绝无可能。

刘兆基

领袖基础培训（一）



浸会神学院在去年九月，曾就新加坡浸信教会和牧者的现况作调查。根据调查的结果，新加坡浸信教会正处于停滞期。调查也显示我们面对的问题：教牧职事缺乏接班人，教牧人员疲乏、需要更新；大都会、多元文化处境带来的挑战——忙乱、复杂的议题、社会文化的趋势等等。领袖训练班(Pillars of Leadership Training Programs, POL)就是在这个背景和需要下提出的。

转眼之间，第一个领袖基础培训在2月15日及22日举行，我们见证各个教会回应上帝的邀请来装备自己迎接上帝为我们预备的契机。374位来自19间教会的信徒领袖报名参加中英文部的聚会（中文部分分别由三一神学院的潘朝伟博士(上图)和浸神孙宝玲院长主讲旧约和新约；英文部则由新加坡神学院的Dr Rick Griffiths主讲）。

以下是一些参加者的回馈：

“在上午短短几个小时，孙院长带领我们“走一遍新约”，以‘耶稣是谁？’以及‘与我何干？’为进路，帮助我们往后读圣经的时候更聚焦圣经作者要表达的信息。”

“通过新约培训，使我在研读时，能够抓住三条主脉：耶稣是谁？内容和我有什么关系？教会应该如何去做呢？”

“通过旧约培训，理清旧约各个时期的重点和思路，阅读时，不再感觉混乱和难以理解。”

“人生和社会风风雨雨，犹如以色列的历史，神在其中依然掌权和眷顾。潘老师深入浅出地带我们纵览旧约的历史，不惜分享数十年的信仰反思，让人获益良多。”



第一次培训的参加人数令人鼓舞，但我们也热切祷告希望有更多的人能获得益处。倘若第一、二次，的培训让你获益良多，请你与教会的执事、主日学老师以及小组长分享你的得着，鼓励他们一起来参加。如果这是你第一、二次听到领袖基础培训，我邀请您报名参加这系列随后的二次培训。让大家在这次的训练会得到属灵的益处，而教会也因此 蒙福、得以建立。

盼望激励我们有所参与－简释莫特曼的盼望伦理学

“阿门！主耶稣啊，我愿你来！”（启示录 22. 20）。当我们相信、期盼并庆贺基督再次来临的时候，我们是否知道该做的和该关注的，以便我们能够做些准备，直等待主再来？只是在无法有效地知道基督再来的具体状况，我们大概只能问：“我们该如何（最好地）预备自己？”以及“我们该存何种盼望？”

60年来，莫特曼尝试以其盼望伦理学来回答以上的问题。莫特曼（Jürgen Moltmann，生于1926年4月8日）是位极富盛名的德国神学人。世界第二次大战（1943-1945）和战俘（1945-1947）的经历持续塑造他的神学和伦理学。

莫特曼的盼望伦理学不是规范性的伦理学。这意味着在莫特曼的伦理学中不会出现太多具体的道德指引、原则和律令。莫特曼担忧，在追求最好和不会出错的压力下，我们问：“这样做对吗？这是最好的方式吗？还是有更好的方式呢？我为什么还没有想到更好的？”陷入这些问题会使我们不再自由，并不再敢有期待和作为。莫特曼呼吁我们，自由地尽力而为吧！让爱的表达不被纠结和焦虑中断，而是被期待的盼望滋润。他建议，与其活在沉重的道德压力下而难有作为，不如有以下理解：如果要使处境变好，请以爱心和盼望地自由行动。如果要避免危害，请必须为避免灾害担负责任。无论做什么事并如何做事，请在祷告和守望中等待落实。

莫特曼认为，当我们自由地尽力而为的时候，基于盼望的丰盈，我们能够超越极限和瓶颈，可以做的比我们认为的还要多和好。莫特曼的盼望伦理学是以基督论为基础，并在圣灵中实践，并始终保持终末论的导向。

1、以基督论为基础：

面对现今社会和政治的问题，有基督教伦理学家认为，基督信徒无法比非基督信徒有更好更多的洞见。难道基督信徒真的能对塞车问题、电子道路收费系统（ERP）、税收和基因改造等问题提出更好的建议吗？而且在多元的氛围中，基督信徒的建议能否对非基督信徒有所规范？还是建议只能应用在基督信徒社群中？

莫特曼指出，基督教的伦理不是更好地解决一般的问题，而是关乎我们有否重视耶稣基督的方式。换句话说，基督教伦理学是更好地追随耶稣基督之路，如何做更好的基督教门徒，譬如我们是否效法耶稣在生活中如何与受苦者认同，效法耶稣基督创造性地爱仇敌的方式，并期盼上帝之国的来临。

2. 在圣灵中实践：

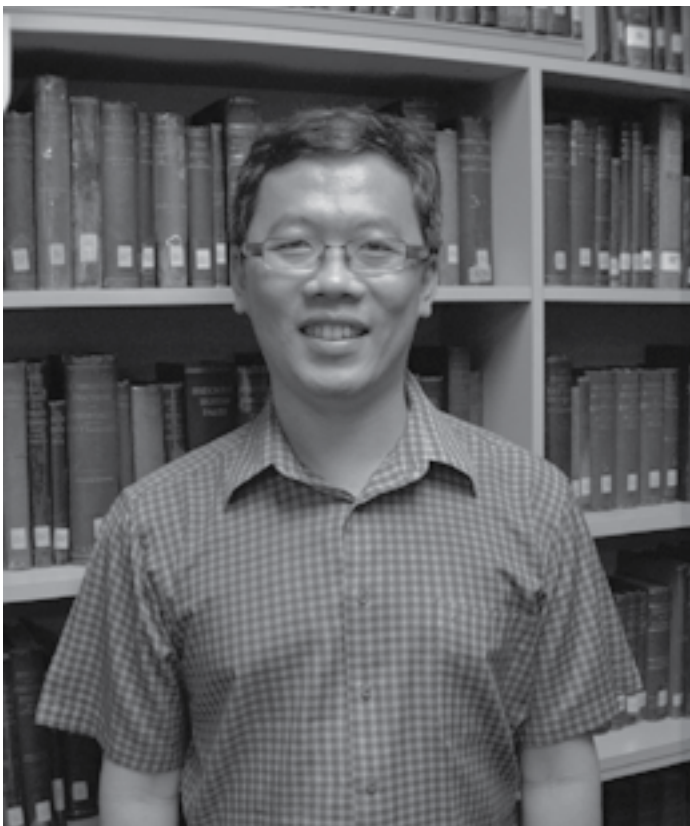
跟随加尔文和早期教父，莫特曼理解圣灵为“生命之泉源”。我们要效法神对生命和生命力说“是”，并对人为的生命危害说“不”（对生命的人为否定包含“恐怖事件”、“科技文明的副作用”、“生态问题”等）。同时，我们要接纳生命的有限，关爱生命的缺陷，并促进生命的成长。



3、总以终末论为导向

莫特曼盼望伦理学是转化型的终末论，就是那尝试为预备上帝国而转化“未获应许的现今”。无论我们如何应对未来，莫特曼提醒我们，既然深信基督复活，并圣灵更新的生命力，我们应该绝不放弃，有如不倒翁（右上图）一样，无论被打倒几次，总要借着神的恩典站起来，始终保持终末的导向。

大多数的伦理学系统关注行动者自己道德状况或抽象的律法，莫特曼的伦理学则更关注他者的状



郭义宏讲师

浸神讲师；研究興趣：神學思潮
（神學、歷史、倫理）
哲學博士候選人（台灣神學院）

态。即便我们不知明天会如何，但我们深知将来必然会有转变，无论变化是来自气候，科技进步，或者是有效率的政府。转变会影响我们和之间的互动，并居住的世界，因而挑战我们对伦理的理解和实践。在转变中总是有人获益，有人受苦。莫特曼呼吁，我们效法耶稣基督般同情受苦者，对那些因转变而受苦的人，给予同理心、关爱和帮助。公义的上帝给予的盼望，是预备义者能居其中，因此盼望的应许主要不是让强者和权贵愈加成功和卓越，而是提醒那些活在受苦当

中和在死亡阴影下的人，主赐下并更新我们的新生命。

作为跟随耶稣基督的门徒，让我们因盼望而有所关爱和贡献，直等到主基督自己在祂来临之日完善其工作。这是何等荣耀和恩典，我们竟然能为上帝的国与祂同工。愿我们的关爱和贡献为上帝所用，激发他者同行和参与。（诗篇90:17）

忠心传道、一生事主

潘钟

在提笔之际，首先要谢谢我们的主耶稣对我的怜悯，他呼召我成为他的仆人，使我有机会事奉他，这真是恩上加恩，感谢主！其次，我也感谢四年来栽培我的新加坡浸信会神学院，以及感谢支持我的新加坡浸信教会以及香港北角浸信教会。最后，我要感谢王美钟牧师对我的帮助，以及其他弟兄姐妹对我支持和鼓励。因此，今天能够走上事奉主的道路，成为事奉主的人，完成是神的恩典所成。感谢归于天上的父神！

在新加坡浸信会神学院四年的学习中，在神的呼召上，使我更加确定，在事奉心志上，使我更加坚固，在真理知识上，使我更加增多，在属灵恩赐上，使我更加清楚；在生命上，使我更加长进，在事奉方向上，使我更加清楚。总之，这四年来新加坡浸信会神学院给我很好的训练和塑造，感谢每一位教导我的老师。

2012年5月道学硕士毕业之后，6月份就开始进入事奉的工场，现今在福建省三明市安顺教会全职事奉。主要负责讲道、查经、教导、培训等事奉，帮助弟兄姐妹建立信仰的根基，向下扎根，向上结果子，建立一间有真理和生命的教会。自从来到此教会，开展了一些新的事工，例如：主日崇拜、诗班、主日学、圣餐，洗礼，丧礼、青少年夏令营等等。另外，还开展一些课程，例如：《初信栽培》、《传福音》、《恋爱性婚姻》、《系统神学》、《新

旧约概览》《探访接待的认知》等课程。到目前为止，弟兄姐妹对真理的认识更多，信心更加坚固，生命在不断地成长，教会的人数在慢慢地增加，这一切都归荣耀给主！

除此以外，今年2月份主给我机会到江苏省南京某间教会作教导培训的事奉，有45位的同工参与，用六天的时间分享《罗马书》。从弟兄姐妹的反馈中得知，有人对教义模糊的得到了厘清，有人对信仰错误理解的得到了归正，有人信心软弱的得到了坚固。因此，此教会的牧师邀请我继续成为他们的讲员。这次的事奉让我感受到神的同在，不仅如此，也让我想起曾经在神面前的立志，即忠心传神的道，一生事奉主，希望能够被神多多使用，成为更多教会的祝福，愿神的名得荣耀！愿弟兄姐妹为我代祷，彼此同工。



注：潘钟传道夫妇于4月10日喜获一子。

财务报告

从2013年12月至2014年3月为止

总收入: \$737,781.00

总支出: \$598,913.00

银行盈余:

\$17,517.00 (经常费)

2014年7月开办课程

日间课程

(7月29日至11月14日)

- 新约背景
- 旧约背景
- 阅读与写作
- 系统神学I
- 基督教历史I
- 辅导原理
- 崇拜学导论
- 教会行政与管理
- 基督教领导学
- 先知书I
- 护教学
- 讲道学
- 老年信徒牧养

注: 欢迎选修或旁听, 请向陈锦添主任查询。
电话: 6472 0091; 电邮: kt.tan@bts.org.sg
所有上课地点都在浸信会神学院举行。
地址: 浸信会中心, 1023实龙岗路上段。

我的回应

“神若带领, 我希望在浸信会神学院接受装备”

- ☐ 我希望到浸信会神学院全时间或部分时间就读, 我想要知道更多。
- ☐ 我想报读夜间华语神学培训证书课程, 请通知我新的课程。
- ☐ 我想知道神学院提供哪些课程帮助平信徒接受神学装备。

我的资料

姓名 (博士 / 牧师 / 先生 / 太太 / 女士 / 小姐)

手机 住家电话

住址

..... 邮区

电邮 填表日期

所属教会

我的回应

“靠着神的帮助, 我愿意在经济上支持你们”

- ☐ 我原意奉献金额 S\$, 作为神学院的经常运作费。
- ☐ 我原意奉献金额 S\$, 作为神学院的学生奖学金。
- ☐ 我原意奉献金额 S\$, 作为神学院图书馆添购新书与增设媒体资源。
- ☐ 我原意奉献金额 S\$, 作为神学院 之用。

现附上支票支持:

- ☐ 请用划线支票, 支票台头写: Baptist Theological Seminary

新币\$ 银行

支票号码

✂ 请将回应与资料表格填妥, 联同支票(如有)寄交:

Baptist Theological Seminary, 1023 Upper Serangoon Road,
#01-01 Baptist Centre, Singapore 534761.

2014浸神二十五周年感恩庆典

主题：主啊，復興你的作為



已完成活动：

浸神退修会

领袖基础培训（一）－从圣经开始

讲员：潘朝伟博士和孙宝玲院长

领袖基础培训（二）－落实的神学

讲员：谢水木博士

活动	日期 和 时间	地点
浸神公开讲座 讲员：Hal Poe 博士	7月24至25日 傍晚 7点半至晚上9点半	（另行公布）
领袖基础培训（三）－面对议题** 讲员：孙宝玲院长	8月2日 上午9点至下午4点	女皇镇浸信教会*
感恩晚餐及庆祝	10月18日	女皇镇浸信教会*
领袖基础培训（四）－迈向未来**	11月1日 上午9点至下午4点	女皇镇浸信教会*

** 领袖基础培训伙伴：

浸信会神学院

女皇镇浸信会

教牧进修部

*女皇镇浸信教会：495, Margaret Drive, Singapore 149305

基督教圣经与事工证书课程

课程介绍：

- 给牧者和平信徒傍晚进修的课程
- 一共八科，每科七周
- 逢周二晚上7:30-9:30，两小时的课
- 每学期开一至两科
- 每科学费60元
- 不用做作业
- 修读完八科可获本院颁发基督教圣经与事工证书

课程设计：

八科内容如下：

1. 圣经背景
2. 旧约书卷一
3. 新约书卷一
4. 旧约书卷二
5. 新约书卷二
6. 灵性造就：属灵操练、读经祈祷等
7. 实用科：佈道、宣教、崇拜等
8. 实用科：辅导、教导、浸信会信仰等

课程编排：

年份	月份	科目
2013	3-4	旧约背景
2013	7-9	创世记
2013	9-11	马可福音
2014	2-3	灵命更新與进深
2014	4-5	主日学老师训练
2014	8-9	崇拜主席与领诗训练
2014	9-11	长执更美的事奉

2014年9-11月开课 基督教圣经与事工课程

课程：崇拜主席与领诗训练

讲师：余远淳博士

日期：19/8, 26/8, 2/9, 9/9, 16/9, 23/9

时间：逢周二晚上7:30至9:30

地点：浸信会神学院三楼课室

课程：长执更美的事奉

讲师：张学敬讲师

日期：30/9, 7/10, 14/10, 21/10, 28/10, 4/11, 11/11

时间：逢周二晚上7:30至9:30

地点：浸信会神学院三楼课室

报名与查询请电邮 achong@bts.org.sg 或致电张姊妹 64720091

A theological institution that equips

Christians to impact the region

for Christ!



RICH TOWARD GOD, FREELY FOR HIM

PARTNERSHIP

Volume 9 • Issue 3

May 2014 • MiC(P)129/10/2013



2 & 3

- International Day Celebrations
- Graduating Students Testimonies

4 & 5

- First "Pillars of Leadership" Training Seminar
- Hope that Spurs Us On – A Reading of Moltmann's Ethics of Hope

6 & 7

- Alumni Updates
- Notes from Union University
- Financial Report

8

- BTS 25th Anniversary Celebrations 2014
- Advanced & Graduate Diploma Study

Published by Baptist Theological Seminary (Singapore) 1023 Upper Serangoon Road, #01-01 Baptist Centre, Singapore 534761 Tel:65-6472 0091 Fax:65-6472 0071 www.bts.org.sg

Editor-in-Chief Dr Sun Poling
Executive Editor (English) Dr Fong Choon Sam
Executive Editor (Chinese) Dr Ooi Boon Keow
Printer Melati Fine Printing and Trading Services

A Word by the President Dr Sun Poling

Treading the Path Ahead: Facing Puzzles and Remembering God's Promise

After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them — to the Israelites. (Joshua 1.1-2, NIV)

After the death of Moses, Joshua was commanded to lead the Israelites on their journey. While the place they were heading to was known as the Promised Land, it was also a place full of all kinds of uncertainty. For Joshua and his people, therefore, there must have been a sense of excitement as well as a sense of anxiety and fear. I wonder if this is not also true for those of us who are crossing the threshold from one stage of life to another; for example, from singlehood to marriage, then to parenthood; the change of career path, then retirement; or the once robust body turning frail. Of course, we must also include "graduation" or "commencement." The latter means "beginning," indicating crossing from one stage to another.

As one treads the path toward the future, there will be as much joy as worry. Even though the promise lies ahead on the journey, there also are puzzles along the road. In fact, promise and puzzle are the two sides of a coin. By definition, promise is something to be actualized in the future. As such, there is an element of uncertainty which sometimes may appear as a puzzle. Promise and puzzle, the known and the unknown, are the realities in life. In facing these realities, equipment and preparation are dispensable tools, but faith, hope and love is the air that we breathe. Training and preparation keep us from making ignorant mistakes and poor decisions that could be avoided, and equip us to face crises that we did not think of. Faith, hope and love in God sustain us to be strong and courageous despite puzzles and challenges. Treading a path through stages of life is, in essence, journeying with God, a process in which we would come to know him more intimately:

continued

Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you... Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. (Joshua 1. 7-9)

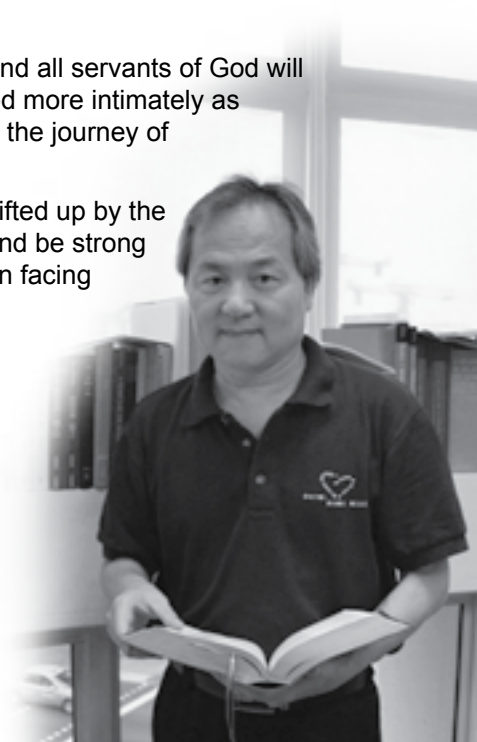
On 17th May at 2 pm at Calvary Baptist Church, we will be witnessing a batch of 22 graduating students (13 from the English program and 9 from the Chinese program) who are about to cross the threshold, departing BTS for their next stage of walking with God. Some already have a clear path as to where to go and what to do, either further study or ministerial services. But a few are still seeking God's guidance in their attempt to tread the path ahead. In both cases, there will be the known and the unknown down the road. In both cases, they are heading out with the promise of God, yet not without the possibilities of challenges and puzzles. The years of training in seminary have equipped them with knowledge and techniques that will enable them to tackle some of the unknown and difficulties. But what will make them faithful servants of God is more than knowledge and skills. They need the strength, courage and wisdom to face the challenges they never thought of or imagined. They need your constant remembering of them so that they, in their journey of ministry and life stages, will come to know God intimately and walk with Him daily and closely.

Let us give thanks to God

1. That there are 22 graduates who are crossing the threshold to embrace the promise that God has granted them.
2. That, kept by the grace of God, our alumni have been courageous and strong in their service of God and His people.

Let us pray to God

1. That our alumni and all servants of God will come to know God more intimately as they tread path in the journey of ministry.
2. That they will be lifted up by the promise of God and be strong and courageous in facing puzzles.



International Day Celebrations (28 March 2014)

Our annual BTS International Day on 28 March was a colourful and joyous celebration of the different ethnic groups which make up our student body; with plenty of fun, laughter and good food to go around! Not only was the event attended by our students, staff and faculty, but we were privileged to have our BTS alumni, Baptist Convention staff, Kim Tian Church members and even the supportive land-ladies of some of our students to join us.

As we all gathered in our different ethnic costumes on Friday morning (with the Singaporeans being a “confused” lot wearing a “rojak” variety of costumes –but we’re cool that way!), the chapel hall was charged with anticipation as we opened the event with a cheer-filled parade of different countries’ representatives marching down the aisle. It included no less than our very first South Korean BTS student! The rest of the programme was a vibrant showcase of different countries’ ethnic groups presenting us with song, dance, skit and even talk-show items—all of which had us laughing uproariously and put in awed respect of each other’s cultural uniqueness.

On a personal note, the beauty of this special day was in how it brought to mind our Lord’s words: “I say to you that *many will come from the east and the west*, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven” (Mt 8:11, italics mine). It is both a sobering and wonderful thought, to realise that our little celebration as international students and faculty being “one in the bond of love” points us to a grander and altogether beautiful reality of the Church of Christ. A quote from the movie “Gladiator” puts this across aptly: “What we do in this life echoes in eternity.” May our many more future International Days continue to echo so beautifully in eternity!

Reported by Lydia Chuah, ADCS



Graduating Students Testimonies



We congratulate the students who are graduating this May. BTS' 23rd Commencement Service will be held on 17 May. On this page, we asked them to give us their parting words.

"Our Lord and Giver of All Good Things has truly blessed many of us through Baptist Theological Seminary. We students are deeply grateful for the support and well-wishes of the Baptist community which has translated into uncountable blessings for us here at BTS, in our preparation for ministry. We gratefully thank God for you!"

– Lydia Chuah, ADCS.

"BTS equipped me with good skills; every course that I studied was both interesting and helpful to me spiritually and in ministry. I am so grateful to the faculty members. It has all been by God's grace and mercy. Thanks be to God!"

– L Hkun Sein, GDCS.

"I thank God for allowing me to be part of the BTS family. BTS has equipped me both theologically and spiritually. I love BTS for it is a lovely warm Christian family."

– Rosy, GDCS.

"I thank God for His inexpressible gift. I rejoice in the Lord greatly because the One who chose me also brought me through. I thank God for BTS' love and care."

– Saw L Htoo Nyo, BTh.

"I would like to sincerely thank the Baptist community for the love shown to BTS through prayer and sponsorship of students. I truly appreciate the BTS community for equipping me with the word of God and showering me with love and care."

– Lydia Tam, BTh.

"I thank God for choosing me to be in the BTS family. I am also very thankful for the loving care and kindness of teachers, staff and students. With their help, I am able to complete my four years of study. Coming to BTS was my first step out of my comfort zone, and it has been God's best gift to me. I learned to trust in God's provision, grace and love in a way that I have never experienced before."

– Eric Tham, BTh.

"BTS is the place where I have been learning and growing in my faith. The fellowship with all teachers and friends helped me to understand the life of the servant of God. I give thanks to God for placing me here and preparing me for my future ministry in Thailand."

– Kulying Kanjanamas, MACS.

"My two-year journey in BTS has slipped away in the blink of an eye. The faithfulness of God and the love of the Christian body in BTS have impacted my life and motivated me to walk with God and relate with others in love. I would like to express my heart-felt thanks to all the teachers, classmates, the staff of BTS, partner churches under the Singapore Baptist Convention and individual supporters. I pray God will bring more students into the BTS family to be equipped and transformed intellectually and spiritually."

– Lisa Haiyan Xu, MACS.

"I really thank God for being part of the BTS family, a family that always shows care and concern for one another whenever anyone is in need, and that reflects the love of God. May God continue to use us so that we will always be a blessing to others who are in need."

– Tin Nwe Aye, MDiv.

"I thank God for the meaningful time of learning I had at BTS. I am thankful for the professors and staff who are so caring for the students, and the continuous support of partner churches under the Singapore Baptist Convention and individuals who are so generous as a channel of blessings. It's amazing! God works in wonderful ways."

– Augusto Tagata, MDiv.

"As a graduate of BTS, it does not mean that I will end my desire to learn more about God and how I can be an effective minister of His Word. Despite the difficulties and hardships of completing the MDiv program, I have learned to fully trust God, and I have experienced His grace and wisdom. I know that the real application of my learning is out there, and I will continue to learn from Him for as long as I live."

– Andy Esguerra, MDiv.

"My praise goes to God, my heavenly Father, and my gratitude to the BTS family for accepting, caring for, and supporting me. In God's mercy and with the kindness of the BTS faculty and staff members, I have had meaningful days here in BTS as I aspired to study well. BTS is a place where I had a great opportunity to study and to grow. God is so good!"

– Christer Bell, MDiv.

"I thank God for sending me to BTS. I feel that BTS is my family where I learned how to serve in ministry and with love. I also thank all our teachers, staff, Baptist churches and Singapore Baptist Convention, all of whom I will never forget in my life. Thank you for your guidance, support and understanding. I appreciate all the support you all gave me to help me get to where I am today."

- Saw Thall Wah, MDiv.

First "Pillars of Leadership" Training Seminar (15 and 22 February)

In conjunction with BTS' 25th Anniversary celebrations, the seminary's Pastoral Development Institute launched a leadership training series in partnership with Queenstown Baptist Church. The "Pillars of Leadership" (POL) training program consists of four full- and half-day seminars held on several weekends through the year. The seminars, conducted in English and Mandarin separately, serve to equip Christians to grow together in Christ in community, and to nurture a common grammar of faith for mutual edification, Christian witness, and spiritual unity.

The first English POL seminar was held on the mornings of 15 and 22 February at Queenstown Baptist Church. Dr Rick Griffith, full-time faculty member and Doctor of Ministry Program Director of Singapore Bible College led "The Bible Basically" training which helped participants discover helpful handles to grasp the entirety of the Bible. The seminars were attended by a total of 350 people representing 12 churches. One participant from Queenstown Baptist Church commented, "The first POL was very good. Dr Griffith gave a comprehensive introduction with a helpful mnemonic for us. Importantly, it gave me a flavour of the depth of knowledge that is embedded in the Bible that I think I have not even begun to scratch the surface of. This motivates me to persist in my personal study of the Word of God and creates in me an awe of the God whom I worship."

A Bible seminar in Chinese was held simultaneously at Queenstown Baptist Church on 22 February, and it was led by Dr Sun Poling and Dr Pan Chou Wee of Trinity Theological College. More than 160 people attended this training. We welcome you to join in these precious opportunities to train and grow together. (Please see the details of the remaining seminars in page 8 of this bulletin.)



Hope that Spurs Us On to Be Involved – A Reading of Moltmann's Ethics of Hope

Nehemiah Quek Ngee Hong

Nehemiah is a faculty member of BTS with research interests in the area of Christian Thought (Theology, History and Ethics). He is a Ph.D. candidate with Taiwan Theological College and Seminary.

'Amen. Yes, come Lord Jesus' (Rev. 22.20). As we expect and celebrate the second coming of Christ, how should we make preparation? Since we do not know enough about what will happen when Christ comes, we might ask, "How should we prepare (or some may say best prepare) ourselves?" "What kind of hope should we have?"

For more than sixty years, Jürgen Moltmann sought to answer these questions by developing his ethics of hope. Moltmann (born 8 April 1926) is one of the world's most prominent theologians. His experiences in World War II, especially as a prisoner of war (between 1945 and 1947) have been a formative power on his theology and ethics.

Moltmann's ethics is not normative, which means that one can find few concrete ethical guidance, instructions, principles and moral laws in his ethics. Moltmann worried that, under the tyranny of perfection and undue stress of living blamelessly, we often ask, "Is it the only way? Is it the best way? How is it that I cannot think of a better way?" Instead of sustaining our action by hope, we sabotage it with worries and hesitancy. Moltmann suggested instead, that if it is to change the context for the better, then do it freely out of love and hope; if it is to avert danger, do something necessary to prevent it. However we do it, please pray while watching, and wait while hastening.

"Just be free and try your best!" Moltmann advised. There is

always a superabundance of what is hoped for. He encouraged us to encounter our limitations and exceed the limits with God's grace. Inspired by hope, we can do much more and do it better than we realize. Moltmann's ethics of hope is "christologically founded, pneumatologically implemented, and eschatologically oriented."

Christologically Founded

Some Christian moralists argue that it is impossible for Christians to bring greater insight to the solution of today's burning social and political problems, problems such as traffic congestion, electronic road pricing (ERP), income taxation, or genetic engineering. Even if we could, the Christian solution could never be made binding on a pluralistic society. For Moltmann, Christian ethics is Christian discipleship. Instead of providing good or better solutions to general problems, it is an attempt to follow the way of Jesus Christ. As disciples of Christ, we learn how to identify with those who are suffering and love our enemies creatively while we eagerly anticipate the Kingdom of God that God will bring about.

Pneumatologically Implemented

Following John Calvin and the Church Fathers, Moltmann defines God's Spirit as *fons vitae* or 'the well of life.' As our lives are continually indwelt, renewed and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we say "yes" to life, and "no" to man-made negations of life such as terrorism and

environmental disasters. By saying "yes" to life, we accept life in its finitude, and love it in its infirmity. When we accept one another, we can develop fully and freely.

Eschatologically Oriented

Moltmann's ethics of hope is a transformative eschatology, which seeks to change the 'unfulfilled present' in order to prepare for the Kingdom of God. However we face the future, Moltmann reminds us to remember the risen Christ and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit. Like the "little stand-up man," we should never give up. This is the freedom and grace given by God that our actions should remain eschatologically oriented.

Unlike most ethical systems, Moltmann's ethics of hope is other-centered. As there are bound to be changes ahead, be it climate change, technological innovation, or ever-changing living conditions effected by our efficient government, ethics are needed, and they will be challenged when changes affect our living context and the way we interact with each other. Some may suffer because of these changes. Following Jesus' example, we seek to care for the weak and the suffering. The hope promised by the God of

continued

righteousness is that the righteous will remain. Christian hope does not promise successful days to the rich and the strong, but resurrection and life to those who are suffering or living in the shadow of death.

As Christ's disciples inspired by hope, we care and contribute something for the Kingdom of God, which

Christ will complete on His day. It is a privilege and a humbling experience to know that we are co-workers with God for His kingdom. May our humble contributions be used by God to spur others to care and to give of ourselves (Ps 90:17).

Alumni Updates



Shirley Lee (AdvDip, 2012) sends her greetings to the BTS family. After graduation, she sought the Lord's leading to return to the mission field. However, the Lord led her to serve a group of people with psychiatric disabilities. She said, "I'm thankful that He enabled me to reach out, to bring hope so that they might know the love of Christ through my service." Early this year, she was transferred to work with a group of single mothers and children at Crisis Shelters and Services, a ministry of Singapore Anglican Community Services. With the change, please join her in prayer to ask for the Lord's favour as she journeys with them.

Photo: A group of children making pizza >



Notes from Union University

Since August 2013, Faith Buan has been on a year-long stint at Union University as an exchange student. Here is the second update from her about her life and studies in Jackson, Tennessee.

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. - Romans 5:1-4

Greetings from Union University (UU)! An academic year of student exchange in UU is coming to an end soon. It is with bittersweet feelings that I am writing this to you! In the previous newsletter, I shared about the different aspects of learning that I have gained on this enriching journey. I continue to receive much in the spring semester. Classes have been challenging my ideas and understanding in various aspects, particularly in church music. The deeper friendships formed have also brought forth more mutual encouragement and Christian growth.

This has been a very special season for me as a part of the college community. As a result of a tragic incident some weeks ago, great spiritual warfare swept across the community. It has been a difficult and painful time for many. Nonetheless, I have seen how the Lord is drawing the community near to Him and to one another. And I am so grateful that God has placed me in UU during a time of spiritual awakening. What a tremendous blessing and privilege to be here in this season for He knows we all needed that!

Many of us here were yearning for spring to come as winter was lingering on longer than expected. That yearning paralleled perfectly how we hope in Jesus Christ – it is a Hope that does not disappoint. This truth reflected in Romans 5:1-4 is possibly the highpoint of all the lessons I have gained in my student exchange. And for all these, I give thanks to God for who He is and what He has done!

*In His Love,
Faith
May 2014*



Financial Report

YTD: Dec 2013 - Mar 2014

Total Income: \$737,781.00

Total Expenses: \$598,913.00

Surplus:

\$17,517 (General Fund)

Courses to be offered in July 2014

Intensive Course

"Introduction to Christian Social Ministry"

Prof. Mary Anne Poe

Date: 14-23 July 2014

Time: 8:30am - 12:30pm

Day Courses

Old Testament Background

New Testament Background

Pentateuch

Research & Writing

Systematic Theology I

History of Christianity I

Hebrew I

Human Growth & Development

Greek I

Preaching II

Introduction to Pastoral Counseling I

Anthropology for Missions & Evangelism

We welcome you to take courses for credit or for audit. Please contact Mr Tan Kim Tian at kt.tan@bts.org.sg or call 6472-0091 ext 206.

My response

"As God leads me, I want to train with BTS."

- ☐ I am interested in part- or full-time theological studies and would like to have more information.
- ☐ I am interested in attending an evening class. Please get in touch with me.
- ☐ I would like to know about the training options available for lay persons.
- ☐ I would like to get information about the Union University Doctor of Ministry Program in Singapore.

My particulars

Name (Dr / Rev / Mr / Mrs / Mdm / Miss)

Handphone Home phone

Address

..... Singapore

Church

E-mail Date filled in

My response

"With God's help, I want to give to BTS."

- ☐ I will give to BTS' General Operation Fund the sum/pledge of S\$
- ☐ I want to help BTS undergraduate students by giving to the BTS Scholarship Fund the sum/pledge of S\$
- ☐ I want to help Christian ministers to upgrade by giving to the Doctor of Ministry Financial Assistance Fund the sum/pledge of S\$
- ☐ I want to help BTS purchase library books and media resources by giving the sum/pledge of S\$

I hereby enclose a cheque as my contribution

S\$ Bank

Cheque Number

Please detach the completed response and particulars slip, enclose it with your cheque (if any) and mail it to Baptist Theological Seminary, 1023 Upper Serangoon Road, #01-01 Baptist Centre, Singapore 534761.

Cheques must be crossed and made payable to Baptist Theological Seminary

BTS 25th Anniversary Celebrations 2014

Theme: Renew Your Deeds in Our Day



Events Completed:

BTS Retreat

1st Pillar of Leadership Training (Biblical) - Probing the Word (Dr Rick Griffith)

2nd Pillar of Leadership Training (Theological) - (Dr Mark Chan)

Events	Dates & Time	Venue
BTS Public Lecture - When Cultures Collapse: How God Prepares the Way for the Gospel by Dr Hal Poe (Charles Colson Professor of Faith and Culture, Union University)	July 24 & 25 7:30pm-9:30pm	(To be announced)
3rd Pillar of Leadership Training (Contextual)** - Understanding our Issues (Dr Calvin Chong & Dr Sun Poling)	August 2 9:00am-4:00pm	Queenstown Baptist Church*
Thanksgiving Dinner & Celebration Service	October 18	Queenstown Baptist Church*
4th Pillar of Leadership Training (Leadership)** - Probing our Potential (Panel)	November 1 9:00am-4:00pm	Queenstown Baptist Church*

****Pillars of Leadership Training Sponsors:**

Baptist Theological Seminary
Queenstown Baptist Church
Pastoral Development Institute

*Queenstown Baptist Church: 495, Margaret Drive, Singapore 149305

Advanced & Graduate Diploma Study

Applications are open for diploma programs of study for the new semester in July 2014 – **Advanced or Graduate Diploma in Christian Studies; and Advanced or Graduate Diploma in Intercultural Studies**. The Diploma in Christian Studies program is an excellent option for the training of church leaders. It is designed to equip students with a firm foundation for studying the Scriptures and developing spiritually. The Diploma in Intercultural Studies program is designed for a similar purpose, with the additional goal of equipping students for ministry in cross-cultural settings.

Program Features

- The diploma will be earned after the completion of 33 credit hours of courses.
- Each course has 15 sessions of study.
- Graduate Diploma students are eligible for upgrading to a Master of Arts program in the same area. Advanced Diploma students may use relevant credits earned to offset courses in the Bachelor of Theology program.
- Classes are held on Monday and Wednesday evenings at the Baptist Centre (1023 Upper Serangoon Road) at 7.00pm.

The application deadline is **1 June 2014** for the commencement of studies in January. Please contact BTS Registrar Mr Tan Kim Tian at kt.tan@bts.org.sg or visit our website at www.bts.org.sg for more information.

