

Newsletter

February 2014



Pastoral Theology— From Hospitality to Forgiveness

Joshua Cho

The Spirituality of Hospitality

"Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it." (Heb 13:2)

I have pondered this scriptural verse ever since I learned it five years ago and since then it has become a very important verse in my life. This verse carries great influence on the growth of my personal life and the Seminary.

In the morning of the 20th of January in 2009, I shared with the whole Seminary community my blueprint for the future development of the Seminary. The first and major emphasis in the blueprint was on "Hospitality." Hospitality is of the utmost importance

because Hospitality reveals the character of Love which is born out of spirituality. In other words, a seminary—as a spiritual community—displays the very essence of Hospitality.

Jesus' Love and Hospitality for Strangers

What is Hospitality? The above verse from the book of Hebrews reminds us, "Do not forget to entertain strangers," and it also says, "For by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it." The word "entertain" in this verse is "*philoxenia*," meaning hospitality—a kind of love for strangers.

Hospitality can be seen when Jesus entertained others. When Jesus Christ began his ministry, he



eagerly went to serve those who were strangers, the marginal community and the needy. He transformed water into wine at the marriage at Cana; fed the hungry crowd with two loaves of bread and five fish; healed the demon possessed and the handicapped. He welcomed children and prostitutes, tax-collectors and sinners.

Reciprocity in the Host-Guest Relationship

Jesus not only entertained strangers, he also sat at others' tables as a guest to be entertained. In fact, Jesus himself was a stranger with needs of his own. While on Earth, Jesus was born without a home and was a refugee as a young child. Even in his adult life, Jesus had no place to lay his head. He was rejected by his home town, despised as a "criminal," and relied on a handful of women for support.

The Hospitality practiced by Jesus Christ reflects the reciprocity inherent in host-guest relationships. While Jesus embraces the needy, he also desires to be embraced; when Jesus entertains his followers, he asks for their provision. Jesus points out that whenever we welcome strangers, feed the hungry, and visit the sick, we are

extending loving kindness to the Son of Man.

Hospitality Requires Wisdom

However, the offer of Hospitality in a world of sinfulness and injustice requires the exercise of wisdom with grace.

The practice of Hospitality calls for the use of prudence because we need to confront the issue of limits and boundaries. This issue involves human being's physical and emotional limitations and thus, our need for boundaries. Resources or lack there of can also impose constraints. When we—as individuals, families, states, or churches—attempt to provide for those in need, we will often find ourselves stretching too thin in order to meet their needs. Yet those who want to limit their hospitality may risk turning Jesus away. In addition to the limitation of resources, there exists the problem of guests who abuse the host's generosity.

Concerning the first issue of the limitation of resources, I share Edith Schaeffer's view that even when there are more people than we can care for, it is not sinful to be finite and limited. Meeting some, but not all needs can still demonstrate what is possible when people care in a society where hospitality is not widely practiced, or when resources are not distributed fairly or adequately to respond to every need.¹ We have seen and heard stories of wonderful provisions by various communities. These stories speak of Paul's words, "And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." (2 Co 9:8)

In regard to the other issue of guests abusing hospitality, some respond by suggesting the necessity of using preventive measures. These measures include the hosts demanding a letter of recommendation, conducting a series of tests and verifications, or even developing sets of criteria or a system for hospitality. According to John Calvin, to help those who have genuine needs and

to ward against those who covet everything, people who offer hospitality should exercise discernment as for the needs and the circumstances of the recipients of hospitality. However, Calvin also reminds us not to excuse our frugality by reason of wisdom: The considerations to offer hospitality should not be over precise. Such considerations must be undergirded by hearts of love, kindness, and mercifulness.²

Hospitality also Requires Grace

In other words, the offer of Hospitality in a world full of sinfulness and injustice requires not only the exercise of wisdom but also the endowment of grace. Hospitality and the grace of God are interconnected.

A good example is the story of a debtor in Matthew 18:23-35. The debtor owed the lender ten thousand talents—an insurmountable debt that could not be paid back in one lifetime. Miraculously, the lender, practicing grace, cancelled the debt. However, the debtor refused to forgive his own borrower who only owed him a hundred denarii, which is a small loan that could have been easily paid off within a short period of time. In this story, the forgiven person assumed the position of a creditor and forgot that he was once the forgiven debtor. He refused to give a second chance to others by cancelling his debtor's small loan. Therefore, this character is referred to as “mean,” “harsh,” and a “wicked servant” in the Bible.

This story shows not only the “wickedness” of the “servant,” it also tells of the unconditional and unlimited forgiving grace of the king. The king expects his people to offer to others the hospitality of unconditional and unlimited forgiveness. Therefore, when one offers hospitality to others, one must “remember” the fact that one has already been given by God His unconditional and unlimited forgiveness. One's heavy debt is repaid by the sacrifice of the creditor Jesus Christ. One's hospitality for strangers is a response to God's unconditional and unlimited forgiveness and to God's precious grace of

hospitality. One, as the forgiven, is to receive strangers whether these strangers are or will be indebted to one. When we see with clarity that we were once the enemies of God and were strangers forgiven, we will understand the reasons for extending hospitality to others.

A Hospitable Community with a Forgiving Soul

Hospitality with a soul of forgiveness is the Hospitality of genuineness. The Seminary community has been engaged in learning and practicing such hospitality and forgiveness for the past five years. Teachers and students work together to become part of a Seminary community that is forgiving and hospitable. Beginning last August, our staff joined in the learning of forgiveness and hospitality. We learn forgiveness of seventy-seven times. We believe that hospitality with a forgiving soul can create the formation of unity and solidarity in the Seminary—and subsequently in our churches.

When seminary students and teachers experience the hospitality of forgiveness, we shall be able to pray and sing with people who are different from us. We can share in the journey of life with convictions and with doubts—and with different views of understanding. We can even invite “others” to our midst or join with “others” in experiencing the mysterious grace of God. Only then can theological education have its own spirituality.

(Scripture quotations are taken from NIV Bible.)

1 Christine D. Pohl, *Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999), 132.

2 Pohl, *Making Room*, 148.

New Students' Testimonies of God's Call

Have I Not Commanded You...

Chan Sze-chung (B.Th. I)

Good Friday: I Felt Indifference towards Jesus' Death

While I was a student in Form 2, I was moved by the sacrificial love of God during an evangelistic meeting, leading me to accept Jesus as my saviour. However, my faith was not stable. In fact, I was often greatly disturbed by how weak my faith was and how easily it was shaken. After graduating from high school, I attended church infrequently and was, in many ways, walking away from God. Nevertheless, the love and grace of God was always with me. He listened to every cry when my soul called out. When I was lost, He continued to teach me and pull me towards Him without leaving or forsaking me.

Seven years ago, God brought me—the prodigal son who had led a wandering life for over ten years—back to the church. I began to attend Tai Po Baptist Church regularly. I enjoyed a new full life filled with Sunday Worship services, fellowship meetings, and my private devotionals which I now engage in regularly. I still remember the first fellowship meeting I attended which happened to take place during a Good Friday weekend. Throughout that meeting, while other members in the fellowship were meditating on Jesus' crucifixion and the pain of death by crucifixion, I felt indifference towards Jesus' death. It seemed as if Jesus' death had nothing to do with me. But then, I prayed to God saying, "I know you died for me, but at this moment I cannot feel our bond. But, I have faith that You will help me grow and become a better follower—just as You led me back to church." God

really answered my prayer. He is continually showing me His love as He continues renewing my life.

"I Myself Cannot Carry Your Cross..."

After about half a year, I had a profound devotional experience. The scripture reading that day was: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." (Lk 9.23) After reading through the material in the devotional booklet, the Holy Spirit kept on encouraging me to pray about "taking up the cross daily" and what that meant. However, I wondered if I wanted to carry the cross at all. I did not want to be dishonest with God, so I confessed to Him my doubts. On the one hand, I was content with my spiritual life, but on the other hand, I was worried about my own inadequacy. Were these challenges too much for me? Would I end up walking away from the church again? Thankfully, the Holy Spirit kept urging me to persevere and trust in God. In prayer, I said to God, "I myself cannot carry your cross. If you really want me to do so, please help me!"

I was truly grateful to God because after saying this prayer, my life changed greatly. Although I felt inadequate in many ways, I was still willing to share the gospel with others and shoulder more ministerial responsibilities at church. On reflection, it is clear to me that God actually began to call me to serve Him full-time at the very moment I said that prayer because my life changed so dramatically immediately afterward.

During the following four years or more, God inspired me to serve and grow with a group of brothers

and sisters in a youth fellowship by first being a committee member and later the chairman. Moreover, He inspired me to join the Evangelism Explosion III (EE III) team through which I experienced God's great power and wonderful grace. I was led to participate in nurturing new believers which helped me to realize the importance of helping them grow spiritually. By acting as an usher, I learned to welcome and serve brothers and sisters who came to church to praise and worship the Lord together. Although these various ministry opportunities required much of my time, I was thankful to experience God's presence and guidance. As a result, I grew through both the knowledge of God's truth and through my ministry experiences.

Later, I was inspired by God to take on even more responsibilities in my church's Department of Evangelism and in teaching the EE III course. However, this also troubled me. Wasn't I already busy with the present ministries? Why did God rush me into doing more? Wasn't I still young? But I quickly realized that this must be either because God was about to welcome me back to the heavenly home or because God would want me to do more. Thankfully, He was equipping me to be a preacher.

“What I have said, that will I bring about...”

Hoping to understand whether or not God would want to call me to be a preacher, I asked God during my private devotional. God answered me with this scripture: “I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please. From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose. What I have said, that will I bring about; what I have planned, that will I do.” (Isa 46:10-11)

When Isaiah responded to God's call, he said, “Here am I. Send me!” (Isa 6:8) Even though I had heard God call me, I still could not respond as the prophet had. I said this to God: “I cannot be sure of your calling from this scripture alone; I need to have the confirmation from a pastor who affirms that I am suitable.” Not long after that, during the month of EE III, a pastor said to me, “The Holy Spirit inspires me to tell you that you ought to be a preacher. Do think about it!” I was so astonished, but still uncertain. I spoke to God again saying, “I still need a few more brothers and sisters who can affirm that I am suitable to be a preacher; otherwise, I am still not sure

about your call.” Almost immediately, various brothers and sisters proceeded to give me positive affirmation leading me to realize that I must accept the call.

“Have I not commanded you...”

How could these events happen coincidentally? Although my heart was trembling, I knew that God had called me. I then asked God for financial provision so that I could prepare to enter the seminary. But what I got was quite the opposite of what I had prayed for. The worry about myself and the financial needs of my family made me doubt about God's call again; I felt unsettled and filled with uncertainty. I could not help wondering: “Did I get the message wrong?” However, God reassured me through my private devotionals, through sermon messages, and through different people and events that He had in fact really called me.

One morning when I was going to church, I said to God, “I know I have been a nuisance and that I have asked you for verification many times. Please answer me one last time, and I will be satisfied.” The scripture reading on that morning's worship service was the first chapter of Joshua. As I read, “Have I not commanded you ...” (Josh. 1:9), I could not help crying because God truly kept answering me. Even when I showed such little faith, He was patient. I began to realize why God used Isaiah 46:10-11 as the scripture to call me. He wanted me to know that the call was based on His own choice. It had nothing to do with what kind of person I had been. No matter how weak I was or how little faith I had, His faithfulness remained unchanged. As the scripture says, “What I have said, that will I bring about; what I have planned, that will I do.” (Isa 46:11b) Indeed, God's calling is based on His grace. Although I had little faith, God still kept answering my prayers. From beginning to end, God's love had never forsaken me.

Entering into the Seminary He Had Prepared for Me

God's preparation for me was more than I could have ever expected. Due to my financial situation, I was still uncertain as to whether I should resign from my job and apply for seminary study in 2013. I was also not sure how my parents would react to my decision if I resigned. However, God made use of an incident where, without

any prior preparation, I shared my intention to study in the seminary with my mother who is also a Christian. As a result, I was released from worrying about my family's financial situation. To my amazement, God had long ago given her the idea that her son would become a pastor and so, actually the financial needs had already been taken care of. When I shared this aspiration with my dad who is a non-Christian, he quickly understood and accepted my choice without any objection. Not only did the positive reaction from my parents help relieve my mental burden, but this also served as another confirmation from God.

I planned to send an application to a number of seminaries, however, after joining HKBTS's "Experiencing Seminary Life Camp," I was impressed by the faculty-and-student relationships and the academic atmosphere. I also agreed with the Seminary's idea that teachers and students are in fact a community of learners. After prayer, I felt peace inside and decided to only apply to HKBTS. I thanked God that He opened the door for me to study in HKBTS and led me to walk on the path that He had prepared for me.

Responding to God's Inexplicable Love

Now, as I once again reflect on the process of God's call, God reminds me to be faithful to what He has entrusted to me by means of "The Parable of the Talents" (Matt. 25:14-30). I believe that God calls individual Christians in different ways. Despite the fact that the gifts or talents God assigns to men are different; whether one

is a lay person or a preacher, God similarly asks that we ought to be faithful and to fulfil what has been entrusted to us. In turn, He will likewise praise His faithful servants. I was once a prodigal son running away from home, but I am now determined to consecrate myself to serve God full-time and to walk on the path to become a preacher. I do not do it for God's special praise alone, but also as a response to God's great love. God's love is the kind of love that is willing to make sacrifices and is unexplainable. Having lived as a prodigal son for more than ten years, I have experienced how great God's love is, and I understand that I can take comfort in living under God's grace and mercy. I do not boast about myself or my service to Him, but I am simply thankful that I was given the strength to answer God's call.



For God is love; He loves me, an unworthy sinner. I am truly thankful to Him!

*(Translated into English by Barney Tse)
Scripture quotations are taken from NIV Bible.*

Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary

Date : May 5 (Monday)
Time : 8 p.m.
Venue : Academic Community Hall,
Hong Kong Baptist University
(224, Waterloo Road, Kowloon)
Message : Dr. Jonathan Lo
Content : Hymns, testimonies, dance, message
Free admission All are welcome
Enquiries : 2630 1257

Concert of Praise 2014 On Earth as in Heaven



The program is subsidized according to the rental subsidy scheme of the A. C. Hall.

New Students' Testimonies of God's Call

The Only Response I Could Make ...

Yuen Lai-wah (M.Div. I)

The Motor-Cycle Accident Brought the Shock of Love

In June 2011, my husband Kwok-hung and I went on a sightseeing tour in Bali. After getting off the plane, we rented a motorcycle and headed for a fair in the downtown area. I was sitting on the backseat and humming the song "The Most Beautiful True Love" when suddenly my husband lost control of the motorcycle. All I could remember was the feeling of the motorcycle going off-balance. I was unable to react. I heard the sound of glass breaking and my helmet colliding with the ground. I could only see within a short distance because I was being dragged by the motorcycle. The outcome was that we experienced a miracle: Kwok-hung and I only suffered minor injuries and bruises—we had no broken bones or life-threatening injuries despite the extreme danger we experienced. My only explanation is that it must have been God's almighty power of protection and nothing else.

Ever since I came to Christ, again and again I have experienced God's love; however, this time I was shocked by God's special love for me shown through the wonderful protection he gave to me and my husband that day. The



Lai-wah and Kwok-hung



motorcycle accident made me realize that life is fragile and transient, and can end at any moment.

The power of God's love that I experienced prompted me to renew my commitment to God's call which had begun a few years prior to the accident.

Fearing to Be a Preacher to Stand in front of Large Crowds

During a Praise Concert in 2004, I felt moved to respond to the call and devote myself to full-time ministry. At that time, I had only been a Christian for two years and was working as a social worker in a Christian organization. Because I wanted to be of use to God and was happy to be at a post that served God, my reaction to God's call was easy. I was willing to serve God full-time in a Christian organization, but I, still would not be a minister in the church. I was afraid to take seminary studies for fear of becoming a preacher having to stand in front of large crowds. As a result, even at the mere mention of seminary studies, I felt like I wanted to run away and hide. Even in my dialogue with God, I avoided the topic of seminary studies and remained insistent that I did not want to be a preacher.

In 2006 when Kwok-hung and I were still dating, he shared with me that he had responded to God's call and was ready

to walk on the road of consecration. My reply was, "If God wants you to go, no one can stop you." I knew I did not want to be a "pastor's wife" for fear that I would have to face a lot of restrictions. But then, being a pastor's wife was still better than being a preacher because I could hide in the background without having to stand in the forefront as a preacher has to. A year later, Kwok-hung resigned from his job and began undertaking seminary studies. In the following year, we got married. Despite financial difficulties, we both experienced countless blessings and provisions from God in our preparation for marriage.

Making a Three-Year Covenant with God

In the same year Kwok-hung decided to respond to God's call, I enrolled in a social work degree program. I continued to work while furthering my studies on a part-time basis. During that period of time, I had to balance the demands of both work and school. Eventually, I became ill from exhaustion, finding myself weary and stretched to the limit in all aspects: body, heart, and soul. Once again God's grace came to me and empowered me to finish my studies and graduate with honors in 2010 despite all the difficulties I was experiencing.

In these few years, I would need to face God's call again. I had misunderstood that God called me to be a pastor's wife, but He called me to be a preacher. After we got married, I could still hear God asking me in my private devotional or in sermon messages at the Sunday service: "Do you truly love me more than these?" (Jn 21:15) The call of God stirred my heart again, but I still felt scared. I knew this time that I could not escape any longer.

When I graduated in June 2010, the possibility of seminary studies emerged again. I asked my Heavenly Father, "What can I do for you?" His response was: "To leave your present post that you have worked for several years and go!" I felt frightened because this was a job and a ministry that I liked very much, so how could I let go? I was very worried. After all, where would I go? During that time I read testimonies of seminary students and found affirmation and support from their struggles. I realized that everyone chose seminary studies at different stages in their lives and that God's preparation for each of them varied. And so I prayed to God, asking Him to give me three years to make the change so that I could leave my present company in good standing with no hard feelings. Meanwhile I prayed to the Heavenly Father, "If you really want me to take seminary studies, please equip me."

To Be Molded in Two New Leadership Posts

Soon after having experienced God's protection in the motorcycle accident in Bali in 2011, I felt that I had to respond to God's love. Not long after that, I was invited to be a deacon in my church. However, I thought that I would not be qualified to be a deacon. After confronting myself, I realized that I must submit myself to God's will, and I was elected to be a deacon. Another sister and I received the same number of votes, but I was eventually elected by ballot. It seems that it was God who picked me to be a church deacon. At the same time, God provided me an opportunity for a promotion at my job, resulting in more responsibilities. Throughout my whole life I had been timid—never feeling comfortable in the spotlight. I never thought that God would lead me to suddenly become a leader—in my church or in my job.

In the following year and a half, God was continually molding me in my church ministry and in my job. My new employment status and new identity created many challenges for me. How could I be a deacon and a Christian supervisor following God's heart? In my new position, God allowed me to see my own inadequacies and taught me to trust in Him. I learned to be patient and not to act recklessly. In the past, I relied on my own strength to face adversity, but I learned to first ask God's will in everything I did. This is like what Paul said—that there was a thorn in his flesh so that he learned to trust God. I too learned to have hope in God and no longer rely solely on my own intelligence. When I graduated in 2010 I had made a three-year covenant with God and asked God, "If you really want me to take seminary studies, please equip me." God had indeed listened to my prayer that day and allowed me to be molded in these two posts.

"Do you want God to speak to you word by word..."

In April 2012, half a year after I assumed my new position and accompanied by my supervisor, I joined a seminar on youth ministry. In that meeting, all the pastors and ministers present saw the importance of youth ministry, and yet they found it difficult to implement youth ministry in the church. As a social worker with ample experience, the seminar motivated me in particular because I had the precious experience that the others lacked; however, I too was missing something—theological training.

As the year was drawing to a close, again my three-year covenant with God came to the forefront of my mind. By

2013 it would be expired, and I felt that it was time for me to fulfill my promise and enroll in theological studies. In March 2013, I joined a camp organized by HKBTS. I was continually asking God for any kind of verification to affirm that I was on the right path. However, in conversation a female professor asked me, "What is the matter with you? Do you want God to speak to you word by word: You must go to take seminary studies, only then that you would go?" She was kindly but forcefully reminding me that I must have confidence in God's call.

The Only Response That I Could Make ...

By the end of the camp, I had affirmed God's call and knew that I should take seminary studies. However, I still felt worried because my parents were not Christians. I had no idea how to explain my decision to them in a way they would understand and support. After my resignation, I decided to tell my mother; however, I was filled with fear. I quickly told her that I had resigned, and she asked me, "Why? Jobs are hard to find these days." Then she continued, "Are you going to study in the seminary?" I was shocked because I never thought that we would have such a conversation. I quickly answered, "Yes!" She moved on and asked me questions about my financial situation. How could I ever think that things would progress in this way? God had already prepared this for me.

I must thank God for His patience. Throughout these difficult years, He offered me verification and at times, admonishment. I revived support from pastors, ministers, my husband, and my family members. I experienced countless blessings from God: His presence, provision, and protection in times of crisis. I know God loves me very much. The only response that I could make was: I was willing to be commissioned by God and to step onto the beautiful path of serving God full-time with a heart of thankful submission.

Academic Affairs News

1. Full-Time Ministry Seminar

The seminar was held on October 26, 2013. Two lectures were respectively conducted by Dr. Andres Tang, Professor of Christian Thought (Theology and Culture) and by Dr. Wong Fook-kong, Professor of Old Testament. The topics were: "What Is Revelation?" and "What Is Biblical Archaeology?" The seminar also includes a survey of HKBTS's study programs, a general introduction to life on campus, and our students' testimonies of God's call. Professors and students were available to meet and answer participants' concerns or questions. Through the seminar, participants gained a deeper understanding of God's call, full-time ministry and the Seminary's different study programs.

2. Joint Programs Graduation Ceremony

The graduation ceremony of the Seminary for our Main Program, Lay Theological Education Department, and Distance Education Program, was held on November 17 (Sunday) at 3:30 p.m. at the Queen Elizabeth Stadium. Last year there were 56 degree-holding graduates together with those diploma and certificate students in the same program and 248 graduates being awarded diplomas and certificates. An estimate of 2,200 guests attended the ceremony.

3. Faculty Movement

Dr. Clement Shum, Assistant Professor of New Testament, will be on sabbatical leave from January to May this year.

4. Winter Intensive Program

The Winter Intensive Program has already been held from January 2 to 7. The two courses offered, "Advanced Preaching" and "The Study of Deuteronomical History: 1 and 2 Kings" were taught by Dr. Sam Tsang, Associate Professor of New Testament, and Dr. Wong Fook-kong, Professor of Old Testament respectively.

5. Mission Week

The Mission Week will be held from March 25 to 27 at 10 am in the Seminary chapel with "Local Churches and Partnership in Missions" as its theme. The speakers and topics of the three-day seminar will be: Rev. Raymond Lo, Executive Director at Far East Broadcasting Company, Hong Kong, speaking on "Local Churches and Missions Organizations;" Rev. Pak Lo, the Seminary's Director of

Mission Dynamics Center, speaking on "Local Churches and Missionary Societies;" and Mrs. Wance Chan, Assistant Professor of Practical Studies of China Graduate School of Theology, speaking on "Local Churches and Seminaries."

Presidential Trips

- President Cho was invited to speak on the topic, "Walking Together and Awakening," in a "Forum on Doing Business with a Mission" organized by the Fullness Social Enterprises Society on November 9, 2013.

President Cho was also invited to present papers at:

- The "International Forum on Christianity and Constructing a Harmonious Society," which is organized by Chinese Academy of Social Sciences from November 22 to 24.
- The Academic Conference held in Beijing from November 29 to December 2 on "Christianity and The Dream of Rejuvenation of the Chinese Nation: The Status and Function of Christianity on the Construction of Chinese Culture."
- The Meeting of the Fellowship for Theologians, Taiwan Theological College and Seminary, held from December 13 to 14, 2013.

Faculty News

- **Dr. Andres Tang**, Professor of Christian Thought (Theology and Culture), spoke on the topic, "Systematic Theology: Sexual Person, Sexual Desire, Sexuality" in the Christian Sexual Ethics Program 2013 organized by The Society For Truth And Light on October 17, 2013. Dr. Tang also spoke on the topic "Hong Kong Politics and Pastoral Care in the Church" at the Fellowship of Pastoral Workers of The Free Methodist Church of Hong Kong on November 22, 2013.
- **Dr. Jonathan Lo**, Visiting Assistant Professor of New Testament, spoke on the topic, "The People of God: The Contributions of New Testament Scholar N. T.

Wright to Biblical Studies and Its Implications for Hong Kong Christians" in a lecture organized by Virtue and Wisdom Link on December 10, 2013.

Visitors

- On October 3, Dr. Patrick Sookhdeo, International Director of Barnabas Fund, visited the Seminary and delivered a message at the morning chapel entitled, "The Challenge to the Church and Missions Ministry in the Islamic Context."
- On October 30, missionary Ms. Carmen Lee, our alumna, visited the Seminary.
- November 9 through 18, President Jeff Iorg, President of the Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, visited and stayed in the Seminary. He gave a sermon in the morning chapel on November 14. President Iorg was the speaker at the Seminary's Joint Programs Graduation Ceremony on November 17.
- On November 14, heads of the Bible translation departments of the United Bible Societies from India, Indonesia, Fiji Islands, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam visited the Seminary.
- On November 15, Rev. Long Shengjiao, Principal of the Hunan Bible School visited the Seminary.

Alumni News

- Alumna Lam Mei-hung (class of 1999) rested in peace on November 17, 2013. Please remember her family in your prayers and may the Lord's comfort, grace, and peace be with them.
- Alumna Yeung Miu-chun (class of 2010) rested in peace on December 11. May the Lord comfort and care for her family and may the Lord's grace and peace be with them.
- Alumna Yu Kam-lan (class of 1987) and alumnus Pak Chi-shun (class of 1990) were ordained pastors by Kowloon City Baptist Church on December 26.
- Alumnus Ngai Siu-kei (class of 1995) was ordained pastor by Evangelical Grace Church of JESUS on December 29, 2013.

Lay Theological Education Department

Application for enrolment in the following programs has begun: (Teaching is conducted in Cantonese)

- **Diploma / Certificate in Women's Theological Training Program**

January to March quarter (auditing is welcome):

| Subject | Lecturer | Venue | Date / Time |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| To Have the Mind of Christ: The Study of the Four Gospels | Ms. Cheng Suet-ling | Applied Theological Education Center | 14/1 – 25/3; class suspended on 28/1, 4/2 & 11/2 (Tue, 8 lessons) 9:30 am – 12 nn |
| Upholding Faith in Adversity: Studying the Book of Ruth | Mrs. Yeung Fung Siu-yin | Mong Kok Education Center | 20/2 – 27/3; class suspended on 27/2 (Thu, 5 lessons) 9:30 am – 12 nn |

- **Diploma / Certificate in Lay Theological Training Program**

January to March quarter:

| Subject | Lecturer | Venue | Date / Time |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Breaking through Limitations: Self-Understanding and Potential Development | Rev. Ng Shuk-yin | Mongkok Education Center | 10/2 – 31/3 (Mon, 8 lessons) 7:00 – 10:00 pm |
| The Many Faces of Death | Rev. William Lam | Mongkok Education Center | 6/2 – 27/3, (Thu, 8 lessons) 7:15 – 9:45 pm |
| Educational Psychology for Early Childhood and Children | Dr. Wong Mui Yuk-ping | Mongkok Education Center | 6/3 – 24/4 (Thu, 8 lessons) 7:15 – 9:45 pm |
| Individual Growth and a Life of Joy | Mrs. Fung Chan Wai-fong | Mongkok Education Center | 10/1 – 7/3; class suspended on 31/1 (Fri, 8 lessons) 7:15 – 9:45 pm |

Student Recruitment

- **Diploma / Certificate Program in Elderly Ministry**

The program aims to provide holistic and systematic training in ministerial skills and basic theological training so that students may experience holistic growth and be prepared for the challenges of an aging population. The program includes eight ministerial subjects and two spiritual formation meetings. Classes meet on every Tuesday and Thursday evening. The program can be completed within one year.

Registration deadline: March 18 or when the quota is filled.

- **Youth Ministry Diploma Program**

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

The program can be completed in approximately two and a half years. Classes (meet every Monday evening) will begin in April.

Program content includes these topics: Be a Good Leader, Process and Skills in Counseling, The Preparation and Practice of a Worship Service, Looking at Evangelism from Varied Angles, Games and Adventure.

Registration deadline: March 14 or when the quota is filled.

Note: Enrolling in either the program in Edlerly Ministry or

Youth Ministry on or before February 28, there will be a 50% discount on the registration fee. For applications by post, fee concession will be decided according to the stamp chop date.

- **Diploma / Certificate Program in Church Administration and General Affairs**

The program provides holistic and systematic training for those currently working as or for those wanting to serve as church administrative staff. It enables students to have holistic training, to construct a proper view of service, and to upgrade ministerial skills in an effort to serve the churches more effectively. The program includes 31 ministry topics and two topical seminars.

There are three semesters. Lessons will begin in April and meet on every Tuesday evening. It takes one year to complete the program at the earliest.

Registration deadline: March 25 or when the quota is filled.

Note: If you enroll on or before March 4, there will be a 50% discount on the registration fee. For applications by post, the fee will be determined according to the postal stamp date.

For enquiries or to apply, please call 2711 2552 or log on to the Lay Theological Education Department website at www.hkbtn.edu.hk/led to download an application form.

Tuition Location:

Mongkok Education Center (10/F, Chung Kiu Commercial Building, 47-51 Shan Tung Street, Mongkok)

Applied Theological Education Center (8/F., Christian Building, 56 Bute Street, Mongkok)

Distance Education Program

Exploring Truth Reflecting upon Faith Equipping for Ministry

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

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

Elective students: Students can choose part of the subjects offered in the correspondence courses according to their own personal interest. For details, please log on to the "Distance Education" website: www.hkbtn.edu.hk/dist.

| On-line Program | Program Description | Date of Commencement |
|--|--|---|
| On-line Certificate in Old Testament Studies Program On-line Certificate in New Testament Studies Program | Description: * Adopting a new on-line platform, Moodle * For those interested in studying the Bible, the program's contents are identical with the correspondence program. Features: * Course work is received and handled through the platform on the webpage to ensure efficiency and time saving. * Students can read and download learning materials and course work directly on the webpage. * Upon completion of course work, a student may upload it for the tutor to mark and provide comments. * Students can download the marked course work with the tutor's comments or search for program information. | * Students can begin at any time with fee concessions. * Trial study of the on-line program is welcome: http://elearning.hkbtn.edu.hk |

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

Pastoral Continuing Education Center

Courses and talks offered from January to March

| Course / Talk | Lecturer | Date | Time |
|--|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Effective Planning, Organization and Mobilization | Mr. Cheung Kam-shing | 6/1, 13/1, 20/1 | 9:30 am – 12:30 pm |
| Applying Christian Positive Psychology to Pastoral Care | Mr. Law Chak-chuen | 6/1, 13/1, 20/1 | 2:00 – 5:00 pm |
| Application of "Intertextuality" from the Book of Zechariah | Dr. Anna Lee | 27/1 | 2:00 – 5:00 pm |
| Pastoral Thought about Extra-Marital Relationship | Mrs. Ivy Ho | 10/2, 17/2, 24/2 | 2:00 – 5:00 pm |
| Co-Walking with the Dying and the Bereaved | Dr. Chan Chi-ho | 3/3, 10/3 | 2:00 - 5:00 pm |
| Analytical Reading of David's Story: The Journey from a Shepherd Boy to the King of Israel | Dr. Robert Lo | 17/3 | 9:30 am – 12:30 pm |
| A Preliminary Study of Public Theology | Dr. Freeman Huen | 17/3 | 2:00 – 5:00 pm |
| A Workshop on "Understanding Your Teaching Style" | Ms. Wendy Wong | 24/3 | 2:00 – 5:00 pm |

Tuition Location: Applied Theological Education Center (8/F., Christian Education Building, 56 Bute Street, Mongkok.

Fee concessions: (1) A 10% discount for graduates from the Seminary's degree programs, ministers of Baptist churches, and students in our Lay Theological Education Department; (2) a 20% discount for cardholders of HKBTS Alumni Association members; (3) a 50% discount for full time seminary students. There is an **early registration concession** if enroll one week before the course begins (if by post, according to the stamp chop date).

Detailed information of each of the courses is available on our webpage, please visit: www.hkbts.edu.hk/pce. Application forms can be downloaded from the Seminary's webpage: <http://www.hkbts.edu.hk/pce/apply.htm>.

For enquires, please contact us by phone: 2768 5179, by fax: 2630 1391 or by email: pce@hkbts.edu.hk.

Student Union

The Executive Committee members of the Student Union 2014 have just assumed office in January. Please support them with your prayers..

Chairperson : Chow Pui-kin
Vice-Chairperson : Cheung Wai-lun
Secretary : Cheung Chin-pong
Treasurer : Seto Ka-wing
Spiritual Devotion : Tsang Wai-hung
Missions : Chan Wai-ming
Daily Living : Kam Hoi-sek

A new term of Executive Committee members taking a group photo with President Cho and Dean of Students Affairs on the Inauguration Ceremony



Publication News



Dr. Nathan Ng, Associate Professor of Christian Thought (Church History) has written a book, *Living out the Truth: Spiritual Pursuit of Martin Luther and John Calvin*, which has been published in November last year. This book is the third volume in the Seminary's Christian Spiritual Theology Series. Dr. Ng focuses his attention on the spiritual pursuit of these two giant reformers and is careful to strike a balance between scholarship and the interest of the general reading public by giving a multi-dimensional yet concise discussion of these two figures. The author provides an overview of each, compares the two reformers' notions of spiritual pursuit, reflects on their lasting impacts on Chinese churches, and distills valuable principles that can be taken as guidance in life.



The Seminary's academic bi-annual publication, *Hill Road Journal* (issue 32) has been published in January with the theme "Baptist Faith and Polity." There are 5 thematic articles: "The Distinctiveness of Baptist: A Sketch of the Primary and Basic Insights" (Andres Tang); "Baptist Local Church Polity: Responsibility under the Lordship of Christ" (Jerry Juergens); "Baptist Practice of Church-State Relations: A Historical and Theological Reflection of Religious Liberty and Church-State Separation" (Vincent Lau); "The Independence and Interdependence of Local Churches: Baptist Concept and Practice on Church Relationship" (Nathan Ng); and "Transformation and Controversy of the Formation of Baptist Missionary Organizations: A Model of Baptists' Upholding of Voluntary Principle" (Eric Kwong). There are several additional articles and book reviews not listed here. The *Hill Road Journal* is available at local Christian bookstores. For enquiries or subscription, please call 2768 5168.

Student Recruitment for 2014-15

Bachelor of Theology

Master of Divinity

Master of Divinity (Further Studies)

Master of Religious Education

Master of Pastoral Counseling

Master of Christian Studies

Master of Theology

Doctor of Theology

Date of Application for Admission

Hong Kong : January 1 to June 13

Overseas : January 1 to April 30

Date of Admission Examination

Individual arrangement within the Seminary's office hours

Experiencing Seminary Life Camp

Date : March 5-6 (Wed – Thu)

Venue : Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary
(1 Nin Ming Road, Sai O, Sai Kung North, N. T.)

Content : Introducing the Seminary's Study Programs, Testimonies of God's Call,
Praise and Hymns, Message, Topical Sharing, Talk with Professors and Students

Fee : First Group : HK \$200 per person (beginning 10:00 am March 5) or
Second Group : HK \$180 per person (beginning 7:30 pm March 2)

Application Deadline : February 26

For Enquiries:

Telephone : (852) 2768 5130

Email : admissions@hkbts.edu.hk

Website : www.hkbts.edu.hk

Financial Report

General Fund, 1 September - 30 November 2013

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| | HK\$ |
| Income | 7,587,873.63 |
| Expenditure | <u>(7,718,909.26)</u> |
| Surplus / (Deficit) | <u>(131,035.63)</u> |



Reply

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. "242-026144-003"
- Monthly Autopay** by Bank Account —
autopay form will be forwarded to you

- Credit card:** VISA MASTERCARD
- One-off Donation Monthly Donation*
- Cardholder's Name: _____
- Cardholder's Signature: _____
(Same as signature on credit card)
- Card No.: [] [] [] [] - [] [] [] [] - [] [] [] []
- Verification Code : [] [] [] (The last 3 digits on the back of card)
- Card Expiry date: _____ / _____ (MM/YY)
- 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 !

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

DONORS REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2013

| Education Fund (Church / Organization) | | Education Fund (Donor) | |
|--|------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| 九龍國際浸信會 | 12,610.80 | Ng Ka Fai, Ricky | 10.00 |
| 上水浸信會 | 15,000.00 | 方志強 | 100.00 |
| 大埔浸信會 | 12,000.00 | 王紹良 | 300.00 |
| 牛頭角浸信會 | 18,000.00 | 王群 | 800.00 |
| 以馬內利浸信會 | 4,000.00 | 白智信伉儷 | 500.00 |
| 北角浸信會 | 120,000.00 | 朱活平伉儷 | 300.00 |
| 竹園浸信會 | 6,000.00 | 何仲儀 | 1,000.00 |
| 沙田浸信會 | 7,000.00 | 何偉明 | 200.00 |
| 紅磡浸信會 | 3,500.00 | 何錦燕 | 500.00 |
| 香港(西區)潮語浸信會 | 5,000.00 | 何譚惠如 | 1,000.00 |
| 香港仔浸信會 | 13,509.45 | 吳炳榮伉儷 | 8,000.00 |
| 香港浸信教會 | 111,500.00 | 吳國傑伉儷 | 500.00 |
| 香港聖尼地城浸信教會 | 1,200.00 | 呂志華 | 1,000.00 |
| 柴灣浸信會 | 3,000.00 | 冒懷慶 | 20,000.00 |
| 荃灣浸信會 | 40,000.00 | 胡文恩伉儷 | 500.00 |
| 基磐浸信會 | 1,500.00 | 徐詩雅 | 300.00 |
| 將軍澳浸信會 | 500.00 | 馬錦泉伉儷 | 2,000.00 |
| 深荃浸信會 | 500.00 | 曹偉彤 | 5,000.00 |
| 新希望浸信會 | 1,500.00 | 梁婉芬 | 100.00 |
| 置富浸信教會 | 2,000.00 | 梁廣華伉儷 | 500.00 |
| 銅鑼灣浸信會 | 3,500.00 | 梁麗嫦 | 300.00 |
| 錫安浸信會 | 7,343.75 | 莫莊雅 | 100.00 |
| 灣仔潮語浸信會 | 1,000.00 | 許鋒威 | 400.00 |
| 觀塘浸信會 | 2,271.00 | 陳偉倫 | 200.00 |
| 真理基石浸信會會眾 | 26,826.10 | 勞家怡 | 500.00 |
| 基督教四方福音會彩坪堂 | 1,000.00 | 馮德華 | 300.00 |
| 基督教宣道會華基堂 | 1,500.00 | 黃仲麒 | 300.00 |
| 基督教華人神召會旺角堂 | 500.00 | 黃華娟 | 100.00 |
| 啓聞基金 | 300.00 | 楊謝金玉 | 2,400.00 |
| | HK\$ <u>422,561.10</u> | 葉玉梅 | 100.00 |
| Brooklyn Chinese Baptist Church | US\$ <u>300.00</u> | 葉煥章 | 300.00 |
| | | 劉永生 | 300.00 |
| | | 劉建紅 | 600.00 |
| | | 蔡慧英 | 200.00 |
| | | 鄧炳光伉儷 | 1,000.00 |
| | | 盧美娟 | 1,000.00 |
| | | 薛聲明 | 2,000.00 |
| | | 龐凌玉珍 | 1,000.00 |
| | | 羅佩珊 | 100.00 |
| | | 羅凱慈 | 500.00 |
| | | 譚嘉敏 | 500.00 |
| | | 關志偉 | 100.00 |
| | | 關德華伉儷 | 140.00 |
| | | 溫祥、黎琮珍 | 400.00 |
| | | 無名氏 | 3,000.00 |
| | | 無名氏 | 1,000.00 |
| | | 無名氏 | 1,000.00 |
| | | 無名氏 | 500.00 |
| | | 無名氏 | 500.00 |
| | | 無名氏 | 400.00 |
| | | 無名氏 | 300.00 |
| | | 無名氏 | 300.00 |
| | | 無名氏 | 200.00 |
| | | 無名氏 | 104.90 |
| | | | HK\$ <u>62,754.90</u> |
| | | 無名氏 | RMB <u>100.00</u> |
| | | Lay Theological Education Program | |
| | | 伍惠香 | 100.00 |
| | | 蔡艷桃 | 500.00 |
| | | 蕭桂娥 | 2,000.00 |
| | | 駱穎佳 | 900.00 |
| | | 無名氏 | 200.00 |
| | | | HK\$ <u>3,700.00</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 | 300.00 |
| | | 無名氏 | 500.00 |
| | | | HK\$ <u>5,300.00</u> |
| | | Local Filipino Program | |
| | | 張智理伉儷 | 6,500.00 |
| | | 溫祥、黎琮珍 | 200.00 |
| | | | HK\$ <u>6,700.00</u> |
| | | Theological Education for the Hearing Impaired | |
| | | 張智理伉儷 | 1,000.00 |
| | | 溫祥、黎琮珍 | 200.00 |
| | | | HK\$ <u>1,200.00</u> |

DONORS REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2013

Education Fund (Church / Organization)

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 九龍國際浸信會 | 11,259.00 |
| 上環浸信會 | 8,974.50 |
| 大埔浸信會 | 12,000.00 |
| 大埔浸信會會眾 | 7,006.00 |
| 元朗浸信會 | 37,000.00 |
| 屯門浸信教會 | 1,000.00 |
| 以馬內利浸信會 | 4,000.00 |
| 尖沙嘴國語浸信會 | 5,000.00 |
| 沙田潮語浸信會 | 2,000.00 |
| 紅磡浸信會 | 3,500.00 |
| 香港(西區)潮語浸信會 | 5,000.00 |
| 香港天樂浸信教會 | 2,250.00 |
| 香港仔浸信會 | 15,077.50 |
| 香港浸信教會 | 112,000.00 |
| 香港堅尼地城浸信教會 | 1,200.00 |
| 恩潮浸信會 | 5,000.00 |
| 柴灣浸信會 | 3,000.00 |
| 粉嶺浸信會 | 37,500.00 |
| 基磐浸信會 | 1,500.00 |
| 將軍澳浸信會 | 500.00 |
| 康山浸信會 | 10,300.00 |
| 深荃浸信會 | 500.00 |
| 第一城浸信會 | 3,750.00 |
| 愛群道浸信會 | 5,000.00 |
| 銅鑼灣浸信會 | 3,500.00 |
| 樂滿浸信會 | 2,500.00 |
| 灣仔浸信會 | 12,600.00 |
| 觀塘浸信會 | 2,197.00 |
| 東方基督教會美光堂 | 5,736.00 |
| 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>324,150.00</u> |
| 大埔浸信會會眾 | RMB <u>200.00</u> |
| Chinese Indep. Baptist Church-S.F. | US\$ <u>1,080.00</u> |

Education Fund (Donor)

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Ng Ka Fai, Ricky | 15.00 |
| 方志強 | 100.00 |
| 王紹良 | 300.00 |
| 王群 | 800.00 |
| 王證嵐、王雅晴 | 15.00 |
| 白智信伉儷 | 500.00 |
| 朱活平伉儷 | 300.00 |
| 何仲儀 | 1,000.00 |
| 何偉明 | 200.00 |
| 何錦燕 | 500.00 |
| 何譚惠如 | 1,000.00 |
| | HK\$ <u>49,690.10</u> |

Lay Theological Education Program

| | |
|-----|----------------------|
| 楊淑霞 | 1,000.00 |
| 蔡艷桃 | 500.00 |
| 蕭桂娥 | 2,000.00 |
| 無名氏 | 200.00 |
| 無名氏 | 40.00 |
| | HK\$ <u>3,740.00</u> |

Distance Education Program

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Ernest & Sylvia Ho | 1,000.00 |
| Lau Cho Yui | 100.00 |
| 何鏡煒伉儷 | 13,000.00 |
| 秦嘉賢 | 300.00 |
| 袁鄧光 | 500.00 |
| 梁玉笑 | 500.00 |
| 鄒小寶 | 500.00 |
| 15週年感恩會會眾奉獻 | 380.00 |
| 無名氏 | 1,000.00 |
| 無名氏 | 300.00 |
| 無名氏 | 200.00 |
| | HK\$ <u>19,980.00</u> |
| 15週年感恩會會眾奉獻 | RMB <u>200.00</u> |

Local Filipino Program

| | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| Annabel C. Po | 550.00 |
| Samuel Yip | 550.00 |
| 張智理伉儷 | 6,500.00 |
| 陳麗英 | 200.00 |
| 趙啓迅 | 550.00 |
| 溫祥、黎琮珍 | 200.00 |
| | HK\$ <u>8,550.00</u> |

Theological Education for the Hearing Impaired

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

President Council

| | |
|-----|-----------------------|
| 譚日旭 | HK\$ <u>30,000.00</u> |
|-----|-----------------------|

Faith, Hope, and Love Project

| | |
|-------|------------------------|
| 梁憲孫伉儷 | HK\$ <u>100,000.00</u> |
|-------|------------------------|

Graduation Ceremony

| | |
|-----|--------------------|
| 徐贊生 | HK\$ <u>500.00</u> |
|-----|--------------------|

DE-Special Need Training Program

| | |
|-----|----------------------|
| 梁志美 | 2,000.00 |
| 無名氏 | 1,000.00 |
| 無名氏 | 200.00 |
| | HK\$ <u>3,200.00</u> |

DONORS REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2013

Education Fund (Church / Organization)

| | |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| 九龍國際浸信會 | 13,814.00 |
| 大埔浸信會 | 12,000.00 |
| 屯門浸信教會 | 500.00 |
| 以馬內利浸信會 | 4,000.00 |
| 尖沙嘴浸信會 | 69,881.00 |
| 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 |
| 香港仔浸信會 | 18,393.50 |
| 香港浸信教會 | 112,000.00 |
| 香港聖瑪利地城浸信教會 | 1,200.00 |
| 恩典浸信會 | 10,000.00 |
| 恩約浸信會 | 2,000.00 |
| 基督浸信會 | 1,500.00 |
| 將軍澳浸信會 | 500.00 |
| 深荃浸信會 | 500.00 |
| 銅鑼灣浸信會 | 3,500.00 |
| 廣源卅禧年浸信會 | 10,000.00 |
| 麗城浸信會 | 5,000.00 |
| 觀塘浸信會 | 2,393.00 |
| 鑽石山浸信會 | 7,500.00 |
| 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><u>293,481.50</u></u> |

Education Fund (Donor)

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| 紀念黃林美絲口師母 | 100,000.00 |
| Ng Ka Fai, Ricky | 10.00 |
| Yeung Yuk Wan | 5,000.00 |
| 方志強 | 100.00 |
| 王紹良 | 300.00 |
| 王群 | 800.00 |
| 白智信伉儷 | 500.00 |
| 安清心 | 1,000.00 |
| 朱活平伉儷 | 300.00 |
| 何仲儀 | 1,000.00 |
| 何偉明 | 200.00 |
| 何錦燕 | 500.00 |
| 何譚惠如 | 1,000.00 |
| 吳炳榮伉儷 | 8,000.00 |
| 吳國傑伉儷 | 500.00 |
| 胡文恩伉儷 | 500.00 |
| 徐詩雅 | 300.00 |
| 梁廣華伉儷 | 500.00 |
| 梁麗嫦 | 300.00 |
| 莫莊雅 | 100.00 |
| 許美媚 | 200.00 |
| 許鋒威 | 400.00 |

| | |
|--------|--------------------------|
| 陳偉倫 | 200.00 |
| 陳麗英 | 500.00 |
| 林燕妮 | 200.00 |
| 勞家怡 | 500.00 |
| 馮德華 | 300.00 |
| 黃仲麒 | 300.00 |
| 黃華娟 | 100.00 |
| 溫勇民 | 1,000.00 |
| 葉煥章 | 300.00 |
| 劉永生 | 300.00 |
| 劉建紅 | 600.00 |
| 蔡慧英 | 200.00 |
| 鄧炳光伉儷 | 1,000.00 |
| 盧美娟 | 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 |
| 無名氏 | 20,000.00 |
| 無名氏 | 3,000.00 |
| 無名氏 | 1,000.00 |
| 無名氏 | 1,000.00 |
| 無名氏 | 1,000.00 |
| 無名氏 | 500.00 |
| 無名氏 | 500.00 |
| 無名氏 | 400.00 |
| 無名氏 | 300.00 |
| 無名氏 | 300.00 |
| 無名氏 | 200.00 |
| 無名氏 | 110.00 |
| HK\$ | <u><u>159,060.00</u></u> |
| USD | <u><u>0.05</u></u> |

Bursary Fund

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 北角浸信會 | |
| · 明義神學助學金 | HK\$ <u><u>374,300.00</u></u> |

Graduation Ceremony

| | |
|-------|---------------------------|
| 觀塘浸信會 | HK\$ <u><u>200.00</u></u> |
|-------|---------------------------|

Book Fund

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2013 MDiv及MCS畢業同學 | HK\$ <u><u>8,200.00</u></u> |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|

DE-Special Need Training Program

| | |
|------|------------------------|
| 無名氏 | 100.00 |
| 無名氏 | 1,000.00 |
| HK\$ | <u><u>1,100.00</u></u> |

Lay Theological Education Program

| | |
|---------------|------------------------|
| 吳秀華 | 1,050.00 |
| 杜桂鵬 | 1,500.00 |
| 蔡艷桃 | 500.00 |
| 2013年婦女神學課程同學 | 1,000.00 |
| 無名氏 | 200.00 |
| HK\$ | <u><u>4,250.00</u></u> |

Distance Education Program

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Ernest & Sylvia Ho | 1,000.00 |
| Tam Miu Lee | 2,000.00 |
| 何鏡煒伉儷 | 3,000.00 |
| 周佩珊 | 50,000.00 |
| 鄒小寶 | 500.00 |
| 無名氏 | 1,200.00 |
| 無名氏 | 500.00 |
| 無名氏 | 300.00 |
| HK\$ | <u><u>58,500.00</u></u> |

Local Filipino Program

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Filipino Baptist Churches | 10,450.00 |
| 九龍國際浸信會 | 1,465.00 |
| 張智理伉儷 | 6,500.00 |
| 陳麗英 | 200.00 |
| 溫祥、黎琮珍 | 200.00 |
| HK\$ | <u><u>18,815.00</u></u> |

Theological Education for the Hearing Impaired

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

Lay-Book Fund

| | |
|------|------------------------|
| 區振光 | 200.00 |
| 林鳳娟 | 200.00 |
| 彭榮棟 | 200.00 |
| 方國威 | 200.00 |
| 伍柳燕 | 200.00 |
| 馬詠怡 | 200.00 |
| 廖展圖 | 200.00 |
| 吳凱詩 | 200.00 |
| 梁偉強 | 400.00 |
| 陳潔英 | 500.00 |
| 王淑娟 | 200.00 |
| 黃可茵 | 2,000.00 |
| 徐耀光 | 200.00 |
| 李玉蓮 | 200.00 |
| HK\$ | <u><u>5,100.00</u></u> |

Precious Moments



October 8-10, 2013 Baptist Heritage Week

The theme for this year's Baptist Heritage Week was "Baptist Faith and Polity." The speaker of the seminar on first day was Dr. Nathan Ng, HKBTS's Associate Professor of Christian Thought (Church History). He spoke on the topic, "The Independence and Interdependence of Local Churches: Baptist Concept and Practice of Church Relationship."

The speaker of the seminar on the second day was Dr. Eric Kwong, Associate Professor of Practical Theology (World Religions). His topic was, "Transformation and Controversy of the Formation of Baptist Missionary Organizations: A Model of Baptists' Upholding of Voluntary Principle."

The speaker of the seminar on the third day was Dr. Vincent Lau, Assistant Professor of Practical Theology (Christian Ethics). His topic was, "Baptist Practice of Church-State Relations: A Historical and Theological Reflection of Religious Liberty and Church-State Separation."



October 23, 2013 Inauguration Lecture by Dr. Wong Fook-kong

Dr. Wong Fook-kong was promoted to be Professor of Old Testament in September last year. The Inauguration Lecture in the morning chapel hour was held on October 23 when Dr. Wong spoke on the topic, "The Haggadah of the Kaifeng Jews of China." After the lecture, the faculty team gave thanks to God and celebrated with Dr. and Mrs. Wong.



October 19, 2013 Distance Education Program: Fifteenth Anniversary Thanksgiving Meeting

The theme for the meeting was "Thus far the LORD has helped us." That day, many DEP alumni, students, tutors, staff workers, brothers and sisters of partnership organizations and churches were present. In the meeting, there were many touching moments—one of which included a group of students from the "special training project" for the hearing impaired signing the hymn "Your Love Does Not Leave or Forsake Me" along with their tutor who sang the words. Other touching moments included a student in our "Onesimus Training Project" for prison inmates sharing his testimony in a letter and a staff worker reading out his heartfelt wishes for the inmate on a recorded sound track. Two tutors, both with chronic illness, shared their experiences of how they were empowered by the Lord to have joy and strength through their service to God and men.



November 17, 2013 Joint Graduation Ceremony

The Seminary's Main Program (the sixty-second class), Lay Theological Education Department (the fourteenth class) and Distance Education Program (the thirteenth class) held the Joint Graduation Ceremony in the afternoon of November 17 last year at Queen Elizabeth Stadium with President Jeff Iorg, President of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, being invited to be the speaker. This year we had 56 graduates awarded master or bachelor degrees together with those diploma and certificate students in the same program and 248 graduates awarded diplomas or certificates. Approximately 2,200 guests attended the ceremony, offering praise and giving thanks to God together with us.



The Alumni Choir singing from the heart

December 23, 2013 Christmas Worship: In Praise of the Lord

The Worship Service was jointly organized by the Seminary and the HKBTS Alumni Association with its theme, "In Praise of the Lord." This was the day when all the faculty, staff workers, students, and alumni offered praise and worship to God together in memory of the birth of our Saviour. It is also a day of celebration because alumni will have a home-coming reunion. The



number of alumni attending this year again broke all former records—particularly the number of overseas alumni who returned to their alma mater. We offer to God our gratitude for this beautiful hour.

Our gathering together is also a time of mutual support and supplication.