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Growing as Christ's Servant
成长为基督的仆人

Will You Journey With Him?

A Walk In The Land Of The Bible

走一趟朝圣之路

Mekong Study Tour

Ten Days In Sabah



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Will You Journey With Him?

If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.
(Hebrew 11: 15-16 NIV)

How far have you travelled away from your home? How long have you lived in your current place of residence away from home? Will this be the last stop of your life? The Bible has stories about people who travelled far away from where they were before, looking for a more promising future, believing that God has something better for them. Abraham left his hometown Ur for an unknown destination, simply driven by a specific divine calling. Some centuries later, his descendants--the Hebrew people enslaved in Egypt--heard that calling again, and was led by Moses to travel near to half a century to settle down in a promised land known as Canaan.

The entire Old Testament told of the story of the covenantal people of God moving away and coming back to God in a spiritual journey; frantically seeking assurance of God's presence only to receive promise that ultimate deliverance will only come through a Davidic King, a Good Shepherd, the Servant of the Lord, who is the Anointed One of God.

The author of the Book of Hebrews talked about these journeys of faith and pointed out that the most significant journey in life is of those beyond the observable worldly shells. We are all on a journey, and if you are conscious about it, you should realize that we are actually aliens and pilgrims in our journey of life (1 Pet. 1: 17; 2:11) heading to a destination actually uncertain to us. Like Abraham and the other heroes of faith in Hebrews 11, we are only certain about eternal bliss when our journey is taken with God on our wagon. The message of the Gospel confirmed that Jesus Christ is the awaited Saviour sent by God. In Christ, the journey of life takes on a new meaning. Through Jesus Christ, God is inviting you to go on an exciting journey of faith, will you journey with Him?



你愿意与他同行吗？

他们若想念所离开的家乡，还有可以回去的机会。他们却羡慕一个更美的家乡，就是在天上的。所以神被称为他们的神，并不以为耻，因为他已经给他们预备了一座城（来11：15-16 CUVMPs）

你现在是否离开了家乡？离开多远？多久之前离开的？您在目前远离家乡的居所住了多久？这会是你人生的最后一站吗？圣经中有好一些关于人们离乡背景的故事。他们远离故乡去寻找更有希望的未来，深信上帝已为他们预备更好的。亚伯拉罕受到特定的神圣召唤，驱使他离开家乡吾珥向一个未知的目的地前进。几个世纪后，他的后裔——在埃及为奴的希伯来民族——再次听到这个呼唤，在摩西的带领下，漂流将近半个世纪，终于在被称为迦南的应许之地定居下来。

整本旧约讲述了与上主立约的子民在属灵旅程中离开又回转到上主身边的故事。他们疯狂地寻求上主同在的确据。最终，他们只得到一个应许--就是有一位大卫的后裔、好牧人、主的仆人、上主的受膏者将会为他们带来最终的拯救。

希伯来书的作者谈到这些信仰之旅。他指出人生中最重要旅程是那些超越可视察的世俗外壳。其实我们都在旅途中。在生命的旅途中，我们都是寄居者、过客（彼得前书 1：17；2:11），正前往我们自己也不确定的目的地。就像亚伯拉罕和希伯来书 11 章中的其他信心英雄，只有与上主同行时，我们才能确定永恒的福祉。福音的信息证实了耶稣基督就是那众人等候、上主差来的救世主。在基督里，生命的旅程有了新的意义。通过耶稣基督，上主邀请你踏上一个激动人心的信心之旅，你愿意和他同行吗？



Marilah Mengembara Bersama-Nya

Sesungguhnya, kalaulah mereka teringat akan negeri yang telah ditinggalkan mereka dahulu, mereka akan mendapat peluang untuk kembali. Tetapi kini mereka inginkan tempat yang lebih baik, iaitu di syurga. Oleh itu, Allah tidak malu disebut sebagai Allah mereka; Dia telah menyediakan sebuah kota untuk mereka. (Ibrani 11: 15-16 AVB)

Hari ini, adakah anda tinggal jauh dari kampung halaman anda? Sudah berapa lamakah anda tinggal di tempat kediaman anda sekarang? Adakah ini akan menjadi perhentian terakhir dalam hidup anda? Alkitab mempunyai banyak cerita tentang orang yang berhijrah jauh dari tempat asal mereka untuk mencari masa depan yang lebih cerah, dengan mempercayai bahawa Tuhan menjanjikan sesuatu yang lebih baik untuk mereka. Abraham menerima panggilan ilahi untuk meninggalkan kampung halamannya Ur ke destinasi yang tidak dia ketahui. Beberapa abad kemudian, keturunannya orang Ibrani yang diperhambakan di Mesir, menerima panggilan itu lagi dan dipimpin oleh Musa untuk mengembara hampir setengah abad sebelum menetap di tanah perjanjian yang dikenali sebagai Kanaan.

Keseluruhan Perjanjian Lama menceritakan kisah umat perjanjian Tuhan yang berpaling daripada Tuhan dan kemudian kembali kepada Tuhan dalam perjalanan rohani mereka. Mereka berusaha dengan bersungguh-sungguh untuk mendapatkan kepastian kebersamaan Tuhan. Akhirnya, mereka menerima janji bahawa penyelamatan muktamad hanya akan datang melalui seorang Raja keturunan Daud, Gembala yang Baik, Hamba Tuhan, dan Dia Yang Diurapi Tuhan.

Pengarang Kitab Ibrani menulis tentang perjalanan iman dan menunjukkan bahawa perjalanan yang paling penting dalam kehidupan adalah perjalanan yang melampaui persepsi dan pemahaman duniawi yang dapat dilihat. Sebenarnya, kita semua sedang dalam perjalanan. Kita adalah orang asing dan peziarah serta pengembara dalam perjalanan hidup kita di dunia ini (1 Ptr 1: 17; 2:11), dan sedang menuju ke destinasi yang kita sendiri pun tidak pasti. Seperti Abraham dan para wira iman yang lain dalam Ibrani 11, kita hanya akan pasti tentang kesejahteraan abadi apabila kita mengembara bersama-sama dengan Tuhan. Mesej Injil mengesahkan bahawa Yesus Kristus adalah penyelamat yang ditunggu-tunggu yang dihantar oleh Tuhan. Dalam Kristus, perjalanan hidup membawa makna baru. Melalui Yesus Kristus, Tuhan menjemput anda untuk mengikuti satu pengembaraan iman, adakah anda sudi mengembara bersama-Nya?

Growing as Christ's Servant

Rev. Dr. Dennis Raj | STM Council Member

He who says he remains in him ought himself also to walk just like he walked (1 John 2:6 WEB).

All of us have the desire to be recognized as good and faithful servants (Matthew 25: 21). A faithful servant is someone who always desires to be faithful to the master's wishes and eventually represents what his master himself represents. It is only when the servant has understood, obeyed and eventually reflected what the master desires of him that he deserves to be called a "good and faithful" servant. Accordingly, the verse in 1 John 2:6 tells us that all of us should live just as Jesus lived here on earth, and as he continues to live forevermore.

God's servants must accept others just as Jesus did (Romans 15:17).

Jesus accepted the outcast, the marginalized and those who were outrightly rejected by society. His loving engagement with the Samaritan woman, the tax collectors and people like Zacheus often earned him the ire from the religious. Nevertheless, Jesus understood that his mission on earth was primarily for the "sick" rather than the healthy (Mark 2:17). A true servant of Jesus must be willing to reach out to all those who are often not part of the usual vision-field of the church. All those who are in the periphery and even far away need God's love even more than those who are regular to church. The servant must remember that the good shepherd went looking for the one, leaving behind the ninety-nine.

God's servants must forgive just as Jesus did (Colossians 3:13-14).

God's servants are often prone to hurts which often emanate from those around them. Servants who are either unwilling or unable to forgive become bitter and inadvertently bring out their frustration and hurt in their ministry. Moreover, only servants who to their Master, have learnt to forgive and let go of the past will eventually be able to teach others to do the same. We cannot give what we ourselves do not possess.

God's servant must plead for others just like Jesus (Romans 8:34).

This is a ministry that should never be sidelined. The Bible desires us to raise holy hands in prayer unto God (1 Timothy 2:1-2, 8). Preaching, teaching and leading in worship are all done in public. However, our personal prayer space where this vital ministry usually takes place is best done in private without any glamour or fanfare. It is done through a loving heart that is eager to plead on behalf of others. When God sees our inner motives, he is pleased to reveal more of his heart to us.

Conclusion.

The need to grow and become more and more like Jesus is the greatest qualification that a faithful servant needs to ever have. To be able to do that, we need a humble heart that is constantly checking our inner motives when doing any ministries (Proverbs 16:2).



Rev. Dr. Dennis Raj
STM Council Member

A Walk in the Land of the Bible

Dr Elaine Goh | Dean of Studies

The Journey Begins.

Ever since I was a young Christian, there was a longing in me to journey to the land of the Bible, visiting towns and cities mentioned in the Bible, such as Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Galilee and Nazareth, and experiencing the streams and waters of the Jordan River, the Dead Sea, the En-Gedi, and the Sea of Galilee. These places remind me of the Lord Jesus.

"As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea-- for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." (Matt 4:18-19 NRSV)

This longing was fulfilled many years later when I went there in 2011, and subsequently led groups of Christians there in 2013 and 2018. After the recent COVID-19 pandemic that had delayed an already-planned departure in 2020, I had the opportunity to lead another group there from late November till early December 2022, and not long after, another group from the Chinese TEE from 3-15 March 2023.

We experienced first-hand the places mentioned above, and many more. Walking alongside fellow Christians in these biblical places kindled my heart to be even more passionate about what I do—teaching the Bible. The Bible comes “alive” each time I connect the dots between the Bible and the places mentioned in it. Allow me to share here the three most significant connections among my experiences.

Nazareth Cultural Village.

Can we really see the town of Nazareth in the Holy Land today as it used to be during the time of Jesus? The answer is “yes, almost”. Christian workers clothed in first-century Nazareth costumes greeted us with friendly gestures, and allowed visitors to take photographs with them. They explained first-century life, including how to make a stool, build houses, weave clothes, plant vineyards, as well as about carpentry, shepherding, and listening to the reading of Scripture in a synagogue.



Friendly “Nazareth residents” greeting us at the Nazareth Cultural Village

"When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him." (Luke 4:16-17 NRSV)

The Nazareth village guide spoke passionately about various biblical narratives, such as interpreting what it meant to put new wine into old wineskins, as well as the fact that Jesus might have dealt more with rocks and stones than with wood. For the most recent trip, we missed the opportunity to arrange lunch in the village, but we hope that some of us can enjoy a meal in this ancient Nazareth village setting one day!



Demonstrating carpentry in Nazareth Cultural Village

En-Gedi: An Oasis Near the Dead Sea.

"When Saul returned from following the Philistines, he was told, "David is in the wilderness of En-gedi." Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to look for David and his men in the direction of the Rocks of the Wild Goats." (1 Sam 24:1-2 NRS)

En-Gedi is well-known as the hiding place of David when he fled from Saul.

With a luxurious supply of flowing streams, the fragrance of assorted plants and flowers fill the air. The flora and fauna there testify of God's grace and protection – life is possible even in the wilderness with God's provision of an oasis so near to the Dead Sea.



One of the many flowing streams at En-Gedi, which are very refreshing to visitors



Flowers blossoming during springtime in March at En-Gedi, near the Dead Sea



A colleague at David Waterfall in En-Gedi, after a brief walk and climb

"My beloved is to me a cluster of henna blossoms in the vineyards of En-gedi." (Songs 1:14 NRSV)

After having been able to only reach David's Spring previously, some of us managed to walk and climb our way to see David's Waterfall this time. The journey there and back took barely one hour, and the scenery was simply awesome as we could see the Dead Sea not far from where we were walking. We spotted several hyraxes who were not afraid of our presence, and on one occasion, we came close to a number of ibexes. The En-Gedi experience was a truly refreshing one for us, not only physically, but also spiritually.



Several ibexes spotted at a close distance in En-Gedi

Hezekiah's Tunnel.



The entrance to Hezekiah's Tunnel

Located in the old City of David, Hezekiah's Tunnel has a dry tunnel, as well as a wet tunnel with knee-high flowing water. The city is located on a steep mountainside with a dangerous slope, providing a strong military defence during the reign of King David. Hezekiah's Tunnel was built during the reign of King Hezekiah when Jerusalem was under siege by the Assyrian army. With his wise leadership and the amazing persistence of his men, labourers from both sides of the tunnel began digging underground and eventually met at the same location, thus making possible the divergence of Gihon Spring to flow from outside the city into the Siloam Pool in Jerusalem.

The rest of the deeds of Hezekiah, all his power, how he made the pool and the conduit and brought water into the city, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah? (2 Kings 20:20 NRS)

As we walked through this dark and quiet tunnel, we celebrated the success of this amazing work of underground construction dating from 700 BCE – an ancient achievement and archaeological site that was attested in the Hezekiah Inscription. We were also reminded that within this very City of David, came Jesus Christ, the Messiah and King who died for us and rose on the third day, and who will one day rule in eternity!



A walk along Hezekiah's Tunnel, which can be completed within 30 minutes



Walking underground toward Hezekiah's Tunnel in the City of David

Join Our Study Tour.

"But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written." (John 21:25 NRSV)

STM is planning an upcoming Jordan & Israel Bible Study Tour (Old and New Testament) from 26 November till 8 December 2023, which will cover faith lessons from the Bible. The Principal, Dr Chong Siaw Fung, will lead this group of English TEE students (and other Christian friends) to visit places of the Old Testament and the New Testament. Similar study tours are slated to be planned annually. Do contact us for details, and join us!

走一趟朝圣之路

曾秋萍 | 中文神学教育延伸课程学生



全体照

常听说：“成为基督徒，若要了解圣经或渴望经历神；去到圣经现场是生命重要的旅程，神必向我们说话。”笔者感恩能够藉着马来西亚神学院（STM）的中文延伸课程主办的圣地之旅，以选择修学分及提交研究文章和神学反思走一趟朝圣之路。感恩在这趟旅程中也有机会协助吴慧芬老师协调行程的安排和带领灵修和祷告。

埃及

这趟的信心之旅由埃及开始，笔者期待感受摩西曾经在旷野怎样带领百姓出埃及，并想像自己站立在西奈山的心情。今天的埃及兴建了很多会堂、教堂，埃及人想要掌控大自然，也敬畏大自然，只是他们崇拜的不是神本身，而是那股能力。这种崇拜自然的多神信仰，与华人拜拜祈福的心态很类似。

笔者后来参访开罗的古文明博物馆（Egyptian Museum），它特别宽阔，里面收藏了很多埃及的历史文物。古埃及人视死亡如搬家，将今生度过的生活搬到来生，因此埃及法老会将生前所喜爱的物品全数陪葬，于是发展出丰富的墓葬文化²。可见古埃及人关心死后的生命。这里的金字塔和神庙记载他们在数学、宗教、艺术、医学、占星术和物理学领域的知识。笔者对金字塔的建构异常惊叹，古埃及人把永生的盼望寄托在偶像的崇拜。当人定睛于属世的价值观，放纵自己，就会离开神越来越远。就如今天的埃及，被奴役在世界错误价值的体系之中。

西乃旷野，穿越苏伊士地峡，衔接地中海和红海。我们经过苏伊士运河，途中经过玛拉³、以琳⁴、汛旷野⁵，之后才到达西乃山脚。我们留宿于圣凯瑟琳修道院。笔者感恩能够路过这些地方，虽然现在看来都是废墟，但当思想神在这地方所成就的一切，没有不让人惊叹的。神虽然在玛拉试验以色列人，却也在以琳预备了泉水。安顿好一切后，我们一行人租了骆驼，就开始登西乃山。骑在骆驼背上登山大概2个小时，沿途可以观赏风景。在路上，我看见山壁岩块有烧黑的痕迹，好像圣经记载的烧窑的景象⁶。这趟西乃山旷野之行，我站在摩西曾经接受上帝颁发十诫的地方，深深体会到当时摩西身为一位领袖的不容易。在带领以色列人出埃及期间不但要体察神的心意，还要牧养一群会众。这些都仿佛在提醒自己身为领袖，面对神需要勇气，面对人更需要有来自神的智慧。

耶路撒冷

第6天，我们来到主耶稣在耶路撒冷走过的足迹。经过岁月的洗礼，很多地方已经物是人非。许多圣经中记载的名城名镇，如今几乎都被天主教和希腊东正教所占据。这里许多的教堂里充满偶像的雕像，让笔者感到痛心。

十架苦道（The Via Dolorosa Route），是一段记述耶稣被宣判、背起十字架走向各各他山上，被钉及埋葬的一段道路。看见这里的街道，我更能理解圣经的背景，福音书的记载更活现在眼前。

[1] 白碧香，《带着圣经去旅行—跟着摩西出埃及》；（台湾，橄榄出版，2020）页28。

[2] 白碧香，《带着圣经去旅行—跟着摩西出埃及》，页28。

[3] 玛拉，水泉，位于以琳之北约 11 公里，苏伊士市的南方约 75 公里，红海的东岸，亚玛拉河之南，在一条通往古代采绿松石矿场的路旁。位于红海边，今日称为 Ain Musa。

[4] 以琳，位于玛拉以南约 11 公里，至今仍是一处著名的绿洲，水源丰富。今日称为 Wadi Gharandel。

[5] 汛旷野，“以色列人全会众从以琳起行，在出埃及后的第二个月十五日，到了以琳和西乃中间，汛的旷野（过红海后第四个安营之处），百姓又发怨言，神在此开始降给吗哪。”（出16:1 CUVMPs）

“从红海边起行，安营在汛的旷野（过红海后第四个安营），再去脱加。”（民33:11 CUVMPs）

[6] 出埃及记19:18-19。



笔者于西乃山

笔者喜欢耶路撒冷的花园空墓，这里环境优美，心灵可以沉静下来。传统上有两个地方相信是与耶稣的埋葬有关，一是圣墓堂⁷里面，二是花园墓。笔者觉得圣墓堂已经被偶像化，游客们都是奔着大门口的那块大理石慕名而来。传闻当时耶稣的尸体，就是安放在这块大理石上被涂抹膏油，准备安葬的。大理石后面的壁画，详细描绘了当时的情景。有很多游客把随身的物品放在大理石上擦拭，然后带回家供奉。更有人会跪下亲吻这块大理石，他们相信这块浸透着耶稣的血的石头有特别的能力。

来到死海，我们经过隐基底，当年大卫逃难时的隐藏之所。约书亚记记载当以色列人占领了“上帝应许之地”的迦南后，隐基底属犹太部落所得的城域之一。笔者步行一段路，一路上荒山野岭，沙尘滚滚，突然出现一处有水泉的地方，景色也特别优美，让人心旷神怡。我脱下鞋子，踏入冰冷的水泉，清澈的水洗涤了多天游走的疲惫。

福音书中记载有关耶稣的教训和神迹如登山宝训、五饼二鱼喂饱五千人、耶稣在加利利湖面上行走、耶稣复活等的神迹都在加利利发生。来到加利利绝对不能错过加利利湖。我们一行30多人乘坐一艘船出发游湖去，湖面风平浪静，凉风习习，还有海鸥纷纷飞向船来，船上的人立刻拿出面包抛向空中让海鸥叼吃。笔者沉醉在等待已久终于来到加利利湖的欣喜中，坐在船上想象及尝试感受耶稣曾经平静风浪的神迹。

约旦

最后一站是约旦，因为时间紧凑，我们只去了马达巴，马赛克之城的艺术研究所。看着工作人员把一小块一小块的小石头粘连在已经绘好的图案上，特别疗愈，也惊叹他们把艺术发挥到如此境界。无奈，价格实在太高，只能把对这艺术的印象和喜爱烙印在心间。

总结

笔者承蒙主的恩典，终于可以走过道成肉身的主耶稣基督的家乡，耶稣出生、成长、传道、受难、复活、升天之地。虽然许多地方与其情节和我们所读的圣经有点出入，但这无损这里是圣地的事实，毕竟它拥有不可磨灭的历史痕迹。踏上回家的路程，我们更有信心、更认真对待我们的信仰，在恩典中，学习继续向前迈进。当年摩西被拣选带领以色列民离开埃及法老的辖制，然而因为他得罪上帝，最终只能远望迦南应许之地而不能进入。登上西乃山的时候，我的脑海中浮现此意念：被拣选成为领袖，那是一条不容易的道路，前面等着我们的是一大堆的人事物。然而神却要我看见，祂要摩西靠的是耶和华上帝，不是自己。求主帮助，让来到这里的每一位基督徒也能够有这样的信心，继续仰望十字架，奔跑天国的道路。

[7] 圣墓教堂，又称“复活大堂”，耶稣坟墓所在地，基督教圣地，耶路撒冷基督教大教堂之一。位于以色列东耶路撒冷旧城。圣墓教堂是耶稣基督遇难、安葬和复活的地方。

13天10夜出埃及圣经之旅

埃及 - 耶路撒冷 - 约旦

出发日期：2023年03月03至15日



第1天

2023年03月03日(五)
由吉隆坡启程飞往开罗, 埃及

集合于吉隆坡国际机场办理登机手续飞往迪拜, 然后接机至开罗, 埃及。

第2天

2023年03月04日(六)

开罗, 埃及

- 洞穴教堂(圣西门修道院) - 开罗的扎巴林 Zabbaleen群体的巨大洞穴教堂。
- 班耶拉犹太会堂-摩西被藏起来而被法老王的女儿发现的地方(出2:1-10)。

• 阿布希加教堂(St. Sergious)-圣家庭; 约瑟和马利亚带着婴孩的耶稣前往埃及的庇护处(太2:13-15)。

• 悬空教堂/梯级教堂-埃及最古老的教堂之一。

• 圣女马利亚教堂及修道院-“漂浮圣经”被展示的地点-“愿我的埃及子民蒙福”

午餐及晚餐在当地餐厅。
登记入住开罗的酒店 (Triumph Plaza Hotel, Heliopolis)

第3天

2023年03月05日(日)

开罗, 埃及

- 世界七大奇观之一; 令人惊叹的狮身人面像及胡夫王, 哈夫拉王及孟卡拉王三大金字塔。
- 沿着尼罗河船游。

- 了解有关精油的准备和特点。
- 埃及古物博物馆(开罗博物馆)展示了埃及过去5000年的160,000件埃及古物。

午餐及晚餐在当地餐厅。
夜宿开罗的酒店 (Triumph Plaza Hotel, Heliopolis)



第4天

2023年03月06日(一)

开罗前往圣凯瑟琳, 埃及

- 苏伊士运河, 一条在埃及位于海平面的人工水闸, 它穿越苏伊士地峡衔接了地中海和红海。
- 玛拉(出15:22-25; 民33:8-9)-摩西在神的指示之下, 把“一棵树”丢在苦水里, 好让众人有水喝。

• 经过以琳(出15:27; 民33:9)是圣经说: “在那里有十二股水泉, 七十棵棕榈树”的地方。

• 圣经所提的西乃山是摩西领受从神颁布下来的十诫(可选项及自付:日落攀登西乃山)。

午餐当地餐厅及晚餐在St Catherine Monastery。

登记入住于圣凯瑟琳的酒店。(St Catherine Monastery)



第5天

2023年03月07日(二)

圣凯瑟琳, 埃及前往耶路撒冷

- 前往塔巴, 一个靠近阿卡巴湾北端的埃及小镇享用午餐。
- 从塔巴过境至埃拉特-以色列最南端的城市, 一个繁忙的码头和著名的度假胜地。

登记入住及晚餐于耶路撒冷的酒店。(Grand Park Hotel, Jerusalem)

第6天

2023年03月08日(三)

耶路撒冷

- 橄榄山-耶路撒冷最重要的景点之一, 也是耶稣生平的中心地点之一。

- 主升天教堂(路24:50-53)-耶稣复活40天后升天的地点。

• 主祷文教堂Pater Noster教堂/Eleona教堂-耶稣教导门徒, 包括主祷文的地方(路11:1-4, 太6:5-15)。

• 主泣教堂Dominus Flevit教堂(意思是“主哭泣”)-耶稣预言耶路撒冷被毁而哭泣的地点(路19:41-44)。

• 万国教堂, 客西马尼园(太26:36-56, 路22:39-53)-耶稣被捕前在这里度过了他最后一晚及独自祷告的地方。

• 伯利恒的主诞生-拿撒勒人耶稣诞生的洞穴(太1:18-24)。

• 牧羊野地-天使在这里向牧羊人显现及报告耶稣的诞生(路2:8-10)。

午餐在当地餐厅, 晚餐及夜宿于耶路撒冷的酒店 (Grand Park Hotel, Jerusalem)



2023年03月09日(四)

耶路撒冷

- 摩利亚山/圣殿山-耶稣被带往进行其奉献礼及几年后祂留下与教师们听问之处(路2:22-50)。

- 毕士大池-耶稣对瘸腿的说“起来、拿你的褥子走吧”, 那人立刻得痊愈的地点(约5:2-18)。

• 十架苦道The Via Dolorosa Route-耶稣在犹太巡捕彼拉多的衙门被宣判而背起十架走至各他山被钉及埋葬的一段设有14个站的耶稣受苦之路

• 十架苦道的最后5个站是处在圣墓教堂里面。基督的坟墓; 也是十架苦道的第14站, 是耶稣复活前被埋葬三天的地方。

• 花墓园-一个祷告和反思基督生平的优美宁静环境。

午餐在当地餐厅, 晚餐及夜宿于耶路撒冷的酒店 (Grand Park Hotel, Jerusalem)



2023年 03 月 10日 (五)

耶路撒冷

- 隐卡林Ein Karem-施洗约翰诞生的地方— 宣布他的亲戚; 耶稣基督的到来(路1: 5-24, 39-66).
- Yad Vashem 大屠杀纪念馆, 是以色列官方建立以纪念纳粹大屠杀中犹太籍的受害者 (或以色列博物馆).

西墙(哭墙)-犹太人视为世界上最神圣的地点.

锡安山的晚宴厅是纪念: 最后晚餐及圣灵在五旬节降在使徒们的马可楼(阁楼).

大卫王墓-旧约以色列著名的战士君王及传统上被誉为许多诗篇的作者.

Gallicantu (鸡鸣的意思) 的圣彼得教堂-纪念使徒彼得的三次不认主, 他的立即悔改及与复活的基督的和好.

午餐在当地餐厅, 晚餐及夜宿于耶路撒冷的酒店 (Grand Park Hotel, Jerusalem)

2023年 03 月 11日 (六)

耶路撒冷

- 耶利哥(棕榈之城)-全球最古老和最低的城市-低于海平面250米.
- 景观试探山-根据传统的说法, 耶稣基督就在这山上四十天禁食被魔鬼试探.

隐基底-当年大卫逃避扫罗王时曾躲进这里的一个山洞. 当时, 扫罗王正巧也在洞里大解, 虽是好机会, 大卫因敬畏神而没有杀死扫罗王, 只割下他衣袍的一角. 隐基底字意为“小羚羊之泉”, 是个绿洲及以色列森林保护区之一. 昆兰-闻名于死海古卷的隐藏处.

昆兰-闻名于死海古卷的隐藏处.

死海-地球上的最低点.

午餐在当地餐厅, 晚餐及夜宿于耶路撒冷的酒店 (Grand Park Hotel, Jerusalem)

2023年 03 月 12日 (日)

耶路撒冷前往提比利亚

雅法-与圣经中约拿的故事, 所罗门和圣彼得的关系而闻名.

穿越特拉维夫-以色列的经济和科技中心.

经过该撒利亚海岸-圣经记载使徒彼得为第一位外邦人-哥尼流-信主成为基督徒洗礼的地方.

迦密山顶峰 (Al Muhraqa)-以利亚战胜巴力先知的地方 (王上 18: 1-40).

拿撒勒-耶稣的家乡(路2:52).

天使报喜教堂-童女马利亚的居所.

午餐在当地餐厅, 登记入住及晚餐于提比利亚的酒店 (King Solomon Hotel, Tiberias).

2023年 03 月 13日 (一)

提比利亚

- 加利利海-耶稣斥责风和海(太8:23-27). 在彼得船上教导众人(路5:3). 行在水面上之处(可6:45-52).

- 八福山-耶稣教导著名的“登山宝训”之处(太5-7; 路6).

喀迦的五饼二鱼教堂-基督行五饼二鱼神迹喂饱众人的地方(可6:35-44).

彼得复职教堂-耶稣恢复彼得职分之处: “喂养我的羊... 牧养我的羊... 喂养我的羊.”(约21:15-19).

迦百浓-曾是耶稣在加利利服事的中心点(太4:13).

约旦河的Yardenit洗礼处-约旦河沿岸的现代洗礼场所.

砖石厂-一所领先的钻石抛光中心.

午餐在当地餐厅, 晚餐及夜宿于提比利亚的酒店 (King Solomon Hotel, Tiberias).



2023年 03 月 14日 (二)

提比利亚前往安曼, 约旦

- 加利利的迦拿-耶稣行第一个神迹的地方— 将水变酒(约2:1-11).

- 约旦河外的伯大尼洗礼处(约1:28)-被认定为施洗约翰为耶稣洗礼的真实地点, 也是耶稣开展其公开服事的起点之处.

• 谢克胡赛因Sheik Hussein 边境关口入境约旦后前往安曼.

• 尼波山-当年摩西眺望迦南应许美地的山头(申32: 48-52).

• (若时间允许)马达巴-马赛克之城. 参访圣乔治教堂了解其地板上的马赛克圣地地图. 另外亦会参访马赛克艺术研究所.

• 简要的约旦首都阿曼城之旅.

• 欢送宴.

送往安曼阿丽雅皇后国际机场离境回程.



2023年 03 月 15日 (三)

抵达吉隆坡

带着许多美好的回忆和对圣经拥有更深入的揭示及赞赏返抵吉隆坡.



A Rewarding Ministerial Journey – An Interview With Rev. David Boey

Interviewer: Ms. Annie Yee

Tell us about yourself and your call to full-time ministry.

I began attending Cantonese Methodist Church Penang in my mid-20s, and I became actively involved with the Boys' Brigade (BB) ministry for over one and a half decades before I went into full-time ministry. During my time in that church, I was also involved in sharing, preaching and encouraging other churches in the northern region to start and sponsor BB companies. In 1988, I had the opportunity to serve on board the MV Doulos, ministering in the various ports in Medan, Semarang, Jakarta, Singapore and Cebu. A year later, I was privileged to help on board the Korean MV Hannah ship ministry while docked in Kota Kinabalu. Through active involvement in these missions and church ministries, I sensed God's calling into full-time ministry—pursuing theological training first before going into the field as a missionary.

What made you decide to answer God's call to full-time ministry?

At the time, I was in my late 30s, so I had to be certain about my next step towards full-time ministry—which meant resigning from my job. Initially I was worried that, should I not be able to complete my theological studies, I would have difficulty finding employment at my age. I also felt so discouraged when my father was reluctant to give me his blessing to enter full-time ministry as he was concerned about my future. He told me that he would be happy for me to enter into full-time ministry after my retirement—which meant waiting another 17 years at the time. In frustration, I asked God to do the seemingly impossible: to lower the retirement age for government servants from 55 to 40. Surprisingly, a year later, the government announced the option of voluntary retirement at the age of 40. I saw this as a confirmation from God that I should pursue full-time ministry, and the rest is history.

When did you enroll as a student in STM?

I entered STM in 1993 and graduated in 1996.



Graduation service in KL Hokkien Chinese Methodist Church

How has STM shaped you as a person and a Christian leader?

Adjusting to student life after working for over 20 years was a challenge, and a new lifestyle with which I had to cope. I had to re-learn how to stay disciplined and complete my assignments on time, while also reading extensively as required by ALL the lecturers. On weekends, I was sent to a local church for field education. By God's grace, and with the support of my fellow students and lecturers, I was able to complete my four years of studies despite all the challenges.

I had to be strategic with my time in order to balance my studies, church ministry, assignments, and exams at the end of every semester. These experiences challenged me to be creative and think outside the box in the midst of having to memorise Greek vocabulary (incredibly difficult) in my first year and reading all the lecturer-assigned course materials, while also being involved in BB ministry at the time.



*Rev. David graduated from STM in 1996 –
at Jalan Gasing campus*

Due to previous work experiences, I was given the opportunity to serve as the librarian in STM during my final two years of studies, while the STM librarian at the time, Ms Voon (now Dr Voon), was away for doctoral studies. This, by God's grace, was a major accomplishment for me, and I was able to remain in the role until I graduated.

I recall my time at STM fondly, as well as my involvement in some of the behind-the-scenes planning. As I am not a natural leader, I was usually more comfortable in a follower's role. One new initiative I proposed at STM was to have the student body organise the graduation dinner instead of the faculty, and for the dinner to be held at a hotel. To my surprise, my proposal was accepted and has since become a tradition.

STM has been an incredible asset to me in completing my theological studies and also in providing opportunities to work together with them. The relationships I developed through tutorial sessions with lecturers and fellow students have broadened my perspectives and enabled me to gain knowledge that has had a profound impact on my work in pastoral ministry. These lessons I learned have been deeply ingrained in my mind.

Please give us a snippet about your family.

I was raised in a family of four siblings. My maternal grandmother looked after us while my mother worked as a seamstress from home to contribute to the family's finances. My dad, a civil servant, put in a lot of effort to take care of our needs, which led to us having a cozy, content and close-knit family life.



Rev David with his wife Julia on his 60th birthday celebration

After years of serving together as young adults in our home church in Penang... I eventually married Julia when I entered pastoral ministry upon my graduation from STM. By God's grace, we are both still serving in full-time capacities - I am with Our Daily Bread Ministries, and Julia is an educationist at the Wesley Methodist School in Penang (International).

Kindly share briefly your ministerial journey.

As I was maturing in faith, the missions ministry was very important to me, and continued to be so during my theological studies, despite a fellow mature student saying that I had the 'characteristics of a pastor'. At the time, I just laughed it off, but looking back now, could it have been a prophecy?

Upon graduating from theological studies, I was appointed as a trainee preacher at KL Hokkien Chinese Methodist Church for one year before being relocated to Gereja Methodist Subang Jaya (GMSJ). I was stunned and frustrated to be assigned to a church instead of the mission field. However, I have come to understand that God had plans for me. In the 21 years since then, I have been a mission mobilizer in those two churches, as well as in the three GMSJ preaching points where I ministered. I am grateful that I have been able to influence, equip and send several people to the mission field, and some are still serving as missionaries today.

I am deeply thankful and appreciative of the team of church leaders and church members, especially the young people, who have been by my side and provided me with knowledge and support during my 20 years of service and ministry at GMSJ until my retirement in 2017. I am forever grateful for their guidance and care.

What is the most rewarding aspect of your ministry?

I find the most fulfilment in ministry when I observe individuals strengthening their belief in Jesus, establishing strong Christian families, and devoting themselves to serving God, especially in full-time ministry.

What are the challenges faced in your ministry?

It is challenging to meet the needs of everyone in pastoral ministry as people have various expectations and outlooks, which can make it difficult. I am grateful to God for the challenges that I have faced as they have helped me stay focused on Him, and has strengthened my faith on my spiritual journey.

How and why did you get involved with Our Daily Bread Ministries?

Upon my retirement, Rev Tan Meng Poo, who was then the Country Director of Our Daily Bread Ministries (ODB), invited me to join them. During my tenure as a pastor, I often encouraged the congregations to utilise ODB materials as I was confident that ODB's countless resources that are readily available in print and through the various social media platforms, would facilitate spiritual growth. I thus accepted Rev Tan's invitation.

Please enlighten us regarding your work with ODB.

In my capacity as Church Ministries Director in ODB, I have been travelling to different churches in both East and West Malaysia to preach and present the ministries of ODB.

ODB is now moving forward to serve and understand our readers' needs so that we can be even more effective and relevant to them through our 5 journeys from being:

1. Transactional to RELATIONAL
2. Author-centric to AUDIENCE-CENTRIC
3. Producing to ENGAGING
4. Older to YOUNGER
5. Incremental improvement to SCALED GROWTH



ODB Bible Conference at Trinity Methodist Church Kuching

Is there any negative experience that has somehow positively shaped your thoughts and life?

The struggles and challenges I have faced have pushed me to think innovatively and find ways to better manage situations. This has taught me to be more relaxed and have faith in God, and has helped me develop and progress through the years.

What thoughts would you like to leave with our readers?

When I retired, those around encouraged me to use my newfound free time to go on vacations. Instead, I am finding much more fulfilment in participating in activities like those offered by ODB, that enable people to engage with the Bible and create joy and purposes in their lives. This brings me more satisfaction than any vacation could. I believe it is wiser to invest in things that have eternal value rather than those that are fleeting.

No matter one's age, we can still be of service for Jesus. Always keep in mind that Jesus' final command should be our first concern:

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always ... (Matthew 28:19-20 NIV)

So let us be intentional to faithfully reach out and disciple those around us until the day God calls us home. All glory be to God Almighty!



Mekong Study Tour

Praveen A/L Joseph | BD Year 2 Student

First and foremost, I would like to thank God for the wonderful opportunity to join the Mekong Study Tour. Secondly, I would like to express my gratitude to Rev. Joseph Yesupatham and the organizing team for conducting this study tour effectively, making it a success. The ultimate purpose of this tour is not only to understand the different lifestyles and cultures but understand persecution in the Asian region.

In Malaysia, it is very common to see foreigners from Vietnam, Thailand and Bangladesh working almost everywhere and often. There is a tendency to be judgmental over their lifestyle practices. Through this tour, I was exposed to the lifestyles of the Cambodian and Vietnamese people. During our tour in Cambodia, we visited museums such as the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and the Killing Field Choeung Ek. There, we saw and learnt the cruelty the people have endured during the reign of Pol Pot, which have costed the growth of the nation's economy and education. We experienced difficulties as we tried to converse with the locals there because a majority of them did not know how to converse in English. On the other hand, we found it easier to communicate with the locals in Vietnam as they have a better command of the English language.

Vietnam is a country that has developed much more than Cambodia. It is indeed a beautiful place to visit, especially the famous Ho Chi Minh city. The place was very lively, famous for its nightlife. Although there were many huge and beautiful temples and churches, according to a local there, it was common for the people to practice religion only at a certain age or point in life when they need it. Some of the locals were refugees from Cambodia who escaped the communist regime. During our three nights stay in the city, we visited the Chu Chi Tunnel and the War Remnants Museum. Through this visit, I was extremely surprised how the Vietnamese soldiers and locals have fought for their nation and the hard times they went through. The war crimes by the French and Americans were brutal up to the point that the effects are still felt by generations today.



In the Airport



At The Killing Fields, Phnom Penh

Besides that, we also visited a famous and huge catholic church that sits in the heart of the city called Huyen Sy Church. A statue of a man stood before the church in the compound. It is the statue of St. Matthew Le Van Gam, a Christian martyr. He was a sailor and he smuggled preachers and seminarians from other countries to Vietnam during the spread of Catholicism. Not long after, he was arrested, tortured and beheaded after catching the attention of the authorities. Till this day, the local Catholics have a special day of remembrance for St. Matthew Le Van Gam. It was in this church visit that I got to understand the tribulations Christians have gone through in their early days of missions in Vietnam. It also reminded me of the apostle Paul who was genuine to his call to the Gentiles and travelled to many cities in the Roman Empire and Asian countries to share the gospel despite the tribulations he faced.



Visited Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, Phnom Penh

Along the journey, we had opportunities to converse with some tourists who journeyed with us in the same bus to the different tours. They were surprised to know that we are seminarians from Malaysia. Yet, they were genuine in their opinions towards life, religion and Christianity. In my conversation with Martini from the United Kingdom, she expressed her confusion with the terms religion and God, leading me to suspect she is probably an atheist or an agnostic. In another conversation, a group of Russians who were brought up in Orthodox families, were discontented with priests who were involved in sexual scandals, consequently bringing down the image of Christianity. This reminded me on how we as Christians and servants of God should carry ourselves well to the church, to the society and to the nation. Our actions and behaviours define Christianity to the world for God has chosen us to represent Himself just like how He chose Moses to represent Him before King Pharaoh.

From Tragedy to Hope

Emmanuel Nickson George | BTh Year 4 Student



*"The Bible clearly says that faithfulness and persecution often go hand-in-hand."
-Billy Graham-*

When politics and communism take over, things will get worse since persecution is a terrible practice. My trip to Vietnam and Cambodia opened my eyes to the suffering that the people endured under the Khmer Rouge dictatorship and during the Vietnam-American War, a demonstration of how freedom is gained through the sacrifice of innocent lives.

I visited the historical sites of Cambodia, the well-known Killing Field and S-21 prison. Between 1.5 and 3 million people were killed during the Cambodian Genocide, which was committed by the Khmer Rouge, a communist political organisation. Following the Cambodian Civil War, the Khmer Rouge came to power. When the Khmer Rouge came to power, they altered the Cambodian society drastically. This entailed the eviction of urban residents and their forced relocation to the countryside where they would be required to work as farmers, digging canals and caring for crops. Massive economic mismanagement caused a lack of food and medicine, which caused countless people to die from starvation and sickness. Though the Christian and Buddhist communities were together victims of the persecution, it was the Cham Muslim community who were most heavily afflicted by the genocide. More than 500,000 individuals (70% of the entire Cham population) were obliterated. People who disagreed with Pol Pot's (the Cambodian revolutionary) plans for the country were taken to S-21 prison where they were tortured and killed before having their bodies dumped into the Killing Fields, which are now open to tourists who want to pay their respects to those who perished under the Khmer Rouge regime.

In Vietnam, I went to Chu Chi Tunnel where the country's insurgents dug tunnels for 200 kilometres (from the Chu Chi jungle to the Saigon river) in an effort to confound American soldiers. The use of the chemical Agent Orange in the war is one of the horrible tragedies that the Vietnamese people still mourn about and are still suffering from the effects, up to their fourth generation. Agent Orange was a toxic, plant-killing chemical (herbicide) that the U.S. military used to clear foliage during the Vietnam conflict. Exposure to the herbicide causes Agent Orange effects, which include cancer, congenital (birth) disorders and life-threatening health complications. The War Remnants Museum in Ho Chi Minh City has pictures and old records on display.



Discussion and reflection time-Understanding the Meaning of Persecution



With the surviving prisoner of the Killing Fields

It saddens me to see how much the Khmer and Vietnamese people went through and how much political power has caused deaths for the sake of property acquisition and power. This demonstrates how much pain and persecution Christ's followers face in many parts of the world. We typically do not face as much tribulation as the countries such as Cambodia and Vietnam because we live in diverse settings. However, this does not guarantee that we will not face tribulations or sufferings in life. Therefore, what I have witnessed and experienced on this trip helped me to cling to Christ's message of hope that Christ told the disciples and to us today, "I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:20b ASV). Such is also a call for us to be aware of what is happening and has occurred in our neighbouring nation rather than focusing on the issues of occidental nations most of the time.

I Know What It Is to Be in Need

Darry Lucas | MDiv Year 3 Student

How wonderful and meaningful was the experience that we had during the mission trip to Sabah (Kota Kinabalu-Kudat-Kota Belud-Kundasang-Kota Kinabalu) from May 13 to May 22. There were 19 of us. Dr. Tan Swee Bee was in charge of this mission trip. The mission trip this time involved going to the Protestant Church in Sabah (PCS), a local church in Sabah. The theme taken from PCS' yearly calendar is "Kehidupan di Bawah Naungan Kasih Tuhan," and it clearly reflected our task on this trip.



Children's ministry on Sunday at Kg Pinawantai, Kudat

The enthusiasm for anticipating the wonderful things that occurred on this trip was seen in counting down the days until the mission trip. On May 12, we departed from Seremban and landed in Sabah just before midnight. We stayed at PCS Bandaraya Church in Kota Kinabalu for one night, and even though I was worn out and restless, I was also glad to have begun the journey. The ability to examine various perspectives on each situation was one of the nicest things about the mission trip to Sabah. We were not able to travel to other destinations as quickly as we would have wanted due to poor road conditions and infrastructure.

Some of the places do not even have basic facilities. However, what amazed me was the unity and hospitality that the church members showed us. They warmly welcomed us into their community. Although not all of them were highly educated, their hospitality was exceptional. In this day and age, there are lots of educated people around, but they can be heartless and selfish. Hence, serving in the rural area helped us realise how blessed we are that we can live comfortably. Also, we even considered the difficulties the early church faced as they spread the gospel. Even though they were not rich and resided in the kampung (Pinawantai and Tinutudan), the people there embraced us as their family. Serving the Rungus people group was a fantastic experience for me. I was quite impressed with their friendliness. They gave us the best seafood and kampung meals to eat.



Visiting church members at Kg. Pinawantai, Kudat, while walking alongside other members of the church

Despite being a native of Sabah, I seldom travelled to other locations in that state. Going on this mission trip made it easier for me to see how the ministry could grow in other places, which was why I participated. This trip, in my opinion, has the potential to encourage and strengthen other churches' Christian well-being. Our mission trip to Sabah taught me many amazing things, which were all wonderful. I saw that, despite the poor infrastructure, the village church diligently served the Lord. As was mentioned by Paul in Philippians 4:12 NIV, "I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty." There was no whining but only thankfulness in every circumstance once we learned what Paul meant.

I believe that this mission trip is an ideal opportunity for the younger urban generations to understand and appreciate how fortunate they are to have wonderful infrastructure. They should use this opportunity to experience God and lead others to Him. Otherwise, we will lose a lot of souls. On that note, we should make use of the opportunities at hand. I want to express my gratitude to STM for allowing me to share my personal experiences and information about this mission trip. It turned out to be really beneficial for me to serve in the mission that God has given.



The team was invited to celebrate Gawai and Kaamatan at Wisma Sabah Theological Seminary, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

Ten Days in Sabah

Chan Hon Yee | STM Staff

Early this year during a dinner with a few BM department students, someone playfully asked me if I wanted to join their missions class trip to Sabah. I quickly jumped at the opportunity as I have never been to Sabah. After checking with Deaconess Dr. Tan Swee Bee, I was given the green light to go and also help out as their photographer.



The team in KLIA ready to board the flight to Kota Kinabalu

We departed from KLIA on the 12th of May to Kota Kinabalu and returned on the 22nd of May. The trip would take us through Kota Kinabalu, Kudat, Kota Belud, Kundasang, and back to Kota Kinabalu again. The students experienced the challenges of missionary life and were also graded for their participation and contribution in areas such as leading church services, preaching, social interactions and conducting seminars.

Since this was not a typical holiday trip, most of the time the twenty of us would be roughing it out sleeping on the floor of the church premises and sharing two to three bathrooms. It wasn't as bad as one might think unless you are averse to the idea of bathing with a pail and a bucket in a rural village. We heard there were frequent blackouts in Kudat but by God's grace, we only experienced it once, and all the church services and sessions ran without a hitch. Our biggest headache was to wake up as early as 4.00 am to bathe and pack when we had to move to a new destination. My biggest challenge was budgeting my limited stock of clothes as we await the availability of a launderette.

It wasn't just all work and no play for us. We enjoyed more than 2 days in the beautiful Nahadang Melangkap Homestay and Campsite; and the cool slopes of Kundasang. Not unlike Mount Fuji of Japan, we also had the scenic Mount Kinabalu to grace our photo backdrops.

There were much to be learned from the generosity and hospitality of our hosts, especially in the villages of Kampung Pinawantai and Kampung Tinutidan. They took great pains to cook and keep us well-fed all day with delicious local fare. We were told that in Kampung Tinutidan, they spent a week preparing the premises for our sleeping comfort by repairing the ceiling fans. One can really feel a strong sense of community from these villages.



Taking photos with Mount Kinabalu in Nahadang Melangkap Homestay and Campsite

I should mention that our hosts were the churches of PCS (Protestant Church of Sabah). Prior to this trip, I did not know much about the ministry of PCS other than the fact that 6 of their pastors have graduated from STM. PCS mostly serves the need of the Rungus community. They have more than 300 churches in Sabah and 4 churches in Semenanjung Malaysia. Currently, they are short of pastors and this is clearly reflected by the fact that some of their pastors have to serve 13 to 15 churches. So there is a pressing need to train and raise more pastors but it is a financial challenge as most of their members come from rural villages.



Sunrise at Gereja PCS Pinawantai

Overall, I enjoyed this trip greatly being able to mingle with the student team members from the BM, English, and Chinese departments. We have to thank our alumni, Pastor Ngallinah who worked hard in planning, organizing, and booking our travel itinerary. We also have to thank the many PCS church pastors, leaders, and congregations who blessed us with their fellowship, hospitality, and good food. May God bless their ministry richly and fruitfully in all the days ahead!



Khabar Dari Sabah

Davina | Pelajar Tahun Empat

Negeri Sabah, negeri yang mempunyai pemandangan indah gunung-ganang yang hijau. STM mempunyai beberapa orang pelajar yang berasal dari negeri Sabah, tetapi ini adalah kali pertama kebanyakan dari kami yang mengikut pelayan misi ini, menjejaskan kaki di Sabah. Kami seramai 16 orang, termasuklah seorang pensyarah dan seorang pegawai IT STM telah ke Negeri Sabah untuk menyokong pelajar STM yang lain dalam melakukan misi merentas budaya di Negeri tersebut.

Pada 12/5/2023, kami bertolak dari STM ke KLIA 1 sekitar jam 3:30 petang, dan pada jam 7 petang bermulalah perjalanan kami ke Negeri di Bawah Bayu. Hari pertama kami bermula di sebuah kampung yang penuh dengan keindahan alam semula jadi, iaitu di Kampung Pinawantai.

Kampung Pinawantai ini merupakan kampung kepada beberapa bekas pelajar STM. Kami berpeluang untuk makan-makanan tradisional mereka dan antara makanan yang disediakan adalah larva lebah, beras bukit dan semua hasil tanaman mereka sendiri. Semua makanan tersebut di masak dengan penuh kasih untuk kami. Kami juga sempat belajar tarian tradisi mereka.

Pada hari ketiga, kami mengunjungi Ibu Pejabat Pusat Gereja PCS, Sabah. Kami berkesempatan untuk berjumpa dengan Presiden Gereja PCS, Bisyp Justin Sansalu. Kami diberi masa untuk sesi soal jawab mengenai sejarah penubuhan Gereja PCS dan juga mengetahui lebih lanjut tentang perkembangan Gereja PCS masa kini, kami juga mendapat tahu bahawa terdapat 100 lebih Gereja PCS di Sabah tetapi hanya seramai 30 orang gembala yang membantu mengembalikan Gereja.

Sepanjang pelayan kami di Sabah, kami mengekalkan prinsip sebagai pelajar yang datang untuk melayani dan bukan untuk dilayani. Namun kami sangat menghargai setiap layanan yang diberikan oleh semua jemaah gereja dan pemimpin gereja disana, kerana setiap gereja atau pusat Kristian yang telah kami kunjungi, kami diberikan layanan khas dan disambut dengan sungguh meriah sekali. Selepas 4 hari mengunjungi gereja-gereja di sana, kami berpeluang untuk berehat dan menikmati keindahan ciptaan Tuhan. Kami bercuti di Kota Belud kemudian kami menginap di Kundasang selama 2 hari dan akhirnya kami kembali ke Kota Kinabalu untuk pelayan Ahad di sana. Kami dibahagikan kepada 3 buah gereja PCS, Kota Kinabalu, iaitu PCS Putrajaya, PCS Inanam dan PCS Alam Mesra. Setiap ahli kumpulan diberikan tanggungjawab dan tugas berbeza supaya kami dapat melayani jemaah Gereja pada hari Ahad itu. Setelah malam menjelang, kami dilayani oleh semua Gembala Gereja PCS sekitar Kota Kinabalu dengan makanan yang istimewa. Ketika saya pergi ke Sabah, saya pergi dengan saiz baju L dan kembali dengan saiz baju XL. Dengan berat hati kami tinggalkan Negeri Sabah dengan membawa kembali kenangan indah. Semoga Tuhan terus menggerakkan hati lebih ramai orang untuk melayani jemaah-Nya di negeri itu.



“風下之鄉” 访宣之旅反思

戴光顺 | MDiv 第三年生

这一趟由马来文部主领，国、英、中三个部门的同学一起参与，到沙巴州信义宗（Protestant Church in Sabah (PCS)）的龙古斯（Rungus）族群教会进行访宣。我们被安排到Pinawantai和Tinatudan两个乡村的教会参与服侍。这里几乎每个乡村和部落都有教堂，教会属乡村社群之一，所有会友都是来自教会附近。然而，传道人往往供不应求，无法满足教会的需要。为了应对传道人短缺的问题，我建议该宗可以培育教会里的平信徒领袖，来参与教导和牧养。另外，资源充足的教会也可以定期为乡村教会领袖提供培育课程。

在起程前，来自沙巴的同学预先提醒我们可能会遇上的不便，就是到访的乡村会经常发生停电、断线，当中一些长者也不精通马来语等。然而，在旅程中我们却深深体会，虽在设备和物质缺乏的环境中，却没有拦阻当地信徒对神话语的渴慕。他们以当地美食盛情款待我们，这是他们表达欢迎的方式，佳肴不只填饱我们的肚子，他们的热情更温暖我们的心。

这一次的访宣，不只开阔我个人视野及体验跨文化事工，从中更学习到发挥团队精神和肢体合一的功课。无论是在整个团队或小队伍里，大家学习不单依赖各自或各组的本位思考，而是从整体的角度去思考与表达。期盼将来，教会不再以东马或西马，华人、印裔或原住民教会区分，而是在基督的国度里，彼此拥抱，一起同行，不单只关注慈善，乃以同心协力的态度一起共事。在多元的处境中，跨宗族和文化间的彼此相爱，同心合一，是展现圣经的教导最美好的见证。

求主兴起神的仆人在这块土地上为主夺回灵魂，建立教会，兴起发光。

韩国汝矣岛纯福音教会实习体验

林敏仪 | MDiv第三年生

2022年的下学期，韩国汝矣岛纯福音教会的团队来到本院参访，并提及欢迎本院学生到韩国实习。当下我对这个计划很感兴趣，然而却直到学期末才去询问校方并和汝矣岛教会联系。在等待回复的期间，我挣扎是否要打消去韩国教会实习的念头，然而整个过程好像都有神的安排，校方最终发来消息说教会方非常欢迎我们去实习。在得到家人的支持后，我就毅然决定到韩国实习。

其实在出发之前遇上了不顺利的事。在学期末的时候，因为个人情绪的问题，我无法如期完成和提交功课，同时我也需要处理一段感情结束的悲伤。就在这样的情绪下，提着行李去到我的旷野——韩国。

汝矣岛纯福音教会给我的第一印象：教会很大，人很多。我确实为此非常惊讶和震撼！由于教会组织非常的庞大，就像一间大公司里面有许多不同的部门，我和同行的同学苑琳被安排到国际事务部 (Church Growth International (CGI))。这个部门主要负责各种语言崇拜的运营以及一系列的国际事工。

众所周知韩国教会看重祷告。我参与了该教会在感恩节前夕凌晨四点的祷告会和晚上11点至凌晨5点通宵的晚祷。每一场所参与的祷告会，我都是全心投入在当中去经历神。我相信神既然把我带到这里就一定有祂的旨意。在祷告的过程中我不断向神寻求答案，一个可以解答我正在面对的问题的答案。虽然神并没有在祷告中给我任何答案，对我而言这已经不重要了，因为在每一场的祷告会中神给我安慰，祂医治我，并带领我学习在难以掌握的情况中依靠祂。我来到韩国除了体验下雪、韩国美食、Kpop...我也体验真实的祷告。



与国际事工部同工外出

除此之外，我也感受到汝矣岛纯福音教会对这个实习计划预备的用心。实习期间，教会为我们安排了课程，教导我们有关汝矣岛纯福音教会的历史、教义和事工，甚至还预备了一份阅读报告，让我们更了解该教会的发展和运作。此外他们也安排我们外出参访，参访的地点有：杨花津墓园、祷告山和本地教会。实际走访使我对韩国教会的历史背景有更深刻的印象以及见证纯福音教会如何实际牧养众多的会友。

在如矣岛纯福音教会实习最特别和有趣的地方就是可以认识和接触来自世界各地不同文化背景的会友。由于我和苑琳是在国际事务部实习，我们主要是在英文崇拜部和中文崇拜部实习和服事。我们被安排的各样服事有：

- 在主日学以及青少年团契分享信息（由于我的英文能力不强，之前它还是我考虑是否申请到韩国实习的其中一个因素）。经过这次实习，我学习到不要局限自己的服事和限制上帝要在我身上做的事。当我选择顺服，我就有很多的学习。
- 带领敬拜赞美 (Friday Upper Room & Sunday Chinese service)。
- 带领信徒造就班 (中文崇拜部)。
- 制定实习计划报告书。



与中文崇拜部的同工

这两个月的实习给予我对未来牧养教会有很大的反思。我是要建造一个教堂还是建造一个教会？我看见这个教堂很大、设备很好、牧者传道和同工的办公室都特别舒适，这些外在的设备条件是我所看重的吗？实际上，他们如何建造一个信徒的生命才是我所欣赏和学习的榜样。为什么他们看重祷告和圣灵的工作？因为这是教会运作的动力来源。看重自己和会友的祷告生活，看重圣灵的带领和工作，把握这两点，我相信对我未来的服事/牧养工作绝对会带来很大的影响。

"I Will Help You"

Darren Tham Jenn Hong | Communications Intern



The humming of the wave-songs, the rosy hues of the golden fingers of sunlight, the carolling of birds in melodious tunes – these were the elements that The Lord Almighty has prevailed to me all in the midst of total tranquillity, in a quiet time with God.

On the 19th of June, blessed be the name of the Lord to have given me the opportunity to participate in STM's Quiet Day programme that was held at Pantai Cahaya Negeri, Port Dickson. The whole raison d'être circulating around this annual event was to don participants with a profound willingness to engage in heartfelt conversations with God, while remaining attentive to His voice at every moment.

The sheer beauty and enchanting sounds of nature overwhelmed me, leaving me in awe. Never before have I witnessed and embraced the wonders of nature with such profound affection and reverence towards God, acknowledging His creation of all things good (1 Tim. 4:4). Amidst the cosmic symphony, I felt a divine pause as God whispered gently to me, saying, "I will help you." In recent months, I have faced overwhelming trials and encountered circumstances and events that seemed beyond my comprehension. Yet, deep within, I held onto the knowledge that God was by my side, remains present with me, and will continue to guide my every step. In all circumstances, I affirm that "God is good all the time, and all the time God is good."

As the service concluded, a profound realisation washed over me: God has been continuously speaking to us, yet I question my attentiveness in truly listening to His voice. This program has undoubtedly brought immense benefits to my spiritual journey, and as a result, I am committed to continuing my practice of spending quiet moments with God. Will you also make space in your life for moments of connection with our Lord and Saviour?

The programme proceeded at Gereja Presbyterian Port Dickson (GPPD), a church that holds deep significance and a rich history spanning back to my childhood. This place has been my spiritual home since I was young, and I continue to attend services there to this day. I am profoundly grateful to the Lord for placing me among such kind-hearted, warm, and devout Christians who continually inspire me through their testimonies and experiences in their faith journey. With heartfelt gratitude to the Lord, I am also thrilled to announce that I have recently been blessed with the immensely meaningful and joy-filled experience of my baptism, which took place on the 11th of June at this very church. During this phase of the programme, the focus shifted from listening to God at the beach to engaging in conversation with Him. With utmost veneration, I raised His name on high and offered my praise for all that He has accomplished. It was a time of reflection where I recalled the million little miracles that He has bestowed upon me, my family, and those around me. For all of these blessings, I give thanks to Him.

*For just as He has helped me,
He will help you.*



April to June – Visitations and Collaborations



28 April 2023 - Dr. Chong Siaw Fung (STM Principal) visited the Chinese Methodist Church Kinta District Superintendent, Rev. Lee Lip Hock (Number three from the right) and had dinner with him and his church leaders at Teluk Intan on 28 Apr 2023.



30 April 2023 - STM Dean of Students Rev. Dr. Jimmy Chong (first row number three from the left) with the church pastor Rev. Chieng Yu Hoo (first row number three from the right) and church leaders after sharing on STM Sunday Service at Serdang Chinese Methodist Church.



30 April 2023 - Dr. Chong Siaw Fung (STM Principal) preached on STM Sunday Service at Penang Hokkien Methodist Church.



16 May 2023 - STM lecturer Dr. Tan Swee Bee (first row number four from the right) with students visiting Protestant Church Sabah Centre (PCS).



20 May 2023 - Rev. Daniel Ng shared on STM Sunday Service at the Holy Light Tun Aminah Presbyterian Church.

April to June – Visitations and Collaborations



8 May to 20 May 2023 - Dr. Chong Siaw Fung joined the contingent of LCM to Germany for the Luther Study Trip hosted by Mission One World.

Possible collaborations in intercultural theology classes between STM and University of Erlangen were brought into discussion during the meeting.

From left to right: Dr. Andreas Nehring (University of Erlangen), Dr. Claudia Jahnel (Public University of Brochum), Bishop Thomas Low (LCM), Dr. Chong Siaw Fung (STM), Rev. Thomas Paulsteiner (Mission One World).



1 June to 5 June 2023 - Dr. Chong (STM Principal) visited the Chinese Methodist Church in Australia (CMCA).

The Bishop of CMCA, Rev. Milton Nee (number four from the left); Principal of LAMM, Rev. Albert Wong (number two from the left); Southern District Superintendent, Rev Alan Lau (number two from the right) and other pastors of CMCA Southern District.



LAMM conducts programmes according to standards and requirements set by STM.

Our Principal, Dr. Chong Siaw Fung attended the 2023 LAMM Graduation Service in Melbourne, Australia on 3 June 2023.



June 4 to June 30 - Asia Gateway Residential Training 2023.



11 June 2023 - Dr Chong sharing on STM Sunday at Wesley Methodist Church Melaka.

April to June – Our Guests



4 April 2023 - Visitor from Asian Outreach (M) Berhad.

From left: Mr. Sakthi (Coordinator of Research Resources), Pastor Kevin Jesudasan (Field Operation of Asian Outreach), Dss. Dr. Tan Swee Bee (STM Faculty).



27 April 2023 - The professor from the Divinity School of Chung Chi College, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Prof. Kung Lap Yan visited STM.

From left to right: Dr. Elaine Goh (STM Dean of Studies), Prof. Kung Lap Yan, Rev. Dr. Jimmy Chong (STM Dean of Studies) and Pastor Yew Kuan Yee (Director of Chinese TEE).

17 May 2023 - Visitors from Methodist Council of Education (MCOE) visited STM.

Wesley Methodist Private and International Schools takes an integrated approach in their Bible Knowledge (BK) classes with Worldview and Spiritual Formation (WSF). WSF curriculum integrates all Christian Ministry initiatives in school with BK classes to nurture character development alongside the acquisition of Bible knowledge, fostering a well-rounded education as inspired in Luke 2:52.



From left to right: Mrs. Ng Kee Chuan, Ms. Elaine Ho (Project Manager of MCOE), Dr. Ng Kee Chuan (Project Consultant for WSF), Clareen Chen (Project Lead for WSF) and Ms. Angel Allakhappayee (STM MDiv Third Year Student).



28 May to 11 June 2023 - 25th Isaiah Training School students from the Chinese Annual Conference in STM.

上主～身体～我们

邱君尔 | 中文神学教育延伸课程主任

神按照自己的形象，创造了人类。上主把躯体和灵魂赐给人，使人成为有躯体的活灵。

借着实质的身体，人类才得以较容易了解自己，尤其是看不见、摸不着，较抽象的层面，例如我们的需要、我们的感受。身体告诉我们，欢愉了、兴奋了、饥饿了、疲倦了、压力了、疼痛了…

许多身体发出的讯号，都不单止于那个部位的事情，譬如肩膀绷紧，胃部疼痛，有些时候是因为身体承受了过多的压力，最终发出了警号。

人生的喜怒哀乐、起起落落，身体把生命中所经历的种种感受都记录下来。静下心，好好观察身体，感受身体，就能和自己对话，了解自己生命的状况。人在经历不同的事件，有时候未必真的知道自己的心情、情绪到底怎么了，但若细心察觉从身体发出的信号，我们能重新认识自己。

现代化社会把一切分割成不同部门，按照功能分门别类，包括对待身体亦是如此。医学将身体分成内科、外科、神经科、精神科等。结果，让人很难找到整全的意义，人们只不过是巨大社会机器中的一颗小螺丝，活得相当碎片化。加上无止尽地耗尽循环，人们被剥削至只剩下疲累躯体。因此，人会把仅存的意义感投放在身体上。

身体社会学是西方热门的科系，研究人类在社会中以身体为中心的种种现象：吃喝、旅游、购物、保健、欲望、性别… 既然人生无法掌握大意义，至少还能拥有小确幸，就是想尽办法让自己的身体可以被满足。把自己打扮得漂漂亮亮拍照定格，仿佛记录了某个时刻开心的自己，仿佛此开心就可以延续被保存似的。我拍照，故我存在。

约翰福音16:13 说到：“只等真理的圣灵来了，他要引导你们明白一切的真理。”这里提到的真理，也可以译为真相。圣灵要引导我们明白真相，既包括我们与神之间的真相，也包括关于我们自己本身的真相；或者说，就是神要我们明白，有关我们自身的生命真相。

人要如何认识神的心意呢？

身体除了是最原始的媒介与管道，让人能够与上主沟通，用来聆听上主的声音；它也是让人认识神的心意，明白何为按神形象被造的人性。既然上主设计了会发出信号的身体，身体的信号就有更深层的意义，透过身体、借着圣灵的引导，我们能了解上主的旨意与本我、本相。

耶稣基督道成肉身，成为一个有躯体的人类，他饥饿了、他累了、他渴了、他身体破碎了、他死了…无不体现人性的脆弱与挣扎。人类就是在不断满足欲望需要与抗衡病痛意外伤害的浮沉之间吗？耶稣基督以躯体认同躯体，亲历一切人类的挣扎，展现出顺服圣灵而能活出天父旨意的真人性。

我们借着身体，也重新思考：我是谁？我为什么活着？我们真的需要吃那么多？穿那么多？拥有那么多吗？

当我们身体丰腴时，我们尊荣神了吗？当我们身体受损时，我们亏缺了神的荣耀吗？身体是否是我们用来定义自己的标准？是我们主导身体，还是身体主导了我们？保罗说，“我是攻克己身，叫身服我”（林前9：27）。学习与身体共处，学习透过身体认识上主和自己，是一生的功课。

天主教的“化质说”圣餐观，我们未必认同，却很值得我们省思：基督的身体(饼)进入到我们的身体当中，成为我们的一部分，基督的身体就不断转化我们的身体，直至我们成为祂的样式。



Enchanting Insights From A Biblical Study Tour In Greece

Irvin Swithun Lim Ho Boon | English TEE student



Tour Coverage (M-Museum, A-Archaeological Site, U-UNESCO World Heritage Site)

Travel Diary (Sept 10-21, 2022)

*Day 1 :Departure from KLIA to Athens via
(transiting in) Istanbul*

Day 2 :Thessaloniki M

Day 3 :Kavala (Neapolis) & Philippi M A U

Day 4 : *Virea (Berea) M & Kalambaka U*

Day 5 : Delphi M A U

Day 6 : Olympia M A U

Day 7 : Epidaurus, Corinth M A & Cenchreae

Day 8 :Athens M A U

Day 9 :Athens (St Paul's Church)

Day 10-11 :Paphos M U or Santorini Islands Tour

Day 12-13 :Athens & KLIA via Istanbul

We often quote Lao Tze's "The Journey of a Thousand Miles Begins with a Single Step". This is what Paul and his companions did in obedience to the Holy Spirit and ended up covering an estimated 8,500 miles by foot! Paul also planted 13 churches and wrote most of the New Testament, changing the world forever.

Tour Reflections

Looking back at this tour, everything was new to me, so it really was a rich experience. I enjoyed Christian koi-no-nia and experiencing the generosity and care from fellow Christians I have not met before. I made new friends and renewed old acquaintances, most of whom I stayed in contact with. I enjoyed extraordinary Greece as a tourist along with its people, food, culture, and spectacular sights. But what made this tour different was stepping into the pages of history from the onset when visiting world-famous historical places, digs and their museums. We got a new sense of appreciation from the challenges that Paul and the early Christians faced being part of these pagan cities.

Seeing through the lenses of archaeology and history made us realize that God was actively preparing His Son, Jesus, to come into the world and spread His Gospel from Judaism roots to our Gentile world. We had knowledgeable guides who filled us in on important past and present-day events while Dr. Lim Kar Yong connected us to Paul's time with his timely devotions and resource materials. I will suggest reading the colorful biblical tour books before going on the tour.

*The Parthenon*

Thessalonica, Philippi, Corinth, Greece

In Thessalonica, we see 2,300 years of human history from the Greek civilization to the rise of the Macedonian, Roman, Byzantine, and Muslim empires to today. Lessons of history are preserved in the agoras, buildings, museum artifacts, exhibits and magnificent Greek Orthodox cathedrals. Philippi, with its beautiful Lydia's Church Baptistry of mosaics allowed us to perceive how the Gospel first came to Europe and continued its tradition in helping the early church through centuries.

In Corinth and Greece, we catch glimpses of the pagan and permissive Greco-Roman society and how they could have likely caused the problems addressed by Paul in Corinthians. We visited the religious, commercial, and municipal agoras lined with multiple temples, council buildings, markets, and shops. We saw places of biblical history with the Bema, Erastus pavement and Areopagus where Paul delivered his speech in Acts 17 and walked to the Acropolis citadel filled with famous examples of Greek architecture.

Kambalaka ("Castle on a Rock"), Delphi, Olympia.

Northern Kambalaka was an awesome sight of monasteries perched on towering rock formations where monasticism played an important role in preserving Greek society and church. Delphi, the scenic uphill site from the famous oracle and testament and its widespread power, as well as its influence until Christianity became official. Olympia, the site of the first Olympic Games and famous stadium of how sports played a key part in human life with many of its metaphors used by Paul.

All in all, it was a blessed opportunity for me and 32 other people from all over Malaysia to go on this tour organized by STM and Footprint Travel Planner to retrace Paul's 2nd missionary journey in Greece with Rev. Dr. Lim Kar Yong as our spiritual director.

*Irvin at the Areopagus Hill overlooking Acropolis**Meteora*

கிறிஸ்துவைப் போல வளர்வது

ராஜ்குமார் (ரெயின்ராஜ்)

தமிழ் தியியி - டிப்ளமோ மாணவர்

Rajkumar @ Rain Raj | Sungai Petani, Kedah.

மனிதனுடைய வாழ்க்கையில் வளர்ச்சி என்பது மிகவும் முக்கியமான பங்கு. வளர்ச்சி இல்லாத மனிதன் நிச்சயமாக தன்னுடைய வாழ்க்கையில் எந்தவொரு சாதனையையும் படைக்கமுடியாது. மேலும் வளர்ச்சி என்பது, நேரம், காலம், முயற்சி, பயிற்சி, ஒழுக்கம் ஆகியவைகளை உள்ளடக்கியது. இவை அத்தனைக்கும் உதாரணமாக இயேசு கிறிஸ்து திகழ்கிறார்.

கன்னிமரியாளின் கருவில் பரிசுத்த ஆவியினாலே உருவாகின இயேசுகிறிஸ்து குழந்தையாகப் பிறந்தார். சிறுவனாய் தேவாலயத்தில் போதகர் நடுவில் உட்கார்ந்து அவர்களோடு வினாவினார். அவரின் புத்திகூர்மையையும் சொன்ன மறு உத்தரவுகளையும் குறித்து பிரமித்தார்கள். சிறுவனாய் இருந்த இயேசுகிறிஸ்து ஒரு வாலிபனாக தம்முடைய முப்பதாவது வயதிலேயே ஊழியத்தை வல்லமையோடு இந்தப் பூமியிலே செய்து சரித்திரத்தில் மறுக்க முடியாத அழிக்கமுடியாத தாக்குதலை உண்டுபண்ணினார்.

இயேசுவானவர் ஞானத்திலும், வளர்த்தியிலும், தேவகிருபையிலும் மனுஷர் தயவிலும் அதிகமதிகமாய் விருத்தியடைந்தார் (லூக்கா 2:52)

முதலில், கிறிஸ்துவைப் போல நாமும் வளரவேண்டும் என்றால் எப்படி இயேசுகிறிஸ்து எந்நேரமும் பிதாவோடு இணைந்து இருந்தாரோ அதேபோல் நாமும் தேவனோடு இணைந்திருப்பது அவசியமாய் இருக்கிறது. இயேசு கிறிஸ்து பிதாவோடு வைத்திருந்த உறவு, விவரிக்க முடியாத ஒன்று. நாமும் எந்நேரமும் ஜெபத்தில் தரித்திருந்து கர்த்தருடைய சித்தம் என்னவென்று அறிந்து கொள்வது அவசியம். அவரோடு இணைந்து இருக்காத எந்த ஒரு மனுஷனும் அவரைப் போல வளரவே முடியாது.

இரண்டாவதாக, கிறிஸ்து ஞானத்தினால் நிறைந்தவராக காணப்பட்டார். இந்த நவீன உலகில் நாளுக்கு நாள் புது புது சித்தாந்தம் அல்லது புதிய போதனைகள் மனிதனாலே உருவாக்கப்படுகிறது. இவைகள் வேதத்தின் அடிப்படையில் உள்ளதா என்று ஒரு பெரிய கேள்வி எழும்புகிறது. இதனால் பல இடங்களில் பல குழப்பங்கள், கேள்விகள், பிரிவினைகள் உண்டாகுகின்றது. கிறிஸ்துவைப் போல வளரவேண்டும் என்று இருதயத்தில் ஆசை இருந்தால் வேத ஞானம் நமக்கு முக்கியமாய் இருக்கிறது. அந்த வார்த்தையை முழுமையாய் அறிந்துகொள்வது அவசியம். பின்பு அந்த வார்த்தையின்படி நம்முடைய வாழ்க்கையை வாழ்வது மிகவும் முக்கியம். கர்த்தருடைய வார்த்தையைப் பின்பற்றி நடப்பதினாலே தேவனுடைய கிருபை நம்மேல் எப்பொழுதும் இருக்கும். இதன் மூலமாய் கிறிஸ்து நமக்குள் வாழ்கிறார் என்று ஜனங்கள் அறிந்து கொள்ள முடியும். சத்தியத்தின்படி நடக்காத எந்த மனுஷனும் கிறிஸ்துவைப் போல ஜீவிக்கமுடியாது.

மூன்றாவதாக, கிறிஸ்து நன்மை செய்கிறவராக சுற்றித் திரிந்தார். மேய்ப்பன் இல்லாத ஆடுகளைப் போல அலைந்து திரிந்த ஜனங்களைக் கண்டு இயேசு மனதுருகினார். நான் உனக்கு என்ன செய்ய வேண்டும் என்று சொல்லி அவர்களுடைய குறைகளை நீக்கினார். நாமும் பிறருக்கு நன்மை செய்யப் பழக வேண்டும். அதுவே கிறிஸ்துவின் போதனை. கிறிஸ்து நன்மை செய்தவராக காணப்பட்டதினால் ஜனங்களுடைய தயவு அவருக்கு கிடைத்தது. அவர் போகிற இடமெல்லாம் ஜனங்கள் பின் தொடர்ந்தார்கள். நன்மை செய்கிறதினாலே கிறிஸ்துவைப் போல் நாம் வளர முடியும்.

இறுதியாக, இப்படி அனேகர் சொல்வதை நான் கேட்டிருக்கிறேன். “இயேசு கிறிஸ்துவைப் போல் எல்லாம் வாழமுடியாதுப்பா” அவரு கடவுள், அதனாலே எல்லாத்தையும் சுலபமா ஜெயிச்சுட்டாரு” நான் சாதாரண மனுஷன்! ஆம் உண்மை தான். நாம் சாதாரண மனுஷன் தான். ஆனால் தேவன் ஒரு மனுஷனுடைய வாழ்க்கையில் வெளிப்பட்டார் என்றால், சாதாரணமாக இருக்கின்ற மனுஷனைக் கொண்டு அசாத்தியங்களை செய்யமுடியும். கிறிஸ்து மனித ரூபத்தில் பூமிக்கு வந்து நம்மைப் போல மனுஷனாய் வாழ்ந்து, எல்லாவற்றையும் ஜெயித்தார். நாமும் அவரைப் போல நிச்சயமாகவே ஜெயம் கொள்ள முடியும், வளரமுடியும்.

தேவனால் பிறப்பதெல்லாம் உலகத்தை ஜெயிக்கும். நம்முடைய விசுவாசமே உலகத்தை ஜெயிக்கிற ஜெயம்.

கிறிஸ்துவைப் போல வளர்வது என்பது உடனடியாக நடக்கின்ற நிகழ்வு அல்ல; வளர்ச்சி என்பது பல செயல்முறைகளைக் கடந்தால் தான் கிடைக்கும் அல்லது நிறைவேறும். இதற்குப் பல காலங்கள், நேரங்கள் தேவைப்படலாம். ஆனால் பொறுமையோடு இந்த செயல்முறைகளைக் கடந்து தான் ஆகவேண்டும்.



BM TEE

Encik Ram bin Buraat | Penolong Pengarah BM TEE

Pengajian sepenuh masa bagi semester pertama 2023 telah tamat pada 12 Mei. Sehingga Mei, sebanyak 5 kursus telah berjaya dilaksanakan secara fizikal dan juga atas talian oleh TEE BM. Untuk sesi Jun hingga Disember, TEE BM telah merancang 6 kursus untuk ditawarkan bagi memenuhi keperluan pelajar-pelajar berdaftar sama ada di Kampar, Kuala Lumpur mahupun di kampus Seremban. Salah satu kelas bagi kursus seterusnya adalah Teologi Kristian 1 (9-11 & 16-18 Jun) dan dikendalikan oleh Encik Ram bin Buraat di Gereja Methodist Cina Kampar. Kita juga sangat mengalu-alukan kedatangan Rev. Jensey Mojuin sebagai pensyarah baharu STM dan akan terlibat secara langsung bersama-sama dalam menggerakkan program bersama TEE BM.

Kursus TEE BM tahun 2023

STM-KL Centre	STM Seremban	Gereja Methodist Cina, Kampar
TEOLOGI KRISTIAN 2 11-13 & 18-20 Ogos En. Ram bin Buraat Teras (BCM)	KEPIMPINAN PASTORAL DAN PENGURUSAN GEREJA 24-28 Julai *Gabungan bersama pelajar Sepenuh Masa The Rt. Rev. Datuk Ng Moon Hing Teras (BCM)	TEOLOGI KRISTIAN 1 9-11 & 16-18 Jun En. Ram bin Buraat Teras (BCM)
HOMILETIK 2 *Kelas intensif melalui Zoom 9-13 Okt Rev. Daniel Ng Teras (BCM)		PENGANTAR PERJANJIAN LAMA 21-23 & 28-30 Julai Rev. Jensey bin Mojuin Teras (CertCM)
		PENYEMBAHAN DAN LITURGI 3-5 & 10-12 Nov Cik Christina Ong Elektif

Kursus-kursus lain sepanjang tahun 2023 boleh dirujuk melalui pautan ini
<https://stm.edu.my/bm/akademik/program-tee/>

Untuk pertanyaan, sila hubungi:

Encik Ram bin Buraat atau Puan Vicky di emel bmtee@stm2.edu.my

Heartiest Congratulations



Ling Yi Yang (STM final year MDiv student in 2023) and Eunice Wong Yee Chang (2022 STM alumna) were married on 27 May 2023.



Paul Davison a/l Robert Vincent (STM third year BD student in 2023) and Joanna were married on 3 June 2023.

Staff Movement

Welcome



Dr. Yap Teck Chong has been an adjunct lecturer at STM for many years, teaching Liturgy and Worship as well as Choir. He currently serves as the Music Director at Klang Chinese Methodist Church. He had been teaching in China and participating in the World Association of Chinese Christian Music (WACCM) for six years prior to the pandemic.

Let us welcome Dr. Yap as our research scholar effective from February 2023.



Rev. Jensey Mojuin is an ordained minister of the Protestant Church in Sabah (PCS) from Kudat, Sabah. He received his BTh. from Sabah Theological Seminary(STS) in 1997 and his MTh. from the same seminary in 2005. Rev. Jensey worked for several years in the Lutheran Church of Malaysia's Orang Asli ministry before becoming a full-time lecturer in the BM department of STS. He was elected President of PCS in 2012, and he was actively involved in ministering to the Sabah Christian House of Prayer Association and the PCS congregation.

Let us officially welcome Rev. Jensey as our lecturer beginning June 1, 2023.

Recruitment

The vision of Seminari Theoloji Malaysia (STM) is to see God's people equipped for ministry and mission in and through the church. STM Campus is looking for potential candidates to fill in the following vacancy:

Vacancy for Senior Accounts Officer

Requirements:

- Minimum 5 years working experience.
- Strong interpersonal and administration skills.
- Proficient in the use of accounting software and MS Office.
- A diploma/degree in Accounting.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- To handle full sets of accounts and ensure all records are filed and kept;
- To prepare financial reports and budget; monitor receivables and payables as well as receipts and payments; etc.
- Supervise the accounts personnel.
- Assist the Admin & Finance Manager in all matters relating to accounts and personnel.

Please submit your resume, photo, current and expected salary to Ms. Vernie Woo, Administration & Finance Manager at manager@stm2.edu.my





New Intake 2024

Vision

God's people equipped for ministry and mission.

Mission

To facilitate full time workers and lay people to grow in Christian maturity and to train them for ministry and service in and through the church.



Closing Date:
1 Oct 2023



Please scan to download the application form or go to
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2024 招生

异象

装备上帝的子民，参与事奉和宣教。

使命

协助教牧同工和信徒在基督里成长，并训练他们参与教会的事奉。



立即报读!

截止日期:
2023年10月1日



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Pengambilan Pelajar Baru 2024

Visi

Umat Tuhan dilengkapi untuk pelayanan dan misi.

Misi

Untuk memudahkan pekerja sepenuh masa dan pemimpin bertumbuh matang dalam kekristianan dan melatih mereka untuk pelayanan dan melayani di dalam dan melalui Gereja.



**Daftar
Sekarang!**

**Tarikh Akhir
Pendaftaran:
1 Okt 2023**



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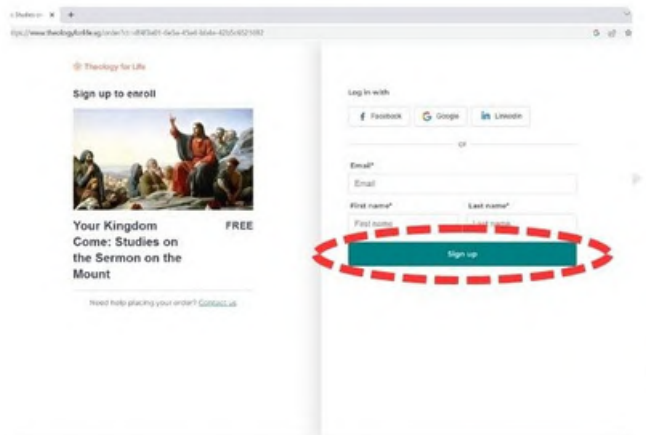
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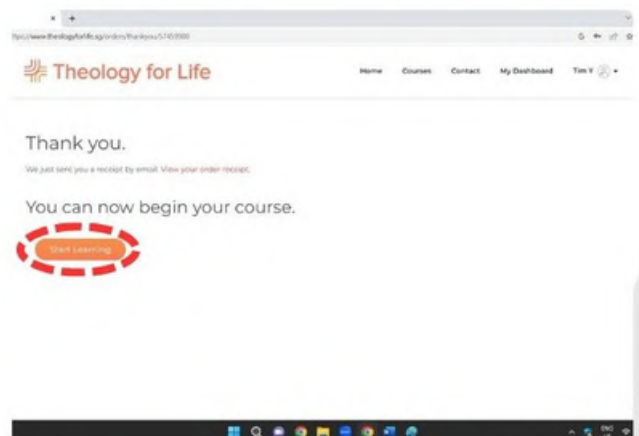
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Financial Updates

Your Support Can Make a Lasting Impact – Join Us in Equipping God’s Ministries and Fulfilling God’s Missions.

We express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for your invaluable support and generous contributions. Your unwavering dedication and support, coupled with your heartfelt prayers, have played a pivotal role in our pursuit to bring about positive changes to God’s ministries. We are delighted to report that this year, our estimated income from accommodation and programme studies has reached an impressive RM1,649,000.

However, in order to sustain our operations and meet ongoing expenditures, we rely on the support of our faithful Friends, Partners, and donors. Today, we humbly request your assistance in raising crucial funds amounting to RM2,555,000 as we have only received RM836,525 up until 31 May 2023. These funds will not only contribute to our day-to-day expenses but will also address critical maintenance and facility upgrading needs.

To make a donation to our cause above, kindly find our bank details below:

Name : Pemegang Amanah Seminari Theoloji Malaysia Berdaftar
Bank : RHB Bank Bhd
Account No : 2-14389-0007093-1

Outlined below are the specific areas that urgently require funding:

1. We aspire to create rooms with attached bathrooms for our senior citizens by converting certain hostel rooms. The exact funding required for this endeavor is yet to be determined, but we believe it is a crucial step in providing better care and comfort to our elderly residents.
2. Refurbishments and upgrading of facilities in the hostel rooms and guest room area are needed. The exact funding required for this project is still being determined, but it is vital to ensuring a pleasant and accommodating environment for our beneficiaries.
3. Installation of a suction tank for the Faculty/Staff Apartment Block and Dining Hall Block, with an estimated cost of RM150,000. This improvement will enhance our facilities and ensure a comfortable environment for our residents.
4. Repair work on the slope and drainage along the boundary, amounting to at least RM100,000 depending on the damage. It is important to note that additional measures, such as a retaining wall for soil erosion control, may increase the overall cost.
5. Restoration of the fence along the boundary, requiring an allocation of at least RM100,000 depending on the seriousness of the soil erosion. This project aims to reinforce security and maintain the integrity of our premises.

We firmly believe that by addressing these critical areas, we can better meet the needs of those we serve. Together, we have the power to make a lasting difference and positively transform lives.

To make a donation to the cause mentioned above, please find our bank details provided below:

Name : Seminari Theoloji Malaysia
Bank : RHB Bank Bhd
Account No : 2-14389-0006441-9

Your continued partnership and generosity will sustain an impact on the success of our organization, as well as in delivering our Lord’s commissions to the community. If you have any inquiries about STM or would like more information on how your donations are utilized, please do not hesitate to contact our Senior Communications Officer Ms. Annie for further details.



Pemegang Amanah Seminari
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Seminari Theoloji Malaysia

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Tel: +606 632 2815 Email: admin@stm2.edu.my
Website: www.stm.edu.my (We are on Facebook - refer to QR Code)



Condolences 慰唁

STM extends our deepest sympathy and condolences to:



The family of STM alumnus Rev. Joel Zechariah and Rev. Mohan Raj whose father Mr. David Pandian departed to be with the Lord on 4 April 2023.



The family of STM alumna Lim Pei Ling whose father Mr. Lim Kok Ann @ Lim Kim Hua peacefully joined the Lord on 10 May 2023.



The family of STM alumnus Broken Anak Nuniem who found solace with the Lord on 30 May 2023.



The family of STM alumna Christine Sunita whose mother Mdm. Susheela a/p S. A. Charles went home to be with the Lord on 13 June 2023.

Berita STM Committee

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