

# Asia Gateway Residential Training 2018

June 2-29, 2018

## Module 1: June 4-8

### Mission of God in the Bible

This module aims:

- to explore the theme of evangelistic mission in the Old Testament
- to understand the meta-narrative of the Old Testament and how that intersects with mission
- to understand the plan and purpose of God from the beginning for mission
- to encourage interaction, the exchange of viewpoints and ideas
- to be strengthened in our commitment from scripture for mission to the nations
- to survey the theme of mission in the New Testament, with particular attention to the Gospels, Acts and selected letters of Paul
- to understand the plan and purpose of God in the New Testament, paying particular attention to the inclusion of the Gentiles
- to examine how the early church deals with conflicts and issues pertaining to the inclusion of Gentiles in God's mission
- to explore how we could be strengthened in our commitment for mission to the nations

(Dr Peter Lau, Old Testament Lecturer, Malaysia Theological Seminary & Rev Dr Lim Kar Yong, Director of Post Graduate Studies, Malaysia Theological Seminary)

## Module 3: June 18-23

### The Gospel in a Multi-religious Context

All the major religions in the world see its beginning and roots in Asia. All have claims from their own revered scriptures which guides humanity on all aspects of life from birth, death and the attainment of eternity. Negating these religious belief systems and presenting Christ as the only way has become offensive. The challenge before us is can this offensive dimension be removed altogether? The danger of a relative perspective of religion like many post modernists propose or universalising of religion does harm to the Christian gospel. As theologians and practitioners each generation is on a quest to be honest to the Gospel and also its context. This class is all about finding a way forward.

#### Course Objectives

- to analyse how pluralism is understood within the Church
- to understand our context that demands to see divergent ways of understanding God
- to explore some important Asian Theologians who have tried to narrow the divide
- to positively respond to opposing views in Christian Practice
- to work towards an authentic way to see pluralism in each context

(Dr. Joseph Deva Komar, Missiology Lecturer, Malaysia Theological Seminary)

This module will include an exposure trip to a Buddhist Temple



## Module 2: June 11-17

### Gospel, Culture and Integral Mission

In this module we will reflect on culture, what it is, how to understand other cultures, how to communicate the Gospel in different cultures, and how to live and work in a cross-cultural situation. We will ask how the Gospel and culture relate and ask ourselves how we can recognise God at work in other cultures. We will also reflect on how the Gospel relates to the poor and the marginalized (mostly in an urban setting). How should we live and work in a context of economic disparity, building capacity, dignifying and empowering each other, and building community?

(Berdine van den Toren-Lekkerkerker MA (Theology), CMS Mission Partner for mission education in Africa and Asia)

**This module will include an exposure trip to OA Ministry or Migrant Ministry**

## Module 4: June 25-29

### Crucial Issues in Asian Mission

The module will examine the church's mission through a study of:  
 (1) crucial issues in Asian mission and  
 (2) theological and sociological themes and approaches arising from Asian contexts.

Attention will be given to issues such as how Asian contexts shape the church's mission, Christian encounter, contextualisation, religious pluralism, poverty, Asian leadership and partnership.

The aims of the course are:

- to provide tools for analysing complex mission issues and
- to design appropriate training for leadership in the local church

(Dr Cheong Weng Kit, lecturer in missiology and intercultural studies at a seminary in Southeast Asia)

**This module will include an exposure trip to a Hindu Temple**

In partnership with:



# ABOUT THE LECTURERS



## Dr Peter Lau

Peter Lau is a trained medical practitioner who holds an MDiv from Sydney Missionary and Bible College, and a PhD from Sydney University. Since 2010 he has been lecturing at Malaysia Theological Seminary. He has written books on Ruth, Ezekiel and Psalms. He is married to Kathryn and they have three children.



## Rev Dr Lim Kar Yong

Kar Yong is a property valuer by training. He pursued theological studies at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and University of Wales. Presently the Director of Post Graduate Studies and New Testament Lecturer at Malaysia Theological Seminary.



## Berdine van den Toren

Berdine grew up in a small rural village in the Netherlands. Together with her husband and children, she moved to the Central African Republic, where they lived and served for eight years at the Bangui Evangelical School for Theology, for French speaking Africa.

Having moved to Oxford, United Kingdom, Berdine joined CMS and worked as the Mission Education advisor. Now, living in the Netherlands again, she has become a CMS Mission Partner, to support Missiological and Theological Education in Africa and Asia. Berdine has been Asia Gateway lecturer in 'Gospel and Culture' for the past 4 years.

The impact of her teaching and mentoring on Asia Gateway students has been greatly appreciated consistently for the 4 years.

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\*\*\*Berdine will also be our Senior Resident Trainer for 2018, overseeing the programme as well as mentoring the trainees.



## Rev Dr Joseph Deva Komar

Joseph Deva Komar a pastor with the Methodist Church working amongst the diaspora Indians in Malaysia for the last 35 years. Presently doubling up as a lecturer at Malaysia Theological Seminary specializing in Missiology and Pastoral Theology.



## Dr Cheong Weng Kit

Weng Kit serves at a seminary in Southeast Asia as a fulltime lecturer in missiology and intercultural Studies.

He served in various church planting ministries in Southeast Asia in the 1980s-90s and in international student and migrant ministries in the U.S. in the 2000s. He has degrees in chemistry and education, an MDiv and ThM in missiology and a PhD in Intercultural Studies.

He researches and writes on Asian Pentecostalism, work, money and mission, globalisation and world religions, and has written/edited three books and published over 30 articles on the Trinity, Pentecostalism, mission and world religions, globalisation and urban missiology.