

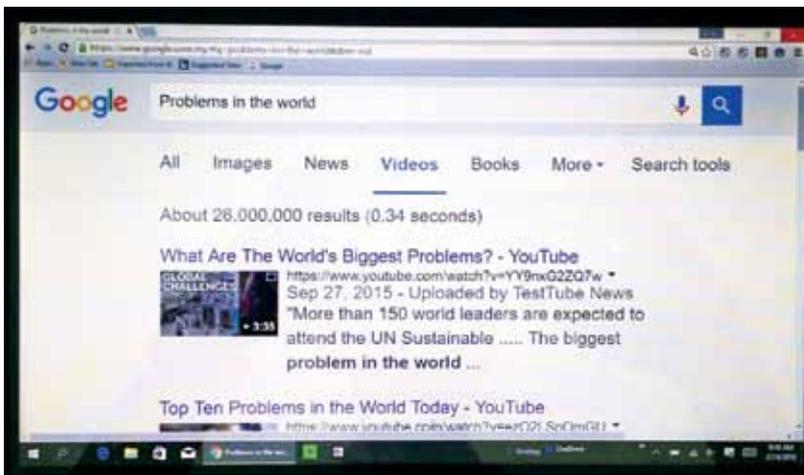
berita **NECF**

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



By Rev. Eu Hong Seng

**“The worst thing
isn't the last thing...”**



Try googling “problems in the world” and you could end up spending days reading about the proliferation of nuclear weapons, armed conflicts, spread of infectious diseases, increasing global population, international terrorism, economic meltdown, poverty, hunger, climate change and the list goes on.

It is not surprising that Google provides an unsavory listing of problems by countries; on which Malaysia, of course, makes a dubious appearance.

Turn to any media channel, and one gets inundated with news of bombings from Belgium to Pakistan, plane crashes and hijacks, fracturing political systems, the ubiquitous migration crisis, and ISIS – again, there seems to be no end. The only relief in the news seems to be when Manchester United beats Manchester City in the English Premier League or India beats Australia in cricket. Even this can be depressing for some.

On the personal front, nothing can be worse than losing one's job; a close family member gets stricken with an incurable disease; or perhaps having to face mounting piles of unpaid bills. Add to that, the frustration with the inclination to repeatedly stir up racial tensions and the endless squabbling between political factions -- instead of preparing the country to brace against the global meltdown and to stem the problem of rising costs. Can there be any “worst thing” for the common Malaysian on the street?

Frederick Buechner¹, the prominent author who lived through the Great Depression in the early 20th Century, was no stranger to crisis. His father committed suicide when he was 10. In overcoming this tragedy, Buechner spoke of “the blessed relief of coming out of the dark and unmentionable sadness of my

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“The worst thing isn’t the last thing...”

father’s life and death into fragrance and greenness and light.” No doubt he was qualified to enthuse, “the worst isn’t the last thing”.

The Bible is replete with similar models. Abraham, though promised a progeny as numerous as the stars, passed on without seeing a single nation from his loins. Jacob had his wages changed ten times by Laban, suffering the ignobility of a promise-breaking relative. Joseph was sold as a slave despite the promises envisioned in his divine dreams.

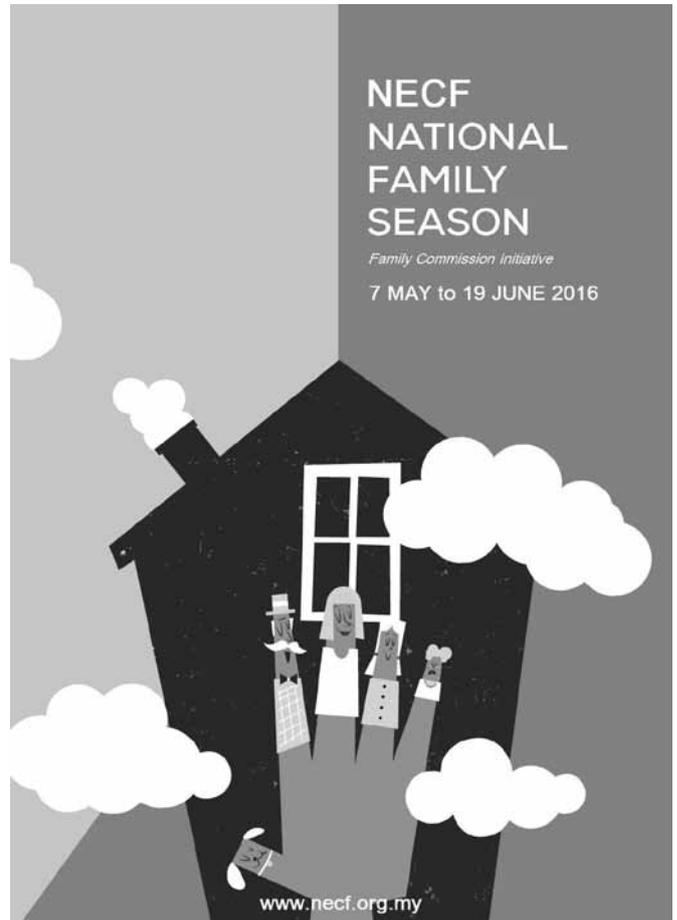
But the patriarchs could see that the worst thing was often not the last thing.

Joseph declared to his detractors, “as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.” Gen 50:20 (NKJV)

This Scripture is a timely reminder for our beloved nation. Despite the many crises crouching at our door, I believe there is hope because we have a praying Church. As God’s beacons in this country, we cannot afford to waste our energy in subscribing to every negative postulation and consequently, allow ourselves to spiral downwards.

Let’s remember we serve a God who has “promised good” to those who seek Him and can turn what is meant for evil to good. Yes, indeed, the “worst” things and the many more “worst” things to come surely will not be the last thing for our nation.

¹Carl Frederick Buechner, born on 11th July 1926, is an American writer and theologian. He is an ordained Presbyterian minister and the author of more than thirty published books.



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EDITORIAL

Editor

Rev. Andy Chi

Artwork

Cmate Communications

NECF MALAYSIA

ADDRESS

32, Jalan SS2/103,
 47300 Petaling Jaya
 Selangor, Malaysia
 Tel: 603-7727 8227
 Fax: 603-7729 1139
 Email: enquiries@necf.org.my
 Website: www.necf.org.my

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 1&3, Jln TPP1/3,
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New Materials To Help Become A Disciple Maker

By Rev Andy Chi



The gathering of local and Asian leaders at Mt Doxology

The World Evangelical Alliance (WEA), in partnership with the Billy Graham Training Center and the International Evangelism Association (IEA), was invited to a Great Commission planning at Mountain Doxology Lodge in Sapphire, North Carolina, United States from the 27 January to 1 February 2016.

Key evangelical leaders from Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, The Philippines and Malaysia attended the meeting. Malaysia was represented by NECF chairman and assistant secretary-general, Rev Dr Eu Hong Seng and Rev Andy Chi, respectively.

At the meeting, the Asian leaders were introduced to a widely-used equipping process to become a disciple-maker. It simultaneously employs life-to-life training and small group teaching to effectively prepare successive spiritual generations of disciple-makers to serve in the local church.

The development of this equipping process began 18 years ago when Thomas Nelson Publishing asked IEA's board the question, "What is the greatest unmet need in the Christian Church worldwide that we could help meet?" No one had a good answer. So a year of research was conducted with every English language Christian curriculum in the world.

At the end of this research, it was discovered that almost all Christian curricula were designed for teaching and that only one was for training. IEA and Thomas Nelson Publishing concluded their research by discovering that the greatest unmet need of the church today is for materials

uniquely designed to provide life-to-life training outside the walls of church buildings.

So, for the last 18 years, under an effort called Operation Multiplication, they have been developing and internationally field testing this New Testament-based relational training process. Much money was invested into this project.

The training materials were designed based on biblical principles, transferability, simplicity, effectiveness and global applicability.

The implementation of the training process resulted in spiritual multiplication which caused church growth and new believers became disciple-makers. More and more pastors in the United States are now offering this training in their churches. Because of its effectiveness and the fact that spiritual multiplication will significantly contribute towards

the completion of the Great Commission, it was decided that this training should be introduced globally. This was the reason for the gathering of Asian leaders at the earlier mentioned meeting in North Carolina, United States.

Today, this training is being utilized nationally in India, Thailand and the Philippines, plus seven other countries in Europe and Latin America. Plans are now underway to launch the training in Malaysia as well as in eight other Asian nations.



Group Photo of the Asian Leaders at the Billy Graham Training Centre



Rev Andy Chi is the Assistant Secretary-General of the National Evangelical Christian Fellowship (NECF) and chairman of the East Coast Commission.)



Seek His Kingdom And Do His Will

By Tan Poh Kian

Knowing and doing the will of God and building and extending the Kingdom of God are the calls to be assumed by every Christian who walks in the light of Christ. Speaking at a leaders' summit, Dr John Mulinde, global overseer of World Trumpet Mission, shared and inspired the participants to do the will of God in order to have the presence of God, grow in the likeness of God, possess the authority of God, and to have God as governor over us and our nation.

The two-day *Pastors and Prayer Leaders' Summit* held in Peacehaven, Genting, from 23-24 Feb, 2016 was attended by 176 pastors and prayer leaders from more than 50 churches and Christian organizations from all over Malaysia. Two groups also travelled all the way from Bangkok and Hatyai, Thailand, to attend the summit. The theme of the summit was *Why We Do What We Do*

Dr John reminded us again how the devil works -- by exercising his control over the five pillars of our lives, i.e., family, economy, religion, social beliefs and government, to hinder us from doing what God wants us to do.

While our religious mind concerns mainly about differences found in all denominations, the Word of God tells us specifically that the Kingdom of God consists of every tribe, language, people and nation (Revelation 5: 9-10). Hence, knowing God's will and seeking His Kingdom help us to put aside our religious preferences, and to be able to focus on doing His will and fulfilling His purposes for us as His Bride on earth.

Dr John shared about how pastors across all denominations in Taiwan responded to the call of the heavenly Father by joining their hearts together in calling out to God in their prayers. Initially, there were only a few who came together, but eventually there were about 700 Taiwanese pastors who abandoned their differences and united their efforts in building their national prayer altars.

The same heartbeat of God was shared with Malaysian pastors and leaders who attended the meeting.

Pastor Chew Weng Chee, the senior pastor of Sidang Injil Borneo Kuala Lumpur (SIBKL), challenged the attending senior pastors to respond to the call of God, and encouraged them to bring another senior pastor for the next meeting with Dr John.

NECF vice chairman, Dr Khoo Kay Hup, exhorted the participants to work within their circle of influence through the relational leadership approach, instead of exercising positional leadership whose effect may last only for a season of time. He also strengthened the faith of the participants by teaching from Matthew 16:18-19 to show that the harder the resistance to it, the stronger the Church of God will grow. He said that it was the season for the Malaysian churches to rise up to pray, lest the lampstand of God is removed again from our midst.

Pastors Joseph and Lydia, from Global Breakthrough, Ipoh, shared their testimonies of encountering God's burning fire after they had gone through the six-day prayer altar training in Peacehaven in January, 2016. Pastor Daniel Velloo, from the Word of Life Centre, Ipoh (AG), shared about the active work of the Holy Spirit in the pastors' fellowship group in Ipoh, and urged all to stop talking about the evils and start talking to God.

The meeting ended with passionate prayers for the nation of Malaysia led by Pastor Nicodemus from Uganda, and a prayer of blessing was released upon the young generation of leaders who were present there.



Tan Poh Kian is the Assistant Executive Secretary of the Prayer Commission, NECF.

Seminar Focuses On Prayer Strategies To Transform Nations

By Chong Lei Wah

A total of 300 pastors and prayer leaders attended the one-day NECF-organised *Prayer Mobilizer Training 2* that focussed on strategies for national transformation through prayer. Led by Rev John Mulinde, the theme of the training was *The Redemptive Strategies For National Transformation: God's Perspective of Redemption*.

NECF assistant secretary-general, Rev Andy Chi, welcomed the participants and gave an exhortation from Psalm 68, challenging everyone to be prepared to receive marching orders to raise a prayer network over this nation. God has given a spiritual strategy and it is a season to be engaged in it.

After a powerful time of worship, led by the Tuesday night Burn group, Elder K.H. Khoo reiterated why believers must pray and establish prayer altars. He gave two reasons: firstly, so that the kingdom of God comes to a nation and, secondly, because God has given the earth to man (Psalm 115:16). When man fell, it was handed over to Satan. We need to constantly connect with God to know how to take back this earth that God has given to man. God starts a nation through families but Satan destroys a nation through families.

When families are affected, the Church will be affected and will lose her impact and effectiveness. This will result in a nation plunging into darkness. We determine the end time scenario for the family, whether it will be a spirit of disobedience or a spirit of prayer (spirit of Elijah) mentioned in Luke 1:17 and Malachi 4:5,6. The strategy given to the church is the prayer altars. A prayer altar is the place where man communes and comes in contact with the spiritual world. When the presence of God comes it brings transformation to the families. On the other hand, demonic powers are given the right to reign through evil altars. The strength of the altar determines who rules in the nation. He further shared the vision of establishing godly prayer altars in every state and in every district in this nation. The approach is to "think big, start small and grow deep".

Rev John then discussed two critical questions that need to be considered by all, that is, (i) What can we do together today that can manifest in years to come? and (ii) What is God actually saying to us? The answers to the questions have to do with Proverbs 29:10. There is a critical need for us to have a clear vision for the Body of Christ to stay the course and persevere/endure in the days ahead.

He spoke about the trying and challenging times in the last days as the contentions of the kingdom of darkness and the kingdom of God increases. The vision of darkness is where nations are devastated, families completely destroyed and multitudes faced with eternal destruction as compared to the vision of God where the nations of the world are blessed (Gen 12:1-2). There has been a call

released globally to the Church to awaken to her destiny. Joel 3:9-14 speaks of a time where our working tools will be turned into weapons for the kingdom of God to bring in the great harvest. He exhorted the believers in Malaysia to gather together and come into unity of spirit to know where we are going.

Rev John further explained that God builds His kingdom on 5 pillars:

1 SPIRITUAL REALITY OF A NATION.

This is determined by the religious activities of the land. We have to have the determination that we can prevail with God's presence.

2 FAMILIES.

There are many issues relating to families. The Church has the answer and needs to come forward with the solutions.

3 ECONOMIC POWER.

God gives economic power. This is an area where the Church has to contend for God's purpose of wealth to establish His kingdom purposes.

4 GOVERNANCE.

Righteousness exalts a nation. The kingdom of God is advanced through godly government.

5 SOCIAL BELIEFS OF SOCIETY.

Rev John challenged the Church to re-strategize to finish the Great Commission of discipling all nations and not just to build our own churches. In the last day there will be perilous times (2 Tim.3:1-7) and apostasy (2 Thess 2:1) and the enemy will be determined on destroying nations. But God is raising a mighty fighting army. This army is trained to operate in unity, use common strategies/tactics together, read the signs of the war, coordinate effectively to minimize their weaknesses and position themselves in ranks to be effective. Every plan of God starts and ends with prayer. His ending exhortation to the participants was to coordinate together and pray.

The Prayer Mobilizer Training 2, organised by NECF, was held on 25 Feb, 2016 at the Full Gospel Assembly, Kuala Lumpur.



Chong Lei Wah is a member of NECF's Prayer Commission

Learning The Power Of The Prayer Altar

By Tammy Lo Kwai Sim

I thank God for making it possible for me to attend the *Intensive Pastors and Prayer Leaders' Training* at Peacehaven from 18-23 Jan 2016.

I found the teaching deep, yet clear and precise. There was in-depth sharing of the meaning of prayer altars, types of altars and the importance of building and maintaining the prayer altars that can influence and transform our nation for the Lord.

What impacted me was what was caught more than what was taught. Every morning from 7.30 to 8.30am, and before every teaching session, was a time of prayer and worship. I got to see, learn, experience and was guided into what hallowing the name of God, intercession and standing in the gap for the land were like. Prayers were strong, powerful and focused, exalting and magnifying God and drawing down His Presence. There were times where the pastors were just crying out to the Lord, desiring only Him, loving Him. At other times, petitions and intercessions went up to God for Malaysia with deep cries, tears and groans. How can I not pray for my own nation? I am made aware that I have to go deeper in my walk with the Lord if I want to see transformation in my own family, community, church and nation.

The personal testimonies of the pastors were very encouraging and they modelled a lifestyle of prayer and of living in the presence of God.

I learnt much from the extended time of prayer, dwelling upon the Word of God, breaking the Word of God together and from the sharing of the other participants at the training.

Upon returning home, I am now seeking to build my personal prayer altar stronger and am spending more time in prayer and reading God's Word. After sharing with my husband and daughter, we have started a family altar. I am also joining other brothers and sisters to pray at our church altar for the nation.

There have been many distractions that seek to disrupt my prayer altars but I pray that the fire will continue to burn brighter.

All glory, honour and praise to God and our Lord Jesus Christ.



Tammy Lo Kwai Sim is a retiree who worships at Damansara Utama Methodist Church (DUMC) and is involved in the Marriage Course Ministry.

Small Church Pastors Get A Boost In Leadership Training

By Pastor Dr Kenneth Wong

The NECF Leadership Commission, in collaboration with Leadership Management International Malaysia (LMI) and Full Gospel Businessmen Fellowship Malaysia (FGBFM), held its very first personal leadership training for pastors and leaders on 7 Nov last year at the Full Gospel Tabernacle, Seremban 2. The purpose of this initiative was to provide leadership training for pastors/leaders from the smaller towns, especially from the smaller churches. Hence, this pilot project was held in Seremban and was well attended by pastors and leaders from 4 different churches.

The course was facilitated by Dr Wong Hong Meng, who is a senior course director for LMI and a member of the FGBFM Governing Council. He facilitated the one full-day *Effective Personal Leadership (EPL)* course free of charge. In this course, the participants were taught several key principles such as unlocking our potential for personal leadership, making choices for success, designing our personal growth and the essentials for leadership. But the most impactful lesson was on developing a personal plan of action and goal setting. During the seminar, the participants had the opportunity to do the exercise on personal goal setting and discuss and provide feedback in order to ensure the realization of that specific goal.

LMI has been conducting the EPL course for the last 14 years. The programme, authored by the late Paul J. Meyer, has indeed benefitted and impacted participants from both the public and private sectors, such as top government servants, director-generals of federal ministries, directors and top-level corporate leaders. The course provides a complete guide in training leadership in six key areas of personal life i.e. finance & career, family & home, spirituality & ethics, society & culture, health (physical and mental) & education.

LMI Malaysia was founded by the late Bro Teo Eng Hwa and his wife, Sister Grace Chew. In honour of Bro Teo's memory and to continue with his legacy of developing leadership in the Christian community, Sister Grace offered to make available a substantial number of sets of the course materials completely free of charge to the NECF Leadership Commission to bless pastors in Malaysia. The course package, consisting of an EPL Manual with CDs for 8 lessons and a Personal Plan of Action, costs RM 5,800 per participant.

The participants really thank God and NECF for this wonderful opportunity and input in order to become more effective leaders not only for ourselves but also for our families, churches and the communities around us. Glory to Him!



Pastor Dr Kenneth Wong is a member of NECF's Leadership Commission and Pastor of Full Gospel Tabernacle, Seremban

Tamil Commission On The Move

By Rev Gabriel Jabanathan

41 PRAYER NET

In October 2015, about 330 participants turned up for the *Tamil Intercessors' Prayer Summit*. Forty-one churches were represented. We are now working to link up all these forty one churches to form a prayer network. It is called the 41 Prayer Net. Its main objective is to get these 41 churches to come together for intercession, and thereby becoming a prayer power base for the Tamil Church as a whole. Also, the Tamil churches' 41 pastors will be linked up with one another to pray strategically. This is done for the first time and we need the Lord's guidance and wisdom.

LOVE EAST COAST MISSIONS

The Tamil Commission organised the third missions trip to Kuala Krai from 10-11 Nov 2015, to participate in the annual Christmas gathering, organised by Pastor Yesudason of Immanuel Missions of Kuala Krai. We contributed a modest amount of RM 4,000, donated by the churches represented in the Tamil Commission. Last year we raised RM 23,000 for the flood fund. These trips and contributions are part of our efforts to increase our participation in the evangelistic and mission needs of the northeast. We are preparing a small brochure to highlight the missions needs of the north-east, especially the need for more workers, to our Tamil churches. We are now planning a four-day trip to Kuala Krai to size up the deeper missions needs of the Tamil church, whose work reaches out to at least 12 different districts and areas, some of which are as far as 80 km from Kuala Krai. The work there covers Sunday worship service, evangelistic visits, meetings, prison ministry, social care and children's tuition.

PASTORS' WIDOWS GATHERING

The Tamil Commission, for the first time, organised a Christmas get-together for pastors' widows on 14 Nov 2015. Twenty-six pastors' widows were present. Souvenirs and cash gifts were given to them. This joyful endeavour is part of the programme of the Tamil Commission to minister compassionately to the wives of pastors who had served for years, faithfully, in the Lord's vineyard. It was heart-moving to listen to some of their testimonies, of the pain and struggle they go through in the absence of their husbands. The Tamil Commission has a keen interest to look into the educational interests of the children.

TAMIL CHURCH PASTORS, LEADERS AND INTERCESSORS' PRAYER SUMMIT

On 27 Feb 2016, a prayer summit for Tamil pastors, church leaders and intercessors was organised by the Tamil Commission, NECF, at the Full Gospel Tabernacle, Subang Jaya. Incredibly -- beyond our expectations -- almost 1,000 people attended the prayer summit! It was a massive show of prayer support from the Tamil churches. There was a pastor who brought two busloads of people from his area! They travelled all night to reach Subang Jaya. Out of 1,000 participants, almost 200 were pastors. The speaker was Dr John Mulinde, founder of World Trumpet Ministries, who was used of the Lord with fellow pastors to bring a powerful prayer revival in his nation, Uganda. The Spirit of God spoke powerfully through him. He challenged the people to see beyond a local and regional ministerial perspective, and said that God sees the destiny of nations. The message came out clear and strong that the Church must pray for God's purposes to be fulfilled in the destiny of the nations.

The enthusiasm and prayer zeal seen at this prayer summit are a continuation of the strong prayer wave coming upon the Tamil churches as seen when prayer gatherings organised in Johor Baru, Penang, Petaling Jaya and Subang Jaya drew a massive crowd of almost 5,000 people. There is a sudden surge of prayer in the Tamil churches. This summit was helpful in pointing the Tamil Church to a much clearer direction. One of the main concerns is to raise an army of intercessors who will pray for the spiritual destiny of our nation, Malaysia.

A STRATEGIC FOLLOW-UP "PRAYER ALTAR" PRAYER SUMMIT ON JUNE 17, 2016

In view of the massive support shown at the prayer summit, Dr. John Mulinde has agreed to speak to a smaller but strategic crowd of about 200 pastors and their wives on June 17, 2016 as a follow up to develop our understanding of the prayer altar concept. Arrangements are underway to prepare for this strategic follow-up prayer summit.



Rev Gabriel Jabanathan is the chairman of the NECF's Tamil Commission and Senior Pastor of Charis Word Centre Networking Churches.

Lawyers Meet To Chart The Course For A Better Malaysia

By Jack Cheah

Political and social pressures are at work today tearing apart the fabric of Malaysian society. Not the least is the erosion of fundamental liberties, including the freedom of religion as guaranteed under the Federal Constitution. Christian lawyers have an important role to play in effecting change and defending the Constitution as well as advising the Church how to navigate the choppy waters of these challenges. There is good reason for them to connect with each other. Senior lawyers can connect with the younger ones to not only mentor them, but also to plan and discuss what can be done to work for a better nation.

The one-day Christian Lawyers' Conference on 5 March 2016 was organised primarily with that aim in mind. Held at SunwayMas Commercial Centre, Petaling Jaya, it drew the participation of 55 people comprising mainly lawyers. In his welcome speech, senior lawyer Datuk Kenny Ng highlighted that in these turbulent times, Christian lawyers have an important role to play in the face of two challenges. One is the standard of morality which has dropped and the other is the politicisation of Islam.

NECF chairman, Rev Eu Hong Seng, in his opening speech emphasised that Christian lawyers can be instrumental to help the nation make better laws and thus be better lawyers and judges. He said it was not just about making money but contributing their bright minds that are critically needed in the midst of the oft misinterpretations of law. It was also about being Godly and bearing good testimonies. Christian lawyers would do well to have wisdom and operate under the Mosaic anointing and not just under grace.

Taking the first session, *Lawyering Under Grace: The Challenges Of Living The Gospel And Practising Law*, Ng spoke on 3 elements that are important in managing a legal firm i.e. people, system and money. These are based upon the fundamentals of loving God and loving neighbours. People are employees, clients and suppliers of the legal firm. They are to be accorded dignity and love and to be treated fairly and honestly. He illuminated the session with his own life inspiring testimonies as managing partner of a legal firm to show that he practised these principles to all these categories of people.

As regards system, every lawyer and legal firm has a civic responsibility to comply not just with the law but also to treat their calling seriously as the salt and light of society. In terms of money, integrity must be seen to be practised because it is the right and non-negotiable thing to do in order to honour God.

The Open Forum On Lawyering In The Marketplace, which was moderated by Bro Suaran Singh Sidhu, was

a testimony session where 3 lawyers shared how they responded and acted upon the divine calling to serve as lawyers. Ng, Bro Lim Heng Seng and Sis Janice Chia shared on their challenges, difficulties and triumphs as they journeyed through life to where they are today. What they experienced are truly a testimony to the faithfulness and providence of God in their lives.

The third session, *The Constitution, Religion And Religious Freedom In Malaysia*, began with Lim giving a brief history of the birth of our Federal Constitution and the secular nature of Malaya and thereafter, Malaysia. The narrative then began to shed light on the strategy employed by those seeking to turn Malaysia into an Islamic State. These changes are not hasty, but carefully planned in a manner not dissimilar to that outlined by Mohammed Imam, "Making Laws Islamic in Malaysia: A Constitutional Perspective", Current Law Journal [1994] 3 CLJ vii.

Lim also traced the encroachment of Islamic hegemony over freedom of worship that is enshrined in the Federal Constitution and warned of the need for active vigilance and continued fighting through the courts to defend the right to freedom of worship that is presently being undermined by an agenda which is not so hidden now. The session ended with life examples of the difficult situations that claimants face today as in the Sarjent Moorthy case when the courts declined jurisdiction based on Art. 121(1A) of the Constitution or where a woman loses custody of a child just because her ex-husband converts to Islam and unilaterally converts their children as in the Deepa Subramaniam case. In the latter case, the ex-wife was given custody of one child, but not the other, and the Federal Court has ruled that civil courts retain jurisdiction over civil marriages.

The conference ended with a *Plenary Discussion: The Way Ahead* that was moderated by Eugene Yapp with Lim, Ng and Rodney Koh on the panel. Among the decisions made was the setting up of a Christian Lawyers' Network in the form of a Facebook Group Account. The existing prayer groups or altars of Christian lawyers in the Klang Valley will be consolidated but new groups to cater for those having problems to attend due to location will be considered. The meeting ended with a prayer of blessing and enablement for all the Christian lawyers who were gathered there.



Jack Cheah is with the NECF Commission Secretariat.

Nazarite Training: A Lesson In True Humility (26th to 28th February 2016)

By Pastor Lee Yew Meng



Pastor Lee leading in prayer at the Nazarite Training

Phase 1 of the Nazarite Training was held at People's Park Baptist Church (PPBC), in partnership with the NECF Youth Network, from 26-28 Feb, 2016. The Nazarite Training is a practical discipleship programme where one's character is formed around the triad of humility, holiness and hunger. Such character traits are not only biblical but essential for the Christ follower to face the days ahead. Here are two accounts that will give a glimpse of what transpired at the training sessions:

"I attended the first phase of Nazarite Training on humility. The training went on for 3 days and altogether there were 5 sessions. Throughout the sessions, there were a lot of things that I learnt and come to understand. There were two main areas that hit me and made me think twice. First was the topic of self acceptance. I realized that knowing where we stand and knowing our self identity in this world can be difficult. Even as a Christian, who ought to have Christ at the center, we can still sometimes be led astray and distracted by the things of the world. We tend to seek people's affirmation and in doing so follow the norms, trends and entertainment values of the world. We change ourselves just to get recognition from others. It was through the training that I was reminded that our self-worth comes from God alone. And God says I am His child, fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalms 139:14) – and that is enough. The second topic that caused me to reflect on much was the one which touched on giving up our personal rights. In life, it's easy to say that we submit to God and are willing to follow His plans. The reality hits us when things go bad. Are we still able to thank God in those situations? It all depends on whether we have submitted and transferred our rights to Him. Truth be said, in life we don't always get our way. From the training, I came to realize that only when we listen to God's voice and follow His leading can we find true happiness and peace. I pray that the spirit of submission and forgiveness will always be



upon me and that I will be reminded to live for God and His glory." -- Sung Yi, college student.

"It was a privilege for me to attend the Nazirite Training on humility. I was very impressed with the overall conceptual design and delivery of the whole workshop. The programme is structured and yet participative through small group discussions. Depending on the group dynamics, each participant is given the liberty to share even their personal struggles according to their comfort levels. The delivery was very up-to-date with power point slides, relevant videos and illustrations to bring home the learning at each session. I also learned a lot of new things and one particular area that stands out was on authority and spiritual covering. This topic is mostly neglected and misunderstood but is one of the most important subjects. A lot of Christians don't realize that a lot of their problems are not due to Satan's strength but simply due to their lack of spiritual covering. On the whole, it is a practical programme and very suitable for all ages." -- Gary Soon, Elder of Peoples Park Baptist Church and a certified professional trainer.

One of the concerns of the Nazirite Training is to raise up fathers and mothers who will in turn raise up spiritual sons and daughters. This generational transfer can happen when the dreams, visions and anointing of God are passed down and built upon, instead of having to start over again each time. It was a joy to see how this one training catered to both generations. The principles of God are indeed timeless for all people.



Pastor Lee Yew Meng is the pastor of People's Park Baptist Church in Petaling Jaya.



Bro Cheli and Sis Mei conducting the REEP training session

Inspired By REEP's Volunteer Training Session

By Jack Cheah

NECF held a successful second volunteer training session for its Rural Educational Empowerment Programme (REEP) on 20 March 2016 at Sungai Way Subang Methodist Church (SSMC), Damansara Utama. A total of 75 people from 12 churches attended the session and their feedback was very positive and encouraging.

REEP is an after-school tuition programme set up to address the deteriorating standards of proficiency in English, mathematics and science among school-going children from marginalized communities such as the Orang Asli, East Malaysian natives and Indians. Here are some comments from some of the participants who were greatly helped by the training session:

"Bro Cheli Nadarajah and Sis Kong Lai Mei, the REEP trainers, were an inspiration to us. Bro Cheli shared heartwarming stories on challenging school/classroom situations. The stories demonstrated resilient faith in action and gave us hope for breakthrough success in our own teaching experiences. For many of us who

have sought for effective materials and methods to use with our Orang Asli children, the REEP teaching materials are indeed a timely and valuable contribution. We are truly indebted to Bro Cheli and Sis Mei and their team -- they saw the need, pooled their expertise, carved time out of their packed schedules, set to work and presented us with this set of excellent materials. All glory to the Lord. I am inspired and eager to get to class." -- Sis Goh Poh Gaik, a volunteer and member of SSMC

"I believe that REEP is timely and really an answered prayer to many, to the churches, the poor and the marginalized. The materials provided make it so much easier and quicker for any church to start to help kids-in-need in any community at any time. Our church is hoping to provide some homework coaching and tuition sessions in our new community centre particularly for the poor and under-privileged kids from



RURAL EDUCATIONAL EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME

NECF
NATIONAL EDUCATION COUNCIL FOR FINLAND

The Rural Educational Empowerment Programme or REEP is a well structured after school tuition programme for Primary Standard 1 to 6 levels. It seeks to raise the standard of English, Mathematics and Science amongst underperforming school going children in the country by equipping them with the basic foundation skills – 3 R's (reading, writing and arithmetic). NECF's Education Commission will provide training to churches who have volunteered tutors as well as study materials at no cost to carry out this programme. Please refer to www.necf.org.my for further details.

the families under our welfare ministry in the near future. The syllabus and materials of REEP will indeed be very helpful and useful. In fact, one very important question raised in our brain-storming session was how to assess and group the children. The Diagnostic Test which is provided with the materials is indeed the answer. Our next step is to plan and implement REEP." -- Sis Teresa Foong, a volunteer and member of The Hope of Glory Centre

"The REEP training was very helpful. The lives and sharing of Bro Cheli and Sis Mei were most enlightening and inspiring. They helped us to see that we must drop the teacher's image and instead embrace an "Ibu" or "Makcik" image -- someone who is there to guide them along and make learning fun. The training has helped to strengthen our own vision and commitment to serve the poor and marginalized. The materials provided will be a great help to our tuition classes. There are many reinforcement exercises for each unit which are really good." -- Lim Chin Nee, a volunteer and member of The Hope of Glory Centre

"Thank you NECF, for organizing, and SSMC, for hosting this REEP programme. It was really timely because we had just commenced a free English tuition programme in our church for children and

God had also brought in the students. However, we were unsure of what materials to use. So the REEP programme was just what we needed. Bro Cheli gave practical tips on engaging and reaching out to the children based on his years of personal ministry with them. REEP consists of Diagnostic Tests, Different Levels, Pre- and Post Assessments and is helpful to minister to children of different age groups. As he said, 'The biggest mission field is right outside our doorstep. It's called school and there are six million children in the public schools.' I would highly recommend this programme to those seeking to make a difference to our community. May God use this programme to bring about a transformation in our nation, starting with the young generation." -- Pastor Connie Chan, Associate Pastor, Faith City Church (AG)

It needs to be emphasized that the training of volunteer tutors is crucial to ensure that they are equipped to conduct the tuition classes in the areas that have or will be identified. In fact, the success of REEP hinges on the ability to raise enough volunteers who have a strong passion and burden to carry out this programme over a long period of time.



Jack Cheah is with the NECF Commission Secretariat.

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

"Beloved earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." Jude 3 (KJV)

TO ALL YOUTHS AND YOUNG ADULTS:
DO YOU STRUGGLED TO DEFEND YOUR BELIEF? DO YOU STRUGGLE TO GIVE AN ANSWER FOR YOUR FAITH.
STRUGGLE NO MORE! COME, REGISTER AND BE EQUIPPED THROUGH THIS INTENSIVE APOLOGETIC TRAINING COVERING KNOWING, DEFENDING AND SHARING OF THE FAITH BY AN EXPERIENCE LOCAL TRAINER.

DATE: 30-31 MAY, 2016
TIME: 9.00AM TO 4.00PM
VENUE: WISMA EAGLES, FULL GOSPEL TABERNACLE
CONTRIBUTION: RM70

FOR REGISTRATION DETAILS PLEASE VISIT WWW.NECE.ORG.MY

ANOTHER EVENT BROUGHT BY NECE YOUTHNET

PRAYER ALTAR GATHERING

13 JUNE 2016
10.00AM TO 4.00PM

WISMA EAGLES, FULL GOSPEL TABERNACLE
No 5, Jalan TP4, Taman Perindustrian UEP Subang Jaya 47620 Selangor Darul Ehsan

GUEST SPEAKER: REV DR JOHN MULINDE
DONATION: **RM10** (LUNCH PROVIDED)

A GATHERING TO CELEBRATE, ENCOURAGE, MOBILIZE, STRENGTHEN, TEACH, INSPIRE AND REVIVE THE LORD'S ALTAR IN OUR LIVES, FAMILY, CHURCH AND NATION.

- HEAR STORIES OF THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF THE PRAYER ALTAR
- SEE THE GROWING MOVEMENT OF THE PRAYER ALTAR
- LEARN THE STEPS TO ESTABLISH PERSONAL, FAMILY, CHURCH AND CORPORATE ALTARS
- CAPTURE THE VISION OF A TRANSFORM NATION THROUGH THE PRAYER ALTAR MOVEMENT
- RECEIVE FURTHER COACHING AND COUNSEL FROM OUR MENTOR, REV DR JOHN MULINDE

DON'T COME ALONE. BRING SOMEONE ALONG. PASTORS, CHURCH LEADERS, FELLOW MEMBERS, FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN THE FAITH

SYNERGY 2016

BUILDING STRONG CHURCHES

DATE: Tuesday 27 July 2016
9.00am to 4.00pm

VENUE: Full Gospel Tabernacle, Wisma Eagles, No. 5, Jalan TP-4, Taman Perindustrian UEP, 47620 Subang Jaya, Selangor D.E.

FEES: Free (contribution of travel)

CLOSING DATE: Sunday 10th June

This one-day seminar is designed for pastors and workers who are interested in looking at how to revitalize their local churches, gain insights and understanding in the concepts and process of building up the local churches, and to more effectively lead the people God has entrusted to them.

40-DAY FAST & PRAYER 2016

THEME: **REVIVE US O' LORD**
Scripture Reference: **Psalms 85**

For more information, log on to www.necf.org.my