

CGST Bulletin

2012 OCT-DEC

Vision for China
Mission to the World

Feature

Success Significance Sanctification



Stephen Lee
Associate Professor of Biblical Studies
President Designate

In his book *Half Time: Changing Your Game Plan from Success to Significance*, Bob Buford encourages Christians to turn their focus from achieving success to finding significance. At the 'half-time' age of thirty-five, says Buford, Christians should stop and reflect on the following questions:

1. What am I really good at?
2. What do I want to do?
3. What is most important to me?
4. What do I want to be remembered for?
5. If my life were absolutely perfect, what would it look like?

However, the focus of Biblical teachings has never been success or significance-oriented, because those pursuits are inherently self-centered. To become a follower of Christ, one must learn to deny oneself in order to seek first the kingdom of God. Thus, the heart of the gospel lies not in success or significance, but in sanctification. The real question should be: what, or rather who, truly determines success and significance in our lives?

The literal Chinese translation of sanctification is 'to become holy'. This apparently carries the implication of a spiritual achievement to be worked towards or strived for. In fact, a more Biblical understanding of sanctification is 'to be set aside'. For example, the tabernacle of the Lord and its articles are described as sanctified, because their very nature is to be set aside for God's special use. So too, Christians are called to be set aside for God's purpose, 'to be made holy, useful to the Master.'

In other words, the emphasis of sanctification should be placed on the ownership of our lives, and not on some long moralistic journey to becoming a 'saint' without sinning. To be sanctified is to forego the pursuit of worldly desires such as wealth or power, and to instead allow our lives to belong to Him and Him alone. 'By grace we have been saved' – this is our justification by grace through faith. But the double grace of sanctification and justification as argued by John Calvin describes sanctification as an integral part of divine grace too: it is the gift of God's working in our lives.

So why wait until thirty-five? Why do we believe that it is acceptable to pursue worldly success for half of our lives as long as we dedicate the other half to God? We tell ourselves that we want to first find a stable job, have a steady income, start a family, in short, to establish a 'back-up life', before we

dedicate the rest of our lives to God, as if all of those things are not part of God's plan for us.

Long gone are the days where 'dedicating your life to God' meant devoting oneself to serving as a full-time church pastor or a missionary far from home. Today, the decision to offer all of our lives as a living sacrifice can be as simple as changing the date of your planned short-term mission trip from the year of your early retirement to your holiday next month. After all, if God is calling you to go, why not go now with your youth and energy instead of waiting thirty years to answer Him only after you have finished pursuing professional success? Or, why not undergo theological training now to better understand God's teachings, instead of planning to take a few theology courses after you retire, by which time within a few years of graduation, though the spirit is willing, the flesh will be weak?

The illusion held by many Christians is that living a life dedicated to God is an all-or-nothing pursuit. So we choose nothing for the first half, and all for the second. In fact, God wants us to surrender ownership of our lives to Him. Not everyone has the vocation of full-time ministry, but we do have the divine call to serve Him by living a life set apart for God, no matter what we do for living. It is not a job that we take up after we have established financial stability in our lives; it is a life-long dedication to being sanctified in Christ.

Last summer, my daughter, who was about to enter her final year in high school, asked me whether theological training is only meant for those intending to pursue pastoral ministries. Thinking she had better focus on more immediate concerns, I told her, 'Theology is a post-graduate degree. You don't even know where you want to go for university yet.'

She looked at me and answered, 'Stop worrying about my future, Daddy. We'll see what God's planning to do in my life. That's your sermon – you better learn to practice it.'

So, this year, as my wife and I prayed for her path ahead, we did not pray for an acceptance to a prestigious university, or a secure job-training program, or even for her to follow her passions and achieve her dreams. Instead, we learned simply to ask that God's will be done in all of her life, beginning even now in her youth, just as His will has been realized in both of our lives.



Allegiance to the Lord



Jean Lee

Assistant Professor of
Theological Studies

In the Old Testament, Yahweh's covenant of grace with Abraham and Israel continues with Jacob. Like many of us, Jacob did not know how to submit and surrender to the Lord. He continues to live life his own way, conjuring up his own strategies and tactics to resolve problems. Our Lord is a faithful God who remains with Jacob whether his plans and deeds were wise or not. Nevertheless, Jacob had to bear the consequences of his decisions, facing the changes and difficulties that resulted from his own choices. Likewise, as we attempt to interpret the situations confronting us in life, making choices and bearing the related consequences in the secular marketplace, our stories are also caught in the tension between God's faithfulness and our human finitudes.

Who Deceived Whom?

Many who study Jacob call him a trickster. He had to flee twice after his deceiving acts. First, Jacob pretended to be his older brother Esau to receive the firstborn's blessing from his father Isaac (Gen. 27:1-29). Second, Jacob accumulated his own riches by deploying the assets of Laban his father-in-law. Then he sneaked away with his whole family and everything he accumulated (Gen. 31:20-21). Yet, Laban was not a man of integrity himself. He promised Jacob Rachel his younger daughter to be his wife if Jacob served him seven years, but Laban gave Leah instead. Jacob had to work another seven years before he could claim Rachel (Gen. 29:21-27). Such unreasonable requests and unjust behaviours resemble similar situations in today's marketplace that challenges us to face adversities and make difficult decisions every day.

Jacob decided to do something for his own household. So he made a deal with Laban: in the future, all spotted and speckled lambs would belong to Jacob, and the rest to Laban (Gen. 30:30-36). Soon after this agreement, Jacob's flock multiplied whereas Laban's greatly decreased. How did Jacob accumulate his wealth? Was it by his skill and cleverness, or by improper means? Were his ways pleasing to God?

How much Jacob should receive in return for his many years of service to Laban depends on whether Jacob was a hired worker or a slave. According to normal practice at that time, if Jacob was a hired worker, then as a shepherd he should receive a portion of the employer's profits, such as the young of the flocks, fleece or dairy products. Jacob shepherded the flock for Laban in return for his daughter and some sheep. This arrangement was consistent with practices at that time. However, the request for taking Rachel as his wife, and the fact that Jacob and Laban were relatives, implied a relationship more than that of employment. The shepherding agreement indirectly led to a marriage agreement.

On the other hand, if Jacob was Laban's slave, his wife and children would also be the master's assets according to Israelite laws. Even if the slave is freed, his wife and children still belonged to the master. If the slave did not wish to leave his wife and children, he had to become a lifelong slave to his master (Ex. 21:4-6). In Jacob's case, despite the fact that he sought refuge with Laban, he was not bought by Laban to be his slave. Besides, Laban was Jacob's uncle. If Jacob was Laban's son-in-law, customs required that Laban should give his two daughters reasonable dowry which he failed to do (Gen. 31:14-15). It is under such a delicate situation and complex relationship that Jacob used all means to fight for his rightful due.

A number of scholars have studied Jacob's sheep-breeding method, including possible genetic mutation during mating, how the peeling of branches affect feeding, etc. These are interesting studies but the point lies not in understanding Jacob's secret of successful

sheep-breeding, but to see what the whole account reveals to us. Whether Jacob's method was scientific or not, it was likely a method believed to be effective at that time. Jacob asserted that Laban kept changing the wages and rules of the game for ten times (Gen. 31:7, 21). However, notwithstanding these changes, God's blessings remained with Jacob.


The Israelites were indeed the chosen and blessed people of God, but human response and decision were still important. Jacob chose to counter Laban with the spotted and speckled sheep arrangement, accumulated wealth and then fled (Gen. 31). Yet the Lord allowed Jacob to have his way. After Jacob escaped, God told Laban in a dream to "speak to Jacob neither good or bad", so that Laban dare not confront Jacob. This brought about reconciliation between them (Gen. 31:24).

Strictly speaking, Jacob had neither stolen Laban's sheep nor taken those sheep because Laban gave them to him. Instead, he used Laban's sheep to produce sheep that would belong to him. This accumulation of wealth through asset transformation reflects the confusion and tension regarding property ownership between Jacob and Laban. Jacob was at the same time Laban's nephew, son-in-law and worker, blurring the line that divides property rights between them. In the end, amidst what human saw as ambiguous, God revealed His sovereignty and grace, so that Jacob could take his possessions and returned home safely.

Pledge Allegiance to the Lord

In the reciprocity and covenanting between God and humanity throughout history, not only do we see God's gracious providence but also His supreme sovereignty. Often, He does not respond to us according to what we ask for and expect to see. The sovereign God who upholds all creation says, "I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious" (Ex. 33:19; Rom. 9:15). In His mighty hands, no matter what tactics the deceiver uses, God Himself will accomplish all things. This does not mean that humans do not need to make any effort. Rather, those who revere the Lord should make extra effort to practise righteousness, to speak the truth and to persevere. These are done out of trust in God's sovereign rule, with faith that He will ultimately accomplish all things.

Complex situations and relationships similar to that between Jacob and Laban recur in today's commercial world, if not in more complicated ways. Amidst human weaknesses and in between right and wrong, no human person is perfectly righteous. Who we have are the allegiant followers of Christ, and God's loving and abundant grace. In today's marketplace that is filled with scheming and tensions, we must constantly seek what pleases God and make decisions accordingly. Jacob was far from perfect. The only difference was the fact that the Lord was with him. In the unchangeable adverse reality that confronts us, God uses incomprehensible ways to demonstrate His righteousness.

The Lord did not elect Jacob as an individual, but the whole nation of Israel as His people. Neither did He elect you and me as individuals, but a people that belong to Him. In today's society and marketplace, we continuously face difficult situations and pressures that tend to trigger negative emotions. These emotions easily accumulate to anger or depression. The only way out is for us to connect with fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, supporting each other, and allowing God to intervene in our lives. Through surrendering and pledging our allegiance to the sovereign Lord, we experience His presence in our lives, together with the courage, strength and hope to live out our Christian identity at home, in the marketplace and in society. 

Pray earnestly for Hong Kong

Recently I reread the Book of Nehemiah. Chapter 8 describes the happy and moving occasion when the city wall was rebuilt and the Israelites could finally inhabit their own city, and they gathered at the Water Gate to listen to the Law and worship the LORD. It is a scene of spiritual revival. However, such revival would not have been possible without Nehemiah's identification with the people, repenting on their behalf, confessing the iniquities with them and interceding for them. Right there, a strong urge grew inside me to pray for Hong Kong.


I believe that many will share my anxiety and puzzlement as we witness this city's recent political situation. The new Chief Executive and his administration have been for past weeks beleaguered by issues of moral integrity. The situation is worsened by a series of incidents that took place in China. Hong Kong seemed to have been swerved into a vortex of distrust and confrontations, whereas the Government appears to be defenseless against the media's scrutiny and criticisms, since they do not seem to be able to defend themselves convincingly. Thus, the Government seems almost paralyzed. The majority of the citizens, like me, can sense the gravity of the situation, but just do not know what we could do. If this continues, Hong Kong as a whole, and individuals with special needs, will suffer. What is the way out? We truly need to pray for the HKSAR Government, ask that God will give the high officials humility to listen in depth to the accumulated worries and disgruntlement of the Hong Kong people, to understand their love and vision for the city, and thereafter to respond with attentiveness. We also pray that God will help high officials to persevere in these trying times, that they have the courage to implement works according to the correct administrative strategies. Furthermore, we ask for one extremely demanding thing for these leaders, that is, boldness and a big heart to steer clear from partisanship. Instead they should strive to work with utmost sincerity with opposing parties through genuine dialogue and a cooperative spirit pulling all together for partnership.

We are to pray unceasingly for the Hong Kong Government and the Legislative Council. Being elected as the Chief Executive, members of the Legislative Council, Secretaries or Heads of Offices, they bear the responsibility as leaders and therefore the navigators of the Special

Administrative Region. While the appointment process may not be fully acceptable, we nevertheless ought to support them in a responsive and responsible way that they may be given the opportunity to do their best for Hong Kong.

We also need to pray for Hong Kong's democratic development. On the one hand, we thank God for those who persist and strive for Hong Kong's democracy all these years and ask that He will continue to empower them. On the other hand, we pray that they will have the humility and openness to actively and positively enter into dialogue and cooperate with the Government. This is crucial for the well-being of the Hong Kong society as a whole.

The democratic development in Hong Kong leads me to think of the ideal of a 'civil society' which values rational discussion, mutual respect, acceptance, protection of freedom of speech for all, and giving suspects the dignity of defence and benefits of doubts. We pray fervently for the maintenance of such civility. I say 'fervently' because civility seems to be regressing in Hong Kong. Indeed, the situation in recent years is worrying. On different occasions a person's expression of something 'politically incorrect' would be responded immediately by hoard of insults, assaults, attacks, condemnations, and even defamations, hurling at that person the harshest and most belittling ways. These behaviors seem to have a chilling effect that stifles expression. We must pray for civility which we once acquired at high cost, so that constructive dialogue in the civil society would be sustained.

There is flood of demands for justice in Hong Kong because injustice is frequent, both here and in China, causing much anguish and frustration. It is our duty to fight for justice, to resist oppressive powers, to stem fraud and malpractices. We must, however, also pray for those who pursue justice, that God will give them clarity of mind and purity of heart, that they not be led into temptation of such attitude as 'I am holier than you,' that they would not launch relentless attacks on anyone with impurity or mistake, that they act with humility and graciousness. We pray for the Lord's mercy for all of us who are sinners, totally imperfect and capable of making mistakes too often. May we combine justice with love, trust with the pursuit of truthfulness, and may we graciously treat those who are less than perfect. 


Sharing

Alumni Serving in Cambodia

Wilson Chow President Emeritus

This past May I was invited by Rev. Timothy Lau, Senior Pastor of the Hong Kong Baptist Church to accompany him on a visit to Phnom Penh Bible School (PPBS) in Cambodia. Founded by the late Daniel Lam in 1992 to train local pastors, PPBS celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. CGST alumni Andrew and Josephine Kwong have been serving in PPBS for many years. Andrew was a former principal there, contributing much towards strengthening PPBS's curriculum and standard. Hong Kong Baptist Church has for many years supported PPBS, and this trip was to find out first-hand the recent development of the School. During the visit we enjoyed sincere sharing and exchange with the Principal, its Dean, as well as the faculty and students. The second day happened to be PPBS's fast & prayer day. We attended their meetings and worshipped with the faculty and students. It was a blessed experience.

I also took the opportunity to contact some of the CGST alumni. I was pleasantly surprised to find that several are serving in Cambodia. I met up with eight alumni over dinner: Andrew Kwong, Debbie Choy, Rebecca Chung, Lee Miu-ling, Stephen Lui, Wong Kin-shing, Lau Yuk-fung and Yasson Chang. We would have the pleasurable company of Josephine Kwong and Anna Lo had they not returned to Hong Kong for family matters and further study. These alumni are sent by different organizations and are serving in various areas such as church pastoring, community service, education, youth care and medical service.

Faithful to their calling, they are committed in these ministries and I am so very proud of them. Please remember them in your prayers. I also think of the many other alumni serving elsewhere. I commit them to the grace of God as I recall their names and their faces. Dear alumni, you are our joy and our crown. 



An Excursion to Kunming and Yunnan

Led by Rev. and Mrs. Jason Yeung, the CGST Alumni Association organized an eight-day excursion and took a delegation of twenty students and alumni to Kunming and Nujiang this past June. They visited a CCC/TSPM training center and Yunnan Provincial CCC/TSPM, met the local Christians and the Lisu ethnic group, as well as toured the Stone Forest famous for its limestone formations. It was indeed a fruitful and action packed trip. The handiworks of God were apparent and the grace of His wonders felt. Here are some of the alumni's afterthoughts.

Esther Wong

Amazed: Sanyi (Trinity) International Church in Kunming has Sunday School classes for the blind, deaf/mute and handicapped. It truly is our role model.

Happy: To see God's wonderful creation of the Nujiang Grand Canyon that is very much like the Swiss mountains.

Surprised: The Nujiang waters were fast-flowing and even turbulent, and its hilly banks were infertile, yet by God's grace there was abundant agricultural produce that made the place a land flowing with milk and honey.

In awe: Early Western missionaries' works amongst the ethnic minority groups have now produced fruit. 70% of people in Fugong County of Nujiang are Christians.

Touched: In order to serve at an ethnic minority church in the remote district of Yunnan, the pastors did not mind the meager income and were even willing to work unpaid.

Betty Sung

I am very thankful for having taken part in the Excursion. Not only did we get to see the Nujiang powerful waters and set foot on the world's second largest Grand Canyon, we also visited ethnic minority churches.

I only know a little about James O. Fraser, the missionary who preached to the Lisu people, but I was greatly touched by his life of perseverance and longsuffering. I was filled with gladness when I saw believers in the Lisu church sang beautiful four-part hymns a cappella and worshipped God with dancing. I was especially moved when the congregation of the Miao people church welcomed our arrival, and sang to bless us when we left, some sisters in Christ even cried as they bade us farewell. When the Miao people choir sang the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah, accompanied by an accordion, their voices were inspiring and moved us all. Everyone from young to old was totally immersed in worship and praised God with singing and dancing. The theme song of the Miao people's missions conference was very moving as they have received the commission to evangelize their own people.

Tang Fung Ling

I thank Father God for this meaningful trip. Over eight days He opened my eyes and I was greatly impressed by what I saw and heard, whether in Kunming, the capital of Yunnan, or the faraway Nujiang. I saw how in the past God raised up missionaries to come to China and today He uses local pastors to expand the ministries of the heavenly kingdom. They were fearless and courageous, willing to sacrifice their lives for missions.

How wonderful are God's works! The seeds of the gospel sown by missionaries over a century ago over Lisu people at Nujiang are now ready for harvest on either sides of the canyon. The Lisu people group has the highest percentage of Christians amongst the ethnic minority groups in China, but laborers are few. Gratefully, Yunnan churches are willing to help. Despite a lack



of resources they actively train frontline volunteers, equip them with the truth and prepare them for the baton of the gospel. They also tirelessly translate the Bible so that more ethnic groups may hear the Good News.

Their passion for the gospel urges me to do my duty of preaching the Word. Here am I, Lord, send me!

Joan Chung

Although we had only eight days, we witnessed the awesome acts of the wonder-working God:

75% of the Lisu people in Fugong County of Nujiang is Christians.

Pastor of the Lisu people in Lushui County of Nujiang said to us shyly but sincerely, "I love you!"

The Senior Pastor of Sanyi (Trinity) International Church in Kunming humbly told us, "Our church is very small with only about 6,000 people." When we toured the church we discovered that there were fellowships for English-speaking people, ethnic minorities, the blind, the deaf/mute, and the handicapped. There were over 50 Sunday School teachers and they have regular training and clear division of work. On our last day while returning to meet with two pastors, we saw a group of sisters-in-Christ meticulously cleaning the altar and the auditorium.

Rev. Jiang, Vice Chairman of Yunnan Provincial CCC/TSPM, gave us a detailed talk on the needs of local churches and their plans for the coming decade.

I was greatly touched to see several ethnic minority leaders holding serious discussions with a visiting Bible scholar from Singapore and together earnestly considered how the Bible might be translated precisely.



Wu Chun Luen

I am thankful for having joined the Excursion with Rev. Yeung and visited the local ethnic minority churches.

Seeds sown by missionaries in the past have borne fruit and I was deeply moved to see the result of their hard work. Even now people are working persistently every day on translating the Bible to bring God's word to the ethnic minority groups. Others are busy with pastoral care. Despite facing enormous pressure and difficult challenges, they remain faithful and courageous, giving thanks always for God's grace. It is very admirable indeed.

The Lord is their Shepherd and they shall not want. May God keep their works through which people will hear the Lord's gospel.



Iris Leung

I thank Father God for this unusual Yunnan Excursion! During eight days of packed activities His grace never left us!

Each day we experienced God's presence and protection, most evident in relation to the weather. It was rainy season in Yunnan. The mountain roads to Nujiang were long and winding, and the slippery surface and loose boulders increased the danger. Even the experienced driver wondered why we picked this time of year to travel to Nujiang! Amazingly, the weather remained fine during daytime and it only rained at night! Driving in the mountains was tricky

but Father God gave us an excellent driver who could cruise through oncoming vehicles, flocks, dogs or children. Every time he got us safely to our destination.

Finally, I must mention that on different occasions Father God helped me see the loving fellowship of brothers and sisters that surpassed our differences. I could forget myself, followed the guidance of the Holy Spirit and praised God together with our alumni, Mainland Chinese pastors who travelled with us, and brothers and sisters of ethnic minority groups! This pure and moving love flowed from the Lord God whom we all serve! Thank You, Jesus Christ! 🕯️

Ministries

Appointments



Dr. Stephen Lee as the 4th President

The CGST Board at its meeting in July 2012 appointed Dr. Stephen Lee as the fourth President of CGST. Dr. Lee will assume his presidency on August 1, 2013, and currently is President Designate.

Dr. Stephen Lee is Associate Professor of Biblical Studies (Old Testament) and was CGST Dean from 1996 to 2005. Dr. Lee is widely recognized as an outstanding hermeneutist among Chinese churches. His expository preaching is popular and he is an influential leader among Chinese churches. All of us at CGST are thankful to God for blessing us with this leader.



Dr. Kang Phee Seng as Vice President

In view of the School's further development, the CGST Board also appointed Dr. Kang Phee Seng as Vice President of CGST, effective August 1, 2012.

Dr. Kang joined CGST in mid-January this year as Professor of Theological Studies and Director of the newly founded Center for Faith & Public Values. Dr. Kang graduated from our MDiv program and took PhD study at the University of Aberdeen. Dr. Kang has for many years been teaching at Hong Kong Baptist University and served as Head Professor of the Department of Religion and Philosophy, as well as Director and Co-Founder of Center for Sino-Christian Studies. Dr. Kang is Eleanor and Wayne Chiu Professor of Theological Studies.



Dr. Ka Leung Wong as Associate Dean

To assist Dean Dr. Luke Cheung in his ever demanding duties, the Faculty Personnel Committee appointed Dr. Ka Leung Wong as Associate Dean, starting August 1, 2012. Dr. Wong is Chan Chu So Wah Professor of Biblical Studies.

Board of Directors

- The first Board Meeting for the year 2012-2013 was held on June 30. Directors were elected: The returning directors are Dr. Michael Chiu, Mr. Joseph Lu, Ms. Shirley Loo, Rev. Chung-kong Lam and Rev. Compeyson Lee. We welcomed four new directors: Rev. Wing-sang Chu, Rev. Chung-ching Choi, Dr. Kar-lin Yick and Mr. Patrick Yuen. The following officers were also elected: Dr. Michael Chiu (Chairman), Prof. Chung-ming Lau (Vice-Chairman), Ms. Shirley Loo (Secretary), and Mr. Patrick Yuen (Treasurer).
- The School is grateful for the long-time support and contribution of the following retiring directors: Mrs. Doreen Chan, Rev. Yut-wah Chan, Prof. Vincent Shen and Rev. Wai-cheong Chang. May the

Lord continue to bless their ministries.

Faculty Movements

- July 25 to August 1: President Carver Yu accepted the invitation from Chinese Theological College Australia in Sydney to lead the "2012 Dr. Hing Yiu Mok Lecture in Theology" and the Revival Meetings. The theme was "Theology: The Motivating Force Behind a Life of Godliness – Climb the Spiritual Summit with Great People of God." Afterwards President Yu went to Brisbane to conduct a theological seminar on the topic "Why is there Suffering? The Christian View on Suffering" jointly organized by Toowong Baptist Church and Crossway College. President Yu also visited the Australian board members and had fellowship

with students of the "Word of Life" Bible Study Ministry.

- July 30 to August 10: Mrs. Bess Choi and Ms. Ellie Chan attended a two-week pastoral care and counseling conference for seminary teachers from China hosted by Fuller Theological Seminary in California, USA. They also led small groups at the conference.
- Dr. Ka Leung Wong completed his sabbatical and returned to CGST in August.
- Dr. Daniel Lee was promoted to Associate Professorship on August 1, 2012.
- September 2012: Dr. Joyce Sun joined the faculty team as Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies (New Testament). After graduating from the MDiv Program at CGST in 2006, Dr. Sun served as pastor at Christian Shone Tao Association Mongkok

Church. Dr. Sun went to the University of Edinburgh for her PhD study in 2008.

New School Year

- We welcomed 171 new students, giving a total of 637 students for the year 2012-2013. A series of Orientation Activities was held. The Orientation Day for new full time and day part time students was held on September 3, followed by the Orientation Camp for all full time students between September 4 and 6. The Orientation Day for new evening part time students was held on September 8. The Convocation for the new semester was held on September 10 evening. Associate Professor of Theological Studies Dr. Kevin Cheng spoke on the theme "What is Theology for?"

Financial Report

Jun to Sep, 2012

General Fund	US\$
Donations	715,903
Tuition & other income	854,577
	1,570,480
Expenditure	(1,884,252)
Deficit	(313,772)
Surplus from Jan to May, 2012	76,818
Accumulated Deficit	(236,954)

Outstanding mortgage loan as at Sep, 2012 : US\$ 3,211,123

Prayer Requests

- Pray that God will lead the School's works through the newly appointed staff: President Designate Dr. Stephen Lee, Vice President Dr. Kang Phee Seng and Associate Dean Dr. Ka Leung Wong.
- As the new academic year begins, pray for God's blessing upon the School's ministries and the faculty's teaching according to His grace and faithfulness. Pray also that Dr. Joyce Sun will quickly adjust to a new work environment.
- We are thankful for the 171 new students. May God strengthen and help them focus on preparing for their study, as well as quickly adjusting to school life.
- Pray that through the latest *CGST Journal* (Issue No. 53) God will edify pastors, theological students and believers in their faith and theological thinking.

Response

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