

Preachers' Progress

A regular update on the work from Jonathan Lamb, Director of Langham Preaching

Our Langham conviction is that depth matters as much as growth. We work hard to sustain continuity in countries where Langham Preaching has begun a training initiative. Thanks to committed national leaders, programmes are forging ahead in Albania and Myanmar and also in Ethiopia this past January. All three have completed a second training event, with plans afoot for the next stage in some months' time.

Developments in established programme

Argentina, March 29-April 1, with Chris Wright teaching.

Uganda, April 4-8, which will be the fourth training event, running several tracks for some 200 participants, with several Langham facilitators including Jenny Brown, Mark Meynell, Rodney Wood, Wanyeki Mahiaini, and Jonathan Lamb.

Ukraine, where leaders of IFES work from Eurasia will attend the second preaching course, June 19-25, with Jenny Brown and Jonathan Lamb.

Pakistan, for the second training event, July 4-9, with Pervaiz Sultan and Andrew Reid.

Zimbabwe, for a small training programme linked to the second Keswick Convention, hopefully during the week October 1-8.

Bolivia, 20-26 November, for a second level programme, with Andy Lines, Crosslinks.

New initiatives

Ghana, March 15-18, with a strong local team of trainers, supported by Rodney Wood and Femi Adeleye.

Poland, May 16-19, with John Stott, Greg Scharf, Andrew Page and Jonathan Lamb.

Kenya, August 29-September 2, with Rodney Wood, Jenny Brown and Wanyeki Mahiaini, hosted by Esther Mombo and her team at St Paul's Limuru.

Tanzania, September 5-9, a joint initiative with Crosslinks, with Rodney Wood.

We are specially pleased to be developing links with Francophone Africa, with two countries launching training initiatives in the early autumn:

Congo, September 13-16, with representatives coming from throughout the country for the first training seminar, with Gordon Woolard and others.

Cote d'Ivoire, September 19-23, hosted by Daniel Bourdanné with additional training from Gordon Woolard.

Please pray

- We need help in the administrative and practical demands of establishing sustainable programmes.
- We need the financial resources to sustain initiatives in challenging contexts.
- We need additional facilitators and trainers from around the world who share the vision and are willing to give time to helping country programmes.
- We are developing new training models, as we learn from the past three years and seek to refine and improve our work in each country.

Jonathan Lamb



Moving forward in Myanmar

After the successful launch of the preaching seminar in Yangon in January 2004, it was encouraging to return from 17-21 January 2005 and continue the programme with a seminar twice as large. We had 93 participants, of whom about half were completely new at level 1. Once again Langham Preaching collaborated with Crosslinks, as Chris Wright and Andy Lines (General Secretary of Crosslinks) combined to provide the teaching and Bible expositions. And again we were welcomed by the Anglican Archbishop of Myanmar, San Tsi Tay, though participants were drawn from many denominations and far corners of the country. Saw Maung Doe, the Principal of Holy cross Theological College, not only supported the seminar in very practical ways (and translated all the materials into Burmese), he also brought along the whole final year class of his College to attend for the week. Plans are already in hand for holding level 1 in Mandalay, in January 2006, for easier access for people from the central and northern parts of the country, followed by levels 2 and 3 combined in Yangon.



Getting stuck into the Word: a group at the Preaching Seminar in Myanmar works hard on the Bible text in preparing an outline message.



News of Langham Literature

Every little helps. But a little more would help a lot.

Because of the growing number of seminaries on our database, to whom we make an annual grant to order books from the Langham Literature Catalogue, we have had to reduce the grant to each institution. It is now £100. Institutions can order extra books for their libraries, of course, if they have other funds to pay for them. But many simply do not, and so the annual Langham gift provides the only addition they can make to their libraries each year. The letter below illustrates both the joy of receiving books, and the frustration of not being able to order more and take advantage of the excellent discount we are able to offer. We would love to be able to increase (and preferably double) the annual library grant, but we can only do that if our donation income increases too.

Dear sister Tina Lowe,
I am so glad to inform you that we have received one consignment containing three books namely, *Confronting the New Age*, *Dictionary of New Testament Background* and *Dictionary of Old Testament Pentateuch*, from IVP. We thank you very much for this help towards the development of our library. We are sorry, we are not able to make any order for other books, though the discount is so coveted.
Yours sincerely in His Service,
A.M. Kuriachan
Principal,
Trivandrum Bible College, Kerala, India

Thank you for your response

A special thank you to those who responded to the appeal letter in September 2004, which focused especially on the vision and plans of Langham Literature. Since then, approximately £9,600 has been received in response. Just to put this in perspective, the total programme budget for Langham Literature for the six months, January to June 2005, is £137,000, of which we need to raise £52,000 from donations within the UK and Ireland. For the whole of 2005 we will need to double that. In the full year 2004, Langham Literature received £81,680 in donation income (including Gift Aid) in the UK and Ireland. So we have some way to go in the coming months. Thank you – and please keep in partnership with us!

Spreading in Spanish

Spanish is the language spoken by the largest number of evangelical Christians in the world, after English. The Langham Literature programme in Latin America, in Spanish and Portuguese, has been an integral part of the ministry for many years, but not on anything like the same scale as our English and French programmes. Over the course of several visits to most of the countries in the continent, Pieter Kwant, International Director of Langham Literature, and Brad Palmer, his associate director with John Stott Ministries in the USA (which takes care of the Latin American literature projects), have revised and revived the programme in some countries, and introduced it in others. This is being done in full co-operation with Latin American evangelical publishers and distribution agents. A new list of books in Spanish has been chosen as the Students' Basic Library, and a new catalogue will be produced entirely in Spanish.



All of this fresh effort is greatly assisted by the formation of Regional Councils. Last October representatives from most Central American countries met in El Salvador; and in early April 2005 the Regional Council for South America will bring together participants from almost every other Hispanic country in Latin America. Their advice and practical co-operation will be a huge help.

A member of that Regional Council will be Dr Dario Lopez, a Langham Scholar from Peru, who has recently had yet another book of his own published in Spanish, on 'The Seduction of Power: Evangelicals and Politics in Peru in the Nineties'.

The Langham Partnership Regional Council for Central America, which met in El Salvador in November. Ruth Padilla de Borst (front centre), its Convener, is also the newly-elected President of the Latin American Theological Fraternity.



Langham facilitated distribution of books at a recent pastors' conference in Peru.



Two of Chris Wright's books translated into Spanish: *Knowing Jesus through the Old Testament*, and *Living as the People of God*. Copies of these were given to participants in recent Preaching Seminars in Bolivia and El Salvador.

The Human Condition



This is the title of the latest book in the series, The Global Christian Library – one of the projects of Langham Literature. Subtitled, *Christian Perspectives through African Eyes*, and published by IVP, it is a basic textbook on the doctrine of humanity written by Rev Joe Kapolyo. Joe, from Zambia, is the Principal of All Nations Christian College – a job he took over from Chris Wright when Chris moved to his present role with Langham Partnership International. This series of books by international evangelical authors on essential Christian doctrines is already well under way, and being widely distributed in the Majority World, as well as available for purchase here.

Can you help?

...with accommodation

John Stott will be welcoming Tyler Stevenson – a new Study Assistant in July/August from America, taking over from Matthew Smith. Tyler and his wife Natalie, need accommodation in the London area (ideally within 3 miles radius of All Souls, Langham Place), for approximately 12 months. If you know of any suitable accommodation or can put us in touch with someone who does, please contact Liz Wright (liz@langhampartnership.org or telephone her on 020 7209 0915)

...by taking Minutes at Langham Partnership Board Meetings

Following many years of faithful service, Vivienne Curry retired as Minute Secretary of the Langham Partnership UKI Board in December. Vivienne has done a wonderful job and we are very grateful to her for all she has done. However, we need someone who can take on this role. If you have experience of taking minutes at meetings, and would be willing to volunteer your services to Langham Partnership by attending Board Meetings and taking the minutes and writing up the minutes please contact John Rogers (john@langhampartnership.org or telephone 01784 245602). Board Meetings are normally held early evening (5.00 pm to 8.30 pm) four times a year in Central London.

...by arranging Langham Partnership Promotional Meetings

We would like to visit as many parts of the country as possible over the next 12-18 months to report on the impact of the work of Langham Partnership to our existing supporters and to introduce the ministry to others. If you would be willing to host such a meeting in your home please contact John Rogers (john@langhampartnership.org, write to him at PO Box 234, Ashford, Middlesex TW15 2XF or telephone 01784 245602).

NEWS UPDATES

TINA LOWE, Langham Literature's Customer Relations Co-ordinator based in Ipswich, fell at home in January and fractured her hip. Following surgery she is now back at home recovering. Meanwhile the Literature Office in Carlisle is trying to cover Tina's work load as well as their own. Please pray for Tina and for Pieter Kwant, Phil Parker and the other staff as they cope with this pressure.

JOHN STOTT has completing the manuscript for his latest book – a daily devotional to be called "A Christian Calendar". Further information about the book and its publication date will be available in a future edition of Langham Partnership News and on our website. In April, John Stott and Chris Wright will be speaking at several meetings in Washington and New York on behalf of John Stott Ministries.

A NEW WEB-SITE has been launched for Langham Partnership International, which brings the entire Langham family, including our three programmes and each of the five national organisations together in a single site. The web-site went "live" during March – so why not check it out by going to www.langhampartnership.org. We think you'll like it.

THE NEXT BELFAST PRAYER MEETING

for Langham Partnership is on Saturday, April 2nd, at 7.30pm, in Malone House, Barnett's Park, Belfast. For information on future prayer meetings, contact Brooke Mullan: brooke.mullan@paragonuk.com

FRANCES HITS FOURSORE!

Though you would never guess it, Frances Whitehead, John Stott's secretary for half a century reached her 80th birthday on March 27th – Easter Sunday! For about 30 of those years, Frances served the Evangelical Literature Trust and the Langham Trust (now combined in the Langham Partnership). Congratulations, Frances! What a debt of thanks we owe to you and the Lord for all those years of faithful service. May there be more yet. The concept of 'retirement' seems to mean as little to you as to John Stott himself!



Frances Whitehead, with John Stott and Matthew Smith



langham partnership international

GROWING A NEW GENERATION OF PREACHERS AND TEACHERS

The Langham Partnership (UK and Ireland)

If you would like multiple copies of this magazine for friends, church members, etc., please ask Liz Wright, address below.

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Langham Partnership's Vision

Our vision is to see Majority World churches being equipped for mission and growing to maturity through the ministry of Christian leaders and pastors who sincerely believe, diligently study, faithfully expound and relevantly apply the Word of God.

UK AND IRELAND

APRIL 2005

langham partnership

news

'Lord, why did you not prepare me before you called me?'

This was the heart cry of one of the pastors who came to the second Langham Preaching Seminar in Albania in January 2005. He was testifying to what a difference the first one a year ago (conducted by Jonathan Lamb and Andrew Page) had made to his life and ministry.

'I have been in Christ for nine years and a pastor for four,' he told us. 'For all those years I knew that I should be teaching my people from the Bible, but I didn't know how. I read books but found no help.' Hence his questioning prayer. 'But last year you gave me a method and practical help, and now I have been able to do what I always wanted.' This kind of testimony makes the work of Langham Preaching so worthwhile.

Once again the Albanian Evangelical Alliance (VUSH), through its energetic leader, Genci Shehu, was the main sponsor of the Preaching Seminar in Albania, supported by Andy Oliver of European Christian Mission, and the Rruga e Pages Church. Participants came from a wide range of different denominational backgrounds (which have sadly managed to surface even in a church that is only 14 years old in its present form, after the fall of the atheist communist state). We combined two levels: Chris Wright taught basic Bible skills to those who had come for the first time, while Brian Morgan, a pastor from California connected to John Stott Ministries in the States and a fine Bible teacher, led the second year group on a very creative journey of preaching from Gospel narratives, using Mark's Gospel as a key text.



The Albanian evangelical publishing house, Beselidhja, with its director Romeo Mano, provided a book table, assisted by Colin McPherson of EELAC (East European Literature Advisory Committee) which has close associations with

Romeo Mano and Colin McPherson with books for the Albanian seminar.

Langham Literature. They had Albanian copies of Chris Wright's BST commentary on Ezekiel, published just in time!

The programme in Albania is set to continue in the years ahead as an annual event, owned and sponsored by VUSH, in co-operation with



Chris Wright and Brian Morgan, co-leaders of the seminar in Albania. The Adriatic seaside resort of Durres is in the background, but the temperature was below zero!

Langham Preaching. Pray that it will significantly deepen the biblical foundations of this church which is only 14 years old, and yet in another sense goes right back to the New Testament. Albania is the ancient Roman province of Illyricum and Dalmatia, which Paul refers to in Romans 15:19 (it was just across the mountains from Thessalonica and Philippi), and which Titus certainly visited (2 Tim. 4:10). Were we following in his footsteps? Durres, the coastal town where the seminar was held, was ancient Duracum, and an early historian tells us that there were 70 Christian families there in AD 55. 'You must teach what is in accord with sound doctrine,' Paul told Titus, 'and in your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech' (Tit. 2:1,7). Our prayer and the goal of Langham Preaching is that a new generation of Tituses will be encouraged in Albania to do just that.

Cochabamba Jesus



No, not Rio de Janeiro! This statue, which is 3m higher than Rio's, stands above Cochabamba in Bolivia, where Chris Wright conducted a Preaching Seminar in October 2004.

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