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Diary Dates:

October 2008 – March 2009

2008

October 3 & 4 Jonathan Lamb speaking at Lichfield Keswick Convention: Bible expositions on the book of Revelation

October 10-12 Jonathan Lamb speaking at St Andrew's Oxford, weekend houseparty in Northampton: Bible expositions on Nehemiah

October 19 Chris Wright speaking at All Saints, Little Shelford

November 2 Chris Wright speaking at the morning services at All Souls, Langham Place

November 21 Jonathan Lamb speaking in Newcastle at the North East Missions Roadshow

November 22 Jonathan Lamb speaking in Newcastle at UCCF university CU leaders' training

2009

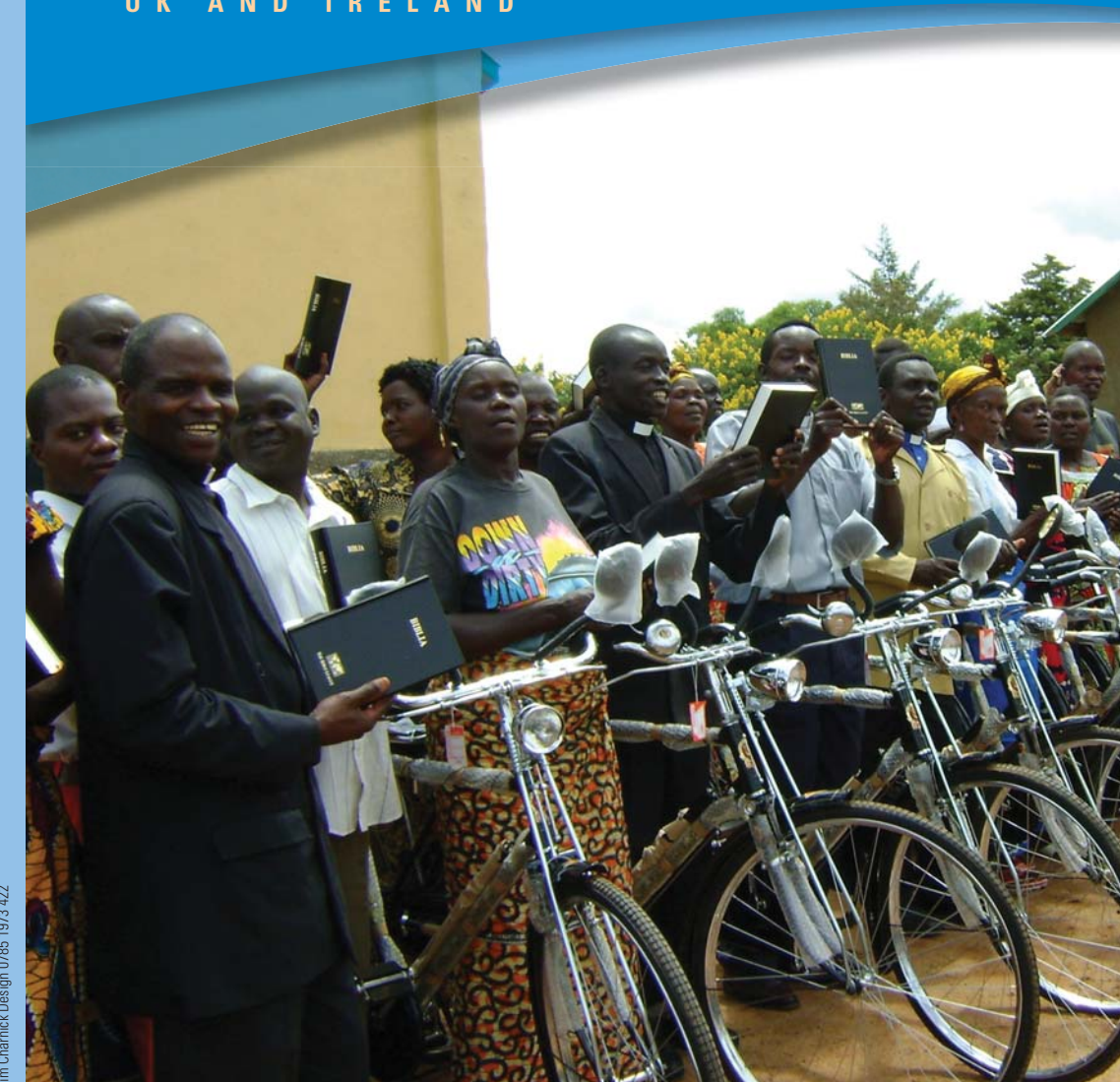
January 11 Chris Wright speaking at the morning service of Sutcliff Baptist Church

January 19-22 Jonathan Lamb speaking in Swanwick at the Conference for Christian conference centres/camps on the theme of 'Integrity'

February Jonathan Lamb speaking at St Mary's Maidenhead morning service

March 17-19 Jonathan Lamb speaking at Cheadle Area Bible Convention

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UK AND IRELAND



Tim Charnick/Design 07865 1973 422

For more information on these events and the work of Langham Partnership or to sign up for our monthly eNewsletter, please visit our website: www.langhampartnership.org

AUTUMN 2008



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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 Partership'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 through:

■ Preaching

■ Literature

■ Scholars

Have you considered including Langham Partnership in your will?

Like many mission organisations we can benefit greatly when friends make a final gift that continues to bless the ministries they have generously supported in life. Once you have made proper and primary provision for family and friends this can be a very effective way to go on making a difference to the church on earth when you have joined the church in glory! If you would like to consider this option in your will please let us know and we will send you a helpful legacy leaflet. Contact Ian Buchanan, whose details are on the side panel.

Process not event

Written by Jonathan Lamb, International Director for Langham Preaching

Growing fellowships of Bible preachers

We all agree that a church is more than its services, a family more than its meal times. And since it began six years ago, Langham Preaching has sought to encourage 'fellowships' rather than just run events. In several countries there is gradually emerging a fellowship of preachers – a 'movement' for Biblical preaching. Supported by seminars, books and training resources, such a movement is most clearly seen through the emergence of preachers' clubs in towns and villages. Meeting regularly in their home region, small groups of pastors and lay preachers gather to study a Bible passage, work on sermon preparation, and plan their preaching series. And of course they pray for one another and support each other's desire to preach better. Linked to regional or national seminar programmes which provide training materials and good models for Biblical preaching, preachers' clubs are the heartbeat of national preaching movements.

They are growing across **Kenya**, encouraged to meet regularly by country coordinator **Mercy Ileri**, who uses her cell phone to good effect as she chases up local leaders for news of their club



meetings, or encourages them forward with new ideas. Pastors often contact Langham Preaching via our web site, and we can quickly forward names to Mercy who soon plugs them into the network of preachers' clubs gradually extending across the country. *'A few months ago you forwarded to me an email from pastor Jonathan in Nakuru. I put him in touch with the leader of the preachers' club, Asman, there in the Rift Valley. Asman told me that they had a good meeting and are planning to work together. At the time I put them in touch it was during the violence – it did not even cross my mind that Jonathan is a Kalenjin and Asman is Kikuyu. Asman told me that it was a miracle for both of them to sit together and even have a cup of tea!'*

For the past three years a small core of 40 pastors have been attending the Langham training programme in the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, and developing preachers' clubs in their home regions. And now? *'We have actually 28 clubs in the country with 298 members'*, says country coordinator **Muhindo Isesomo**, who travels widely to encourage them. *'And I believe this will increase after the next Langham training of trainers event in October'*. Through the generosity of friends at St Andrew's church Oxford we have recently been able to support their work through the provision of bikes and Bibles, (see cover photo) enabling the pastors to travel to their many scattered congregations and to meet to study scripture together.

Ian Buchanan reports elsewhere in this Newsletter on the cascade effect of the training through the local meetings in **Ghana**; and also on these pages Chris Wright interviews Langham Preaching facilitator Barry Wade, who runs a very effective club in his home in **Jamaica**. In **Tanzania**, small clubs have been



established across the country, forming the base for 13 regional programmes which are now starting small training events for local pastors. And in **Bolivia** and **Columbia**, and other Latin countries, preachers' clubs are vital training arenas – so much so they are called *'escuelitas'*, little schools for preachers.

For any movement to catch fire, local people must own it, and passionate and committed people in the country must drive it forward. We don't know if this will happen in each country, but this is what we pray for – national preaching movements which seek to unite, encourage, equip, train and inspire all those who are faithfully teaching and preaching God's Word.

One participant in a locally led Langham Preaching seminar in Pakistan in September tells of its transforming effect in her life...

In the Light of Langham...

When I first came to know about Langham Ministries, I just took it to be a conventional program about the Bible, not knowing that it could change my world forever and enlighten my soul to a brand new horizon where I could not only read the word of God in a better way but also reach out to many.

On the first day of the Session, I was a bit reluctant to join in; primarily thinking that I am going to give a major part of my Saturday evenings to a program which might just leave me yet again with so many unanswered questions from the Bible.

However, something within drove me towards the Chapel to attend the session. I decided to join in and found I desired to be there 'everyday' instead of 'every week'. I never had the true understanding of the Word of God before attending the Langham Sessions. I now consider myself to be so richly blessed by God and very specially touched by the Holy Spirit.

Through Langham, I got to do something that I had least expected, and that is to sit with others and share from the Bible, to voice out His Glory and to practically be able to sermonize in a group of people.

I had also thought that my SPIRIT was not so free as to be able to express "GOD"



■ The small group of trainers in Pakistan who have been through several years of Langham Preaching seminars and now, after training by Chris Wright last year, are conducting local workshops in biblical preaching at Level 1. This is a key step towards the goal of making the Langham Preaching movements truly indigenous. Speaking of the small local groups that he is teaching, after receiving this training, Asif John (seated 2nd from left) wrote, *'This is the sapling that you planted and the Lord is nurturing now.'*

within my HEART and SOUL. Langham for me was a torch that kept burning within my soul. It liberated my spirit to speak out, to think and to express myself in a way that I had never done before.

I have learnt that there is no lesson worth LEARNING if the APPLICATION is missing from the pages.

For me Langham has been a total transformation of personality. It is indeed the light that brightened my ways to see and reach out to God.

Regina Louisa John
(Langham - Level 1)



Merger brings good news for majority world churches

Langham Partnership and the **Eastern Europe Literature Advisory Committee** (EELAC) have agreed to a merger that will allow the aims of both charities to be enhanced. EELAC has had a 30 year track record of developing indigenous Christian publishing houses in Central and Eastern Europe. The merger with Langham Partnership will internationalise this ministry, enhancing Langham Partnership's ability to partner with majority world churches in strengthening local publishing initiatives.

New Man Publishers in Bulgaria is a prime example of an indigenous

publishing ministry which is now sustainable without further financing from EELAC. New Man will continue to strengthen the local church through much needed literature resources, which are Biblically rooted and culturally relevant.

New Man is one of several publishers, either planted or adopted by EELAC, which is now strong enough to help grow the smaller and younger publishers across the region. The model has proved highly effective and can now be taken beyond Eastern Europe.



Dr Colin Macpherson, formerly the General Secretary of EELAC, will become the Creative Director for Langham Partnership's literature programme known as Langham Literature. Pieter Kwant, the International Programme Director for Literature noted that, "I have always had great admiration for the work of EELAC and I am delighted that the vision that has inspired it to such success will now reach even more widely within the Langham Partnership global network, nurturing many more indigenous evangelical publishing ministries to serve the Church's needs around the world."



thanks

Langham Partnership would like to express its appreciation and gratitude to all those who have given towards our Africa Bible Commentary campaign. The people who are receiving this valuable tool are so grateful and it is making a huge difference in their study and preparation for the vital tasks of preaching and teaching. LP has raised enough money to send over 2000 copies to church leaders in Africa.



In May of this year, Chris Wright was invited to speak to a group of 1300 young people at a Souled Out event in Aberdeen. We challenged the young people to go away and try and illustrate the concept of 'Church growth with depth'. Congratulations to Mel Chadwick for her winning entry. For more information and Mel's thinking behind the artwork contact her at melanie-chadwick@googlemail.com

Grassroots-level training: Street-level caring



Barry Wade is supposed to have retired, but you'd never believe it. A marine biologist professionally, with a PhD from the University of the West Indies, three years of work in the USA, and a long career as a research lecturer and consultant for the government of Jamaica, when Barry passed 60 a few years ago, he told his colleagues that he would be spending more time, not at home with his family, but at church and with the needy and homeless.

Barry belongs to a Baptist church in Kingston and is one of their lay preachers. He has attended the Langham Preaching programme in Jamaica since 2002, and is a member of the Regional Council for the Caribbean. Chris Wright met up with him at the most recent Caribbean Preaching Seminar in Grenada, and had a chat.

Chris: Barry, we first met in 2002, didn't we, when John Stott and I led the first Langham Preaching seminar in Jamaica.

Barry: That's right, and I have attended all the levels of the Langham Preaching training in Jamaica since then. But I began to realize that there is a whole group of younger Christian men and women coming up, who are missing out on how to communicate the gospel, and how to handle the Bible in preaching or teaching.

I knew some of them, but they were not really ready yet to attend the Langham seminars, and they were too inexperienced to join a preachers' club. So I wondered how I could help them, and was rather stuck.

Chris: But then you helped to launch another Preaching movement in Belize, and found some inspiration there?

Barry: Yes, in 2007 I was sharing the leadership of the Belize programme, and met Dr Manuel Reano, who was another key leader. He is the Principal of an evangelical seminary in Columbia, and he told me about a model of lay-training in biblical preaching that they were developing in Columbia, which was entirely home-based. He said it was working very well and expanding. So he outlined the approach, gave me some materials, and encouraged me. That stirred

my imagination and was a real catalyst to get something like that started in Jamaica.

So as soon as I got back home, I spoke to my pastor, and with his approval set up a small training group. I call it Bible Study with a Purpose.

In other words, it's not just about studying the Bible for its own sake, but it includes training in how to understand and use the Bible, how to preach and teach it. It's for people who love the Word of God and who want to work hard. We started with a group of 12, but now it has grown to 20 already. We meet three times a month, and everybody has to do their homework, participate, read books, and share presentations.

These are all younger people in professional jobs, so they may only have an opportunity to preach in church once or twice a year. But some are Sunday School teachers, or leaders of youth groups, or home group leaders, and this training prepares them to be more effective in all those roles. Having gone through this early training, I believe that at least three of them will be ready to come to the Langham Preaching seminar in Jamaica next year.

Chris: So you went to Belize in Central America, met somebody from Latin America, learned something from them and brought it back to the Caribbean!

I find that what Langham is doing resonates with those real needs and I support its vision of strengthening the church in its mission through equipping people for better biblical preaching.

Barry: It's exciting, but that's often the way the Lord works in making good things spread.

Chris: But preaching, and training others to preach, is not all you do, is it?

Barry: No indeed. When our church was planted in 1979 it was right next to two of Jamaica's universities, so we knew we would have student ministry. But it is also in the midst of an area with major social needs – low income, high unemployment. We needed to blend our ministry to both kinds of community. When I made myself more available after I turned 60, we formed HELP = Healing and Empowerment with

Love and Prayer.

HELP co-ordinates a variety of practical ministries. We are involved in feeding and clothing, a health clinic, legal aid, evening classes in English and maths. My own role is primarily with the 'Marmen' (= 'marvellous men'). These are men off the streets, virtually on skid row. Typically they are crack cocaine addicts, some are men who have been deported back from the USA or UK after crimes there, many are suffering from HIV-AIDS, and almost all of them are homeless and jobless. It is a daily heartbreaking challenge. I offer a counselling service for such men four days a week now.

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Changes at the top in the Caribbean

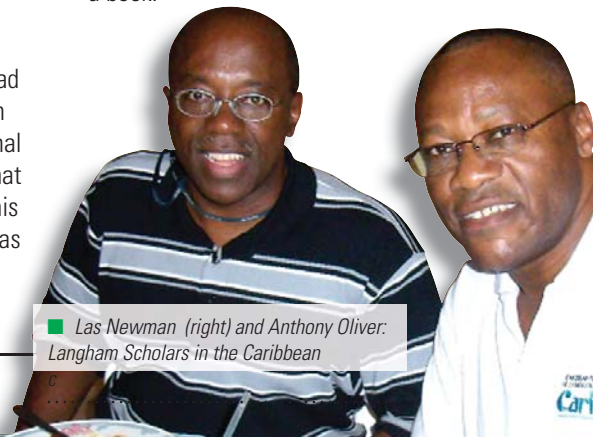
Jamaica is home to two Langham Scholars, **Las Newman** and **Anthony Oliver**. Both are members of the Regional Council for LP Caribbean, and both were present at the recent Langham Preaching seminar in Grenada (which is part of the expansion of the Langham Preaching movement in the Caribbean that Jonathan Lamb describes elsewhere). Chris Wright met and talked with them both in Grenada.

For the past couple of years, Las has been combining his work in Jamaica with being an Associate General Secretary for IFES, based in Oxford. This has meant some rather long-distance commuting. Meanwhile, back in Kingston, Jamaica, he had been appointed by the Board of the **Caribbean Graduate School of Theology** to take over the role of President of that institution when the previous leader, Dieumeme Noelliste, stepped down.

Since Las was unable to do so immediately, Anthony Oliver stepped in as Acting President for the past year. For several years Anthony had already served as Academic Dean of CGST, so this was an additional burden. Anthony is very glad that Las is returning to Jamaica this Autumn to take up his role as President.

Anthony himself, like many Langham Scholars around the world, also pastors a church that is close to the seminary. This means that he is preaching most Sundays as well as teaching in seminary, running the administration, and trying to raise money. The task is endlessly stretching. Under Anthony's leadership, CGST has been able to introduce several new Masters level courses and they are in line for accreditation not only with the Caribbean Evangelical Theological Association, but also with the University Council of Jamaica.

Anthony is an Old Testament specialist, who enjoys his teaching and tries to do some writing as well – though the pressures in the past year have made that difficult. Perhaps it's not surprising that he has done a lot of teaching and preaching on the theme of Christian stewardship, including Bible Studies in the books of Chronicles, which he hopes to produce as a book.



■ Las Newman (right) and Anthony Oliver: Langham Scholars in the Caribbean

Strengthening churches amongst South American tribes

Langham Preaching supports the Quechua people

Many of us would have learnt about the Incas when we were at school – an ancient and highly civilized empire in South America. But maybe we are not so familiar with the Quechuas, a group of indigenous South American tribes who are direct descendants of the Inca Empire. Quechua is spoken by several million people in Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador and Chile, but there has only been a translation of the entire Quechua Bible since 1993.

Igor Amestegui, Regional Facilitator for Langham Preaching in Latin America, has been working in fellowship with several mission agencies to support the training of preachers who serve the Quechua community. Running a series of four seminars for 22 participants, Igor began with the basics of studying the Bible passage, and later introduced the first steps of preparing talks from Bible passages. A simple manual – 'How to prepare to preach' – is available in



■ Igor and Charo Amestegui, Bolivia

Quechua, and was a useful tool for the training sessions and a manual that the team will be able to use in future training events.

Igor found that most participants came from rural contexts with limited educational background, so the group studied pastoral themes from Psalm 23, and Igor crafted the course to ensure there was plenty of practice built into the seminars.

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Preaching that is good to taste, easier to create and spreads even further

In June 2008 at a Langham Preaching event in Ghana known as NEPS (National Expository Preaching Seminar) Ian Buchanan was able to spend time with three leaders who had applied what they had learnt at previous events to their local situations.

Nana-Atto Hope and Emmanuel Anseh are two Methodist leaders who have equipped their local society of Methodist ministers with the skills they learnt at the NEPS conference in 2007. They realised that the course materials and experience could be used as a means of helping other ministers with a crucial weekly task – preaching.

At each monthly preaching event each sermon is given the participants' considered assessment based on clarity, relevance and faithfulness to the text. The success of these local meetings has inspired them to try to move it upwards into a wider circuit arena.

It also became clear that both Nana-Atto and Emmanuel had benefited enormously from what they had passed on to others. "We find that expository preaching allows us to give more to the people", said Nana-Atto with the big grin of a leader who feels he's finally

scratching where people itch. But it's about more than just "feeding" Christians; it's also about reducing those dreaded preparation tensions. "Now I find that preparing my sermon is so much easier than before", said Emmanuel. "It used to be very tough for me ... but now it flows



so much more easily as I can think more systematically about the text". So, more food to give and easier to prepare as well.

While two young ministers spent the year revitalizing their local network, one Council Chairman worked to influence the national Methodist Diocese. Revd S.V. Mpereh is a circuit minister and leader of the Ebenezer Methodist Society. He also holds the chair of the local Council of Churches. When ministers met in his quarterly circuit, "S.V." decided to introduce them to the NEPS 2006 training material.

In one sense S.V is working from the top-down as well as from the middle up. Last year he asked the circuit ministers to filter down the training into their local societies. That way what is learnt at circuit level can be repeated again once a quarter at society level.

"This way I keep them always learning", S.V. noted with glee. He also ensures

that they all get opportunities for practical training and assessment from other local ministers. "I act as the coordinator and that way they all can have a turn" he adds.

S.V is a classic example of a man with ambition and the coordinating skills to match, both of which are so needed when it comes to spreading a grass-roots indigenous preaching movement.

Future Country Programme for Preaching

October 6-10	Chile, Santiago (Level 1)
October 16,17	South Africa line up visit
October 27-30	Congo DRC (Training of local facilitators)
October 27-31	Thailand, Chiangmai Seminar for Biblical Preaching (Level 2)
October 31	Rwanda line-up visit
November 1-7	Burundi (Levels 1, 2 & 3)
November 10-14	Bolivia, La Paz (CCM programme)
November 17-21	Ecuador (Level 1)
November 19-22 TBC	Croatia (Levels 2 & 3)
November 22-24	Panama consultation on Central America
November 27-30 TBC	Jamaica (Training of local facilitators)
November 6-9	Kenya (Training of local facilitators)
December 1-5	Liberia (Level 1)
December 6-10	Bolivia, Santa Cruz (Level 1)
January 19-23	Tatarstan, Kazan (Level 2)
January/February	Ghana
January	Myanmar (with Crosslinks)
February	Tanzania (Level 3)
February 23-25	Brazil consultation with local leaders
March 8-14	Zambia (Level 1)
March 27-30	Vanuatu (Level 1)
March 30 – April 4	Vanuatu (Level 2)
March 30 – April 3	Nigeria (Levels 1,2,3)
April 20-24 TBC	Kyrgyzstan (Level 1)
April 20-24	Colombia, Medellin (Level 1)

Grassroots-level training: Street-level caring

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Chris: What connection do you see between that kind of practical social ministry and the ministry of preaching and training others to preach the Bible?

Barry: A very strong connection that flows from an understanding of what the gospel is. In our church, I'm glad to say, we understand and practise what is sometimes called 'the whole gospel', so there is no dichotomy between these two elements of the ministry I am involved in. Sadly, however, this is not typical of all churches in Jamaica. Many are content with a 'feel-good gospel'.

For me, it is the Bible that prepares me to deal with the ugly side of society. How can I speak to people in a way that is truly Bible-based? I have learned that I have to base my communication on the Bible, not on what I feel, or what I think people might want to hear. The Bible deals with human beings in their total need of redemption, salvation of soul, and liberation from

bondage. So I try to preach a holistic gospel, which has a much more authentic flavour, dealing with realities while based on the Bible.

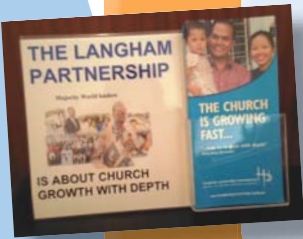
Chris: You have been a member of the Langham Partnership Regional Council for the Caribbean since it was founded in 2004. What makes you willing to commit time and effort to that?

Barry: The experience I have described is not at all unique. All over the Caribbean there are deep social and spiritual issues. We need to see them together, and work out how to speak to them from a biblical point of view. If we do not, we will never reach the hearts of people or address their needs effectively. I find that what Langham is doing resonates with those real needs and I support its vision of strengthening the church in its mission through equipping people for better biblical preaching and all that flows from that in practical ministry.

Chris: Thank you, Barry!

Help us share the vision

■ Would your church be able to display a small Perspex stand containing leaflets about the work of Langham Partnership? We would be happy to send you a stand and a supply of leaflets which we will replenish for you and update as necessary. We would ask that you make a small donation of £8 to help us cover postage and packing.



Strengthening churches amongst South American tribes

Continues from page 11

'In a highly oral culture, where the pattern of thought is more concrete than abstract, it is vital to use simple language and accessible concepts to help preachers extract the key principles from the Bible text', said Igor.

'A great achievement is that there is tremendous motivation amongst the brothers and sisters who participated. They are also putting into practice what they have learned. For many this has been a new way to read the Bible, even though they have been pastoring

churches for years', said Pio Victor, the Director of Mosoj Chaski, the radio ministry reaching Quechua in Bolivia which is one of the partners in the project.

Igor knows that these are just the first steps of training. *'It is my prayer that the Word sown and the tools given during these seminars may bear abundant fruit, so that the Word of God is preached in the Quechuan world and that this will bring growth to God's glory'*.

Langham Books via the Amazon Library



■ Books by Langham authors are available via our website which links you to an Amazon Library. By purchasing books through this website, a percentage of all sales will be donated to the work of Langham Partnership. Please visit www.langhampartnership.org.uk

Daily Thoughts

■ You can receive a Daily Thought taken from one of John Stott's 49 books via email. If you would like to take advantage of this, please tick the box on the response form and give us your email address. We will see that you receive both the Daily Thoughts and our monthly eNews bulletin.



eNews

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