ISLAND ECC GLOBAL OUTREACH 2014 / ISSUE 5



LEGACY 06

ARE YOU COMMITMENT-PHOBIC? ¹⁰

MORE THAN ONE 14

(It's not about you)





Contributors

01 Dawn Lau EDITOR Testimony means "do again". iGO is not only a reliving of past experiences, it is an expectation of future ones.

02 Sherman Chau WRITER One of the aspects of Legacy

that kept coming back to me as I was working on my article is that I am - and we are - part of an amazing 07 Vivian Law legacy that has spanned two millennia, beginning with Jesus and twelve disciples.

03 Florence Chiu WRITER I learnt two is better than one. Writing, editing, ideas, photos, creative presentation, quotes - not one article is the work of just one or even two people.

Everything is better because it is the work of the body of Christ together.

04 Ricki Yuen WRITER I learnt to take one story, one sentence at a time.

05 Ly-ann Tan WRITER Leaving a legacy reminds me of a river which I recently hiked. The water flows through many stream before it becomes the mighty river. That's like life - if we do small acts of love along the way, we can make deep impacts in the lives of people around us.

06 Amy Wong WRITER iGO captures snapshots of how God has been moving through members

of our community and the Christian body as a whole It is a collection of God's lessons, the creativity of His children, and experiences that inspire us to live out the gospel. What a blessing

to learn from others! ART DIRECTION AND DESIGN He is the art director who casts vision; the project manager who elongates time; the illustrator who puts pictures in our minds; the poet who gives meaning

to beauty .. 08 Ricky Nyhoff PHOTOGRAPHER I like people, and I push buttons.







from the Editor

we're gone?

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the article "More Than One".

In "Small Acts. Big Impacts", Ly-ann Tan interviews missionaries that we support in four different places. These are people who have heeded the call of God to establish His legacy away from their homes. They tell us how we can love and care for them even while we are geographically separated. They have done what early missionaries in Hong Kong did — left their familiar place for a foreign land for the sake of the gospel.

settled and served.

Christ's legacy.

Leaving a legacy. What trace can we leave in this world that will remain long after

In this fifth issue of iGO we wanted to think about legacy as a church. In fact, as Ricki Yuen points out in "Celebration", this publication itself was born out of a desire to document the testimonies of those who have been impacted by God through the Global Outreach department and missions.

In "Legacy", Sherman Chau breaks down what legacy is and how we can affect the generations that follow us. Legacy is not built in one day, but involves sustained effort and perseverance. Florence Chiu challenges us in "Am I Commitment-Phobic?" to be committed first to Jesus before ministries and activities.

This issue has given us the opportunity to honour those at Island ECC who have come before, set precedents, inspired fellow brothers and sisters, and poured energy into discipling others. The "Traces", wonderfully captured by photographer Ricky Nyhoff, gather groups of people who have reaped the fruit of someone else's labour, and in turn have sown into other people's lives. This community context for legacy is considered in

We end by coming back full circle to our home city — Hong Kong. Amy Wong highlights the work of Hope of the City, a non-profit organization that ministers to underprivileged local people. We also pay tribute to the early missionaries in Hong Kong, highlighting some fascinating history about the birth of Christianity in a city that has famously been described a "barren rock". We include a map to guide you through a historical stroll of some of the famous landmarks where early Christians

We hope this issue helps and inspires you as you seek God's heart and ask Him what you are to do with your time on this earth. As you take small steps of faith to love and follow Jesus, you are allowing God to weave your life into the magnificent tapestry of

Celebration

Missions has always been part of Island ECC's DNA. In Global Outreach's last four years, God has been transforming our church's understanding of missions. Missions in the context of Island ECC looks very different now than when it started.

2007 Casting Vision

When William Pritchard joined Island ECC in 2007 as the director of Global Outreach. missions was a rather nascent department. As a former missionary, Will was clear his calling was not to do missions on behalf of the church — after all. he could only be in one place at a time. His vision was to create a platform for people to experience and understand missions for themselves. The focus was to expose Island ECCers to missions through overseas short term outreach (STO) trips.



2009

"There is no boasting in Christianity. It is inherently humbling... It's not to say we've found God. But He found us."

Christian apologist, Michael Ramsden, spoke as the keynote speaker at "Hope of the Nations," the first Global Outreach Conference at Island ECC.

2008 Birth of iGO

Within two years, STO trips became the face of sland ECC's missions. Will saw the need to tell the life-changing stories of those people who had gone on STO trips and came back having experienced God in a more profound way than they had in Hong Kong. During a random conversation at a Cambodia fundraising dinner in 2008, Will spoke to Dawn Lau. who had been wanting to serve God somehow through writing. The idea of iGO was born. The first issue of iGO. which took the form of a travel magazine, was published in the following year.

2010 **Transformation**

God shifted our focus from "our" doing to "His" working. It was not about what teams accomplished on the ground but about God's transformational work in the participants' lives. People received personal healing, breakthroughs, and transformations on their trips. Their relationships with God were strengthened. Fellowship groups and care groups were being formed out of mission trips.



2012 The Calling

2012 was about understanding our calling as His people, and how we could live a lifestyle of missions all year round, in Hong Kong as well as on trips. We launch the Hope of the City ministry to provided local opportunities to reach out to the poor and the needy. It was an incredibly busy year. Every ministry had a trip. The total of 21 trips built a momentum for the 2013 missions conference

Printed Matter

What does iGO mean? The "i" stands for Island ECC church as well as "i" the individual. Without the individual, there would be no story. GO stand for Global Outreach, and also "to go," in accordance with the Lord's Great Commission.



2010

A Travelogue

A snapshot

of short-term

missions taken

the year before

2011 A Story Book Recounting how the trips impact participants. leaders and local

"WHAT MOTIVATES US TO SERVE GOD AND WHY ARE YOU DOING WHAT YOU ARE DONG?"

2011

At the second Global Outreach Conference, keynote speaker Arun Andrews spoke on a very key issue in understanding missions. While there are many reasons that can motivate us to serve God, there is only one that will sustain us in trials and testing and that is the "Love of Christ." Our motives are not based out of "our love for Christ" but out of the "Love of Christ."



partners



2012 A Magazine Looking toward what God has called us to do in missions



2013 A Magazine How to prioritise a Christ- centred life

2013 A New Wave

At the 2013 Global Outreach Conference, Steve Hawthorne, the keynote speaker gave a message on "a singularized life"- everything we do, we should do for God. There should be no compartment where God is kept out. This year we also notice the following trends:



Alpha Attendance has doubled since 2012, reaching over 300 people.



Hope of the City

Over 600 volunteers have participated in home visits and after school programs.



We had fewer trips as repeated trin leaders felt called to refocus their efforts elsewhere

writer Sherman Chau

EACE

Cover Story

"My name is Ozymandias, king of kings: Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!" Nothing beside remains. Round the decay Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare The lone and level sands stretch far away.

Percy Bysshe Shelley, Ozymandias



Grass withers and flowers fade, but the word of God endures forever. Isaiah 40:8

How will we be remembered? What will we leave behind after we're gone? Will we have made a mark in the world? These kinds of questions lie beneath the sands of Percy Shelley's famous poem. Inspired by the British acquisition of a statue of an Egyptian pharaoh, Shelley was moved to write about a fictional king who sought to outlive time through his empire and works but was ultimately subject to Chronos, the god of time. There is a dissonance between the fictional king's boastful words and the poignant ruin of his statue. In spite of his effort to preserve his achievements and feats, Ozymandias' life was a vanishing vapour, "a mist that appears for a little time," as James 4:14 puts it.

What do you think of when you hear the word "legacy"? Is it the financial inheritance you leave to your family? Is it some accomplishment that you hope others might remember you for? For some, it might be a tradition or an institution that was shaped by their participation, or a building or a foundation that bears their name. So no wonder that we all want to leave our mark in the world somehow, and know that we made a difference, big or small, lesser-known or well-known.

But if Shelley's observations are correct, if even the mighty pharaoh's attempts at posterity and longevity ended in decay and ruin, then is it a pointless effort? Should we even strive for a legacy?

A worthy legacy: lives of others

Perhaps the better question to ask is whether there is a kind of legacy worth striving for. Scripture exhorts us to build a legacy by pointing the next generation to the Lord. Psalm 71:18, "Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me,

O God; till I declare your power to the next generation, your might to all who are to come." 2 Timothy 2:2 says, "And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also." Yet another example of pouring into others as a worthy legacy is seen in Jesus' prayer in John 17: 4-6, "I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. I have revealed you to those who you gave me out of the world."

Even if we wanted to invest in others, our pride can cause us to place ourselves within that legacy, to make it more about us and our names than whatever lessons or truths we pass on. So how do we keep ourselves out of the picture? How do we check our vanity and ensure that our legacy is not about us?

It's not about who you know ...

It's about who you are. Of all the people in the Bible, James had good reason to coast through life on the basis of his status by association. The writer of the book of James is widely believed to have been the brother of Jesus. He did not believe that his brother was the Messiah while he still lived, but after the crucifixion he believed when Jesus appeared to him (1 Cor 15:7). After this, James became a prominent leader and the bishop of the church in Jerusalem. Although others referred to James as "the brother of the Lord," it was not a title that he used for himself and not one that he boasted about. In the opening of his letter, he refers to himself simply as "a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ," which should not be surprising since he writes about the attribute of humility many times in his letter. James was also known as James the Just or James the Righteous. He could have easily laid claim as being part of the greatest legacy as a brother of Jesus Christ. Instead, he is remembered more for his practical, down-to-earth

It's not about vour legacy... It's about putting others first.

teaching, his heart for the poor and for orphans and widows. His teaching can be summarised as "genuine faith is proven by good works." In the same way, a lasting legacy will be proven by the fruit that it continues to produce down the generations.

It's not about having all the answers ...

It's about how you find your answers. One of the most crucial challenges facing the early church was the question of whether Gentiles needed to follow Iewish customs in order to be called Christians. Acts Chapter 15 records that when some people were teaching new Gentile believers that their salvation was dependent on circumcision, Paul and Barnabas sharply disagreed and went to Jerusalem to seek an answer from the apostles and elders to this divisive question. The whole assembly listened to both sides: to Paul and Barnabas telling about the miracles that God was doing among the Gentiles and also to Pharisees who felt that the non-Jewish believers must still follow the law of Moses.

After both had finished, it fell to James, the leader of the church in Jerusalem, to answer. James could have given an answer out of his own wisdom. He could have given an immediate answer to look like an authoritative leader and used his clout to force everyone to follow his decision. But instead he listened to the wisdom of others (Simon Peter's testimony, Acts 15:14), and then ultimately looked to scripture and found confirmation as, "The words of the

prophets are in agreement with this" (v 15). When we think about a legacy, we should remember Isaiah 40:8, which says that, "the grass withers, the flower fades but the word of our God will stand forever." Only efforts that are founded on God's eternal word will have eternal value.

It's not about your legacy ...

It's about putting others first. In his letter, James has some stern and sobering words for people who presumed to be teachers. In Jewish and Greek culture at the time, one could make a name and a good living as a teacher and philosopher. Many people in the early church were making money and building a reputation by peddling wise words, and not truly teaching and building people up. So James starkly defines two kinds of wisdom in his letter: earthly wisdom and wisdom from heaven (3:13-15). Earthly wisdom is related to bitter envy and selfish ambition. If we apply earthly wisdom to hopes of a legacy, we can fall into a multitude of traps. We can envy the prestige of other legacies and fall prey to selfish ambition when we try to build a legacy based on ourselves.

"But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peaceloving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere" (3:17). If we want to leave a legacy, the kind that will last and mean something, James tells us that it cannot be self-serving. The characteristics of a legacy paradoxically remove us from the marquee billing, from the top spot. If we put God in that top spot and boast about His deeds, then we will have done our part to leave a legacy. ■

We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. Psalm 78:4



about HUDSON TAYLOR

The gravestone of Reverend James Hudson those unreached "tens Taylor contains very few honorifics. It refers to him simply as "A MAN IN CHRIST," four simple words that do not by existing missions capture the legacy of the man known as "the father of faith missions" and who left an indelible mark for missions in China. His own words about his calling to start the China Inland Mission (today known as OMF International. the Overseas Missionary Fellowship) reveal that Taylor's great work began with faith and prayer. Taylor first went to

China in 1854. He arrived at a time of chaos and rebellion and felt frustrated that his mission agency seemed to repeatedly make confusing, erratic and financially irresponsible decisions. The additional simple trust in God, a toll of disease and overwork added to the stresses of his ministry, forcing him to return to England in 1860.

"Little then did I realize that the long separation from China was a

necessary step towards the formation of a work which God would bless.. While detained for some years in England, daily viewing the whole country on the large map on the wall of my study ... prayer was often the only resource by which the burdened heart could gain any relief."

In his period of recuperation, Taylor was convinced of the need to bring the gospel to people in the inland parts of China, of thousands [who] were passing away to Christless graves!" and who were overlooked work, which focused on coastal areas. From his past experience, he was convinced that a new missions agency with a new approach was needed. for example, one with its headquarters in China rather than Great Britain. So in 1865, with every decision and turn steeped in prayer, he formed the China Inland Mission and did this with humility and great consideration for the work of other agencies:

"The grave difficulty of possibly interfering with existing missionary operations at home was foreseen: but it was concluded that, by suitable agency might be raised up and sustained without interfering injuriously with any existing work.'

Taylor was aware of the bigger picture of the work of missions

agencies overall and did not have an agenda to "compete" against them. One thing, however, that Taylor knew he wanted to change in the formation of the new mission agency was to devote less time to securing advance funding through "elaborate appeals for help" and to simply get out on the mission field, do His work and trust that God would provide, "Faith missions" depended wholly on prayer and God's faithfulness to provide support.

"I saw that the apostolic plan was not to raise ways and means, but to go and do the work, trusting in His sure Word who has said, 'Seek ve first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. and all these things shall be added unto you.

The China Inland Mission was at one time the largest Protestant missions agency in the world and pioneered new missions paradigms and approaches, such as dressing like Chinese and adopting local customs. Taylor's life of service and sacrifice also inspired generations of Christians, including Olympic sprinter and gold medalist Eric Liddell; missionary and martyr Jim Elliot and evangelists Billy Graham and Luis Palau.

Quotes taken from "The Call to Service" in A Retrospect, by James Hudson Taylor, Overseas Missionary Fellowship, n.d.

ARE YOU COMMIT NENT PHOBIC

Feature

writer Florence Chiu

way: "unless commitment is made, there are only promises and hopes ... but no plans." Perhaps some of your friends have called you a committed Christian. It could be said that commitment is very similar to being faithful and dedicated. How many of us can be like Billy Graham, who just turned 95 and preached what has been called his last sermon? Given that commitment seems to be a key factor in our Christian faith, what does the Bible actually say about it?

Keeping promises, following through on your word, going the distance ... all these things point to commitment. In this age of instant messaging, Twitter, and Facebook, our attention span is increasingly being challenged by the many options available at our fingertips. Commitment starts in the mind, and success in any endeavour requires that we first make a decision of emotional investment. Magic Johnson once said, "I was able to see what I wanted to do, I could see the opportunity, even when others could not, and I stay committed to doing it and doing it well, no matter what." Some of the most successful people throughout history are people who have been described as "committed", whether it is to a cause, a career or a faith. These individuals have been described this way probably because they made a decision to hold firmly to their commitments and that decision to persevere was proven over time. Peter Drucker, often called the man who invented management, describes it this

I remember talking to a missionary who had been in Japan for 20 years and asking him about the journey God had led him on. He turned it around to ask me, "If you were a missionary, how long do you think you would go for?" I replied, "I could commit five years first, and then see how God leads." His answer: "Think in 10s. Think 10 years." In Hudson Taylor's time, many missionaries would go with their belongings packed in a coffin, symbolising a lifetime commitment, aware that they may never return. Nowadays, 10 years seems too long of a commitment. Graduates are encouraged to advance the corporate ladder by changing jobs and not stay in their first roles for more than 3 years. Even marriages are no longer a lifetime commitment — we are entering into the age with the highest rate of divorce ever. People are said to have commitment phobia — whether it is to a job, a place, a church, or people. For many, just hearing the word "commitment" means added responsibility, promises that can't be kept, and sacrifices that one no longer wants to make. We are afraid that commitment means we can't keep our options open — what if something better comes along? Constantly looking out for the elusive "best thing" robs us of enjoying the present. We become weary and constantly unfulfilled.

When we turn to the Bible, the first thing to realise is that commitment doesn't start with us. It starts with God. The whole Bible is one big story of God's love for mankind. It is a story of God's commitment to us by showing us how much He loves us, even to the point of death. It is not a fleeting interest in us or a passion; in fact, it was His love for us that led Him to the cross. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). He did that so that we can be saved and have a relationship with Him. This is no small commitment. It came with a cost — a cruel and painful death and the burden of bearing the whole world's sins.

It is God's love for us that leads us to our commitment to Him. Christian commitment is a call to follow Jesus. We choose to follow Him because of who He is and His love for us. It is not a project, a country, a church or a ministry. His love for us motivates us to love others. The secondary commitments of going to church, evangelism, a ministry, service or loving others are an overflow of following Christ. We do not need to seek to please God by carrying out commitments to Christian activities. It is more important to commit ourselves to God rather than just being committed to do something for God.

People are said to have commitment phobia ... We are afraid that commitment means we can't keep our options open what if something better comes along? It was the understanding of God's love for them that led the disciples to commit themselves to the great commission even after Jesus' death — a decision that cost them their own lives in the end.

When Jesus called Peter, He asked the men to put their nets into the water even after they had worked hard all night and hadn't caught anything. When they pulled the nets up and saw the large number of fish, Peter cried out, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" (Luke 5:8) In that instance, Peter realised that he had come face to face with the Lord and his own sinfulness. Even though the disciples probably didn't fully understand what the words "follow me" would entail, they realised that they were following someone who was more than an ordinary man. Someone they would eventually understand as their Lord, Teacher, Friend and Saviour — the Son of God. It was this realisation and the subsequent understanding of God's love for them that led the disciples to commit themselves to the great commission even after Jesus' death - a decision that cost them their own lives in the end. Jesus demonstrated to them that "greater love has no one than this: that he lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13)

Following Jesus is a decision that is voluntary. You can make someone sign a piece of paper or keep them accountable to their commitment, but unless it is a conscious, personal decision, it will not bring about true repentance and transformation. At the heart of Christian commitment is a deep recognition of Christ's love for us that compels us to turn away from our old lives and make

a decision to Him. Following Jesus is easy when life runs smoothly but our true commitment to Him is revealed during trials. And Jesus assured us that trials will indeed come to those who follow Him. Discipleship demands sacrifice, and Jesus never hid that cost. "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." (Luke 9:23) Jesus also said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." (John 14:15) Taking up our cross daily is dying to self - your desires, your possessions, your status, even your life, and surrendering in to God. "For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it." (Matthew 16:25)

What does following Jesus have to do with legacy? Those who take up their cross and follow Jesus will leave a legacy that is not about them, but one that says boldly, "to live is Christ, to die is gain." The next time you sing the words of the song "I have decided to follow Jesus", think about what it means in your life to make that commitment to follow Him. The cost is great, but the reward is priceless. Will you be committed to follow Jesus? Because with Jesus, there is no other "best thing" that could come along. He is already the best person you could ever know, offering you the best relationship you could ever have, and giving you the best life you could ever live.

The Story Behind

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus by S. Sundar Singh

I have decided to follow Jesus; ¹³ No turning back, no turning back. Though I may wonder, I still will follow; ¹³ No turning back, no turning back. The world behind me, the cross before me; ¹⁰ No turning back, no turning back. Though none go with me, still I will follow; ¹³ No turning back, no turning back. Will you decide now to follow Jesus? ¹³ No turning back, no turning back.

In the 19th century, a Welsh missionary travelled to Assam in north-east India, a tribal region known for head-hunting. One particular family was saved and converted to Christianity. The man of the household began telling others about Christ and his faith kindled the hatred of the chieftain. The village chief demanded for the father to renounce his faith in front of the whole village or see his wife and two boys murdered. He refused, declaring, "I have decided to follow Jesus, no turning back, no turning back". Upon seeing his own children executed, he said the words to the next line of the song, "The world can be behind me, but the cross is still before me." The chief gave him one last chance to renounce his faith, but again the man refused. As his wife was pierced by arrows, and he himself was executed, he sang the last lines, "Though no one is here to go with me, still I will follow Jesus." The man's faith stunned the chieftain so much it led to his conversion and the entire village's conversion. All because one man decided to follow Jesus. An Indian missionary who heard the story behind this village's conversion put these last words from the faithful man into a hymn, which ultimately spread from India to America, reminding us of what it means to follow Christ with undying commitment and total surrender.



LOVE: It is a small four-letter word that will cost you everything

"Laying down your life, passion and compassion, giving without expecting, feeling His very heartbeat and surrendering to His rhythm, and following the Lamb wherever He goes, even to Mozambique." These are the words that spoke of Mun Shing's commitment to follow Christ to Mozambique in 2012. It was motivated by one thing – God's love. This scene confirmed that decision and since then she has continued to follow Jesus' call to Malaysia to serve in Alpha. Feature

MORE THAN ONE



WRITER Dawn Lau

By the end of our lives, most of us would want to have some worthy accomplishments to show for our time here. There is a chance we could be a C.S. Lewis, whose books have sold millions of copies, or a Billy Graham, who has preached to 2.2 billion people. The reality is, most of us as Christians are called to a lifetime of more anonymous service. We will likely carry out God's work in relative obscurity, without making a big name for ourselves. But that doesn't mean we are nameless or faceless. God did create us to be in community, where we can love and be loved, and enjoy nurturing relationships with a group of believers. These relationships propel us to serve others: "Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works; not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together" (Hebrews 10:24-25). God does not look at the size or the success of our ministry, but at the faithfulness with which we execute our tasks and the generosity with which we seek to bless others. Starting at Home

Not every assignment

God gives us will be

lofty and exciting. In fact, more often than not we are called to do the small and together." simple. Every Sunday Jesus modelled at Island ECC, 200 the ideal biblical volunteers are needed community for us

to fulfil all the roles. Most of the tasks do not require any special skills but are opportunities for us to serve each other within the church. Alan Leung, coordinator of Assimilation at Island ECC, organises and manages these volunteers. He said, "When we realise we are stewards, then serving is not a chore, it's a privilege. We do want people to see this as their home where they belong. And at home, you help out. You don't expect to be served all the time." We need to learn to serve each other well before we can serve the community at large.

Judy Hung has been volunteering at the Lighthouse ministry for three years, making regular visits to a girls' drug rehabilitation centre in Hong Kong. Recently she has on her heart to take it one step further and form a caregroup with the volunteers. "I realise even though it is important to serve the girls at the drug rehab centre, it is equally

important for us to

serve each other — to

outside and beckons them to join. The mission starts to be fulfilled by virtue of believers coming together in partnership. Many Are Better Than One Being in authentic, loving, and honest community provides precious opportunities to cultivate individual character qualities such as commitment, humility, flexibility, openness, willingness to learn, and transparency. We can only learn patience by having our patience tested by others, and we can only become

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pray, to share in our joys and our struggles, and to delight in God,

when He gathered twelve disciples to carry out His mission. The early church in Acts 2 lived in community: they ate together, prayed together, praised God together, shared their possessions, experienced feelings of awe, celebrated signs and wonders — "And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved" (Acts 2:47). This tells us that when Christian fellowship is authentic, it attracts those on the

selfless in the context of those around us. As a body of Christ, we are also to fill in each other's weaknesses and draw out each other's strengths, because we have each been gifted uniquely. Healthy, biblical interdependency therefore promotes unity and serves to hold our individual pride in check, because we know that we need each other.

Billy Graham, considered one of the greatest evangelists of all time, attributes the success of his ministry to God and the wife He had provided for him: "Ruth was my life partner, and we were called by God as a team. No one else could have borne the load that she carried. She was a vital and integral part of our ministry, and my work through the years would have been impossible without her encouragement and support. I am so grateful to the Lord that He gave me Ruth."

Me or We?

Individuals like Bill Gates and Steve Jobs are lauded for their personal accomplishments, and indeed they have made a significant impact on many people's

lives through their ideas, inventions, and philanthropy. But their legacy will fade with time. Christians, however, should not strive to create personal legacies, but to play a part in Christ's enduring one. We accept joyfully whatever role God has purposed for us ---whether big or small, famous or little-known, leading or following trusting God has the bigger picture in mind.

Although a lone star in the dark night can shine brightly, how much more breathtaking it is when an array of stars come together to form a constellation. Let us not therefore focus on how bright our own light is, for we are already privileged partakers in the legacy that Christ has extended to us. As a community, we are much more effective when we join together to form a cluster of lights that reflects a loving God to a darkened world.

ILLUSTRATION A beautiful picture: Stars coming together to magnify His beauty.



TRACES

WRITER Dawn Lau

The following pages feature just a handful of the legacies that have coursed through this church. For all the people who have poured into your life, you can trace back to the people who have poured into theirs. We will all be followers sometimes, leader others, at different seasons of our lives. You may find that the love you give will return to you in conduits that you don't expect, and sometimes they are not found in the places in which you've sown. That's the wonderful mystery of God's workings. We don't need to fully understand it, but appreciating it and looking for it give us the greater perspective of God's kingdom. Be intentional about pouring out in areas that God has placed on your heart, whether it's upwards towards your leader or downwards to someone you're leading, and be equally gracious in receiving from unlikely places.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Vincent Lai Jon Lau Hugo Lo

Hugo grew up under the care of Po Leung Kuk, a local organization catering to orphans and children from troubled families. At Island ECC's youth fellowship, he met Jon, one of the Youth staff at the time. "Jon was like a big brother to me."

Jon said, "Hugo used to compare himself to other youth at Island ECC in terms of parental affirmation and material goods. But we saw him discover what he wants to do for himself—applying to community college and finding a part-time job—and start pursuing those things without paralyzing himself with comparisons."

Vincent was Jon's Sunday school teacher. He remembers Jon as part of a group of "naughty and rowdy but basically decent" kids. "We used to have Sunday service in hotel ballrooms, and once the fire alarm went off and guards were running towards the children's room. It turned out Jon and his friends had been playing with matches!.. To see Jon grow up into a responsible adult, serving full-time at Youth Ministries, getting married... that's what it's all about. If it were just about the teaching, I don't think I would've done it for so long



2:7 DISCIPLESHIP CLASS Jeff Ryan

In his early 20s, Jeff participated in the 2:7 course, a discipleship class whose name is derived designed to be passed from Colossians 2:7: "rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing that he had taught with thankfulness." A friend told Jeff he had "Jeff, not only are you a gift for discipling men. In the late 1980s, a great, great, great, Jeff started teaching the 2:7 course in Hong Kong, first at his office, then at ECC in Kowloon, and subsequently Island

ECC. In 2008 the 2:7 course at Island began to gather momentum, and now the church is on the 9th generation of the course. Jeff said, "The course is on, to be replicated. Disciple-making is all about replication." One of the women said to him recently, a spiritual father, but great grandfather." This woman had become a 2:7 teacher herself and her discipling had extended six generations.



PRECEPT BIBLE STUDY Chung Ling Paika Liu

The first time Chung Ling attended a Precept class, which uses an inductive Bible study method, she was struck by the way the teacher had such fire and intimacy for God's word. Chung Ling realized that "the Lord desires to reveal Himself to us through His word." She wanted to pursue this method, and eventually brought the class to Island ECC. teach or lead, but In 2011, Paika, who had just moved to Hong you to share what you Kong, found her first

point of community in Chung Ling's class. "I saw the Word come alive and lived out by Chung Ling," recalled Paika, "and from the beginning she emphasized that we must receive spiritual nourishment for ourselves and then pass it on to others." From one leader, the class has now expanded to five leaders, including Paika, who said, "You may never feel completely ready to God's word compels do know."

ALPHA COURSE Edith Soares Gary and Garland Cheng Nick Ting

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In 2005 at a dinner party Edith found herself seated next to Gary and Garland, who had just started attending Island ECC. Edith had been praying for a couple to support the new Alpha at Island ECC. One month later, the first session of Alpha, combining ECC and Island ECC, opened to over 50 participants. In 2012, after seven years of running the course, it was time to let the young people rise up in the leadership. Garland said, "Enthusiasm is not enough. It needs to be someone who is teachable and has had a real encounter with the love of Jesus and desiring the same for others." Mun Shing Cheong and Nick Ting came on board and began leading the course, which was

60 helpers and 140 participants. Gary said, "What Edith really passed on to us was the joy of serving, a strong sense of family, and unity." Nick added, "Graduates return to be helpers, and some have started doing Alpha in their workplaces, schools, caregroups." Mun even went on to leave her corporate job in Hong Kong to work for Alpha full-time in Kuala Lumpur. Gary concluded, "Whether we're the ones running the course or not, it doesn't really matter. The legacy of the gospel is a relationship with Jesus Christ-that's eternal. But we get to live out the

incarnational gospel-

this is the gospel with

skin on."

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RWANDA Praise Ma

Praise started to visit the Youth With a Mission (YWAM) base in Rwanda in 2004 with the youth team from Island ECC. They were the first Asian group that YWAM had ever received. Since then, Praise has been returning every year, forming deep relationships with the people there. "Some of the widows are like a mother or grandmother to me; having lived through the genocide, they have so much wisdom to share." Praise and the team have helped the widows set up businesses to support their families. encouraged the street kids to find jobs or go to school, and lifted them up in prayer. "God preserved their lives even through the genocide for a reason and a purpose. One young man works in the government now, two guys starred in a Rwandan film and went to the Cannes film festival, a worship band was formed and they played at Island ECC in November this year... Legacy is not about how many people we can get out of poverty. It is about how many lives have been set on fire for God, and how the Lord takes that fire and directs their path."

The people profiled here probably had no idea where God would take them when they took that first step of faith to move in the right direction. And all of them looked to pass on freely what they had — their knowledge, resources, experience, advice — to serve, equip and encourage the next generation. They are not leaving a legacy for themselves but a legacy of Jesus' stamp on their lives, one that declares, "I am not my own, but I belong to Christ. And I live my life to obey, follow and glorify Him." Jesus' legacy flows from His death on the cross for our sins. As it was His passion to die for us, let it be our utmost desire to follow Him.

Go

Our missionaries in the field talk real faith, partnership, and what encourages them.

WRITER Ly-ann Tan

> Island ECC supports more than 10 individual missionary units around the world. enabling them to be the hands and feet of Jesus whether they are bringing relief to social injustices, caring for the orphans and widows or sharing the gospel with the unreached. We, as a church, consider Member Care an important part of our mission. We support, love, and care for our

missionaries as they carry out Jesus' mandate to "go and make disciples of all nations". Financial and prayer support are usually the first things that cross our minds when we think about Member Care. Those are practical necessities, but what can we do to care for their spiritual and emotional states as well? We asked four missionaries to tell

who somehow have a higher threshold for discouragement, doubts, and fears. But actually, what makes them feel the same things that encourage us. They treasure us their stories.

What surprised

lives seemed so

normal, despite

them as faithful

superheroes

those little

expressions that us was how their the political risks many of them have They, like us, need undertaken for the to be reminded sake of the gospel. that they are not We may think of who have a rich inheritance. As they are in Jesus encouraged are also their motivation.

remind them they are loved, that they are being prayed for and supported. what they do, but they are sons and daughters of God such, what they do flows out of who Christ, and that is the true source of

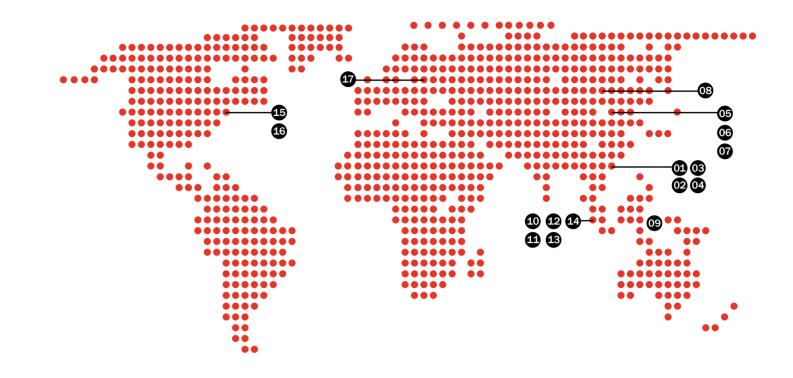
Care package is a parcel

of food, money, or luxury

items sent to a loved one

who is away (in order to

convey affection).



Retelling our story to visitors reminds us why we are here

"When teams from Hong Kong come, it always brightens up my ministry. It's not often I get to speak Cantonese so it's nice even just to speak Cantonese together.

My ministry is to reach out to the mainland Chinese. This I usually do by myself, which can be lonely but when there's a group of us, it is so much more interesting since there are others to talk to and exchange ideas with. And, I'm not the only one who enjoys it. Even though teams may come from Hong Kong, the Mainland Chinese who are in Uganda are also encouraged because they have familiar Asian faces that want to visit them and speak a common language!

Most who visit only see a fraction of the ministry we do, so they may not realize that the meetings we arrange between short-term teams and the local Chinese are such natural platforms for sharing the gospel and allow us opportunities to followup and form deeper relationships. Once, after a team was gone, I was able to bring three people to the Lord because of this connection that had been sparked by the team's visit. The visiting team only got to see a small slice of our life and not the full picture. Sometimes visitors try to be helpful and may give suggestions which may not work in our context.

Still, this is always an opportunity for us to share what our daily and normal life actually looks like. We can sometimes forget what is so special about what we do or why we are here, so sharing our life with visiting teams is actually a good reminder to us of why we are here!"

26

Achim and Lhaki are currently transitioning to a different organization (OMF) to minister to the Chinese in Germany. In the meantime, Achim is working for OMF in the German office and Lhaki is taking formal lessons in Putonghua to enable her to reach the Mainland Chinese in Germany more effectively

MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT:

HONG KONG

- 1. Samuel Chiang
- 2. Wilson Ho
- 3. Eva Lee
- 4. Wilson Chan

CHINA

- 5. Steve Wible
- 6. Tim & Debbie Vinzani
- 7. John & Annalisa Gates

MONGOLIA 8. Helen Tijsterman

PHILIPPINES 9. Daniel & Anna Mayhugh

VIETNAM 10. Le Khac Cuong 11. Thong & Mary Tao

CAMBODIA 12. Priscilla & Nathan Chan 13. Nadia Wong

THAILAND 14. Chew & Aileen Thong

15. Kevin Kusunoki 16. Carl Lahr

GERMANY 17. Achim & Lhaki Appel

We have friends to stand in the gap for us when we've needed someone to look out for our needs

"The thing about being away on the field is that life goes on, our home church family increases, new people join and friends grow. So, one of the things we treasure most is the relationships we have with our home church family. When new teams come, it is a great opportunity for us to get to know the new folks at church that we wouldn't have known being away. And even after they've gone, it is always so encouraging when team members want to stay involved and get updates so that they can pray and walk alongside us and others on the field.

It means a lot to us when our church joins us in the work that we do. We've been so encouraged by fundraising efforts for the causes we advocate in Cambodia and how Cambodia STO teams use their resources, gifts and relationships as a platform for that. It's especially encouraging when they choose to return to Cambodia to deepen their friendships with the nationals and ministries that they have met and befriended.

A piece of advice that we always give our visitors? When you come to a developing country like Cambodia to serve, take a step back, relax, and keep a heart that's eager to seek and learn. Accommodations may be simple and customer service (or even life in general) may be slower than we're used to in Hong Kong. However, it's important to remember that this country is still moving towards international standards in terms of the hospitality industry. As visitors, we should show grace and remember to focus on what God is doing, not what we think things should be.

But we can count on family — we have had friends that have stood in the gap for us when we've needed someone to look out for our needs. Nathan once had a hefty medical bill covered by anonymous donors from our church. More recently, a congregant opened up her home to us for a few months when we needed a place to stay in Hong Kong for the birth of our son. Other times, it is as simple as sharing in our everyday lives in Cambodia, hanging out with us and doing what we enjoy."

Sometimes, it just takes one encouraging conversation...

Nathan and

Priscilla Chan serve

in Cambodia to

of human rights

to the vulnerable

with them. They

walk alongside

Cambodians to

empower and

train them to lift

the full potential that God created

them to be so that

Cambodians that

they reach will have

a relationship with

they and other

God.

themselves to

and sharing God's

love and the gospe

support survivors

abuse, reaching out

"Three years ago I met a couple from Island ECC in Ho Chi Minh City who came to visit. We had a fruitful discussion on ministry in Vietnam and it was at his encouragement that we began my current church planting movement ministry.

I think it was good that I was able to go at that time to Hong Kong to learn with more liberty about how to enable this ministry. Sharing the gospel in many places is still restricted and authorities are very wary of short-term teams so any conversation about these things is sensitive.

There are a lot of things that can bring unwanted attention which in turn hinders our ministry big groups and sensitive talk on religion are just some examples which can make ministry difficult. Actually, sharing the gospel in Vietnam isn't as easy or independent as it seems so we really appreciated that the couple gave helpful and contextual advice with the counsel of the Island ECC's Global Outreach team." Thong and Mary Tao have served in Vietnam since 2002. Their work with Campus Crusade for Christ involves coordinating access to the Jesus film and church planting movements.

I felt cared for was when a friend came over to help me out for one month

"It's nice to be remembered — a care package with familiar treats from home or a festive card is encouraging. Even simple emails to stay in touch help me know that others are thinking of me. But perhaps one of the most tangible ways I felt cared for was when a daughter of a friend came over to help me out for one month. At any one time, I have at least four foster children so I dare you to imagine what childcare is like!

Knowing my children were well taken care of has allowed me to attend the 2013 Global Outreach Conference. It's nice to be away for a couple of days among adults anyway, but being at the conference was so good! Going to church in Mongolia is difficult because of certain restrictions placed on foster care so I have dearly missed congregational fellowship and being spiritually nourished in a church setting.

It's not just the kids who benefit from childcare missionaries on the field are normally away from friends and family back home so it is nice to have visitors we know come to visit and hang out and find out how we are doing. Of course, having visitors always involves extra hospitality but if they have initiative and are fairly independent it makes life easier for me." Helen Tijsterman serves with Alpha Communities in Mongolia to look for opportunities to support struggling families and reunite foster children with parents whenever possible.

care package What we have sent through these years



Green Tea

Surely our partners deserve the small divine pleasures of a hot cup of peppermint tea on a cold winter's night.



Chinese Sausages

We sent this to Africa because they are a simple but a traditional supplement of rice that isn't easy to come by in that part of the world.



Soup Mix

Cantonese soups warm the cockles of the hearts of our missionaries reminding them of mom's home cooking.



Drink Markers

These are great for our missionaries to help them host care groups; the suction cups help to identify everyone's cup.

*ACT: Thinking about caring for our missionaries? You or your Community group could play a big part in ensuring our supported partners don't feel forgotten. Email go@islandecc.hk to find out how.

Case Study

writer Amy Wong

Igniting Hope

Approximately one fifth of Hong Kong's population is living in poverty. The needs can seem overwhelming, but a community of volunteers is committed to bringing hope to the disenfranchised.

Many religions, social justice organizations, and service groups seek to impart legacy by encouraging their members to uphold certain standards of behavior. While these principles can undeniably shape a more positive environment, continuity of this morally based legacy is dependent on the actions of individuals. As Christians, we are not only striving to leave behind an individual legacy, we are called to cultivate a community legacy that glorifies Christ.

Hope of the City was founded in 2010 by a group of Christian businessmen seeking to address the poverty gap in Hong Kong. They asked themselves, "If the churches were to disappear, what would be the impact on the disenfranchised? Have we engaged in a way that reveals God's steadfast love for the poor? Do our ministries work together to meet the









"We [the volunteers] really wanted to let them know that we care about them. The children are just as worthy as any other person, but they may not know their worth and need encouragement and affirmation." Justin Lee, Volunteer at Character Building Workshops



01/02 Hope of the City volunteers accompanied disadvantaged elderly on an outing to Lai Chi Kok Park. The elderly had their portraits taken and enjoyed sharing stories about the changes they have witnessed in the city.





03

03/04 Earlier this year, volunteers from HANDS care group committed to serve together as part of Hope of the City's outreach efforts in Shek Kip Mei. They "adopted" five elderly people to visit on a monthly basis including a woman called Chan Por Por. Chan Por Por's living conditions were unbearable and her attitude was dejected. Her flat hadn't been cleaned in years, her refrigerator was packed with expired food, and she had hoarded moth-eaten clothing. Alarmed by Chan Por

Por's plight, volunteers took the initiative to show compassion through a home "makeover" project.

The renovation process quickly became a collaborative effort, drawing additional help from several care groups, men from Men's Fraternity, players from the Islanders basketball team, and other friends. The work was labour-intensive, dirty, and involved the extermination of a colony of cockroaches. However, the volunteers saw the renovation through from beginning

to end, determined to show Chan Por Por love in the most practical way. Their sacrificial acts also impacted the building guards and neighbours who witnesse the transformation in Chan Por Por's flat and in her softened demeanour. Although the renovations are now completed, demonstrating Christ's love to her will be an ongoing commitment. Our goal is not to treat people as projects but to see them through God's eyes and to continue to love them, whether they change their ways or not.

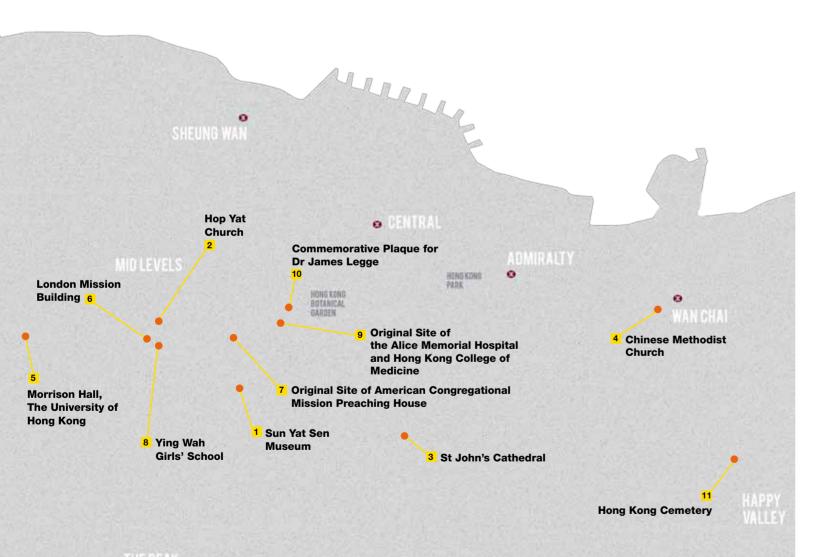
material and spiritual needs of low-income families or are we serving in isolation?" These reflective questions brought forth the vision of a collective Christian community with a focus to transform the city of Hong Kong by transforming lives.

Volunteers serving with Hope of the City are choosing to live sacrificially because they value the lives of their neighbours. The new government-set poverty line classifies over 1.3 million residents as poor. Caring for these people and meeting their needs is not an easy task; in fact, it sounds too overwhelming for any one individual to tackle. Some say it is impossible to completely eradicate poverty. If so, why do these volunteers spend their Saturday mornings visiting elderly on a monthly basis, leading character-building classes for children from low-income families, and conducting home safety assessments? They are motivated by something greater than themselves - the legacy of God's love. Jesus said, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:34-45).

The beauty of a community legacy is that the desire for change, the desire for better educational opportunities for children, the desire to see family relationships healed, do not end with our generation. These desires are ingrained in our lives and instilled in the hearts of those who will come after us. The choices that we make as a community each and every day are shaping the legacy that captures our hearts, enlivens our faith, and deepens our understanding of Christ's love.

Walking History

The history and development of Hong Kong was intricately linked to the work and presence of missionaries. dating back to 1841. Missionaries, mission societies and churches played a significant role in the development of education, health care and social welfare. Currently, Christian organisations operate 3 universities, 144 secondary schools, 192 primary schools, 273 kindergartens, 116 nurseries, 16 theological seminaries and Bible institutes, 7 hospitals, 15 camp sites and numerous social service organisations. There are too many places, names and monuments that have not yet been mentioned in this article. This map only traces some of the legacy and stories left by those who have walked in faith before us. They were not to know the impact they would have so many decades after their deaths, but they were obedient to what God would have them do while they were alive. Their actions have left us tangible reminders that continue to point many people to God even today.





1 Sun Yat Sen Museum 7 Castle Road

Dr Sun Yat Sen was the father of Modern China and a political and revolutionary leader. He played a leading role in overthrowing the Manchu (Oing) dynasty in 1911. One of the greatest influences in Dr Sun's life was Christianity. He went to Hong Kong in 1883 and was baptized by Charles R. Hager, an American Methodist missionary, while studying in Queen's College. It was said that Christianity inspired Sun towards revolution and he saw revolution likened to the salvation mission of the Christian Church. That is the reason why his baptismal name is Rixin (日新), literally meaning "daily renewal."



2 Hop Yat Church 2 Bonham Road

Its predecessor was Daoii Mission House and the 5 Morrison Hall, To Tsai Church, the first The University of independent Chinese church in Hong Kong. To Tsai Church Pokfulam (道濟會堂) was founded by the London Missionary Morrison Hall was named Society in 1888 and was after the missionary Robert Dr Sun Yat Sen's place of Morrison who brought worship. Due to its growth, the Gospel of Jesus and this church erected a large Christian education to the building in 1926 and was Chinese. Robert Morrison renamed Hop Yat Church was the first Protestant (合一堂).



3 St John's Cathedral 4-8 Garden Road

trained, such as Leung A-fa, Built in 1847 during Queen the first Chinese ordained Victoria's reign, St John's preacher and Ho Fuk-tong, Cathedral is the oldest the father of the Ho Kai who church in Hong Kong. It initiated the Hong Kong was one of the earliest College of Medicine for worshipping places erected

by the Anglican Church for western believers soon after Hong Kong became a British colony in 1841. In July 1944, St John's Cathedral was converted into a clubhouse by the Japanese. When World War II ended, St John's Cathedral was restored and rebuilt in the shape of a cross and still functions today as a church.



4 Chinese Methodist Church 36 Hennessy Road

Chinese Methodist Church (循道衛理聯合教會) started in 1882 at Wellington Street, Hong Kong. Upon expansion, it moved to Aberdeen Street and then Caine Road. In 1936, it moved to a new building at 36 Hennessy Road, Hong Kong. In 1998, this building was replaced by a 23-storey building. The church has started numerous branch churches and schools all over Hong Kong.

Hong Kong

missionary who was sent

by the London Missionary

Society (LMS) to China. In

order to develop Chinese

personnel for evangelism

Anglo-Chinese School (Ying

Wa College) for theological

training. Here, some famous

Morrison founded the

Chinese leaders were



of the American **Congregational Mission Preaching House** 2 Bridges Street

The Congregational Mission Preaching House was founded by an American missionary, C.R. Hager, in 1883. In June of the same year, Dr Sun Yat-sen was baptised there. During 1884-86. Dr Sun studied in Central School and resided on the third floor of the house. It was later relocated and the building was converted into the present market.



8 Ying Wah Girls' School 76 Robinson Road (under renovation)

32

Chinese, the predecessor of The University of Hong Kong (HKU) and who sponsored the founding of Alice Memorial Hospital. Morrison Hall was a hostel for students: a training center for youths, teachers and ministers; and a venue for local Christian leadership formation and conferences



6 London Mission

Building

78-90 Robinson Road

In 1893, The Daoji Mission House built two blocks of guarters for the missionaries from the London Missionary Society. In 1939, the building was used as the quarters for the nurses of Nethersole Hospital. In 1950, it was left vacant after the construction of a new block of nurse quarters was completed. It is now converted to a private clubhouse. This building is no longer open to the public.





At first Hong Kong's education came from Protestant and Catholic missionaries who provided social services. Italian missionaries began to provide boys-only education to British and Chinese youth in small village Chinese schools observed by the British missionaries. The London Missionary Society and Sir James Cantlie started the Hong Kong College of Medicine for Chinese in 1887. Ying Wa Girls' School was founded in 1900 by Helen Davies of the former London Missionary Society. It started off as a boarding school for girls and expanded to include a secondary section in 1915 and a two-year kindergarten in 1916 Another notable school in the area is St. Stephen's Girls' College, established by the Church Missionary Society of the Anglican Church.



9 Original Site of the Alice Memorial **Hospital and Hong Kong College of Medicine** 77-81 Hollywood Road

As early as 1843. missionaries established some of the first hospitals in Hong Kong open to the general public. In 1887, Ho Kai and the London Missionary Society established the Alice Memorial Hospital and set up the Hong Kong College of Medicine in it. It became the first hospital in Hong Kong to provide nurses and midwives training and the first hospital offering free western medicine to the Chinese community. Later, the college merged with the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Hong Kong. The Alice Memorial Hospital was moved to 2 Bonham Road and renamed as Nethersole Hospital. In 1984, the first chaplain entered into the public hospital, followed by the rapid development of the chaplaincy service in Hong Kong, an important part of

spiritual care to the sick and dying.



10 Commemorative **Plague for Dr James** Leage 44 Gough Street

Dr James Legge was born in Scotland in 1815. In 1842, he came to Hong Kong and set up an office of London Mission as well as Ying Wa College in the vicinity of Aberdeen Street and Staunton Street to foster English learning among the Chinese. He had also contributed to revolutionising Hong Kong's educational system and advocating the establishment of Government Schools. In 1843, under the leadership of James Legge who later was invited to serve in the colonial government to start the Central School (now Queen's College) a new scheme of general education was introduced in Hong Kong. After returning to United Kingdom in his old age, he died in 1897.



11 Hong Kong Cemetery Wanchai District

Hong Kong Cemetery (founded in 1845) is one of the early Christian cemeteries of Hong Kong during its colonial era. Most of the earliest Christian missionaries are buried there, including Karl Friedrich August Gützlaff, a German missionary who helped to establish Lutherar churches in Hong Kong, and Henrietta Hall Shuck. the first foreign female missionary to Hong Kong and who set up the first girls' school in Hong Kong.

Books&Things

Our minds are a gift from God. We ask children to treasure learning while they are young. We hope that these resources will be used to grow you in your walk of faith as adults.

BOOKS

Half-time by Bob Buford

Midlife. Halftime. If you are in this season of your life and desire more, Buford invites you into a second half that can be a time of revitalisation, purpose, impact and growth, where life can be lived at its most rewarding.



The Journey from Success to Significance

by John Maxwell

Filled with inspirational quotes, snippets and vignettes, John Maxwell's book is great for people who don't like to read yet still want to be challenged to live for deeper meaning and higher purpose.

The Irresistible Revolution: Living as an Ordinary Radical by Shane Claiborne EVOLUTION

The Irresistible Revolution is a disturbing book to get the

comfortable off the sofa and on the streets to make the gospel real. It is a simple call to action to change the world with small acts of kindness and love.



The 40 Most Influential Christians ... Who Shaped What We Believe Today by Daryl Aason

There are by far more than 40 influential Christians across the centuries but this book gives a great overview of some of the lives that were used to shape history. This is a great place to get to know Polycarp, Justin Martyr, Augustine, Thomas Aguinas, Martin Luther, John Calvin, Karl Barth, Carl F. H. Henry, and more.

WEB

Focus on the Family focusonthefamily.com

From singles to married couples to parents, this is where you will find resources for whichever season of your life you find yourself in. There are articles, books, media, Q&A, and even radio programs that are focused on helping your family thrive.

Christianity Today christianitytoday.com

This is a classic website for the latest Christian news. theology, church, ministry, and culture. You can also find engaging articles from the online Christianity Today Magazine and Leadership Journal, as well as reviews on books, music and movies.



Poverty Cure povertycure.org

STUDY

Christ calls us to care for the poor, but this means more than assistance. There is no single solution to poverty, and good people will disagree about methods, but Poverty Cure is a resource that will challenge you to rethink poverty, compassion, and entrepreneurial solutions within a Christian context.

Masters in **Transformational** Development micahnetwork.org/ news/masterstransformationaldevelopment

If you are interested in learning more about responses to community development needs, relief programs, justice issues, integral mission, theology, strategy and effectiveness, then this program is for you. It provides a graduate-level qualification for Asians and non-Asians based in Asia, who are working in the fields of advocacy, aid and development and social welfare.

FUN Things

Spot the 10 differences.









Rearrange the letters below to the original words that spell out the individuals and ministries Island ECC supports.

- 1. Again Down
- 2. Got Goat
- 3. Calamine Hugs
- 4. A Secretarial Internist Minion

Answer



Nadia Wong **Teaching English** and Law with ELIC in universities in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. She rides her bike everywhere to avoid being stuck in traffic



Gotta Go Gotta go was founded in 2005 and is focused on spreading the Gospel through community development in Hunan, China, serving the impoverished, enslaved and those without a voice who have never before heard the name.



Samuel Chiang Samuel facilitates the International Orality Network (ION); the network has over 1200 member organizations, churches, and denominations dispersed across every time zone. ION's vision is to influence the body of Christ to make disciples of all oral preference learners.



International Care Ministries ICM addresses the holistic needs of the impoverished in the Philippines by teaching attainable life skills, which lead to stronger relationships. improved problemsolving and greater family well-being.

