

PELITA METHODIST

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深化祷告之旅
A Deepening Journey of Prayer

13-15/06/2016

森美兰州波德申卫理站
Port Dickson Methodist Centre

speaker 讲员:
Rev. Dr. Iman Santoso

Methodist School of Intercessors
卫理代祷者学苑

Moment

Methodist School of Intercessors

Date: 13-15 June 2016

Venue: Port Dickson Methodist Centre



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An Episcopal
MISSIONAL CALL
A Methodist Church after God's Own Heart -
**Growing deep and strong inside,
Standing with Christ's Body nationwide,
Giving God glory from every side.**

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Watchmen, Church and Nation

With a joyful heart, we give thanks to God for He has blessed the Methodist Church in Malaysia with a fruitful School of Intercessors (13-15/06/2016, at Port Dickson Methodist Centre). We are grateful that pastors, church leaders, and intercessors were edified and lifted up through (1) worship and teaching sessions; (2) journey of prayer stations; (3) fervent intercessory prayers; (4) mutual fellowship and encouragement; and (5) the strong Methodist connectional spirit shown.

May our Triune God continue to deepen our passion and commitment to pray for our beloved country, the Malaysian Church, and the people in this land. Kindly also keep the following in your intercessory prayers:

1. Deepening of Personal Growth

- Pray that our Triune God will deepen our hunger for His Word, for quality time of deep worship before Him.
- Pray that our pursuit of piety and holiness of heart and life will be enhanced. An intercessor's life should be a life which is in step with the Spirit.
- Pray for strengthening of our sensitivity to the person, presence and power of the Holy Spirit and that we keep in step in Him.

2. A Watchmen Church for this Land

- Pray for the General Conference (20-23/09; Episcopal election and Discipline reviews) and all Annual Conferences (25/10-27/11; Presidential election, election of lay leaders and all Board members).
- Pray for all our pastors, church leaders, and intercessors to be more committed in their calling as intercessors and/or watchmen for our country and our people.
- Pray that God will raise and nurture intercessors who are called to be Issachar watchmen for this land. Pray for God's revelation of appropriate plans to synergize and mobilize intercessors to pray for key national issues.

3. Praying for our Nation

- Pray for the AG and all judges that they will perform with good conscience and fairness so that judicial justice will be upheld throughout.
- Pray in advance for God's intervention upon the next Parliamentary Sitting in October, where the PAS Private Members Bill will be tabled and debated.
- Pray for righteous Parliament members and Government officers to uphold human rights and speak up for justice. Pray against covert plans to implement Syariah law via the various state administrations with the intention to eventually Islamize the Federal Constitution and harmonize all laws under hudud.

Methodist School of Intercessors

By Michael William

The Methodist Church in Malaysia organized its own school of Intercessors at the Port Dickson Methodist Centre from the 13th - 15th June 2016. 250 intercessors from all the annual conferences gathered to worship God and gain knowledge and inspiration on how and what to pray for the country and the church. In this school all the intercessors were challenged to be watchmen - who will boldly intercede for individuals, church and country.

Apart from plenary talks and group prayers, the MSI also provided platforms for the participants to pray through different stations. These stations - the National Prayer Stations, and Personal Prayer station, gave ample opportunities to all the participants to ponder and cry out to our Lord in prayer.

In the closing challenge, Bishop Ong Hwai Teik called the intercessors to use the example of the people of Issachar in the Old Testament, who, after knowing the times, knew what was needed and took action by getting involved with the work of God through King David.





“... if my people who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land” (2 Chronicles 7:14)

“from Issachar, men who understood the times and knew what Israel should do...” (1Chronicles 12:32)

Devotion

An Urgent Message

Jesus' resurrection makes it impossible for man's story to end in chaos.

(Carlo Carretto)

DEVOTION

IN WORD: Our world is dying. Many of its citizens know that; others live under wild illusions. The existentialists of past ages, for all their hopelessness, at least got one thing right: If God isn't real, life is pointless. You live and you die. And no one, in the long run, remembers you.

That's the hopelessness that shapes a lot of societies today. Cultures cut loose from spiritual absolutes are drifting aimlessly, pointlessly toward death and meaninglessness. The world's citizens try to make the best of it, much like the band on the *Titanic* that kept playing even as the ship began to sink. Those who do not know Christ invest their lives in pleasure, relationships, work, status, possessions, and a host of other things, none of which lasts. But they give the illusion of meaning, and sometimes illusions are better than nothing. At least in the minds of those who hold them.

But Christianity offers a Kingdom without illusions. We have meaning, purpose, truth, and an ultimately worth-

One Year at the Cross Devotional by Chris Tiegreen

while Person to point to. Our world clutches its deceptive trinkets—false philosophies and pursuits—because it's afraid to own up to the sin that separated us from the Creator. But owning up leads to immense blessing, and we're the only ones who can point the way. The world needs the knowledge of the Resurrection more than it knows.

IN DEED: That's why Jesus commissioned His disciples to go into the world and be witnesses. Witnesses of what? Of a once-dead Savior standing before them with holes in His hands and a promise in His mouth. That alone—that above every word this world has ever uttered—is the meaning to life.

You have a holy purpose. By accepting the risen Savior, you accepted the risen Savior's mission. Perhaps you did not know that at the time, but now you do. A desperate, blind world waits for truth. Be a witness of the Resurrection, which pulls us from this sinking ship into the regensis. The world needs that knowledge. It is dying without it.

The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

1 Corinthians 15:26

National Prayer Stations

By Pastor Ngo Chi Meei

Prayer stations are created space for people to encounter God in their lives, to meditate and reflect on His Word, to speak to Him, and also to listen. People enter and participate at their own pace and level. One particular feature of prayer stations is that they encourage the use of all our senses in prayer: taste, sight, touch, smell, hearing and mind. These help engage those who find praying for an hour challenging. Prayer stations can be highly creative or very simple. But each station should provide a reflection and focus, perhaps with Bible verses and a suggested activity. Setting up prayer stations is not impossible. Almost anyone can do it. However, let it not be a task to get God to do something we think need to be done but to become aware of what God is doing so that we can respond to it and participate and take delight in it.

The birth of the overarching theme for 2016 MSI National Prayer Station was the result of intense drawing near to God—entering the ‘war room’ to wrestle with Him and returning to the world in obedience and readiness to do His will. The theme “God’s Holiness and Sovereign Rule over Malaysia” serves; firstly, to affirm the church in Malaysia of His presence, grace and faithfulness (Psalm 118:1). Secondly, to remind God’s people that the Father’s desire is for all man to be saved (John 10:16), that we are His instrument of truth, peace and grace to this land (Mathew 5:16). Lastly, and most important of all, it is a clarion call for God’s church to arise; united in mind and soul to sound the trumpet and plead for God’s mercy for our nation (Psalm 123).

The national prayer journey begins with a call to celebrate God’s goodness and faithfulness for Malaysia: (a) giving thanks to God for the 58 years of independence, peace and harmony; (b) praising Him for this beautiful country so rich with natural resources; and (c) celebrating the diversity of race and culture. Below you will find descriptions and images for each of the prayer stations.

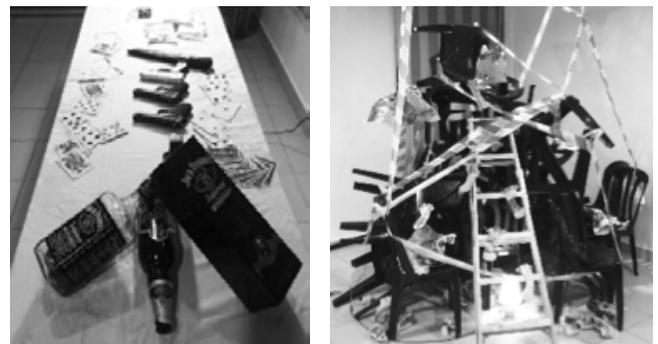
Station 1: Celebrating God’s goodness and faithfulness for Malaysia

We often fail to pause and admire the lovely nature surrounding us. Neither is it our habit to reflect upon the glory and beauty of our Magnificent Creator, the Outstanding Designer. This station helps us to realign our focus; to set aside time to count the many blessings God has bestowed upon this country. Let us thank Him for the rich, beautiful and diversified nation. May we never stop proclaiming his greatness and faithfulness, sharing his goodness through prayers and acts of mercy. More importantly, may this hour of stopping to smell the roses help us to be attentive to what God, our Father wants to speak to us through nature, people and our surroundings.



“O let us give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; His steadfast love endures forever!” (Psalm 118:1)

Station 2: The Fall of Humanity: Malaysia Today





“The intention of man’s heart is evil from his youth” (Genesis 8:21b)

The presence of darkness in Malaysia is strong. A huge tidal wave of influence is underway in seven spheres of our society: (1) family, (2) social inequality, (3) education, (4) social problems, (5) religious oppression, (6) national governance, and (7) social media. Yet, many churches are too complacent. Some are blinded to the presence of ‘wolves’ and their avid activities in our midst. Others are too busy investing in non-essential-cum-temporary materials. What about you? What do you see/read/hear? What do you sense God is saying to you about the on-going events, concerns, people, etc.? What does the Lord impress upon you to pray?

Station 3: The Holy of Holies: Into the Presence of God



“The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.” (Psalm 103:19)

We are waging war not against “flesh and blood but against the spiritual forces of evil” (Ephesians 6:12). To engage in the war, we must rely upon the strength of the Lord’s might supplied primarily through prayers (Ephesians 6:18). Satan’s attacks against the church will continue until Christ comes again. To many, evil seems to be gaining power and darkness is enveloping the clear skies. Yet, in the stillness before God, we see ‘horses and chariots of fire’ from heaven fighting a victorious war (2 Kings 6:17).

Would you unite your heart and soul with others to plead for God’s mercy over this land? Would you remain faithful till the end? Or would you deny Christ? Commit to God ALL concerns/events/people . . . that He has impressed upon you during your walk at the ‘dark alley’ (referring to Station 2). Cry out to Him! As you leave this space, take heart that our God reigns! Malaysia is not condemned and all the peoples will see the glory of our Risen God (Psalm 97:6). For God’s throne is established from of old, and He is everlasting (Psalm 93:2). His Holiness and Sovereign Rule hovers above the surging waves of Is* in Malaysia. Let us worship Him (Psalm 97:12).

Station 4: Salvation Belongs to God: Out into the World



“The earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.” (Habakkuk 2:14)

There are many “dark alleys” in Malaysia. How can there be a breakthrough? “GO,” Jesus said. “BE my witnesses . . . and let your LIGHT shine wherever you are positioned in Malaysia. Let us take heed and respond to His calling. You may (1) light the candle to signify your pledge of allegiance to Christ and rededicate yourself for His purpose and glory; (2) Make a wristband; or a bracelet in a contemplative manner, reflecting and pondering on the seven (7) significant areas Is* is taking root. Take the craft home and pray without ceasing for this beautiful land, called MALAYSIA.

God bless you.

End of journey



Majlis Perundingan Malaysia Agama Buddha, Kristian, Hindu, Sikh dan Tao

Malaysian Consultative Council of Buddhism
Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism and Taoism

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MCCBCHST: WE REJECT THE PRIVATE MEMBERS BILL ON HUDUD

The Malaysian Consultative Council of Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism and Taoism (MCCBCHST) categorically rejects the private members bill relating to the imposition of HUDUD Law in Kelantan. It is unconstitutional, tearing at the core of the Federal Constitution and going against the social contract embodied in the ALLIANCE MEMORANDUM as submitted by LORD REID COMMISSION'S REPORT and the WHITE PAPER which led to Independence. It also goes against the Cobbold Commission Report and the guarantees given to Sabah and Sarawak. It has the potential to undermine religious freedom and fundamental liberties as enshrined in Part II of the Constitution. The Non-Muslim's position too would be in jeopardy under Hudud and they would not have equal rights if implemented.

MCCBCHST was aghast at news of the Prime Minister's Department being complicit in the tabling of the Bill as The Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Sri Azalina Othman Said had moved a motion for the Hudud Bill to be read immediately during the debate then in progress in the House. This item was then positioned at No.15 on the Dewan Rakyat Order Paper. This raises the question as to how far Putrajaya is involved in the PAS move to table the HUDUD Bill then. It will directly impact on its other moves to bring about Harmony and Unity in the Country under the Jawatankuasa mempromosikan Persefahaman Dan Keharmonian Antara Penganut Agama (JKMPKA) which was set up for this purpose.

It is also worth noting that such an important Bill was not even discussed even among Barisan Nasional's component members and many were caught by surprise by the introduction of the Bill.

The Hudud Bill is unconstitutional because it seeks to include criminal offences which are at the moment under the Federal list and already offences under the Federal Penal Code. The Federal list comes under Parliament and States cannot legislate on it. At the moment States are only allowed to legislate on criminal offences as stated in the state list Schedule 9. The Hudud offences of theft, rape, murder and incest are already criminal offences under the Federal list and the proposed Bill is seeking to amend the Syariah Courts

Criminal Jurisdiction Act 1965 to allow for enhanced punishments. They thus encroach into the Federal list and seek to create a dual criminal system, which is not allowed by the constitution.

Our first 5 Prime Ministers, beginning with Tunku Abdul Rahman until Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, had objected to Hudud Law and Islamic Law being introduced into The Constitution. Our former Prime Minister Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad had warned the PAS government of Kelantan in 1994 against introducing Hudud Law in the State because 'Hudud Law punishes victims while actual criminals were often left off with minimum punishment'. Tun Abdullah Badawi had promoted "Islam Hadhari" which was inclusive of all religions. But we now see the present leadership in Putrajaya being amenable to introduction of Hudud Law and ignoring the advice of the first 5 Prime Ministers and the HISTORY leading to Independence.

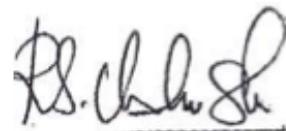
MCCBCHST hopes that the Putrajaya leadership will take heed of the various views expressed and would defend the Constitution and pull back support for the Hudud Bill.

The hudud countries at the moment are no examples to follow and according to our former Prime Minister Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad they are all failed and unstable states. We must cherish the unity we have now and not embark on political adventure which can rock and undermine our unity.

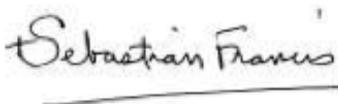
DATED: 30 May 2016



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2nd July 2016

‘Kafir harbi’ an incendiary term amongst Malaysians today

The Christian community strongly condemns the use of the incendiary term ‘kafir harbi’ (which is used to describe unbelievers at war with Islam), but now applied on all Malaysians who oppose hudud enactments. Questioning, doubting, or rejecting any change in laws or policy - such as with establishing hudud - is the fundamental constitutional right of all Malaysians. Hudud is a small part of the Syariah, not even constantly or consistently applied throughout the history of Islam. So how can such Malaysians be designated as enemies of Islam?”

It is regrettable that a state mufti, the most senior Islamic cleric of a state and who is also a public servant, uses the term without a thought as to what it may conjure up in the minds of Malaysians.

We appreciate that some Muslims have spoken out strongly against this extremism in our midst and this has heartened many of us who live in multi-ethnic, multi-religious and multi-cultural Malaysia. We should celebrate our diversity if we are to remain united as a nation and all forms of bigotry, racism and divisiveness should be condemned.

We need an active and pro-active Department of National Unity and National Integration to work hard at maintaining the peace of our nation. We are dismayed by the silence over the years as our society is hit by the divisive issues of race and religion. We need strong leadership from our Prime Minister and his government to quell all manner of divisive rhetoric that come at us in this season of our nation’s history.

We are also mindful that the police are now investigating and we hope this matter will be attended to swiftly and the investigative results made public as soon as it is completed.

All Malaysians need to work together to ensure the healing of our nation, and in the future, our children and our children’s children will judge us on how we have built strong foundations of mutual respect and goodwill towards each other.

With the rise of a global terrorism that violently hits out at all who do not pledge allegiance to it, it is incumbent upon all Malaysians to work together with our government to ensure the security and well- being of our beloved nation. We must deal quickly with irresponsible, radical and divisive elements who seem to enjoy privileged protection whilst indiscriminately snapping at our heels.

We extend to all Muslims our warmest good wishes in this holy month of Ramadan and a Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri.

Yours sincerely,



Revd. Dr. Eu Hong Seng,
Chairman and the Executive Committee,
The Christian Federation of Malaysia.

Probationary Ministers' Retreat (PMR) at Sibul, Sarawak

By Rev. Matthew Choong

马来西亚基督教卫理公会总议会两年一届的试用会员退休会于2016年6月28至30日，假东马诗巫Premiere酒店举行。来自4个年议会，即沙巴临时年议会，砂拉越华人年议会，西马华人年议会及伊班年议会42位牧者传道，济济一堂。

本次退休会由王怀德会督带领，并设定宗旨为：在马来西亚卫理公会终生长成成熟的牧者/神的仆人。主题着重4方面，即健全的教义，有活力的敬虔，忠心于事工及有效率的行政。同时也从卫理公会4大支柱来探讨属灵品格塑造，事工理念，事工技能及仆人式领导。

在这次的退休会中，牧者们都非常享受于会督幽默及透过生命经历的分享，同时也感恩有机会与不同年议会的牧者有更深的认识与交流，更重要的是对牧职有更深一层的体会与认识。

谭鸣辉传道 CAC

我感到非常感恩，因为卫理公会属灵大家长愿意与我们同行。PMR是一个不复杂，但牧养呼召和生命再次更新时光。每一个课都有它独特的生命反思。总结来说：牧养不只是我们的专业，更是遇见上帝以后的生命彼此影响的乐章。



Wesley Methodist School Ipoh International Dedicated to the Glory of God!

April 16th, 2016 Wesley Methodist School Ipoh (International) (WMSII) was dedicated in a special ceremony. The ceremony was held in the drama room, and featured pastors and servants of God from all over Ipoh. The programme included a beautiful choir rendition by the combined choir under the able leadership of Mdm Yeoh Choo Swee. The joyful voices of the student choir filled the room as they sang The Lord's Prayer. Rev Chan Theam Lai, the Chairman of the Ipoh Pastors Fellowship then shared a very inspiring message on how having a vision inspires success. He then urged the Christian community to work alongside with the school to make this vision a success. Later, Rev Thomas Chin led in the dedication of the school.

After the dedication service, the crowd adjourned outside the chapel building to witness the ribbon-cutting and balloon-releasing led by Miss Jenny Qua,

the Private School Director, Dato Chin Lean Keat, Chairman, Board of Management of WMS, Datin Clareen Chen, CEO of WMSII, Mr. Kong Ah Voon, Lay Leader Wesley Methodist Church Ipoh, Rev Chan Theam Lai, Chairman of the Ipoh Pastors Fellowship and Mdm Cheong Fooi Foon, Chairperson of the School Christian Support Committee.

On that, the Open Day 2016 many parents walked in to enquire about the school, the curriculum and to join in a forum which saw Mr. Ng Kim Huat, the Country Director of Malaysia and Brunei representing Cambridge International Examinations speak about the Cambridge experience.

The dedication service and Open Day was well attended by many parents, members from the Council of Education, staff and supporters. It is the prayer and vision that Wesley Methodist School Ipoh (International) would

be a lighthouse to the city, impacting lives and the city through Methodist Education.

Submitted by Julia Ratnam



Book Review

Book Title:

Help! I'm Growing Old

Author: Chuah Tong-Ik

Publisher: Graceworks

Reviewer: Tay Hui Cheng



Today, more and more people are living longer than the biblical threescore and ten. With longevity, we have more time to either enjoy or endure our senior years. The title "Help! I'm Growing Old" in a way captures what passes through our minds as we reach our golden years and beyond. We suddenly realize that we are no longer young, and each passing year serves to highlight that. That is why this book is relevant. The author has addressed many of the issues that seniors face, issues that range from physical to mental, emotional and spiritual. He uses humour and simple language to bring deep truths across. It is easy enough to finish reading this book in one day, but as Dr. Pang Weng Sun says, "a leisurely re-read to savour the gems of wisdom" is strongly recommended.

What Chuah Tong-Ik has done in his book is to briefly walk us “through the various changes, priorities and challenges” in our senior years, from the time when we are about to retire up to the time we have to leave this earth. He starts with the senior’s preparation and adjustment to retirement, before going on to the various changes affecting his physical, mental, emotional, and financial health, and how to cope with these changes.

The two chapters on death are most relevant and needful, as he writes about adjusting to losses of loved ones, and coming to terms with our own death. The book ends not with death, but with leaving a legacy for those who come after us, having a purpose in life, and striving to be a blessing to those around us.

The questions for each chapter are useful for group discussions to help conceptualize and face the changes and challenges that come with old age. This book contains many home truths, and rich gems. It is down-to-earth and very practical. Yet it must be remembered that this is not a *how-to* book, neither is it a manual on navigating our way through old age. It is written with a deep understanding of what the golden years entail, accompanied by useful tips on facing the different changes and challenges.

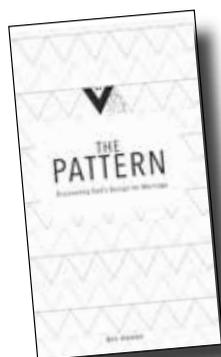
Help! I’m Growing Old (RM28) is available from Canaanland Bookstore.

Book Title: The Pattern

Author: Dev Menon

Publisher: Graceworks

Reviewer: Charmain Sim



Lately, there seems to be renewed discussions on the institution of marriage. The discourse goes beyond the “how-to’s” of communication skills and financial management. Instead, it goes behind the scenes, focusing on ideas and principles that shape one’s view of matrimony. The common conclusion is that ultimately, marriage is to glorify God and testify to the gospel of Christ.

In his latest book, *The Pattern*, author and minister Dev Menon explores that same line of thought. But *The Pattern* is not just about what a God-glorifying union should look like. It hopes to reveal that an authentic, successful marriage is dependent on a proper understanding of God Himself.

Almost from the get-go, 1 Corinthians 11:3 is introduced, “But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God” (ESV).

This verse outlines what Dev calls the 113 Pattern: The relationship between the Father and Son is the pattern that Christ and the church follows, and subsequently should be emulated by husband and wife. It’s a template, if you will.

Breaking the 113 Pattern down, Dev proceeds into a biblical study of the Father-Son and Christ-church relationships,

and draws from them truths to be translated into the husband-wife relationship. Subjects like achieving oneness and understanding headship are discussed, with suggested applications practical for any couple to incorporate into their lives. The book also touches on issues unique to Asian cultures, such as learning to build an identity separate from, yet honouring to parents.

Although the premise of the book is simple, its implications can be significant. The interpretation of 1 Corinthians 11:3 itself is thought-provoking and exposes the unfortunate misuse of the verse to justify an abusive husband’s actions. One learns that God’s idea of headship is very unlike man’s.

Dev’s pattern is crisply expressed in a blend of reason and wit. He is faithful to the Word while providing case studies that readers can relate with and visualise. What is evident from the book is wisdom gained from years of ministering to young adults; living out his own marriage; and gleaning from fellow authors and friends.

As a young bride, I found *The Pattern* a welcome read. The account on marriage was enlightening, but it was the examination into the nature of God that gave weight to it. In knowing God better, one starts to grasp the invaluable sanctity of marriage and is moved to pursue and protect it. It is with that, that *The Pattern* hopes for the redemption of matrimonial unions from today’s heartbreaking statistics of infidelities and dysfunctional relationships.

The Pattern is a sleek little book that appears an easy read but packs a punch. Whether you’re newlyweds, decades into marriage or even single, this is worth a space in your library.

The Pattern (RM27.90) is available from Canaanland Bookstore.

The Chinese become Missionaries

By J.A.B. Cook

This is no new thing, but rather the usual procedure. When a Chinaman becomes truly converted, about the first thing he does is to explain why he has become a Christian. Many are devoted preachers all their lives long, though not usually spoken of as such, as they continue to follow their ordinary pursuits.

In some parts of China, a movement on the part of the more earnest Christians has recently led to the formation of Chinese Missionary Societies (Suan-tau-hue) at various centres, with the result that there are now several churches entirely supported by the natives themselves, who select their own missionaries and pay all current expenses. They continue, however, to contribute to the Preachers' Fund, which is supplemented by the Foreign Mission Churches in China, for the support of the preachers and teachers employed in the various Missions.

There is also another movement going on at the same time, namely the growth of a native ministry. The native pastors connected with the Presbyterian Church of England, working in South China, Formosa and the Straits, are not ordained until the church, or group of churches calling a pastor are prepared to pay the whole salary of the minister; then, with the sanction of the native Presbytery, in which the foreign missionaries act as assessors, the pastor is ordained and settled over a congregation to preach, baptise and administer the Lord's Supper, and to lead and guide his people.

In the Straits Mission of the Presbyterian Church of England there is as yet no native ordained pastor, but there are several preachers whose salaries are partly paid by their congregations.

Some two and a half years ago, five of these congregations—two on the mainland, at Muar and Johore Bahru, and three in the island of Singapore, Bukit Timah, Seranggong and Tek Kha—combined to raise a Missionary Fund of their own to settle a missionary in some needy district. This movement took definite shape this year, through the gift of a site by Mr. Foo Teng Quee, a member of the mission, and a native of China, having been born in the island of Hainan. An adjoining piece of freehold land was bought out of general mission funds, to which several local friends contributed a proportion, to secure ground for extension in the future when needed.

The Chinese Missionary Society entered into the matter with warmth, and the first Missionary Church of the Chinese in Malaysia was built at Gaylang. A worthy old man, for some ten years an elder at Seranggong, and a zealous unpaid preacher, was chosen as the first missionary. Thus a great principle, in another of its many forms, that of self-support, self-government, and self-propagation, has been quietly set into operation; though it is still in the days of its infancy. Who shall say unto what the child shall grow in the coming years? All, who read history and the signs of the times aright, know that such a movement, once started, is

bound to go on growing. And as John Wesley used to say "Best of all, God is with us."

When once Christianity lays hold, as it shall, of the people as a whole, there will be no need for foreign money for buildings and preachers for the Chinese. Though for many years it will still be desirable, and the Chinese will wish it, that foreign missionaries shall come to act alongside of them, and to guide in the growth and development of the Chinese Church.

To some this may seem a far-off dream, but it is daily coming nearer actual realisation. Faith can see the city of God being built, when other eyes see nothing. Some people even say, and I suppose they really believe it, that there are no Chinese Christians. Well; "They say; let them say." "Go thou and preach." "Be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord."

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Vol. V No. 11
August 1896

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