



CANADA

Langham™ PARTNERSHIP

FALL / WINTER 2013

Bishop Stephen Andrews, Langham Canada Chair,

Reports Back From International Gathering

I am just back from meeting with the Langham Partnership International Council, a gathering of Langham staff and representative board members from the six national bodies that make up Langham Partnership. I come away wishing that each of you could have gone in my stead. There is wonderful news about how the Langham mission is becoming known and backed by a growing number of people globally, and there are major developments in each of the three programmes that are truly exciting. We will endeavour to describe these to you in future newsletters, but here are just two things that thrilled me.

First, the Council was joined by our first Majority World member. Conrad Mbewe is a Baptist church leader from Zambia. An enthusiastic and wise brother, Conrad made a very useful contribution to our discussion of how best to frame our mission for promotion in the Majority World.

Second, Langham Literature will have a display booth at the upcoming American Academy of Religion and Society of Biblical Literature Conference in Baltimore. 10,000 scholars from around the world attend the conference, and it will be interesting to see what contacts emerge from our presence there. Is it possible that Langham Scholars

from the Majority World will have an influence on the North American academy?

As ever, this strategic work could not happen without your support. On behalf of the Langham Canada Board, I want to thank you for your prayers and financial generosity. I do hope that you will help us spread the word about Langham's ministry. I am so invigorated by what I am seeing happening with Langham, that I want to share the enthusiasm!

Yours in Christ,



PHOTO: WWW.CONRADMBEWE.COM

The Council was joined by our first Majority World member, Conrad Mbewe, a Baptist church leader from Zambia.

A Vision and Mission for a Growing Global Church

Langham's vision is to see churches equipped for mission and growing to maturity in Christ through the ministry of pastors and leaders who believe, teach and live by the Word of God.

Langham's mission is to strengthen the ministry of the Word of God through:

1. Nurturing national movements for training in biblical preaching;
2. Multiplying the creation and distribution of evangelical literature; and
3. Strengthening the theological training of pastors and leaders by qualified evangelical teachers.

A good Christian scholar does not just have academic ability to do rigorous scholarship and research, but is a scholar that has a heart for God: Chandra Wim.



Chandra Wim prepares to “make a big difference to the church of the global South”

Chandra Wim, 31, is one of Langham Canada’s newest scholars. He joins the Langham Family in his first year of a PhD in theology at Wycliffe College, Toronto. He shares his vision – and his thanks – below.

To be a Langham scholar means a lot to me. It means that I can continue my doctoral study. Without the Langham scholarship, my sending seminary and I won’t be able to fund my studies here. To be a Langham scholar means to join a community of evangelical

scholars around the world that will support you academically and spiritually.

A good Christian scholar does not just have academic ability to do rigorous scholarship and research, but is a scholar that has a heart for God, a heart for people and a heart for His church. It is rare in these days.

A PhD from Wycliffe will help give me tools, skills to do good research as well as an experience living in a community of scholars here in North America. I will learn as much as I can and try to create a similar scholarship atmosphere in Indonesia where I am from.

Before I came here I was a youth pastor, as well as a teaching pastor at a church in Jakarta, for about three years. I have a wife and a 17-month old daughter, they are with me.

In some parts of Indonesia, especially the east, some areas are still very hostile to Christianity. There is a lot of pressure and persecution toward the churches there. In other parts it is okay. The challenge is more on the internal, in terms of depth of theological knowledge, and not just copying trends from the West.

The way we think and act in Indonesia is different from here. If you bring new trends and copy it without thinking, you will end up just running a program. The role of theological seminary and instructor is so important because the Church needs that level of guidance to counter those trends.

I’m forever grateful for the chance to do a doctoral degree in Canada.

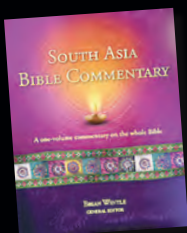
If more and more leaders from developing countries are well-trained theologically and spiritually – as I am being trained here – I believe it will make a big difference to the face of Christianity in the global South in the future.

You are doing a great ministry, thanks a million, God bless.

To view a video message from Chandra, visit Langham Canada’s facebook page!

Director of Langham Scholars Reflects on Kingdom Work of Scholars

Riad Kassis attended the Asian Theological Association Triennial General Assembly held recently in Jakarta. More than 220 participants from 27 countries gathered to consider how they could creatively



South Asia Bible Commentary led by Canadian Isobel Stevenson Reaches “The Middle Stage”

The middle stage of any project is usually the most difficult. That is why we have so many half-done projects lying around our homes!

It is the same with books. The first stage is exciting as

inspiration strikes and ideas pour onto the page. The final stage is exciting as the final manuscript gleams and needs only make minor changes to polish it and make it shine. But the middle stage The *South Asia Bible Commentary* is in the middle stage right now. All the manuscripts

present the gospel within diverse contexts. Six Langham Scholars presented major papers or responded to major presentations.

“It is really overwhelming how Langham scholars are able to connect easily and to support one another in God’s kingdom,” says Riad.

In 2013 another 17 Langham scholars have successfully completed their doctoral programmes. That brings the membership of the International Fellowship of Langham Scholars to **313 men and women from 77 countries**. “Let us pray for each of them, as they teach and listen to their surrounding culture amidst the overtones of global culture,” says Riad. “In that context, to find fresh and life-changing application for the words of Scripture, is the legacy Langham scholars seek to pass on.”

International News

- Jonathan Lamb stepped down as International Programme Director for Langham Preaching (LP) in September. Lamb has overseen the growth of LP and its emergence as the global movement it is today, assisting pastors and churches in some seventy countries.
- Paul Windsor has accepted the position of Programme Director for Langham Preaching. Please pray for Paul in his new position.
- Langham Preaching has just launched in South Sudan, the world’s newest nation. The training team consists of three Nigerian leaders: Emeka Ego, Jwan Zumbes and Emmanuel Oladipo.
- The September bombing outside a church in Peshawar, Pakistan, killed dozens of Christians, including Naeem Nazir, a teacher in the Open Theological Seminary (OTS) in Pakistan and a Langham Preaching trainer. Please join us in prayer for his family and for Langham staff and team members serving in dangerous places around the world.



Paul Windsor is the new Programme Director for Langham Preaching.

Why are Bible commentaries so important to preachers and to the Church?

Bible commentaries provide invaluable scholarship, research and insights into Bible passages. Commentaries help preachers craft messages that are academically sound while relating to the lives of their listeners. A Bible commentary like the *Africa Bible Commentary*, and soon the *South Asia Bible Commentary* have the additional value of being written by scholars in the area, for the Church in that area.

Invite Your Church to Join the Langham Family

How can *your church* be a part of the Langham family?

- **First, introduce this unique and empowering ministry to your congregation.** We can send you extra copies of our newsletters, copies of a new brochure called “Join the Family” and update your congregation on Langham activities around the world on a regular basis via email.
- **Ask your church to pray regularly for Langham Canada**, our scholars, our literature programs and our preaching programs. Let us know and we will send you regular items for prayer. Or, go to our web site and sign up for news updates, Bible studies and more.
- **Include Langham Canada in your church’s outreach and mission budget.** A pledge of \$100 a month – or whatever amount your church’s budget allows – will strengthen the Church of the Majority World through scholarship, literature and preaching. Your church will receive regular updates on how those funds are used and the impact they are having around the world.

Email: canada@langham.org to request information for your church. We can help you send the invitation to join the Langham family and equip a new generation of Bible teachers.

have come in. Now they are being edited to make sure that the academic level of the writing is right for South Asian readers, that the content is acceptable, and that the language is used correctly and consistently. This is hard work, not exciting work. Paragraphs have to be studied, moved, rewritten, dropped. Ditto sentences. There are a lot of late nights and long days of work.

But there is a gleam of light on the horizon – the publication date for the *South Asia Bible Commentary*

has been set for Easter 2015. This looks like a light at the end of the long tunnel of editing. But at times we are tempted to think that the light at the end of the tunnel may be an oncoming train! The load is crushing, the deadlines tight.

The whole team would appreciate your prayers for physical health to complete the work, wisdom to spot problems before they make their way into print, and grace as tired editors talk to tired authors!
–Isobel Stevenson

Langham Convictions

The ministries of the Langham Partnership are all based on a set of core convictions, clearly articulated by John Stott and summarised below, which he called the “Langham Logic.”

1. God wants his church to grow up to maturity.
2. The people of God grow through the Word of God.
3. The Word of God comes to people mainly (not exclusively) through biblical preaching.



“If more and more leaders from developing countries are well-trained theologically and spiritually – as I am being trained here – I believe it will make a big difference to the face of Christianity in the global South in the future.”

–Chandra Wim

Please join Langham Canada in its mission to equip the next generation of Bible teachers – for this generation of the Church in the global South.

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Equipping a new generation of Bible teachers