At our recent convocation and Thanksgiving Service, we announced certain new initiatives which by the grace of God should see BGST moving on to a new and exciting level in our desire to bring theological training to the Christian public, especially the laity. Over the next three to four years we hope to achieve the following goals:

**Bringing Theological Education to the Churches (BTEC).** In 2013, we launched two introductory 12-credit Certificate programmes, the Certificate in Biblical Studies and the Certificate in Theological Studies. We invited churches in Singapore to host our Certificate programmes. The response was most encouraging. Some churches agreed to partner us in this initiative by adopting our certificates as part of their Christian Education programs and encouraging their members to attend our courses. Over the next few years, we hope to replicate our BTEC programme in more churches.

**Online Learning.** In keeping with the opportunities now widely available through the internet, we are actively developing fully online versions of some of our courses, starting from our Certificate in Biblical Studies. We will begin offering our courses within Singapore and hope to extend this form of learning outside Singapore. Our aim is that in time our theological training will become a resource for the Church in South East Asia as a whole.

**Alumni Resource Team (ART).** We thank God for our large network of Alumni who have benefitted from our training. Many are actively serving in their churches, in the ‘marketplace’ serving God as they make a huge impact and witness for the Lord, and in the mission field worldwide. We are passionate about our vision and mission in involving all Christian leaders, both clergy and laity alike, in God’s work. Our newly-formed Alumni Resource Team (ART) is helping to mobilise our alumni and students in building a network of people who can support the work of BGST. And we are encouraged by their good response.

**Greater Focus on the Marketplace.** The marketplace has always been a key part of BGST’s vision. In the coming years we will give the marketplace a higher profile at BGST, by holding more marketplace courses and seminars involving marketplace practitioners. In mid-2015, we hope to launch a thesis-based Master in Theology (ThM) which will enable students to explore marketplace issues in depth.

**Trinity Life Community.** One of our adjunct lecturers, Mr Chong Ser Choon, is also Director of the Trinity Life Community (TLC). In partnership with TLC, we hope to introduce a stronger element of spiritual formation into our theological training, to help all at BGST, students, staff and faculty, to grow in Christlikeness, so that what is taught in our courses may feed into our life and service for God.

**Streamlining our Administrative Processes.** We plan to implement a web-based school management software to streamline our administrative processes and day-to-day operations. This system will help eliminate unnecessary workflow and greatly improve our administrative efficiency.

We are deeply grateful to our faithful donors over the past years. Like most theological schools, our course fees cover only 20% of the cost of educating our students. Your generosity will go a long way to help us train future leaders for the churches in Singapore. We would like to invite you to become a Friend of BGST by committing yourself to pray for us, volunteer your service, or to give a fixed amount to BGST every month for one or more years. If you would like to do this, please fill in our form at [www.jotform.me/financebgst/FriendsofBGST](http://www.jotform.me/financebgst/FriendsofBGST)

**Thank you very much**

Dr. Philip Satterthwaite  
Principal, BGST

Dr. Quek Swee Hwa  
Founding Principal Emeritus, BGST