



Monday Morning Memo

4, Bishan Street 13, S'pore 579792 Tel 353-8071 Fax 353-8072 Lib 353-8073 e-mail bgst@pacific.net.sg

8 January 2001

The first chapel of the year was led by our Dean, **Dr. Quek**. We began with three worship songs: *As we gather; This is my Father's world; & And can it be that we should gain*. They were good reminders to us of God's love and providence in the past as well as in the days to come.

Dr. Quek introduced a guest to us. Pastor Kim Jong Kuk has been a student in Jerusalem and has come to Singapore hoping to improve his proficiency in English Language. Then Samuel Kim, our current student, shared with us his impressions after having spent three months in Israel. Samuel offered a song in Korean to the Lord: *The Bread of Life*. David Chan who went on the BLST 2000 then shared about what the trip has meant to him and his wife and how the Scriptures mean so much more now.

Dr. Quek continued with some observations from two passages in Luke 4 & 10 on Nazareth and Capernaum.

Nazareth was the hometown of our Lord Jesus. Did the people feel that Jesus was betraying his own hometown in that he performed so many miracles in Capernaum but not in Nazareth? How did the religious leaders in Nazareth feel when Jesus announced that the passage Isa 61:1-2 was on that day fulfilled in their

hearing? Did that contribute to their murder attempt on his life?

Capernaum - one and half hour's drive today from Nazareth - was situated in the 'not so accepted' part of the country. Though a prosperous city in the days of Jesus, what is left today are black basalt ruins, vestiges of a glorious past.

What lessons do we learn from these two cities?

The blessings of God come to those whose hearts are prepared to receive. In other words, rejecting the Lord is tantamount to rejecting his blessings.

Secondly, no matter how prominent a place may be, we still need to remember that we are totally dependant on the Lord for survival. The lesson of Capernaum is that rejecting God means losing out in the end.

This week we are privileged to have our guest lecturer, **Prof. J W Maris** to address us at chapel.

Newsbits

Away from office ...

Mrs S M Peck will be going on a 6-months' sabbatical leave from 15 Jan 2001 and will return to Singapore on 28th June.

Mr Walter Edman will be on annual, home & study leave from 15 Jan and will return only on 10 Apr 2001.

If you would like to contact

them, their email addresses are: peck_sm@yahoo.com and WalterEdman@compuserve.com

The Holy Spirit - the Lord and Giver of Life is the title of the course, taught by Prof J W Maris, which began last Saturday. A total of 22 benefited from those first sessions. If you would like to join this course, please contact Dr. Quek at 3538084 TODAY. This course will continue till Saturday 13th.

It is not too late to register for Dr. Maris' second course on Biblical anthropology. The course title is **Man - Created in the Image of God**. If you are still not sure as to whether you should take it or not, come and sit in at the first session, then decide. Fair deal?

From the library

ATTENTION: OVERDUE

NOTIFICATION VIA EMAIL

This began on 18 Dec 2000. We believe that this will help the school to save on postage and printing cost and to ensure that the notices arrive for your attention promptly. For users who do not read their email daily, you may notify us to take you off this service. Those who do not have email addresses will still receive the overdue notification via snail mail. If you are delighted by this, you are most welcome to click reply and tell us so! Feedback is like water on parched land!

Prayer Point

Alumnus Evelyn Cheok (1991) serves the Lord in Chad. Unfortunately when God's people are out of sight, they tend to be out of mind too. Although Evelyn had come to BGST chapel and shared when she was on home leave, not many know her and more importantly pray for her.

An urgent request came through last week. Two weeks ago, Evelyn and her two colleagues were attacked when they were visiting some contacts. Evelyn herself was whipped and kicked at and was hurt by rocks hurled at them. She and her fellow workers serve among people of another religion. The attacks apparently were reaction to an evangelistic effort by Chadian Christians from other parts of Chad. Evelyn thanked God for His protection and that she was not as seriously injured as she could have been. Will you pray for her and her co-workers?

If you are interested to pray more specifically, let me know.

A date with BGST:

"Sanctification is a matter between the Lord Jesus and you." Do you agree with this statement? Say 'yes' or 'no'. Please don't sit on the fence! Regardless of what your answer is, you are invited to come and listen to Prof Maris on this topic. When?

The occasion will be the all important **Convocation and Thanksgiving Service** on Saturday 20 January at 7 p.m.

Come and rejoice with those who will be graduating with the Dip CS. They have worked very hard and it has taken some a good few years to complete the programme. We thank God for his help for each of them and for the success that he has now crowned them with. So come and witness their graduation. We will rejoice together and look forward to *your* graduation.

Mr. Walter Edman will also be busy during his home/study leave. He will be taking a course at Fuller Theological Seminary towards his doctoral degree programme. When he gets home to Phoenix, Arizona, he will be speaking at missions conferences in two of his supporting churches. Do pray for him.

Continue to pray for the ministry of MMM among members of the BGST family. Thank you for your faithful support and all those notes sent to this editor. Pray for the new Editor who will (hopefully) give a self-introduction in next week's issue.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to
Mr. Low Keng Shin 10/1
Mrs. Park Jung Hi Heo 11/1
Mr. Tai Kok Wai 11/1
Mr. Choo Ming En 11/1
Mr. Tong Ming Hung 11/1
Miss Maureen Tan 12/1
Miss Jasmine Yong 14/1
God bless you all!

Faculty Musing - psm

This is not so much a musing as a sharing. A few people have asked about my plans for the upcoming leave.

First I want to thank the Lord for this opportunity. I am grateful to the school for granting this six-month sabbatical leave. What am I planning to do besides sitting under the palm trees?

God willing (and memory permitting) I hope to take a few courses in universities in Jerusalem. They will be for both personal interest as well as possible new courses in Geography of the Bible.

My peers are convinced that I have 'gone round the bend'. While they are praying for their retirement to be approved, I am registering for courses and in a 'war zone'! I guess my philosophy is one of "huo dao lao, xue dao lao", a literal translation of which is "live till old age, learn till old age". A most appropriate birthday mug I have just received reads "Aging is stylish, all the best people do it". If I go by that, then I am not only aging and stylish but among the "best people" too.

Your prayer support will be most appreciated. This is something I can do only with God's help. Thank you in advance.