



Staff and 2016 Graduates

Inside

- Introducing—Tia p.2
Facing Evil: Living as Christians in
a Rebellious world— an
integrative theological
approach p.3
The Church in its Engagement
with the World p.4
INTERNATIONAL MISSION
TEAMS p.5
Student Profile—Bolanle Ayeni
p.6
Where Are They Now? – David &
Kirsty Wager p.7

May 2017

1 College Court
KARRINYUP WA 6018
AUSTRALIA
Tel: (08) 9243 2000
Email:
college@pbc.wa.edu.au
Print Post Approved:
P606301/00082

CHAIR IN EVANGELISM, APOLOGETICS, WORLD RELIGIONS AND CULTS BEARING FRUIT AT PBC.

Students are greatly benefiting from the Chair in Evangelism, Apologetics, World Religions and Cults that has been set up by the Concerned Christians Ministry Trust. This semester's students focused on gaining an understanding of some key foundational perspectives to develop a framework for reaching out to others. This included a historical overview of different approaches employed over the ages to reach out with the gospel to people with a different worldview. Students also considered the importance of a well developed understanding of the Trinity and how this theology informs mission

and mission practice for the 21st century. Students were invited to consider mission from the vantage points of the Father, Son, and Spirit: specifically, the Father as the one who *sends* the Son; the Son as the one who *suffers*, and then *sends* the church; and the Spirit as the one who is *sent* by the Father and the Son to empower the church for mission. In evaluating 21st-century missional practice, students explored the need for the church to embrace its "resident-alien-ness" as those called out by God from the world, in order to be sent back in as ambassadors of a new world order led by Christ himself.

(Continued on page 8)

Introducing—Tia Burton

My adventure with Perth Bible College began in 2014 when I applied for a Diploma of Ministry. While I intended to 'Take a year and make a difference', God had a different idea. As I studied, my desire for cross-cultural missions grew, and in 2015 I decided to finish my diploma off with a short term mission trip to Cambodia. During the trip, I was captivated by the local Christians' passion for hearing about Jesus and their excitement for sharing the Gospel with their people. This experience concreted the call to mission for me, which required me to let go of my plans and instead continue with a Bachelor of Ministry.

During this time I met my husband, Chris, through youth ministry and outreach in Kwinana. We bonded through our love for Jesus, people and coffee. Soon enough we realised we shared the same passion for reaching and empowering the underprivileged with the Gospel. We travelled to



Cambodia with the PBC mission team in 2016, and as a result, Chris decided to do a degree with PBC.

I spent two years of my time as a student with a deep unspoken desire to one day become a staff member, and in November 2016 my prayer was answered when I was invited to become the college's receptionist. I thoroughly enjoy the excitement

that every day brings. I enjoy the communal atmosphere and opportunity to serve others very much.

In the future, at whatever point in time that may be, Chris and I desire to work amongst the local churches in Tanzania, with the intent of training and equipping their leaders locally for them to reach their own people with the Gospel message. Additionally, we will be returning to Cambodia this coming year to continue our ongoing support of all that God is doing.

DEGREE & DIPLOMA SUBJECTS DURING SEMESTER 2, 2017

Starts Tuesday, July 31

Enrol now! Full-time, Part-time, or External Studies
FEE HELP is available for Australian students

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| • Theological Thinking and Writing | • Introduction to Theology* |
| • Old Testament Intro B* | • The Church: Engaging with the World* |
| • New Testament Intro B* | • Chaplaincy Processes* |
| • Personal Ministry and Formation B* | • Marriage & Family* |
| • Supervised Field Education | • Cross Cultural Training |
| • NT Studies B—1 Corinthians* | • Leading Christian Ministry |

For more information, please call Gillian Dixon on 9243 2000.

** Subjects Offered as External Studies*

Facing Evil: Living as Christians in a Rebellious world – an integrative theological approach

Dr Andre van Oudtshoorn has had the privilege of being granted study leave in 2016 to work on a book entitled *Facing Evil: Living as Christians in a Rebellious world – an integrative theological approach*.

People face evil in some form or another every day. It is important to equip pastors and church leaders to develop a Biblically grounded theological framework which they can employ to help believers interpret and confront the different manifestations of evil that they may encounter in the world. Without such a framework pastors and church leaders often resort to superficial explanations and trite solutions which cannot stand the test of Scripture, nor the harsh reality of evil and sin. Without good preaching and teaching on this topic ordinary Christians easily fall prey to false comfort or groundless superstitions and fear. This book aims to contribute to the development of a theological framework for dealing responsibly with sin, the devil and evil.

The book is intended for pastors, theological students and serious lay church leaders. It promotes a “generous” evangelical theological approach. Andre develops his own critical contribution to the on-going theological discussion about the presence of evil in the world from an evangelical perspective.

This book is unique in that each chapter deals with a particular aspect of sin and evil using a Systematic theological approach. The implications of these reflections for other theological disciplines, such as Ethics, Practical Christian living, Pastoral Care, Spirituality, Worship and Evangelism are then considered regarding the church and individual believers’ Christian life and service. The aim is to help readers to construct a cohesive, integrated, theological view of evil. A number of questions at the

The aim is to help readers to construct a cohesive, integrated, theological view of evil.

end of each section is specifically designed to encourage students to think wider, deeper and more critically on the issues covered in the book.

Part One considers the question “Where does sin come from?” Sin, it is argued, does not have a cause but only a beginning. Part Two employs a Biblical Theological approach to analyse most of the key texts in both the Old and the New Testament which deal with the devil and evil. Part Three presents a brief overview of different theological and cultural views of the devil across the ages in the western world. Part Four addresses the interrelationship between God, evil and human suffering. Part Five considers the way in which Christ has overcome evil and the implications this holds for the church and individual believers. Andre hopes to have the book ready for publication in 2018.

WA Institute of Urban Mission

WA INSTITUTE OF URBAN MISSION, in partnership with PERTH BIBLE COLLEGE,

offers you teaching and practical experience

for penetrating local communities with the Gospel.

Contact Dr Garth Eichhorn at Garth.Eichhorn@bigpond.com for more details.

The Church in its Engagement with the World

If the following questions interest you join our class next semester. You may enrol or choose to audit the class – which costs next to nothing and you do not have to do any assignments!

- What is **evangelism**? How does evangelism differ from *mission*?
- How do we know that the gospel is **true**? What is the difference between faith knowledge and scientific knowledge?
- What is the relationship between **modernism** and **post-modernism** and how does the philosophical and cultural paradigm shift in the West impact on the church's evangelism?
- What is **faith**? How does faith develop in people?
- What are the main questions people ask regarding God in the light of the presence of **evil** in the world?
- What are the key **obstacles** in people's minds regarding the Christian faith?
- What is *Christian Apologetics*?
- Is it arrogant to see Jesus as the only way to salvation? Should the church engage in **inter-faith** dialogue?
- Is the question: "**Does God exist?**" a valid question to engage with? What problems are inherent in the various proofs offered for the existence of God?
- What is the place and role of **personal testimony** in evangelism?
- What role does **freedom of choice** play in the proclamation of the gospel?
- What do we learn about **predestination** and election from Romans 8-11 and Ephesians 1 and how does this relate to evangelism?
- What is the difference between salvation grounded on anthropology or Christology?
- What role does **repentance** play in becoming a Christian?
- What does it mean to be **born again**?
- What is the role of the **Holy Spirit** in bringing salvation?
- Where is **heaven**? What is heaven? What will we do in heaven? What makes heaven good? Will we meet our loved ones in heaven?
- What is **death**? Why is there death? What is hell? Will people be tortured in hell forever?
- What are the key Biblical passages that deal with **hell**?
- What is the end-destination for humanity?
- Why is this material world important? Why is the resurrection of the body important in evangelism and ethics?
- What do we mean by the human **soul**?
- What is the difference between Christian living and ethics?
- What are the main questions people ask regarding God in the light of the presence of evil in the world?
- What does **ethical identification** mean?
- When and how should the church confront the world?
- What do we do when **simple obedience** to God would cause more damage than good?
- What is the place of **violence** in the world?
- How do we see the church being **engaged** with the world?

PBC >>>

BOOKROOM

Quality Used Christian Books

Reference (Open Monday-Friday 9am - 4:30pm
General (Perth Bible College
Theology (1 College Court Karrinyup Perth WA
Commentaries (9243 2000

Donations of Christian books gladly received

INTERNATIONAL MISSION TEAMS

INTERNATIONAL MISSION TEAMS (IMT) is a mission initiative of Perth Bible College. PBC, since 1928, has had the heart for mission and ministry, this continues to today. IMT now forms a regular part of the practical outworking of this heart for mission. The vision of IMT is:

“To partner with, encourage, and build up under-resourced networks of Christian leaders across the world.”

IMT AFRICA

After working in Cambodia since 2008, we commenced work in Kenya, Uganda (among the South Sudanese), and Ethiopia in December 2016. The team (see photo) was itself international, with each team member coming from a different country, with someone belonging to the country visited, and speaking the local languages of the people we worked amongst. The diversity and unity of the team were commented on by many of the participants at the conference and proved to be an incredible asset as it:

- 🌐 Demonstrated unity in diversity.
- 🌐 Enabled immediate connection to the local community.
- 🌐 Brought an international teaching authority.
- 🌐 Naturally cut through language and cultural barriers.
- 🌐 Enabled immediate and efficient communication around specific cultural issues.

The topics presented at each of the 3-day conferences included:

- 🌐 God’s will, Integrity, Forgiveness
- 🌐 Social Concern, Corruption
- 🌐 Marriage and Family
- 🌐 Preaching and Interpretation
- 🌐 Church Ministries,

“To partner with, encourage, and build up under-resourced networks of Christian leaders across the world.”

The IMT team in Kampala, Uganda, December 2016.
 James Samuel, Meseret Cohen, Dr David Smith, Darius Kemboi



Honest Leadership

The Highlights of the conferences included:

- 🌐 The impact of a genuinely international team.
- 🌐 21 denominations coming together as one in Kenya.
- 🌐 Kenyan pastors embracing the South Sudanese churches in Eldoret.
- 🌐 15 South Sudanese tribes unified in Uganda.
- 🌐 The stance of the Sudanese against cultural allegiance and the embrace of oneness.
- 🌐 God’s blessing through finances, safety, national organising teams, and unity.

Statement from participating pastors:

- 🌐 “This was special because the teachers didn’t come from one denomination, but many, and they represented four countries.”
- 🌐 “The testimonies shared by James and Meseret encouraged us to commit our lives to Christ and serve him.”
- 🌐 “When people become a believer they often don’t know how to interpret the Bible. I found this time so helpful.”

(Continued on page 8)

Student Profile—Bolanle Ayeni

In semester two 2015 Bolanle Ayeni travelled from Nigeria to commence study at PBC. She comes from an Anglican home; however, her deep commitment and love for the Lord commenced as a freshman at university. Since the moment Bolanle received Christ as Lord and Saviour her whole life changed as she became a new creation, experiencing the inner assurance of having eternal life. She has seen this change manifest in all areas of her life, especially in her career as a medical doctor.

Bolanle completed her studies as a medical doctor at Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ogun State, Nigeria, graduating in 2002. When she was at university she was very active in student fellowship. She was a pastor, cell group leader, ushering and several other ministries. Bolanle had another passion for going to a remand home for children who were awaiting sentencing, providing needs and cares for them. For several years she cared for motherless abandoned babies and was involved in medical care-giving and counselling of sexually abused teenagers.

Bolanle's practice as a medical doctor involved caring for the whole person as a tripartite being –



spirit, soul and body. Bolanle worked in church owned hospitals and part of her care was more than medical care but spiritual and mental health counselling. On weekends she would join the evangelical team to evangelise and offer free medical services in rural areas. The practice also had fellowship for pregnant women offering subsidised (free!) medical services for the extremely less privileged people.

Studying at PBC allows Bolanle to strengthen her own faith and to care for others well. Her long-term goal is to be more than solely a medical doctor but also being able to reach out and minister to all those she comes in contact with. PBC has given Bolanle the opportunity to expand her horizons to other opportunities to minister. Gaining a theological qualification is therefore important to her for this purpose.

Bolanle currently attends Victory Life Centre and works in the Welfare and Ushering Department since 2015. She has now been joined by her husband and her daughter, who are currently living in Perth.

POST GRAD SUBJECTS DURING SEMESTER 2, 2017

Starts Tuesday, July 31

Enrol now! Full-time or Part-time

FEE HELP is available for Australian students

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Testament Intro B* • New Testament Intro B* • Personal & Ministry Formation B* • Introduction to Theology* • Isaiah | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervised Ministry Practicum • Research Methodology • Practical Theology and Future Church • Foundations of Preaching • Research Methodology |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

For more information, please call Gillian Dixon on 9243 2000.

* Subjects Offered as External Studies

Where Are They Now? – David & Kirsty Wager

PBC: What brought you to Perth Bible College initially?

We both came to PBC after sensing a call into ministry. Originally trained and employed as an engineer, David had responded to an altar call for people to go into missions. A full-time degree at PBC was the next step in obedience to that call. Kirsty found herself in youth ministry and felt drawn to chaplaincy and so enrolled in some evening classes while studying a degree at UWA. What started as a certificate in youth ministry soon became a degree.

PBC: What were some of your biggest challenges as a student?

One of the biggest challenges as a student was getting up early to do library scrub! In all seriousness though, the biggest challenge for both of us was having our preconceived ideas and theology challenged and having to formulate new convictions based on what we were learning. This was not a once off event, but rather a constant process of wrestling, reevaluation and conviction.

PBC: Where are you ministering now, and what are you doing there?

Together, we pastor the Baptist church in Collie (in WA's beautiful South West), helping people in our congregation and community say 'yes' to Jesus.

PBC: What are some your biggest challenges in rural ministry?

Rural ministry is a joy! We have really loved the blessing of living and ministering in small towns. The biggest challenge in our ministry at the moment probably much the same as that faced by city churches: finding ways to bring the gospel of Jesus to an increasingly individualistic society, where traditional "community groups" are in decline as the age of Netflix and home shopping comes into its own.



PBC: What are some of the highlights you get to enjoy in rural ministry?

Beautiful surroundings (still waters and green pastures), long drives to sing along to worship songs and listen to podcasts, country hospitality, being out of the hustle and bustle of city life, etc, etc. Rural ministry is a real blessing!

PBC: How can the folks associated with PBC pray for you on a regular basis?

We'd love for people to pray for revival in the South West of WA. People are living and dying without knowing Jesus as Lord and Saviour. Please pray that many people in Collie and surroundings will say 'yes' to Jesus. Please also pray that God's working will be powerfully evident both in our personal life and the spiritual life of the congregation. ("I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me." —Romans 15:18).

(Continued from page 1)

In the coming semester, students will focus on the *Church in its engagement with the world*. This course will invite students to consider what makes the gospel unique compared to other ideologies, religions and cults. The centrality of Christ's death

Students were invited to consider mission from the vantage points of the Father, Son, and Spirit.

and resurrection as the core of the Christian faith will be explored in depth, providing students with key insights to use when speaking to people of different persuasions. Students will also consider "faith" and how it is linked to the actions of God in Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit. Students will, furthermore, be equipped to identify and analyse the underlying world-view, mythological narratives and rational and theological presuppositions of different religions, ideologies and cults to develop effective ways of communicating the gospel to them. Students will finally develop material to help people in the church respond to the claims of key cults such as the Jehovah's Witnesses and the Mormons.

The generosity of CCGM in sponsoring an award for students performing well in this course has already allowed a number of students to undertake units in Evangelism, Apologetics, Mission, World Religions and Cults at a considerable discount. Their financial support has also permitted the opportunity for PBC to develop cross-cultural encounters for students in a variety of international settings including Africa and South-East Asia.

(Continued from page 5)

- 🌐 "It was the first time for many of the churches to come together in Kampala. The unity of the churches was a real highlight."
- 🌐 "We want more of this biblical teaching on family, rather than holding onto our traditional views."
- 🌐 "Now my eyes are open. If the things we have been taught go out and the people of South Sudan take these issues seriously - it could save our country, we might not need the UN."
- 🌐 "You can see the need in the refugee camps, one of the main needs is training."
- 🌐 "The people will all take back to their churches what they have been taught. Thousands will hear what has been taught here."
- 🌐 "We want to thank the Australian churches for supporting and remembering us."

If you would like to receive a full 8-page report on the ministry to Africa, please call the office to have one sent to you or download the copy from our website.

You can keep up to date by following Perth Bible College online at the following places:

Twitter:

http://www.twitter.com/pbc_wa

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/perthbiblecollege>

Google+:

<http://plus.google.com/+perthbiblecollege>

Should you wish to receive Stepping Up via email,

contact the office at 08 9243 2000.

