

This edition of our newsletter will look different to you because it is being “guest-produced” by Laura Lee and Bronwyn instead of Darrell! One of the reasons for this is that Darrell has been accepted into the Doctor of Ministry program at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (his alma mater in South Hamilton, Massachusetts.) Beginning this June, Darrell will be entering the preaching track entitled “The Preacher and the Message” led by Dr. Haddon Robinson. We have been thinking a lot about preaching in recent days, and we have decided that it would be a good topic for our update to our supporters.

Preaching is important to the life of the church both in North America, and here in Indonesia. As Darrell teaches at Kalimantan Theological Seminary (STK) and is involved in Leadership Development, he encounters many students who are preparing for pastoral ministry. As many of you know, preaching is an area of giftedness for Darrell, and one of the areas about which he is passionate. (Perhaps you remember that the year we lived in New Zealand came about because Darrell was awarded a scholarship for a year of further study in the area of preaching.) From the time we arrived at STK in 2003 Darrell has been interested in teaching the Homiletics (preaching) course. But as the new staff member, you fit in with the needs of the time and that can mean teaching something other than your first choice. So Darrell has been teaching several courses, none of which is Homiletics.

One course Darrell has taught for several years is “Exposition of the Old Testament.” This course involves teaching students about how to preach the various types of literature found in the Old Testament. In this way Darrell has been influential in the students’ lives as they develop and grow in their pastoral skills. And it has been an indirect method for him to accomplish some of his goals to teach preaching!

This past Christmas break the Academic Dean at STK approached Darrell about teaching one of the Introductory Preaching courses. One of the long-standing professors, Rev. Hantje Mamesah, will be moving back to the Manado area after over 25 years of service here in West Kalimantan. This will be a big change for the seminary and for Anugerah (*Grace*) Baptist Church which meets on the seminary campus. One outcome of this change is that someone else will need to teach preaching, and they have asked Darrell! He was thrilled to be asked, and said “yes” right away!

So this semester Darrell has been teaching what for him is a brand-new course, “Introduction to Preaching.” Rev. Mamesah has still been teaching the morning class, with Darrell teaching in the afternoon. Darrell is enjoying the opportunity to help the students as they learn to prepare and present a sermon. STK has a three-fold educational emphasis which includes a strong practical component. From their first semester every student is assigned a place of ministry, and for many this is a small rural church here in the province of West Kalimantan. Most often there is no pastor or other formal leader in the church so the student will be preaching on Sunday as well as leading Sunday School with children, holding Bible Studies with adults, and often meeting with teens, too. As you might imagine, it can be quite intimidating to be asked to do so much in your first year of training. Darrell sees the preaching course as a vital part of equipping the students to serve well and share God’s truth wisely.

All of this transition with the preaching course caused Darrell once again to consider the possibility of further study. When Darrell had investigated Doctor of Ministry programs in the past they didn’t seem to “fit” with our living situation, or Darrell’s interests. It just never seemed the time was right. This time it was different!

Gordon-Conwell was offering a new cohort in the preaching track starting this June, with three two-week “on-campus” times of study in 2010, 2011, and 2012. It would mean a special trip to North America for Darrell this year, but the following two years the time of study would be at the beginning and end of our home assignment year in Canada. As well, the track offered is “The Preacher and the Message” which is a course that is geared toward helping those who teach preaching--a perfect fit for Darrell who is now doing just that! The other “clincher” was that this course is being taught by Dr. Haddon Robinson, one of the best-known preachers in North America. His book *Biblical Preaching* is a standard textbook in North America, has been translated into Indonesian, and is one of the texts Darrell uses here. Darrell received approval from the CBM office, began the application process, and now has been accepted into the program! We are excited about the opportunity for him to learn under Dr. Robinson and also for the help it will be as he incorporates what he has learned into his classes here in Pontianak.



Visiting with students at their ministry sites for Christmas services. These young men have studied in Darrell’s classes, and each weekend put this knowledge into practice.

So, here we are! Lots of changes and opportunities. We appreciate the interest that you, our supporters, show toward our family and CBM’s ministry in Indonesia. Developing young leaders is so important and we don’t take you for granted.



Darrell and Unye, one of the recent STK Grads now pastoring in West Kalimantan.

And Now a Word ^{For} ~~From~~ Our Sponsors

2009 was a difficult financial year around the world, including for CBM. In spite of that fact we were so grateful that when all the figures were in, our ministry support had maintained almost the same level of giving as the previous year. The words “thank you” seem too simple to convey how appreciative our hearts feel toward you, our supporters. Now, as 2010 unfolds we hope that you are able to keep on partnering with us as we continue to help equip students and pastors here in Indonesia.

CAN YOU SEE THE DIFFERENCE?



As you know we like to show you things that we have found to be different here in Indonesia. This time the difference is in our family - the Buddhist temple Borobudur hasn't changed during the past 7 years - but the size of Bronwyn and Caleb has!



Although we visited Borobudur during language school in 2003, Bronwyn & Caleb have no memories of that trip. We think they will after this one!

The Power Centre

PRAYERS ALREADY ANSWERED:

- We experienced an electrical fire in one of the outlets in Caleb's room. We are thankful that there was no lasting damage and recommend to everyone that you have a fire extinguisher in your home ☺
- Darrell has been accepted in the Doctor of Ministry program "The Preacher and the Message" at Gordon-Conwell
- Caleb's school year has finished well, and Laura Lee managed the four months of teaching Language Arts & History!

ONGOING PRAYER ITEMS:

- The STK semester concludes on May 27th. Pray for the students as they move to their ministry sites until classes resume in early August.
- Pray for Darrell as he travels to Canada, studies in Massachusetts in mid-June, and returns to Indonesia in early July. Pray for Laura Lee, Bronwyn & Caleb as they "keep the home fires burning" in Darrell's absence.
- Continue to pray for CBM as the search for a new General Secretary is ongoing. Malcolm Card has been appointed Interim General Secretary during this time. And remember Gary and Carla Nelson during the transition to his new position as President of Tyndale.