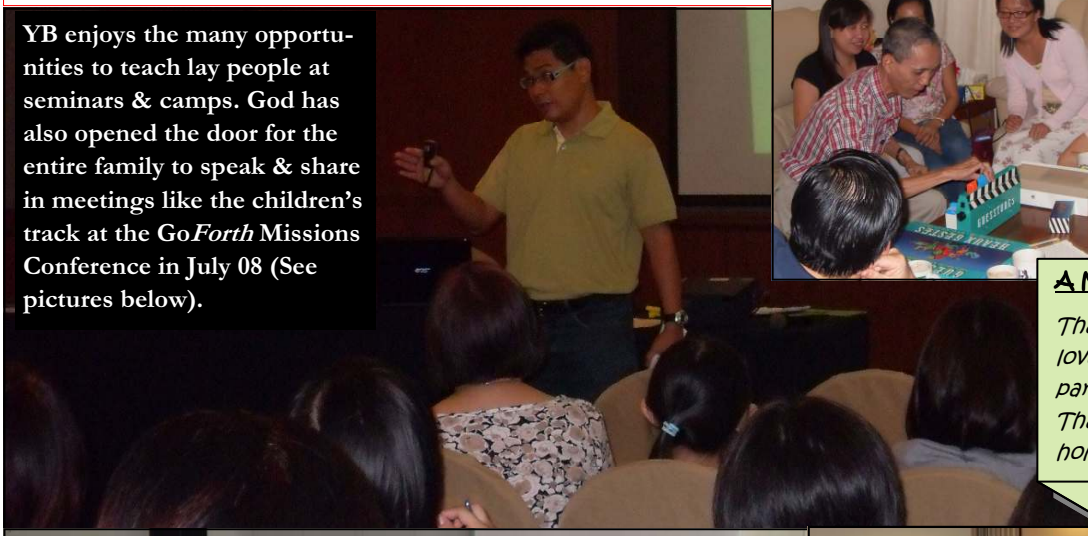
Reaffirming God's Call

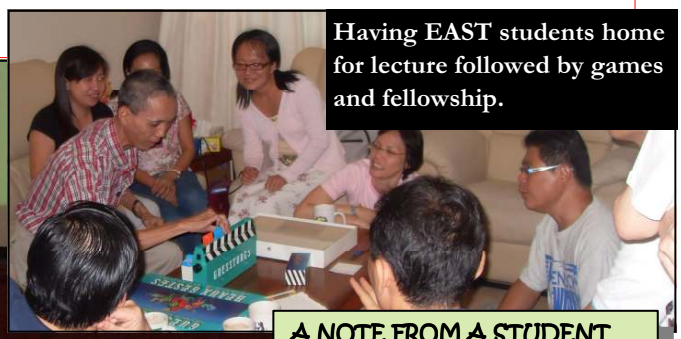
...Teacher-Pastor

Having experienced being a campus staff, church resource worker, overseas missionary and now, a seminary lecturer, YB felt more certain than before that providentially, charismatically (i.e., in terms of gifting) and passionately, he was more a Teacher-Pastor* than anything else. Perhaps, you may exclaim, "I know that all along! Why did it take you so long to find out?" Well, it is not that we do not know, it is just that it has been very assuring and faith building for us to receive fresh confirmations from God at strategic phases of our lives—even now.

YB is foremost a teacher and then a pastor in that his pastoral gifts support his teaching ability. His strength and satisfaction is not in imparting new theological knowledge or engagement with complex debates and discussions. Instead, he found himself more effective and fulfilled in exciting and ushering common church-goers, spiritually young Christians, and even curious believing children to the deeper and more intimate truth of the Bible. Perhaps, the most exciting outcome is to see his entire family resonating to this call and joining him in the ministry of disciple-making as well—Come, reminisce with us in reaffirming God's call...



YB enjoys the many opportunities to teach lay people at seminars & camps. God has also opened the door for the entire family to speak & share in meetings like the children's track at the Go*Forth* Missions Conference in July 08 (See pictures below).



Having EAST students home for lecture followed by games and fellowship.

A NOTE FROM A STUDENT

Thank you for your passion and love. I understand that you prepared a lot before the classes. Thank you also for opening your home. I think that made this class special.

Caleb captivating his audience with his testimony on his mission trip to Buru, Indonesia.

Caleb & David assisting the participants in making a craft to pray for missions.

Elaine rousing the kids to pray for missions.

Barnabas: "We can all participate in missions no matter how small or young we are …"

* As opposed to the more popular pastor-teacher in Eph 4:11 since YB's gifting is first a teacher and then a pastor ☺.

Reaffirming God's Call

▲ Coaching John & Alethea in bible study and leading the youth ministry.

▲ Hiking with EAST Family Group members at MacRitchie Reservoir.

▲ ▼ Mentoring is no child play—mould them while they are malleable.

Mentoring

▲ Ministry around the kitchen table.

Mentoring has been God's blessing in our lives. We praise God for people who have faithfully mentored us in the past at various points in our lives. These include not a few of YB's Sunday School teachers who proudly came forward to reconnect with him (after more than 30 years!) when YB spoke at different churches.

We are also thankful for countless people in Singapore, Cambodia and Canada that God has enabled us to disciple. Presently YB is mentoring two key young adults in church—John & Alethea. At EAST, he mentors Andrew (Singapore), Bataa (Mongolia), Christopher (Korea), Kwang Sik (Korea), and Sang Hyuk (Korea). These are members of YB's Family Group (a ministry where each faculty coaches a small group of students). Elaine mentors Angeline, Gerlynn, and Joyce in church and takes care of a group of students' spouses as part of EAST's holistic ministry to the family of each student.

Mentoring from Young

Our ministry changes according to the different stages in our lives. In recent years, we found our ministries inevitably gravitating to kids and teens. We learnt that if we want to be good in teaching and communicating God's Word, we have to learn to do it with kids first. As for teens, they are at such a volatile transition that they deserve nothing less than active parental love, guidance and involvement. We praise God that both these ministries have seen a surge and are presently vibrant ministries in our church.

"We learnt that if we want to be good in teaching and communicating God's Word, we have to learn to do it with kids first."

JESUS

Mentoring Mentors

One of our greatest satisfaction in mentoring is to see spiritual multiplication. It's thrilling to first teach John and Alethea, and then to empower them to teach the teens—which include our very own boys, Caleb and David! It has also been a rewarding time to assist them pioneer the teen ministry in our church.

▼ Teens Ministry lah….

▼ John and Alethea teaching the teens what we have taught them.

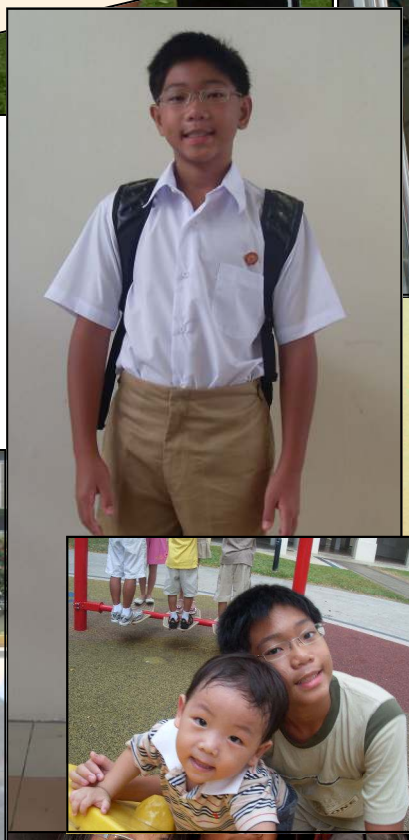
Mentoring Our Kids

Caleb

Caleb is going 15 this year. He has certainly grown into an intelligent young man with lots of leadership qualities. By God's grace, he has entered the Integrated Program (IP) at Victoria Junior College (VJC). This means he is on a through train program to the GCE "A" levels and need not take the GCE "O" levels exam.

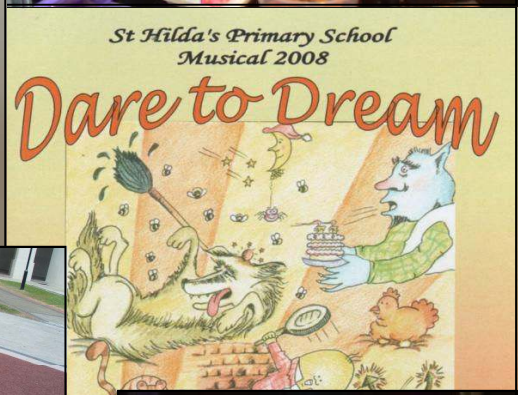
Praise God that Caleb is actively involved in leadership in and bringing friends to the Teens ministry.

VICTORIA INTEGRATED PROGRAMME



David

This year marks an important transition for David as he begins Secondary One in Victoria School. He made himself a resolution to do well in his Primary School Leaving Exams (PSLE) at the beginning of 2008 and achieved it. Besides diligence, David shines in his kindness and care for younger kids.



Barnabas

Barnabas discovered his love for acting and drama in 2008. His performance as a funny emperor's guard in his school's production, "Dare to Dream," earned him many accolades and fans. His dedication to this co-curricular activity paid off when he was selected as one of the student leaders for the club in 2009.

Faithfulness to God's Call

Following the Footsteps of a Senior Staff

Uncle Sankaran (1926-2009), the oldest and longest serving staff member of Singapore Campus Crusade for Christ (SCCC) passed away on January 15, leaving behind indelible imprints on what it means to walk in faithfulness to God's call. Uncle Sank was best known for starting the Housing Estate ministry in SCCC back in the 70's. He literally knocked at every door to share the gospel. Uncle Sank's legacy includes countless people discipled through follow-up appointments in HDB void decks and many others who have since joined the rank as full time ministers for God. Even at old age, while others might prefer retiring comfortably to less strenuous office-bound ministries, Uncle Sank chose to return to the direct ministry of evangelism. He hosted an evangelistic website and stationed himself at MRT stations to share Christ in season or out of season.

Testimonies abound during his funeral wake concerning this unassuming man and his childlike faith. He witnessed simply because he took God at His Word. Someone said, "He was one where the medium [he] was the message." Another, commenting on his death, testified: "It seems that his entire life was lived in preparation for this very moment...to be ready to die and meet his Master….I wish there were more Uncle Sanks around."

On our part, we were reminded of God's faithfulness in calling us and involving us in His work in SCCC (YB for the past 22 years and Elaine, 17 years). Our prayer is that, like Uncle Sankaran, we too may remain faithful to God and His calling wherever He leads us.

Participation in God's Call

Missions Giving

One important lesson that the Lord impressed upon us in recent months is in the area of missions giving:

1) Missions giving is not alms giving. We do not give only when the missionary is in dire need.
2) Missions giving is based on love and trust.
3) Missions giving is first fruit giving and not giving of leftovers.
4) Missions giving is participating in God's sending.
5) The ones giving often end up becoming the ones who receive.

Your Participation

Over the past year, our support has gradually dropped. At this point we are about 15-20% short of what we need to raise each month. However, we are confident that the God who calls will provide beyond all human expectations. Part of God's calling for us as CCC staff involves our having to raise a team of financial and prayer supporters to work with us.

Bearing in mind what we have just shared, ***WE WILL LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO SERIOUSLY CONSIDER BECOMING ONE OF OUR PARTNERS IN MINISTRY IF YOU ARE NOT ONE YET.*** The amount of support is not as important as your willingness to be faithful to pray with us and to therefore "send" us to do beyond what you yourself could personally do. We urge you to let this be an involvement out of *love* and *trust* in God and us and not so much just to help alleviate us of our shortfall.

MAY GOD BE PRAISED!

Not long ago, YB had the privilege of walking with his Mongolian student, Bataa, as he struggled and trusted God for a liver transplant for his dying sister. It was to be a long, tedious and undulating 10-month journey of faith. It involved more than S$200,000 and a host of uncertainties like the availability of suitable donors, Bataa's personal study plans, etc. When Chuka finally had her successful transplant, all of us who were involved felt a sense of gratitude towards God and even towards Bataa. While we might have given a lot, in the end, we received much more in terms of faith and love. Indeed, "The ones giving often end up becoming the ones who receive."

Bataa Chuka Gantuya (Bataa's wife)

YEOW BENG & ELAINE MAH (CCC Staff serving at EAST)

Home Address: 549 Pasir Ris Street 51 #05-63 Singapore 510549

Email: ybmah@east.edu.sg; Tel: 96336732 (YB); 97633051 (Elaine)

All support may be crossed to Campus Crusade Asia Ltd with indication that it is for Yeow Beng & Elaine Mah and mailed to Our home or to Campus Crusade Asia Ltd, 152 Paya Lebar Road #04-06 Singapore 409020. Tel: 6223-2269.