Dear friend of Langham,

A pastor with no formal biblical training learns how to study Scripture and share it with hundreds of new believers. A theology student with a passion for seeing the gospel transform a nation receives the doctoral training necessary to equip and multiply future generations of leaders. A writer with a story to tell and a heart to illuminate God’s Word sees her words published so that they reach into the lives of countless others.

With your faithful support and through God’s grace, we continue to see story after story like these unfold around the world, with the Word of God reaching hundreds of thousands of people. When you pray, support, and donate to Langham Partnership—millions of our brothers and sisters around the world are blessed.

I hope you are moved and encouraged by the stories you read in this issue of Cultivate. We praise God for His faithfulness in helping us equip pastors and leaders in more than 90 nations for every good work (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Partnering in Christ,

Benjamin K. Homan,
President, Langham Partnership USA

P.S. To view our annual report, visit www.langham.org/2013_annual_report.

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in so that the righteousness, servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)
GOOD NEWS COMES TO UNREACHED TRIBES
LANGHAM-TRAINED PASTORS MINISTERING IN KENYA

And how will they hear without a preacher?
Romans 10:14

Around the world, Langham nurtures indigenous preaching movements for pastors and lay preachers by providing practical, biblically based training and ongoing support. In Northern Kenya, a group of Langham-trained pastors is bringing God’s Word to some of the most remote tribes in the world—often pastoring multiple congregations and walking as many as 20 miles between villages.

In 1975, Langham-trained pastor Peter Marigu Karangu was deeply entrenched in witchcraft when a preacher came to his obscure village in Kenya proclaiming the Gospel. On that day, he was set free.

Peter has since made it his life mission to bring the transforming love of Jesus to the unreached tribes in northern Kenya. “We have a good culture … respect for elders, respect for mothers, but you will also find that most tribes in Kenya practice witchcraft – and that is why there is a lot of poverty,” says Peter. “But because I was changed by the power of God’s Word, I know they will be changed too.”

This is why the pastors of these churches are being trained by Langham so they can effectively teach the Bible and help their congregations grow in Christ. Most of the RTU pastors have never been to a Bible school. Without Langham, Peter says it would be very difficult to equip the pastors with the training they need.

“I’m so grateful for Langham Preaching for training our men, and now they are able to preach and teach the word of God in a way that our people can understand,” says Peter.

Real Treasure
“The Word of God is like a hidden wealth that one should desire,” says Daniel Kathuru Muteria, a pastor from Kenya’s Kitui County.

Daniel administers five churches in Ukambani, a village steeped in witchcraft and oppressive poverty. But thanks to the preaching ministry of Langham, Daniel says many more villagers are coming to understand that their real treasure is in Jesus Christ. “I tell them that faith in God is wealth. It becomes wealth to our health, our income, our children.”

Daniel’s dream for his own people is ambitious. His vision is to build a resource center that will serve as a dispensary and a school for adults and out-of-school youth. “I’m using the Gospel as an eye opener because it will make you wise,” says Daniel. “I tell them we must open our eyes to what is happening around us and ask God to solve our problems. I believe God will bless our community. Our time has come.”

From Old Culture to Christ
For Joseph Mjeru Kithinji, a pastor who oversees six churches in northern Kenya, the Gospel is the power behind great transformation. “Our local pastors proclaim God’s Word to help the people come out of ungodly culture and embrace their true nature in Christ,” says Joseph.

Langham, through its ministry of equipping indigenous pastors to effectively teach God’s word, plays an important role in people’s transformation. Daniel and his co-pastors appreciate the Bible training that they receive. He says it brings big changes even to him, and helps him encourage other church leaders who face all kinds of opposition from the enemy.

“Without the Gospel there will only be hatred, killings and evil things,” Joseph laments, but he adds, “My dream is to see the whole community change from their old culture into the loving, compassionate and forgiving nature of Christ.”

10,000+ pastors and lay leaders were trained
159 training events were held in 55 countries
500+ preaching groups of 10–12 pastors and leaders met weekly and received ongoing mentoring and training
Catalysts for Cultural Change
Theological Leaders Shaping the Heart of Hong Kong

Langham funds scholarships and shepherds emerging theological leaders, preparing them for a lifetime of multiplicative ministry as they go on to train others and shape nations. Dr. Stephen Lee, a Langham Scholar and president of China Graduate School of Theology, is one such scholar influencing a new generation of leaders.

Grounded in God’s Word

The son of an orphan-turned-pastor, Langham Scholar Dr. Stephen Lee draws upon a strong heritage of mission work and deep evangelical faith as he leads China Graduate School of Theology (CGST) in serving Chinese churches in Hong Kong, China and around the world.

As its president, Dr. Lee believes that CGST, which is based in Hong Kong, plays a very strategic role in equipping young Chinese pastors and lay leaders to preach God’s truth around the world.

Dr. Lee himself dedicated his life to full-time ministry when he was 16. After graduating from high school, he pursued a college degree, worked for a couple of years, and could have easily built a career in civil service. But, he says, his calling had become deeper and deeper.

In 1979, Dr. Lee went to Scotland for his master’s in divinity training. Upon graduation, he pastored two churches — first in Hong Kong, and then in Vancouver, Canada. In 1989, Dr. Lee pursued his doctoral studies, went back to Hong Kong in 1993, served as CGST dean from 1995 to 2005.

“All this preparation helped me to be better equipped so that I may help the young generation of pastors and lay leaders to be committed to God and also to our own people in China,” he says.

A Langham scholar, Dr. Lee says what has kept him motivated is the vision to see emerging theological leaders trained and grounded in God’s Word and committed to Jesus Christ and His church.

“This is what Uncle John [Stott] had shared with us, and it’s a legacy from him that we uphold,” adds Dr. Lee.

Heavy on Dr. Lee’s heart is the challenge to impact the churches in mainland China. He says, “Christian faith is not a value shared by the majority of the people here in Hong Kong. Money is. So, we are a minority group, but we’re trying our best as the church of Christ to be a good role model and set up a right standard for other churches.”

Among those who are committed to carrying this burden are Langham scholars David Mok and Tiffany Sham.

Ministry to the Marketplace

David Mok is graduating from China Graduate School of Theology (CGST) in June with a master’s degree in Christian Study, majoring in biblical hermeneutics.

David is passionate about bringing God’s truth to the marketplace. He believes that God can use his theological training at CGST and his business background to bring a spiritual revival to Chinese believers in the workplace.

According to David, job competition in Hong Kong drives people, even Christians, to work long hours, often 12-14 hours a day. This leaves them with zero energy to do a good devotion after work. Also, David says many don’t see the Sunday preaching as relevant to the daily challenges of their work life.

David believes his training in hermeneutics can help believers understand that they can achieve success at their workplace and become agents of change in the society.

“This often leaves them with very little energy to grow in their Christian faith. Also, they often feel isolated, with little understanding of how God’s Word is relevant to their daily work challenges.”

Tiffany Sham is a history student and completing a master in divinity program at China Graduate School of Theology (CGST). Before coming to the seminary, Tiffany worked as a social worker, but decided she could have more impact by learning how to interpret God’s truth correctly and in a way that Hong Kong citizens can understand.

She sees Hong Kong as a place of enormous spiritual challenge. She says, “The people here are quite individualistic. They think their goal is to work very hard and earn a lot of money so that they can enjoy life and pursue what they desire.”

In a city where most people don’t think there is a need for God, Tiffany is using her own testimony to ignite in people a desire to know God. “I walk alongside them so they can know me and see how God changes my life,” she says.

Since coming to CGST, Tiffany says her training has helped her know God more, which is a humbling experience, she adds.

Breaking the Chains of Individualism

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Langham supports indigenous theological writing and publishing so that pastors and leaders have access to books in their own language and context as they serve the unique needs of their communities.

**Book Spotlight: South Asia Bible Commentary**

South Asia is a place where the church is experiencing both a growth in numbers and a great spiritual need for mature leadership. What does God’s Word have to say about local issues like corruption, the caste system, human trafficking, violence against women, and witchcraft? Many pastors simply don’t know because they lack any formal biblical training. That’s why for the past 6 years, Langham has been supporting the completion of the South Asia Bible Commentary. This culturally relevant, single-volume resource written by South Asians, for South Asians, is designed to equip leaders at the grassroots level to confront these pressing issues with God’s Word. By God’s grace and the help of friends and supporters like you, 2013 was a productive year for work on the SABC.

“I am excited to think about the significance and impact this commentary will have for the church in South Asia,” says Jacob Cherian, one of five Langham Scholars working on the commentary. “With India having the second largest population of Muslims in the world, topics such as ‘Jesus among other gods’ are bound to serve the Church in a major capacity.”

The South Asia Bible Commentary will be instrumental in reaching the next generation and impacting the South Asian church for many years to come.