

Support Novice Pastors / Book Gifting

Amazing Grace Amid Adversity

© Sheung Un
Member of Book Gifting Team

Here is a quote from Reverend Hudson Taylor, “*I have found that there are three stages in every great work of God: first, it is impossible, then it is difficult, then it is done.*” In 2022, the Book Gifting ministry swung like a pendulum between “impossible” and “difficult”, yet with God’s help, our goal was ultimately reached: 2,108 sets of pastoral resources were sent to 35 seminaries with nearly 22,000 copies of printed materials made available to the novice pastors in China.



We wholeheartedly bless the graduates who completed their courses despite the difficult external situation.

Circumventing the Impossible and Difficult Barricades

After the Chinese New Year of 2022, our logistics partners in China were sealed off in a quarantine area, nothing was allowed to go in or come out. The Book Gifting team felt stuck. How could we distribute the book packages? A message from our publishing partner in China came as a sudden bright flash, “*If you encounter delivery issues due to the pandemic, we can help with distributing the book packages.*” Isn’t it amazing? God had already torn down the “impossible” barricade even before we asked for His help.



We were thrilled to receive help from our publishing partners in China in the delivery of the 2022 Book Gifting packages.



Requesting the direct delivery of books to locations designated by graduates is a sign of great trust and affirmation of the seminaries toward the Book Gifting team.

When the pandemic was rampaging in China, some areas were sealed off and put under "closed district management". Even transportation of local supplies was banned. Two schools requested us to arrange direct delivery of the book packages to locations specified by graduates instead of bulk delivery to the schools. This is a very unusual

arrangement as the seminaries need to provide pertinent contact information to us. We are thankful that the seminaries trust us to such an extent and recognize the value of the Book Gifting ministry! Our Heavenly Father has paved the way by removing the "difficult" barricade!

The Book Gifting ministry has been going on for 11 years. Last year we received a letter of appreciation from the graduate for the first time. *"Upon graduation, we are about to leave for our full time serving, the valuable books you have given us is like fuel for our upcoming ministry ...When we received books such as (a series of book titles), we thanked God wholeheartedly because He always renders timely provisions; in order to live up to the earnest expectation of your team, we will use these books astutely in our ministry ...,"* said the graduate of the appreciation letter. Seeing the long list of book titles in the letter, the team could feel the high expectation of the graduates towards the books and their genuine gratitude for the team's relentless effort in delivering the books to them amid the difficult situation.

When we look back on our footsteps, we cannot help but thank our Heavenly Father unceasingly for leading the team through unforeseeable situation and overcome seemingly unsurmountable obstacles.

Please support the 2023 China Seminary Graduates Book Gifting Project

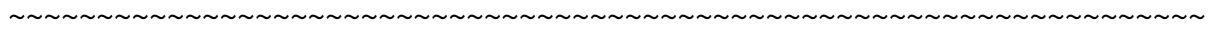
The *China Seminary Graduates Book Gifting Project* began in 2012. Over the years, the Book Gifting team has been led by Mr. Thomas Tang and Mr. Matthew Fung, the Second and Third General Secretary of CCL respectively, to supply pastoral resources to various municipal and provincial seminaries all over China. We thank our Heavenly Father for allowing our participation in His work, witnessing His guidance and protection of the novice pastors and the amazing impact of the published literature on believers and churches in China.

In 2023, the challenges will continue. There is a great deal of uncertainty affecting theology students' course completion and graduation, review and approval of materials to be published, and site visit arrangements, but we will continue to liaise with seminaries and pursue publication and reprints of materials relentlessly. As printing, storage and logistics

costs keep rising, utilization of financial resources needs to be very prudent. We sincerely invite you to remember the needs of the upcoming graduation class.

Funds needed: USD 410,256

Book Gifting: To provide an estimated 60,000 copies of pastoral resources to 4,000 recent graduates of 50 seminaries, bible schools and training centres in China. These materials aim at helping the novice pastors to nurture the spiritual wellbeing of believers and churches.



~The above is part of the content of PFC issue359, if you would like to read the full newsletter, please contact us at pfc@ccl.org.hk, thank you!~

All rights reserved. Neither this publication nor any part of it may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, without the prior permission of Christian Communications Limited. Publication is published every month by Christian Communications Limited.