

## Walking Hand-in-Hand to Achieve Even More

### Pastor Persevering for His Family

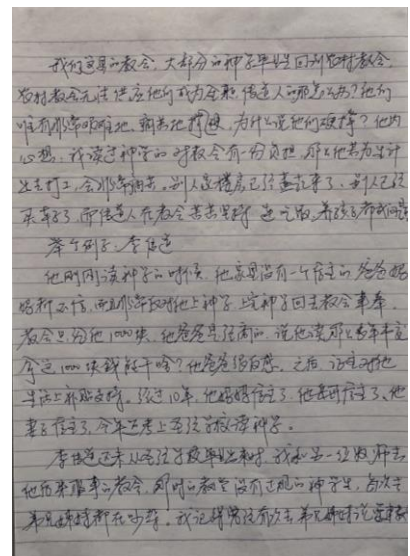
Letter from a pastor in the Southwestern region:

*“Most theology graduates would return to the church in their village to serve. However, the church cannot afford to hire them as full-time pastors. What should they do? All they can do is insist and persevere under great hardship. Having studied theology and being devoted to serving the church, they would be extremely distressed if they were to take up a job to support their own living. While their peers have made enough money to build a house and buy a car, they are serving the church under great difficulties and even have problems making ends meet.*

*When Pastor Li first studied theology, nobody in his family was converted and he met with strong objections from his parents. Later he returned to his church to serve on a salary of only RMB1,000. His father was most put off, questioning why he made only RMB1,000 after long years of studying. Pastor Li was later offered some living subsidy by CCL. Today, ten years on, his mother, mother-in-law, and wife have all come to Christ.*

*Before Pastor Li graduated from the Bible school, I went together with another pastor to visit his church which then did not have a seminary graduate in its service team. Pastor Li then returned to the church to serve. Two months ago, we visited the church again and found that the congregation comprised over 100 believers who were passionate about God and craved His words.*

*I believe CCL is adopting a two-pronged approach in its support to us. On the one hand, it donates publication resources to seminary graduates so that they can study the right doctrines in theology. On the other hand, it ensures that pastors are financially stable so that in turn, their family and their church will also be stable. I am deeply moved by CCL’s assistance to us all along.”*



A partner in China thinks that CCL’s two-pronged approach of donating books to seminary graduates and granting living subsidies for evangelists can help stabilize a church.

~~~~~

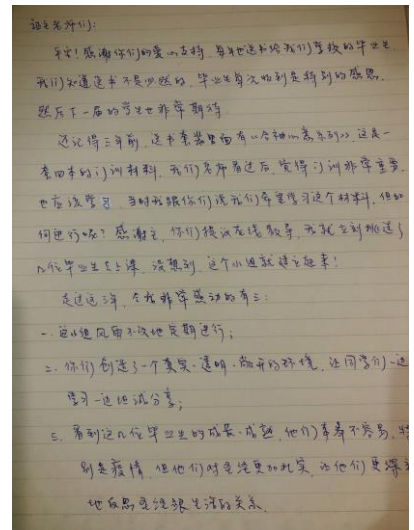
## Getting the Most out of Pastoral Resources

A letter from a pastor in the Central-southern region:

*“CCL teachers, peace be with you! Thank you for your loving support and for donating books to our graduates every year. We do not take this for granted and the graduates are full of gratitude every time they receive the books. The graduates-to-be are also looking forward very much to their turn.*

*I recall that three years ago, in the book packs, there was a set of four discipleship training materials: ‘The Essential Series’. After reading through them, our teachers were inspired that discipleship training was most important and should be learned by the students. I asked you then what we should do if we wanted to learn the materials. Thank the Lord - you suggested giving us online lessons. We immediately picked several students for the lessons. Little had we imagined then that a small learning group would be set up!*

*It has been three years now and I am deeply touched in three aspects. First, this small group studies regularly come rain or shine; second, you have created a transparent and open environment for learning and honest sharing; third, I have witnessed the growth and maturity of these several graduates. It has not been easy for them to serve, particularly during the several years of the pandemic. Yet, they have gained a more solid understanding of the Bible and reflected more deeply on the connection between the Bible and daily life.*



The growth and maturity of some seminary graduates in China shows that the ministry to groom people requires not only pastoral resources but also continuously walking by the graduates' side.

*CCL teachers, thank you! You are no ordinary teachers. You have sent us resources and taught students how to use them. This is more than merely imparting some knowledge to the students. You have expended time and great efforts to guide students patiently to digest the materials and accompany them in their life journey. You have cared for them sincerely and I see in you the role model of a life mentor! May God continue to use you!”*

~~~~~

## Mission Education New Approaches

### “Great Work in Minorities”

One of the key CCL projects in 2023, “Great Work in Minorities” stems from the ministry team's review of and vision for mission education strategies.

**Looking back at the past:** After collating some of the work records left behind by our past ministry seniors, we found one thing in common: they all shared the stories of Chinese churches through popular contemporary media, which inspired us to think about what effective media are available today.

**Current challenges:** After the social changes in the past few years, how can we share the ministry in China with churches in Hong Kong? Organisations are partners of the church and play a complementary role. After the pandemic, what support does the church need and what are the gaps to be filled?

**Make good use of resources:** A pastor in China we know is an artist who loves ethnic minorities. We also have a co-worker who loves hand-made crafts and has gained a lot of experiences in participating in bazaars during the pandemic.

Taking all these accounts, we linked the resources together. By our Lord's guidance, they produce a marvelous synergy!

*Popular media:* art paintings, music, creative crafts, experiential learning

*Unchanged content:* God's work in churches in China

*Venues for sharing:* churches, bazaars organised by churches

*Reaching out to:* Children, youth, adults, parent-child families, and the elderly.

*Role of Support:* working with churches to cultivate the missional heart of believers.

Pray that the Lord will use the collaboration between partners, ministry teams, and local congregations to widen the scope of mission education.



The bazaar was an opportunity for volunteers to share with the audience the story of the preacher behind.



A wide range of products under “Great Work in Minorities” help promote mission education among different people.

## Mission Education 2023

- The total number of local congregations/churches in Hong Kong served is 9 (Sunday sermons, prayer meetings, “Great Work in Minorities” etc.)
- Participated in 9 church bazaars.
- Served a total of 1,560 participants throughout the year.

## “Great Work in Minorities”

### Partnering with churches to cultivate a missional heart

Activities:

*(Can choose all five or any of them depending on a church's needs)*

#### **Appetizer – Sharing the stories behind the products**

Postcard / A4 File, reflecting the story of a pastor's service and life.

#### **Salad - Mini-Exhibition on Ethnic Minorities**

Display of ethnic minority Bibles, hymn book, costumes, paintings, and music playing.

#### **Soup - Introduction to Ethnic Minorities**

Introducing the basic information of ethnic minorities (e.g. name of ethnic group, distribution, population of believers, etc.)

#### **Main Course - Seminar on "Great Work in Minorities"**

Sharing the stories behind the written language, music and paintings of ethnic minorities to come to know more about God's great work (or other topics as agreed by the church)

#### **Drink or Dessert – On-site Handicraft Session**

Making ethnic minority hanging decorations (other sessions may be discussed in light of the gifts of fellow brothers and sisters)

~~~~~

Your Support is Needed

## Get Involved Now

### You are invited to be our partner

#### 1. Prayer support

Read the newsletter each month and pray for us regularly at a time and place that is convenient for you.



#### 2. Donation support to key programs

**Supporting 3,000 Graduates by providing literature resources** including:

- A book set with about 15 titles on pastoral care to each graduate of 50 Seminaries and Bible schools in China (USD 154 per set).
- Production and publication of 2 titles in Simplified Chinese (3,000 copies of each are to be printed, totaling USD 64,103)

**Funding required: USD 526,103**

-----

**Supporting 40 Evangelists by providing living subsidies** in the Southwestern, Northwestern, and Central-southern regions of China.

(Each receives USD 577 per month)

**Funding required: USD 276,960**

-----

**Supporting 100 Shepherd Leaders by providing comprehensive leadership training**, which includes:

- Conducting nearly 300 sessions of “Living Word” Bible teaching training with resources provided
- Conducting nearly 150 sessions of marketplace, family, and church leadership training

**Funding required: USD 205,129**

~~~~~

~The above is part of the content of PFC issue371, if you would like to read the full newsletter, please contact us at [pfc@ccl.org.hk](mailto: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.