



October 2011

Dear Seminary friends,

GREETINGS from Penang! The HCD movement continues to gain momentum around the world. For example, there are remarkable initiatives in India under the leadership of Dr Jesudason Jeyaraj. Over the past 6 months, he and his team conducted 10 HCD Faculty Orientation Workshops in various places around India with over 250 participants and 88 institutions represented. Moreover, in the first week of November, I will be teaching the first course in *Child, Church and Mission* at the Eurasian Theological Seminary in Moscow (ETSM), under the leadership of the Provost, Dr Ilya Okhotnikov. It is expected that not only ETSM students will participate, but students and Christian leaders from other organizations will be joining us. And, initial discussions are taking place in Romania for a Child Theology conference as a follow up to the *Now and Next* Theological Conference on Children held in Nairobi earlier this year.

At the same time, other initiatives continue to draw attention to the needs and potential of children and youth. This issue of *Communiqué* highlights the **3rd 4/14 Window Summit**, held recently in Singapore, and particularly the *Academic and Theological Transformation (ATT) Track* within the 4/14 Window Movement. We also review a couple of new resources that will be of interest to many of you.

I'd like to remind you about registration in the Global Alliance. We'd like to be able to track the theological institutions considering or implementing HCD courses or programs, and the individuals, organizations and influencers interested in the movement. The registration blurb is below. Would you take the time to complete the on-line registration form? Doing so will help us create a useable database, and better facilitate the resource sharing and networking within the HCD movement and related initiatives.

Enjoy browsing the programs, resources and events highlighted in this 9th issue of *Communiqué*. May I encourage you all with the following:

"Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings" (Isa 58:12).

Blessings,

Dr Dan Brewster
General Secretary, HCD Global Alliance

Are you part of the HCD Global Alliance? Does your institution support academic program in Holistic Child Development? Thinking and planning to start one now?

At the **HCD Global Alliance**, we seek to bring together seminaries, theological institutions, organizations and ministry influencers to advance the cause of children through Holistic Child Development (HCD) programming. Join us today and be part of a bigger picture as together we seek to be a global advocate for children! To sign up, write to info@hcd-alliance.org.



Gen Y Track participants at the third 4/14 Window Global Summit in Singapore.

The **HCD Communiqué** contains news and information about the development and programming of HCD movement around the world. It is published electronically four times a year in English.

The HCD Global Alliance

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The **Global Alliance for Advancing Holistic Child Development** (also HCD Global Alliance) is a partnership between Compassion International and theological institutions. The general secretary is Dr Dan Brewster who is also International Director of Academic Program at Compassion International. He has studied and written extensively in the areas of child and community development, missions, and missions strategy.

4/14 Window Global Summit III, Singapore 2011

“Four through 14 is a very important age, because it is so responsive a time in the life of a young person that gets presented the gospel... If we don’t reach this generation, there is no future for Christianity.”

Luis Bush

International Servant Catalyst

“One of the problems that we’ve had in our churches and ministries is that we’ve just sought to entertain children. We’ve not paid attention to that tremendous resource that children represent.”

Dan Brewster

Director of International Academic Program for Compassion International

“The new thing about this movement is providing space for children to become the primary agents of mission for the 21st century.”

Bambang Budijanto

Chairman of the 4/14 Global Steering Committee

FROM September 6-9, 2011, more than 1,000 leaders and representatives from 93 countries gathered in Singapore for the 3rd 4/14 Window Global Summit. The Summit was hosted by Victory Family Centre in Singapore and facilitated by Luis Bush, International Servant Catalyst, Bambang Budijanto, chair of the 4/14 Global Steering Committee, and Rick Seaward, pastor of Victory Family Centre.

The global 4/14 movement began in 2008 with the aim to raise awareness about the value of children and to mobilize the Church worldwide to welcome their unique contribution and also to address their needs. This time, the Summit intentionally sought to equip the Church to reach and deploy the 4/14ers to impact their world. Within the overall Summit, ten 4/14 Global Track Summits were convened, each with a specific area of emphasis to reach, rescue, root and release the 4/14 Generation to transform the world.

Engaging seminars

One of such Tracks was the *Academic and Theological Transformation (ATT)* Track. Led by Dr Dan Brewster and Dr Jesudason Jeyaraj, the Track seeks to transform seminaries and theological institutions with the *child in the midst* paradigm. The Track had some 50 seminarians and theologians from around the world (except Latin America) meeting to reflect on the child in Scripture. In particular, they explored issues raised by Dr Victor Nakah in a critical paper titled “Child Theology – a Challenge to Seminaries,” presented at the *Now and Next* conference earlier this year in Nairobi.



Participants at the third 4/14 Window Global Summit in Singapore, September 6-9, 2011

The Track also explored other areas of concern: 1) The need to provide seminaries with real-world relevance in content and focus, thus enabling them to equip children ministry workers and be better advocate for children; 2) The need to provide the Church with new theological understandings of the significance of the child, and to view church, ministry and society through the lens of the child; 3) The need to help ministry and mission groups see children as a fruitful mission field and also potent mission force; and 4) The need to provide academic and theological support for the child-focused emphases of organisations, movements and initiatives such as Lausanne, World Evangelical Alliance and 4/14 Window.

Next steps

Following the third Summit, the 4/14 Global Initiative will initiate a global conversation on the role of children in

mission from a biblical perspective. At the same time, similar 4/14 Window Summits will take place at regional and national levels around the world, including local initiatives to awaken churches to the needs and potential of children for today’s generation. ■



The 4/14 Window refers to the millions of children around the world who are aged 4 to 14 years old, which is the most receptive to every form of spiritual and developmental input. For information, please visit 4to14window.com or www.facebook.com/414Window.

Check out these two new resources!

Dear friends,

I would like to encourage you to take a closer look at two resources featured here this quarter. Both resources are freely downloadable from www.hcd-alliance.org.

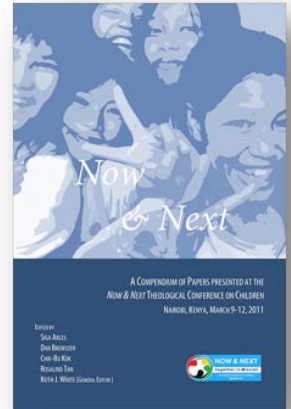
Thoughts on the Theological Significance of Children

The first is the **Now and Next Compendium** – a collection of papers from the *Now and Next Theological Conference on Children* held in Nairobi, Kenya in March, 2011, that reflect theologically on the place of children in the life, Kingdom and Mission of God.

Child Theology has been said to be a lens through which we gain new insights on how we do 'Church;' how we interpret Scripture (hermeneutics), and even seminary and mission priorities. There are 5 reflective papers, each with an insightful introduction by Dr Keith White, followed by perceptive responses by selected contributors from around the world.

Keith writes: "The challenge that arises is to dedicate ourselves to deeper and fuller study of the Bible, open to change our understanding of Jesus, the Kingdom of God, as the child placed by Jesus in the midst provides fresh light or a new lens revealing what previously remained hidden." (p.113)

I believe these papers and reflections will make a noteworthy statement on the theological significance of children, and represent a striking and conspicuous milestone on the journey of theological reflection. Please do check out the *Now and Next Compendium*.



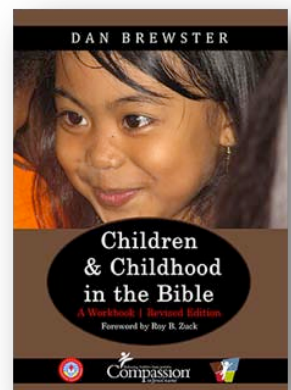
Explore what the Bible says about Children and Childhood

I would also like to commend to you the **Revised and Expanded Children and Childhood in the Bible Workbook**. This work was begun with the inspiration from the fine book by Roy Zuck, called *Precious in His Sight*. I have been impressed by the 1400 or so Scriptures cited by Zuck in his excellent overview of childhood and children in Scripture. I got in touch with Roy, and he encouraged me to go ahead with using his book as a starting point for a workbook which would allow learners to explore by topic, the wealth of biblical material on that topic.

Most of us see various children mentioned here and there in Scriptures. But, as far as I know, this is the first book that pulls together in one place all (or most) of the Scriptures on selected topics from the whole of the Bible. I believe the impact is significant. The insights are profound – how God loves them, His high regard for their ability to understand the faith, His special concern for hurting children, how He used them for his purposes, and how they indeed are "precious in His sight."

Moreover as one explores such Scriptures, and then, through the more than 150 reflection questions, compares the attitudes and understandings with those of our present societies and mores, we get insightful lessons and critique of prevailing attitudes today. I do not think it has been done yet, but I believe, with suitable other reading and writing assignments, the material in this workbook could easily constitute a Master-level seminary course.

The book is freely downloadable from www.hcd-alliance.org. And, users are free to translate and 'transculturated' – especially the reflection questions – for use in classrooms or Bible studies in your country and language. Check it out!



Dan Brewster

Now & Next Compendium

Link: http://www.hcd-alliance.org/resources/books/doc_details/112-now-a-next

Revised Children & Childhood in the Bible Workbook

Link: http://www.hcd-alliance.org/resources/books/workbooks/doc_details/111-children-a-childhood-in-the-bible-2011-dan-brewster

New India Bible Seminary launches MTh in HCD



Opening of the computer lab at the launch

ON June 23, 2011, New India Bible Seminary (NIBS) in Thiruvalla, Kerala inaugurated the Master of Theology in Practical

Theology specializing in Holistic Child Development. According to NIBS principal Dr Jaison Thomas, the program balances theory and practice, and has been designed to address the urgent need for trained workers for children ministries in South Asia.

He said, "We are committed to train missionaries, pastors, counselors, teachers, theologians and children ministry workers to impact God's mission in the 21st century."

The new MTh program was launched by Thomas Swaroop, South Asia child

advocacy director for Compassion International. The 50-credit MTh is a 2-year residential program with 8 full-month taught modules, supervised ministry placements, field research and thesis.

Since 1975, NIBS has been training Christian leaders to reach India with the gospel. The seminary is accredited by the Asia Theological Association.

For information and enquiries, write to program director Dr Alexander Philip at pgstudies.nibs@gmail.com or visit www.nibskerela.org. ■

HCD Torchbearers meet to broaden vision for the region



HCD Torchbearers at the Makassar retreat

THE first ever SE Asia HCD Torchbearers' Retreat was held in Makassar, Indonesia from August 11-13, 2011. Themed "Broadening the Vision," the retreat brought together 17 seminarians and children ministry leaders to encourage and learn from

one another as they seek to promote HCD training in the region.

Five countries were represented, namely Indonesia, Cambodia, Malaysia, Philippines, and Hong Kong, China. Each national group was given opportunity to share about challenges they faced in promoting HCD program in their contexts, such as the recruitment of students, coordination of program, and availability of tutors.

Alumni and current students in an HCD program were also given space to reflect about their experience. One person shared about changed values and attitudes toward children, while

another gained a broader perspective of God's work in the lives of children.

During the retreat, the torchbearers revisited and evaluated the goals that were formulated at the 2010 Bangalore Consultation. They also shared the vision of HCD at a local church as well as a seminar for children ministry workers and Christian school teachers.

The HCD Torchbearers Retreat was hosted by Jaffray Theological School. The Torchbearers are planning to meet again in 2013 in Cambodia. For information, contact Rosalind Tan (hcd.institute@gmail.com). ■

West African seminaries on track for HCD courses



Dan Brewster (third from left) with participants at the Togo Consultation

THE VISION of HCD is beginning to catch on in Francophone West Africa. In September 2011, two key consultations were held for seminary leaders to explore ways to advance HCD courses for academic institutions

in their own countries. The **Lomé Consultation in Togo**, taking place from Sept 16-17, had 21 leaders from 18 seminaries and organizations in Benin and Togo agreeing to: a) develop common foundational courses for their seminaries, b) develop a distinctively West African syllabus, and c) work with others in Francophone Africa to translate key resources. Meanwhile, at the **Ouagadougou Consultation in Burkina Faso**, held from Sept 19-20, thirty-five seminarians from Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Senegal reviewed the progress made since the 2008 HCD workshop, and agreed to speed-up the process of resource development and HCD implementation. They

also agreed to develop 6 distinctively West African foundational courses that include theology, missions and child advocacy, as well as engaging their counterparts in Togo and Benin to translate materials for the sub region.

On a broader level, the groups are committed to be part of the 4/14 Window Global Initiatives for which a major Francophone Summit is planned for March 2012 in Burkina Faso. To find out more about advancing HCD program in West Africa, contact Jonas Sawadogo (jsawadogo@bf.ci.org), Rev Mamadou N'Diaye (mn_diaye@yahoo.fr), or Dr Etienne Zongo (etiennezongo@yahoo.fr). ■

Training to equip more children workers for China



Hosts and facilitators at the training

FROM September 21-24, 2011, the HCD-focused Training of Trainers (ToT) program was held in China for a group of 27 children ministry leaders from different parts of the country. The first module of the program commenced on

Sept 21, following the conferring ceremony of the *Diploma in HCD* for 61 students.

According to Dr Rosalind Tan, one of the training implementers, the program seeks to equip leaders to train up more grass root workers for children ministries in China. The equipping is part of a wider training initiative offered through a partnership between HCD Institute, Hosanna Foundation, and Sonshine China.

The initiative in China began 4 years ago with the 1-year *Certificate in Child Studies* program, which was funded by Compassion International. In 2008, the program successfully graduated 51

students. In the following year, the *Diploma in HCD* program was launched with over 70 enrolments, including 25 alumni from the certificate program. From the graduation list of the diploma program, 27 alumni were selected to undergo the ToT program.

Over the years, both trainers and trainees had to face many challenges. Nevertheless, Rosalind and her team expressed thankfulness to God for His faithfulness in sustaining the training initiatives in China. "May He continue to grant us His favor as we seek to bless China," she said.

To find out more, contact Rosalind Tan (hcd.institute@gmail.com). ■



Symposium for African Christian Scholars & the Plight of the African Child

Nairobi, Kenya, November 9-11, 2011

The Institute for Child Development at Daystar University will host the **Symposium for African Christian Scholars & the Plight of the African Child** in Nairobi, Kenya from November 9-11, 2011 to engage peer consultation amongst African Christian Scholars to address these issues.

It is expected that the Symposium will:

- Provide a critical analysis of existing policies affecting children at risk, with the aim of identifying effective approaches.
- Showcase lessons learned in policy and programming concerning children at risk and provide opportunities for addressing knowledge gaps by academic institutions.
- Mobilize partnerships towards advocacy efforts around meeting the rights of children at risk through research, policy and programming.

The Symposium is meant for Christian academic/ researchers university professors, faculty members, students, church leadership, local and central government officials and others interested in improving the quality of life for children at risk.

For more information, contact Dr Bernard Boyo at bboyo@daystar.ac.ke.



The needs and neglect of African children are well-known and documented. Millions are affected by conflict, war, famine and poverty. Yet many of these vulnerable children remain invisible to policy makers and in program development. The opportunities they have, (or don't have) in the coming years will shape lives, families, and nations. If educated, skilled, and empowered, they can play a key role in building healthy families, communities, governments and economies in their countries.

Consulta Regional sobre Programas Académicos en Desarrollo Integral de la Niñez y Adolescencia, Quito 2011

Quito, Ecuador, Septiembre 2011:

La segunda consulta regional enfocada en el desarrollo integral de la niñez y adolescencia fué organizado por la Alianza Regional DINA y auspiciado por Overseas Council y Compasión Internacional.

Del 27 al 29 de Septiembre, representantes de 25 seminarios e instituciones teológicas y cuatro universidades evangélicas se reunieron en las instalaciones del SEMISUD con el fin de reflexionar sobre la misión de la Iglesia y los desafíos que la niñez y la adolescencia enfrentan en América Latina y el Caribe. Asimismo, éstas instituciones revisaron y analizaron la pertinencia de los programas académicos en el “Desarrollo Integral de la Niñez y Adolescencia” (DINA) en sus respectivas ofertas curriculares.

Los programas DINA proponen los siguientes principios generales: espiritualidad integral; hermenéutica bíblica y pastoral; teología contextual; la integralidad del ser y el desarrollo humano; y la misión, la iglesia y la sociedad.



Reunion de la Alianza Regional de Programas Academicos en DINA, Quito Septiembre 2011

El programa DINA también propone algunos factores clave que propiciarán el ambiente adecuado para el desarrollo del programa en cada una de sus fases: 1) Interdisciplinariedad, 2) Diálogo con las iglesias, 3) Diálogo con la sociedad, 4) Diálogo con las generaciones emergentes, 5) Enfoque sistémico de las relaciones del sujeto, y 6) Enfoque inclusivo.

En la región de América Latina, actualmente se cuenta con 2 maestrías, 11 diplomados, 1 bachillerato, 1 certificado y 1 curso de especialización. Existen también varias instituciones teológicas en el proceso de iniciación para la implementación de un programa DINA en sus programas educativos. Para más información puede contactar a Enrique Pinedo (epinedo@compassion.com). ■



Interested to teach cross-culturally? Join the Global Alliance HCD Link!

To find out more, write to Rosalind Tan at hcd.institute@gmail.com.

| The Need | The Vision | The Plan | The Outcome |
|---|--|--|---|
| As more institutions around the world embrace the HCD program, the need for competent trainers increases. At the same time, smaller institutions offering HCD programs cannot afford to engage qualified trainers, or do not know of people who are willing to teach. | The vision is to pool together a resource group of facilitators who are willing to teach HCD courses for a week or more. These people must raise their own support for travel. They must also be academically qualified and competent to teach the intended subject. | The plan is to link training needs and availability of trainers. The HCD Institute in Penang, Malaysia will centralize a database of needs and volunteers, to be made available to Global Alliance partners. | Students in an HCD program will receive competent training by competent trainers, thus raising the standards of HCD training programs in seminaries around the world. |