



Reflections of 2011

The Lord Jesus said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field" (Matt 9:37-38). Indeed, the Lord is our provider and He sent His workers to reap the plentiful harvest.

In 2011, more churches were open to partnering CEF in her effort to reach children with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We contacted 27 churches or individuals to share about the CEF's ministry and to train workers in the harvest field. We partnered with the Sunday School boards of at least 10 churches to train and equip their teachers to reach children.

I was very encouraged by one particular church. This church wanted to start a Sunday School as they saw the need to train the children in the way of the Lord. So they contacted CEF to help them. Over the course of the conversation, I realised that cost is their concern. I was prepared to give them free training but God gave me a surprise on the actual day of training. They not only bought many materials for their children, I was also given a big love gift for the training that was conducted.

Later, I discovered that the church leadership had come to know that CEF is a Faith organisation. Also, they had realised the importance of making an impact on the lives of the little ones, so they decided to give their best to the children. Again I saw how God has provided for the church and CEF.

In 2011, we trained 616 teachers, 21 of which attended the intensive 30-hour Teaching Children Effectively Level 1. We are excited to partner with God in reaching children with the gospel. Last year, we also reached and taught more than 1,500 children. Pray that God will continue to open doors for CEF to partner with churches to reach those boys and girls who are lost without God. Pray that God will provide more workers for the harvest field as we are still looking for an administrator.

Ms Lorita Lim
Education and Training Coordinator



Join CYIA!

Calling young people ages 13-21! Through the CYIA (Christian Youth in Action) residential training programme, you will learn effective and engaging ways to reach children in the community and in other parts of the world. Register now, and tell your friends about it! The next session will be held from 11 to 18 March 2012.

For more information and to register, go to <http://www.vtaide.com/cefs/CYIA.pdf> (or you may scan the QR code to access the information).



CEF
CHILD EVANGELISM
FELLOWSHIP®
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Singapore News

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CEF and the 4/14 Window

(1) Children can experience transformation

Many of you are familiar with the 4/14 Window; it refers to the demographic group from age four to fourteen, the segment most open and receptive to every form of spiritual and developmental input. According to The Barna Group, a US market research firm, the probability of a person accepting Jesus as their Saviour is highest (a 32% probability) under the age of 14. The probability drops drastically to 4% for ages 14-18 and 6% for 19 and above. This 32% probability is consistent with CEF reports. In 2010, CEF worldwide ministries presented the Gospel to 10.9 million children with 3 million decisions for Christ.

In Singapore, there are approximately 400,000 children (ages 5-12) and probably 80-90% of them are unchurched. How shall these unchurched children hear of the Good News of Jesus Christ?

CEF Singapore aims to partner local churches to reach these children for Christ. Our strategy revolves around the Good News Club, an exciting fun-filled hour of songs, Scripture memory, Bible stories, review games and activities. The club is held over five or six days during the school holidays, or weekly during school term, usually on Saturdays. At the end of the five or six club meetings, children and their families are invited to church - children to Sunday School, and family members to church service where a gospel message may be presented.

The Good News Club is not restricted to children in the community. Church members can assist in this evangelistic effort by inviting and/or bringing their neighbours' or relatives' children to the club meetings.

The strategy (Fig.1) uses a cyclical approach: Good News Club - Integration - Good News Club - Integration. The idea is to run the Good News Club five or six times, then attempt to integrate the children and their family members into the church (over two weeks or so). If needed, a second cycle of the Good News Club will be run for new invitees or children who are unable to attend church on Sunday.

Who teaches the Good News Club? The teachers are your church members who may be ex-Sunday School teachers, stay-at-home parents, retirees, youth or members with flexible-hour jobs.

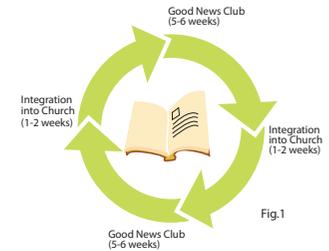


Fig.1

CEF will help train your church members to promote and run the Good News Club. CEF's Good News Club has a curriculum that supports Bible storytelling. Each curriculum package has five or six lessons based on a character or book of the Bible. Bible content is taught using active learning methods. You also have a choice of visual aids in the form of flannelgraphs, flashcards or PowerPoint presentations.

Call us for an appointment to preview our resources and to discuss whether the Good News Club strategy is appropriate for your community.

More information on the Good News Club strategy is available at our website, <http://www.cef-singapore.com>

(2) Children can be mobilised as agents for transformation

The 4/14 demographic group can also become agents of transformational mission under the headship of Jesus Christ. CEF Singapore has programmes to train believing children on how to share the Gospel with tools such as the Wordless Book and the Gospel Flipper Flapper.

- As the name implies, the Wordless Book has no words, just coloured pages. Each page has a single colour and can be used to share the Gospel.
- The Gospel Flipper Flapper is another evangelistic tool. Flip the flaps to reveal symbols and colours representing Heaven and God's love, the darkness of sin, the blood of Christ and a clean heart.

When trained and properly motivated, believing children can reach out to their classmates, school-mates and friends with the Gospel.

Call us for more information on these witnessing tools or to schedule a training session for your Sunday School, uniformed groups or Christian fellowship.



“Pleasing God” Seminars

What does it mean to live a life that pleases God? If you have not thought of your Christian life in terms of such a simple question, then you would benefit from Dr Czeslaw Bassara's seminar series on "Pleasing God".

(1) Work that pleases God - 26 March

In the Bible, we find many good examples of men and women working both hard and faithfully. The Bible does, however, also warn us against work that glorifies the labourer rather than the Giver of gifts. This is a real danger especially in the so-called "creative" professions. Christian workers, missionaries, theologians, artists, writers and thinkers ought to remember that the fruit of their genius comes from God. It means that our work should never be for our own glory!

What's the difference between "work" and "ministry"? James N. Spurgeon wrote: "A job is at your choice; a ministry is at Christ's call. In a job you expect to receive; in a ministry you expect to give. In a job you give something to get something; in a ministry you return something that has already been given to you. A job depends on your abilities; a ministry depends on your availability to God. A job done well brings you praise; a ministry done well brings honour to Christ."

(2) Marriage that pleases God - 27 March

Marriages are ending up in divorce in record numbers. So many children learn about values from TV, movies and songs instead of from their own parents. Running like a thread through all of the Apostle Paul's admonitions is the call for everyone to treat each other in a way that honours the Lord. The Christian marriage is to be an illustration of God's love for His people.

(3) Family that pleases God - 28 March

In a Christian family, people do not view relationships in terms of power and rights, but in terms of self-giving love. It is important that we

understand that one member of the family cannot carry this burden by himself or herself alone. It does not work if one spouse gives while the other does not.

There are no charges for these public seminars; however a freewill offering will be taken to help defray expenses. Registration is required at <http://www.cef-singapore.com/pleasingGOD.html> to facilitate the preparation of handouts.



Dr Czeslaw Bassara was born near Auschwitz, Poland. In 1965 he came to know the Lord and in the same year started a children's ministry in Poland. He graduated with degrees in theology from the Christian Theological Academy in Warsaw, Poland. He received his PhD in Systematic Theology in Belgium.

He and his wife, Helena served as CEF Directors for Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia for 18 years. In 2008, Czeslaw started "Proclaiming the Word!" which is the CEF International Bible Teaching Ministry. Dr Bassara speaks English, German, Russian, Polish and Esperanto. His Bible teaching ministry has brought him to 73 countries in all continents. He has two children, who are also actively involved in CEF ministry.

Date: 26 - 28 March
Time: 7:30 - 8:30 pm
Host Venue: Aldersgate Methodist Church
98 Dover Road S(139647)
(near One North MRT, Exit A)
Enquiry: Call 6276-1201

Dramatised Devotions Workshop

for Parents of Preschoolers and Lower Primaries

Parents are commanded to teach their children – to impress the Word of God on them. How do we engrave God's Word upon their hearts in the casual setting of the home? How do we teach the young and restless ... squirming children who cannot sit still?

Come and listen to Alan Wong's experience. He had dramatised Bible stories from Genesis to 2 Samuel to teach his two sons, from the time they were preschoolers till they reached Primary 4.

This workshop is for parents and Sunday School teachers of young children. You will learn (1) a biblical theology of parenting and (2) a suggested format of family devotions and principles on how to make family devotions fun and memorable!

Comments from past participants:

- simple and practical steps to conduct family devotions
- structured approach on how to carry out dramatised devotions
- very creative and innovative ideas
- excites me with ideas to try out dramatised devotions for my family
- inspiring session
- can't wait to start
- you have given me (children's pastor) many ideas how to change the programme to make it fun and exciting for our kids

Alan Wong is the Acting National Director of CEF Singapore. He has a Master of Theology (with a major in Christian Education) from Dallas Theological Seminary. He is a member of Faith Methodist Church and serves as a Sunday School teacher. He is also the webmaster of an education and parenting website.

Date: April 14, Saturday
Time: 2:00 – 4:30 pm
Host Venue: Woodlands Evangelical Free Church
1 Woodlands St 83 S(738488)
(near Woodlands MRT)
Enquiry: Call 6276-1201
or email alan@cef-singapore.com

Dramatised Family Devotions

Personal Particulars

Name: Mr / Mrs / Ms / Mdm

Address: _____

Contact / Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Church Attending: _____

Church Involvement: _____

Registration

- \$10 Early Bird (Single registration)
- \$8 Group registration of 6 or more
- \$12 Registration received after 5 April

Payment Mode

- Cash (if paying in person)
- Cheque No. _____
Bank _____

Please send completed form(s) together with cheque payment to:

Child Evangelism Fellowship (S) Ltd
164 Bukit Merah Central #04-3647
Singapore 150164