



ព្រឹត្តិបត្រ

សាលាព្រះគម្ពីរមេតូឌីស្តិកកម្ពុជា

Cambodian Methodist Bible School

"Equip God's people for His Mission" Ephesians 4:12

Newsletter

Volume 6 Issue 12

August - October, 2018

Contents	Pages	Jesus is the Living Water that does not dry up (John 4:13-15)
Jesus is the Living Water that does not dry up	1 - 2	 <p>Rev. David Pyo</p>
Opening Ceremony of the New Academic Year 2018	2	
BTh Students study God's Word	3	
Retreat at Mondulkiri for Students, Staff and Faculty Members	4	
Certificate of Ministry at Banteay Meanchey	5	
1st Year Students Learning Computer Skills	6	
Testimony on the Calling of God	7	
Graduation Ceremony	8	
<b>Editorial Team</b> <b>Editor and Designer:</b> Mr. Saly Nareth  <b>Advisor and Publisher:</b> Rev. Prak Vuthy  <b>Member:</b> Ms. Suzanna Lee		<p>In their everyday life, people all over the world have many needs such as the need for shelter, food, family, work and money. A well-known psychologist called Maslow postulated a theory that all humans have a hierarchy of needs. The most basic of these needs are physiological ones such as the need for food and sleep, and the body's metabolic functions. People who are unable to meet their metabolic needs will face problems; all our physiological needs have to be met continually until our demise.</p> <p>In the Gospel of John, chapter 4 tells of a Samaritan woman who met and had a conversation with Jesus Christ. This Samaritan woman used to have five husbands and the man who was living with her then was not her husband. What she had done was not a good thing, which made her feel ashamed and unwilling to face her fellow villagers. Consequently, she always went to draw water from the well in the evening, a time when nobody else would go, so as to avoid meeting other villagers. When the woman arrived at the well, she met Jesus who requested a drink of water from her. In response, she asked Jesus: "You are a Jew and</p> <p>I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" Jesus replied: "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (v13-14) When the woman heard these words, she asked the Lord: "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water." For this woman, the task of coming to draw water from the well was a difficult one. Therefore, when she heard Jesus say that there was a type of water that would quench one's thirst forever and eliminate the need to draw water, she desired this water and requested Jesus for this living water.</p> <p>From this conversation between Jesus and the woman, we can observe a few noteworthy points. The first point is: we learn that all people have an insatiable appetite for food and drink; for instance, even when we have eaten our fill, after a lapse of one day, we'll become hungry again; even if we drink to our fill, several hours later, we will also be thirsty again. We also have an insatiable appetite for things: for instance, we may already own a nice car, but we want a</p>

### Announcement

The Cambodian Methodist Bible School would like to announce to all local churches that the selection of students into the Diploma and BTh Degree courses for the 18<sup>th</sup> cohort will be based on various criteria such as candidates having attained the minimum age of 18 (which was implemented with effect from 1 October 1996). For those who are interested, they can contact our office directly or through their pastors.

**Notice:** Application forms will be available in May 2018.

**For more information,** please contact us at (+855) 23210031 / 92393314 or in person during normal office hours.

**E.mail:** methodistbibleschool.cmbs@gmail.com , vuthysoklim@yahoo.com

**Address:** Building No. 124, St. 17BT, Group. 6, Phum Sansamkosol 1, Sangkat Boeng Tumpun, Khan Meanchey, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

**Telephone:** (+855) 23 210 031, 92 393 314 **E.mail:** methodistbibleschool@gmail.com, vuthysoklim@yahoo.com

**Facebook:** www.Facebook.com/ Cmbs Cambodian

*Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money,*

bigger one; or we may already have a good-sized home, but we desire yet a bigger one. We may have many possessions, but in no time, we would become bored with them and would desire something new. This is human greed: people always feel that they do not have enough; they are always discontented, which is a common problem among people.

The second point is: What is the cause of this insatiable appetite or discontent? The cause lies in the sinfulness of mankind which produces discontent and a sense of lack. In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve initially lived with the Lord in peaceful contentment, devoid of any conflict or greed, having all that they needed, but when Satan tempted Eve, she started to harbour covetousness. We know that the tree of knowledge of good and evil had been there in the middle of the Garden long before Satan tempted Eve. She would have seen it whenever she walked to and fro in the garden, yet without desiring to eat or taste the fruit, but when Satan tempted her, she 'saw that the fruit was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom.' (Genesis 3:6) Before the problem (of covetousness) came, there was no desire to eat the fruit, but when temptation and sin appeared, Eve started to covet the fruit, and the sense of discontent and insatiable appetite entered the life of mankind. When Eve ate the fruit, it wasn't due to physical hunger but to sin, desire and covetousness which led both Eve and her husband to consume the fruit.

Because of mankind's alienation from God, we will always have a sense of lack, but when we live close to God, we will always be satisfied and contented. On the other hand, if people are separated from God, they will always face problems.

The third point is: only Jesus can solve the problem of insatiable hunger or thirst because He is the living water, the spring that wells up to eternal life. In this passage, after the Samaritan woman had met Jesus, her problem of sin was solved. The woman had always had a sense of self-condemnation as she felt that she was a sinner and always felt ashamed of herself, but the Lord delivered her from this self-condemnation. After she had met Jesus, the woman was set free in His name and was able to face the other people and share the name of Jesus with them. Her encounter with Jesus had transformed her life.

Nowadays, people always have a sense of lack and many worries regarding the future, such as the worry about how they will live after their retirement. Therefore, they work hard and save for their retirement fund.

In any case, they always have problems and don't have true peace, but if and when we meet Jesus, our life will be filled with the peace that comes from God. In John 14:27, Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give you as the world gives. Do not let your heart be troubled and do not be afraid.' When we meet Jesus, he will give us peace and our lives will be filled with His peace.

Jesus is the living water that will deliver us from unquenchable thirst, and if we receive him as our Saviour and our Lord, we will have a reward in Heaven and our lives will be filled with contentment. Even if our lives seem beset with lack and thirst, as seen through our physical eyes, yet we can live with contentment and sufficiency because of the Lord. God knows our needs and He has the power to meet those needs because all things on this earth belong to Him. God is our good shepherd who always leads us to places of good, who always protects and takes care of us, and fills us with peace.

Therefore, brothers and sisters, let us all trust in the Lord and find contentment in Jesus Christ. When we drink water from this earth, we will thirst again, but when we drink the living water that God gives, we will never thirst again because Jesus is the living water that never dries up.

**Teacher David.**

### Opening Ceremony of the New Academic Year 2018



On 2 October 2017, the School held its Opening Ceremony for the new academic year. In this new year, the School admitted nine new first-year students and started the new Bachelor of Theology class with an enrolment of nine alumni members.



*come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.*

The BTh class marks a new milestone for the School which motivates the leaders to further equip themselves for God's work. The first-year students were filled with joy that they had been called by God to study and be trained in the School. They extolled the indescribable grace of our Lord Jesus Christ who had chosen them to study God's Word and to strengthen their faith increasingly so that they might 'walk the talk' and serve God in the ministries which God had prepared for them respectively.

As for the BTh students who, being former students, had been serving as pastors for many years and had made numerous disciple-making disciples, they had been fired with the zeal to further study God's Word and motivated by the needs of their ministry to develop their skills and knowledge in order to make their ministry more effective. It can be compared to a battery that is running flat and needs to be recharged; otherwise it cannot be used any longer. The CMBS provides the means for the BTh students to increase their knowledge and to continually delve into God's Word, to apply it in their daily lives and to help their congregations to grow spiritually as well.

## BTh Students Study God's Word



This is an activity of BTH students who are studying God's Word, to extend their knowledge as well as to help them delve deeply into the Word of God, to apply the Word of God in their daily life, and to use God's Word to help the church increasingly.

**By CMBS**



*Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy?*

## Retreat at Mondulkiri for Students, Staff and Faculty Members

Every year, at the conclusion of Semester I, the School will organise a retreat-outing for all its students, staff and faculty members. For this year's outing, we travelled to the North-Eastern part of Cambodia, to Mondulkiri. The province of Mondulkiri is situated in a highland region that abounds with hill forests, waterfalls and natural scenic attractions. Not only that, Mondulkiri has a cool weather and fresh air too. During the retreat, all of us were in high spirits, enjoying our meals together, playing in the water together, and snapping photographs together against the beautiful scenery which is part of God's creation that we read about in His Word and now saw clearly with our own eyes. All this reflects the unity of the body of Christ our Saviour to which we all belong.

During the retreat, we were able to share a time of worship together with some brothers and sisters in the faith in Pich Chenda. This family of siblings truly had strong faith in and love for God. They not only made the time but also offered their home as the venue for all of us to worship God together.

All the activities in Mondulkiri truly demonstrate the unity of one family in the Lord. We could really encourage one another with God's Word, thus strengthening our faith and filling us with indescribable joy. **By CMBS**





*Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you'll delight in the richest of fare.*

## Certificate of Ministry in Banteay Meanchey



I am Yi Chamreurn, a student of the Certificate of Ministry course organised by the CMBS in the province of Banteay Meanchey. Currently, I am serving God as a committee member of the Banteay Meanchey Methodist Church. As a committee member, I always try to connect with the people around me, and so I have to work hard to encourage others and to build unity among God's people. Before joining the course, I had thought that serving God required having a strong faith, and so I always tried hard to strengthen my faith but rarely showed a deep interest or paid much attention to the study of the Bible due to my busyness with my work, family and church ministry. Moreover, I felt that, not being a pastor, I didn't need to study the Bible in great depth. Year after year, my knowledge of the Bible didn't seem to grow at all. Therefore, to increase my knowledge of the Bible, I decided to sign up for the Certificate of Ministry course announced by the District Superintendent. I was then very excited, surprised and thankful that through God's grace I was selected for this course. During the course, I understood that I needed to have more knowledge than faith. Indeed, I've grown in the knowledge of Biblical history and the key points of both the Old and New Testaments through the teaching and sharing of the lecturers. All of this showed me clearly that having faith alone is not enough, I need to have a knowledge of God's Word and to have commitment; only then will I be able to accomplish my ministry as a Christian and to achieve success in my service to God.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to the Lord and to CMBS for partnering the church in Banteay Meanchey in mounting this Certificate of Ministry course. I will persevere in completing the course and then use the knowledge gained for the benefit of God's ministry.

**By Yi Chamreurn**



## Testimony of a First - Year Student

I am Oun Sreyleang, a member of the Chan Lahong Church in Baray in Kampong Thom. Presently, I am a first-year student at the Cambodian Methodist Bible School. The reasons why I enrolled at the School are: because I wanted to answer God's call and to get to know Him better so that my faith could be strengthened and my understanding of God's Word could be increased in order to empower me to share the Good News. When I was in High School, I used to ponder over my future, over what I should study further after completing Grade 12. Just as the Bible exhorts us not to worry about the future, I reminded myself not to worry about my future but to trust in God; nevertheless, I still couldn't help but worry about the future.

When I was in Grade 10, I had many ambitions, but in Grade 11, I had the desire to serve God as His Word had touched me deeply. However, I didn't know whether it was truly God's will for me to study at a Bible school, and so I started to pray every day.

**To be continued on page 6....**





*Give ear and come to me; listen, that you may live. I will make an everlasting*

When I was in Grade 12, a mission team from Singapore came to teach us God's Word and how to listen to God's voice. During the break, a male member of the team suddenly approached me, saying that I was a woman whom God loved and that I should go and serve Him by making disciples. I asked him what made him say such things and he answered that he didn't know why except to say those words to me. Then I told him that I had the desire to study at a Bible school but was not sure whether it was God's will or not.

At the precise moment when I realised that it was God's will for me to study at a Bible school, I decided that I should go. Often, when one is in Grade 12, the question that most people ask is: What will you study next after completing Grade 12? I would reply that I would be going to a Bible school. At that time, a number of people would tell me that going to Bible school was a good thing to do. Due to the encouragement of these people, I felt even more motivated to go to Bible school.

However, there was a bigger number of people who told me that studying at Bible school had many difficulties, that it would be difficult to find a job after graduation, and that one would not get a salary when serving God. They advised me to study this or that subject that would earn me a sufficient salary. At that time, I began to harbour thoughts of following their advice, but it was for only a fleeting moment. Their words almost made me abandon my plan to study at Bible school, but I thank God for moving my mother and pastor to encourage me to go to Bible school.

Studying at Bible school also posed other problems for me as I did not have the means to pay the school fees which amounted to a large sum. But I still trusted in God, praying to Him that if He really wanted me to study at Bible school, he would prepare the way and help me. God proved that he really loved and cared for me by providing me with a sponsor for my studies. After that, I applied to the Cambodian Methodist Bible School, but I had to pass an entrance exam first.

On the day when I came for the exam, I felt very fearful, fearing that I would fail although I had prayed for one whole day. After the exam, I waited for the results, and when I knew I had passed, I really thanked God.

Finally, I would like to thank God for answering all my prayers. I pray that God will bless me in my studies at CMBS and enable me to know Him more, that He will give me the strength and wisdom in my studies and work. I offer my life into God's arms. Amen.

**By Oun Sreyleang, 1<sup>st</sup> year student**

### Sightseeing Phnom Penh and visiting Royal Palace for First-Year Students





*covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David. See, I have made him a*

## *First-Year Students learning Computer Skills*



Aside from Biblical studies, CMBS also provides many other courses to equip our students with practical skills such as computer skills, music (drums, piano, guitar...), listening skills, conflict-solving skills and English language. All these will help to develop the students' skills to meet the needs of these modern times in which they live. They do not only need knowledge of the Bible, but they also need to acquire skills to carry out the ministry which the Lord has prepared for them in the near future. It is hoped that after they have completed their studies, they will have both a deeper knowledge of the Bible and various skills to reach out to other people who live in darkness, as they are the future leaders of the church and potential transformers of the nation.

## *Testimony on the calling of God*

My name is Meas Sreykeo and I am a student of CMBS. I live in Kampong Chnang. I am the youngest of nine siblings, three of whom are girls. My previous ambition was to study hard to become a teacher in my village, and I prayed for God's will regarding my dream. After I had passed my Grade 12 exams, my older sister expressed her wish for me to study at Bible school but I rejected it. She then prayed continuously for me until one day when I attended a seminar in Phnom Penh. I was studying with a lady pastor who taught me a lot which made me begin to think about God's calling, but still, I didn't want to give up my dream. I was serving God together with this lady by leading a group of children and organising the worship service held at my home. The initial congregation consisted of only the three of us. At that time, we encountered much persecution, but through the power of God, the three of us prayed for my parents and siblings for one and a half years. They then accepted Christ, and we stopped worshipping at other churches; instead we started to worship together at home. My older sister began to share God's Word according to what she had learned from a seminary student. As for me, I always regarded the study of God's Word and serving Him as my priorities. I was moved (by the Spirit) to pray that, God willing, I would enrol in Bible school and become a pastor in order to reach out to lost souls and bring them back to God.



One night, I dreamed that I heard a man's voice telling me to search for a necklace which was buried in front of the house, and then a lady escorted me to the place. Then I told my dream to my parents and the Chinese lady teacher whom my sister had just got to know, and the latter persuaded my parents to allow me to attend Bible school while she would take responsibility for my studies. At that moment, I realised that God had changed my mind from wanting to be a teacher to becoming a pastor, and I heard my parents saying that they would commit my future into God's care. Knowing that they would all support me, I decided to go ahead and enrol at Bible school so that I could use the knowledge gained to serve my congregation.

**By: Meas Sreykeo**



*witness to the peoples, a ruler and commander of the peoples. (Isaiah 55:1 - 4)*

## Graduation Ceremony of the 14-15 Batch of Students of Year 2017-2018



“Go and gather in the sheaves.” These are the relevant words from Scripture that the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Cambodian Methodist Bible School, Rev Khoo Cheng Hoot, used to motivate the students who were about to receive their diplomas today.

This was a most significant moment for the students who had heeded God’s call – after a period of 3 to 4 years of training and equipping through God’s Word, it was now the time for them to go out into the harvest field to reap the sheaves to offer to God. These 3 or 4 years of study in CMBS is a part of the process of knowing God’s Word, of character-building and of learning to lead, to study and apply God’s Word, for all potential leaders in serving and knowing the will of God continually in the various ministries they have been called to serve.

This moment marks the successful completion of their studies, but the beginning of the venture into the actual harvest field in order to lead souls to salvation, to receive eternal life and to inherit the Kingdom of God. God has called them to be the instruments to reconcile the people who are lost and live under the yoke of Satan, back to God. Their studying at Bible school is not a coincidence, nor are they exceptional people, but it is God who selected them from among the millions of people to become His faithful servants to bring reconciliation between people and God. These students are the hope for the people who are lost because they will lead them back to God. I believe that God did not just choose these students but He also needs them to serve in His work of bringing His salvation to all the people of Cambodia.

**By: CMBS**

