

Langham Partnership news

'Our biggest mistake was to abandon the Word of God.'

This stark comment was made by the President of the Pastor's Council in Neuquen, Patagonia, Argentina. He was attending the Langham Preaching seminar there and saying how much it was needed in his country.

He explained that, although there had been considerable growth in the churches of Argentina during the 1970s and 80s, the impact of the churches had not been so strong because of a limited commitment to discipleship and Biblical depth. There had been only limited efforts in Bible study, he complained, and therefore he expressed the full support of the Council for the development of the preaching training programme.

Growing influence: from city seminars to a national movement

The Langham Preaching movement in **Argentina** has been established in several cities, north and south, over the past four years. Developed in fellowship with ABUA (the Argentinian member of IFES), and the Kairos Centre, seminars have been held in Buenos Aires, Cordoba Province, Chaco, and now in Patagonia. A strong Argentinian leadership team has been leading the preaching movement, and they have run training workshops in each city, as well as nurturing regular preachers clubs. In Chaco, in the north east of Argentina, pastors and lay preachers now meet once every two months for a practical workshop.

This story from Argentina illustrates a primary objective of Langham Preaching, which is not just to run seminars but to establish national preaching movements — rooted and grounded in each country with strong local ownership and leadership. And the great thing is that this is indeed what is happening in many places, including other countries in Latin America.

Networking a whole continent

Not just one seminar, or one city, or one country...we like to think big in Langham, so why not think of a whole continent — in this case Latin America?

Jonathan Lamb, International Programme Director for Langham Preaching participated in an event that did just that.

September 2006, 15 participants from around Spanish speaking Latin America gathered for a **Langham Preaching Consultation** in Medellin, Colombia. They came from **Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Peru and Paraguay**. All of them are involved in Langham Preaching programmes in their own countries, or in other national preaching initiatives associated with non-formal training of pastors and lay preachers, or in seminary extension training programmes. They were keen to share their own vision, exchange news, and look at ways of collaborating in the development of a preaching movement across the whole continent. Some of these initiatives were in existence before Langham Preaching was formed, but they greatly appreciate Langham's help in bringing them together in this way.



Participants from seven countries in the Latin American Preaching Consultation, September 2006, with Jonathan Lamb (seated far right)

As a result of the consultation an informal Latin American Langham Preaching network was established, which will enable the exchange of news and training ideas. This will also encourage participants to visit one another's training programmes across the continent, to provide mutual support and to exchange training models and resources. A further consultation of trainers is planned for 2008.

Chairman's Word

As you read this newsletter, and as you reflect on the many Christian ministries who need financial support you will inevitably ask the question: Why should I support the work of Langham Partnership? The answer to that question is found in this bulletin. The work of Langham Partnership is strategic. The work involves passing on the skills and resources of the first world to the growing church in the majority world. The achievement of that objective is seen in projects such as the Pacific Preaching Programme, being launched at SMBC in Sydney, March 2008. Langham Partnership is about the practical implementation of John Stott's vision to support the majority world church. With John's retirement from public ministry, it is appropriate for each of us to consider the role that we can now play to ensure that John's vision continues to be realised. We can help to achieve that outcome by encouraging brothers and sisters who are actively involved in ministries such as the Langham preaching seminars. We can also make a commitment to pray for the work of Langham and to provide the financial support that is within our means. Please consider the level of commitment that you are able to make.

Trevor Cork

Led by **Jonathan Lamb**, the Langham Preaching has grown amazingly in its four years. But, to be true to our own Langham principles, we don't want to be guilty of pandering to 'growth without depth'. For that reason we hold back on launching any new national initiative (in the face of a large number of requests to do so), until good research has been done, leaders identified, and there is a clear expectation of a long-term sustainable movement being formed. All of this takes funding, of course, and your gifts are a hugely worthwhile investment. But an even more important need is to strengthen the team of facilitators. Pray for Jonathan in identifying key people to provide national and regional co-ordination.

Langham Literature

New Graduate Program Opens in Sri Lanka

Langham Partnership recently helped fund the addition of a library for a new graduate program just opening at Lanka Bible College & Seminary in Sri Lanka. Here is an update on the opening from the seminary's administrator:

Greetings from Lanka Bible College & Seminary!

This is to thank you all very sincerely for the help Langham Partnership has been doing for our Graduate Centre Library. The books have been coming in and we are grateful to Langham for the great role it is playing in equipping leaders for the Kingdom of God.

We count it a privilege to share with you all the Good News of the opening of our LBC Centre for Graduate Studies — first phase on 4th May. We know you all will not be able to make it, but we are sending the invitation for your prayers please. As Langham has played a big role in the life of our college, you all are always in our thoughts and prayers.

As you all might be aware, this new Centre in Colombo will enable us to cater to the needs of the Church in Sri Lanka in a very significant way. We have been having many evangelical scholars going abroad and not returning due to various reasons. LBCS has taken the initiative to reduce this "brain drain" by offering the following degrees in Sri Lanka:

M.Div. — LBCS has been offering this degree for the past few years and we are the only accredited seminary to offer M.Div. level study programme in Sri Lanka.

M.A. in Organisational Development and M.A. in Theology — We are in the process of launching it this year together with the partnership of National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka (NCEASL). Mr. Godfrey Yogarajah has been giving us his tremendous cooperation and has agreed to partner with us with the launch of other degree programmes as well.

The donations of Langham has added value to our library and has opened up ways for us to offer these graduate level programmes. Our sincere gratitude to Langham for having understood our vision and for having supported us thus far.

MA in Holistic Child Development — Together with Compassion International, LBCS and NCEASL will be launching this degree programme on the 7th of May.

With the strong commitment of educating leaders for tomorrow and generating scholars within the country, LBCS is moving on from strength to strength and is being encouraged by all your prayers and support.

We would like to take this time to individually thank you for the genuine partnership with us.

May the Lord bless your ministry with Langham Partnership.

Evangeline, LBCS

Melbourne to Cairo and back again

You may remember our story of Lynn Pryor, the Theological Librarian from Melbourne, who offered to help establish the library for The Alexandria School of Theology in Cairo. Lynn wrote the following article for us.

The **Alexandria School of Theology (AST)** began its first academic year in August 2005 with 60 men and women enrolled to study at its two non-residential campuses, in Alexandria and Cairo. The School was a strategic new venture of the Anglican Diocese of Egypt, North Africa and the Horn of Africa.

In early January 2006, I arrived in Cairo to set about the task of developing the library services for the two campuses. To date, no library facilities were available to assist the students with their studies. The library is an essential part of any educational institution. In January I found approximately 400 books on a few shelves, unsorted and certainly not ready for student use. For the first year of studies students were dependent on class notes and any resources they could borrow from faculty and others.

In the nine months of my work at AST I set up various processes of library management: a policy document to set parameters for development and management of the library services was drafted; processes for the selection and acquisition of new resources were set in place; computer facilities with software and internet facilities were acquired, and a web-based cataloguing system was implemented.

I also planned and executed the other major aspect of my mandate: the training of the two young men (Sherif and Mekha) who were designated to continue the work of managing the library services after my departure, one for each centre. These were fun sessions! Sherif speaks excellent English, Mekha hardly any, so interpreting was constant. And Sherif always thought of the hard questions!

One particular ongoing challenge is provision of suitable resources in Arabic, as most theological materials are published in English. Yet most students understand very little spoken English, and read none. Some theological literature is becoming available in Arabic. It is a constant dilemma to know how to spend the limited funding. Library books are meant to be read, not remain on the shelves unopened and unread.

I became familiar with the work of Langham Partnership before traveling to Egypt, so quite early in my time there I registered the School with LP, so that they could benefit from the services offered by the Partnership. In this second year of the School's operation, Sherif and Mekha have placed their first order from the Grant Catalogue. Soon all students will be benefiting from the generosity of the Partnership and their supporters.

Mekha in the Cairo Library.



Lynn in the Alexandria library.

Training session with Mekha and Sherif,



Sherif cataloguing.

The Principal of the School, Rev. Dr Emad Azmy, and his staff are indeed most appreciative of all that Langham Partnership offers. We thank you all most sincerely for your partnering with us in the task of providing good theological education in the Middle East.

Interest in theological education in Egypt is encouraging and it is has been exciting to be involved in this work of the Lord in the Middle East as the School seeks to attain its vision of training Middle Easterners to reach citizens of the region for Christ. It has been a privilege to assist the AST in their early development and to encourage the two young people who will carry on the task of developing and maintaining a library service relevant to formation of the School's students for their future ministries.

Now back in Melbourne I seek the Lord's will for my life with new determination. Certainly with retirement looming, there are new challenges. Life will never be the same! Yet Christ remains constant.

Lynn Pryor

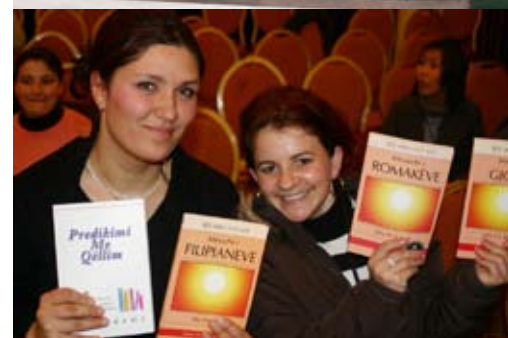
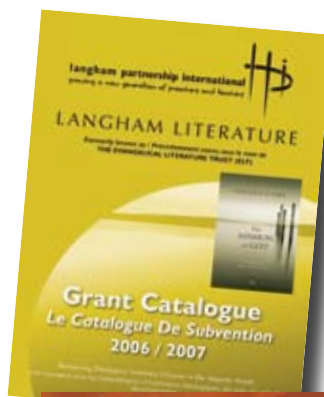
Please consider how generous you could be towards Langham Literature, and the life-changing work it does. Thank you!

Langham Literature Catalogues

This year marks a breakthrough in the history of Langham Literature catalogues. For the first time, the **English and French** catalogues have been combined into a single, splendid volume. This contains about 2000 titles, culled from many different evangelical publishers, classified according to subject area within a broad theological curriculum. It is a goldmine resource for busy seminary librarians, and it goes out to hundreds of seminaries all around the world. Many of these libraries receive a grant from Langham Literature towards purchases from the catalogue, and books are delivered at 40% discount, post free.

The catalogue can be viewed on Langham Partnership's International website www.langhampartnership.org under the "Literature" tab.

Also for the first time, a catalogue has been produced of evangelical books in **Spanish**. This is the fruit of much hard work by our partners in Latin America and Langham staff.



Thank You

We are sure you'll agree that the work of Langham Partnership is growing rapidly, with God's manifest blessing. There are new and exciting initiatives, and even more opportunities that we cannot yet take up. But all this is possible only through the generous support, in gifts and prayer, of people like you who believe that the vision is right and who recognize the strategic importance of investing in 'church growth with depth' by raising up a new generation of leaders who are trained and resourced to preach and teach God's word. On their behalf, we say a very big Thank You for your generosity.

Please Pray

Please continue to pray for Ma'afu and Elizabeth Palu and the boys from the Methodist Church in Tonga, studying here at Moore College. Pray for Ma'afu as he continues to research and write his PhD, as well as for them as a family. Pray for the Nation of Tonga and for the Christian Church there.

Pray also for Ma'afu's involvement in the upcoming launch of Langham Pacific Preaching as mentioned in our Chairmans column. Ma'afu sees the involvement of Langham in the Pacific region as key to the progress of the Gospel for the entire region. Please join him in praying for that progress!



Ma'afu and Elizabeth Palu together with their boys Tevita and Peter Fredrick

Website and eNews

Don't forget to visit our website www.langhampartnership.org.au for further news and stories, and an overview of the three Programmes as well as the other Members within Langham Partnership International. Also you could sign up to receive our regular eNews — an email with up-to-date stories, photos and prayer points - either via the website or by sending an email to mail@langhampartnership.org.au

Rev Dr John Stott: Retirement and move

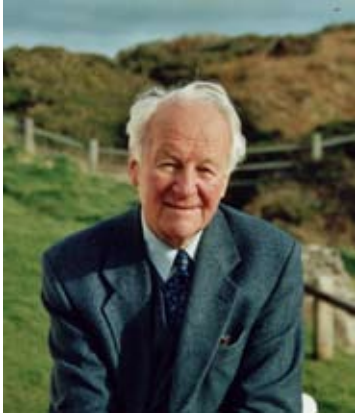
John Stott would like his many friends around the world to know that, having reached the age of 86 in April, he has taken the decision finally to retire from public ministry after fulfilling one final speaking engagement at the upcoming Keswick Convention in July 2007.

He will also be moving from his flat in Bridford Mews, London, where he has lived for more than 30 years, to a retirement community for Anglican clergy in the south of England which will be able to provide more fully for his present and future needs. John has made this decision with the strong belief that it is God's provision for him at this stage.

John will greatly value your prayer for him in the challenges and opportunities involved in this transition. He is also happy to reassure his friends that the Langham Partnership International (or John Stott Ministries, in USA), is well prepared to continue its work, even after his retirement.

Chris Wright took over the leadership of the organisation from John in 2001, and there is now a strong team of international programme managers and other staff and volunteers all over the world making sure that the work develops strongly into the future.

John has written more than 50 books, including his latest, *The Living Bible*, to be released late this year. David Brooks of the New York Times wrote that John has been called the "pope for evangelicals". Billy Graham said of John "I can't think of anyone who has been more effective in introducing so many people to a biblical world view. He represents a touchstone of authentic biblical scholarship that, in my opinion, has scarcely been paralleled since the days of the 16th century European Reformers."

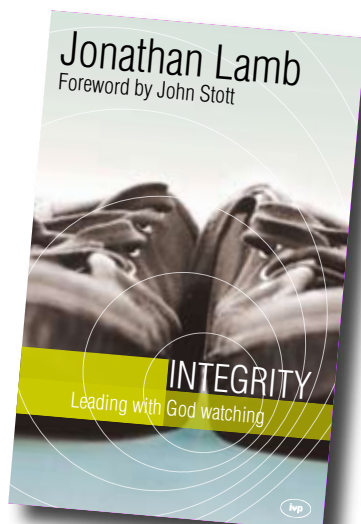


Integrity: Leading with God watching Jonathan Lamb

Another lurid newspaper headline: a high-profile figure has fallen from grace. Worse still, he tried to cover it up so that everyone would think he was something he wasn't.

Integrity matters. We expect it, naively perhaps, of leaders in all walks of life. We trust people whose words, character and actions are consistent. But why is integrity so rare? Why does our walk not match our talk?

Jonathan Lamb examines key passages and interweaves them with examples from everyday life. Whether in responding to criticism, exercising authority, coping with failure, handling money or struggling with personal weaknesses, this book is a call to live consistently in the light of gospel priorities. Only then will our lives speak authentically to a sceptical world.



What is the Langham Partnership?

Our Vision

'Our vision is to see churches worldwide being equipped for mission and growing to maturity through the ministry of Christian leaders and pastors who sincerely believe, diligently study, faithfully expound and relevantly apply the Word of God.'

Our Convictions

- God wants his church to grow up in maturity.
- The church of God grows through the Word of God.
- The word of God comes to people primarily through preaching.

Our Challenge

What can we do to raise the standards of biblical preaching?

Our Programmes

- **Langham Literature** Providing evangelical books for pastors, theological students and seminary libraries, and encouraging evangelical writing and publishing in the majority world.
- **Langham Scholars** Offering scholarships to enable evangelical leaders to gain doctorates in biblical and theological studies and return to their home countries as seminary teachers and church leaders.
- **Langham Preaching** Developing networks and movements for ongoing training of pastors and leaders in biblical expository preaching.

Our Field

The majority world includes those countries where the majority of the world's population live and where more than 70% of the world's Christians live – mainly Africa, Latin America, parts of Asia, Central and Eastern Europe. We prefer 'majority world' to older terms such as 'Third World' or 'Developing World'.

Our History

Rev Dr John Stott, Rector Emeritus of All Souls Church, Langham Place (from which the name comes), founded trusts to provide literature and scholarships more than 30 years ago, in response to the needs he perceived in the rapidly growing churches of the majority world. These have now united in the Langham Partnership, which is also fully interdenominational.

Our Network

The Langham Partnership International, of which Langham Partnership Australia is a member, binds together four other national members: Langham Partnership (UK and Ireland), John Stott Ministries (USA), Langham Partnership (Canada), and Langham Foundation East Asia.

Our Website

www.langhampartnership.org.au



langham partnership australia

PO Box 530 Springwood NSW 2777

Tel/Fax 02 4751 9036

Email mail@langhampartnership.org.au

Response Form

Yes I would like to stand with you

I want to —

- Give something regularly — monthly / quarterly / annually (circle whichever applies).
Please complete the donation amount and the payment authority sections below.

- Give a one off gift of \$
Please make cheques payable to Langham Partnership (Aust) or complete card details below.

Please use my donation:

Where most needed	\$ <input type="text"/>
Langham Scholarships	\$ <input type="text"/>
Langham Literature	\$ <input type="text"/>
Langham Preaching	\$ <input type="text"/>
My Total Donation	\$ <input type="text"/>

My Address

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Dr/Rev

Family Name

First Name

Address

Postcode

Email

Phone

Payment Authority

Credit Card Donations

Card Type / Mastercard

Card Number

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

Expiry Date

Name on Card

Signed

Date

Periodical Payments/ Internet Deposits

You may wish to arrange with your Bank to set up Periodical Payments from your account directly to the Langham Partnership Bank account or to transfer monies directly via Internet banking. The details you will need are:

Account Name Langham Partnership (Aust)

Bank and Branch Westpac, Springwood NSW

BSB 032-837 **Account Number** 14-4002

Langham Partnership Australia