



I entered BSOP expecting it to be a three-year camp. I thought it might be a cakewalk after years of Sunday School, numerous Bible studies, and seminars. I was dead wrong! I often found myself rethinking what I already knew, discovering what has never occurred to me, and making sense of what I already believed. The process involved rigorous reading, learning of two new languages (Hebrew and Greek) in addition to my growth-stunted Hokkien and Mandarin, and the sacrifice of thousands of trees and brain cells to complete papers before their due dates. There is also the need to deal with various people pushing me to sharpen myself socially.

Yet, despite the hard work, the sleepless nights, and the minimalized free times that we normally have in camps, God has filled my heart with joy from beginning to end. He has empowered me for the responsibilities. He has surrounded me with people who encouraged and taught me throughout. Furthermore, he has shown me the great ministry that lies ahead — revealing His heart for the lost and how He might use me as a servant to Him foremost, then to all.

However, perhaps one, most significant thing that has become clear and motivated me during these years is the Gospel. I am forever grateful knowing that He has saved, renewed, and commissioned me despite my corruptness through and through.

My stay at BSOP may not have been like camps in many respects but the joy I gained surpasses if not equals the joy that I experienced in camps. Truly, amazing grace alone has brought me thus far and I trust that this same amazing grace — this undeserved goodness — will lead me home. All thanks and glory belong to Jesus Christ, my Master and Savior.

Justin Jirzh Fung 伍明證

TESTIMONIES

I clearly remember the first time Dr. Joseph Shao met and asked me: “What do you expect most from BSOP?” I answered: “What I want to learn most in BSOP is - humility.” Frankly, at that time, I didn’t know what I was talking about. Interestingly, God used my mouth to voice out His plan. Today, when I look back, I realize God indeed did pave the path of grace for me in BSOP.

I cannot say I have learned humility after three years had passed, because that is my lifetime lesson. What I can say is that I, being such a proud and stubborn wretch, am loved and blessed by my Almighty God. Life in BSOP for the past three years was composed of all kinds of colorful moments. I experienced sorrow and joy, pressure and relief. I once cried, complained and lost heart. I also laughed, rejoiced and cheered. I was once irritated, wounded and puzzled. I was also comforted, encouraged and strengthened. During these precious moments my heart was touched by God, and then they all became the treasure of treasures in my life.

Yes, it is true - BSOP is not a paradise but here is God’s presence. Yes, it is true - seminarians are not all perfect angels but we are all in one family. Yes, it is true - what I learned most in BSOP is not only Biblical Studies and theology but God’s Grace, Mercy, Faithfulness and Righteousness. When I finish this stage of my life, what I want to say most of all is: “Thank you Father for giving me three years of life in BSOP. It is such a precious treasure that it will not only benefit my ministry but also build up my life. Father, please continuously use BSOP to bless more and more of Your beloved children. Amen!”



Li Lucy “Lucy” 李魯峙



As a part-time student at BSOP and optometrist by profession, I have experienced God’s grace and power in different aspects of my life. Not simply an intellectual exercise, learning the Word of God systematically together with its practical application is indeed a real and long-lasting benefit. On top of the knowledge I gained, I was challenged to live a balanced and godly life that transforms into a holistic Christian lifestyle.

I learned to appreciate the Lord’s goodness and love even more in my life through His Word, the people He brought into my life, and circumstances causing me to realign my heart toward Him. He is truly the Master who holds our future in His hands. I thought 2012 would be my last year of studies at BSOP. Sadly, it did not turn out the way I desired. So, I took it as a sign that it was not yet God’s time for me to leave the Seminary. Since I was not sure where I would be serving Him after BSOP, I found myself on a detour. I felt stuck, not able to move on as God intended. I got up each day and prayed that God would show me the way. Finally, God used His Words in Jeremiah 29:11 to exhort me not to be afraid: “For I know the plans for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” I was convinced and encouraged.

Time and time again I still have apprehensions. I can only take tentative plans but it is God who will direct my path. God still cares and I know He “causes all things to work together for good to those who love Him, to those who are called according to His purpose.” (Romans 8:28) To God be the Glory!

Lily Lu 柯莉莉

In the perspective of the secular world, accidents do occur; however, in God's sovereign plan, there are no such things as accidents or coincidences. My coming to BSOP for seminary training, I believe, is ordained by God. I knew that in an instant when I took a step into the seminary. I was warmly welcomed by the faculty and the student body who are my brothers and sisters in Christ. At first, I didn't know what to expect. Truth be told, there were qualms and doubts inside my heart. More than fifteen years had passed since I graduated from college. Then I told myself that I would survive one trimester. But God has plans for those who love Him. I just surrendered everything to Him and put my trust in the Almighty God. At that time, I was embarking into a new chapter in my Christian journey with God leading the way. By God's grace, He let me finish my studies in BSOP.



God used godly men and women to guide and mentor me in my study of God's Word. Through them, God equipped me not only in studying His Word, but also in proclaiming the Good News to the world. Also, God gave me prayer partners during one of the difficult and trying times of my life. The BSOP community showed their Christian love and concern towards me. For this, I am thankful to God. My seminary training was at times difficult and did test my faith but the Triune God always enlightened me using His Word. Lastly, I found God's peace whenever I was inside the seminary attending my classes. Until now, I still cannot explain the *shalom* of God. I can only summarize my seminary training using a tenet of the Westminster catechisms: the chief end of man is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever. Soli Deo Gloria!

My seminary training is truly one of God's blessings.

Wilson Pua 潘祖舜

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I am thankful how the Lord orchestrated my life, as a third generation Christian, to grow up in a Christian environment and yet exposing me to the reality of a fallen world. My parents and grandmothers brought me up to love, obey, and follow God and see the needs of the

lost who are without Jesus.

During my three years of studies at BSOP, I have seen God's hand at work in my life. Aside from learning how to correctly exegete God's Word with Inductive Bible methods, studying Greek and Hebrew languages, learning history, writing research papers and sermons, the Lord also gave opportunities for me to learn pastoral, youth and child counseling, creative teaching, curriculum writing practical church administration, preaching, and to see the mission field from a global perspective.

Learning God's word has deepened my knowledge about who God is and the grace that He had given mankind through Jesus Christ. He completed the task so that we may be reconciled to the Father and be enabled to live for His glory. Many of us were assigned to different churches for weekend practical ministries and summer church work and various camps. These experiences were vital in preparing me for my future ministry.

No matter what surprises and challenges await me in the future, I can only be sure of one thing: God is in control. I will continue to be in His grace despite my failures, to have joy in spite of sorrow, to have peace in the midst of chaos and to love when the world hates. I am who I am now because of how God planned my life and revealed Himself to me through His Word.

Marg Ann Wong 王美安



My heart is full of praise and thanksgiving for what the Lord has done in my life and in my family. He opened a door for us to come to BSOP and study further after years of serving in God's vineyard. These few years are the best years of my life. I find His grace even more sufficient as time goes by.

To study at the Biblical Seminary of the Philippines came to me as God's providence. BSOP prepares me for more challenging years ahead. I am thankful for the many things that I have learned in my years in the seminary. He provided a way for me to stop, think, and rethink in formal setting the things that matter in the ministry. BSOP is a place where the Master prepares and builds the character of God's servants for His glory. I am grateful for being in the training and blessed to be a part of the BSOP family. Praise His glorious name!

Raymond Lu 呂禮文



I am very grateful for the opportunity to finish Master of Theology in AGST-BSOP. I am blessed by the dedication of the professors to uphold the Word of God. Yet at the same time, the classes have taught me to think critically and reason theologically. In addition, the Care and Share Group has allowed students to share not only ideas but also their struggles.

This program has further equipped me for my ministry. I have grown as a pastor, leader, and scholar. Although I still have much to learn, I pray that God will continue to teach me His truth. Ultimately, I pray that God will be glorified in my future ministries.

Samuel Tan 陳維堯



Three years ago, when I came alone to BSOP, I could not imagine how I would endure three years being alone in a foreign country. Without a bamboo mat, I slept on a mattress during the hottest season in the Philippines, only a fan oscillating above my head. No friend, no internet, no telephone card for the first day. The only one I knew was Elder Allen Lim and he was not on campus. Three years have passed by; how I wish I could have three more years here.

Thank God for our President who executes excellent leadership. Looking at the dormitories and beautiful campus, I am touched by the generosity and commitment of Filipino-Chinese churches and other supporters, as well as the management of the Board and in-house staff. The courses I learned here will be a great help in my future ministry.

Praise the Lord for the faithful and devoted Academic Dean who oversees the different programs in a very systematic way.

I would like to thank the professors who taught me these past three years. They are the greatest blessings God has bestowed upon me: I will remember Rev. Dr. Jay Hallowell's diligence and passion for missions. Thanks for introducing very useful tools and books in Mission subjects and Hermeneutics.

Thanks to Dr. Michael Malessa, the German linguist who always had patience and tolerance for common people like me. It was a nice journey of learning Hebrew and Greek with you.

Thank you, Rev. Dr. David Go. You impress me as a godly servant. Your life demonstrates the love of God and your lectures display your dwelling in the True Vine. Besides Jesus, you are an outstanding shepherd model that I would like to follow and imitate when I serve in the church. What a privilege to be your student!

Thank you, Rev. Dennis Yam, for the care you showed me in and out of class, in spite of our different positions in theology. I like the Systematic Theology textbook you chose for our reading. Many times when I read it, I pause and worship God. I respect you very much as a dear professor/scholar and brother in Christ.

Thank God for Rev. Anthony Hao. I still remember your words "I can grade A to all of you, but a real A could only be given by Jesus, that is, when your lives are transformed by the Word of God." When you pray, I feel I am so close to heaven. Your devoutness speaks for you.

Thank God for Dr. Jean Uayan, a scholar who has thorough knowledge of church history yet a pastor's heart. You firmly stand in the orthodox doctrines, at the same time showing a merciful heart to the gentile world. A person who does not know history will repeat the mistakes of the past. This applies well in my future pastoral ministry. Thank you so much.

Thank God for "Ate" Amor [Hallowell]. You are like a Hermeneutics teacher in the English class. The personal fellowship time with you is one of my warmest memories here and I will carry it back home with me.

It was more than worthwhile to have spent three years in BSOP. I learned from the professors, the Care and Share Group leaders, and my fellow students. I came here alone, but the Lord is bringing me back with a companion. I met my life partner here; he loves me and will accompany me in working in the Lord's vineyard after graduation. I will sing praises to the Lord who satisfies my desire with every good thing. Every morning, His mercy and faithfulness are new, leading me in BSOP and guiding me back home, according to His good will. I will miss BSOP, the place where God granted me "milk and honey". I will miss the Philippines, a second hometown where my beloved friends and teachers live.

Wang Yingran "Alicia" 王穎然

The annual recital of students learning piano, voice, guitar, accordion, harmonica and electronic piano was held at BSOP on February 15, 2012. We thank the dedicated teachers Ms. Susan Lim, Rev. William Huang, Ptr. Elmer Huang, Ptr. Sheila Joyce Huang, Ms. Trixy Grace Chen, Ptr. Jean Ting, Ms. Hepzibeth Ting, Mrs. Sarah Li, and Music Department Head Ptr. Joyce Shao Co. President Joseph Shao and Dr. Rosa Shao also rendered a piano duet at the end of the program (photo at right).



