

# SINGAPORE MISSION UPDATE

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January 31, 2021

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## OFF TO A GREAT START

January is the beginning of the new year and the new school year. We have welcomed a smaller, COVID restricted class who has begun their two years of study. (More on those guys a little later in the student spotlight!) Each and every day I teach textual and topical classes, advise the students, and assist in studies as needed. In addition to the weekly classes, a new year brings the various administrative duties. Each year I give a brief workshop over research papers and plagiarism. The students have the full use of our library, some limited personal resources, and some electronic resources like e-sword. Many of these students have not done much research in English before coming to Four Seas. Most have never written papers about Biblical texts or topics in English. And, almost none of them have written at the level that we require. It is a learning process, and over the course of two years, the students get much better. This workshop should help them in school and later as the conduct research for manuscripts, articles, sermons, and Bible classes.

Our work with the Jurong congregation continues and has expanded some. This past month I was invited to spend a Saturday with the Young Adult Ministry to discuss the topic of leadership. We used Nehemiah as an example of someone who took on the responsibility of leadership and used it to glorify God. Many of the young adults at Jurong are smart, enthusiastic, knowledgeable, and professionally successful. As they continue to mature and grow, the local congregation here is surely in good hands. It is my prayer that my short time with them and the continued fellowship will help them develop their leadership and other spiritual qualities to the glory of God.

I continue to preach and teach for the local congregation as well. I teach a class over the book of Acts (second half) which I share with three other very capable teachers. It is the tradition here for each Sunday sermon to be taken by different men of the congregation. Ministers, elders, deacons, and members all take their turns preaching. I am regularly included in this rotation and preached in January over 1 Peter 2:1-5. On Tuesday nights I have a short program on Jurong's Facebook page. Currently, it is our pattern to record each session and air it on Tuesday nights with one exception: the last Tuesday night of each month we host a Facebook Live session from 8:00pm-8:30pm local time. If our supporters and friends in the US are ever up early Tuesday morning (currently 6:00 am central time), we invite you to tune in. If you cannot make it live, those programs are archived on the page. The purpose of this program is to produce local content to pass from local members to community members for evangelistic purposes. Because of this, you will find the content aimed at that audience. The theme for the month of January was songs of victory in the Bible.



With the beginning of the school year in January at Four Seas, our kids resumed homeschool as well after the short break for the holiday season. Additionally, the kids began a new year of homeschool sports this month. Their season begins with 12 weeks of floor ball. We have been cherishing our family time here in Singapore and have enjoyed exploring the island together (with masks on of course). Earlier in January we were able to visit a wetland reserve on the northern side of the island where we were able to see more of God's amazing and unique creation. The highlight of the adventure was seeing a saltwater crocodile and several monitor lizards in the wild.



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: FIRST YEAR STUDENTS

Even though Covid has restricted our ability to bring in new students, we have been blessed to welcome a new crop of first year students. While the first day saw only one student, we knew that the rest of the cohort would arrive this month. So, we have now welcomed Kelvin Cheok, Patrick Ho, and Isaac Wong to the first year class. They join brother Alarico Alves who is a wrap around student. Some exciting news about these new students: all of them are members of the Jurong congregation and their attendance will help both school and church. Kelvin and Isaac (who just finished his national military service requirement) are full-time students while Patrick is a deacon at Jurong who will be attending Tuesdays and Thursdays each week for the next few months. These men are certainly an answer to our prayers to have a viable first year class!



## CURRENT COURSEWORK AT FOUR SEAS COLLEGE

[WWW.FOURSEAS.EDU.SG](http://WWW.FOURSEAS.EDU.SG)

**1ST HALF OF 1ST TERM (JANUARY 4, 2021-APRIL 16, 2021)**

### FIRST YEAR STUDENTS

BIBLE GEOGRAPHY  
OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY  
LIFE OF CHRIST I (MATTHEW/MARK)  
ENGLISH GRAMMAR I

### SECOND YEAR STUDENTS

CHURCH HISTORY  
PREACHER & HIS WORK IV  
JOB-SONG OF SOLOMON  
NEW TESTAMENT GREEK I

*Thank you to all our generous supporters (Matthew 5:16)*