

Fall 2011

Langham Partnership ~ Canada news

From Strength to Strength

with Langham Partnership International

John Stott
27 April 1921 –
27 July 2011

John Stott founded LPI because he was concerned about the shallowness of church growth around the world, and the need for deeper biblical discipleship. He longed to see greater Christ-likeness and maturity – and knew that this could only happen if God's Word was fed to God's people through better standards of biblical preaching and teaching.

Those needs are great – and increasing – as the Church explodes with growth in some parts of the world.

The need for Langham's vision and resourcing work is, therefore, greater than ever.

Today, we can confidently report that the impact of Langham is multiplying around the world. Some Langham Scholars are now running doctoral programs in their own countries. Langham Literature doesn't only provide books to the Majority

World, but also inspires and trains indigenous writers. The standards of biblical preaching are being raised around the world as preachers are trained – and then go on to support one another and spread what they've learned to others.

These ministries are going from strength to strength!

Langham Partnership is one of the primary components of the lasting legacy of John Stott, alongside the Lausanne Movement, the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity, his 51 books, and, of course, his global circle of friendships.

Langham will continue to work in the spirit and ethos of our beloved Uncle John, which you might call "effectiveness with modesty." We like to get a lot accomplished – but we don't like to make a big fuss about it.

Which, when you think about it, sounds very Canadian!

– Chris Wright, International Director,
Langham Partnership International

The ministries that form Langham Partnership International (LPI) go back more than 40 years. They are robust and carry the DNA of John Stott.

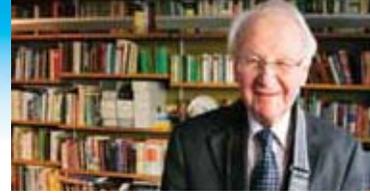
While we deeply mourn his loss, we are thankful for the ongoing impact of LPI around the world, including the growing role of Langham Partnership Canada.

Visit the John Stott Memorial site
www.johnstottmemorial.org

Watch videos commemorating his life and work, write your own thoughts and memories in the remembrance book, listen to his sermons and learn even more about the work of Langham Partnership International.



Chris Wright



Remembering a Dear Friend

by Stephen Andrews



The world lost an obedient servant of Christ on July 27, and Langham Partnership Canada said goodbye to its founder.

John Stott, evangelist and author, pastor and statesman, died peacefully in a retirement home south of London, surrounded by loved ones while listening to Handel's Messiah and a reading of 2 Timothy. He was 90.

In his latter years John had become quite infirm. Small wonder. For decades he put his body through rigorous habits that included daily devotions at 5 a.m. and a punishing schedule of teaching, preaching, writing and international travel. Towards the end he lost much of his sight and mobility; in the last few months he was plagued by pain and spoke of "the imprisonment" of his condition.

Now he is liberated, saved for his Lord's heavenly kingdom (2 Tim. 4:18).

It will take many years to take the true measure of John Stott's impact in the world. He wrote more than 50 books that have been read by millions around the globe. In 2005 Time magazine identified him as one of the world's 100 most influential people.

I am confident that in the most remote regions of the

Remembering A Remarkable Leader

We asked some members of Langham Canada's board to share their own thoughts about John Stott, and the remarkable legacy of Langham Canada.

"**Everyone nowadays talks** about the rise of the global Church, but John Stott saw this a considerable time ago. He also understood that the rise was evangelical at its core, and that the best way to guide and nurture was through strong theological education and scholarship in the local churches. A generation later the rest of the Church has caught up. These scholars are a "letter from Christ, the result of [his] ministry" (II Cor. 3:3). For all his efforts, and all his fruits, may the Lord of the nations be praised."

– George Sumner, Principal and Helliwell Professor of World Mission, Wycliffe College, Toronto.

When I reflect on John's influence in my life, the phrase "be strategic" springs immediately to mind. And that, for me, captures the mission of Langham Partnership – focussing strategically on developing Majority World scholars who will teach the next generation of pastors, providing vital books to assist both groups as they study, and training preachers to expound scripture faithfully, boldly, and wholeheartedly.

– David Matthews, Professor, Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, University of Waterloo, Waterloo.

globe, and in every corner of the Church world-wide, there are men and women whose names we will never know, who were touched profoundly by John through the work of Langham Partnership.

John's influence in Canada was significant. He paid numerous visits here during the course of his ministry, beginning in the 1950s. He led missions at the University of Toronto, UBC, UWO, the University of Manitoba and McGill. He preached frequently in many of the largest evangelical churches in Canada, and lectured at Tyndale University College & Seminary, as well as Regent College.

Today, as chair of Langham Partnership Canada, I remember John as friend, mentor and leader of a movement that is literally changing the face of the church in the Majority World. Scholars are being trained. Books are being written. Preachers are being challenged to go even deeper in their study so that God's word is proclaimed with integrity and insight to congregations everywhere.

We give thanks for John, and for the blend of heart, mind and will that shaped and motivated a generation of evangelical witness in Canada – and through your partnership and the work of Langham Partnership Canada – around the world.

Thank you.



A Preaching Movement Grows in Pakistan

Pakistan is a country much on my heart," says Paul Windsor, associate director of Langham Preaching. "It is one of the neediest countries in which we work in Asia – but probably the one that is bringing the most encouragement as well. There is a locally-owned preaching movement developing and it needs our partnership and support."

That movement was strengthened in June when over 90 participants joined together for a Langham Preaching workshop.

The gathering attracted 20 women, a dramatic rise from the two female participants who enrolled for a workshop held two years ago.

"In 2009 we encouraged three different regions in Pakistan to offer their own Level One seminars," explains Windsor. Karachi has now run five Level One seminars, reaching more than 100 participants from a variety of denominational backgrounds. Lahore has run three Level Ones, with a total of 80 people trained. Islamabad has presented two Level One workshops, along with a long-running preaching club. **page 3** ➔



Praying for each other at the end of the workshop.



“An indigenous movement is clearly underway in Pakistan,” says Windsor.

At the week’s end, one participant compared the experience to a piece of embroidery: “In the villages women draw an imprint on a piece of cloth as the first stage in the project. Then they take a needle and thread and sew something onto that imprint. It becomes labour-intensive, beautiful and costly. The seminar has given the imprint – now the sewing needs to be done.”

LPI has named Pakistan as a priority country, launching a Ten Year Strategic Plan to be developed through 2011.

What’s in a Level?

Paul Windsor unpacks what participants can expect to learn in each Level of a Langham Preaching seminar:

Level One: Participants hone their ability to understand what the Bible passage means, and then move from text to sermon in way that ensures preaching is faithful, clear and relevant. The opportunity to practice is maximized during the seminar and when students return to their communities in preaching clubs. The goal is that training spreads as preachers encourage one another.



Paul Windsor

“The exciting thing in Pakistan is that we have made a decision that ALL Level One training will now be done by Pakistanis locally in little pockets around the country. There is a talented team of trainers that is building,” says Windsor.

Level Two: One year later, participants are welcomed back for a focus on preaching from the New Testament.

Level Three: This level focuses on preaching from the Old Testament. All along the way, there is also training on the character and attitudes of the preacher.

Malaysia Writing Workshop Encourages Writers – and a Wide Variety of Books



Writing about the issues that concern their own cultures and countries: workshop participants.

Isobel Stevenson, Ontario-based editor with Langham Literature, returned from her recent writing workshop in Malaysia excited about the books that will eventually emerge from writers committed to writing about the issues that concern their own cultures and countries. “There were such [page 4](#) ▶▶

Why Does Langham Canada Help Publish Commentaries?

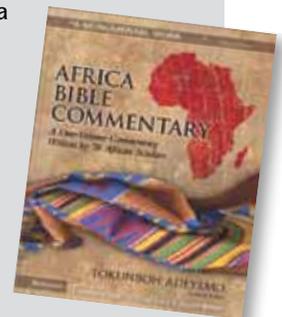
Choosing whether or to eat or to refuse food that has been offered to idols is not a decision the average Canadian Christian has to make. That is not the case in South Asia, where such a decision might need to be made on a daily basis. Isobel Stevenson, editor with Langham Literature (LL), explains that “there is a whole section on food dedicated to idols, and what you should do if you are invited to a feast at the temple or in someone’s house,” in the commentary on 1 Corinthians that forms part of the South Asia Bible Commentary she is currently working on in her Windsor, Ont. office.

“This is an issue for South Asian Christians that is not touched on in Western commentaries in any depth. The Langham scholar who wrote this commentary is really immersed in the culture, and very aware of it. He has planted many small churches in small communities where this is a very real issue,” explains Stevenson.

Langham Partnership provides the funding for the com-

mentary project, similar in scope to the Africa Bible Commentary published in 2006. “The South Asia Bible Commentary has dozens of authors from a wide range of denominations,” says Stevenson. “There’s nothing else like it on the market now. This commentary is intended for your average pastor, many of whom do not have much Bible school training.” Most of the dozens of authors have now written their commentaries and articles, now set for a vigorous editing and theological vetting by a team of editors and readers, the majority of whom are Langham Scholars.

“Five of the six theological editors are Langham scholars, and many of the writers are Langham scholars. You can really see Langham’s input in this project,” says Stevenson. “We are seeing the fruit of what Langham set out to do, to build up churches and seminaries in the Majority World by helping to train indigenous Christian leaders. Now they are indeed using their talents to write and building up the local church.” ■



a variety of topics that the writers were working on, with several writers concerned with women's issues in Asia," explains Stevenson.

One writer – a Langham scholar with a Langham writer's grant – is writing a book to help Christians in the Philippines be more comfortable expressing sadness and despair when tragedy hits their lives and communities. Another writer, head of a denomination with 7,000 churches in India, is planning to work on a manual to help the churches improve their administration. Yet another author who runs a ministry to alcoholics and drug addicts is working on a manual for the young assistants he is training to spread the ministry. The workshop, offered in conjunction with the Asia Theological Association, has resulted in at least one writer's group that will continue meeting, to critique and encourage each other's work. ■

Langham and Writers

Langham Literature works with writers in Majority World markets where theological study books are largely translated texts from the West. We help produce quality texts for pastors and students that are appropriate to their context.

Langham Literature supports writers through two main efforts:

- **Writer's Grants**

These grants provide support for evangelical scholars in the Majority World to write books for the benefit of the church in their regions. Usually grants are given for work in the major languages (e.g., Chinese, Arabic, English, Spanish, Portuguese).

- **Publishing Grants**

These grants help Christian publishers in the Majority World to publish books in local languages like Sinhalese, Tagalog, Nepalese and Amharic. The books may be either originals or translations of Western authors.

Langham Scholars Get Published

Every year, Langham Scholars pursue excellence in theological studies – and share their insights with the academic world. Here is a sampling of some of the academic journals that featured Langham Scholars in 2010/11:

Oxford University Press

Pastoral Psychology

Transformation

The Journal of European Baptist Studies

The Journal of Legal Studies

Evangelical Missions Quarterly

Baptistic Theologies

Langham Partnership ~ Canada

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