

Called To Teach



Will you heed His call?

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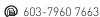
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MALAYAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS' COUNCIL

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FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

Foreword

We christian teachers in the country. This is the reason why the MCSC decided to produce a new booklet "Called to Teach". We trust that this booklet will be read by many young people when they are deciding on the career they would like to dedicate their lives to; that many counsellors in churches will use this booklet to guide their young people to pursue teaching as a vocation and see it as God's calling to them to the mission field in education.

The Lord Jesus was sent into the world to teach and to heal (Matthew 9:35) That is what He is calling us to do today – to teach the young people and to heal them of the many disorders that assail them in our highly pressurized society.

Membership in the Teachers' Christian Fellowship is about 1000. Of this, 65% are above the age of 50 and many will be retiring soon; 17% are in the 40-49 age group; 12% in the 30-39 age group and only 6% are below the age of 30! The Catholic Teachers' Association of Malaysia would report similar statistics. And there are 434 mission schools in the country. There are not enough Christian teachers for all the mission schools to have a Christian principal and one other Christian teacher to run the Christian Fellowship.

Young people, it is imperative that you consider teaching as a career. God is calling you to "go into the villages and the towns" of Malaysia to bear the light of the Gospel to the children. Will you heed His call?

I would like to thank the following for their labour of love in putting this booklet together: Miss Tay Choon Neo (MCSC); Dr Tan Juat Ngoh (MCKL); Miss Indyrany Kannaiya (TCF); Mr Koh Earn Soo (SU); Mdm Angeline Lazaroo and Fr Alvin Ho (of the Catholic Mission); and Dss Yit Ching Li (Anglican Mission Schools Board). They gave their time in order that our young people will have this important reference as they seek God's guidance for their career. I record our grateful thanks to Miss Chew Yen Ping for the meaningful design for the cover.

It is our prayer that this booklet will be circulated widely among all the churches in Malaysia and that the youth of our nation will respond to follow in the footsteps of our Master.

Teachers'
Christian
Fellowship
membership
demographics

50 years and above

17% 40-49 years

2% 30-39 years

6 under 30 years

Moey Yoke Lai

Chairman, Malayan Christian Schools' Council

Job or Divine Mandate?

As a teacher, you are on the team God has chosen to fulfill the mandate given to Adam and Eve at the beginning of creation.

...and God said to them,

'Be fruitful and multiply,
and fill the earth and subdue it;
and rule over the fish of the sea,
and over the birds of the sky
and over every living creature
that moves on the earth.'

(Genesis 1:26, NASB)



Genesis tells us that we are to govern creation. If we are to do that, human beings must be equipped with knowledge. Our God-given mandate is to equip young people so that they can govern the earth well.

Teaching isn't just about helping young people to pass exams. Teaching is about helping them understand how this world works so they can apply that knowledge to solve problems.

Our media idolises top scorers in examinations. Let's not fall into that trap by assuming that the only worthy students are those who get top grades. They may have memorised their textbooks. But the processes of thinking, the processes of relating to our world, are another matter altogether.

Never allow yourself to be influenced by other people. You have a divine mandate to fulfill. Prepare your lessons well and do not allow others to talk you out of it. Do your work conscientiously.

If you know that God has called you to teaching, then wherever you find yourself and whatever you face, you will set standards of excellence.

As a teacher, you have the opportunity to relate to your students like nobody else can. Therefore, your students should know that every time they meet with you, they are about to receive something absolutely wonderful.

(adapted from Moey Yoke Lai's article in TCF's InStep, Volume 15 Issue 4)

To Teach is to Touch Lives Will you respond?

CALLING

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

ISAIAH 6:8

RESPONDING

"...and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

MATTHEW 28:20

THE CHRISTIAN TEACHER

QUALITIES

Readiness to:

- I FARN
- LEAD
- LOVE

Willingness to commit:

- TIME
- FNFRGY
- RESOURCES

"I can do everything through him who gives me strength."

PHILIPPIANS 4:15

OPPORTUNITIES

- Vast Mission field
- Touching lives –
 40 students x 5 classes
 x 30 years = 6000 lives
- Daily impact 195 days/year
- Continuing influence beyond school years

"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

MATTHEW 9:36-38

FULFILLMENT

"You are the salt of the earth." You are the light of the world."

MATTHEW 5:13, 14

I Answered the Call



God in His most interesting way places exciting moments if you are willing to take the challenge.



After completing my diploma at Maktab Perguruan Ilmu Khas, Kuala Lumpur, in 1989, I was posted to SRJK (C) Choong Hua, Banting. I could not believe that I would land in a Chinese school, but I enjoyed every bit of the eight years there. I would pray for my students openly, especially for the exam classes, and my students

were thrilled to say Amen in unison at the end of prayers. I found a new family church to attend services and Sunday school.

Sunday school was full of Choong Hua students, whose parents happily sent them for free 'English classes'. God in His most interesting way places exciting moments if you are willing to take the challenge.

In 2000, after graduating from University of Malaya, I was posted to SMK Subang Utama. There was already an official Christian Fellowship in this school, and it continued to grow when we embarked on exciting activities like camps, rallies, special projects, etc. I really wanted to do more for Him as I saw these young hearts and minds crying out to the Lord, and He was the right place for them to run to.

In 2008, to my surprise I was promoted as the Senior Assistant for Co-Curriculum. I prayed and took the post, but as a school administrator I was now losing contact time with my students. Interestingly enough, I was awarded Guru Cemerlang at the end of the year. How did all that happen?

Just trust Him

Jacob Mathew

Since young, my ambition was to become a teacher and educate young people. I had many teachers who influenced me. So, I studied hard in Form 6 to get a place in university. I managed to enter Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, majoring in Biology. After graduating in 2009, I was posted to Methodist Boys' Secondary School, Kuala Lumpur.

I love educating my students in Biology, doing experiments with them, helping them understand God's wonderful creation. Being a teacher gives me a great deal of contact time to mentor the younger generation. It has been an eye-opening experience. I have met many students with different personalities, and it is amazing to see how God works in them.

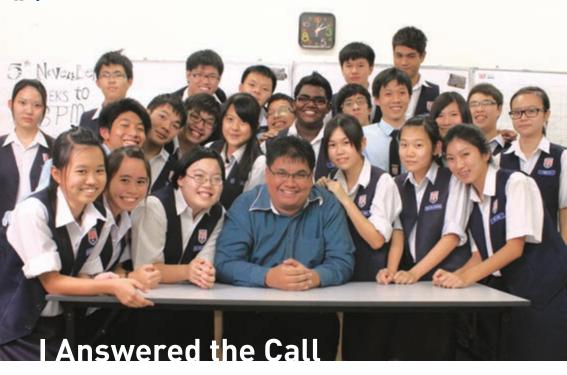
We work and grow together. One of my students, Chee Pang, was weak in English but took Bible Knowledge (BK) and improved vastly. Along the way, God changed him to be a better person too. He became very diligent in seeking God, and I was encouraged by his love for God's Word. After school, we read the Bible together. I became inspired by God's Word myself, learning to be more patient with people. And of course, the profession of teaching itself has taught me patience and compassion.

2 Timothy 2:2 (NLT) You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.

Being a teacher gives me a great deal of contact time to mentor the younger generation.

Karen Pang Lai Ping





As fun and rewarding as teaching can be, teaching has not always been a bed of roses. As I journey along this road as an educator, many mistakes are made, some painful lessons are learned, and I have gone through much struggle.

I must admit that there were a few times over the past 11 years when I wondered if I had made the correct decision, to go into teaching. There were times I felt like giving it up and just walking away. What keeps me going? What pushes me on?

The most common answer any Christian teacher would give is that God grants us the strength and gives us His peace. For me, this is true indeed.

But there is another reason that keeps me going. My students! The joy I get from seeing their faces every morning makes me wake up in anticipation of going to school. No matter how bad a day I may have had, I always look forward to going back to school. This unexplainable God-given joy is something so precious that I would never trade it for any other job.

I am truly thankful to God for the students He has sent me. They have made such an impact in my life. They have taught me so much about life and teaching that sometimes I wonder, 'Who is the teacher?'

They have taught me so much about life and teaching that sometimes I wonder, 'Who is the teacher?'

Nigel Evan Rode

One of the things I enjoy as a teacher is running the Inter-denominational School Christian Fellowship (ISCF) in my school. Christian students meet from 6:00pm to 7:00pm daily to worship, share testimonies, hear the Word of God, and pray together.

Through these meetings, youths from different longhouses and different parts of Sarawak have grown in their faith in the Lord. We have held countless school camps and gone on mission trips together. It is my prayer that my students become committed disciples of Christ, serve in their local churches when they return to their respective longhouses, as well as shine for the Lord wherever they are.

JOHN LIEW



Poorly Paid or Handsomely Rewarded?

How much money is enough? To some, no amount is ever enough.

I want to assure you of this: by being a teacher, you will not be poor. You will have enough. You will not lose out.

We should keep ourselves free from the love of money and be content with what we have because God has said, 'Never will I leave you.'

(Hebrews 13:5, NIV)

The starting salary for a DG41 graduate teacher with an honours degree and a diploma in education (including standard allowances):

RM3,291

What a DG54 teacher can earn before retirement:

RM13,144

Pathways to be a Certif

Public Institutions

After SPM

Apply at http://moe.gov.my

PPISMP

- Persediaan Program Ijazah Sarjana Muda Perguruan
- 1 year in Teacher Education Institutes (TEI)
- Government sponsored, no living allowance

PISMP

- Program Ijazah Sarjana Muda Perguruan
- Successfully pass PPISMP
- 4 year course in TEI
- Bachelor of Teaching with Honours
- Government sponsored, no living allowance

Graduate as **Preschool** and **Primary School Teachers**

After STPM

Undergraduate courses

Bachelor degree

Bachelor in Education

PDPLI

- Program Diploma
 Pendidikan Lepas Ijazah
- Mode: School holiday course
- GSTT serving teachers / TFM
- 3 semesters
 - 4 weeks interaction for 2 semesters
 - 12 weeks practicum in final semester
- Government sponsored

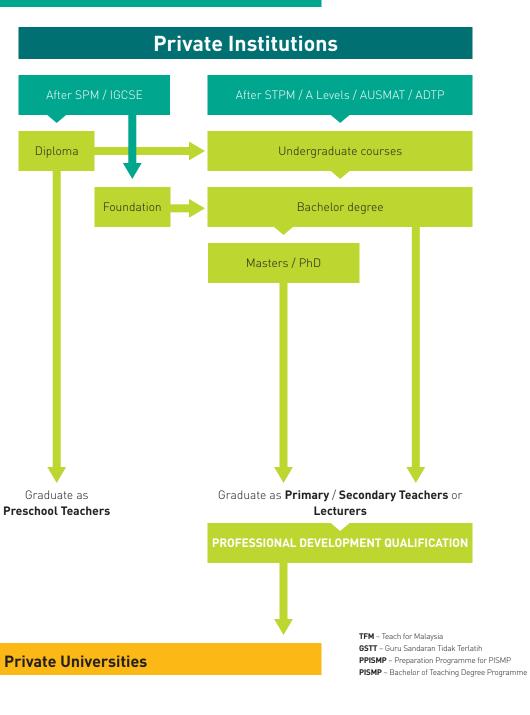
Graduate as **Secondary School** and **Form Six Teachers**

POSTGRADUATE MASTERS / DOCTORATE

Lecturer in Teacher Education Institutes

Lecturers in Public /

ied Teacher in Malaysia



Excruciating or Exhibiting?

I was on my way to class when I heard a heated argument in the washroom. Two of my 11-year-old pupils, Sunny and Paulus, were fighting with each other again! And mind you, it had been happening every single day.

That particular morning, however, was the last straw. It broke my heart to constantly witness these petty quarrels. In fact, the pain that I felt was excruciating and robbed me of joy

and motivation to carry on teaching. I 'punished' the boys by making them wait by my car in the morning, standing side-by-side and shoulder-hugging each other.

Two weeks later I was shocked to learn that Sunny's father had come to transfer his son to his alma mater. In fact, I only learnt about it during

recess. Realising that we might not see him again, I quickly adjourned to the Year 5 Class and gathered my flock. I told Sunny's classmates that we were going to say sorry to Sunny if we had hurt him in any way. Then we were going to pray for him, as this might be our last meeting with him.

By then, the whole class was in tears. The first one to sob inconsolably was Paulus. Both students came from broken families. Sunny had been abandoned by his parents and adopted by another family. In school he was notorious for disciplinary problems. Meanwhile, Paulus had been raised by an abusive parent.

That Friday, however, I saw a lovely expression of forgiveness for the first time in my class. When the duo were first punished and made to stand hugging each other, I knew they resented it. But now both of them, with their classmates, wept as they held hands and prayed. The love of God flowed through the class in a most unusual way.

The Lord did His amazing work in the lives of these children that day. I was in awe; it was an exhilarating moment for me.

Donna Dawi

*Not their real names







Brokenness or Bridge?

I remember my great excitement when I was assigned to teach Year 1 and Year 2 classes in a remote school in Sabah. I would use my new teaching aids: Jolly Phonics materials – specially bought from the United Kingdom – along with a speaker and laptop. I was certain our lessons would be fun, meaningful, and lively.

I discovered to my horror that the pupils in my first class could not understand a single word of English! I tried speaking in Bahasa Malaysia but only saw blank faces. We ended up staring at each other until the period was over. I left class feeling defeated. I thought I was well-prepared, but alas, I wasn't.

'Lord, they only understand Murut. What am I to do?' I asked God that night. He spoke to me from **Ephesians 2:10:** 'For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.' (NIV)

By God's grace, I began to learn the Murut language and used Murut to teach English. After eight months of struggling, the children were able to read and recognise at least 50 English words. Some advanced children could even read whole

books in English. That was an exhilarating moment for me!

As a hostel warden in a primary school in Sabah, the Lord opened the door for me to shepherd 100 Christian children.

Every Thursday we had games, praise and worship, and study of God's Word together. One day, I shared how God our Father loves and

protects His children. Almost immediately, one little girl came up and whispered, "Miss Jess, how can I believe our Heavenly Father is loving when my father has abandoned my family? He left my mother for another woman."

Instead of answering, I asked the children, "How many of you are growing up without a father?" I was surprised to see almost every hand up.

I took a deep breath before raising my own hand and saying, "Me too. My father is still alive, but he is ill. I grew up with an emotionally distant father. For many years I couldn't see Our Heavenly Father as strong, protective, or dependable. But over the years He has shown me time and again that He is a faithful God and a loving Father."

Suddenly, my own brokenness had become a bridge; I could identify with the young sheep under my care. That night, I felt I was meant to be there, to share how our Heavenly Father loves us dearly. I invited them to forgive their own fathers.

It was a healing moment for both the teacher and her pupils. I was amazed: God used my brokenness as a channel of blessing.

Jessica Rine

Remembering Our Teachers

Bishop Dr Ong Hwai Teik

Five decades ago, a beloved teacher touched my life when I needed it most. I remember her well because of her dedication and kindheartedness

Miss Eng somehow sensitively understood the needs of a lonely 8-year-old who came from a big family. She significantly contributed to the education, formation, and leadership skills of that young boy, making him look forward to school each day.

By the good hand of God, she contributed strategically to the life of that lost boy – so that God could make use of him as a Bishop of the Methodist Church in Malaysia one day! To this day, I do not cease to give thanks to God for Miss Eng when I recall my childhood and my calling.

Bishop Ong made this tribute to his wellremembered teacher at a talk he gave at the Klang Valley Christian Teachers Day in May 2017. His message inspired all those present to carry on our duty: teachers as nation builders.

Beatrice Xavier

During my school days, we had many teachers who inspired and touched our lives. But the one teacher who stands out is my Year 4 teacher from Tarcisian Convent – Mrs Ramalingam. Although she was strict, every student knew they could go to her for help.

Also, Mrs Ramalingam saw beyond a person's character. She believed that every student could achieve far more than their capabilities. Growing up, I was very shy and quiet. As much as I wanted to take part in activities and competitions, I did not dare volunteer. Being quiet, I was always looked over.

Not so with Mrs Ramalingam. She nominated me as a school prefect because she believed that it would build leadership qualities and boost my confidence. At that time, I could not imagine standing before a class of 40 kids and telling them to be quiet. I would rather have the earth swallow me up.

That year, she also encouraged me to enter countless speech competitions, debates, and quizzes. I never knew I had it in me to face a crowd and deliver a speech. She taught me to believe in myself and constantly guided me.

She played an important role in moulding me into who I am today – strong and confident. Today, I am able to conduct seminars and training for huge crowds. Thank you, Mrs Ramalingam.



Beatrice is currently a freelance MS Office trainer with a passion for art and anything that lets her explore her creativity

How to Apply to IPGs (Institut Pendidikan Guru)

Calls for application into Teacher Education Institutes (IPGs) will be published in major local newspapers. READ newspapers.

Check whether you fulfill the following requirements:

A Malaysian citizen.

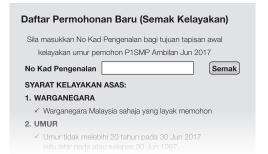
- ✓ Aged not more than 20 years ✓ old on 30th June in the year of application. If you are born before 30th June of that year you are not eligible to apply.
- Physically healthy.
- Active in co-curricular activities.
- Passed SPM with excellent grades (Grades A+, A, or A-) in any 5 subjects (minimum requirements).
- Achieved at least grade kepujian (credit) in the subjects Bahasa Melayu and History.
- ✓ Passed English language.

If yes, apply online at https://www.moe.gov.my

■ For first-time applicants, register as a user of the system. You do not need to buy a pin number or ID number. Refer to the attachment below.



Click on the icon DAFTAR PERMOHONAN BARU. The screen will display your age eligibility. Key in your MyKad number and click on the semak button. Fill in the application form. Submit the form before the system closes.



SYARAT KELAYAKAN ASAS:

- 1. WARGANEGARA
 - ✓ Warganegara Malaysia sahaja yang layak memohor

2. UMUR

- ✓ Umur tidak melebihi 20 tahun pada 30 Jun 2017 iaitu lahir pada atau selepas 30 Jun 1997.
- ✓ Sekiranya anda lahir sebelum 30 Jun 1997 anda tidak layak memohon.

3. SPM

- ✓ Mendapat gred cemerlang dalam mana-mana 5 matapelajaran.
- ✓ Memperoleh sekurang-kurangnya gred kepujiaan dalam matapelajaran Bahasa Melayu dan Sejarah.
- ✓ Lulus Bahasa Inggeris.

Note date when application is closed.

Check name of successful applicants to take the Ujian Kelayakan Calon Guru (UKGC).

Take UKGC.

- The test consists of 3 sessions
 - Written test session (Ujian Sesi
 Bertulis): Consists of Section A and
 Section B which must be answered by
 the candidate in 45 minutes.
 - Physical activity test session (Ujian Kecergasan Fizikal): All candidates must undergo this test. Candidates who select Physical Education as the first or second option must undergo the Physical Education Practical Test (Ujian Amali Pendidikan Jasmani). Candidates must sign Surat Akuan Calon and submit it to the officer in charge before doing the tests.
 - Practical test session: Conducted during the interview for candidates who apply for Bahasa Inggeris, Pendidikan Jasmani, Pendidikan Muzik, Pendidikan Islam, and Bahasa Arab.

Refer to

https://www.mysumber.com/ipg.html

Check online for successful applicants to go for interview. Print call for interview letter, personal information form from the application system website.

Attend interview. Please bring along call for interview letter, personal information form that has been filled up and academic/cocurriculum certificates.

Check online if your application is successful.

Report and register at the respective Teacher Education Institutes (IPG). Candidates will receive a course offer letter from the respective IPG after registration.

How to Apply to Private Schools

Survey local newspapers for job vacancy ads, or enquire directly at schools/ colleges. You may also apply online at jobstreet.com.

Send your resume to respective schools/colleges.

If successful, attend interview.

Congratulations! You are hired. ■

Career Pathway in Government Service

Grade	Years of service	Salary Scale	•	Formal F	Posts			
DG41	1	Minimum R		Preschool, primary or secondary school teacher; school counsellor				
	3 (confirmed in post)	maximum R with yearly s increment R	rly salary Teacher; school counsellor; or nt RM225 State Education Department or			or apply to be an education officer in or District Education Officer or other cellent teacher (guru cemerlang)		
DG44	≥8	Minimum RI maximum R with yearly s increment R	M10,414 salary	Teacher; lecturer in Teacher Education Institute (IPG); scho administrators (depending on grade of school); education officers; excellent teacher/lecturer (guru/pensyarah cemer			ucation	
DG48	≥16	Minimum RI maximum R with yearly s increment R	M11,640 Salary	Senior teacher/lecturer/administrator; director; Head of Sector principal/headmaster; deputy principal/headmaster; HEM (depending on grade of school or department); excellent teach lecturer (guru/pensyarah cemerlang)			er; HEM	
DG52	≥22	Minimum RI maximum R with yearly s increment R	M12,354 salary	Senior teacher/lecturer/administrator; director; Head of Sector principal (depending on grade of school); excellent teacher/lecturer (guru/pensyarah cemerlang)				
DG54	≥25	Minimum RI maximum R with yearly s increment R	M13,144 salary	Senior teacher/ lecturer/administrator; director; principal (depending on grade of school); excellent teacher/lecturer (<i>lguru/pensyarah cemerlang</i>); super principal				
Grade Khas C	≥27			Deputy Director General; Director of State Education Department; Director; Deputy Rector of IPG; excellent teacher/lecturer (guru/pensyarah cemerlang); super principal				
Grade Khas B	≥30			Director General of Education; Director of certain government divisions like EPRD, BPG; Director of IPG; excellent teacher/lecturer (guru/pensyarah cemerlang), super principal			t teacher/	
Grade Khas A	≥30			Director G	Seneral of Education	on		
		ervice allowance (Kadar an Tetap Khidmat Awam) onth		Cost of living allowances (COLA) per month depending on location				
DG41		RM300	DG41		RM300	Big Urban cities	RM300	
DG44		RM400	DG44		RM400	Cities/towns	RM250	
DG48 8	k DG52	RM700	DG48	G48 RM550 Small towns		RM150		
DG54		RM900	DG52		RM600			
			DG54		RM800			

Career Pathway in Private Schools

Pre School

Qualification	Years of service	Salary Scale	Formal Posts
Diploma in ECE	1	No fixed salary scale. Starting pay is about RM1,500 without experience and RM100 to RM200 more for those with experience. Pay varies with type of preschool, with half- or fullday work.	Preschool teacher
	≥3	No fixed yearly salary increment or bonus.	Subject head; senior preschool teacher

Primary School

Qualification	Years of service	Salary Scale	Formal Posts
Bachelors degree	1	No fixed salary scale. Starting pay is about RM1,800 without experience and RM100 to RM200 more for those with experience. Pay varies with type of primary school.	Teacher
	≥ 3	No fixed yearly salary increment or bonus.	Senior teacher;

Secondary School

Qualification	Years of service	Salary Scale	Formal Posts
Bachelors degree	1	No fixed salary scale. Starting pay is about RM2,000 without experience and RM100 to RM200 more for those with experience. Pay varies with type of secondary school	Teacher
	≥3	No fixed yearly salary increment or bonus.	Senior teacher; school administrator

Pre-University

Qualification	Years of service	Salary Scale	Formal Posts
Bachelors degree/Masters degree/PhD	1	No fixed salary scale. Starting pay is about RM2,000 to RM2,500 without experience and RM100 to RM200 more for those with experience. Pay varies with type of secondary school.	Lecturer
	≥3	No fixed yearly salary increment or bonus.	Senior lecturer; Head of programme; manager



contacts

RESPONDING TO

"... and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age."

MATTHEW 29-20.

MALITIES

Readiness to: LEARN LEAD LOVE

Willingness to

THE CHRISTIAN TEACHER

OPPORTUNITIES

Vast Mission field Touching lives - 40 students x 5 classes x 25 years = 5000 lives Daily impact - 195 days / year

Continuing influe

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed a helpless. Bite sheep without shepherd. Then he said to I disciples. The harvest is polentiful but the workers an

MALAYAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS' COUNCIL (MCSC) / FEDERATION OF COUNCILS OF CHRISTIAN MISSION SCHOOLS MALAYSIA (FCCMSM)

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- **@** 603-79607663
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- (fccmsm.org

TEACHERS' CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (TCF)

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- e tcfmy@pd.jaring.asia
- (Ø) tcfmy.org

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- © 03-7782 9592 (SU PJ Office)
- @ 03-7783 1663 (SU PJ Office)
- su.org.my



An artist gives himself to his art:
work, patience, repetition, change.
He works alone, but his product is for all to see
– to admire or ignore.

An artist creates something out of his mind

- his innermost being
- that will not rest until the product is a recognizable whole
- a painting, a poem, a sonata.

A teacher gives himself to his art

- thinking, reading, arranging, praying.
 He works alone, but his product is shared with others
- to be accepted or ignored.

A teacher creates something out of his mind, his heart, and his spirit that will not rest until the product attains wholeness, purpose, goal.

To teach is to respond to the responsive,
to correct the careless.
It is to rejoice in truth, to warn against error.
It is to die, yet attain a new freshness.
It is to give without the assurance of being received.

To teach is to develop, to direct, to dream, to actualise.
It is to encourage, to enlist, to motivate, to stabilize.
It is to impart, thereby to retain.

To teach is to plant that others may grow.

It is to dig that others may go deeper.

It is to soar that others may envision new horizons.

To teach is to learn from others.

It is to laugh... to cry.
It is to think, to weigh, to treasure... to throw away.
To teach is to live, to be fulfilled, to do God's will.

Paul A. BealsProfessor of Missions
Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary