

Caroline and Dick Seed

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The call in action

Dear friends,

A belated Happy New Year to you all! We have had a busy start to 2022. Here is an overview of what has been going on.

Completion of training for Centre for Pastoral Studies (CEP), Chile

You may remember that we ran Phase 1 of the Certificate in Teaching and Learning for Higher Theological Education (Cert TALHITE) online for CEP in the first week of January 2021. After that, the lecturers spent the rest of the academic year implementing what they had learned (Phase 2). Then, between Christmas and New Year, we ran the final intensive online phase (Phase 3). The live sessions were run with interpretation into Spanish, as we had done in January, but the difference this time was that the full learning materials had also been translated. Overall, it was a wonderful time of fellowship, learning and transformation. Here are some of the concluding comments:

- “Thank you for giving us such valuable tools in teaching the Word of God.”
- “It was a great appetizer for learning more about teaching and all this for God’s glory!”
- “Especially in the light of the new year to come, this training has helped to enthuse us and give us great hope!”

Completion of training for George Whitefield College, South Africa

Just two weeks later, we ran another Phase 3, this time with the faculty at George Whitefield College (GWC). Although they could have had face-to-face sessions, they chose to complete the course online. This was an encouragement to us, because it indicates that going online has not been detrimental. GWC is a larger and more developed institution than CEP, teaching at degree and postgraduate level. Nonetheless, the need for lecturer training remains the same. We were both amazed and humbled to see the change in many of the lecturers since they did Phase 1 in January 2021. Here are some of the comments made on the last day:

- “I am a transformed lecturer.”
- “This training has come at a pivotal moment for us.”
- “A very well-designed course.”

Preparing online training for Kenya

We will be running Phase 1 online in early February for St Paul’s University, Kenya and its constituent colleges. We last completed Phase 3 training at St Paul’s in 2019 but there are so many new lecturers in the colleges who haven’t been

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Name: Caroline and Dick Seed

Location: Cape Town, South Africa

Our call: To train Bible teachers in key theological institutions across the African continent.

Our role: Working on a theological education project – training trainers and resourcing leaders.



Phase 3 training, Chile; Dick teaching during Phase 3, GWC

through the programme that they have asked us to run it again. This time, we will include two new lecturers from GWC who have not done Phase 1, so that they have a cohort of lecturers to begin their teaching careers with. Please pray for good technical connections during the week.

New relationship with George Whitefield College

After we had run Phase 1 at GWC in January 2021, the principal asked us to work in an integrated way with the college to develop a more advanced lecturer training course that can be accredited in South Africa. This will be a postgraduate diploma in higher theological education, which will be open to lecturers with a first degree, as a professional teaching qualification. Although it is not compulsory for lecturers yet, there are indications that a professional qualification will be required by government agencies in the future.

To give us more space, GWC has given us a new office with a soundproof booth for online teaching. We also have new computer hardware donated by OCA's new Local Online & Global Strategy (LOGS). We are grateful to the Lord for the way he has provided for us to grow the reach of TEDS. There are many other things going on, so we are predictably too busy, but we give thanks for every opportunity he has provided.

Thanks for support in 2021

Last year, we shared a concern that we might not realise our mission partner budget in 2021 and asked you to pray. The uncertainty was with us all year but we gave it to the Lord as we looked to him to help us supplement our mission partner income. Praise the Lord that towards the end of the financial year things picked up. We won't get the full report for 2021 until April, but early indicators suggest that our expenses for the year will have been covered.

A very big thank you to everyone who contributed this year and made the work of training and consulting for theological education possible! We worked out that over the past five years, about 100 lecturers have completed the full training and another 50 have done at least the first phase. As one of the GWC lecturers said yesterday, "It's beginning to make a difference to theological education in Africa." It is only a drop in the ocean, really, but every trained lecturer has an impact on many students and so it is a reason to give thanks and to continue to ask the Lord to raise up people to train others.

Home leave in the UK

With the relaxing of COVID travel restrictions in the UK, we have been able to book flights for home leave between 10 March and 3 June 2022. It has been three years since our last home leave, so we are looking forward to seeing family and visiting churches again. Please feel free to contact us with possible dates for a visit.

With love in Christ, Caroline and Dick



Photos from top to bottom: Caroline in the new office; Phase 3 training, GWC; Dick in the new office

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If you would like to discuss your mailings with us or to receive this link letter on a regular basis, please email supporter.care@churchmissionsociety.org or call 01865 787400

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