



SEAN International is a member of
The Evangelical Alliance and Global Connections.

SPREAD

Newsletter - March 2019

“Dear SPREAD reader,

I love history in general and in particular church history. It shows God’s love for humankind in so many facets over hundreds of years all over the world. It fascinates me to see how God can and does use a movement, organization and of course individuals to bless HIS Church.

However, we know from history that not everything / everyone who started well, finished well. So I ask myself – why? One of the reasons I think is that movements, organizations and individuals lost their foundation – Jesus – the Lamb of God. Visions, strategies, influence, power (all of which are good things) took over and became more important.



I love the Moravian emblem you see above. It shows Jesus the Lamb who has conquered the world, liberated us from the slavery of sin (Col 1: 13-14) and gave us true life (John 10: 10). To follow HIM – Jesus – was, is, and will be the foundation that SEAN is grounded upon. As SEAN, we have a vision, strategies, influence, and even some power to serve God’s church through our TEE material. Together with our worldwide partners, who serve thousands and thousands of students, we pray that we all don’t forget our foundation – Jesus.



Together with most of our Latin American partners, we celebrated the SEAN Lima conference from the 5th to the 9th of November with 51 participants from 16 countries. Thanks to all who came and to those who prayed and financially supported it. It was a special time to get to know, talk, learn, listen and pray with each other. A major part was spent encouraging and networking with one another. What a blessing to see how God uses SEAN material in Latin America for his Glory. We all hope to meet again soon.” Sincerely your brother in Christ, Dr Markus Völker



CANADA

A few weeks ago we received an encouraging letter from Pastor Isaac Harms from Canada, thanking us for our courses which he values as good tools in his ministry.

He shared, that a while back, he was introducing SEAN's *Abundant Life* course to a church member who ran a small business. The man was grateful, but seeing that the course was very simple, said that he preferred not to continue. Pastor Isaac, knowing that the man had about 25 workers in his business, said to him: "Brother I do think you should continue with this course, because, as it is so simple, it will give you a simple way to share the Gospel with your workers and lead some of them to Jesus". Eventually, after a bit more encouragement, the man agreed to continue his study and eventually completed the course.

Sometime later, he visited Pastor Isaac to share what a blessing the course had been, and that through what he had learned, he had led 17 of his workers to Christ!

Praise the Lord! We love to hear testimonies like this!!



Ghana

A new partner, 'Globeserve Ministries International', in addition to using English SEAN course materials, plans on translating our *Abundant Life* course into four regional languages - Ewe, Twi, Likpakpaln (Kolombas) and Mampule.

Abundant Life Course in Kiswahili

Our editorial team is just putting the finishing touches to this publication. It should be available by March 2019.

SEAN UK and the Group-based Open Learning Discipleship (GOLD) Project

(www.goldproject.org) share a vision to equip all Christian believers in the UK in their faith and active ministry in their local churches and communities. As a result of this shared vision, SEAN UK and the GOLD Project entered into a partnership on 9th December 2018 to allow GOLD Project to use SEAN courses within its programme.

The SEAN courses will be reformatted and added to the courses that GOLD Project already offers. This will enable GOLD Project to provide churches with a range of courses at different levels to fulfil their own vision to see church and society transformed as God's people learn to meet him through Jesus Christ in the power of his Spirit by studying together and applying the message of the Bible in all aspects of their lives. GOLD Project is seeking to work with local and national churches to encourage Church-based discipleship courses.





TEE in Asia... a new book!

SEAN courses are part of a larger TEE family of training materials that use the same methodology. This is the methodology of *Theological Education by Extension* – or TEE for short. Perhaps it's more easily understood as *Tools to Equip and Empower*, that is, tools for local churches to equip all their members to grow in Christ and serve him actively.

TEE in Asia, published in October 2018, opens up windows onto what God is doing through TEE across Asia and the Middle East. The great majority of the stories in this book come from programmes using SEAN courses, translated and contextualized as appropriate.

You can read about...

...Z. from western Mongolia – *From the first lesson of Abundant Life my life became interesting! When we studied repentance, I asked my elder brother for forgiveness. He had really suffered because of my alcoholism! Because of this my brother was saved.*

... Pastor John from Bangladesh – *I see TEE as a tool to raise another generation of pastors*

...Nina from Russia – *She's such a good example of how God can change people through TEE. In a matter of years, Nina went from being a mess in all the areas of her life to being a minister who trains people to train others.*

...a house church pastor from China – *Through this great tool we know that God loves the Chinese church and that he chooses us. We know we are not worthy, but the Life of Christ courses have built up our life. The Bible is no longer theory, it has become a life application...*

...Aiman from Kyrgyzstan – *But after the first lesson I understood that I am a child of God, I belong to Him, and nobody and nothing can ever take me from his family. That took away my fear.*

These stories are just a few from the many in Part B of the book, *TEE in and around Asia*.

In Part A, *Explaining TEE* you will find out about the educational methodology underpinning SEAN courses, and Part C, *innovation in TEE* outlines some of the exciting ways that TEE is developing. If you want to read good news from Asia, this book is for you! You can buy *TEE in Asia* from LuLu.com.

Supporting SEAN International Financially

We are so grateful to all those who choose to give financially to support SEAN International. Your gifts help us to work towards our vision of seeing 'Local churches worldwide empowering all their members for whole life discipleship, mission and ministry in their context.'

Information about how to give can be found on our website at:

<http://www.seaninternational.com/support-us.html>

- Donations can be made online via PayPal by using the 'Donate' button
- You can also use our secure online giving facility at [give.net](https://my.give.net/seandonationgen). (<https://my.give.net/seandonationgen>)
- If you would like to give regularly to SEAN International, please complete the [bankers' standing order form](#) and post it back to us at the address above.
- If you are a UK taxpayer and would like to 'Gift Aid' your donation, please use the [Gift Aid declaration form](#).
- By post, please make your cheque payable to 'SEAN International' and send it to: **SEAN International, Ferndale, Cranston Road, East Grinstead, W Sussex RH19 3HL**

Thank you so much for your support for SEAN International