

Lawang Bible Training Center

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I Peter 2:9; Isaiah 43:21

This people have I formed for myself; they shall
shew forth my praise. Isaiah 43:21

Umat yang telah Kubentuk bagiKu akan mem-
beritakan kemasyhuranKu. Yesaya 43:21





1978 Students, Staf families of LBTC, some members of Boat ministry and guest in the small front garden.



1979. LBTC students and some guests.



1980 The LBTC "big" Family with some guests.

THE L.B.T.C. VISION

Two long-range Objectives for End-time Ministry:

1. *Preparing the Bride of Christ.*

Now is the time for God's Church to go on to maturity — united, perfected, prepared as a spotless Bride.

2. *Proclaiming the Kingdom.*

The Gospel of the Kingdom must be preached all over the world to every creature, in the few short months or years that remain.

These long-range objectives can only be reached through the following more immediate Objectives:

1. *A tremendous new end-time out-pouring of God's Spirit.*

2. *New vision and dedication on the part of Christians.*

3. *New Testament order in the Church, with the five ministry-gifts operating in unity (Ephesians 4:11-16).*

4. *Tearing down of enemy strongholds, through prayer and prayer-based action.*

5. *A people formed by God Himself, entering into His Presence behind the Veil in the Holy of holies (that is, in the heavenlies), equipped with God's weapons, then manifesting the brilliant radiance of His Glory throughout the world.*

New Testament Order

New Testament Power

Christ-Like Character

End-Time Vision

STUDY METHODS

Lawang Bible Training Center attempts to meet the challenge of this vision with a radical, new-old, non-formal approach to training for ministry.

- *Old, because it is patterned after the methods of Jesus and Paul.*
- *New, because it has rarely been tried*
- *Non-formal, because we are training people for life and ministry.*

1. Learning in Fellowship

Remember that the Lord Jesus gathered a few disciples around Him, and taught them as they shared His life and ministry, in free, informal, close fellowship.

2. Learning by Discussion

The Lord's disciples should always feel free to ask questions and discuss all aspects of the Christian life and ministry. As the Lord's Body, we minister to each other, supplementing and edifying one another.

3. Learning by Doing

The Lord Jesus plunged His disciples immediately into the experience of the ministry. Then as time allowed, they sat down and talked over what they had experienced. Theory is never divorced from practice, because He is training people for living and ministering.

4. Learning in the Spirit

Jesus says that His Spirit will lead us into all truth, and make us His witnesses throughout the world. For this reason all our study and ministry needs to be led by the Spirit.



HISTORY & DEVELOPMENT

The Lawang Bible Training Center in Lawang, East Java, Indonesia, was opened in 1971, with a radical, non-formal approach to training young people for ministry in the present age.

Actually this approach is as old as Christianity, but it is always shockingly new. Some years ago I began to notice in the New Testament that Jesus never scheduled a class or drew up a curriculum. He just gathered together a little group of young men. He said, "Follow Me." They saw His miracles, and His way of approaching all sorts of people. They observed His teaching to the crowds, His silencing of the Pharisees, His loving ministry of help to the sick and to repentant sinners.

When they had time, Jesus and His disciples sat down wherever they were, and talked over what they were experiencing. His teaching was always non-formal, always practical, and related to the reality of the present situation.

Jesus' training of the disciples could not be separated from His fellowship with them. They ate and slept and worked together. The disciples learned by associating with Him, experiencing His love, observing His lifestyle, sharing in the secrets of His heart.

Starting Out

After we moved to Indonesia in 1965, we formed a little team which began to be trained by this same method. We prayed and worked and studied together. We lived in a little village high up in the mountains of East Java, where we evangelized in the villages, seeing the miracles Jesus did, seeing people turning to the Lord, and new Christian fellowships being formed. We studied and prayed together at home. Often we went to the cities and towns in Java and even to other islands, to teach in churches and encourage the Christians, or to hold evangelistic meetings. The Lord was teaching us His ways of evangelism and founding churches.

TRAINING CENTER

In 1971 we acquired a large house in Lawang, a small city down at the base of the mountain, and immediately the Lawang Bible Training Center was in operation. The Lord sent in the necessary finances and began to send in students and staff one by one.

We still have no curriculum or classes as such. There is no school year. New students are accepted at any time by unanimous approval of the community after prayer. They come with the understanding that they will stay until they have a definite call of the Lord for ministry, and that call is approved by the community.

We are primarily trying to learn to live together as the Body of Christ. We hold our possessions in common and trust the Lord together for all our provision, for food and clothing, and for the ministry. All decisions are made together by unanimous approval after prayer.

We move out from the fellowship to minister to churches and evangelize, always trying to take with us the life of our community.

FINANCIAL POLICY

In this community we hold our possessions in common. We have to believe the Lord together for all our financial needs day by day. We take responsibility together for the things the Lord has made available for our use.

In this way students learn to depend fully on the Lord to supply all their personal needs and the needs of the ministry.

Support for the work comes almost entirely through free-will offerings of concerned Christians, both in Indonesia and overseas.

CURRICULUM

Basic New Testament Teachings & Experiences:

Kingdom of God

Conversion

Prayer

Holiness

Baptism in the Holy Spirit

Evangelism

Shepherding

Body of Christ

Ministry Gifts

Preparation for Ministries

Theology

Church History

End-Time Truths:

Bride of Christ

Holy of Holies

Harvest

Overcomers

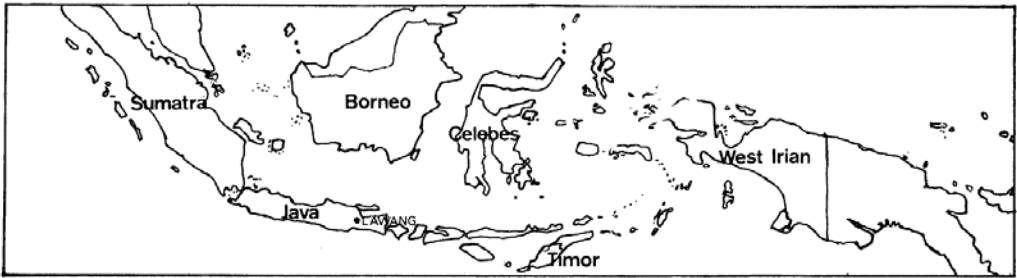
(Trumpets

Feasts (Tabernacles

Second Coming of Christ

ACTIVITIES & OUTREACH

1. ***Evangelistic and Healing Campaigns***, for opening up new areas to evangelism. Thousands see the power of God demonstrated in the healing of hundreds of lame, blind, deaf, and other sick people. The surrounding unevangelized multitudes know that the Christians have a living God, and the Name that saves is Jesus.
2. ***Church planting in the Villages***. Little groups of new converts are gathered in an informal family atmosphere to study, worship, and pray together, and to be formed into a new Christian fellowship or local manifestation of the Body of Christ.
3. ***Ministry to Churches***, As invitations come, we send teams out to share our life and experience with other Christians. In this interchange we all grow and mature.
4. ***Teams to the Islands***. As the Lord directs, we send out teams to many of the islands of Indonesia, and even to other countries. These teams encounter a great variety of cultures and experiences. Some minister in churches in areas where ministry is very inadequate, and people are so eager for Christian teaching that they all gather to listen from early morning until late at night. Other teams go far into the interior to evangelize primitive tribes, many of whom have never heard the Gospel at all. Still others train people on the islands to minister to their own tribes.
5. ***Bible Camps***. At least once a year in Lawang, ministers and active Christians gather together for one week of intensive worship and learning experience. Christ is exalted, and He teaches us by His Spirit. Occasionally also we hold Bible Camps and Seminars in other parts of the country.
6. ***Magazine "API MENYALA" ("A Blazing Fire")***. This magazine is published every other month, with teaching aimed at encouraging true revival, by means of articles on such topics as: Christian living, unity in the Body of Christ, New Testament order, evangelism, and prayer. On alternate months we send out a short bulletin encouraging prayer for revival and church growth.



PROGRAM

At present our young people spend about four days of each week in the villages, praying and studying on their own, teaching and gathering people together.

Sundays everyone goes to the church of his choice, because we are an interdenominational community.

Monday and Tuesday we study together. Usually we begin with a time of sharing what we have been studying on our own during the past week. Then we may take one of the books of the Bible, reading it together bit by bit and discussing it. Or we may take a particular topic and examine all the Bible passages related to that subject, analyzing and drawing conclusions. Any member of the community is allowed to teach and share the results of recent study and research.

All study is immediately applied to the life of our community and to the ministry. In this way the students gain Bible and theological knowledge and understanding much faster than with conventional teaching methods. More than this, they are actually learning to live the Christian Gospel under all kinds of circumstances. The Lord is training the whole person, not just the brain.



During the day we have several periods of silence for prayer and private Bible reading. We have times of intercessory prayer together.

Evenings the whole household gathers for prayer together according to I Corinthians, Chapters 11 through 14. There is no preset order of worship, nor does anyone stand to lead. Sometimes we begin by singing songs, or singing in the Spirit; sometimes with a time of prayer and intercession. There are times of teaching, in which sometimes as many as four or five people share something the Lord has laid on their hearts. There are times when the Lord speaks more directly through prophecy and other gifts of the Spirit. There are times of prayer and personal ministry one to another. Somewhere in the proceedings we partake of the Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood. Though many people take part without prearrangement, yet it is amazing how all fits together and all is directed to a single purpose of the Lord for us on that particular evening.

In our ministry in the villages and elsewhere we are really trying to reproduce the life and worship of our own community. As we do, we get training in evangelism, in forming New Testament Christian fellowships (churches), and in pastoral ministry.



REGULATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY

1. Each member should walk in the Spirit at all times.
2. In making all decisions, the will of the Lord is determined in the community by unanimous approval after prayer. Members may not act on their own.
3. There are two levels of instruction:
 - a. Fundamentals of Bible, and Evangelism.
For new students. This level usually lasts about a year.
 - b. Life in the Body of Christ, ministry-gifts, and end-time revelations.
4. Students are received at either of the levels mentioned above, by unanimous approval of the community, after application has been received. New students enter a six-month probation period, after which they are officially received as students and members of the community.
5. Method of leaving the community. The length of time a student studies at LBTC is not determined ahead of time. When a student feels a definite call of the Lord which is confirmed by the community, he is sent out with prayer and fasting.
6. Every member of the community must learn to submit himself to the others in all matters, to insure that we act as the Body of Christ.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. All applicants must be born again.
2. All applicants must have a definite call from the Lord.
3. Age limit: normally 18 or over.
4. After sending in an application, candidates must await a decision from LBTC.
5. All new students enter a six-month probation period, at the end of which they may be received with the full status as students and members of the fellowship.
6. All students must stay in the dormitory while in training.
7. All applicants must be willing to follow all the rules and regulations of the Community.

IN THE YEAR 1975, in addition to regular ministry to the village congregations round about us; the students and staff members from LBTC engaged in the following types of outreach:

- * opened five new village congregations
- * baptized fifty new converts in the villages
- * ministered regularly to prayer groups in nearby cities (Surabaya and Malang)
- * sent out a team to begin a training program in Irian Jaya, training Irian young people for ministry to their own primitive tribes in the interior
- * held an evangelistic campaign in Central Java, in which thousands heard the Gospel for the first time, hundreds were healed, and relationships among local churches were healed
- * sent three teams for teaching missions in churches in Java
- * entertained forty one guests, who stayed for periods of a day or two up to several months, including several from overseas. Most of them came for short-term study or to experience the life of the Community for a short time
- * sent out teams to the following islands and countries:

Bali (twice)	Riau Islands
Sumbawa	Timor
Sumba	Sumatra
Lombok	Singapore
East Borneo (2 teams)	Australia

These teams went for lengths of time varying from a few weeks to several months. Some of them evangelized among tribes in the interior, who had not heard the Gospel before. Others taught isolated groups of Christians in remote areas where ministry is scarce.



Darto delivering the message and the Truth of the Lord Jesus Christ at an evangelistic and healing campaign in Center Java 1976.



After the Word and message was delivered they came up on the stage; some to be prayed for healing, some for deliverance and all to be followed up.



Hundreds, even thousands came to hear the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Behind the podium, is a parachute converted into a room of prayer.



LBTC "big family" in the front garden.