

Rev Dr Bernard Wong

President
S Y King Associate Professor
(Theological Studies)
CGST

Equipping the Church

for the Great Commission



CGST: A Theological Movement

At Westminster Theological Seminary, USA, in 1960s, God inspired four Chinese seminarians with a vision to establish an evangelical, contextual, inter-denominational and graduate level theological institution for the training of university graduates to serve the Chinese church and to evangelize around the world. This vision quickly gained momentum and support globally in the late 1960s and early 1970s, leading to the founding of China Graduate School of Theology (CGST) in 1975 in Hong Kong. In the past 50 years, CGST has trained over 3,000 graduates who have served faithfully as pastors, missionaries, theological educators, counsellors, and church leaders all over the world. Tens of thousands of Christians also benefited from lay-person programs such as Theological Education by Extension (TEE) and the Word of Life (WOL) ministries. Besides, research, publications and public lectures have always been part of CGST's ministry to impact the church and society.

While based in Hong Kong serving churches in its vicinity, CGST is also a global theological movement. For instance, CGST had collaborated with Fuller Theological Seminary in Los Angeles, Regent College in Vancouver, Ontario Theological Seminary (the precursor of Tyndale University) in Toronto, and The University of Edinburgh in the UK to offer graduate-level courses and programs. Our Lay Leaders Training Certification (LLTC) Program was offered to Christians in North America¹ between

1998 and 2005. In the past 15 years, the WOL ministry has made strong impacts on Chinese churches in many different countries. Since 2021, CGST has been providing free Sunday school materials to further support Chinese-speaking churches in delivering quality Sunday School programs.

Vision and Mission of CGST Toronto

The world has experienced rapid changes in the past few years. The pandemics, shifts in geopolitics, the rise of social media and artificial intelligence have led to a more interconnected — but at the same time highly fragmented — world. With the new waves of Hong Kong immigrants arriving into countries such as Canada, UK and Australia in recent years, CGST has received a vision to partner with the overseas Chinese churches so that we may be equipped to face the future challenges together. After much prayer and discernment, we have decided to establish in the Greater Toronto Area an office named "CGST Toronto", whose mission is:

To collaborate with the overseas Chinese churches, offering context-relevant theological education and carrying out research, so that the churches may fulfill the Great Commission in their locality.

Elaborating on this mission statement, the characteristics of CGST Toronto include:

Collaboration

As society is becoming more complex, it is beyond the ability of one person or a single organization to face all challenges and to offer effective solutions. In a collaborative community, all members need one another, where each person says, "You have the knowledge and resources that I don't have, but I also have something unique to contribute. Let's collaborate to achieve our common mission." Undoubtedly pastors and church leaders of the overseas Chinese churches know their own contexts the best. For CGST Toronto, we will draw resources from CGST faculty and seasoned alumni — in particular our experiences and resources on theological education and research — to contribute to our common mission.

Context-Relevant Theological Education

CGST Toronto believes that theological education is crucial to the health and development of the church. Theological training not only aims at imparting biblical and theological knowledge, but also on understanding the contexts and transforming lives such that Christians and churches can bear witness to the Gospel in their own contexts.

Context-Relevant Research

Although the Christian faith is unchanging, our context is. CGST Toronto will conduct research on the overseas Chinese churches to assess the current situation and to suggest way forward for ministries and development of churches. Research will focus on congregational and intergenerational studies, and the impacts of secularism and cultural pluralism on the church. Results of the research will be implemented in churches through publications, training, and academic programs.

Great Commission

CGST Toronto's education and research efforts aim at serving the church, who is called by our Lord to carry out the Great Commission — "make disciples of all nations." The overseas Chinese churches must set our eyes upon our neighbors of all ethnicities and cultural backgrounds. Carrying out this Great Commission is imperative for the churches to thrive in the generations to come. CGST Toronto is established upon this forward-looking vision, partnering with the overseas Chinese churches for the decades to come.

Locality

CGST Toronto is located in the Greater Toronto Area, serving our immediate neighbours in the region. Yet the internet and efficient means of travel allow us to extend our ministry to all of North America and beyond. Our research also covers Chinese churches in the whole of Canada, USA, Australia, and UK. While CGST Toronto emphasizes context and locality, we also embrace a global vision of serving Chinese churches worldwide.

Future Plans

By God's grace, CGST Toronto has been incorporated as a non-profit organization in November 2024. We are now planning our first research project, which will start in the next couple of months. The inauguration ceremony of the CGST Toronto office will be held on June 21, 2025. Theological Education for All Christian courses will be offered in Toronto in the last quarter this year. Please pray for us, that God will guide us forward and use CGST Toronto as an instrument to equip the church.

1 The program was offered in Canadian cities including Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver, as well as US cities Seattle and Los Angeles.

裝備信徒， 遵行大使命



黃國維博士

中國神學研究院院長
暨金新宇教席副教授
(神學科)

中國神學研究院：一場神學教育運動

在二十世紀六十年代，上帝給予了四位就讀美國西敏斯特神學院 (Westminster Theological Seminary) 的華人神學生一個異象，創立一所持守福音信仰、本色化、跨宗派及研究院級別的神學院，以訓練大學畢業生服侍華人教會，並向全世界傳福音。這一異象在二十世紀六十年代末和七十年代初迅速獲得全球支持，最終促成了中國神學研究院於1975年在香港成立。過去50年來，中國神學研究院 (中神) 培育了超過3000名研究院畢業生，他們忠心地在全球各地擔任堂會牧者、宣教士、神學教育工作者、輔導員及教會領袖。成千上萬的基督徒也受益於中神的信徒培訓事工，例如延伸課程 (TEE) 和生命之道 (WOL) 查經小組。此外，研究、出版及公開講座一直是中神影響教會和社會的重要部分。



中神植根香港，委身中國，但同時也是一場全球性的神學教育運動。中神曾與洛杉磯富勒神學院 (Fuller Theological Seminary)、溫哥華維真神學院 (Regent College)、多倫多安大略神學院 (現為天道大學) 及英國愛丁堡大學合作，開設研究院程度的課程。1998年至2005年間，我們曾向北美洲¹的信徒提供「海外信徒領袖訓練課程」(LLTC)。過去15年來，「生命之道」(WOL) 對全球眾多華人教會產生深遠影響。自2021年起，中神開始提供免費主日學教材，以進一步支持華語教會提供優質的主日學課程。

中神多倫多的異象與使命

過去幾年，世界經歷急速變化。疫情、地緣政治變遷、社交媒體及人工智能的崛起，導致世界變得更加緊密相連，但同時也更加分裂。隨著新一波香港移民近年抵達加拿大、英國及澳大利亞等國家，中神領受了一個異象：與海外華人教會協作，裝備信徒，共同回應未來的挑戰。經過禱告與辨識，我們決定在大多倫多地區設立名為「中神多倫多」辦事處，其使命為：

與海外華人教會合作，提供切合當地處境的神學教育並進行研究，使教會能在其所在之處完成大使命。

基於此使命，中神多倫多的特點包括：

協作

隨著社會變得日益複雜，單靠個人或單一組織已無法應對所有挑戰並提供有效解決方案。在一個協作的群體中，所有成員都需要彼此支持，每個人都應抱持著這樣的態度：「你擁有我所沒有的知識和資源，但我也擁有獨特的貢獻。讓我們攜手合作，實現共同的使命。」無疑，海外華人教會的牧者和領袖最了解他們自身的處境。中神多倫多將結合中神教職員與資深校友的資源，特別是我們在神學教育和研究方面的豐富經驗，為我們的共同使命作出貢獻。

切合處境的神學教育

中神多倫多深信，神學教育對教會的健全發展至關重要。神學培訓不僅旨在傳授聖經和神學知識，更著重理解不同處境並轉化生命，使基督徒和教會能在各自的處境中為主作見證。

切合處境的研究

雖然基督教信仰是不變的，但我們所處的環境卻不斷變化。中神多倫多將針對海外華人教會進行研究，以評估現況，並為教會的事工和發展提出前瞻性的建議。研究將聚焦於教會群體和跨代研究，以及世俗主義和文化多元主義對教會的影響。研究成果將透過出版物、培訓和學術課程在教會中實踐應用。

大使命

中神多倫多的教育和研究工作旨在服侍教會，而教會蒙主呼召，要執行大使命——「使萬民作我的門徒」。海外華人教會必須將目光投向我們身邊所有不同族裔和文化背景的鄰舍，履行這大使命對於教會在未來世代的興旺至關重要。中神多倫多正是基於這前瞻性的異象而設立，並將在未來的數十年與海外華人教會攜手同行。

本地性與全球視野

中神多倫多位於大多倫多地區，服侍我們在該區域的近鄰。然而，互聯網和交通的便捷使我們能夠將事工拓展到整個北美及其他地區。我們的研究也涵蓋了加拿大、美國、澳洲和英國各地的華人教會。儘管中神多倫多強調處境和地域性，我們也擁抱服侍全球華人教會的異象。

未來展望

蒙上主的恩典，中神多倫多已於2024年11月註冊成立為非牟利機構，而中神多倫多辦事處的揭幕典禮謹訂於2025年6月21日舉行。我們現正規劃首個研究項目，預計將在未來數月內啟動；此外，向信徒提供的普及神學課程亦於今年最後一季在多倫多開辦。請為我們禱告，祈求上主引領我們前進，並使用中神多倫多作為裝備教會的器皿。

1 該課程曾在加拿大的多個城市開辦，包括多倫多、渥太華、蒙特利爾、埃德蒙頓、卡加里和溫哥華，以及美國的西雅圖和洛杉磯。

News and Prayer Requests 消息及代禱

- We thank the Lord for His guidance as CGST Toronto successfully completed its registration as a non-profit organization in November 2024. May the Lord use our ministry to fulfill the mission of walking alongside Chinese churches and jointly facing the challenges of our times.
- Please pray for CGST Toronto as we seek a suitable location for our office. In addition to providing workspace, the office will also be used to host various seminars and courses. May the Lord provide and guide the entire search process.
- CGST Toronto will establish a research center aimed at exploring how overseas Chinese churches can effectively respond to contemporary societal challenges with biblical truth. We are in need of volunteers to assist with various research projects and require the support and participation of Chinese churches in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia. May the Lord grant us suitable collaborators to walk alongside us in this mission.
- The CGST Toronto office inauguration ceremony will be held on June 21, 2025, and a series of public lecture, pastoral seminar, and spiritual revival meeting will be held that weekend. Please pray that the Lord will bless these gatherings and make them a source of encouragement and blessing to all churches.
- 感謝上主的帶領，中神多倫多已於2024年11月獲准註冊為非牟利機構，求主使用我們的事工，承傳中神與華人教會同行，共同承擔時代挑戰的使命。
- 為中神多倫多尋覓合適的辦公室祈禱，此辦公室不僅作為同工們的工作空間，更將用以舉辦各類研討會及課程。求上主預備合適的地方，不論在租金、地點、面積及設施等方面都能符合我們的需要，並帶領我們在尋覓過程中能有智慧和清晰的判斷。
- 中神多倫多將設立研究中心，旨在針對海外華人教會在不同社會處境中所面對的挑戰進行深入研究，透過嚴謹的學術分析，探討如何以真理回應當代社會的議題與需要。我們需要義工協助不同的研究項目，亦需要加拿大、美國、英國和澳洲當地華人教會的支持及參與，求上主賜下適合的同行者。
- 中神多倫多辦公室將於2025年6月21日舉行成立典禮，並於該個週末舉辦一連串公開講座、教育講座及培靈講座，請禱告記念，懇求上主恩膏是次成立典禮及各項聚會，使之成為眾教會的祝福。

2025 Financial Needs 2025 財政需要

In respond to the needs of overseas Chinese churches, CGST Toronto is preparing a range of initiatives, including research projects addressing the unique pastoral challenges of overseas Chinese churches, establishing a platform for engagement and collaboration with pastors, developing a Doctor of Ministry program tailored for overseas Chinese pastors, and launching a series of accessible theological courses. The budget for 2025 is CAD 500,000, and we sincerely ask brothers and sisters to remember this financial need in prayer and consider supporting us through offerings, so that together we can bless overseas Chinese churches.

為回應海外華人教會的牧養需要，中神多倫多正積極籌備多項事工，包括針對海外華人教會獨特牧養需求的研究項目，建立與教牧同行的交流平台，規劃專為海外華人牧者設計的教牧學博士課程，以及推出一系列普及神學教育課程。2025年的預算為50萬加幣，懇請弟兄姊妹在禱告中記念這項財政需要，並考慮以奉獻支持，一同祝福海外華人教會。

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CGST Toronto office

5762 Highway 7 East, PO Box 54086, Markham ON L3P 7Y4 Canada | dev.cgsttoronto@cgst.edu
Publishing Supervisor: Bernard Wong | Editor-in-Chief: Kin Yip Louie | Executive Editor: Maria Chuen