

# ICM PUBLIC LECTURES 2009

## “THE HEART AND SOUL OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION”

A 5-Part Lecture Series on Wednesday Evenings, March 4 – April 1, 2009, 8 – 10 PM  
Trinity Methodist Church, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia

**MARCH 4**

### THE HEART AND SOUL OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION

*Speaker: Dr Voon Choon Khing*

This lecture will introduce the framework of the heart and soul of spiritual formation. It will provide you with the crucial tenets required for the on-going formation of the heart of a disciple. Themes like knowing God and knowing self are keys to the heart of spiritual formation. Other themes include how the Spirit of the disciplines and spiritual communities help nurture the goal towards Christ-likeness.

**MARCH 11**

### CHRISTLIKENESS THROUGH DISCIPLESHIP AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION

*Speaker: Rev Dr Chew Tow Yow*

This lecture will address questions like ‘What is the goal of the spiritual life? How does discipleship differ from spiritual formation? Does it? What are the stages of spiritual development in the process of discipleship? How does spiritual growth look like for an adolescent compared to someone in his or her seventies?’

**MARCH 18**

### THE SPIRIT OF THE DISCIPLINES - CULTIVATING AN INNER LIFE WITH GOD

*Speaker: Alvin Ung*

This lecture will explore the importance of cultivating an inner life amid today's world of noise, hurry and crowds. It will address the role of askesis -- spiritual training or discipline -- in freeing us to grow like Jesus. Questions we will address include: In what ways can the garden of our souls be cultivated by the tools of spiritual discipline? What compulsive behaviors require rooting out? What needs careful nurturing? What sorts of askesis do busy Christians desperately desire? What is the goal of askesis?

**MARCH 25**

### BUILDING SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIPS FOR THE SAKE OF THE SOUL

*Speaker: Rev Dr Tan Soo-Inn*

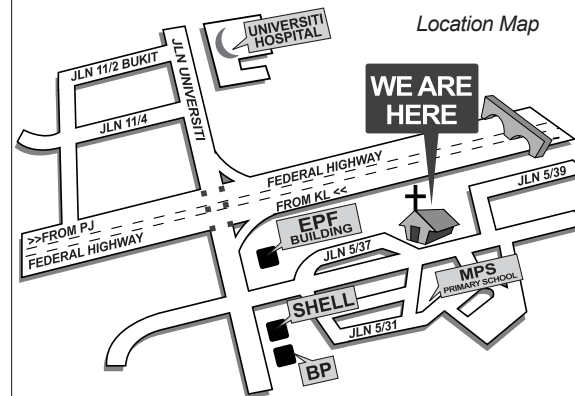
This lecture will address one crucial element missing in most urban churches today - healthy spiritual friendships. It will address the struggle many churches face in trying to build community in light of the challenges of modern communication technology and the demands of life and work in global economy. We will look at questions like: Why is community desired by so many but experienced by so few? What do healthy spiritual friendship look like? What are some practical steps we can take to ensure that we have the spiritual friendships we need for our lives?

**APRIL 1**

### SPIRITUAL GROWTH: HEALING AND WHOLENESS

*Speaker: Rev Dr Hwa Yung*

This final lecture attempts to address the reality of the human heart and human relationships in a broken and sinful world. How does original sin affect the way we deal with emptiness, guilt and shame? How has Christ changed this? Questions that will also be addressed include the meaning of sanctification and its role in discipleship. How does one be open to the Holy Spirit in His work of healing in our lives? What is the place of counseling, spiritual direction, prayer and community in healing and wholeness?



**Trinity Methodist Church**

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## ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

### Dr Voon Choon Khing

Dr Voon is a Lecturer and Student Counselor at Seminari Theologi Malaysia (STM). She teaches Christian Spirituality and Pastoral Counseling and also leads spiritual retreats and gives spiritual direction. She has a ThM (Duke) and DMin (GTF). She worships at Taman Ujong Methodist Church, Seremban.

### Rev Dr Chew Tow Yow

Dr Chew was a senior educationist with the Ministry of Education before joining the pastoral ministry with the Methodist church. He has since retired and continues to teach discipleship and spirituality at STM. He travels around the country teaching the Bible and leading silent retreats. He holds a PhD in Education and a M.Th.

### Alvin Ung

Alvin Ung has worked in academia, stockbroking, journalism and telecommunications. He was recently vice president in leadership development at Khazanah Nasional, before stepping down to write his forthcoming book, *Work in Progress: Conversations on Growing Spiritually in the Workplace*, to be published by Eerdmans end-2009. Alvin earned degrees at Middlebury College (English Literature), Johns Hopkins University (Creative non-fiction) and Regent College (Theology).

### Rev Dr Tan Soo-Inn

Rev Dr Tan is a director of Graceworks, a training and publishing consultancy that seeks to promote spiritual friendship in church and society. He has worked as a dentist, a pastor and an executive secretary of a Christian NGO. He has a BDS (University of Singapore), a ThM (Regent College) and a DMin (Fuller). He is the author of *Travel Mercies, Making Sense and Friends in a Broken World*.

### Rev Dr Hwa Yung

Rev Dr Hwa Yung is currently the Bishop of the Methodist Church in Malaysia. He holds a Bachelor of Science and Education (Tasmania), a B.D and M.Th (London) and a PhD in Missiology (Asbury). He was a teacher, a pastor, a theologian, a principal of STM and later the Director of the Centre for the Study of Christianity in Asia at Trinity Theological College, Singapore.

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