

# Editorial: The Centre for the Study of Bible and Mission



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## Introduction and Background

As a Redcliffe College initiative the Centre for the Study of Bible and Mission (CSBM) aims serve the Church by engaging in research, teaching, writing and speaking on mission in the Bible, and the Bible in mission thinking, practice and training.

Our goal is to encourage Christians to reflect on mission biblically and the Bible missionally. We aim to do this in ways that are scholarly, relevant, accessible, practical, faithful, imaginative and passionate.

We are committed to high quality activity in several key areas:



### 1. Teaching

CSBM is fully integrated with the life and teaching of Redcliffe, a College that equips and prepares missionaries and cross-cultural Christian workers for life and ministry. We offer training on and off campus.

#### MA in Bible and Mission

Deliver a [Postgraduate MA in Bible and Mission](#), consisting four taught modules (Method and Content in Missiological Study, Reading the Bible Missionally, Bible Engagement in Intercultural Contexts, plus one other), and a dissertation on a Bible and Mission subject.

#### Other teaching and speaking

CSBM is involved in the undergraduate and postgraduate teaching programmes at Redcliffe, leading whole modules and delivering specialist content on others. We will contribute to Redcliffe's intensive and tailored teaching formats at the College and in other locations. We will engage in teaching and preaching in Church, conference and organisational settings.

### 2. Annual public lecture and bi-annual consultation

Each year a significant speaker will be invited to deliver Redcliffe's 'Annual Lecture in Bible and Mission'. In 2009 Revd Dr Chris Wright delivered the first lecture of this kind. The 2010 lecture was given by Prof Gordon Wenham.

We will host a bi-annual consultation on the Bible and Mission. Bible and Mission scholars, practitioners and students will be invited to attend and contribute. The 2011 consultation will be on the topic of Bible Translation.

We are using technologies such as video-streaming and other new media applications to make these events accessible. This will enable the participation of those not able to be at the events, and will also act as a resource subsequent to the event.

### 3. Writing

Publishing at both academic and popular levels to encourage further reflection within the Church and the academy on the Bible and Mission in theory and practice.

Edit an annual issue of Redcliffe's E-journal, Encounters, on a Bible and Mission theme, usually based on the contents of the public lecture and consultation. Along with the current issue, previous editions of Encounters have looked at [Mission and the Old Testament](#) (April 2007) and [The Bible and Mission](#) (June 2009).

A website [www.bibleandmission.wordpress.com](http://www.bibleandmission.wordpress.com) has been developed, which features the frequently updated Bible and Mission blog and resources and links useful to those engaged in the research, writing, study and practice of Bible and Mission. These are key ways of disseminating what is happening at the Centre, and passing on knowledge in a quick and accessible way. We are also using [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to develop the Centre's reach and encourage interaction across the globe.

#### **4. Hosting a Visiting Bible and Mission Scholar**

Each year CSBM will invite a scholar from the Majority World to join us. Normally, this scholar will be currently engaged in their doctoral research, preferably on a Bible and Mission theme. They will tend to be based at Redcliffe and will contribute to the teaching programme and life of the College. They will also carry out some research for the Centre, as arranged with the Director. The rest of the time they will be working on their own research.

#### **5. Strengthen Redcliffe's already excellent Bible and Mission resources**

Redcliffe is already an excellent place to study the Bible and Mission. CSBM will further strengthen the resources available to students, as well as those who wish to visit the College for research purposes, sabbaticals, home leave, and study breaks.

#### **6. Partnership**

CSBM thrives on partnership and is committed to working with organisations, agencies, networks, churches and individuals who share a passion for the Bible and mission.

*The Bible and mission cannot be separated. The Bible is both the story of God's missionary activity and also a vital tool in the work of mission. As an organisation devoted to the translation and use of the Scriptures, Wycliffe Bible Translators are delighted to be working in partnership with Redcliffe and others to develop the Centre for the Study of Bible and Mission. (Eddie Arthur, Executive Director, Wycliffe UK)*

#### **More information**

If you would like to know more about the Centre and our activities, or would like to discuss ways of partnering with us please [contact Tim Davy](#).

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Please Note: The views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of Redcliffe College.

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