

WHY THE TASTER PROGRAMME

No greater responsibility has been given to the church than training and equipping men and women for ministry. After all Jesus himself said, “Go and Make disciples!” not converts, but disciples. So there is no more certain way to grow your church than to train men and women – and release them into ministry.

For many pastors the challenge of training others seems to be too great. How can I train them? Where can I find a suitable programme that is recognised? Who will do the teaching? Where do I get the time? What of recognition?

Solving these problems is our ministry; it has been our mandate in the Lord since 1974.

Vision Colleges are specialist Bible colleges.

From the beginning we have specialised on two fronts of ministry training,

1. Distance education for individual students and
2. Establishing local church Bible colleges.

Both programmes are now worldwide, with students in over 150 nations.

The strength of Vision Colleges lies in our conviction that the best people to train men and women for the work of the ministry are the pastors and ministry team in a local church. This has been the heartbeat of Vision since it was founded in 1974. We aim to be a tool in the hands of the local churches, a marriage of skills and resources, Vision provides what most pastors cannot – a sound teaching programme to develop understanding, knowledge and wisdom; while the church provides what Vision cannot – the practical experience at the coal face of ministry.

Preparing men and woman for ministry – this task of fulfilling of the Great Commission – requires huge commitment of time, money and personnel

that few churches or ministries have the resources to make such training possible, but with Vision you can do it!

How can you be sure that Vision Colleges is right for you, that we will be there helping you to fulfil the vision God has given you, a “silent partner”, one that does not impose its will on you or your ministry.

To find out we invite you, your ministry team and your church to try us, test out our “**Taster Programme**” to “taste us” as the scripture says:

*O taste and see that the LORD is good:
blessed is the man that trusts in him.
Psalm 34:8*

To paraphrase the psalmist –

“Oh taste and see that Vision is good...”

HOW DO YOU RUN A TASTER PROGRAMME

For one month, your local church presents a single subject, just as you would if you had set up a campus in your church.

Your ministry team will select a subject from the Vision curriculum, and your teacher will present it employing your typical lecture methods, time tabling, and resources for the month so that you and the church can determine if Vision is the right choice for you, and do so without obligation to the church or the students to proceed any further.

At the end of the month you will decide to continue or not to continue.

To continue as a college you will complete some paperwork, enrol your students, order the next subject and prepare for your next lecture

If you decide not to continue then you have taught an excellent subject, your members have been enriched all of the students will have a text book – everyone benefits.

Who should attend the “Taster” class?

Anyone who:

- is serious about Bible college;
- who is curious about the Bible;
- who would like to “learn that subject”.

What is taught?

The Pastor (or a delegate) selects a subject from the Vision Curriculum.

Having attended the Taster Programme do I have to finish college?

Not at all - this is an opportunity to find out for yourself if Vision is right for you.

What do I get from the Taster Programme?

A month of sound teaching, a text book, on the subject of choice and the option of continuing studies.

What is the cost of the Taster Programme?

\$45.00 per student for the subject. (The church may choose to charge more or less but the College fee must be met).

If the church does not want to continue with the Colleges what is the cost?

Simply the cost of the “**Taster Subject**”, nothing more, there is no further obligation.

If the church decides not to run a college can students continue to study individually?

Yes they can enrol as distance students with Vision.

Can I get academic credits for the Taster Subject?

Yes if you complete the exam and enrol to continue your studies we grant you the credits at no extra cost for the “**Taster Subject**”.

What do we do next?

Contact the colleges to start the Taster Program.

WHY A TASTER PROGRAM?

Our Taster Programme is a unique opportunity to engage with and discover the benefits of Vision to your ministry.

If you are in the early stages of considering a Bible college for your Church the **Taster Programme** is an ideal way to find out if Vision is right for you

Through the **Taster Programme** you will run a series of Vision Lectures exactly as if you were a college, you will:

- Gain an understanding of your own skill set
- Understand how you can use your skills to have a profound impact on your church, your community and the world beyond
- Create your own tailored training plan based on your skills and aspirations
- There is no-obligation, you decide after the taster if you decide continue or not

Who Can Apply?

Any Pastor or his representative who would like to try Vision Colleges as the training program for their Church

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FROM THE PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER

Let me commend to you this “taster” programme. It is an ideal way for the pastor and ministry team of a local church to assess several things –

- Would setting up a college campus in our church be beneficial?
- Is there sufficient interest in the congregation to justify setting up such a campus?
- Does the Vision programme fit our culture, circumstances, and need?
- Do we have the resources (office capacity, teachers, commitment) to make a long-term programme (two or three years at least) feasible?

Vision College is built upon a philosophy of “taking the whole Word to the whole world”. Rather than pull people out of their local church, away from their homes and jobs, in order to attend some central campus, we resolved to take the college to the churches, to serve them and their pastors.

We fully agree that for some people, a central campus is the best choice; but for many others it is an impossible one. We also believe that for most people there is no better place for them to receive excellent training in theology and ministry than their own local church.

The extraordinary success of the programme around the world (now in more than 150 countries and thousands of churches) is living proof of its utility, effectiveness, and benefit both to the church and its people.

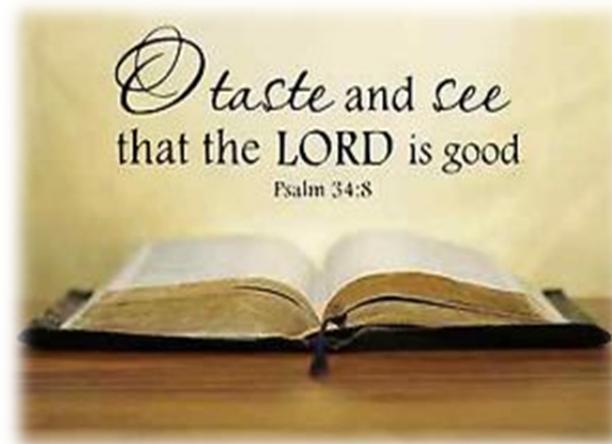
Your church could be part of this world-wide community, of learning and church-planting. Our graduates, since the turn of the century, have planted more than 10,000 new churches.

Try us! And we think you’ll like us!

Rev. Dr. Ken Chant



Local Church Bible College



Taster Program