



## **Ernie Song (Pastor)**

### **RiverLife Church, Singapore**

As a part-time student at TCA, I was greatly impacted by the student community I was integrated into. It is refreshing to be among believers from different denominations and different churches. Being in this environment has shown me the potential of unity and how blessed it is when fellow brothers and sisters of various churches come together to fellowship and learn from one another in the spirit of humility. I was really amazed at the type of classmates I had over my 6 years at TCA –pastors, full time workers, doctors, professors, ex-offenders, students, etc. It is so amazing to see many people in Singapore who are passionate to be equipped for the sake of God’s kingdom!

TCA has trained me how to process matters regarding theology and faith, and this has helped me mature in my thinking – not so much in the amount of knowledge I have, but in terms of how I approach any theological and faith topic. I was given the opportunity to explore deeply some of the topics which I never had the time to think/research more deeply about, such as God & violence, reasons for Pentecostalism, abortion, the problem of evil, and others. I have also benefited greatly from the big pool of research resources available at TCA; not just for assignments but also for church work such as sermon preparation, writing of materials, and research work.

The practical subjects such as Pastoral Counseling, Inner Healing and Deliverance, and Pastoral Ministry have helped me greatly. I have learned much in these subjects and have applied the learning almost immediately into my ministry. Those subjects were highly applicable to my work as I am also involved in developing courses in my church, especially in developing content to equip our cell group leaders.

When I started my Master of Divinity program in 2016, I had this fear of not being able to understand anything and end up withdrawing from the course like what I did in 2005. But God was merciful, and I was able to have a breakthrough in my studies. I could understand everything my lecturers were teaching and process deeply on matters pertaining to theology and faith. I also did reasonably well for the various subjects. Praise God for His transforming work in my life.

