Preparing Men to Serve



A Hope Worthy of Proclamation

Dear Friends,

As we reflect upon the labours of the Seminary in 2026 and move toward the latter end of this year I am reminded of Peter's encouragement to the dispersed churches to whom he wrote in his first epistle. They were beloved friends and co-labourers in the gospel, yet sharers in the sufferings of Christ.

Peter directs them to the inexpressible joy that is theirs as recipients of that great salvation secured by the risen and ascended Christ.

Theirs are the abundant treasures of redemption both proclaimed and foretold by the prophets, revealed at the appointed time in the sufferings and death of Christ.

It is now their joy, as heirs of such great mercies, to proclaim the good news of Christ crucified to a dying and lost world and thus become, as local churches, the means through which the glories of Christ in the gospel would be made known.

Amidst cultural shifts that unsettle these dear believers, Peter remained bullish about the church, and for good reason. After all, through these local body of believers Christ is ruling and reigning over his people and bringing about His redemptive purposes.
As it was for Peter, so it is for us as a seminary. We, too, are bullish about the church. The centrality and vital importance of the church stands among the central distinctives that lie at the heart of our labours as a seminary.

It is our joy to serve, not as, or detached from, but with and under local churches in the pastoral-theological training of men called by the risen Christ to labour as under-shepherds of His churches.

For this reason, we are deeply grateful for your continued support and ceaseless prayers for us as a seminary.

Please read the following updates and pray that the Lord would sustain the work of the seminary to the end that His churches would be further strengthened and Christ made known here in the UK and beyond.

Yours in the risen Christ,
Enoch Adekoya
Director, IRBS UK

2026 residential classes



(Pictured: Dr. Charles Rennie teaching our Foundations of Theology class)

IRBS UK holds four residential classes each year at our lecture facilities in Greater Manchester.

This year's series of lectures commenced with Dr. J. Ryan Davidson's Practical Theology class.
Dr. Davidson's course explored the practical applications of pastoral theology to differing spheres of pastoral ministry.

In May, Dr. Charles Rennie, IRBS' Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, taught our Foundations of Theology class. Students and Listerners were given an introduction to the nature and purpose of theology and the doctrine of Scripture from a confessional Reformed perspective.

Adjunt Professor of Systematic Theology, Dr. Tom Hicks, taught our Soteriology class from July 6-10. Biblical teaching on the doctrine of salvation was presented and defended from within the Reformed tradition.

Join us in-person for our 2027 classes

We eagerly anticipate our residential classes for next year 2027.

Pastoral Administration: 25-26th February 2027
This course prepares students to lead and care for God's people by highlighting the importance of managing God's household well.

Theological Anthropology: 25-28th May 2027
This course will explore the biblical doctrine of man. It will include the study of God's creation of man, his constitutional nature, the image of God, the moral law of God written on his heart, the covenant of works, the fall, the doctrine of sin, and the nature of human freedom.

Homiletics: 5-9th July 2027
Students are led to examine the biblical method, content, and goal of preaching.

Ethics and Reformed Moral Theology: October 18-22nd 2027
This course studies the science of ethics with attention to the contributions of Reformed moral theology, applied to contemporary problems in ethics and pastoral ministry.

Join us in-person!
Our residential lectures are **open to all** for auditing through our Listeners' Pass. Please visit our website at irbs.uk for more information.

Are you a graduate of London Seminary?

IRBS UNITED KINGDOM

London Seminary
PASTORS TRAINING PASTORS

An opportunity to study with IRBS UK through our cooperative agreement

Qualified graduates from London Seminary will be able to apply much of their coursework toward IRBS' MDiv degree.
To make an enquiry visit www.irbs.uk.

Two NEW and exciting opportunities for you and your church!

IRBS UK Study Days



(Pictured: Dr. Ryan Davidson teaching his Biblical Counselling study day lectures hosted by Christ Church Loughborough)

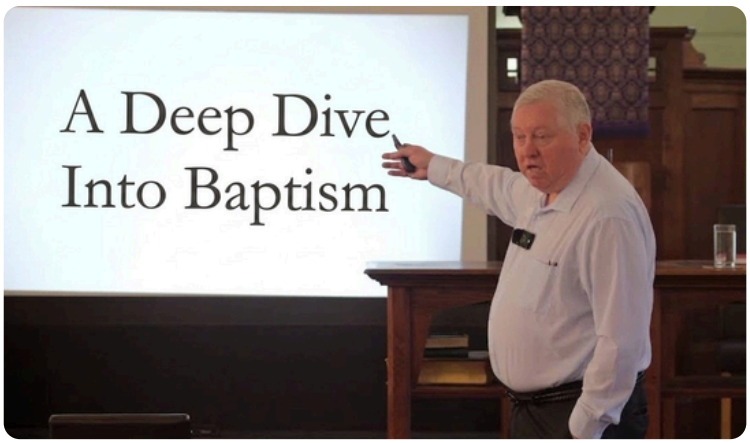
We are thrilled to have begun our new series of study days here in the UK.
This year IRBS UK and Broken Wharfe hosted the full-day training events in Leicester.

Dr. Ryan Davidson presented a theological vision of pastoral care rooted within the biblical and Reformed tradition.

Dr. Tom Hicks, following his Soteriology class, led a study day on the Law and the Gospel hosted by Trinity Grace Church, Ramsbottom.

The IRBS UK study days are designed to be informal, accessible, and interactive. Any and all believers are invited and presented a unique opportunity to train for a Saturday under one of the pastor-scholars within our seminary faculty.

IRBS ON THE ROAD



(Pictured: Dr. James Renihan giving his Deep Dive into Baptism seminars)

An opportunity to bring IRBS to your church for a day!

In 2025 IRBS announced and began a new venture: IRBS On the Road. An IRBS faculty member will travel to your church to teach for 3-4 hours on a topic of interest.

This year our seminary president, Dr. James Renihan, presented his seminars in the UK at Westminster Baptist Church, London, Grace Baptist Church, Isle of Man, and Christ Church Loughborough.

We were delighted to have many join us for these seminars both in the UK and the Isle of Man. Please pray that this new venture continues to strengthen the church in coming years.



Join us in London on August 26-28th 2027 to celebrate 350 years of the Second London Confession of Faith.

Learn more or register at: 2lbcf350.org

How to keep up to date

Stay informed: to receive regular news and updates, including information on future study days, please subscribe to our newsletter via the seminary website: www.irbs.uk

Student Testimonial: Pete Petra



Pete Petra (right), IRBS UK MDiv student and pastor of North Church Leicester, writes of his seminary experience and the benefit of his training upon his ministry labours thus far.

"I'm the pastor of North Church Leicester and have been studying with IRBS for several years now, working (slowly!) towards the MDiv. For me this has involved attending 4 residential weeks of lectures a year, with the occasional one online, and studying roughly a day a week to meet the various course requirements of reading, assignments, etc. The relative flexibility of the studies, while not compromising on rigour, has been a great blessing in our particular situation, enabling me to study "on the job," and continue the daily work of serving our church.

The studies with IRBS have been a tremendous blessing. The course material is giving me a biblical, theological and pastoral grounding in the Reformed and Baptist tradition that I wish I had when I first started out in ministry. The lecture content, reading, and assignments can be stretching (sometimes beyond what I thought I could manage), and are most effective in equipping me for the theological and pastoral demands of ministry. The lecture weeks are not only rich in content but also times of rich fellowship with other students, course attenders, and lecturers themselves, who have, without fail, sought to get to know the students and show a real care for them and their churches.

The benefit to my church has naturally been significant. The studies at IRBS really have informed every aspect of ministry, from preaching and leading in public worship, to pastoral care, to evangelism. I am the sole elder at our church at present, but to have a solid grounding has stabilised us and helped to give us theological direction. One of the added blessings for us as a church is the IRBS church partnership program, which means that not only am I a student with IRBS, but our church is prayerfully and financially supporting the training of other ministers, which is our great joy."

Please pray for the students training with us. Pray that the Lord would call more men to serve Christ's church as under-sheperds of His flock across the UK and beyond.

Study with us!

To enquire about studies with IRBS UK, please visit our website at www.irbs.uk.

Our Seminary degree programmes

- **Master of Arts**

A two-to-three-year degree programme completed through the hybrid learning format, either in-person or online.

- **Master of Divinity**

A three-to-four-year course designed to prepare pastors and pastors-in-training. This programme can be completed full-time or part-time and through our hybrid learning format, in-person or online.

- **Bachelor of Divinity**

A three-year course with a minimum of thirty hours of required in-person or online classes. Our BDiv course provides the best foundation for men entering the ministry who have yet to pursue a formal degree programme.

Non-degree programmes:

- **Certificate of Reformed Baptist Studies**

The CORBS programme is a fourteen-to-fifteen-hour programme designed as a supplement to previous theological/ministerial training.

- **Listener/Auditing pass**

Listeners attend our residential classes at cost (£150 for the full week; no cost to members of partner-churches).



Will your church consider partnering with us?

Through our Church Partnership Programme, UK churches who support the seminary receive various benefits, including reduced tuition fees for students sent from partner-churches, free access to a variety of IRBS UK video classes, free class Listening/Auditing privileges (typically £150 for a full week of class) and much more!

Are you prayerfully training a man for the ministry? Please consider joining us through the Church Partnership Scheme.

Funding NOW available!

We are pleased to announce our **new** bursary scheme and flexible funding opportunity, generously provided by our friends at the Confessional Baptist Association.

This bursary is designed to support new UK students who may otherwise be unable to secure financial resources needed for their seminary education and to provide financial support to those interested in studying with IRBS UK. please contact enochadekoya@irbs.uk for more information.