

# Hammering out **Singapore's New Woman** in the furnace of the 1930s Christian Revivalism



In October 1935, John Sung (宋尚節) held a revival in Singapore. For those two weeks, the city held its collective breath. What did it mean that thousands of people were trying to push their way into the Telok Ayer Methodist Church? Why were some people actually camping inside, sleeping on pews and the floor? Was it really more important for them to save their seats than go to work or school? The people of the city puzzled over the flamboyant revival, but the real shock was the way women responded. More than anyone, women found new life through Sung's meetings. For them, it was not just a spiritual transformation, but a reworking of their daily lives. They understood, in a concrete way, how a revival produced a new creation: Singapore's New Woman.

Speaker: Daryl R. Ireland is a Research Associate Professor of World Christianity at Boston University. His award-winning book, *John Song: Modern Chinese Christianity and the Making of a New Man*, explores how revivalism outcompeted and outlasted other forms of Protestant Chinese Christianity in the twentieth century.

**Friday 21 March 2025**

NUS - Kent Ridge Campus

**14:00 - AS8 - REGISTER** →

