

Nehemiah 4:6: So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with all their heart.



Vision: CCBC, Toward Healthy Growing Disciple-Making Church

2015 Theme: Building and Bringing

October 2015

RANKING OF TEN CORE VALUES TO REALIGN CCBC TO FULFIL GOD’S CALLED MISSION-VISION: TOWARD A HEALTHY, GROWING DISCIPLE-MAKING CHURCH

By Pastor Gary Choong

On Aug 2, as we concluded our monthly DGLs meeting that day, I shared with the group that perhaps it was about time we take a close look at CCBC’S TEN CORE VALUES, and see how we might RANK each of these values in terms of significance to “ME”, “CCBC”, and to an “OUTSIDER” looking in. The purposes were three-fold: First, was to find out what’s most significant for the DGLs and Assistant DGLs—for these responses would indicate their commitment; Second, we need to know IF these Core Values are any relevant at all in the total ministry of the church, i.e., do these really mean anything to the church; and Third, most importantly, how can CCBC live out these CVs, and re-align ourselves to fulfil God’s called mission-vision as a body of Christ and as individual members of this Body.

These CVs were first deliberated and decided upon through various leaders’ meetings back in 2008-9. They were aspirational at that time, because we did not know IF we would be able to live out these CVs out as individuals and as a church. There are several reasons why core values are important, just to name a few: CVs determine CCBC’s ministry distinctive; CVs suggest personal involvement; they distinguish what’s important; they bring about healthy change; inspire people to action; and CVs influence mission and vision of the church. After seven years today, 2015, it was time to re-look at the definitions of these CVs, RANK them, and rea-align them with our called mission-vision. All the DGLs and Assistant DGLs—fourteen persons, took the time and effort to rank the Core Values and returned their responses to Adelynn Lee on the August 23, who so graciously

collated these data and RANKED the CVs as follows:



From the ranking exercise, I postulated THREE KEY Observations from these three tables (“ME”, “CCBC”, and OUTSIDER”. These tables are not provided here due to space constraint, but are available) : (A) Core Value 1 (Biblical Preaching/Teaching) and 2 (Lordship of Christ) are among the top five core values in all three tables - ME, CCBC, OUTSIDERS (B) Core Value 3, 4, 5, 6 are among the top five core values in two tables: Core Value 3 (Caring Community)- CCBC, OUTSIDERS; Core Value 4 (Godly Leadership)- ME, OUTSIDERS; Core Value 5 (Disciple-Making)- ME, CCBC; and Core Value 6 (Empowered Laity)- CCBC, OUTSIDERS; and (C) Core Value 7 and 9 are among the top five core values in one table: Core Value 7 (Fervent Prayer)- ME; and Core Value 9 (Balanced Church)- OUTSIDERS.

Next, I suggested to see these ten CVs in three clusters as named: **FOUNDATIONS** - Core Value 1 (Biblical Preaching/Teaching) and 2 (Lordship of

Christ); **SPIRITUAL NETWORKS** - Core Value 3 (Caring Community), 4 (Godly Leadership), 5 (Disciple-Making), 6 (Empowered Laity); and **CORPORATE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES** - Core Value 7 (Fervent Prayer), 8 (Inspiring Praise and Worship), 9 (Balanced Church [Core Value 9 – where does it fit?]), 10 (Passionate Outreach).

These simple analyses were shared on October 4 with the DGLs and Assistant DGLs, with the following questions for three focus groups to take one cluster each to discuss and share with everyone: What have we done to validate these three clusters of CVs since we began to define CCBC by CVs in 2008-9? What can we do (or How) to enhance or strengthen these CVs? What may be some areas that we have neglected to strengthen these CVs? Where do we go from here in the next three years with these CVs?

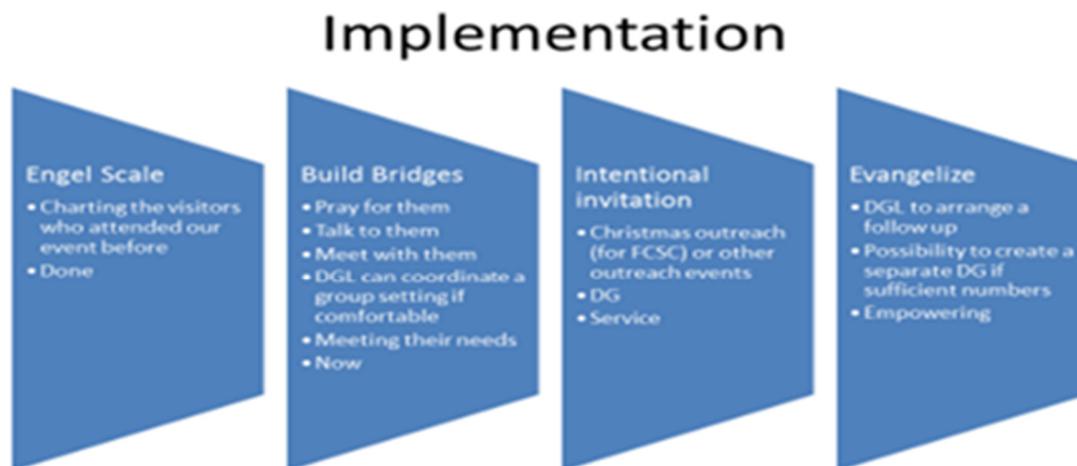
Unfortunately, we did not have sufficient time to get into three focus groups to deal with how we can CONCRETIZE these CVs for CCBC to live out these CVs, and re-align them to fulfil God’s called mission-vision as a body of Christ and as individual members of this Body. As we can see Evangelism and outreach

remain our weakest link as borne out in the ranking of CVs exercise.

As an individual, which of these ten core values resonate closest to your heart? Which core value(s) ring the loudest in your ear for you? Which one(s) can you say that has/have greatest spiritual significance for you, and why?

Today, consider to take at least ONE if not TWO or even THREE CORE VALUES and bring these before the LORD and ask HIM: “LORD, HELP ME TO **LIVE OUT THIS ONE, TWO, OR EVEN THREE CORE VALUES, THAT I CAN IDENTIFY WITH, AND TOGETHER WITH CCBC, BE A ‘HEALTHY, GROWING DISCIPLE FOR CHRIST!’**

On this same note, using the Engel Scale concept of discerning where people are at in their spiritual longings, the YoungMen DG, on October 4, represented by Weiqiang and Yihao, shared about what DGs can do to be intentional about reaching people for Christ. They proposed the following for everyone to consider as we endeavour to reach out to friends, colleagues, family, neighbours, and literally anyone who are within our reach:



- **To get people on board to join as a church**
 - Get them involved in the Engel Scale list of people who are prospects for Christ
 - To pray as a DG for the people weekly and check for their updates
- **Individual DG ownership**
 - DGL to take charge of the DG Engel list of prospects
- Review on weekly basis to see if there are any updates or changes to the list
- Plan appropriate events and invitations according to their readiness to receive Christ
- **Corporate CCBC ownership**
 - A leader to oversee and co-ordinate the Engel Scale list from every DG

- Discuss with DGL if there are any update
- **Think of ways to motivate DG members to participate and reach out to the people**
- **To have a system for individual accountability**
 - Prayer buddy system within DG
 - DG gathering
- **Within DG and outside DG**
 - DGL to communicate among themselves monthly on updates and to see if there are relevant programmes available to plan and invite them to join

Let's CONSIDER how we as a community of faith, through our respective DGs, and also as individuals ought to PRAY HOW WE MIGHT BE WILLING TO COMMIT OURSELVES TO SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST WITH OTHERS WITHIN OUR SPHERES OF INFLUENCE—GIVE A NAME TO YOUR DGL and REACH OUT TO THIS PERSON FOR CHRIST!

Myanmar Disaster Support Update

By Pastor Salai Aungmyintmyat



This is my report about happenings in August. We went to three villages along the riverside and helped some needy people, and the homeless as we showed them the love of Christ for them by giving them rice, oil, bottled water and clothing as well.



We travelled to some villages by boat while to others we walked. We encouraged and prayed for the villagers even though they are pre-believers and they accepted our prayers. These villagers are greatly helped from suffering. There are also other groups helping many who are suffering too.



We also remembered and prayed for CCBC and your future ministry. I am keeping in touch with you and will inform you of updates. Blessings.

Thoughts about Evangelism & Missions By David Chan

Who comes to your mind when you are asked about famous Missionaries? You'd probably recall names like Hudson Taylor, David Livingstone, and Jim Elliot. But I discovered something recently: do you know that Baptists are among the forerunners in the modern Missions movement?

William Carey is known as the Father of Modern Missions; he was one of the first English missionaries to sail to India and later established the Baptist Missionary Society. Adoniram Judson became the first United States missionary when he sailed to Burma (former name of the country of Myanmar). Both these men were Baptists, and they became trailblazers for 19th and 20th Century missionary movement to Asia, and in particular, to India and Myanmar.

At CCBC, it has been some time since we were actively involved in missions. The last few years, Pastor Gary had been the sole representative for CCBC in overseas mission work. But in 2015, my heart rejoices to know that CCBC has moved up a gear in our missions involvement. Beginning first with a pro-active financial support of 3 overseas church workers in Myanmar and India, to giving towards the missions organization (Baptist Global Response International) that could assist in the

aftermath of the Nepal earthquake in April 2015, I saw God leading this church to embrace missions not just as a process of sending, but also participating through giving financially to the needs of others, and through prayer. When the region was hit hard by floods, I also saw our church rising up to alleviate the burdens of our 3 overseas church workers, by praying for them and by providing a love gift.

A team of 9 regular worshippers have also responded to the call to join CCBC's first mission trip to Myanmar from 30 Nov-7 Dec 2015. And I pray and believe that this will be the start of more mission teams to come, involving not just a core group of CCBC worshippers, but extending to other worshippers of various age-groups.

What about local evangelism? In beginning 2014, we took the step of faith to adopt Friendship Christian Student Centre (FCSC) and venture into this area of after-school care. A few church members have given off their time, talent and energies to serve the FCSC children and their families; we thank God for the seeds that have been sown. We are humbled for the relationships that have been established and strengthened. We praise God for those little ones and their parents who have had the opportunity to hear the Gospel. We have learnt precious life and spiritual lessons-- as individuals and as a church-- about what it takes to share the love of Jesus Christ.

As we cross the two-year mark and move up a gear in our involvement at FCSC, let's commit to this FCSC faith venture with renewed vigour. No one can succeed in God's Work by himself/herself. It calls for active partnership within the Body of Christ. It calls for willing hearts to surrender our 5 loaves and 2 fishes to be used by Jesus. And as we commit ourselves to FCSC, let's also remember that it is not just the children and families at FCSC, but our friends and loved ones as well who deserve the same grace and chance to experience the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Adoniram Judson once remarked: 'The prospects are bright as the promises of God'. Let us remember and act on the command and promise of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in Matthew 28:18-20 "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age".

Thoughts from the Worship Team

By Chan Yee Hao

In times of trial, and especially in times of extreme trial, we need to be assured that we have a God who loves us and who will provide for our every need, whether it be physical, emotional, or spiritual. During those times, may you be encouraged by Isaiah 43:18-19 and by singing Don's song.

Isaiah 43:18-19 (ESV) *"Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

God will make a way
Where there seems to be no way
He works in ways we cannot see
He will make a way for me
He will be my guide
Hold me closely to His side
With love and strength
For each new day
He will make a way
He will make a way

By a roadway in the wilderness
He'll lead me
And rivers in the desert will I see
Heaven and earth will fade
But His Word will still remain
He will do something new today

The story behind the song "God will make a way"

This is one of the most widely sung Don Moen songs, but do you know the circumstances in which this song was written? Perhaps some of us imagine Don sipping a cocktail, relaxing on the beach, devoid of any stress as he wrote this song. However as with many anointed Christian songs, the songwriter usually penned the song during a season of deep personal struggle. May you be inspired to reflect on the promises of God's Word and better appreciate this song as you read the story behind the song.

Don's sister-in-law, Susan, and her husband Craig, were travelling from their home in Oklahoma to a ski resort to Colorado for a family vacation. On the way there, they met with a tragic and severe accident. Their van was hit by an eighteen wheeler truck; the rear panel of the van was hit with such great force that all their four children were thrown out.....

Please watch this space for more in our next edition of Q1 2016 Newsletter.