

## **1. Spiritual Life [350 words]**

- a. What is the gospel to you? Briefly share your personal testimony.
- b. Describe your current walk with Christ. Are you supported by a church community and if so, how are you involved?

The gospel to me is about being right with God again. God created this world to be good (Genesis 1:31), so that we can love God and love each other perfectly. Yet when sin was introduced to this world, we started to feel shame and avoid God. Before Jesus, nobody could claim righteousness (Romans 3:10), as law could only reflect how we have sinned. Through God's infinite grace and mercy, He sent his only Son (John 3:16) to save us, so that we may be justified through faith (Romans 3:22). We can come to God again through Jesus' death (Matthew 27:51). The gospel is a story of our fall, redemption, and justification written with Jesus' blood.

I grew up in a Christian household, where I "knew" God, but I did not really know Him. Two years ago, God first gave me the chance to rely on Him and be closer to Him through the public exams. God cut off everything I could rely on, especially the abilities I prided myself on. I saw that I had to rely on God, and submit to His will. God did not make it easy for me after that. Coming to Canada, I was nearly unable to make my flight because I had forgotten to submit a document. After arriving, I had struggles with homesickness throughout my first semester. Just earlier this year, God took away a lot of things I have built for myself, to show me that He is God, and I cannot place my faith in anything else. Throughout all of these, God has let me see how He has a plan for me. The Lord reigns, and even all my suffering is the best plan for me, overflowing with His goodness and mercy (Psalms 23).

By incorporating bible reading and prayers into my life, I feel I am getting closer and closer to God. In IG, I have seen God's love for me through my fellow leaders and every participant. I am encouraged by my brothers and sisters in Christ back in Hong Kong with whom I read and reflect on bible passages. I am grateful that I have these connections back home, and that we can still share and be vulnerable with each other despite being so far away physically. Here in Toronto, I am thankful that I am part of a church community where I can meet people outside of CCF and dedicate time with brothers and sisters outside of my small groups in CCF.

## **2. Your Candidacy [350 words]**

- a. What do you believe is the purpose of UTCCF and the UTCCF Committee?
- b. How has God led you to run for committee, as well as the specific position you are running for?
- c. If you are not elected to your chosen role, how will you still serve and carry out your vision at CCF next year?

I believe the purpose of UTCCF is to serve as a campus fellowship. This is a place for fellow students to share the joys and struggles of navigating this transitional period to adulthood. We are called to spread the gospel (Matthew 28:19), and this is a place for those interested to experience the love of God through a Christian community. I believe the UTCCF Committee acts as the official body, but not the only body, to lead the fellowship, run events, and to handle the logistics. This is an opportunity for brothers and sisters to serve one another, and a place where God can use committee members as vessels to do His will.

God loved me first (1 John 4:19), so that I may learn to love others. Through this, He has given me conviction and shown me the needs of this fellowship. I did not initially observe this, but He has revealed to me through my brothers and sisters here what He wants to see in this fellowship. God has given me a vision which I can attempt to realise by serving on committee. As for my position, God has given me a community of brothers in Men's Ministry in first year. This was a place I could be vulnerable, even to the older brothers and the leaders of the Ministry. After six years in a boys' school, I found a familiar setting despite being in a new country. In second year, I am glad that I can deepen my relationships with the brothers I have gotten to know in the past year, while forming new bonds with the first years. I feel very loved in this environment, and I would like to lead the ministry and care for my fellow brothers, just as the older brothers who cared for me back then, and my Father in heaven who loves us all very much. Moreover, I would like to extend this to the men in the fellowship.

If I am not elected, I will serve as a leader of Men's Ministry, or as an active participant. My vision for Men's Ministry does not require me to be Men's Devotional Leader. In fact, it may be easier for me to reach out, especially to younger brothers, as I will appear less intimidating, and I do not have to balance other committee duties. I have faith in God, and I believe His plans for CCF do not depend on election results.

### **3. Vision [600 words for Chair/Vice-Chair, 400 words for other positions]**

*(Note: Your “vision” should be centered around the Word)*

- a. Where do you see God leading UTCCF in the upcoming year?
  - i. Potential things to consider: the past, current, and future state of the fellowship
- b. How has God called you to partner with Him in this vision?
- c. What are some practical points of implementation of this vision?

Three-point summary:

- Go deeper into spirituality in Christian relationships
- Build each other up
- Hold each other accountable

The upcoming year will be the third “post COVID” year, and I am glad to see meaningful and intentional relationships form so quickly between our members. Through IG leading, I myself have formed relationships I find fruitful. Our common faith and cultural background makes it very easy for us to connect with one another. I believe this is an opportunity for us to further build up the spiritual aspect of these relationships. As a campus fellowship, it is important for us to form relationships with brothers and sisters where we can support each other on our journey in faith (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12).

Practically, activities such as God sighting are great ways to emphasise the importance of spirituality within Christian relationships. Within Men’s Ministry, I am planning to co-lead with various members throughout the year. This is an opportunity for brothers to share about important topics with each other, which paves the way for deeper relationships. Other than that, I will pair up accountability partners (Proverbs 27:17), with dedicated sharing/prayer times. By reflecting on the topic together every week throughout two semesters, this will give brothers another opportunity to form spiritually focused relationships.

Secondly, building on the first point, I believe these relationships formed over the past years can be harnessed to encourage one another and build one another up (1 Thessalonians 5:11). The majority in the fellowship is in a period of transition, going through common struggles. We can express our love for one another, as Jesus has commanded (John 13:34), through encouragement. Practically, sharings and prayers with specific prompts in large group, IGs,

ministries, etc can provide an official platform for brothers and sisters to encourage one another. Outside of that, we can build one another up within our relationships in CCF.

Thirdly, I see this fellowship as a place where we can hold each other accountable (James 5:16-20, Matthew 18:15). Practically, this is implemented in Men's Ministry through accountability partners. I will also plan relevant topic nights for partners to share about their struggles with sin and keep each other accountable. As a leader, I will be more aware of my actions and words, so that I may talk about my own sins, and have my brothers keep me accountable.

In this vision, I believe God has called me to spend time with Him, listen to Him, and submit to His will, as we say in the Lord's prayer (Matthew 6:10). I may have listed out practical points of implementation, but all of them are ultimately up to God. God has given us clear commandments in the Bible, but we have the freedom to choose to do it our way or God's way. Most importantly, I believe God has called me to serve out of love (1 Corinthians 13:1-3).

#### **4. Personal Evaluation [350 words]**

- a. What God-given gifts do you see in your life? How do you see God using these gifts to further His kingdom at UTCCF?
- b. What are some areas of weakness in your life? How are you taking grace-driven steps to overcome them and become more like Christ?

I see my submission to God's Will as a God-given gift. Through numerous trials, such as separation, identity crisis, and recently with job-hunting, God has taught me to rely on Him and only on Him, and trust that He can provide for me (Psalms 23:5, Matthew 6:34). I can share these unique experiences with my brothers and sisters as we journey together in faith. On committee, I will actively explore how we can act in God's Will, instead of our own wills. God has also blessed me with friendships with Christians who are firm in their faith and are well versed in the Scripture, whom I can seek help from as I serve in this community. I am not a natural leader, I am not eloquent, I am not charismatic, I do not have a lot of hobbies I can share with others, but I can boast in my weaknesses, so people can see the power of God through them (2 Corinthians 12:9).

As for my weaknesses, I am rash, unobservant, and stubborn. When I think of ideas, I directly go about implementing them without thinking it through. I am not naturally attentive, so it usually takes some time for me to gauge reactions from others. I am also

stubborn, so I insist on my opinions even when there is no right or wrong answer. Through IG leading, these weaknesses have made it easy for me to make mistakes, but harder for me to realise it or admit I am wrong.

To overcome my weaknesses, I have started to reach out to people who can hold me accountable. I am forever grateful to my fellow IG leaders and members who felt comfortable to share their thoughts with me, be it the way I organise events, or even a simple reminder to keep track of time. As an IG leader, I actively look for suggestions from within the IG before making decisions, and I try to put myself in another's shoes to see how my actions could affect others (1 Corinthians 10:23). As a committee member, I ask all of my brothers and sisters to keep me in check (or even calling me out!), and as Men's Ministry leader, I will actively seek feedback to see how my words and actions are perceived, and to make changes in my plans if necessary.