

Anchored in Truth

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The vision God has given me for UTCCF is near to my heart because it stems from my personal reflection on my spiritual journey this year. At my lowest point, when I was hopelessly wandering, spiritually dry and stripped of joy, God turned my eyes back to His Word. It was through reading Scripture that I rediscovered what it means to be called the daughter of God. I was reminded of His endless pursuit of me and it sparked my desire to chase after Him. I started to feel excitement every time I opened my Bible because through it, I found peace, comfort and a renewal of joy and hope that only comes from Christ. As I learned to put His truths into action, I began to experience the transformative power of God's Word in my life. My prayer now is for all of you to experience this power for yourself as well.

"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart." - Hebrews 4:12 (ESV)

My vision is to see UTCCF become a fellowship that is deeply rooted in Scripture; that we, as a body of Christ, will anchor ourselves in His Truth. By immersing ourselves in Scripture, we will be able to see God's heart, hear God's voice, and grow as one united body. Furthermore, my hope is that our passion to seek God through His Word will be renewed within our community so that we can better reflect Jesus on our campus.

As I reflected on this vision, I could see the involvement of Investment Groups being pertinent to exposing the fellowship to the Word and the importance of building up leaders who are equipped to guide the fellowship to meet this goal, which led me to the role of Vice-Chair.

At the heart of it all, the reason why we root ourselves in the Word of God is because we desire to know God more. We want to understand His commands and teachings so that we can act accordingly as a response to God's great love for us. When we meditate on God's Word, the Holy Spirit will move and change our heart. That is why we need Scripture.

"I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." - Psalm 119:10-11 (NIV)

Scripture is a necessity

For communication with God: Scripture and prayer are the two essential forms of communication between us and God, both of which are necessary in our spiritual walk with Him. Scripture and prayer are not independent means of communication, but rather, they go hand-in-hand. Such interconnectedness is present because Scripture increases our knowledge of who God is which further deepens our relationship with Him in prayer. God also responds to our prayers and petitions through His Word, using Scripture to soften and transform our hearts.

Beyond communication with God: Ultimately, Scripture centres our life back on God. It is a source of hope and peace overflowing from the fulfillment of promises demonstrated throughout the Bible which speaks strongly of God's faithfulness. It also allows for the continual renewal of our mind so that our thoughts and desires can align with God's. Finally, it equips us to further God's kingdom on this earth.

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." - Psalm 119:105 (ESV)

Brothers and sisters, anchor yourselves in God's Truth.

It is God's Truth that remains constant when everything else is changing, it is God's Truth that has been living and active since the beginning of time, and it is God's Truth that will keep you grounded in faith when the storms of life hit you.

Let us discover a new craving for Scripture together as a fellowship! Let us dig deeper into His teachings together! When we seek to know God and long for His Word, He will draw us closer to His heart. Through Scripture, God will reveal His character to us so that we may continue to strive to be more like Him.

When we anchor ourselves in Scripture, we will have strength to stand firm in our faith. Nevertheless, Scripture was never meant to be read passively. We are instructed to apply God's Word to our life.

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock." - Matthew 7:24 (NIV)

Leaders, equip yourselves with God's Truth.

As leaders, our role is to support the members of UTCCF in their faith journey and challenge them to walk closer with God. For these reasons, we must be rooted in the Truth ourselves and we must hunger for spiritual food. How can we carry out our role if we do not pursue God with all our heart and if we do not care about our own faith? Our excitement, as leaders, to seek God and to learn more from His Word will spread throughout the fellowship and encourage our brothers and sisters to do the same!

So let us renew our yearning for the Holy Spirit and our craving for Scripture and prayer! These desires will prepare us and build us up as godly leaders. When we equip ourselves with Scripture, God will enable us to do His good work.

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." - 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)

Possible Implementations

- Together with committee, I hope to implement my vision in the following ways:
- Provide additional guidance for manuscript bible study at the beginning of the year
- Incorporate more application in IG by interspersing application questions throughout the bible study
- Build up leaders by creating opportunities to serve and encouraging members of CCF to lead
- Be a spiritual support for all leaders by encouraging them in their faith and keeping them in prayer