



university of toronto
chinese christian fellowship

Ministry Visions 2013-2014

Prayer Ministry

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A running trend that I often see within large groups of Christians is a negation of prayer. The larger the group, the less prayer there is – unless it is forced upon us. This is something evident within our own fellowship: prayer has become something that we should do, rather than something that we need to do. If Psalm 145:18 says that “The Lord is near to all who call upon Him”, then what does that say about our fellowship? How “near” is the Lord to UTCCF?

Many of us here in the fellowship believe that the very thing that we need most is prayer because it is the very thing that we do least. However, we always brush prayer aside because we see it as a “mood killer” for the social setting. I want prayer ministry to continue to be seen through because we, as a fellowship, need to build a new attitude towards prayer and towards one another. We need a new mindset in the way we approach it: not as something which kills the social mood, but something which fuels the social mood.

Part of being in fellowship is being a part of one another's lives. What sets us apart as brothers and sisters in Christ from other friendships is God. We could all have absolutely nothing in common with one another, but because we are all believers of Christ, we are able to gather together. And if God is the commonality to our gathering, then communication with Him should be the fuel to our friendships. God blessed us with one another so that we could struggle together in this world. This is the very foundation of this ministry.



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Prayer ministry is a space for engagement: to engage with God and others in our own lives, and to engage with one another's lives. It is also a place for rest. Matthew 11:28 says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Amidst the struggles we all undergo, we need a space where we can rest in the presence of our brothers and sisters. However, the rest is not only in the presence of others, but in the ability to take one another's burdens and give it up to God together. We pray with one another so that we can encounter each another's lives, and so that we can encounter God together.

We open up prayer ministry so that you may experience a fellowship of broken hearts and a God who cries for our world; so that you may experience a different kind of socializing in fellowship, a more meaningful kind. Through sharing and prayer, we gather to draw closer to one another's lives and to draw nearer to our Lord.