## Candidate Document - Nicole Hung, Female DL

## **Spiritual Life**

- a) What is the gospel to you? Briefly share your personal testimony.
- b) Describe your relationship and current walk with Christ.

To me, the gospel is a story of love. Growing up in a Christian school, I always believed that God exists, but I never went to church consistently, and was never truly a follower of Christ. In Grade 10 when my sister came back from Toronto, she invited me to a church that she used to go to. I was very afraid and reluctant. I knew that most people from that church grew up there, and I didn't want to be seen as an "outsider". Yet, out of my expectations, people welcomed me with open arms. They invited me to their fellowship, kept me accountable and treated me as part of their family. There, I found a community where God's love became so real to me - I knew that if it wasn't God who loved us first, there wouldn't be love among us.

Over the past year, God has been teaching me more and more about the gospel and His love through rest. He has shown me that His love isn't just any kind of love, but a love that is unconditional and sacrificial. Through participating in Sabbath weekly, I have learned that the reason I find rest in Him isn't because I finished my work. Rather, it's because He already finished the work for me. God loves me so much that He sacrificed His one and only son to die on the cross, so that I can have a relationship with Him. I came to a realization that I have always wanted control over my life, and how my busyness has constantly distracted me in my pursuit of God. As I spend more time in His presence and become more disciplined in reading His words, I find myself growing with a desire to know Him more. He has been humbling me and showing me that He is much greater than I could ever comprehend. He is the one who is truly in control, and I could trust that things wouldn't go wrong just because I stopped working. It brings me so much joy to imagine the freedom I can get if I have full faith in His power and the true satisfaction in pursuing Him alone.

# **Your Candidacy**

#### What do you believe is the purpose of UTCCF and the UTCCF Committee?

To me, UTCCF is a place where brothers and sisters can gather together to learn more about God. Our individual walks with God are full of challenges, but we are called to be in a community. Through sharing, praying, rebuking and pointing each other back to God, we grow and learn to become more Christlike together. More importantly, we are not doing all these for ourselves. As a campus fellowship, I believe we are to show who Christ is to the people around us and to glorify Him in whatever we do.

UTCCF Committee plays a role in "keeping the fellowship going". This includes logistics like booking the venues, planning for retreats, choosing the passages etc. The Committee is also responsible for visioning for the fellowship and making sure that the vision is being lived out. Of course, things can't possibly happen without everyone else in UTCCF. Therefore, I think the Committee also plays a key role in supporting the leaders, so that they can be encouraged to support others in the fellowship. Lastly, I believe the Committee is to set an example as followers of Christ. This includes being prayerful in all circumstances and striving to act in a way that reflects Christ's image.

#### How has God led you to run for committee, as well as the specific position you are running for?

God has led me to run for committee through giving me the desire to serve and reminding me of the joy I have experienced in serving in IG/DG the previous 2 years. Especially in the past year, co-leading DG (the girls' discipleship group in my year) has made me realize that God has given me a heart to care for the women around me. DG has allowed me to see vulnerability within a women's community, and I hope to extend and share this with other women in CCF. Therefore, I decided to run for Women's DL. My hope is to journey closely with other women around me and to discover who God has created us to be together.

# If you are not elected to your chosen role, how will you still serve and carry out your vision at CCF next year?

If I am not elected to be Women's DL next year, I would like to serve through being a participant. With a genuine heart to care for the women's community, I believe I can still carry out my vision through caring for and investing in women around me by taking the step to first be vulnerable to share, and to explore, challenge and remind each other of our identity in Christ.

### Vision

## Satisfaction in our identity in Christ

"I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances."
- Philippians 4:11

This was a verse that stood out to me during a meditation session at women's ministry. I asked myself, "Am I content?". The answer was no. Over the past year, I often describe my life as "chaotic". I am always running around, meeting up with people, trying to get things done - because this is what the world tells me to do. I am constantly chasing after other things, not being content with the identity God has given me.

#### Our identity in the world vs Our identity in Christ

"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." - Psalm 139: 13- 14

I asked myself then, why would I want to place my identity in Christ?

In this world, my identity will always fail me. My worth is based on my works and abilities. Whenever I achieve something, I just want more, and it can never satisfy me. Yet, God who is loving and gracious, gave us an identity that is not based on our works, but in Him. He created us in His own image, and when we are satisfied in who God is, it leads us to being satisfied with who He made us to be.

#### Wholehearted pursuit

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." - Mark 12: 30

When we are truly content with who God says we are, we would want to pursue Him and Him alone from the bottom of our hearts. As we pursue Him, we come to know Him better through having a relationship with Him. This pursuit changes us from the inside out, and all that we do would be glorifying to Him.

### How? - Knowing God as a community

It is so much easier to pursue things that are tangible and would bring us immediate satisfaction, and giving up these identities is incredibly challenging. But don't forget, we have one another! One of the most powerful tools I find in a community is sharing - as we vulnerably share about our spiritual walks, our struggles and doubts, we discover more about God's character, and we are reminded that He is truly enough. As we recognize that, we become even more motivated to pursue Him alone.

Therefore, my hope for CCF is that together, we would **pursue God wholeheartedly, being satisfied in our identity in Christ alone.** 

#### **Practical Implementations**

- Create a vulnerable space in women's ministry where women can come together to share, reflect, challenge one another, and discover who God is and our identity in Christ
- Encourage more intentional women's gatherings and more Christ-centred conversations
- Encourage people in CCF to participate in sabbath

### **Personal Evaluation**

# What God-given gifts do you see in your life? How do you see God using these gifts to further His kingdom at UTCCF?

One of the gifts God has given me is a heart to care for people. This includes asking, listening, and remembering. I am willing to take the time to check up on others during the week and be there for them whenever they need someone to talk to. UTCCF is a very big fellowship and it's easy for people to feel left out. I believe God has been using this gift to create a more welcoming environment where people could feel belonged and a comfortable space for people to share.

Another gift God has given me is my dependability. I often carry out tasks on time, and I am consistent as a participant. I have seen God using this gift as I served as a leader at UTCCF - I like to plan ahead and be on top of what I am responsible for. I believe this would allow me to continue to serve God more faithfully in whatever position I am in (whether it be a leader or a participant) in the fellowship.

# What are some areas of weakness in your life? How are you taking grace-driven steps to overcome them and become more like Christ?

One of my weaknesses is my lack of confidence to voice out my opinions. Often times I am too afraid to be wrong and feel that others know more than I do. As a result, I tend to go with the flow and perhaps not be completely honest with my thoughts. To overcome this, I am constantly relying on God to humble me - to remind me that I don't know the answers to everything and to speak the truth in love.

Another weakness I have lies in my introvertedness - I find it difficult to take initiatives to get to know new people, especially in larger groups. But God has graciously given me opportunities to serve in CCF. Through that, I have been challenged to step out of my comfort zone and have been reminded of my heart to care for people. I will always remember the hospitality that has drawn me to CCF (and other Christian communities) and how I would also want others to experience this love. I will continue to depend on God's strength and courage to overcome this.