

Cicy Tan

Women's Devotional Leader

Christian for 8 years – baptized in 2015

Attends Church In Toronto (North York)

Attended CCF for 2 years

Spiritual Life

- *What is the gospel to you? Briefly share your personal testimony.*
- *Describe your relationship and current walk with Christ.*
- *Are you supported by a church community? Have you been continually seeking to grow in your walk with God and letting Him shape you to be more like Christ?*

Nine Years ago, I immigrated to Canada from China with absolutely zero knowledge of Christianity before arrival. Miraculously by some chance (we now know as God's grace), my family was introduced to my current church. My parents quickly became believers and rooted ourselves in that community in a time where we were outsiders to this country and culture.

Even though I am VERY emotionally driven now, I was a person who valued logic and sense greatly back then. But somehow, from the moment I was introduced to the gospel, I thought everything about Christianity just made sense. "For God so loved the world, that He gave his one and only son, so whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). Knowing and believing this, I was saved in Grade 6.

Since then, God began to work in me slowly but surely. I know I still have my lifetime to strive to become like Jesus, He has already changed me. I was self-centered, rude and someone who could not be empathetic toward others. God made me want to show the love He gave me to the people around me. And to this day, I continue to struggle with countless sins and temptations not just against others but also in my private actions towards God. I am actively relying on my faith, Scripture reading, and prayers to Jesus that He may give me strength to lead me away from temptation and deliver me from my own hands that sin against Him.

I am really grateful for the loving community that is CCF, but I know clearly that CCF is not meant to be a church. My focus may have strayed at times during second-year, but I am committed to serving and being served by the faithful and humble people at my church, now more than ever through serving on youth group, worship team, and attending bible studies.

Your Candidacy [350 words]

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

As I read through the constitution's section on the *purpose* of CCF, it says:

1. To deepen the spiritual lives of the members of the UTCCF and to have fellowship with one another.
2. To bear witness to the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. To prepare the Christian student for life after university as socially responsible individuals who remain in their faith with integrity.
4. To stimulate active interest in evangelistic work on campus.

The Committee is to me not a position of glory or pride, but a humble way for myself to give back to the leaders that have once looked out and poured on me. I think the special thing about campus fellowships is that at this age in our lives, we are most influenced by the constant companions around us in the gruelling journey of university. It is the role of everyone in CCF to build up and set examples to each other of our lives that are given to God, and not the world. The committee is merely the leaders, and the ones who plan logistics and events so that we can realize the purpose of CCF as written in the constitution together as a whole.

I did not run for committee in March. I did seriously consider it, but with the help of my peers and mentors, I realized that I was not in a good place with God back then, my relationship with Him wasn't healthy or intentional. No matter what ideas and abilities I have, I did not fulfil the most basic qualification for service. Since then, I began to actively regain my longing for God's Word and that relationship I had with Him in first year.

At the same time, I saw that the position of women's devo leader was unfilled from the elections. I felt inspired to seek this position. I appreciate and admire the pouring of love and guidance the older women in the fellowship and Women's min have given me, and I want to be able to continue pushing this cycle of care onwards. I also felt that the fellowship also needed a women's representation in the devotional leaders as well, seeing the majority of the fellowship consists of women.

Even if I am not elected, I wish to continue my passion as a women's ministry leader and embody the 4 purposes of CCF by being an active participant of the fellowship.

Vision [400 words]

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

Honouring God with our lives, united and set apart as children of God

“For although they knew God, they did not honour him as God or give thanks to him... Though they know God’s righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.” – Romans 1:21 and 32

The modern culture of being lukewarm Christians runs rampant in churches and fellowships (and I am no stranger to this). The bible clearly illustrates the state of humanity where we not only sin daily ourselves, but also encourages one another to do so because it is deemed okay by society.

How do we escape this reality then?

“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.” – James 4:7-8

As one fellowship, we should build up each other to submit ourselves to the will of God. The Holy Spirit will move in us and aid us if we actively draw near to God. This process does not come easy, it requires more than just a campus fellowship, and everyone is in their own space and time in their relationship with God (whether it be unbelieving, questioning, justified, or in the process of sanctification). I hope we can still be examples to each other and walk towards the same goal of submission.

What does that look like in reality?

“Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your heart, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” – Colossians 3:12-17

Oof that’s a mouthful. But I think the passage speaks for itself well. I hope that through reading the word, musical worship, and with a thankful heart, we can love and achieve unity within our university community.

Practically:

- Creating a welcoming and vulnerable environment in women's ministry for each participant to feel comfortable and understood while listening to each other for ways to better submit to God
- Exegesis focused bible studies – partnered with the authority of pastors (like Roger and Mikey)
- Encouraging a worshipful heart within the members of CCF through singing, praising, praying and thankfulness

Personal Evaluation [350 words]

- *What God-given gifts do you see in your life? How do you see God using these gifts to further His kingdom at UTCCF?*
- *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 want to first express to you my weaknesses, and open up to you all. I am a very flawed person. Some of my biggest flaws are a continuation of the person I was before meeting Christ. I am still self-centered at times, and I will trust my opinions more and not listen to others in those times. Sometimes this leads to conflict between us, other times to hurting others' feelings. Everytime I notice myself behaving like that (tends to be after a little bit of time), I regret deeply and wish I could have done something different. I will continue to pray for awareness of my actions, and I have noticed that my efforts to care more about others' points of view have improved slowly through time. I also pray that anyone will have the courage to remind me and rebuke me when I am behaving un-Christ-like.

I guess the other side of this spectrum is that I have been blessed with the ability to speak to others freely and confidently. Even though I've changed from a mainly logical person to someone who is very emotionally driven, I remained an extrovert through and through. I can quickly warm up to people and I am not scared to reach out to those I don't know very well. I hope that my energy and warmth will help show other people God's love and to make people around me and on campus feel that they are included and wanted.

My other strength would be my sense of commitment. For people who know me, this is one of the things that is apparent. If I promise to do something, if I commit to attend something, I will try my absolute best to fulfill that promise. To me every promise has weight and is a representation of one's character.

I have definitely broken promises before and been late to many meetings. I will be striving for all the aforementioned, but I know I am going to ultimately fall short to the glory of God. With all that has been said, I am confident and accountable for these promises:

- To love and care for the women in the fellowship and listen to the needs of women in CCF
- To continuously reflect and come back to my vision to strive for the utmost fulfillment of my vision.