

Passion for God's Name

Strong Affections for God Rooted in the Word

"God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and Truth."

– John 4:24 (ESV)

If someone asks me to use a word to describe CCF, I will say, "Home"! It is such a blessing and privilege getting to know my brothers and sisters in CCF. Since the first day I came, a lot of you have shown me your love and care for me. I used to get intimidated when I met people but I saw how God's grace has driven out all my fears. He has made me courageous to step out of my comfort zone to "set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12) throughout the year.

My vision for the upcoming year in CCF is to seek the Word of God and be rooted in it. With that firm foundation, we continue to develop a passion and love for God in every aspect of our lives, living lives of worship.

Meaning of Worship

"I'll bring you more than a song. For a song in itself is not what you have required.

You search much deeper within through the way things appear. You're looking into my heart." – Heart of Worship, Matt Redman

What is worship? Worship is not limited to Sunday services nor is it only musical worship. "He (Christ) said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure."" (Hebrews 10:5-6). Jesus asked us to offer to Him all that is in us, our lives. God does not need or require us to sing praises to Him only with our techniques or only for the sake of singing. He looks into our heart. As a worship coordinator, I hope that CCF will grow to worship God in all aspects of our lives.

"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain." – Exodus 20:7 (ESV)

This verse always reminds me of the power in God's name. Often times, when we do musical worship or life in general, we call out to God by His name but do we mean it all the time? Again, God looks into our heart. I encourage all of us to continue to grasp the weight of God's name and to pour out our heart to God as we sing praises to Him and in our daily lives.

Worship in Truth: Rooted in the Word of God

“And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light...Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.” ... So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.”
– Genesis 1:3,26,27 (ESV)

Jesus said to the Samaritan woman that, “God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in Spirit and Truth” (John 4:24). I believe that as worshippers of God, we are ought to know what the truth is and worship with that in mind. The truth is the word. The word is the truth. The bible gives us knowledge and understanding of who God is. It is indeed the most direct way God speaks to us because it is His word. When I was reading the Book of Genesis, I was in awe noticing that the words come out of the mouth of God are very powerful. God said, “let there be light” and there was light. God said, “let us make man in our image” and we were created. So brothers and sisters, let us continue to worship God by seeking His word and developing a love for it in the upcoming year for it is so powerful and precious.

Practical

- Cultivating a love for the Scripture in Large Group (e.g. verses provided for people to pray with, call to worship and scripture reading during musical worship, meditation & prayer night)

Worship in Spirit: Strong Affection for God

During the praise session at winter retreat, I witnessed and experienced the heart of openness in us in singing praises to our God. I was deeply touched by that. It is not the performance on stage or the loudness of the music that make us want to worship. But Jesus told us to worship God for who He is with our passion, awe and love for Him. I encourage all of us in CCF to reflect on what it means to be immersed in the love of Christ and how do we respond to that love.

Practical

- Create opportunities for Large Group to put our focus on God (e.g. silent and quiet time with God before worship, guide the LG to reflect on our relationship with God before worship)

Life of Worship

The chief end of man is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever. CCF, let us journey together in knowing more of God through actively pursuing God from the word. Let us seek God first in our lives and be reformed by the Spirit. I hope one day with the passion for His name and the truth rooted in us, we will grow a bigger heart for the Kingdom of God as a worship to Him. May CCF be a blessing in God's eyes.

Practical

- Encourage Large Group to live a life of worship (e.g. create an environment for LG to worship God through testifying Him and make CCF a house of prayer by arranging prayer activities in the program)