

FOCUS

For the Week of 1st August 2010



Conversation is the Bottom-Line

Elder Adrian Teo

Conversation is the means by which we engage, interact, and relate to others. We saw the significance of conversation when we went through the series on Conversational Evangelism. It takes much thinking and strategising to approach a non-believer in order to prepare the ground to sow the seed of God's word. Conversational evangelism is the responsibility of all believers – thus our 2010 church theme 991. In line with our Bangi camp theme, Character Counts, Dr Nat Cooper made the clarion call for all of us to take responsibility for the character development of our children. What is the bottom-line of character development? I believe it is in the daily conversations we have with our children.

Everyday conversations determine the extent of our connections with others, the depth of our communion with God, the one-mindedness of our connection as the Corpus Christi. It shows the priority we place on the great commission in our life, and the direction and depth of character development of our children and those close to us.

The Need for Character Conversation

Every day conversations vary from the mundane to those that may be crucial with implications for the future. Character Conversation, a conversation about the character of a significant other, is crucial as time is critical when it comes to influencing the character development of a person. Character can refer to physical, emotional, or spiritual. If we are to seek first the kingdom, then we need to transcend from the physical and emotional to the spiritual.

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PP FAMILY NEWS

Right: The House Helpers Bible Class celebrated the birthdays of sister Amparo and brother Rahim last Sunday. We apologise for leaving out Rahim's birthday (16 July 1973) in the June issue of Daily Care.



The AGM Last Sunday was attended by over 100 members - the highest ever. Thank you for your interest and involvement in the exciting work at PP. The chairman, brother Peter Lim took time to recognise the many contributions of deacon KC while our treasurer, brother Boo Chye thanked our full-time staff for taking on the growing number of church activities in a devoted manner.

Elder Adrian Teo has published the introduction and outline of his sermon at our morning worships on the cover of today's FOCUS. Come back at 6pm to hear brother Chen Yi speak on the topic of "A Tonsillectomy Story" at the evening worship.

Members who are attending the a cappella singing today are asked to collect your lunch box from sister Julie Wee at the lobby. All members are encouraged to attend this monthly singspiration.

Uphold in your prayer, these 10 members who are away at the Asian Missions Forum: sisters Dorothy Tay, Foon Yoong, Nat, Wai Leng, Judy Ong, Irene Cheang and brothers Henry Kong, Patrick Ong, deacon KC and elder Simon. Brothers Mark Hooper and Jay Jarboe were also AMF-bound, having left on the same flight last Friday evening. They will return on Wednesday evening.

The men's Bible class will now meet at the SIBI classroom (upstairs educational wing) due to the growth of class members. Brother Cher Yam's class will now meet at the men's classroom downstairs.

Join us this Wednesday at 7:30pm for SPC's current series on "Life Recovery" with deacon Li Chhoan.

You are cordially invited to "An Evening with Ed Brand". He will be sharing with us his observation of the current state of churches of Christ around the world. Date: Thursday, 5th August, 2010. Time: 7:30pm. Venue: Residents' Lounge, Great World City, 2, Kim Seng Walk. The event is conducted by the North-West congregation.

Worship Service	Today (1 August)	Next Week
8am Scripture Text:	Psalm 40:6-8	Psalm 42:9-11
11am Call to Worship: SR/OP: S. Leader: Communion: Preacher: Shepherd's Prayer:	Elder Winston Chong Koh Chin Soon Jason Mok Chew Chong Lin Elder Adrian Teo Elder William Wong	Elder Adrian Teo Joel Goh Kuek Lee Hock Ken McCumsey Seah Siow Hwee Elder Simon Goh
Ushers Balcony	Kenneth Kuek HI Team	Richard Leow HI Team
6pm Call to Worship Scripture Text: Opening Prayer: S. Leader: Communion: Preacher: Closing Prayer:	Elder Winston Chong Psalm 41:1-3 Ramesh Deacon Paul Lim Yeo Teck Chwee Chen Yi Elder William Wong	Elder Adrian Teo Psalm 46:1-3 Yeo Teck Chwee Timothy Lim Deacon Li Chhoan Edwin Kweok Elder Simon Goh

CALENDAR of events

Sunday, 1st August 2010

7:30am Shuttle Bus Service
 8:00am First Morning Worship
Speaker: elder Adrian Teo

9:30am Bible Classes for All Ages
 11:00am Second Morning Worship
 1:15pm Shuttle Bus ends

6pm Evening Worship
Speaker: Chen Yi

Wednesday, 4th August 2010

7:30pm SPC Series: "Life Recovery"

Sunday, 8th August 2010

7:30am Shuttle Bus Service
 8:00am First Morning Worship
Speaker: Seah Siow Hwee

9:30am Bible Classes for All Ages
 11:00am Second Morning Worship
 1:15pm Shuttle Bus Service ends

6pm Evening Worship
Speaker: Edwin Kweok



AGM last Sunday

FAMILY CONCERNS

Please pray for:

My father who had surgery done on his knee due to a fall last week - Kian Hwee
 My son, Timothy to grow to be obedient to his parents. My family and job - Kumar
 My wife's health, family and work - David Dass
 Salvation for those who have not obeyed Jesus Christ - Amparo
 PP missions - Immanuel
 My helper, Noemi to get well from ear infection - Grace Mariaraja
 Tricia's year-end exams - Geoffrey Kiangs
 My niece's health - Shirly Asuncion
 My family's health. May the Lord bless and protect them from temptation - Amelyn
 My employer that they may sense a need for the Lord in their life - Lolita
 Travel mercies for the 10 members at the AMF in Philippines - Henry Kong

Thank God for:

Brother Jay's sermon - Amparo, Fook Weng, Lolita
 Brother Patrick's lesson - Henry and Nat
 His healing hand and for all the prayers for my dad's right knee surgery - Kian Hwee
 Those who prayed for my friend, Terry. He is now better. Continue to uphold him for his salvation - Phyllis Ng
 All PP members who prayed for me and gave assistance to me and my family during the demise of my father - David Dass
 Seeing me through my recent mentoring stint - Josephine Seow

FACTS & FIGURES

8am Worship	141
11am Worship	261
6pm Worship	<u>43</u>
Total:	<u>445</u>
Morning Giving	\$7,452
Evening Giving	<u>\$3,500</u>
Total Contribution	<u>\$10,952</u>



Receipt No Donor Amount

3RsF	1404	Anonymous	\$600
3RsF	1405	Anonymous	\$150
3RsF	1406	Chinese Congregation	\$700
3RsF	1407	Anonymous	\$800
3RsF	1408	Chew Chong Lins	\$1000
3RsF	1409	Anonymous	\$50

Conversation is the Bottom-Line

Continued from the Supplement

well (John 4:7-42), I see a three-step practice that we can use in our own conversations with significant others. Details of the steps will be provided in this morning's sermon:

1. Position our Attitude

Don't let divisive thinking and negative emotion get in the way of our conversation. Abraham in his interaction with Lot (Gen 13:8) gave him first choice of the richer territory "for we are brothers." Jesus, though in a position of power, took on a servant's attitude (John 13:3-5). St Augustine said, "It's a sin to judge any man by his post". The world judges each one of us based on the work that we do. Do not judge another by your position (status) in life. Respect everyone regardless of their social, academic, or economic status. Thank God for whatever position you may find yourself in at the moment and acknowledge your role to share the good news of Christ.

2. Progress the Transcendent

Everyday living brings up a multitude of issues. Some of these issues result in worries and fears. Oftentimes, we get stuck on a particular issue and the relationship suffers as a result. Maturity is when we are able to move from these issues and look at them with enlightened spiritual eyes. We focus on the heart of these issues and take the higher road. We interact with others based on our knowledge of their needs. And all humans need God, whether they realise or not. Seek and pass on kingdom values to young



and old.

3. Proclaim the Turn Out

God wants to work things out for our good. We sow the seed and He gives the increase. Proclaim is to claim before hand, ahead of time. It is to act as if something has already happened. It is to see things that are at present not yet seen. At the Bangi camp, elder Winston Chong demonstrated and urged us to proclaim a blessing on the life of our children. This is to instill kingdom values into the future of our loved ones. So even whilst your naturally rebellious teenage child may be unruly now, you can picture God's promise and proclaim that the prodigal will return when he comes to his senses. At the minimum, leave him with a word of wisdom from God.

Conversations Build Character

Ephesians 4:29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. Christian conversations build up the character of a home, a careteam, a workteam, a church, and an entire community. When the opportunity next presents itself, carry out a Christ-like character conversation with the person who you are one-to-one with. In this technological world, you can also skype, twitter, facebook, blog or text. May God richly bless you as you disciple the character of those around you, particularly the loved ones that you have at home.

	<p>You are cordially invited</p>	
<p>Bro Ed Brand Church of Christ @ Uburn, Atlanta</p>	<p>An Evening with Ed Brand</p>	<p>For more information, please call Soon Choon Lin at 97717096</p>
<p>An event hosted by Northwest Church of Christ</p>		

Batam Ladies Retreat 2010 10 July 2010

Written by Pang Foon Yoong



Batam Church of Christ (BCOC) is one of the many churches that Pasir Panjang Church of Christ (PPCOC) has supported over the years. Deacon KC and his good wife Irene support and coordinate the mission work in Batam. For several years PPCOC has sent many VBS teams to Batam to show them how to conduct Vacation Bible School. PPCOC ladies share bible lessons with BCOB ladies about thrice a year and the BATAM LADIES RETREAT (BLR) is one of the highlights.

The first BLR was first conducted in 2008. This year we held our second BLR with an entourage of twenty members from PPCOC led by Patrick Ong. Irene Cheang assisted in coordination and logistics.

The PPCOC ladies sailed from Harbor Front Ferry Terminal on the 7:50am ferry to the Sekupang ferry terminal on Saturday, 10th July.

We were greeted by Winston Bolt, Herbin Simunjuntut and Sulaiman and three vans took us to a resort in the forest for the BLR. There was a small swimming pool and an event hall nearby with only a roof and open sides. Like the Girl Guides' motto "Be prepared" - we brought mats, ground sheets and lots of snacks and goodies. We were also armed with sun tan lotions and mosquito repellents, long sleeved blouses and long pants - our defense against unwelcome guests, mosquitoes.

The BCOB sisters - about eighteen of them with their toddlers and ten young children in tow arrived with big mats so that we all could sit comfortably on the sandy cement floor. At 9:30am we started singing a welcome song and Serene Kuek worded the opening prayer. She then shared the lesson on "Building Godly Families." Learning was a two way process - the ladies were given a chance to participate and express their thoughts, feelings and creativity.

Serene came equipped not only with her lesson chart but also with drawing sheets, crayons, colored markers, plenty of goodies, and prizes as well.

Muller was our faithful interpreter whenever we shared lessons and fellowship with the BCOB ladies. Everyone except the babies had a drawing sheet to express in pictures or words, a "Godly and Happy Family." Irene Thong was always sporting and quick to respond and she was the first one to come forward to share what she had drawn. Two BCOB ladies - Lisna Siregar and Romala Gultom also came forward. Kuek Lee Hock was the judge for the best drawings. He also awarded prizes to the three ladies who came forward to share. Many drew pictures of parents and children going to church; homes where families were eating and playing together; bible study and praying hands. Before concluding her lesson, Serene divided the ladies into groups with each group asked to list what makes a "Godly and Happy Family" and enact these as members of a family. Each group was seen writing frantically to get the most points to win prizes. This was fun and everyone got to participate. After this session, Judy Ong and Mimi taught the ladies clay making. just like what we did at the recent church camp. We reflected that we are the clay and God is the one who will mould us into His likeness only if we allow Him (2 Cor 4:7).

The Batam brethren very generously treated us to lunch: delicious fried chicken; bean curd, fermented beans, rice, and gado gado. After lunch, Muller led us in hymns in English and Bahasa Indonesia. At 2pm we said our fond farewells, sad goodbyes and thanks before heading to Batam Centre to shop before catching the 5:30pm ferry to reach Singapore by 7:30pm. I believe we had a very good lesson and wonderful fellowship even though unable to converse in Bahasa Indonesia. We know we have the same God, faith and love in Christ Jesus. The smiles and happiness on their faces and ours tells us that we look forward to share God's word and fellowship together again.



Conversation is the Bottom-Line

Continued from Cover

When you leave church today, you will converse with those around you. Will this conversation be one that is constructive – building up the body? Or, contaminate – sowing toxic thoughts that can destroy the body? During the weeks ahead you will have hundreds if not thousands of conversations. What will your conversation be like? Will it be to plant the seed of the kingdom or will it revert to the materialistic and the worldly? In your Care Teams, you have the opportunity to encourage and enable. In your family, your conversations in the morning and at the end of the day will have impact on the growth of your children.

The church leadership have been emphasising family devotions for a couple of years now. Family devotion is to have a conversation with God together with your family.

The Purpose of Character Conversation

Spiritually, the essence of Character Conversation, is an interaction about the character of the Lord Jesus Christ. The spiritual destiny that God wants for all of us is to be like Christ. It is not an overnight deal. It is a lifetime effort. It does not end with baptism. In fact, the discipleship transformation begins with baptism. The great commission is accomplished one soul at a time. As minister Henry Kong emphasised in his recent sermon on your three circles of influence, that you have influence and you can make a difference in living an abundant kingdom life.

Since Jesus is our focus, we need to learn from Him how to converse with others. In His three-year ministry Jesus spoke with a wide variety of people – Nicodemus, a Jewish leader (John

3:1-21), Zacchaeus, a cheating tax collector (Luke 19:1-10), an adulterous Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:7-42), a heathen Canaanite woman (Matt 15:21-28), a Roman centurion (Matt 8:5-13), and countless others who are sick or healthy, deaf or hearing, blind or sighted, lame or able-bodied, leprous or clean.

The Priority of Character Conversation

Jesus made interaction with people His priority, even interrupting His other previously-planned activities. Whilst teaching on the subject of fasting, He was interrupted by Jairus, ruler of the synagogue, whose daughter has died. Jesus broke off His teaching session and went with him immediately (Matt 9:18-19). On the way to the religious leader's home He was interrupted by a "woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years" (Matt 9:20). Jesus stopped to help the lady. He gave no evidence of irritation at these interruptions. In fact, those interruptions became opportunities for ministry. It's the same point made by elder William Wong in his sermon on people need the Lord.

The Process of Character Conversation

How did Jesus converse with people? I see a four-stage process: Jesus Engaged the person regardless of social status; He Explored his needs, then Enlightened him with the truth of God's word, being the consistent example to Embody the love of God, and Expected the sinner to sin no more.

The Practice of Character Conversation

Using the example set by Christ in His conversation with the Samaritan woman at the

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