

SG Connect

JConnect – Training Disciples to be Leaders for Christ



By Lim Swee Yien



JConnect began life as a small group in February 2014. While the name of the group sounds very contemporary in a world of jconnect, imap and jpeg, small group leader William Chua came up with the name more than 20 years ago. Currently, two young couples together with William Chua and his wife Lilian (first photo from left) meet fortnightly on Tuesday nights at the Chuas' apartment in the west. Saltshaker finds out more about this new TMC small group

SS: JConnect...What an interesting name.

William: JConnect initially meant connecting my children, Joel and Janice, to God. But it is also (Jesus)Connect. I registered it as jconnect@pacific.net.sg until the service provider stopped the email service. While Hotmail, Yahoo etc were free, I continued to pay the annual fee to Pacific Internet to keep jconnect. Today, I use it as the name of this new small group.

SS: Who is in this small group?

William: For now, there are two young couples, aged between 30 and 40 years old. One couple has a three-year-old daughter. The other couple will be married in 2014. So in a sense, they are in a similar stage of life.

SS: What was the objective of starting this small group?

William: I ran Hongang Small Group (HGSG) for 13 years and passed the baton on to Debbie Ting for two years before I stepped out to start JConnect. I hope JConnect will raise disciples like HGSG, which is an active small group in TMC with members striving to be disciples of Christ, not just church-goers. I try to journey by example and set the path so that others can follow.

SS: What happens at small group meetings?

William: For the next three to six months, I will build the concept of leadership. Not theoretical leadership, but setting the example of high standards in today's world. The recent "Global Leadership Summit" used a modern world-class practical leadership development programme, and I will be using it as my training material.

SS: What are your thoughts on spiritual leadership?

William: As a leader, I have to illustrate what I have done for the Lord, as though I am standing before God on judgment day. Things have to be transparent. When I am transparent, then others will see Jesus' light. If leaders only talk, it is hypocritical.

SS: Is there any spiritual theme that is common to this group?

William: Not yet, but my personal guide has always been Psalm 82:3-4 – "Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed. rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."

It is not DVD but DRD – Defend, Rescue and Deliver the weak!

SS: What is your prayer for the group?

William: There are three basic fundamentals that many leaders must understand.

1. God's Word is given. Unless a leader is willing to accept it as valuable, it becomes devalued
 2. God's Word is removed if leaders do not live up to it
 3. God's Word is taken back if someone is stubborn and chooses to remain as a non-Christian.
- "Take heed therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have." (Lk 8:18)
- My prayer is to build disciples who will value God's word.

SS: Is the small group open to other members?

William: Yes of course! I want to make disciples. Adults of any age who want to become disciples of Christ are most welcome.

More about small groups at TMC can be found at www.tmc.org.sg/smallgroup.html. Or contact Park Ming at parkming@tmc.org.sg, or through the church office.