small group connect

ROCK





ROCK small group started back in 1996, when a group of young adults felt that there was more to church life than just seeing one another on Sundays during worship services. There was a hunger for a life of worship which was MORE than just the usual "churchy" activities that happen on Sundays.

Our core group comprised ex-MYFers (MYF = Methodist Youth Fellowship) and eventually some "imports". We were in the midst of a transition from varsity to work life, and just on the brink of adulthood.

We found some common interests that provided a space for us to gather, share, pray and encourage one another in the Lord. Tennis games, night snack sessions, hang-out days were how the Lord enabled us to share our lives with one another, right through life as working adults and eventually family life, from planning and running one another's weddings to taking care of one another's kids.

The original group of 10 to 12 young adults also later gave birth to a more Chinese-focused River of Life small group, which the Lord greatly blessed and used as a cornerstone and foundation for the current Mandarin service congregation!

ROCK small group now comprises six families, with the 17 young children in the group outnumbering the adults. Entering into parenthood gave the group a first-hand glimpse and practical life lessons in how our heavenly Father sees us, loves us and cherishes us.

Through handling of the children, hoping to shape their wills through our influence, we learned from God how much it takes to love someone who is dependent on us as earthly parents but still has the Godgiven power of free will to exercise obedience, faith and trust. Through inductive Bible studies centered around parenthood, God continues to teach us invaluable life-giving lessons: Being conscious of who we are in Christ as a beloved child of the Most High, how we need to gradually shift from a position of "power and position" to that of being "a powerful influence" in bringing up our children in the ways of the Lord, and how at the end of the day (or life), it is all about having lived a life of faith and trust in the maker of Heaven and earth.

Tears and sorrow may come, but with Jesus as the conscious centre in our lives, we rise with praise each day!

Countless are the ways that we have been so blessed by the Lord, and we pray that the Lord continues to pour out His Holy Spirit upon all at TMC, that all may come and be captured by the unshakeable love and mercy of Christ, overwhelmed by His grace that empowers His people to overcome the ways of the flesh, and led into the very abundant life that Jesus Christ came to give to us all.

About Small Group Connect...

This column is from the small group committee at Trinity
Methodist Church. It seeks to bring and integrate small groups into the church life of Trinity Methodist Church. More about small groups at TMC can be found at www.tmc.org.sg/smallgroup.html , or through Park Ming at parkming@tmc.org.sg / 62824443