

DEEPER IN CHRIST

A CALL TO DEEPER DISCIPLESHIP

Foreword

by Rev Alvin Chan

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“The most important thing is to make the most important thing the most important thing.”

- Jeff Skinner (London Business School)

I heard this quote at a recent TRAC event and immediately loved it! The call to discipleship is nothing new in the church. Many church vision and mission statements will inadvertently have the word ‘discipleship’ in them. However, not many churches are aware that the most important thing in the church must be discipleship and making disciples. More often than not, we flood our church calendar with activities and events, most of the time, sadly, at the expense of discipleship and making disciples.

As I continue to pastor TMC, I am more and more convinced that discipleship and making disciples must start with the individual. However, I find many so preoccupied with noble Christian activities and ministries that they forsake this most important thing. I would go as far as to say that the most important thing about discipleship and making disciples is that it is birthed at the level of the individual. We must take our own discipleship seriously, work hard at it, and become spiritual role models. It is only then that we will be in a position to make disciples, with the help of God.

And this is why, for 2019, I want to invite all of us to go deep.

“Deeper in Christ. Deeper in community.” We will have two sermon series based on that theme sandwiching the church camp, which is also focused on growing deeper in Christ.

For the first half of the year, we want to inspect what it means to be deeper in Christ in our own discipleship – what are the marks of a disciple and how we can measure up to these benchmarks. This would require some introspection. This is what this journal is for – to support us as we interact with the sermon series and also reflect on how we can flourish in these marks.

An important component in this journal is the section suitably named ‘Depth Check’. Please come to that section after each sermon and decide how the scripture text and the message for that week can shape us as we seek to grow in our discipleship.

My prayer for TMC as we face this year of change is that we will grow in our discipleship – that everyone will want to take their discipleship earnestly enough to make time each week, have profound moments of introspection, such that we may all grow in our discipleship.

DEEPER IN CHRIST

Sermon Series at a Glance

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1	3 February	Deeper in Christ: One Thing	3
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5	3 March	Imitates Christ: Son-ship	11
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Imitates Christ: Servanthood

17 March 2019

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John 13:14-17 (ESV)

¹⁴If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

¹⁵For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. ¹⁶Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

Scripture Reflections:

Philippians 2:5-8 (ESV)

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Going Deeper

Personal Reflections and Prayers

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