

Truth B-P Church
Combined Youth Conference 2012
Reported by Joshua Loo



Thank God for the recent Combined Youth Conference, with the theme “Rooted to Fruit,” based on John Chapter 15. It has been a great blessing to the participants. It was a time of spiritual feasting, and of learning how we can bear fruit for Christ.

The Conference began with a short introduction by the Conference Master, Samuel Goh, and was followed by a time of ice-breakers.

The messages, by Rev Dr Paul Ferguson, centred on the bearing of spiritual fruit. The first message, “Need to Bear Fruit,” focused on the dynamic Christian life, and the need to bear fruit in progressively larger amounts. On the “Prerequisites of Bearing Fruit,” complete reliance on and contentment with Christ were stressed, as said by Christ in John 15:5: *“for without me ye can do nothing.”* The “Power to Bear Fruit” stems from the power and grace of God, sanctifying us and helping us to grow, with purging through trials, that we may bear more fruit.

The fourth message, “Results of Bearing Fruit,” gave us insights as to what bearing fruit in our lives can do: we glorify God, we show forth the fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5), we walk with God each step of the way, and our prayers are answered as we live according to His will. This is aptly encapsulated in the words: “We honour God when we call Him Father and live like His Son.” The fifth message was a warning against the powers that are our “Hindrances to Bearing Fruit.” The main antagonists are Satan and his host. Our best defence against the devil is the armour of God, prayer and the Word of God. Truly, as written in 1 John 4:4, *“greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”* The sixth (and final) message taught us about the blessings of bearing fruit: God’s Presence, the Peace of God, the Pardon of God, the Protection of God, and finally, at the end of our journey, the Kingdom of God. But before this, we must tap into the power of God, to bear fruit that will remain (John 15:16).

After each message, there was a time of discussion when we expanded and shared lessons learnt from and thoughts on the messages. I trust these were fruitful for every participant. The messages concluded with a Question-and-Answer Session.

Each morning, we had morning devotion. On Friday, Bro Clement Chew led the devotion and spoke on “How is Your Witness?” taken from Philippians 1:27-30. We learnt that our testimony is of utmost importance, and we must be courageous and Christ-like, no matter what the circumstances are. The next morning’s devotion was by Bro Samuel Eio on “Considering Your Connectedness,” based on Psalm 133. He pointed out that biblical unity was of God, and is timeless and life-giving. To be biblically united, we must be channels of blessing for God.

On the first day of the Conference, there was a video show, “Facing the Giants.” It was a story on the transformation of a football coach’s life after he began to trust in God, and do all to glorify God. After the show, there was a discussion on various issues: glorifying God in our lives, being a blessing, trusting in God’s perfect plan, etc.

Then, we had a time of games which revolved around the message theme and the Christian life. It included ball passing, going through a maze whilst being pelted by paper balls, and wearing various articles that had to be collected. Lessons were learnt through these games.

On the second day, Rev and Mrs Dennis Kwok conducted a Meet-The-Seniors Workshop with the theme “Biblical Communication.” It began with a short game (led by Mrs Kwok) to demonstrate the need for good communication in our lives. Then, Rev Dennis spoke on how biblical communication should be carried out: beginning with thanking God for others and being humble. We learnt that we should also pray much for other brethren, and spread the gospel. This was followed by a session of discussion, with the ladies and men in separate groups. We were taught with scriptural support how to relate to specific groups. The workshop was wrapped up with a question-and-answer session.

All in all, I thank God that the conference ran smoothly, and for the blessing upon all speakers, committee members and conference participants. May God help us truly to be “rooted to fruit” that He may be glorified by our lives.

(Photos of the CYC Conference 2012 can viewed at www.truthbpc.com.)