Dear All:

We are greatly appreciated to have Dan to finish the summary of the prayer meeting on

Friday October 28th prayer meeting:

Welcome

Pastor Lai opened the meeting with a welcome to all the attendees.

Opening Prayer

Dr Theron Wong led the group in an opening prayer.

Entering into Worship and Scripture Reading

Dr Shirley Wong led the group in worship with a Maranatha song, “Hear O Lord”, based on Psalm 86, at the end of which we recited the Lord’s Prayer together.  She closed this time with the words of Psalm 86:7-9   “When I am in distress, I call to you, because you answer me. Among the gods there is none like you, Lord; no deeds can compare with yours. All the nations you have made. will come and worship before you, Lord; they will bring glory to your name”.

Message and Sharing

Dr Theron Wong shared about his teaching ministry over the years in various contexts and locations; and focused his comments on the current environment of theological education in China:

1. There are currently a lot of theological resources available to students, but in some cases they are not as widely available to some parts of the house church.
2. Zoom has now become the new Theological Education by Extension vehicle, which has required a need to adapt methods.
3. There are several ongoing needs in pastoral training that theological education must strive to address, including:
   1. Critical thinking skills
   2. Expositional skills
   3. Spiritual formation to complemental biblical knowledge

Dr Shirley Wong then shared about her ministry in the area of Christians and mental health.  She shared some statistics about the tremendous mental health needs within the church as dealing with modern society can be overwhelming to many people.  She spoke about the need for a holistic approach to biblical counseling, Soul Care, that encompasses both the physical (the world’s approach) and the spiritual (the church’s approach).

For further insight into Dr Wong’s approach to counseling, please see her book (on Amazon) entitled “Counseling the Heart”.

Small group prayer time

The attendees broke into groups of two to pray for:

* The needs shared by Dr Theron Wong and Dr Shirley Wong
* Personal prayer requests
* God’s leading regarding a prayer conference in 2024

 Closing prayer

Rev Steve Quen closed the meeting in prayer

 Fellowship after the meeting

During the after-meeting fellowship time led by Pastor John Lai, he asked the attendees for their perspective on a way forward toward a 2024 prayer conference. The following thoughts were shared by the group:

* This generation of young people tends to be less interested in going to conferences than in previous generations
* However, young people are very interested in connecting with each other
* Therefore, it is probably better to start with young people interested in prayer meeting together in a small group as a first step
* This would help determine how much interest they have in prayer conference in 2024

At the conclusion of the discussion, Pastor Lai asked Pastors Victor Quon, Steve Quen, and Theron Wong to meet to discuss that how a small group of prayer for young people could be formed in a Prayer Conference, and bring this tentative proposal to the prayer meeting for discussion in next Monthly prayer meeting on November 18.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be led by Dr Richard Durst.