Growing a Posture of HUMBLE DEPENDENCE

In every sermon that I preach, every address I have given - i.e in AGM or when I gave notices - in even Vicar Writes, I have sought to talk about the values and principles undergirding how we may live, worship and serve during this season.

If you have a chance to browse through the sermons through the videos on Youtube or the audio via our website or App, you can review them. I offer them through prayer and through spiritual instincts as guided by the Spirit. Shared values can guide our priorities and ways of thinking about how we may approach both the challenges and opportunities before us. And this includes a “humility of listening and dependence”: whether it is on the Lord or valuing the thoughts and works of others.

On the “works of others”, indeed many of us have been at work. Some of this work has been going on way before we were hit by Covid19. They are often done quietly with a humble trust that the Lord is guiding and leading us. Examining these again, I can say with confidence that most, if not all, initiatives that have been undertaken in these last five years came through a lot of careful prayerful deliberation, planning and hard work to bring them into fruition.
I can recall the long conversations with Grace Tan; when she was still not on staff; about the need to put Bible teaching at the heart of our Church life. With the ensuing work, DCBS was born and grew to what she is today. Every other initiative: eleven:30 Service, The Cathedral Café and renewed Welcome Center, The Pavilion, Alpha Course, Food Ministry, our online tools (website, facebook and Instagram presence, smartphone apps etc) – just to name a few – have been birthed and carried through hard collaborative teamwork and prayerful dependence on Him. The fruits speak for themselves, even if some “KPI-s” are not easily captured in statistics or dollar figures. James 3:13-18 comes to mind and I hope to reflect more from this passage on another occasion.

Indeed, we do need to continue to adopt a posture of humility (towards our ability to determine the way forward), an openness to the work of others (for none of us can do or work through everything that is needed for a solid outcome) and a faith reliance on God, for we always know that the “X factor” of success is dependent on Him.

We can say the same even as we prepare for another anniversary of Singapore’s independence. In this Covid19 season, more than ever, we need to remain dependent on God for His help and blessings.