

# **Pearl Anniversary Declaration (2006)**

At the 30th anniversary of the CCCOWE Movement, many Chinese Christians come from different parts of the world to Macau. While we are grateful for having the gospel spread among Chinese people, we are also preparing ourselves for taking up the baton of spreading the gospel to all nations. Different generations of Chinese Christians should come together, striving to develop intergenerational partnership, humbling ourselves in front of the Lord, and getting ready to fight a good battle for Him.

## **Retrospect -**

### **Grateful to missionaries for bringing the gospel to Chinese people**

Macau is the place where the first protestant missionary, Rev. Robert Morrison, brought the gospel to Chinese people 200 years ago. Following the footstep of Rev. Morrison, many other western missionaries have come to China to serve among the Chinese people faithfully. Other than Bible translation, literature ministry, preaching ministry, and church planting; they have made major contributions to establishing schools and hospitals, as well as initiating relief operations. Not only have Western missionaries exercised great impact on the Chinese people in political and cultural spheres, the gospel has been such a great blessing to us by bringing about renewal of numerous lives. While we are most grateful to our Heavenly Father for planting Chinese churches all over the world, we want to take this chance of tracing the beginning of the gospel reaching China to pay tribute to all missionaries!

## **Prospect -**

### **Prepare to take up the baton of spreading the gospel to all nations**

The theme of the 7th CCOWE, "Spreading the Holistic Gospel to All Nations," is intertwined by the following sub-themes: renewal of life, renewal of church, renewal of society, renewal of culture, and renewal of all nations. It is our prayer to see renewal of life among participants, which shall result in church growth and world evangelization. May the whole world be blessed! Other than the Bible Study and Plenary session in the mornings and workshops in the afternoons, there are also regional conferences, providing many chances for co-workers to discuss and devise gospel strategy and ministry plan. May Chinese

Christians around the world pray together and work in one accord to proclaim the gospel until Christ's return! In the coming days, let us move forward with the following three mandates and nine objectives:

## **I. Mandate to Be Faithful to the Truth**

### **i. Gospel is sufficient for the salvation of the whole person**

Being saved and justified only by faith, trusting the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ can pay off the debts of our sins - that is the basic tenet of the gospel. The gospel of Christ can save the whole person, including our body, mind and spirit. By means of renewal of individual life, our church, society, culture and even all nations can be renewed. In the 21st century filled with disconnected souls, clashes of civilizations, and distorted teaching about truth, we have to rethink, under the light of the Bible and leading of the Holy Spirit, the significance of the holistic gospel of Christ to Chinese churches. It is our prayer that the commission of the Church can be renewed.

### **ii. Back to the Bible to combat heresies**

The number of heretical sects in our time has reached a record high. Other than those of the Western world, many heresies have been springing from Chinese churches and many serious damages have ensued. May God strengthen seminaries in the area of apologetic teachings and remind churches that, believers need to be deeply rooted in biblical truth to combat heresies.

### **iii. Be faithful to the Truth to love each other**

The Church is the Body of Christ, which is composed of different denominations and para-church organizations. As members of the same Body, let us learn to appreciate the strengths of others, enjoying working together in the truth and love of Jesus Christ.

## **II. Mandate to Renew Life**

### **i. Revival of life starts from submitting to the Truth**

The renewal of church should help renewal of individual life, followed by renewal of

society, renewal of culture and renewal of all nations. The key to renewal is submission to the Truth by the leading and rebuking of the Holy Spirit. As a result, we may become holy and be ready to be used by our Lord. Chinese churches are in great need of spirit-filled, knowledgeable, and mature workers. Thus, it is vital to maintain a good balance in the areas of personal spiritual growth, Bible knowledge, theology, personal morality and code of ethics.

## **ii. Cross-generational team work**

It is vital for the Chinese church to strengthen the ministry of ethnic Chinese, which task is by no means an easy one. They are people born in different generations, come from different nations, and live in different cultures. They are not only our target group of cross-cultural mission, but also our hope of mission advocates of tomorrow.

## **iii. Understand the time and plan for tomorrow**

May the Chinese Church know our present time and plan for our tomorrow! May the Chinese Church strive to further the ministry of world evangelization in one accord for the Kingdom of God! May the Chinese Church be faithful unto the end, waiting for the glorious return of our Lord!

# **III. Mandate to Rise to the Challenge**

## **i. Be salt and light in the marketplace**

Encourage Christians to serve in different sectors of the society. By the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, let us be the salt and light of our society by leading Christ-liked lives to care for the feeble ones and to exercise positive impact on our society. May all nations be blessed by the gospel!

## **ii. Work in close collaboration with worldwide churches**

As the Chinese Church keeps on maturing, her impact and influence can be felt even beyond the Chinese population. May we open ourselves up to come into contact with other ethnic groups. Let CCOWE be a bridge to link up the Chinese Church with others

in the Body of Christ! Let us humble ourselves to learn from each other, and let us remember each other in our prayer.

### **iii. Spreading the gospel while awaiting Christ's return**

Let us keep advancing the ministry of world evangelization, knowing that "it is more blessed to give than to receive" as our Lord said. May the gospel be spread around the world! May all people be the disciples of Christ to welcome His return!

**All of us have to come in front of the Lord, confessing our sins and repenting from our wrong doings. May the Lord forgive our trespasses such as conflicts, unrighteousness, ungodliness and waywardness. May the precious blood of our Lord cleanse us! Our dear Lord, please bestow upon each of us a righteous heart and an upright spirit. By the grace of our Lord, we proclaim here and now, we shall walk our future path in one accord, finishing the task as assigned to us by our Lord. This is our hearts' desire; this is our prayer. In Jesus' name, amen!**