

Silver Anniversary Declaration (2001)

At the 25th anniversary of the CCCOWE Movement, 2,000 participants from the Chinese churches around the world attended the 6th Chinese Congress On World Evangelization in Kuala Lumpur, the capital city of Malaysia. By the grace of God, we have reflected on the past with gratitude and planned for the future with anticipation.

LOOKING BACK WITH GRATITUDE

— CCCOWE's Contribution in the past 25 years —

In August 1976 the first Chinese Congress On World Evangelization was held in Hong Kong. A total of 1,600 delegates from Chinese churches around the world came before God with a repentant spirit, reflecting on our shortcomings and seeking His continued guidance. Under the theme of Vision and Mission, we began striving toward our common goal: Chinese churches -- uniting with one heart, spreading the gospel until the Lord's return.

In the past quarter-century the CCCOWE Movement has brought together the Chinese churches in diaspora and has formed an effective network. She has also helped Chinese church leaders breaking barriers, participating in global missions, and developing multi-level workers' training, in order to foster closer fellowship and cooperation. Moreover, the CCCOWE Movement has uplifted the image of Chinese churches globally. For these, we give all praises and glory to our Father in Heaven.

ANTICIPATING THE FUTURE IN FAITH

— The Role of CCOWE Movement in the years ahead —

By the grace of God, CCCOWE has been a prophetic voice among Chinese churches. Through her publications, research and congresses, CCCOWE has served as a reminder to the Chinese churches of our neglected ministries and needed reform. Looking ahead, 25 years of social change means that CCCOWE's ministries need modifying, adjusting and transforming. Let all Chinese churches work together with one heart to reach the following three goals and nine objectives in the years ahead:

1. TRUTH AND MISSION

(1) Preparing for New Challenges

21st century has brought the Church face to face with many new trends and challenges, such as global urbanization, revival of world religions, deterioration of moral stance, flooding of cults, the impact of postmodernism and widespread influence of the New Age Movement etc. CCCOWE needs to mobilize the leaders in finding direction and future courses for the Chinese Church.

(2) Returning to the Bible and Combating Cults

The number of cults today is unprecedented in the history of the Church. In addition to the existing cults, new ones appear at a great pace. Cults are making inroads into the Church. May God help seminaries sharpen their teaching on apologetics, and remind the churches to equip their saints rooted in the Bible so that they will not fall captives to false teachings.

(3) Implementing and Cooperating at the Local Level

After 25 years of sharing the vision it is now time for action. The vision and mission of CCCOWE Movement must be realized at the local level. May God help us in breaking through our barriers, loving one another, and striving to run the way of the cross with self-denial and self-sacrifice.

2. CHALLENGES AND STRATEGY

(1) Promoting Global Missions

We will seek to enhance the Chinese churches in global missions, engaging them in worldwide Chinese ministries, cross-cultural and multi-ethnic missions. May all Chinese churches be true to Christ's Great Commission.

(2) Utilizing New Technology

We need to utilize internet and other new technology to provide churches and organizations with networking, up-to-date field information, new strategies on evangelism and form interactive network beneficial to Chinese churches worldwide.

(3) Networking with the Global Church

As the Chinese Church continues to grow, her impact and contribution will go beyond her own ethnicity and will reach out to churches worldwide. CCCOWE can serve as a bridge enhancing fellowship, understanding and cooperation between Chinese and the global Church.

3. EQUIP AND RENEW

(1) Upgrading the Quality of Workers

Chinese churches are facing the shortage of committed workers and effective leaders. We will endeavor to equip workers who understand the need of the Church, having a balance in spirituality and biblical knowledge, upholding high moral and ethical standards.

(2) Nurturing Younger Generations

One of our priorities is to bring younger generations to Christ and to equip them to take up the baton of ministry. This will not be an easy task as the younger generations are born and raised at different time, in different countries and into different cultures. This in itself is a cross-cultural mission. They may in turn become mobilizers of global mission.

(3) Growing in Stature

The Chinese Church needs to grow and acquire spiritual stature, a visionary with global perspective, having a balanced mind, a spirit of cooperation, and a heart for God's Kingdom and His Great Commission. May God help us to be faithful to Him until the Lord's return.

We come before God to confess our sins and to ask the Lord to forgive all our transgressions: our divisiveness, our unrighteousness and our impurities. May the blood of Christ cleanse us and grant us a courageous heart and an upright spirit. By the grace of the Lord our God, we will work together to fulfill the unfinished task till the Lord's return, from this day forth. This is our commitment and our prayer. Amen.