

Memo to: Pastors, Elders & Leaders

Richard Foster puts it well: “In contemporary society, our adversary majors in three things: noise, hurry, and crowds.” That explains why much of our world today is going deaf, getting frayed and frenzied, feeling lost and lonely. God’s ministers are not exempt. In fact, we’re often our enemy’s hot target. Hence, it’s important for us to take time out just to be still. To re-encounter God, re-examine our own lives, revitalise our inner man, re-connect with friends—to rejuvenate our soul, to re-envision the future!

Summit 2010 is a perfect setting for just that. Let me tell you why. Evaluating our previous Summits, listening to pastors, and hearing from the Lord, the LoveSingapore Team and I have come to a few important conclusions:

One, we will simplify the programme and go for a more relaxed format. Two, we will intentionally schedule times of solitude and silence. Unhurried periods of seeking God. A much needed ‘selah’. Three, we will create space for meaningful interaction—person-to-person, heart-to-heart—be it in small group prayer flowing from the Word, or over a cup of tea or at meals. Yes, we want more time for bonding to allow the Lord to heal lives and deepen relationships.

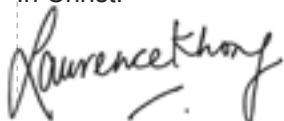
I remember a few years ago, someone asked me this question: What’s the most precious thing for me personally about the LoveSingapore movement; and is there something I feel could have been done better? My answer then and now is the same: What’s most precious is the relationships. Among the core leaders, for example, the unity is precious, though not perfect. Here we have a team of men each with their own forte, their own niche, their own turf in the international arena, and yet we have chosen to come together for God’s greater dreams for our nation. And because of LoveSingapore, we’ve learnt to be inter-dependent. This is no small achievement. Of course, God is the one behind it all. For me personally, this alone is well worth the effort!

Many pastors have expressed, too, how grateful they are for LoveSingapore—for giving them the opportunity to personally befriend so many pastors outside their own denomination or church family. Some of these friendships have blossomed beyond mere acquaintances to spiritual alliances for God’s Kingdom purpose. Praise the Lord!

What could have been done better? Again, I say, it’s relationships! Relationships need cultivation. Relationships take time. When relationships are healthy, the enemy has very little chance to divide or discredit. Big bloopers will soon be forgiven, little hiccups soon forgotten. We will enjoy a deeper commitment to one another, to stand with one another through thick and thin, in success and in failure, for better or for worse!

I am pleased to invite you to Summit 2010, our 15th prayer retreat in running. It promises to be spiritually rich and relationally rewarding! Attached is a copy of the registration brochure. I look forward to seeing you in Malacca!

In Christ:



Lawrence Khong *Chairman*