"I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving" Psalm 69:30, ESV.

Praise and thanksgiving are the essence of worship. We are inspired to do so when God reveals His character and actions to us. I praise and thank God for what He has done for GBC in the past. I also stand amazed at what He continues to do for GBC.

Just over a year ago, the overwhelming majority of GBC members voted for rebuilding. This came at a time when there was a danger of two congregations drifting apart and fresh vision was needed. The ageing building, the new plot ratio of 1.4, the upcoming neighbourhood communities and nearby MRT acted as the stimuli. God inspired the leaders with the vision of GBC becoming a disciple making church that transforms lives with the Gospel and the love of Jesus Christ. These were momentous decisions of faith to trust in God's leading.

God's firm hand continues to guide GBC through the ensuing processes of agreement on the building design and seating capacity, the favourable approval of car park lot requirement by URA, the timely tendering process with much cost saving, the appointment of key members to steering committee, fund-raising committee and various sub-committees to move the project, the timely rental of the Chapel of Holy Spirit and the temporary office space. The list can go on. The two congregations are brought much closer as a result.

Further there are refinements of leadership structure. Pastor and elders are now congregational leaders on equal footing. The appointment of deacons strengthens the work of various ministries. The disciple-making task force strategizes the implementation of the church vision on disciple-making. These changes lay the framework to move GBC forward.

God clearly has demonstrated His faithfulness and grace to GBC. Would you continue to praise and thank God for what he has done for GBC? Would you prayerfully consider in what way God is calling you to serve in order to fulfil the vision given to GBC?

Tan Chong Tien

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