

# FINDING YOUR PLACE

by Board of Youth Ministry



In partnership with Sterling Campus, the CAC Board of Youth Ministry (BOYM) launched its very first Methodist discipleship and mentoring programme, Finding Your Place (FYP), in January 2020. This 3-month long programme was designed to equip young people to face the issues of their generation as they step into marketplace ministry.

The first run of BOYM FYP 2020 saw the participation of 10 mentees from various CAC churches, supported by an amazing group of 8 mentors (including pastors), as well as 10 industry professionals who were invited to share how they live out their faith in the marketplace. Participants met every Monday to Friday. During the sessions, they delved into understanding God's grand plan in creation against different world views and explored how they could play a part as disciples in the marketplace. We share here the reflections of two FYP 2020 participants.



Notes of encouragement to Healthcare workers.

As young men and women created in the image of God, how can you be a vessel of God in the vocation that He has called or is calling you to? The planning for FYP 2021 is ongoing! Be sure to follow BOYM's social media pages for news and updates on this and more!

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My time at Finding Your Place was very enriching. It stretched me in many ways.

One of my biggest areas of growth was learning to love God with my mind. Throughout the 10 weeks, we wrestled with many ideas and read through excerpts written by Christian thinkers. The readings opened my eyes to perspectives I had not seen before, and the engaging lessons and interactive sessions gave me a space to clarify the questions I had about faith. Having a different discussion topic each week allowed me to see Christ in every aspect of our lives regardless of which discipline we study or occupation we pursue.

Another area of growth was in the area of church history. Before FYP, I thought history was really boring, but after attending 9 weeks of history lectures, my interest in this area blossomed. I was amazed to trace how our faith expanded and evolved over the centuries, and to know our Methodist roots! By the end of the programme, we were asked which part of FYP we enjoyed the most, and I proudly said History!

What I appreciated most were the mentors who were with us during lessons, discussions and breaks throughout the 10 weeks. They were such an important part of my journey as they not only entertained all my silly questions, but also encouraged me, gave me space to share my life and shared their personal lives too.

All in all, FYP has helped me to be more confident in talking about my faith and what I believe. Choosing to join FYP took a lot of courage as I signed up alone, but it was one of the best decisions I made this year. (:

FYP 2020 Mentee **Cateleya Chai**  
 Bukit Panjang Methodist Church

I have gained so much more than I have given in the three months as a mentor at the FYP programme organised by CAC BOYM. As I journeyed with youths from different CAC churches, I witnessed growth not only in them, but in myself too!

Many of the youths came in with a cluttered mind, struggling to discern the voice of God. Through the Spiritual Formation lessons, we learnt different techniques to quieten down our minds and focus solely on God. My greatest takeaway from Spiritual Formation was the session on decision-making. A phrase that has stuck with me was, "not making a decision is making a decision". I learnt that we have to take a bigger responsibility for the choices that we make, and to not over-spiritualise everything as God has blessed us with a mind to think logically as well. This has helped me in my ministry as I guide the young ones in my church to manoeuvre the challenging times.

FYP has also opened up my eyes to the way I see the world, especially in the area of education. I never knew the right answer when the youths in church asked me this question: "Why are we studying so hard when at the end of it all, we are all headed to the same place (heaven)? What if the area God is calling me to does not require good grades? Why am I still studying so hard?"

Our sessions on *God's Perspective of His World* gave me a clearer answer to these questions. For example, we learnt that many of the founders of modern science were devout Christians who saw science as the study of God's creation and a way to worship Him! Our sessions with the various marketplace professionals also gave me insights into how our faith has *practical* consequences in areas like business, engineering and counselling. I can now guide my youths to see that education is not just about grades, but it nourishes our minds, glorifies God, and is part of advancing His kingdom.

In all, it was a privilege to grow with these youths and hear them share openly about their perspectives and the various struggles they face. Through FYP, I feel more equipped and ready to face the challenges of this world together with my youths. Coram Deo!



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