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Newcomer Ministry:
Making The Right First
Impression

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT
Youth Camp 2024

**Newcomer Ministry:** 

Making The Right First Impression

As a fairly large church strategically located in the heart of Subang Jaya, FBC is positioned advantageously for growth in more ways than most churches. The generous way in which FBC makes the premise available for many different ministries that cater to people within the larger community of Subang Jaya is just one way to open doors for the discussion of the Gospel.







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Having said that, one of the easiest ways for someone to become invisible is to attend a large church... like FBC. One way we hope to engage newcomers is the Newcomers Ministry. There are two tables set aside every Sunday, between the 1 st and 2 nd service, where we welcome new visitors over some snacks and drinks. Helmed by Ivy Chin, a small select group of volunteers have been faithfully introducing themselves and FBC to newbies every Sunday.

The aim is simple, to get to know newcomers and field any initial queries they may have over some coffee. The starter kit that was given to them includes a form where they fill out their details. This is later compiled in a database, which is in the midst of being revamped to produce a more comprehensive bank of information.

After we collect their details and phone numbers, we follow up with at least a text message in the following few days. We keep the communication casual and hope for a repeat visit. If they came via the invitation of a friend, this friend will also play a part in their future attendance.

At the two tables, there is that fine line where we do not get too pushy or intrusive and yet allow them the freedom to share as much as they are willing to over the initial meeting. There is also the other danger of crowding the newcomers by overwhelming them with sheer body count. Nothing quite beats just a few friendly faces and warm tones to foster a positive initial contact.

From here, we can begin to see potential interest and best-fit scenarios for them. Depending on the rapport we build, we may suggest suitable avenues that may interest them such as Alpha, Beta, Beta Plus, Gamma, Karis, Youth Ministry, Young Adult Ministry, Life Groups, etc. Reading their body language will enable us to reel back the selling if required. The main goal is to get to know them and suss out potential interest on their part.



The Newcomers Ministry also arranges for two Newcomers dinners every year. This is usually held on Saturday nights where we can mingle with them over a meal and have some fun and games. We are aiming to improve the way we do the ministry as a whole and to see what else can be done to connect and engage with newcomers.

One thing to remind ourselves is that we do this in God's name, out of a genuine concern for seekers or believers who are new to FBC. We are thankful that every related ministry and ministry head has always made themselves available when called upon to chat with the newcomers. In general, we have very willing and friendly FBC members who can easily make a connection with them.

One extra thing we can do is to take them for a walk-around of the FBC premises, to further inform them of the activities and ministries that are available in the church, such as the CCC and BB ministries. I have personally invited three couples over the past month to attend one of the Lifegroups that is available on Sunday, but no bites



so far, even after three weeks of follow-up. The good news is they are still in the church.

We must never be discouraged even if things don't go according to plan. Be sincere, love them, be their friend, keep in touch with them, and remember to pray for them by name, trusting in God to do the work that only He can.

We would like to thank everyone who is directly and indirectly involved with this ministry, and a special thanks to our Chairman, Yew Lum who is ever-willing to step up, give advice, and get his hands dirty together with every one of us. Let us all play our part to ensure that everyone who visits FBC is cared for. God bless.





## Prayer for Youth Camp in Port Dickson (26 th -29 th December 2024)

- Praise God for another opportunity to hold Youth Camp in Port Dickson on 26-29th Dec. Pray that this would be the best weekend of the year for each camper who attends. Pray for fun, joy, and adventure
- Pray for wisdom, creativity, and unity to plan, prepare, and conduct the camp in bringing glory to God and salvation and blessing to all who attend the camp.
- Pray that God will save souls and transform lives during the camp. Pray that the lost, the backslidden, and the hard-hearted will be moved by the Holy Spirit to respond to the power of the Gospel in faith.
- Pray that for the speakers that their messages will only be truth that would match with Scripture and that it would be exactly what the campers and leaders need to hear from the Lord.

