



Connected and Concerned Friends



Devon Wijesinghe

Your Host Devon sent you a message

All,

We just passed a significant milestone. The Connected and Concerned Friends (CCF) Platform now has over 3,000 active members. When we created this, the intention was to provide a place for a small group of friends to share perspectives, ideas, and solutions. But because of all of you, CCF has become the largest place in our fellowship to share encouragement and create solutions that bring our focus back to serving Jesus.

Because of your vulnerability and courage, we have had the opportunity to read so many of your stories. Some have been heartbreaking, and others have given us hope. What's clear is that things have to change. Our fellowship can no longer tolerate the foundations of tradition that have led us to the systemic problems we have today. It is clear that creating

foundational change is the only path forward for our fellowship.

In the coming days we are going to be facilitating more conversations, interactive sessions, and also in person events. With 3,000 members, and growing every day, it is becoming more realistic for us to facilitate in person events (and hybrid Zoom sessions) that propel us forward even faster. We believe that meaningful conversations and Christ-centered fellowship will be the driving force behind foundational change, and we hope to accomplish both with these events.

Our eyes have been opened by this crisis, and it is impossible to unlearn what has been exposed. Traditions and systems that have never been questioned or openly discussed before, are now being rightly examined. We must not try to patch the crumbling traditions, but focus on the life of Jesus to guide us forward. To borrow a thought from what one of our members wrote, the time for that revolution (not rebellion) is now. What was previously impossible to imagine, is now inevitable. Thank you all for being here and for being part of this important conversation. We have appreciated hymn 44 "Take one forward step with Jesus; Do not let your courage fail. Think of Him who paid your ransom, Pleading now within the veil."

Your brothers,
Shane and Devon