

Welcome to Care Conversations



The
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CARE CONVERSATIONS

FORWARD
FROM

DR TINA LAMONT // Director TEC



Dear Friend,

Welcome to our Care Conversation as we discuss Team Building Part 2. I am reminded that as I work with the team God has entrusted me to lead and we co-labour together, we are functioning with far greater potential collectively. As a team we orientate ourselves around a common vision and mission of service in God's kingdom. We serve God and others and together we bring about God's purposes.

We are all part of a team or a community that gathers around Christ. 1 Corinthians 12:20 says "So now we see that there are many differing parts and functions, but one body." As you participate together and play your part in God's community, we pray that you will know the fulfillment of serving Jesus and serving others.

Yours in Christ,

Dr Tina Lamont

Director TEC

The Excellence Centre



REFLECTION BY BRIAN COX

Consultant in Leadership & Education



There are countless books and websites that provide suggestions for Team Building games and activities.

The Bible uses the term “Body of Christ” and does not provide us with activities or games. Instead, we have a simple picture of Truth: The Body has a Head; the Head is Jesus.

Last year I spent some time with a school close to Jakarta. The school had requested input about how to understand and practice Biblical Christian Education. I am certain that I was the one most positively influenced by my visits.

How many times do we arrogantly believe that we are going somewhere to assist development only to discover that we are the ones who gain the most benefit and growth?

Firstly, this school does not have the resources and benefits that we often take for granted. Classrooms are “naturally” air-conditioned; the top part of the classroom wall is simply not there! Classrooms hold fifty percent more students than we are used to dealing with. Technology and other resources are very minimal and support staff are very few in number.

Our gathering had to take place in the canteen; the only space large enough to hold all of the teachers and staff. It was a stormy afternoon with threatening rain, thunder and lightning and the local mosque, with a loud call to prayer, added to the background sounds.

I was encouraged by the hospitality and welcome as well as the engagement of people; all keen and attentive. Worship was great. It was 3.30pm on a Friday afternoon, but everyone was rejoicing to be together and to be growing and learning as one.

At the end of our session, everyone took responsibility for tidying things away... no rushing off – but clearing things away together, chatting in groups...smiles everywhere.

It was now 4.45pm, Friday afternoon at the end of a tiring week. I expected everyone to be going home for a well-earned rest.

BUT....several teachers were putting up volleyball nets and bringing out basic sports equipment! As we questioned them, we discovered that every Friday afternoon they invited students, and the local community, to come and join them for sports activities and conversation on the school facility until 7pm.

It struck me forcibly that we were witnessing the life of faithful Christian people “living out” their understanding of “Christ-like community”. God only has one assessment criterion - “faithfulness”. We were in the presence of faithful people. This was the Body of Christ in action.

I think we live life most faithfully when we are most aware of the faithfulness of God. I pray for myself, and for all of us, that we will grow in our knowledge and understanding of His great grace and thus live our lives in dependent

faithfulness.

Relishing being the Body of Christ together.

Brian Cox

Consultant in Leadership & Education



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