

Four Reflections on the Future Challenges and Opportunities of Hong Kong

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The Hong Kong Council of The Church of Christ in China (HKCCCC) was officially incorporated in 1958. In the past six decades HKCCCC has been carrying out God's mission through preaching the gospel of Christ and providing serves in the community.

Throughout the past decades, Hong Kong people have undergone various difficulties including social unrest, economic crisis and political conflicts. As a church body in Hong Kong, HKCCCC recognises itself as a member of the local community. Thus no matter what situation it has been in the past, HKCCCC has been offering its presence to be there in solidarity with the people.

In order to address the challenges and opportunities in the coming decade, HKCCCC still acknowledges its missional commitment to Hong Kong but at the same time needs to reflect on how, if necessary, to reposition its role and mandate.

In the following I offer four reflections on the future role and mandate of HKCCCC. I hope that my thoughts and views can facilitate more insights from members of HKCCCC so that the values of God's kingdom can be manifested in guiding the community of Hong Kong to a better future.

1 As a faithful prophet

A prophet is a divine spokesman who had been called, revealed and commissioned by God. The mandate of a prophet is to proclaim God's words for men to discern God's will so as to exercise the virtue of life. In the declaration issued in 1995 and 1998, HKCCCC had acknowledged that the church should act as a prophet who would faithfully follow God's command by expressing his/her comments and critique on social morality and values as well as building just institution and policies for the people. A prophet is a servant of God who would take justice, peace and love as the

core measures to monitor the policies initiated by the government and the public behavior practiced in the community.

As well as being a monitor of, and a commentator for justice, peace and love, a prophet should also show concern for people's spirituality. A prophet would speak to God's people, to call for their repentance, perseverance and to encourage their trust in God for a blessed future as well.

Humanity is multi-dimensional. Human beings are engaged with personal and inter-personal factors and affected by mental, spiritual and social elements. My reflection is that a faithful prophet in today's Hong Kong should not only be socially and politically involved, he/she should also spiritually motivated. So as the churches of Hong Kong do.

The other reflections will be shared in May and July.