



DECLARE 2019 — Worshipping in Unity through the Word

As a platform to unite God's people in an act of collective worship and thanksgiving, DECLARE seeks to bring together people of different backgrounds and languages in a 72-hour-long non-stop reading of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. This Bible proclamation initiative was organised by Arts Collective, a ministry of The Bible Society of Singapore, and supported by Elijah 7000.

Now in its 3rd year, DECLARE 2019 saw a total of nearly 700 participants gathered at the Bible House's Pavilion of the Nations. The extensive diversity within the Body of Christ was visible as people from all walks of life—even guest workers and domestic helpers—were present to read the Bible as one community.

As many read the Scriptures in a variety of languages such as Cantonese, German, Khmer, Tagalog and many others, their voices were a powerful testimony of how His Word brings about great unity.

"Though we came from different congregations, the Holy Spirit is the One who binds us as one Body", one of the participants, Francesca, shared. "As I read the assigned passage, I felt the Holy Spirit leading me to understand it better. The

conviction and words spoke deep into me like it was a personal message the Lord was putting within me. Truly, His Word is alive and transformational."

It was indeed the need to spark a renewed love for the Word that prompted the organisers to launch DECLARE in 2017. Speaking of how DECLARE began, Katharyn Peh, one of the organisers from Arts Collective, said, "It was an idea God put in our hearts during a time of praying together, that we should come together to declare the Word that is so foundational to our belief, and that intentionally reading His Word together will cultivate an interest in the Bible."

Apart from meditating on the Word as it was being read aloud, others also engaged in personal expressions of worship—from playing musical instruments such as the harp, shofar and guitar, to waving flags in praise and thanksgiving. There was even an arts station for participants to worship freely through painting or drawing while they reflected on the Word.

Live-streaming was also made available on Facebook for individuals who were unable to attend but wished to view the event. One of the viewers commented, "The Spirit of God in the Bible House is so thick, I could feel it even if I am not in Singapore."



DECLARE was an opportunity for believers to come together to proclaim God's Word at Bible House.



The art station at DECLARE encouraged participants to express themselves with painting or drawing as they reflected on the Word.

We thank God for the growing success of DECLARE over the past three years and pray that the initiative will continue to unite the Church in worshipping Him, while deepening a love for the Word. Keep a lookout for DECLARE 2020 and join us in proclaiming His Word!