



A gathering of Bumblebee volunteers and partners proved to be more than hoped for



The Bumblebee gathering was a chance to showcase the latest toys and share community updates

Pastor Elis inspired with testimony about her ministry in Klang

Fellowship in Ministry

The fellowship of like-minded people can bring a powerful and inspiring touch when we need it.

I never quite fancy social gatherings.

But there is something unique when people gather with a common purpose and joy. As a community worker, I learned that when people get together meaningfully, it opens the door to new growth and opportunities. Even more so, the fellowship of like-minded people can bring a powerful and inspiring touch when we need it.

Our First Gathering

Along with the Community Development team, our Service Development team had the privilege of organising one such gathering for Bumblebee volunteers and partners. This would be the first time in four years that we brought together the different hands that had contributed to the programme.

Truth be told, we did not know what to expect out of this except that we hoped to connect with our partners and volunteers on a deeper level.

But God had in store for us more than we hoped for.

Beyond Getting Together

The gathering quickly turned from getting to know each other into a time for different church partners and volunteers to encourage one another through testimonies and sharing of valuable experience in their respective community ministries.

■ Joshua Hor, Coordinator from Service Development, is an introvert who treasures fellowship with others.

One such testimony came from Pastor Elis, a partner from C3 Church, Kapar. She testified of His goodness in her current ministry among the poorest Indian community in Klang. "Those who were once little children when they came in, now serve as helpers in my centre," said Pastor Elis, in her short yet impactful testimony. Along with her, our rural staff also testified how the consistent presence and ministry among the poor had brought a gradual transformation among the Orang Asli children in Kg. Sungai Cincin, Perak.

As the day progressed, others also opened up about their challenges and hopes for their community ministries. We were thankful that partners and volunteers could find the support and encouragement needed from each other.

A Shared Hope

As I reflected back, this gathering was meaningful, not because of the celebration of successes we had heard. It was also not because there were clever solutions or ideas given to our partners and volunteers.

Instead, it was the simple celebration of hope through the fellowship of like-minded individuals who had persevered to trust in the Lord for community transformation.

That is what made this gathering more than just any gathering! ■