

Dear Celebration Recovery Graduates!

I have been praying for four years that a CR group would begin in BICF ZGC. So, your graduation gives me great joy!

Never have I been happier to write a letter to people I don't know! We leaders of BICF ZGC don't know who takes the CR courses we sponsor. We are happy you are courageous enough to work at your personal growth. Courageous!? Absolutely. The hours you have spent trying to grow on the inside have not been easy, I know. It is hard to be honest, open, and transparent about the areas where we need to grow. Most people do not even try.

As you have done the hard work of honestly facing yourself, I am sure you have come to the conclusion that you cannot be strong, healthy, holy, and happy before God on your own.

That is one reason I am so glad you are connected to the global ministry of CR. As most of us are passing thru Beijing, it is great to know that CR (and other excellent ministries like it) can be found in many places you will go. If you don't find one, start one!

The final thing I want to urge you to do is plug into a local church. Some of you are already in BICF ZGC. (If you want to talk to me or any of us Elders about your CR experience, we'd be glad to do so. But, that is totally your choice!) I absolutely love being part of the BICF ZGC family and I think you will too.

Find a church where you will be led into God's presence in worship, grow in understanding of God through His Word, deepen in commitment to others through prayer and fellowship, and hurt more for the lost world that we live in. It won't be a perfect church, and they will be doing all of those important things imperfectly, but plug in and help them grow --- because the local church is the BEST place for you to grow!

Our God who saves is the God who built the Church. He has designed the local church as the best place for Christians to find and better follow Him. The best way to stay strong – in your 'inner life' and 'outer walk' – is to be a faithful servant of God in a local church.

So, I hope to see you in BICF ZGC. Even if I don't know who you are!

I am proud of you and praying that CR is just the beginning of your growing from strength to strength in the Lord Jesus Christ – who built the Church and calls us to come!

Pastor Mark Blair