

# Capturing History with Passion

If I had to give a mission or vision statement for The Vine, I would copy a caption which I read in the newspapers recently. It goes something like this: Capturing History with Passion. I believe that is what The Vine has been doing since our beginning in November 1989.

In the various issues of The Vine over the years, there are records of baptisms and confirmations, weddings, BB and GB enrollments, outings, retreats and other events. Six years ago, the US Library of Congress decided to archive every single tweet, which can come up to 500 million tweets per day. The Vine is more selective in its recording of history.

If every JCC member writes something for The Vine, we may be able to keep a full history of JCC. As it is, we are only capturing the history of JCC from the perspective of a few people. For example my daughter's study path is recorded in The Vine. It all began in the Jan 2011 issue of The Vine when we sent Debra off to Brisbane, Australia to study in the University of Queensland. In the Jun 2011 issue, I wrote about her trip back to Singapore for a semester break. Then in the Dec 2014 issue I wrote from Brisbane about our trip there to witness her graduation. Lastly, in the Jan 2015 issue, I shared some more about our Brisbane trip. Finally, this issue, I can say it is finished when she collected her license on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2017.



Perhaps The Vine will follow the biggest library in the world and just collect tweets, Whatsapp, sms and other similar types of stories instead of properly spelt words in full grammatically correct sentences. Everyone knows that ending text messages with a full stop is unnecessarily harsh. And research now confirms it. 'No.' shuts down the conversation; 'No ... ' allows it to continue."

Maybe that is why I seldom respond to Whatsapp, etc because I may sound harsh. LOL.

*Martin Cheah*