

"I LOVE West Coast" – Die-Die Must Make Time One!

You know, when you say you **love** someone or something, it's not just talk, lah. You gotta **make time** for them, **prioritise** them. No point just saying "I love you" then do nothing, right? You gotta **live it, confirm plus chop!**

Back in 2024, the committee (you know, from both Mt Carmel BP Church and The Bible Church) suggested this "I LOVE West Coast" thing. Honestly, first time I heard it, I didn't quite like it. Felt a bit old-fashioned, maybe even a bit shallow, especially if it was just for one event then over. So I just let it pass. But weirdly, this phrase, it just **stuck to me like glue**. Kept bugging my heart, you know? And I started asking myself: What do I really mean when I say "I LOVE West Coast"?

Then Ms Goh Yiling, in her pastoral page on 28/29 Dec 2024, came out with this **super solid, powerful vision**:

LOVE WEST COAST – Becoming the Heart of the West Coast Community.

Wah, this one is not just a short-term thing, okay? It's a **long-term dream**, like a 5-to-10-year journey to build up all these "touchpoints" so we can really **reach our immediate community for Jesus**. It wasn't just some random slogan, hor. It was something **God really put on our hearts**.

Sometimes it's so easy for me to think like, "Oh, I'm just staff, hired hand only." I'm the one in charge of community outreach. So long as I do my job well, that's enough, right? **Of course not!** Don't know when it happened, but somewhere along the way, West Coast really became a part of me. **Cannot run, cannot hide**.

Now I see it, loving West Coast means you gotta **slow down** and **really look at it** – the good parts and the broken parts too. It means learning people's names, listening to their stories, and letting those stories **change you**. It means **showing up** – not just for a big festival, but for the **everyday, quiet work of just being there**.

It means choosing to **belong**, not just to give blessings. It means **walking these streets** not like a tourist, but like a true **neighbour**.

Jesus said one of the two greatest commandments is: "Love your neighbour as yourself." So when I say "I Love West Coast", I really **mean it, very serious one leh!** And I hope you all will **feel it too, lah**.

West Coast is where our church is planted. **The Bible Church is not here by chance, you know**. God put us here to be His light, His hands, and to show His hospitality to those who are lost, the last, and the least.

Like what God told His people in Deuteronomy 1:21:

"See, the LORD your God has given you the land. Go up and take possession of it as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, told you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

*This is **our time**. This is **our place**. Hope we will all be found **faithful, can?***