

The PULL

Growth at CJ's City

CJ's City Multicultural Church has a mandate from God Almighty to grow

Since our inception 12/01/03 we have seen limited growth

- In Biblical Knowledge and Spiritual Maturity
- In True Community
- In Numerical Growth

CJ's use of materials and programs have helped a little (Alpha Course, Network, Crown Finance, Purpose Driven Life, Diligent Leadership)

We know GOD wants us to grow both spiritually and numerically

As a Church we have struggled in our WORSHIP TOGETHER, in our HOME GROUPS and PASTORATES, in OUR EVANGELISTIC EFFORTS and OUTREACH, in our dream to live IN TRUE COMMUNITY

We have been strong in our understanding of our calling to be A CHRISTO-CENTRIC MULTI-CULTURAL CHURCH, faithful in PREACHING from the word, faithful in PRAYER, and faithful in MISSIONS both HOME and ABROAD

But the PULL hasn't really been there, if we are to be honest!

*Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19**Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in^l_a the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20**and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."
Matthew 28:18-20*

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. 44All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. 46Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. Acts 2:42-47

It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Eph.4: 11-14

- In Matthew Jesus gave us authority to make disciples, then he promised us power from the Holy Spirit for the Church to grow at home and abroad (Acts 1)
- In Acts 2 we see the power at work and people started coming to faith in their thousands (The Pull in Action)
- In Ephesians Paul tells us the responsibility of the leaders (We have had some of the best leaders in this Church for the Kingdom) to prepare God's people for the work of service (this we have done and will continue to do) so that the body of Christ may be built up, reaching unity in the faith and knowledge in the Son and be mature in attaining the full measure of Christ.

The result is we will remain true to scripture and therefore true to God.

The PULL

God wants all people everywhere to repent.¹ God wants His Kingdom full and the enemy's Kingdom empty.

God loved the world; He loves the world now, and will continue to love the world in the future. He demonstrated² his love by giving us His Son, who shed his blood, rose again and ascended into heaven leaving us with the Spirit bent on conquest³.

The PULL- That's the Power of the Holy Spirit

- Is about seeing the Kingdom of God grow, seeing the Church grow, seeing our local Church grow
- Is about seeing a buzzing spiritual environment
- Is about seeing people growing in their personal relationship with God
- Is about seeing responsible, mature, faithful, and committed believers
- Is about seeing flourishing ministries within the Church, be it evangelism (Alpha), be it discipleship (Homegroups), be it in worship, be it in feeding the hungry etc
- Is about seeing more people coming to our service and staying with us and bringing more people who will stay with us

A PROPHETIC SIGN

ALYTHEIA RUPONESO'S MIRACLE BIRTH

ALYTHEIA RUPONESO'S DEDICATION SERVICE

Play parts of the service and show some pictures.

¹ In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. Acts 17:30

² Romans 5:8

³ *I looked, and there before me was a white horse! Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest. Revelation 6:2*

What God showed me in her birth was that He is faithful and he always keeps his promises to us and that he gives us life, he gives us good gifts

What he showed me in that prophetic service last Sunday was that people will come to our Church from all four corners of London, believers and non-believers, if the PULL is present.

Last week The Pull was the miracle of life in the physical, people were excited about God's faithfulness and provision where the situation had seemed hopeless to the naked eye.

The PULL that should bring people here every Sunday to be part of our community is the Holy Spirit

Giving new life, giving new hope, giving a new future

We have to have a buzz like last week every Sunday through the Spirit, people will come to receive, it doesn't really matter where they are coming from, yes we are committed locally but our reach should be citywide.

When we have the sort of Holy Spirit buzz and momentum reaching the sort of size like last week say 120 people or more the Church will start to grow in number, but God wants us all to be part of it and receive power from the Holy Spirit and contribute to the growth and the buzz by having the attitude Christ had- that of servanthood.

Real Servants Pay Attention _by Rick Warren_

Never tell your neighbors to wait until tomorrow if you can help them now. Proverbs 3:28 (TEV)

*** **

Real servants pay attention to needs. Servants are always on the lookout for ways to help others. When they see a need, they seize the moment to meet it, just as the Bible commands us: "Whenever we have the opportunity, we have to do what is good for everyone, especially for the family of believers" (Galatians 6:10 GWT).

When God puts someone in need right in front of you, he is giving you the opportunity to grow in servanthood. Notice that God says the needs of your church family are to be given preference, not put at the bottom of your “things to do” list.

We miss many occasions for serving because we lack sensitivity and spontaneity. Great opportunities to serve never last long. They pass quickly, sometimes never to return again. You may only get one chance to serve that person, so take advantage of the moment.

John Wesley was an incredible servant of God. His motto was:

“Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as you ever can.”

That is greatness. You can begin by looking for small tasks that no one else wants to do. Do these little things as if they were great things, because God is watching.

© 2008 Purpose Driven Life. All rights reserved.

At CJ’s City we want people to serve in all ministry areas, in the Worship, in Preaching, In Acts of Mercy (Feeding the Hungry or Helping at Ida’s Shop), In Sunday School, Practical jobs (Setting Up and Clearing, IT, Teas and Coffees), Bookshop, Ushering, Helping each other where there is need etc.

As we see CJ’s City grow in London, our next target is Chicago in the USA and we await the identity of the other cities as and when the Holy Spirit reveals them to us.

Anointing of oil as we commit our selves again to God and to His Great Commission

References: NIV and Rick Warren