

OUR PHILOSOPHY OF MINISTRY

A. Unity of Mind

- (1) We spend more time in what we agree than on what we disagree.
- (2) We press for the unity of mind in fundamental beliefs, but open to non-fundamental issues.

B. Mission and Church Planting

(1) We believe that the preparatory nature of the work of the Holy Spirit prior to commencing of any of our ministry. We believe that God is at work in our ministry not we at work. We are but instruments of God. Thus we could meet repeated opposition and defeat, yet still persevere in sharing the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ.

(2) We believe in planting local churches in order to continue the mission of God.

(3) We seek for answers to the deepest questions about the meaning of Life. One essential meaning of life is sharing the message of the gospel, where people believe and at which they begin to understand for what purpose they have been placed on this planet. In other words, the thing that churches do first and best is to implement the evangelistic mandate.

(4) We hold on the stand that evangelistic mandate has priority over the cultural mandate. That is emphasis on evangelism prior to social concern such as social development, welfare and politic. We believe that giving priority to evangelistic mandate will consequently up lift the cultural mandate.

C. Suffering and Simplicity

(1) We do not moan over the cross we bear in ministry, but see it as a response to Christ's crucified love--which becomes our source of gratitude in ministry.

(2) We believe the kingdom of God encourages caring and sharing lifestyles as opposed to materialism and individualism (Acts 4:32-35). Therefore we urge cooperation rather than excessive competition, and oppose the consumerism and materialism of much of society. We are personally committed to living a sacrificial and simpler lifestyle.

(3) We learn not only to suffer for the Lord but even ready to scarify our right.

(4) We hold that team should try its best to give equal right and benefit to its team members accordingly. Nevertheless, member of the team should also try their best to scarify themselves to the team in the Lord. Starting point of reciprocity should not be based on the action of the opposite party but rather as a responsibility to God.

D. Transformation

(1) We seek to address the contemporary secular values. The fault lie not in our tradition but in our inertia in allowing our tradition to remain unchanged. Our orthodox traditions are our starting points, not our stopping points.

(2) We seek to be open when we are conservative and to be conservative when we are open.

E. Kingdom Concept

(1) We perceive the importance of the truth of the kingdom of God in relation to church growth, church planting, social concern and mission. That is:

a. The Church is not an end but a means to the expansion of the kingdom of God.

b. Christ should be our king.

c. Kingdom is more than a local community.

d. The richness about the truth of the kingdom is abundant.

Example: express the essential of both the future and the present; the inner and the outward manifestation; and the individual and the social dimension.

(2) Our definition of the success of church is not merely on her growth in quality and quantity, but her impact to the transformation of the society.

F. Consistency in Words and Deeds

(1) We teach what we believe, practice what we teach.

(2) People must be able to recognise that we have experienced in our own lives the kingdom that we proclaim to others. As Paul says, "Imitate me as I imitate Christ" (1Cor. 11:1).

(3) We believe that it cannot happen through us until it happens to us.

G. Faith and Vision

(1) We seek for "prophetic vision" in transcending the environment we live in. That is to be "in the world, but not of it." It means stepping slightly outside the limits of our world and see beyond into the future. And we also believe that we live a life of faith believing that God is transforming us daily.

(2) Our Christian walk becomes stale when we refuse to make any new adventure in faith, refuse any new opportunities for commitment and decide to scale no new heights for the Lord.

(3) Unless we try to do something beyond what we have already mastered, we will never grow.

(4) A church which pitches her tents without looking out constantly for new horizons, which does not continually strike camp, is being untrue to her calling.

H. Excellency, Glory, God loving and Humility

(1) Excellence in all things and all things to God's glory.

(2) When we do well, We urge God to help us never to seek a crown. For our reward is giving glory to Him.

(3) Beside excellence in all things, we press even more for a loving heart for the Lord. For only loving God gives genuine meaning to what we know and do (1 Cor. 8:2-3).

(4) We are all not perfect people. Thus we seek for constant repentant before God and seek his healing (2 Chron. 7:14).

I. Building Up One Another

Refer to Multiple Church Staff Handbook by Harold J. Westing, 1985, p. 120-125.