

AACC
“Reaching, Touching & Changing Lives”

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Re-visiting Our Mission Statement
- *'Being' before 'Doing'* -

Reaching, Touching and Changing Lives

REACHING

- ▶ Reaching:
 - ▶ We are to reach out to others...
 - ▶ But how are we to reach out to others?
- ▶ *By us being reached by God:*
 - ▶ Are we being reached by God?
 - ▶ What happens when we are reached by God?
- ▶ **“When we are reached by God, we are embraced by God’s presence!”**
- ▶ **Objective: To be ‘(God’s) Presence Carrier’**



REACHING: 'Presence Carrier' - Scriptures

John 6:44

"No-one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 12:32

But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.

John 5:19-20

¹⁹ Jesus gave them this answer:

"I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. ²⁰ For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does.

John 8:28-29

²⁸ So Jesus said, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am the one I claim to be and *that I do nothing on my own but speak just what the Father has taught me.* ²⁹ The one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what pleases him."

John 15:5

⁵ **"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.**



TOUCHING

- ▶ Touching:
 - ▶ We are to touch the lives of others...
 - ▶ But how are we to touch the lives of others?
- ▶ *By us being touched by God's Truth:*
 - ▶ Are we being touched by God's Truth?
 - ▶ What happens when we are touched by God?
- ▶ **“When we are touched by God's Truth, we bear His Truth in our hearts!”**
- ▶ **Objective: To be '(God's) Truth Bearer'**



TOUCHING: 'Truth Bearer' – Scriptures 1

John 3:21

²¹ But *whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.*

John 8:31-32

³¹ To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³² Then *you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.*

John 16:13-14

¹³ But *when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth.* He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

¹⁴ He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.


John 15:7-8

⁷ *If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.* ⁸ This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.



TOUCHING: 'Truth Bearer' – Scriptures 2

Psalm 119

- ⁹ How can a young man keep his way pure? **By living according to your word.**
- ¹¹ **I have hidden your word in my heart** that I might not sin against you.
- ¹⁶ **I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.**
- ¹⁷ Do good to your servant, and I will live; **I will obey your word.**
- ²⁵ I am laid low in the dust; **preserve my life according to your word.**
- ²⁸ My soul is weary with sorrow; **strengthen me according to your word.**
- ⁴² then I will answer the one who taunts me, **for I trust in your word.**
- ⁸⁹ **Your word, O LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.**
- ⁷⁴ May those who fear you rejoice when they see me, **for I have put my hope in your word.**
- ¹⁰⁵ **Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.**
- ¹³³ **Direct my footsteps according to your word;** let no sin rule over me.
- ¹⁶¹ Rulers persecute me without cause, **but my heart trembles at your word.**
- ¹⁶⁹ May my cry come before you, O LORD; **give me understanding according to your word.**
- ¹⁷² **May my tongue sing of your word, for all your commands are righteous.**
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CHANGING

- ▶ Changing:
 - ▶ We are to change the lives of others...
 - ▶ But how are we to change the lives of others?
- ▶ By us being changed first:
 - ▶ Are we being constantly changed by God?
 - ▶ What happens when we are being changed by God?
- ▶ **“When we are being changed by God, we become changing agents for others!”**
- ▶ **Objective:** To be ‘(God’s) Hope Bringer’ [Changing Agent]



CHANGING: 'Hope Bringer' – Scriptures 1

Isaiah 40:28-31

²⁸ Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no-one can fathom. ²⁹ He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. ³⁰ Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; ³¹ but ***those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.***


Psalm 62:5-8

⁵ ***Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from him.*** ⁶ He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I shall not be shaken. ⁷ My salvation and my honour depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge. ⁸ Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.

Psalm 65:4-7

⁴ Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts! We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple.

⁵ You answer us with awesome deeds of righteousness, ***O God our Saviour, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas,*** ⁶ who formed the mountains by your power, having armed yourself with strength, ⁷ who stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations.



CHANGING: 'Hope Bringer' – Scriptures 2

Psalm 71:11-14

¹¹ They say, "God has forsaken him; pursue him and seize him, for no-one will rescue him." ¹² Be not far from me, O God; come quickly, O my God, to help me. ¹³ May my accusers perish in shame; may those who want to harm me be covered with scorn and disgrace. ¹⁴ ***But as for me, I shall always have hope; I will praise you more and more.***

Psalm 147:10-11

¹⁰ His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor his delight in the legs of a man; ¹¹ ***the LORD delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.***



CHANGING: 'Hope Bringer' – Scriptures 3

Ephesians 1:18-19

¹⁸ I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order **that you may know the hope to which he has called you**, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe.

Ephesians 2:11-12

¹¹ Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men) ¹² remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, **without hope and without God in the world.**

Colossians 1:22-23

²² But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation- ²³ **if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel.**

1 Peter 3:15

¹⁵ But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. **Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.**



Mission Statement – Paradigm Shift

Old Wine Skin

▶ **Reaching**

Being Reached by God

▶ **Touching**

Being Touched by God

▶ **Changing**

Being changed by God

▶ **Disciple**

New Wine Skin

▶ **Presence Carrier**

▶ **Truth Bearer**

▶ **Hope Bringer**

▶ **Changing Agent**



The Greatest Commandment and The Great Commission

Reaching, Touching and Changing Lives

GREATEST COMMANDMENT

Matthew 22:36-40

³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

³⁷ Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God *with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.*"

³⁸ ***This is the first and greatest commandment.***

³⁹ And the second is like it: "Love your neighbour as yourself."

⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

- ▶ Are we doing the first commandment *first*?
- ▶ Are we putting the greatest commandment as *the greatest commandment* in our lives?



GREAT COMMISSION

Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said,

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

¹⁹ Therefore *go[ing]* and ***make disciples of all nations***, *baptising* them in 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."

- ▶ How are we doing with the Great Commission?
 - ▶ Are we making disciples?
 - ▶ *By going?*
 - ▶ *By baptising?*
 - ▶ *By teaching to obey every commandment of Jesus?*



OUR OVERALL OBJECTIVE

1. **Do the *Greatest Commandment* well!**
 2. **Do the *Great Commission* well!**
- ▶ In other words:
 - ▶ Reaching, Touching & Changing!
 - ▶ *Via* us being reached, touched and changed by God!
 - ▶ In other words:
 - ▶ Becoming the changing agent
 - ▶ *Via* being the 'Presence Carrier', 'Truth Bearer' and 'Hope Bringer'!



OUR *FIRST* STEP

- ▶ **Doing the First Commandment *first!***
- ▶ **Putting the Greatest Commandment as the greatest commandment in our lives!**
- ▶ **How?**
 - ▶ Learn & experience how God loves us with all His heart, all His soul and all His mind... *through 'Song of Songs'*
 - ▶ And then:
 - ▶ Responding to His love by loving Him *with all our heart*
 - ▶ Responding to His love by loving Him *with all our soul*
 - ▶ Responding to His love by loving Him *with all our mind*
 - ▶ *This is obeying what Jesus commanded us as His disciples! (Matthew 28:20)*



Our Church: AACCC
- *Practical Aspects* -

Reaching, Touching and Changing Lives

Unity in Diversity (1 Corinthians 12-14)

- ▶ Diversity (1 Corinthians 12, 14)
 - ▶ By definition of our identity (non- or inter-denominational)
 - ▶ In reality
 - ▶ Historically
 - ▶ Present make-up of the congregation
 - ▶ Biblically
- ▶ Unity (1 Corinthians 13)
 - ▶ What binds us together is the Love of God!




1 Corinthians 12:4-12, 27-28

⁴ There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶ There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.

⁷ Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸ To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.

¹¹ All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines. ¹² The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. ²⁸ And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues.



1 Corinthians 13:1-8

¹ If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.

² If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

³ If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

⁵ It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

⁸ Love never fails.



AACC Progressive Structure



Small Groups

▶ Diversity

▶ Life Groups:

- ▶ Pastoring, nurturing, teaching, evangelising and fellowshiping
- ▶ On-going
- ▶ For anyone to join

▶ Ministry Oriented Groups:

- ▶ Groups to strategise for equipping the church certain areas of ministry
- ▶ Fixed-term (e.g. yearly)
- ▶ For those who are willing (desiring and dedicated) and able (knowledgeable and available) to devote the time to strategise.
- ▶ For example, Mission Group, Evangelism Group, Worship group

▶ Unity

Ephesians 4:11-13

¹¹ It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹² **to prepare God's people for works of service [ministry], so that the body of Christ may be built up** ¹³ until 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.



Teaching, Training & Equipping Centre

▶ Diversity

- ▶ Raising up 'full-time' Kingdom workers:
 - ▶ Teaching the Word of God
 - ▶ Training in service of ministry
 - ▶ Equipping to equip others
- ▶ Raising up 'lay' Kingdom workers:
 - ▶ Teaching the Word of God
 - ▶ Training in service of ministry
 - ▶ Equipping to equip others

▶ Unity

- ▶ Setting up a resource centre *via* 'Vision International College'
 - ▶ Curriculum for both 'full-time' & 'lay' Kingdom workers
 - ▶ <http://www.internetbiblecollege.info/>
 - ▶ More detailed information to come...



Summary

1. God spoke into my heart while praying, “Stop labelling My House!” so I asked, “What shall we do, Lord?” He pointed to Luke 6:46-49 and said, “Be planted in My House!”
 - a. Come to Him, Hear His words & Put them into practise (v.47)
 - b. It is time for us to dig and to dig deep! (v.48a)
 - c. Lay the foundation on rock! (v.48b)

2. Unity in Diversity (1 Corinthians 12-14)
 - a. Progressive Structure
 - ▶ Leadership Team, Life Groups, Ministry Strategy Groups and Pastoral Team
 - b. Small Groups (Ephesians 4:11-13)
 - c. Teaching, Training & Equipping Centre





Extra

Reaching, Touching and Changing Lives

A GREAT VERSE

NIB | John 2:5-6

This is how we know we are in him:

Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.

NKJV | John 2:5-6

By this we know that we are in Him.

He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

YLT | John 2:5-6

That is the way to know whether or not we live in him.

Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Christ did.



ANOTHER GREAT VERSE

Joshua 24:14-15

¹⁴ "So honour the LORD and serve him wholeheartedly.
Put away forever the idols [...] Serve the LORD alone.

¹⁵ But if you are unwilling to serve the LORD,
then choose today whom you will serve. [...]

But as for me and my family, we will serve the LORD."

