

# **THE PILLARS**

## **(The foundations)**

# VISION OF THE KINGDOM

Luke 22:29; John 20:21-23

## Geographic vision v local vision

Matthew 28:19; Acts 1:8

1. The command – Going v coming.
2. Expansion – Every nation v *my* church.
3. Characteristics – Discipleship v isolation.
4. Process – Identifying with Jesus v membership.
5. Program – Expansion v concentration.
6. Results – Filling everything v filling the church.

## A Kingdom, a church, a world

1. One Kingdom v lots of little kingdoms.
2. One authority v substitute authority.
3. One church v many churches.
4. One world v *mi* world.
5. The world v *our* world.

## Building v city

1. Extension v walls.
2. Filling everything v filling the place (the optical illusion).
3. Creative contact v congregational identification.
4. Defending the city v dividing the church/

## For everybody or for those who believe

1. Redemption for everybody.
2. Salvation for everybody.
3. Good news for everybody (without discrimination)
4. Getting closer to everybody.

# EVANGELISM TO GO

## The example of Jesus

- John 5:1-17  
First give thanks, then the truth.
- John 5:19-20  
Jesus never did anything for himself.

## Our reality

- Institutional relationships.  
What can we do v what God is doing in the city.  
Putting up posters.  
Asking for manifestations in faith v waiting for manifestations by God.

## God's challenge

- John 20:21  
To be sent in the same way that Jesus was.
- Luke 10:1-10  
Go to the city.  
Bless it with peace.  
Relationship with companions.  
Miracles.  
Present the Kingdom of God.

## The primitive church

- Jesus  
John 4:1-42; John 5:1-18; John 9:1-41
- The Apostles  
Acts 3:3-6; Acts 5:12-15; Acts 8:4-6; Acts 8:25-40
- The church  
Acts 13:9-12; Acts 14:8-15; Acts 28:7-10

## The act of going

- Go like sheep in wolf's clothing.

## *Marketing the Kingdom*

- Actions of Jesus.
- Healing the sick.
- Casting out demons.
- Signs, wonders and miracles.
- Before or after.
- Jesus' popularity.

## **Continuity and presence**

- The responsibility transferred.
- The gift of authority over the world.
- The presence of Jesus assured.
- The direction of the Spirit announced.
- Our opportunity and our decision.

# **PUBLIC FAITH**

## **The traditional position**

- Private faith.
- The church is expressed in a place.

## **The church of the new testament**

- Acts 2:1-6
- Acts 2:4-6
- Acts 5:12

## **The place of signs and wonders**

- Acts 4:16
- Acts 14:1-5

# DISCIPLED

## **The call of the Lord, all are sheep**

- Matthew 4:19
- Matthew 11:28-30

## **The call of the Lord, all are witnesses**

- Acts 1:8

## **The call of the Lord, all are priests**

- John 14:12-14

## **A new testament example**

- Acts 8:4-25

# CHRIST IS PRESENT

## 1. Revision of the great commission

- a) Matthew 28 and our forgetfulness of Jesus' presence in the task.
- b) Our task v the work of the Holy Spirit.
- c) How the devil has hidden the obvious.

## 2. The promise of His presence

- a) We don't preach a message, we present a person.
- b) The completion of the promise. The example in Acts.

## 3. Christ reigning

- a) Acts 1 v Acts 2.
- b) Christ as the real Lord of the church.

## 4. Experimentation

- a) The value of proclamation.
- b) A question of faith – Hebrews 11:1

# MINISTERING THE HOLY SPIRIT

## 1. Revelation and the presence of Christ

- a) John 14:18, *we are not left as orphans.*
- b) John 14:26, the Spirit reveals Christ to us.
- c) John 16:14, he will teach us to share Him.

## 2. The role of the Father and the fulfilment by the Holy Spirit

- a) John 15:26
- b) John 14:16
- c) Acts 2:33

## 3. Gifts

- a) Luke 24:49
- b) Acts 2:33
- c) 1 John 2:20

## 4. Living in the world

- a) Mark 13:11
- b) Acts 1:8
- c) Acts 2:4
- d) Romans 5:5

# **SPIRITUAL WARFARE**

## **1. Biblical reality**

- Ephesians 6:12, we're in a war.
- Relationship between war and preaching the gospel.
- A reality that we cannot escape.

## **2. The strategies of the enemy**

### a) Internal

- Conflicts, arguments and judgement

### b) External

- Growth of occultism
- Development of New Age

## **3. His dominion over the city**

- The whole world is under the evil one.
- Cities as the principal focus of the devil's attention.
- Types of cities.

## **4. His infiltration of the church**

- Problems in our roots.
- Health for our congregations.
- Leaders as key factors – Jezebel and Absalom

# TAKING THE CITIES

An inspiring example in Acts 19.

## Three levels of confrontation

1. *Terrestrial level* – verses 11-12  
It's the most visible form of confrontation and at times the most amusing and frightening but it's not the deciding factor.
2. *Hidden level* - verse 19  
You have to see the occult and the evil works.
3. *Strategic level* - verse 27  
The devil moves the pieces intentionally.

## How Satan works

In two areas –

- Personal (in people)
- Territorial (in territories)

We have to learn to look at our cities with the eyes of God. We have to ask how Jesus sees our cities.

Obviously we will need the right perspective (Luke 19:42). Along the same lines, we have to think that nobody should know our cities as well as we do.

Things to take into account when planning a strategy for war:

- What the Spirit is saying to the church.
- What territory you want to affect.
- What there is in this territory (other churches, the population, how many blocks, background of the area, plans etc.)
- Communicate with the body of Christ in this area starting with the leaders.
- An investigation into the history.
- A clear revelation of the Spirit.

## **Intercession**

For a while now, God has been teaching His church in this country with regard to this subject. Since the beginning of this process, we have always believed that there is nothing more effective than praying in the places where the things occurred or that are the object of our intercession. Therefore, there is no better intercession for the lost than that which is done with the lost.

Saturate the city with prayer –

- Walks to bless the city.
- Declaration against powers.
- Infiltration of the light.