

Inspire

The Emerging Church

With the whole missional and incarnational influence that is taking place across the church I really believe it is again another building block that Jesus is adding to His church. This building block will not change what is being done, but it will adjust the way things are being done.

I'm finding a number of churches are on a major Journey of steering their churches toward engaging, reaching and loving lost people. This is really what it is all about. The whole missional influence will effect how we do church from the running of our services to the types of outreach programs we conduct and the worship we enter into.

It will effect our preaching and teaching, the way we do evangelism. It will influence our lifestyle expression of faith. It will effect our terminology and language and the structure and systems of our small groups. It will even influence our name. I really believe when asking God about the name of our church in Newcastle I heard him say to me: "Look at society and what do you see?" and after a month I came back to Him and said: "It seems to have more of a holistic approach of the total person." It was like He replied: "That's how I created life and that's how I want you to minister into it." Hence the name of our church "Life".

Since then I noticed more and more churches swinging that way, getting rid of the name Christian which was really something that was introduced

by the pagans who used it in a derogatory way to put the believers down. I don't believe we should be to quick to call ourselves Christian – let the non-believers do that.

So in what way will this whole missional and incarnational influence that is happening across the body emerge and be expressed within the church.

Our Worship within the body of Christ is very limited in its expression. We tend to feel we can just worship through sound whether it be instrument or voice. But worship is far bigger and more expressive than that. I just heard a guy speak on Celtic Christianity at our conference. He shared how the Celts worship with a 5 stringed harp, which is seeing, feeling, tasting, hearing and smelling. God created worship to be holistic, to flow through and touch everyone of our senses. Let's face it:

- Emotions are to be felt
- Beauty is to be seen
- Aroma is to be smelt
- Sound is to be heard
- Flavor is to be tasted.

God is to be experienced and all are to be enjoyed and eventually understood. Wouldn't it be wonderful if our churches could be art galleries, restaurants, music venues, theatres – places where the creative, loving and intelligent download of our creator God flows through us in such a natural way giving us a missional influence into the many areas of society.



I remember the story of count Zimindoffs testimony that as he looked at a piece of art he was drawn to the Saviour. He went on to lead one of the largest ever missional endeavors the world has ever seen.

It will be seen in our **Lifestyle Expression.**

I love it that according to Galatians 2:14; *When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter in front of them all, "You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?"*

That the gospel is not only seen in what we believe or say – but how we live. When we are living a hypocritical lifestyle like Peter was, the gospel is reduced to just a standard of living, a set of morals that have been set by one's own value, tradition or denominational rule.

This emerging missional theology is radically changing the churches lifestyle expression or just bringing others out of their closed mind sets and allowing them to live normal humans. This was seen recently in the passing of an AOG law that now allows them to drink beer or wine but they cannot have a cigar. (For a moment I thought I was going to be embraced again in the brotherhood, but alas I will have to wait).

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The Emerging Church - Continued

This effect on our lifestyle expression will have great influence as it did with the Jews. It will allow us to share a common table together where faith will travel to a greater level.

It will be seen in the way **we reach out**

Even though transfer growth is high at the present it will not last forever. Believers will start to see what we are meant to value and church will become less and less about **ME** and more about mission.

So the form of outreaches will be less about satisfying the saints with our worship crusade styles which generally attract the believers or the people that are very close.

These new outreaches need to be more grass roots, more incarnational in their expression because the barrel for transfer growth will dry up. We are going to have to go deep sea fishing no longer moving fish from tank to tank.

It will effect our terminology, our teaching and our preaching.

Sometimes I listen to our language around the church and you would think we are from another planet from the titles we give ourselves to the newsletters we write, the sermons we give, filled sometimes with spiritual verbage left over from the last move of God. Or possibly too much American Christian Television.

We need to think Biblical and speak secular, so that people can understand what we are communicating. It was said of Jesus in Mark "That the common people heard him gladly". When I prepare a message I have about six imaginary people sitting around my table. One of them is always a non-believer.

Our teaching and preaching should be built for humanity by being anchored in the word of God. Our preaching should be incarnational where it can flesh out

the word in humanity. This is partly what the parables were about.

The missional influence **will effect our small groups** – where we will focus more on discipleship than on bible studies. Are we training our people to be merely hearers of the word and not doers. We should be creating our discipleship program to bring people into obedience of the truth, not just into the knowledge of it. With this style our discipleship program will fit all levels of maturity. We just need to insure we build into it a transparency, honesty, openness and accountability that moves people into growth an genuine maturity.

Conclusion

So with any move that God is involved with, we need to allow the revelation of what is happening flow through every part of our faith and the outworking of it.

Love

Kevin

Leadership Intensives

QLD – Brisbane

Friday 16th November 9:30am – 12:30pm
Speakers: Kevin Wilcock & Martyn Webb
Cost: \$10.00 registration
+ \$10.00 for Lunch
Venue: 36 Baden Powell St, Everton Park
To Book phone office on 07 3355 7444

NSW – Wollongong

Friday 23rd November 9:30am – 12:30pm
Speaker: Michael Frost
Cost: \$10.00 registration
+ \$10.00 for lunch
Venue: 56 Swan Street, Wollongong
To Book phone Life Church 4961 0211 or
South Coast City Church on 4226 6366



NSW – Newcastle

Friday 30th November 9:30am – 12:30
pm Speaker: Michael Frost
Cost: \$10.00 registration
+ \$10.00 for lunch
Venue: 15 Denison Street,
Newcastle West
To Book phone Life Church 4961 0211

VIC – Melbourne, Uncluttered Christianity

Friday 7th December 10:00am – 1:00pm
Speakers: Kevin Wilcock & Kim
Hammond Cost: \$10.00 registration
+ \$10.00 for lunch
Venue: 143 Maroondah Highway,
Ringwood
To Book : phone or email Neil Taylor
on: 0417 579 944 or
vic@forge.org.au
7:00pm cost of \$20.00 for Eating,
drinking & socializing

GlobeReach

Indonesia

November 18 - 23rd 2007
Contact Kevin Wilcock
info@globereach.info

Philippines

18th & 19th February 2008
Contact Ken Gibson 4951 7445
info@globereach.info

Burma

March 2008
Kevin Wilcock
info@globereach.info

Argentina

April 2008
Contact Kevin Wilcock-
info@globereach.info

Cambodia

July 2008
Contact Kevin Wilcock-
info@globereach.info

Bulgaria

July 2008
Emile Vaga
shellharbour@sccc.com.au

Bali

2008 (Date to be confirmed)
Contact Elly Webb
Café Church
café@nelsonbay.com.au

India

2008 October
Contact: Colin Hedges
Colin-hedges@optusnet.com.au

Book Review

A believer, an atheist, an unlikely friendship....

JIM & CASPER GO TO CHURCH

Author: Jim Henderson & Matt Casper

In 2007, Jim Henderson, veteran Christian and director of "Off the Map", hired Casper to join him in visiting twelve of America's best and least-known churches, including Rick Warren's Saddleback and Joel Osteen's Lakewood. Week after week, this spiritual odd couple attended services at churches all over the country and documented their experiences and reactions to each one. Along the way, they found the real value of their

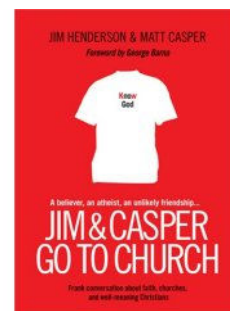
journey in the open and authentic friendship that developed as they talked, questioned, joked and most importantly listened.

Follow along with Jim and Casper on their visits, and eavesdrop as they discuss what they found. Jim and Casper's articulate, sometimes humorous, and always insightful dialogue offers Christians a new view of an environment in which we've become overly comfortable: the church. And it models an important transition from "defending the faith" to "defending the space" - relational space for authentic, respectful dialogue and friendship with nonbelievers.

I found this book very interesting with some great truths. The only thing I found was they could not really reveal the church by only attending one Sunday service. For the church I am apart of, it would be impossible to make a full judgment unless you came everyday for a whole week.

A book Worth reading.

Kevin



Sure Destiny Cambodia - Update

Donna Byham will be visiting Australia from December '07 through to the end of April '08

If you would like to book her to come and minister in your church please email her on donnabyham@email.com

What we thought of Conference '07

This years conference was a great discussion place on the future direction of the church and what we feel God is saying to us in this time. Kim Hammond was fantastic, Focusing on getting back to the roots of what we believe and how we need to out live that. The idea of having a higher level of accountability in our relationships, talking about the issues that really affect us, and living life together as "brothers and sisters" and the responsibility that title holds. It was also a time of empowering the next generation of leaders. I feel that

this conference was a great step in securing the future of ozreach, through empowering and initializing support and training for the next generation of leaders. It will be exciting to see what God brings over the next few years and what will grow from this.

Ben

As a result from what happened at the Ozreach conference, we are in the process of putting together a one year internship for young or the young at heart interested in planting ministries or churches or transitioning existing ones into a more meaningful and missional expression of Jesus in their community. The year will consist of learning, discovering, empowering, & coaching on a monthly basis. There will be more details in the coming months.

Fred



**BUILDING
A LIFE OF
FAITH**

Next Year's Conferences

Whatever the church emerges into one thing is for certain **faith** will be required.

Speakers:

Margaret Court
Col Stringer
Kevin Wilcock
Kim Hammond

3rd & 4th October 2008
@ Life Church

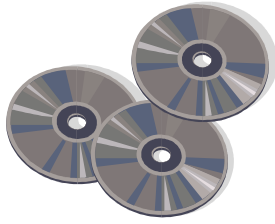
Prophetic Conference
@ Café Church in 2008

For more details contact café@nelsonbay.com.au

New Product

Back to Basics - \$20

A 6 pack of CD's for New believers to get ahold of some of the Basics.



My Big Fat Greek Church - \$15

A 4 Part Series that will inspire People to get committed to their local church.

Jesus said to the young rich man **"Show me the Money"** - \$20

Unless we work out the whole money deal, people won't grow in God. This is a series designed to serve the nerve that is attached to our wallets.

Check out for all Info

www.ozreach.org

FORGE - One of the trainers of OzReach

MISSION STATEMENT

To help birth and nurture the missional incarnational church in Australia and beyond

CORE VALUES

- A holistic approach to mission
- An action learning approach to missional leadership development
- A cross cultural mission methodology in all settings

- A grassroots movement ethos
- A diversity of approaches and models
- Networked, cross denomination structures
- A passionate action based spirituality
- Creativity, innovation and experimentation in all we do
- The priority of modeling for leadership in mission



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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.FORGE.ORG.AU

OZREACH - A Relationship of Churches & Ministries

Giving into OZREACH

If anyone would like the opportunity to give into OzReach for the work for our missions, church planting and building either post a cheque made out to Outreach Australia or direct deposit into Outreach Australia's account BSB: 032-513 Account No. 176569

For a brochure on Ozreach just email or phone us and we will send you one that contains our vision, mission, values and beliefs.



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