

The New Seeker Sensitive Church

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In the last 20 years the term seeker sensitive church has described a unique evangelism strategy that has built some mega-churches. The question is, whom should the "seeker sensitive Church" cater to: people or the Lord?

There is no question that the Church should seek to introduce people to our Lord Jesus Christ. Ezekiel 34:6 describes our Lord's lament because there was no one seeking or searching for His lost flock. We have become adept at marketing the gospel and entertaining crowds in America. I like using technology and every possible tool available with a spirit of excellence to communicate the gospel of the kingdom. I'm not knocking that? Its just that I believe in our zeal to seek people, we've made seeking them priority number one instead of seeking the one who draws all men unto Him when Jesus' name is lifted up.

We Should Be More Sensitive to the God who Seeks Us

Proverbs 8:17 I love those who love me, And those who seek me diligently will find me. NKJV

Jeremiah 29:13 And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. NKJV

Hosea 5:15 I will return again to My place Till they acknowledge their offense. Then they will seek My face; In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me." NKJV

Amos 5:4 For thus says the LORD to the house of Israel: "Seek Me and live;

King David Was Seeker Sensitive

I believe that was the key of David. He understood the power of God's presence therefore He established a system of 24/7/365 prayer that could be sustained year round. Under that canopy of continual prayer the kingdom flourished.

That's the power behind the Operation Rolling Thunder strategy we've been using. We follow David's pattern and seek to establish an atmosphere in a city where God's presence is welcome continually. Following this pattern in a county that was ONCE the least churchd county in the US in 2005 we've seen remarkable church growth. For example, in 2007 after 7 months of 24/7 established in the city with one large congregation carrying the bulk of the load, that congregation saw Sunday attendance increase by 1000 people. Other pastors reported remarkable numbers of of new decisions for Christ as well with record numbers of water baptisms too.

Today that county has seen the number of congregations in that county increase by 36% in five years. I am not talking about numbers of people, I am speaking of local churches added in the community. Now folks, that is church growth.

Now we have numerous reports of remarkable church growth from many nations after 24/7 prayer was established in a city. It takes two things. First, we follow David's pattern like He did on Mount Zion in the city of David. We establish 24/7 prayer and we've discovered that when local congregations in a city or region cooperate we can do it quickly. Secondly, we form councils in a sense and seat the elders at the gate. They seek God for wisdom to discover what God wants Church in that city and region in order to present the gospel of the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ and to receive a harvest and make disciples.

That local church that added a 1000 people in seven months was a seeker sensitive church. It was reported that they began to see many signs that pointed to the benefits that come with God's presence. Pastor Jason Hubbard was our CONECTer there and leading prayer at this church. He used the ORT strategy to begin this process and then used it to continue to build 24/7 in his county. He reported that after every major concerted prayer and fasting effort in the church they saw an increase in

the offerings to. The church went from struggling with a budget to having a six month surplus. There was church growth in a lot more ways that just numbers of people.

In His presence is fullness of joy and fruitfulness.

The Key to the Harvest - Seek the Lord FIRST

We have seen similar testimonies in many cities, regions and even states. If we follow Jesus' command and seek what pleases Him first, all these other things will fall in line as well. I am praying that God would give us a whole host of seeker sensitive churches. Sensitive to seeking the Lord who seeks our hearts with a desire to have personal relationship with each of us. Sensitive to the God who wants to dwell with Church city by city continually, just like He did in the city of David. In fact, is the key to the harvest.

Matthew 6:33 **But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.**

Acts 15:16-17 'After! this I will return And will rebuild the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down; I will rebuild its ruins, And I will set it up; So that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, Even all the Gentiles who are called by My name, Says the Lord who does all these things.' NKJV