

**WORCESTER CITY CHURCH  
DNA 2018**

**A PEOPLE WITH A SIGNIFICANT DREAM LIVED WITH PASSIONATE, STRATEGIC INTENT**

**Numbers 10:29** “One day Moses said to his brother-in-law Hobab, son of Reuel, the Midianite, ‘At last we are on our way to the Promised Land. **COME WITH US AND WE WILL DO YOU GOOD**; for the Lord has given wonderful promises to Israel!’

Todd Hunter:

**“THE CHURCH THAT I WOULD BUILD WOULD BE A COMMUNITY OF PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE THE GOSPEL SO MUCH THAT THEY ACTUALLY ORDER THEIR LIVES AROUND IT.”**

**INTRODUCTION**

Worcester City Church is led by a plurality of elders and Clarence Rule is the team leader. The deacon team assists the elders both specifically and generally.

WCC is served by, and accountable to apostolic men who speak into the lives of the elders as well as the Church. These men are leaders from the ADVANCE Group of Churches to whom we relate.

**WHY A DNA COURSE?**

1. **TO ESTABLISH THE WCC GENETIC** — grasp a sense of God’s destiny for WCC.
2. **TO APPRECIATE AN EXPECTATION OF UNITY.**
  - a. People come from **different Church backgrounds** and have **different expectations** as a result of their various experiences. In order for a local Church to flow in unity and thereby obtain the blessing of God, certain **key values** and perspectives need to be held in common.
  - b. You can have **fellowship** with all Christians but can only **build** with Christians who have similar values.

*Psalm 133:1* “How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!”

3. **TO UNDERSTAND THAT CLEAR VALUES PREVENT DIVISION.**

**Matthew 12:25** “Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them, “Every kingdom **divided against itself** will be ruined, and every city or **household divided against itself** will not stand”.

- a. To join a local Church, a person must be happy with its **vision** and **values** and must be **prepared to lay down his/her own vision**.

#### 4. TO AVOID THE WEAKENING THAT OCCURS THROUGH MIXTURE.

- a. If leaders were to satisfy all people's expectations the Church would operate at the **lowest common denominator** and move as fast as the **slowest** member!
- b. It would be better for a person to be a **strength and an asset** in the Church down the road than to be **unhappy and frustrated** in a Church with different values.
- c. At WCC we are very clear on **who we are** and **what we are** here to do - what our responsibility before God is.
- d. It is vital to know where God has **designed for you** to belong in order that you can experience maximum fulfilment and mature through functioning and participating.

#### 5. TO HELP CLARIFY YOUR VALUES.

- a. By the end of the DNA course you will better be able to judge whether or not WCC is God's design for you.
- b. ***You enter the life of WCC on the basis of values – and you exit the same way.***
- c. *In other words, people should leave because they no longer subscribe to the values, not because of relational difficulties with elders and with others.*
- d. Our vision is driven by our values and **our values are non-negotiable**.

### WHAT WE BELIEVE

1. We believe the bible, the Word of God, is **inspired** by God as it was originally given and is **infallible**.
2. We believe that the **bible's authority** is above any idea, opinion and experience, and is the **only** acceptable standard for life, ministry and conduct in the church.
3. We believe **God the creator** has revealed himself as **one God**, existing eternally in **three persons**, Father, Son and Holy Spirit; **distinguishable** but **indivisible**.
4. We believe the lord Jesus Christ, **fully God** and **fully man**, was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary and is the saviour of humanity.
5. We believe God created **humanity in his image**, but humans rebelled through sin against God and became spiritually dead, totally depraved and eternally separated from God.

6. We believe Jesus Christ died on the cross as the **substitutionary** sacrifice for the sins of humanity. He was buried and then resurrected on the third day, appearing to his disciples.
7. We believe Jesus Christ ascended into heaven, in his exaltation as heavenly high priest and **his personal**, literal and bodily return to earth a second time.
8. We believe that the **Holy Spirit convicts** sinners of sin and reveals Jesus Christ to them so that by grace, through repentance and faith in the complete work of Jesus Christ crucified; they will have forgiveness of sin and be spiritually recreated.
9. We believe that the **baptism with the Holy Spirit** follows the salvation experience and is evidenced **amongst other** by speaking in untaught languages. (Acts 19:2-6)
10. We believe the **Holy Spirit indwells believers** and guides and comforts them through distributing gifts of the spirit and leads believers to demonstrate the fruit of the spirit. (1 Corinthians 6:19)
11. We believe the **gifts of Christ** and of **The Holy Spirit - in operation-** are essential to the ministry of the church and are given as *we desire* and as Christ and **The Holy Spirit intend**.
12. We believe in **prayer**, i.e. believers talking with God at specific times corporately and all the time individually, to line up with God's will and to receive what is requested from him.
13. We believe the company of the called-out ones, **the church**, is the community where all believers join together like a loving family to pursue the work of the ministry of Jesus Christ.
14. We believe in **water baptism by immersion** as a confession by the believer in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ and as an expression of faith and obedience to his command.
15. We believe in the **Lord's Supper**, called communion or breaking of bread, where bread and the cup are **symbols** of remembering Jesus' sacrifice, and for self-examination and thanksgiving.
16. We believe in **eternal life** for the believer, and **eternal punishment** for the unbeliever who has rejected the sacrifice of Jesus Christ as saviour.

## **STUDY 1: TWELVE ESSENTIALS & CHURCH MODELS**

Christians often wonder what **criteria** to use when **evaluating** a Church. While the following list is not exhaustive, and every Church has room to grow, it provides a starting point to assess God's will for involvement.

1. Is Jesus Christ exalted as the Son of God who is **risen** from the dead?
2. Is the bible honoured and taught with authority as **God's revealed and inerrant will** for his creation?
3. Is there freedom and vitality in the praise and worship?
4. Is genuine love practically expressed by the people?
5. Do the people build **interpersonal relationships** among themselves that go beyond merely attending meetings and services?
6. Do the leaders emphasize pastoral care that embraces **all** of a person's legitimate needs and do they exercise **biblical authority**?
7. Is there an emphasis on **commitment** rather than mere **convenience** in the life of the people?
8. Is leadership present that **exemplifies Christian virtue** (integrity, loyalty, humility) and not merely "charismatic" speaking ability **divorced** from character?
9. Is there acknowledgement of and regular input from the five gift ministries set in the church for our maturity - apostles, prophets, pastors, evangelists and teachers?
10. Is there an outward, evangelistic thrust to reach others with the good news of Jesus Christ?
11. Is there a sense of **reality and relevance** as opposed to **religious ritual**?
12. Have people's lives been positively changed through their involvement?

### **CHURCH MODELS**

The following are examples of models that are customary in people's thinking today. Not all of these models are necessarily Biblical.

1. CATHEDRAL CHURCHES
2. A LECTURE HALL
3. A THEATRE
4. A SOCIAL CLUB
5. THE PHANTOM CHURCH
6. A CORPORATION

#### **7. A BODY**

*The people are all part of the whole functioning and participating, not only on a Sunday, but throughout the week, in an ongoing, living interaction. Buildings are strictly secondary, functional and expendable.*

#### **8. CONGREGATIONS, CELLS AND CELEBRATION**

*A congregation is made up of a number of cell groups (Life Groups) where relationships are formed, people are cared for, leadership is developed, and gifts are expressed. In this model, periodically a number of congregations get together to celebrate, praise, and receive prophetic and evangelistic input. **WCC aims to embrace 7 and 8.***

## **MODELS EVIDENT IN THE BIBLE**

1. GOD'S PRESENCE IN THE TABERNACLE/ TEMPLE
2. GOD'S PRESENCE IN JESUS

When Jesus was born during King Herod's reign there was still no presence of God in the temple. **Jesus became God's temple, God's house on earth.** He simply stated, "If you've seen me you've seen the Father."

3. GOD'S PRESENCE IN THE CHURCH

The **corporate** Church also became the temple of the Holy Spirit, the dwelling place of God. **1 Corinthians 3:16** *"Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?"*

### **BIBLICAL DESCRIPTIONS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH**

**A body** - A living organism with the various different parts functioning in harmony. (1 Corinthians 12)

**A bride** - A holy people having an intimate love relationship with God.

**A family** - We are members of God's household, sons and daughters of a loving Father. **A**

**building** - We are like living stones designed to fit together in close relationship to form a spiritual house.

**An army** - An army must be able to keep rank, obey authority, be subject to disciplined training and be dedicated to fighting against the enemy.

## **STUDY 2: VISION AND VALUES INTRODUCTION**

**Proverbs 29:18** *"Where there is no prophetic vision the people cast off restraint but blessed is he who keeps the law."*

Different Churches have different visions, different emphases and different callings. People joining a local Church should lay down their vision to embrace the Church's vision and values, in order to flow in unity. This requires humility!

**Amos 3:3** *"Do two walk together unless they have agreed to do so?" Obviously, many areas of Church vision would be applicable to the wider Church and relevant in every local Church.*

### **THE VISION OF WORCESTER CITY CHURCH**

The following areas of vision are not in order of priority. The full picture in many areas is still to be revealed, so the vision will grow as the revelation unfolds.

- **TO LOVE THE LORD OUR GOD WITH ALL OUR HEART AND WITH ALL OUR SOUL AND WITH ALL OUR STRENGTH**
  
- **TO BE BIBLE-BASED**

The Bible is the inspired Word of God and is infallible. It must be read, studied, taught, understood and obeyed. We need to discover our **identity** and **destiny** in the Word. We need to practically apply God's Word to every area of our lives. The Bible is our source of doctrine, clearly showing us how to live as New Testament believers.

Partners are to submit themselves to the authority of the Bible wholeheartedly.

- **TO SEEK THE SUPERNATURAL WORKINGS OF GOD**

Acts 2:43 "And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles."

Acts 14:3 "So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands."

- **TO LIVE IN AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY**

Living life in Life Groups produced a "part-timer" mentality.

The Biblical concept of community is much richer than this. **It assumes getting into each other's lives.** This community is a seven-day a week, twenty-four hours a day commitment to each other. Perhaps this concept of community living is best captured in Acts:

- **TO BE DISCIPLES**

Being a convert is the first step. The purpose of being saved is to be "conformed into the image of Jesus." This means we are to joyfully embark on a journey of transformation. The Greek word for 'disciple' is a "convinced learner."

**Dallas Willard says:** *"Disciples simply are people who are constantly revisiting their affairs to carry through on their decisions to follow Jesus. A disciple is a person who has decided that the most important thing in their life is to learn how to do what Jesus said to do."*

- **TO ESTABLISH GODLY FAMILIES:** *Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."*
  - God has given parents - not the state - the responsibility of bringing up children.
  - If we abdicate our responsibility, we will still be held accountable to God.
  - We subject our children, during their formative years, to eight hours a day of un-Godly, humanistic influence, yet wonder why they turn out a product of a humanistic society!
  - Adults are called to be salt and light; children are to be trained to become salt and light.
  
- **LEADERSHIP CULTURE** (ability to work in team)
  - WCC is a leadership culture and much of our emphasis is on bringing folk into their inheritance as leaders.
  - We are not a *hospital or cruise ship* on holiday. **We are at war!**

- We need to be led into battle!
- The shepherds walk in front of the sheep showing the way.
- We are establishing a group of anointed leaders, showing the way with the attitude of a servant leader so that the sheep - the people - can come into the fullness of their abilities in God.

#### ▪ **A PRAYING CHURCH**

Biblically we are taught that everything we experience in the natural physical realm has origin in the spiritual realm. This being the case, it is simple to understand that if we, through prayer, can cause a change in the spiritual realm, then it will have an effect on the natural realm. Before we see souls saved, we will have to pray, changing situations in the spiritual so that in the physical we might see a change – the saving of many souls.

#### ▪ **A PROPHETIC CHURCH**

The Church needs to stand up as the prophets of old, no matter how unpopular she becomes, and proclaim God's revealed truth in its purity and God's ongoing purposes as understood from the revelation that comes from a daily walk with God.

#### ▪ **COMMUNITY LIFESTYLE WITNESS**

It is wonderful to enjoy a community lifestyle among ourselves. We feel that God has blessed us with and called us to a lifestyle that models love and the other characteristics of Christ so that not only we, who are living and enjoying this lifestyle see it, but the world, the unsaved, see it as well and come to a place of desiring that same community lifestyle.

#### ▪ **A GENEROUS CHURCH**

Our vision is to be debt free (personally and corporately), so as to sow a large percentage of our income into the Kingdom, to meet needs in our own fellowship and the surrounding community, to support those in ministry and to be good stewards of all that God entrusts to us. Giving is always a good reflector of commitment.

#### ▪ **TEAMS**

To train teams to be used in reaching out to the lost and needy. It is our intention to obey the Scriptures by planting Churches, and new expressions of WCC. *Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

#### ▪ **TO RELATE TO THE WIDER BODY OF CHRIST**

- An independent Church is in serious danger of becoming a **sect or a cult** if it is not accountable.
- In order to practically relate to the wider body of Christ, to receive ministry from the five-fold offices and to be under authority, WCC relates to apostolic men Peter Howard-Brown, Rigby Wallace. ○ We are also part of ADVANCE- a group of churches from different streams working together to advance the Kingdom of God.

▪ **TO ESTABLISH A BASE CHURCH / LAUNCHING PAD**

- We have built a base in Worcester. ○ Our intention is to use this facility for: Sunday Celebrations, training, fellowship, administration, music studio, art exhibitions, ministry to the poor, sports, coffee shop, kids' play area, drawing in the lost, guest facilities, seminars, recreation, baptisms, youth, crèche, prayer and many other activities in time.
- This building is not the task – *it is merely a tool for the task*, namely to disciple the nations.
- It will be a base at which to train and equip folk for ministry and from which to launch those ministries into the Boland, the Province, the Nation and the World.

▪ **A RACIALLY INTEGRATED CHURCH**

It is our belief that it is Biblical, in God's heart and important for our nation that we are, remain so and strive towards being **non-racial in membership**. In a country that is torn by racial hatred and racism, it is only the Church that has the recipe for brotherly love.

*Revelation 7:9* "After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from **every nation**, from **all tribes and peoples and languages**, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands..."

▪ **THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS**

Every born-again person is a "priest" or "minister", all having gifting's and anointing's that come from God. We desire to create an environment that motivates people to be what God has equipped them to be. An atmosphere where one will be motivated to learn, to attempt something big for God, to evaluate that which was attempted and to make adjustments. The way these various aspects will be accomplished is through: "Class" teaching time, being sent out to impact nations and neighbours, accountability and fellowshipping with the Holy Spirit.

▪ **TO HAVE NO GENERATION GAP**

We see young people and children as a blessing and not a problem. We have a very strong commitment to youth and children's ministry, believing that many adults will come to know Christ through the changed lives of their children. The so-called "generation gap" is a creation of our modern society and cannot be found in the Bible.

▪ **TO DISCIPLE ALL NATIONS TEACHING THEM ALL THINGS**

We are not called to *drop everything* and head for a foreign nation — but we are without exception commissioned to **go**. Be it to go **across town** to someone in need, **across the street** to someone you know has not heard, **across the fence** to draw a neighbour, or **across the bed** to your spouse. We must **go** until He comes.



### **WCC MISSION STRATEGY**

*“You will be my witnesses in (1) Jerusalem and in all (2) Judea and (3) Samaria and to (4) the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8*

People often ask why we are involved with foreign missions while there are people on our doorstep who need the Gospel. The answer is that Jesus commissioned us to do all of the above at the same time. To put it another way - if we waited until everyone in our direct community was saved we would never reach the nations.

**STUDY 3: WORSHIP:** *John 4:23-24 “But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”*

**God is looking for worshippers.** Before He is looking for apostles, prophets, teachers, evangelists or pastors, He is looking for worshippers. Before He is looking for musicians, dancers or songwriters, **He is looking for worshippers.** These vital ministries are all gifts that God has given to the Church. Worship is what we give back to God.

**Revelation 4:8** *“And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”*

People have been created to worship. If people are not worshipping God, we will be found worshipping someone or something else; pop stars, motor cars, sport, etc. The question is not **“Will we worship?”** as much as it is **“What will we worship?”**

### **ORDERLY WORSHIP**

It is abundantly clear from Scripture that God places ultimate responsibility for worship on the shoulders of **governmental leadership** – in our context, we call that eldership.

**STUDY 4: LEADERSHIP:** *Philippians 1:1 “Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons...”*

There are three categories of Christians in the local Church: **Elders - Deacons – Saints:** All equal in value and different in function. There is an important fourth category, namely trans local teams. These are external voices that help keep us on track.

#### **1. ELDERS**

The word **“elder”** is used interchangeably with **overseer, bishop, shepherd and pastor.** They are one and the same function and position and are always mentioned in **plurality** in the

Scriptures. We do not use the titles, just first names. At WCC there are no women elders. However, the elders' wives do add their wisdom to the leadership task.

**It is also essential for the elders to know whom they are responsible for, as they will one day have to give an account.**

## 2. THE FUNCTIONS OF ELDERS

- Preaching and teaching
- Leading by example
- Feeding by teaching, counselling and encouraging
- Ruling by teaching, correcting and rebuking
- Protecting by watching over and caring for
- Attending to the heritage, auditing the present, anticipating the future

## 3. YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARDS THE ELDERS

- **LOYALTY:** 1 Timothy 5:19 "Do not admit a charge against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses."
- **SUBMISSION:** Hebrews 13:17 "Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you."
- **REMEMBERING:** Hebrews: 13:7 "Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith."
- **RESPECTING:** 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 "We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labour among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves."
- **COMMITMENT:** 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 "We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labour among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves."
- **OBEDIENCE:** Hebrews 13:17 "Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you."
- **AFFIRM AND ENCOURAGE THEM:** Pray for them and for their families. Let them know you are committed to them. Verbalize it. Communicate to them: "I will stand with you", "You can depend on me." Give them the benefit of the doubt.

## 4. BIBLICAL MODEL OF LEADERSHIP: THE APOSTOLIC - PROPHETIC MODEL

*Forward motion through shared vision and values as People, Deacons and Elders - follow Christ*

- Every member of the Church is involved in hearing the Lord and **submitting** what they hear, but **for the sake of unity** must **lay down their vision** and **allow the elders to decide**.
- Leaders may not always make the right decision and need to be given room to make mistakes and still be loved.

- On the basis of **invited authority**, the WCC elders relate to apostolic men in the Advance Group of Churches.

#### 4. DEACONS

- The word means servant. Qualifications also primarily relate to character. The deacon's function is more practical and administrative than that of an elder. They are appointed to **assist the elders** in special ways according to their gift.
- **Deacons may include women** as in the case of Phoebe in Romans 16. Some would be gifted in administration, others to **help the elders in shepherding and teaching**.
- Deacons do **not rule** or make **governmental decisions** for the flock.

#### 5. BUILDING A LEADERSHIP CULTURE

- At WCC our culture and much of our emphasis is on bringing folk into their **inheritance** as leaders.
- We use the following vehicles for this purpose:
  - Leadership Development Times (led by the elders)
  - Life Group Leadership training
  - Small interactive study groups and mentoring processes.

**STUDY 5: FINANCES:** *Luke 16:13* "No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

Money is mentioned more than 750 times in the Scriptures.

#### 1. HISTORICAL EMPHASES

Manipulative marketing: Many leaders have manipulated the Church in an attempt to enrich themselves. *2 Corinthians 9:7 (The Message)* "I want each of you to take plenty of time to think it over and **make up your own mind** what you will give. That will protect you against sob stories and arm-twisting. God loves it when the giver delights in the giving."

*Luke 19:13b* "Put this money to work," he said, "until I come back."

#### 2. GOD IS THE SOURCE OF EVERYTHING

- In *Psalms 24:1* we read, "The Earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it." This Scripture clearly reminds us that God owns everything and that all we have, has been given to us.

- Similarly, **1 Chronicles 29:10-13** tells us that wealth and honour come from God. This means that we never have ownership of anything and that we are stewards of all that God puts into our hands to use.

### **MONEY IS NOT EVIL**

*1 Timothy 6:10a* "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil." - It is the love of money and greed that is evil and not money itself. Money is neutral and can be used for both good and evil.

*Matthew 6:33* "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."- What is important to God is how you make your money and what you do with it. (Clive Pick put it this way: "God is more interested in our financial *maturity* than our financial *comfort*").

### **GOD IS NOT IN NEED**

*Haggai 2:8* "The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine, declares the Lord of hosts."

- God does not "**need**" our money. God says that even the ***thousand hills*** are His.
- God does not need rich people to advance His kingdom, He needs **available** people.

### **3. GIVING**

We serve a wonderfully generous God. We need to reflect this in living a lifestyle of generosity. There are numerous passages in Scripture exhorting us to live generously. **Acts 20:35b** "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

**PERCENTAGE GIVING (TITHES):** *Leviticus 27:30-33* "Every tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the Lord's; it is holy to the Lord. If a man wishes to redeem some of his tithe, he shall add a fifth to it. And every tithe of herds and flocks, every tenth animal of all that pass under the herdsman's staff, shall be holy to the Lord." **OFFERINGS:** This money is to be used for "things." (1 Chronicles 29:3-9, Malachi 3:8, 2 Corinthians 8 & 9)

**ALMSGIVING:** Almsgiving is giving specifically to the poor. Galatians 2:10 "Only, they asked us to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do."

### **APOSTOLIC GIVING**

- This is giving our money towards the extension of God's Kingdom into the nations.
- We should contribute generously to His purpose of world evangelism.
- We are co-workers with God (1 Corinthians 3:9).

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF THE CHURCH

While the Church is not a business, the administration of the finances is run as if it was. In other words, all the necessary checks and balances are in place, viz. proper stewardship of resources, decisions are always made by a plurality of elders. External professional auditors. We are a registered Non-Profit Organization.

## **STUDY 6: VOLUNTEER REVOLUTION**

**Volunteer:** One who enters into any service or undertakes anything of his own free will.

**Serving:** As an act of worship with **whatever you have in your hand**. Not an attempt to earn God's favour, but a love-response to having already received that favour in Jesus Christ.

**Generosity** - Living a generous lifestyle - that's the Calvary way.

The Gospel needs an **army of countless** men and women who have decided they are **dead to their own agenda**, who are done with **little self-serving dreams** and are throwing themselves **wholeheartedly** and **enthusiastically** into all that God has for them in and through the local Church.

Bill Hybels, author of Volunteer Revolution and founder of the world-famous Willow Creek Church writes: *"Spectating never compares with the thrills and chills of being in the middle of the action ... Every local Churchgoer has a choice to make ... he can throw himself into an adventure by rolling up his sleeves, joining a team of like-minded servants, and helping to build the local Church God has called him to be a part of ..."*

People found the purpose of their lives when they finally committed themselves to serving. *"People who let God lead them to **where He wants them to serve** find "an incredible sense of satisfaction and joy."*