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CFCM Mission and Values

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CFCM enters its next phase of development at a time in which our nation and much of the body of Christ is in a significant process of transition. We believe that the DNA of CFCM has the capacity to provide vision and leadership to ministers as they proceed in this defining time. The backbone of our renewed assignment and purpose as an organization is found in our mission statement:

The mission of CFCM is the commitment to establish growing, prevailing, and reproducing churches through five fold ministry; interconnected through a decentralized national apostolic network of churches and ministers, with the intent to participate in the transformation of our communities, cities, and nation through the spirit of unity within the body of Christ.

Preliminary National Council

In early 2007, a preliminary national council will be formed from representatives throughout the nation. We anticipate this initial council will include approximately 50 people. It will be comprised of both men and women; representing all five ministry offices, including itinerant ministers, and will be multi-racial and multigenerational. The number will be elastic and could possibly expand over time. The council will reflect a broad expression of the merging apostolic wineskin CFCM will be moving toward. It is referred to as preliminary, only because it is the first step in a process, and we do not wish to convey an impression that our initial steps are etched in concrete.

The mandate of the preliminary national council will be developed in greater detail at its inaugural meeting in January 2007, to be held at a retreat centre just outside of Calgary. One of the responsibilities of this body will be the ratifying of the process and affirmation procedure to determine the national president of CFCM, both for 2007 and in the future. This council will also be a forum by which insight and strategy will be developed to fulfill the mandate of CFCM now, and in the future. Through this council we hope to achieve a new level of organic interconnection with our entire fellowship. We believe that the council will enable us to address local church considerations with national and regional insights and giftings.

The Mission Explained

The Five-Fold Model

In last summer's initial vision communiqué from CFCM, we addressed the commitment of the existing leadership to shift the fellowship into a five-fold expression of ministry, as well as recognizing the roles of both men and women as ministers. Historically, the church in Canada has largely functioned as a three-fold ministry of pastor, evangelist, and teacher. The functional recognition of the offices of apostle and prophet will provide a governmental foundation and capacity, upon which all of the ministry gifts will work together.

While strong leadership is necessary in every area of life, we believe the apostolic looks like a family where the parents provide a safe nurturing environment, upon which the family is raised and flourishes in the Lord. Parents are to unselfishly lay down their lives in a foundational capacity to and for their family. Likewise, we believe that the strength of the apostolic and prophetic foundation is to lead through serving, and to be the foundation upon which the church is to mature and grow. We envision a life giving, bottom-up expression of team ministry equipping the fellowship. We do not subscribe to a primary model of top-down, authoritative apostolic leadership.

The Decentralized National Apostolic Network

We believe that the highest level of equipping is achieved through the highest degree of connecting. Connection is the place spiritual life is exchanged. Every joint supplies. Every minister, every church has a grace, an anointing that can be contributed to the larger body. No one is insignificant. Everyone is unique. Everyone can be a blessing if given the opportunity and the vehicle for expression. This expression is in contrast to apostolic models, where an enclave or fellowship of ministers would look to a single leader for oversight, defining of their ministry values, and potential mandates. This is not to suggest that this was the pattern of CFCM in the past. Nor will it be our intention in the future.

We believe the next phase of our development will be facilitated through the vision of empowering a national network of life giving ministries. The traditional model of equipping ministers and churches is to gather at a "mother" church in a conference format. There, people observe the vision, values, facilities and model, by which ministry is conducted. This model has many positive elements, we also recognize however, that people are looking for more relational environments, whereby the spirit of ministry is imparted as much as taught, through a higher degree of relational exchange and connection. Also, there are many ministers from smaller to medium sized churches that have much to contribute into the fabric of exchange. This would also be the case for para-church, and itinerant ministers. We believe that the new wine is found in the cluster. We are committed to mining out and disseminating the treasure of grace found in our fellowship, in a diversity of ways.

We believe that the strength of CFCM is not in the national office to direct the organization as a centralized entity through a limited number of apostolic leaders. Rather, CFCM exists to foster apostolic development at the grass roots level, and on a

decentralized basis. Realistically, this could mean that CFCM will embrace and express through its membership, many apostolic leaders that would be graced to support and provide leadership to other ministries, all of who are part of the CFCM organization. This would also suggest that people could have association and provide leadership in other ministries and networks within and outside of our nation, yet be fully accepted and have vital roles within CFCM. The intent is not to create an inclusive and potentially ingrown fellowship, but a kingdom fellowship with the great commission in its heart. CFCM is a fellowship anointed to raise up apostolic leaders called to impact cities and nations. We always have, and still do, desire to be of a generous spirit in providing members within our fellowship the necessary latitude to be a blessing, wherever the Holy Spirit directs them.

We believe what we demonstrate on a national level can be caught at the local level. As an apostolic ministry we are strongly committed to the building of a “team ministry” paradigm, rather than a single leader approach to ministry. As a team, each member has distinct functions according to the grace of the Lord accorded to them. However, the attitudes of honor, submission and accountability to each other in lifestyle, and the leading of the Holy Spirit, are strengthened in a team context. So is the necessity for communication. It is our view that the future of church ministry and leadership, will progressively revolve around a team context, and we hope to demonstrate this on a national level as directors.

Community, City, and National Transformation, Through The Spirit of Unity with the Body of Christ.

Canada is at a crossroads to become either a spiritually transformed nation, or a secular humanistic society like that of Western Europe, according to the design of the New World Order. We carry a great responsibility at this time for the future and destiny of our nation. It may be convenient, and appear responsible, for a pastor to focus his or her attention exclusively upon the affairs of the local church. However, we’ve proven this alone will not bring about city transformation. In many cases throughout our nation and in the United States, we have witnessed that the church growth movement with the intent to build mega churches, did very little to transform communities and cities. Yet the key to the transformation of a nation lies in the ability to transform a city, as 80 percent of our nation will soon live in cities.

Consequently, there is an urgency in the spirit for the days we live in. We must be committed to the broader transformation of the community we dwell in, as well as building growing, prevailing and reproducing churches. It is where the people of God dwell in unity that the commanded blessing of the Lord is found. Over the years, CFCM pastors have consistently provided leadership in their communities. This is part of our DNA in being a vital element in the transformation of our nation. There is grace and favor upon our fellowship in this national assignment.

Growing, Prevailing, Reproducing Churches

We believe that CFCM has a wealth of mature leadership, capable of imparting through a national network, the grace necessary to build growing, prevailing, reproducing churches.

We believe that we must do all we possibly can, to set in motion a vision that churches can exponentially increase, in both capacity and influence.

Growing Churches

We have entered a harvest season, and ministry growth is more important than ever. This growth will be evidenced through new conversions to Christ. Many leaders believe Canada is on the verge of a fresh move of the Holy Spirit that will result in a wave of salvations, particularly to the younger generation. Therefore it is important for churches to be equipped more than ever with the capacity to lead people to Christ, and to establish new believers as followers of Jesus through the Word and power of the Holy Spirit.

Growth is not simply numeric, it's also spiritual, financial, leadership development, and philosophy of ministry expression. Churches born from the charismatic movement, which we are all a part of, no longer attract transfer growth from evangelical and mainline churches as they once did. The distinctives of charismatic worship now flavor much of the body of Christ, which was historically a main drawing force in transfer growth. In fact, there has even been a movement from Charismatic churches to evangelical churches with contemporary worship. This may say much about our leadership style, and the general level of confidence we inspire. Therefore, growing churches are re-evaluating their mission; how they execute ministry, how leadership is developed, and how the church is called to impact their community. Our Canadian culture no longer comes to the church in the way it once did, and is repelled by religion. Therefore, growing churches are outwardly focused, giving Biblical answers to relevant questions, addressing the needs of the community, and raising up an army of ministers within the congregation. Churches that aren't growing will struggle and decline. We are committed to empowering pastors to build growing churches as a priority.

Prevailing Churches

Growth must not only be obtained, but also maintained. The kingdom of God experiences violent resistance, but the violent will take it through forcible initiative. One of the ingredients of prevailing churches, is that the church leaders understand they do not exist in isolation. Being part of a larger, national network and mandate brings spiritual strength at the local level. It will be the direct challenge to CFCM in the years ahead to cause the collective grace upon the greater body of the fellowship, to be available and experienced at the local church level. We are completing a number of strategies in this regard. One of these, as mentioned, will be through the formation of a national council.

Prevailing churches carry a breaker anointing [Mi. 2:13] empowered through strong vision, overcoming faith, and the ability to gather and assemble the body. We believe prevailing churches are self-governing, yet interdependent upon the larger body. The strength of a non-denominational fellowship is the autonomy available to the pastor and the local church. The weakness is the isolation created through independence. Our challenge will be to bridge the isolation to strengthen a national movement, yet honor the right of self-governance.

Reproducing Churches

The great challenge before CFCM will be that of reproducing many new churches from existing local churches, in the years ahead. This vision is a vital key to growing in apostolic grace. Many churches are spiritually barren because they do not have a vision or a plan to reproduce new churches and ministries. Just as we believe in the blessing of sowing finances, there is a blessing in releasing ministry. Churches that do this are never decreased, even as a giver is never decreased. Canada is entering into a harvest cycle that will include signs and wonders and wealth transfer. Our mandate will include the vision to empower ministers to lead church planting, reproducing churches in a decentralized apostolic context.

Values and Shifts Currently Before CFCM

The following are a number of key values and considerations that CFCM is planning to address in the year ahead. We ask for your prayer in these areas and your understanding as we address them in a spirit of transparency.

- For approximately 500 years the church has functioned under a reformation theology. We see the Holy Spirit ushering the church into a kingdom theology era, that will radically redefine the local church. We will see the kingdom of God permeating the workplace, the government, as well as the gateways to our society. Old lines of clergy versus laity will fall away, as well as many concepts of secular versus sacred. One day, all believers will be fully recognized as kings and priests. We want to take our place on the leading edge of this truth. New revelations of heaven's economy will unlock wealth transfer. The revelation of the Kingdom will be a vital key to social transformation.
- Organic forms of relationship will take precedence over organizational systems and structures. This will require us to be better communicators on every level and will change the manner in which we bring leadership to churches, organizations and society.
- Servant based leadership will be the expression we attach to a decentralized apostolic expression. This is the antithesis of top-down, authoritative leadership structure. Apostolic and prophetic grace gifts will provide a spiritual foundation, upon which the body will grow and flourish.
- Team leadership will be a fundamental expression of apostolic life and ministry. The new wine will be found in the cluster. In time, we foresee local churches managed and led by teams rather than individual leaders. There remains no doubt that Church development is evolutionary and hinged on the quality and type of relationships existing within the structure. While it is evident the concept of a strong single leader is essential in the growth and development of a new work, it is further understood, without implementation of the leadership style of team building, no future release of trained ministry is possible. Hence, we simply duplicate the tragedy many of us faced when entering the ministry. We find ourselves alone, un-trained, and ill prepared for the responsibilities and privileges we are soon to embrace.

- The recognition and emphasis upon the role of spiritual fathers and mothers in a context of honor. Honor displaces pride and independence. Honor unlocks one's inheritance and opens the door to blessing. Spiritual fathers and mothers will bring transgenerational depth to the fellowship. They will save ministers from undue spiritual attack and prevent the miscarrying of many important kingdom initiatives.
- Accountability and transparency is a backbone to living clean before the Lord and each other. It is our desire that the fellowship at every level, increase in the spirit of submitting ourselves one to another, walking in a spirit of humility, and leading our people in living accountable, transparent lives.

Conclusion

We believe as national directors that these are the greatest one time shifts since the formation of our fellowship. Many of these will be obvious to you. We are glad for this. That itself is a sign that we carry prophetic DNA as a fellowship. We ask that you would extend the fellowship and its leadership the grace that you would hope to receive as a local church leader. Definitive steps have been taken this year to advance CFCM into a new season. We believe that CFCM has a great call to the nation, has seasoned leadership to lead us in this kingdom hour, and has the courage to move forward. Let us arise and build together!

CFCM National Directors
Glen Stead, David McGrew, Len Zoeteman