

Centre Street Church

Abiding Prayer Ministry

Vision

@ January 28, 2015

The idea of “abiding prayer” grows out of Jesus invitation in John 15: 1-17 to abide in Him. This notion of abiding is vital to the ministry of prayer. First, to abide is to rest, to wait, to know and to remain. Jesus spoke of these in John 15 in terms of entering into relationship with Him; having conversation with Him; being accountable to Him; remaining in the truth He taught; asking Him for what we need and even desire; enjoying His love, joy and friendship; and seeing the demonstration of God’s presence and power in the bearing of fruit lasting fruit. In short the invitation to abide is an invitation to intimacy of relationship with Jesus as the basis for effective prayer!

A second implication to the invitation to abide is that abiding is not just what is experienced while in the solitary place of prayer. Abiding is what happens when on the battlefield. The first is about enjoying intimacy of relationship. The second is about trusting His nature in the face of battle. Battle is not just about confronting the enemy. Fighting him from the place of deep trust is essential for sure. Battle is about facing every circumstance and situation of life with total, irrevocable, unshakeable trust in the nature of God and confidence in His promises. In short, the invitation to abide is an invitation to trust and confidence that God will show up in answer to our prayers!

Five Biblical images of the fruit coming out of Abiding Prayer Ministry... (Isaiah 61:1-11)

All those who are touched by Holy Spirit of Jesus through the ministry of Abiding Prayer will ...

1. Be called oaks of righteousness. (Isaiah 61:3)
2. Be rebuilders, restorers, renewers of territory that has been devastated. (Isaiah 61:4)
3. Be priests of the Lord and ministers of God. (Isaiah 61:5-6)
4. Be seen to be doubly blessed of the Lord among the nations. (Isaiah 61:7-9)
5. Be clothed, arrayed and adorned with the beauty of righteousness. (Isaiah 61:10-11)

**Centre Street Church
Mission Statement**

CSC exists to introduce people to Jesus and to help them become fully devoted followers of Jesus.

**Abiding Prayer Ministry
Vision**

Our cry is to be an expanding, transforming, welcoming, Biblically functioning community of praying people where our daily life rhythms are about...

- Abiding in the presence of God;
- Magnifying the nature of God in anointed worship-based prayer experiences;
- Living in the goodness and favor of God; and
- Demonstrating the reality, love and power of God in our city, nation and world.

**Abiding Prayer Ministry
Mission**

HIS prayer is our mission...

“Our Father who is in heaven, holy is Your name.
Your kingdom come; Your will be done....

On earth as IT is in heaven!

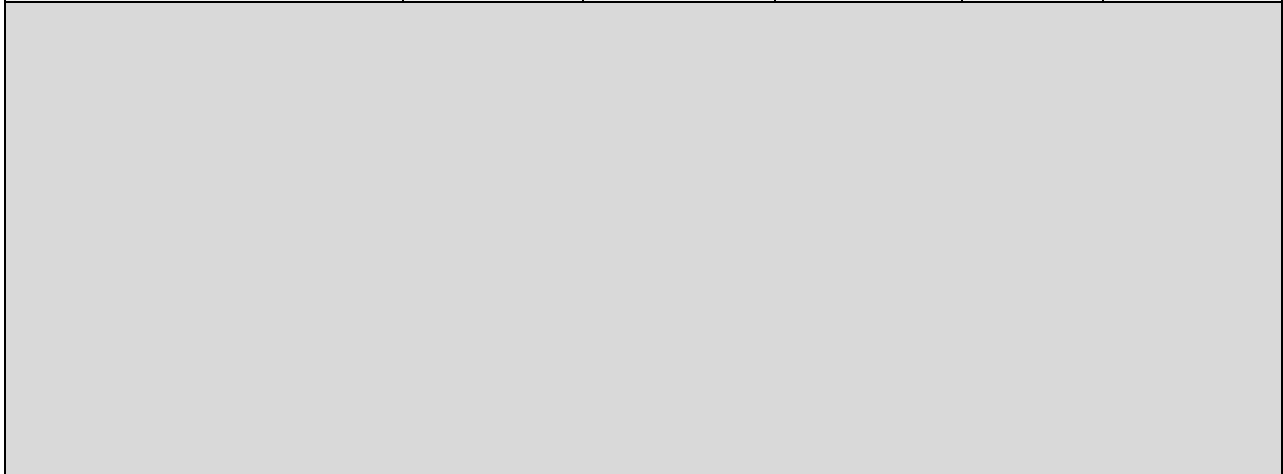
**Abiding Prayer Ministry
What we believe God values**

We believe...

1. God wants our singular focus to be on Jesus because of the work He accomplished through the cross in redeeming, reconciling, regenerating and sanctifying all who believe.
2. God wants the places where His people gather to be known as a “house of prayer” for all ethnic groups, from all walks of life, from all nations with all their needs, hopes, fears and hang-ups where they will experience His goodness and enduring love through His family.

3. God wants His family to celebrate its diversity; to generously share with one another; to love, accept, forgive and believe in one another; to exhibit mutual respect and honor for one another; to pray for one another; to serve one another in love; and to worship God in the freedom of Spirit and His truth.
4. God wants His children to engage in united, fervent, expectant, joyful, persistent, desperate, bold and grateful prayer.
5. God wants to abide in us and we in Him so that when we ask in prayer we will - ask in alignment with His heart; receive what He wants to give us; and bear much lasting fruit.
6. God wants us to wait in His presence so His goodness, beauty and strength will be nurtured in us for every circumstance we face.
7. God wants to give us the Spirit of revelation and wisdom so that we can know Him better.
8. God wants to enlighten the eyes of our hearts to know the amazing hope of our calling in Christ and the glorious riches of His promised destiny which He wants to give to all His treasured children.
9. God wants us to know His incomparably great power, the same power He exerted when He raised Christ from the dead and exalted Him at His right hand in heaven so He can demonstrate His power through us.
10. God wants to raise up Spirit filled, anointed Christ followers to help all His treasured children – to experience the good news of His goodness in Christ, to be healed, to be released from captivity to Satan, to see and live in agreement with His truth, to be freed from the oppression of injustice; and to live in His favor
11. God wants His kingdom to come and His will to be done on earth as it is in heaven through the church, His family.

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**Abiding Prayer
Sevenfold Ministry**

... as declared by Jesus in Luke 4:18-19 quoting from Isaiah 61

The Sevenfold Ministries are:

<p align="center">1 PROCLAIM "Mg. Call out by name"</p>	<p align="center">2 BIND UP "Mg. Cure or make whole"</p>	<p align="center">3 PROCLAIM "Mg. Herald divine truth"</p>	<p align="center">4 RECOVER "Mg. Reverse or restore"</p>	<p align="center">5 RELEASE "Mg. Liberate and send out"</p>	<p align="center">6 PROCLAIM "Mg. Herald divine truth"</p>
<p align="center"><i>...good news to the poor</i></p> <p align="center"><i>(Meaning ... Desperate, despairing)</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>...the broken-hearted</i></p> <p align="center"><i>(Meaning ... Shattered, fractured)</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>...freedom to captives</i></p> <p align="center"><i>(Meaning... Enslaved, imprisoned)</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>...of sight to the blind</i></p> <p align="center"><i>(Meaning... Confused, deceived)</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>...the oppressed</i></p> <p align="center"><i>(Meaning... Shackled, crushed)</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>...favorable year of the Lord and the day of vengeance of our God</i></p> <p align="center"><i>(Meaning... Season of God's favor and delight; Day of defeat for His enemy)</i></p>
<p>Ministry of ... Personal conversations about the goodness of God with His lost treasures</p>	<p>Ministry of... Diving healing – emotional, mindset, body, choices, relationships and spiritual need.</p>	<p>Ministry of... Deliverance from demonic presence</p>	<p>Ministry of... Restoration to truth based living</p>	<p>Ministry of... Taking a stand for justice and advancing justice</p>	<p>Ministry of ... New Covenant prophetic – encourage, exhort and comfort.</p>

7 - To comfort, provide and bestow

The combined sense in the use of these three words in Isaiah 61:3 and 7 is - the Spirit of the Lord anoints to bring about a change in the lives of people who are living in a state of "mourning, grieving and despair". This shifting is reflected by the repetition of the word instead which is used 5 times in Isaiah 61:3 and 7 as follows -

- 1.) Crown of beauty INSTEAD of ashes;
- 2.) Oil of gladness INSTEAD of mourning;
- 3.) Garment of praise INSTEAD of despair;
- 4.) Receive a double portion blessing INSTEAD of shame; and
- 5.) Rejoice in their inheritance INSTEAD of disgrace.

Ministry of... Deep Discipleship (see page 5)

Ministry of... Deep Discipleship (continued from page 4)

This focus on shifting “instead of”, is a reflection of the ongoing ministry of deep discipleship where people learn how to hold the ground against all that seeks to “steal, kill and destroy” and to live in the favor of God as a lifestyle. This is God’s way of exercising His vengeance against the enemy as His people learn to live in His favor holding the ground He has won for them. Nothing discourages and defeats the enemy more than encountering followers of Christ who know how to resist him and his schemes and again know how to live as favored children of God.