



PO Box 299
Beulaville, NC 28518
910-284-5994
www.emerge4unity.org

Proclamation

The foundations of vision, mission, purpose was given to us in the summer of 2015. Those along with the “Four Cornerstones” of ministry were manifesting themselves by the fall of that same year. As God revealed these to be written out and implemented we had no idea what was about to take place. In a period, less than two years the “Voices of Emerge” have put forth a message through action that is being recognized Nationally and Internationally. It is for this reason, we find ourselves in need of documentation to confirm our beliefs. After much thought, prayer, meditation and study we settled on 10 major ideas that are a reflection of what God has commissioned us, through the Holy Spirit, for revealing our approach to evangelism and serving the church. Unlike the precepts above we have borrowed some content from other inspired works, not the approach.

1-The Purpose of God

We affirm our belief in the one eternal God, Creator and Lord of the world, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He has been calling and sending His people back into the world to be His servants and His witnesses, for the extension of His Kingdom, the building up of the body and the glory of His name. To the task of making the treasures of salvation, hope, love, and grace known through the power of the Holy Spirit we desire to dedicate ourselves to this calling.

2- The Authority and Power of The Bible

We affirm the divine inspiration, truthfulness and authority of both the Old and New Testament Scriptures without error in all that it affirms in faith and practice. The message of the Bible is addressed to all men and women. Through it the Holy Spirit still speaks today. He illumines the minds of Gods people in every culture to perceive its truth freshly through their own eyes thus discloses to the whole church ever more of the many - colored wisdom of God.

3- The Uniqueness and Universality of Christ

We affirm there is only one Savior and only one gospel, although there is a wide diversity of approaches. As much as we embrace diversity in revealing Gods unity of His people we reject as derogatory to Christ and the gospel every kind of syncretism and dialogue which implies that Christ speaks equally through all religions and ideologies. There is no other name by which we must be saved. God loves everyone, not wishing that any should perish but that all should repent to proclaim Jesus as the Savior of the world. We state this to proclaim Gods love for a world of sinners and to invite everyone to respond to Him as Savior and Lord in the wholehearted personal commitment of repentance and faith in developing a personal relationship with Jesus.

4- The Nature of Evangelism

To evangelize is to spread the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to scriptures. Our Christian presence in the world is indispensable to evangelism, and so is that kind of dialogue whose purpose is to listen sensitively in order to understand with a view to persuading people to come to Him personally and so be reconciled to God. We must also not conceal the cost of discipleship, that they themselves must take up their cross, and identify themselves with this new community. The results of evangelism include obedience to Christ, incorporation into His church and responsible service in the world.

5- Christian Social Responsibility

We therefore should share Gods concern for justice and reconciliation throughout humane society as it relates to the liberation of men and women from every kind of oppression. Because men and women are created in the image of God, every person, regardless of race, religion, color, culture, class, sex or age has an intrinsic dignity because of which he or she should be respected and served not exploited. We affirm that evangelism and socio-political involvement are both part of our Christian duty. For both are necessary expressions of our doctrines of God and man, our love for our neighbor and our obedience to Jesus Christ. Also, we should not be afraid to denounce evil and injustice wherever they exist. Faith without works is dead.



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6- The Church and Evangelism

Gods church is the fabric which holds our society together. We affirm that Christ sends His redeemed into the world as the father sent Him. We need to emerge out of our ecclesiastical ghettos and permeate non-Christian society. In fulfilling the great commission of the church sacrificial service in evangelism is primary. The church is at the center of Gods purpose and is His appointed means of spreading the Gospel. But a church which preaches the cross must itself be marked by the cross. It becomes a stumbling block to evangelism when it betrays the Gospel or lacks a living faith in God, a genuine love of people, or scrupulous honesty in all things including promotion and finance. Emerge is not judgmental but are humble servants who are supporting and enhancing the local congregations of churches by holding crusades and training people in personal evangelism. We do not view the church as a tool for evangelism, rather Emerge is an evangelistic tool for the church to take advantage in its use. The church is a community of Gods people not a building. We must not be identified with any particular culture, social or political system or human ideology. With that said we believe evangelism should serve the church, encouraging mobilization and partnering in personal evangelism.

7- Cooperation in Evangelism

Embracing diversity leads to the churches visibility in terms of unity. Embracing diversity does not mean dilution of the word. Evangelism summons us to unity in that diversity, because our oneness strengthens our witness, just as our disunity undermines our Gospel of reconciliation. Organizational unity does not necessarily forward evangelism. In truth, evangelism sometimes has been marred in individualism, yet the church has been deeply rooted at times in organizational development and denominational doctrine. We pledge ourselves to seek deeper unity in truth, worship, holiness and a functional cooperation in strategic planning, for mutual encouragement, and for the sharing of resources and experience. In biblical faith, we should be closely knitted in fellowship, work and witness.

8- Evangelistic mission and culture

In the times' we live in there is as great a need for true evangelism as ever. True mobilization reaching the needs of all Gods people right where they are physically, mentally and spiritually. This need is both on a National and International level. We can no longer afford to wait for them to find the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We must carry the message forth just as the early New Testament church. In The days of Jesus Ministry, He fed, clothed, and preached in a language for which the people could understand, mainly parables. He visited their cities and towns wherever that may have been. We cannot hope to attain this goal without sacrifice. Those of us who live in affluent circumstances accept our duty to develop a simple lifestyle in order to contribute to both relief and evangelism. The Gospel does not presuppose the superiority of any culture over another however, the Gospel does evaluate all cultures according to its' own criteria of truth and righteousness. Evangelist must humbly seek to empty themselves of all but their personal authenticity in order to become servants of others regardless of color, race, ethnicity, culture or any type of discrimination, all for the glory of God.

9- Education and leadership

We believe strongly in training from both an educational and an experiential process. One of the attitudes we embrace is that the church and evangelism, while understanding the biblical difference in the nature of both, must nurture each other. Before every ministry mobilization we provide evangelistic training sessions for all volunteers, properly equipping them for personal evangelism. The experiential component manifest itself within the "Four Cornerstones" of Emerge Ministries. Our process of follow up with individuals, local churches and chaplains after mission trips nurtures ongoing intimate relationships with those we served and encourages corporate worship. The following four points are essential. Effective para-creating with churches, education and training on personal evangelism and serving the church, along with sacrificial service yields mature fruit within the body of Christ.

10- Spiritual conflict and the Power of the Holy Spirit

we believe that we are engaged in constant spiritual warfare with the principalities and powers of evil who are seeking to overthrow the church and destroy relationships between the church and evangelistic efforts. We acknowledge that we are not immune to worldliness of thoughts and action. We need both watchfulness and discernment to safeguard the biblical foundations of ministry as move forward in our evangelistic efforts. Evangelization will become realistic possibilities only when the Spirit renews the Church in truth and wisdom, faith and holiness, love and power. We pray that we do not compromise our message, manipulate hearers through pressure techniques, become unduly preoccupied with statistics or even dishonest in the use of them. We must remain vigilant so we can be in the world but not of the world. We pray that we remain humble and submissive to the unction of the Holy Spirit as He leads, guide and directs us in our efforts to evangelize.