
❖ CrossRoads ❖

Volume 15 Issue 7

Worship * Grow * Send

July, 2009

*S*end.

Jonah, Moses, Caleb, Abraham and Joshua.

Isaiah, Micah, Jeremiah, Samuel, Esther and Gideon.

Paul, the 72, Peter (and the other 10).

Jesus.

The early fathers, ancient prophets, warriors and disciples--
all sent by God.

All were on a mission from Him and for Him.

It's difficult to glance at the scriptures and miss the partnership into which God has called hundreds of individuals.

Jonah to Ninevah.

Moses to Egypt and then the Promise land.

Caleb to spy out the land.

Abraham to a "land I will show you."

Jesus to earth as sacrificial
"Passover" lamb

Peter to the Jews
Paul to the Gentiles.
Isaiah to Judah and Jerusalem.

The list could be endless. And it is.

As Jesus was wrapping up his ministry on earth, he continued the theme of *sending* as he tells his disciples "As the Father has sent Me, I am sending you" (Jn 20:21).

Acts records this: "when [the disciples and other followers of Jesus] had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went..." (Acts 13:3)

Our God is a sending God. He is as serious about sending people today as he was about sending the early followers of Jesus centuries ago.

In fact, the major thrust and reason for the establishment of the church two millennia ago was for the organization and support of missions.

Missiologist David Bosch, in *Transforming Mission*, states "There is church because there is mission, not vice versa."

Major emphasis at KingsWay is (and will be) placed on Worship

"As the Father has sent Me, I am sending you." Jn 20:21

and Spiritual and relational growth, but if we forget or neglect the sending nature as a major reason for the establishment and continuation of the church, we'll cease to be the church God has intended.

In a message a few weeks ago, I talked about the vision and importance of KingsWay being a church comprised of individuals who live out their "sentness." (I'm not sure if sentness is a word, but for now, let it be). Since I couldn't go into great depth in such a short time, I wrote additional thoughts in the pastor's blog on our website (Kingswaychurch.com/blog) and have included some of those thoughts here:

Continued on page 2

Being "sent" is not an organized church activity. It can be, but most often, it is not. People live out their "sentness" in their daily lives- in their 40 hour a week jobs, their lunch hours, their recreational time at night (or whatever you do). Certainly having programmed "send" events are important, especially for those who want a plug and play experience where you just show up and "go," but ultimately, the gospel is best spread when people live missional lives wherever they happen to be and whatever they do on a regular basis.

Being "sent" is not synonymous with front line, in the trenches, door to door, sharing your faith evangelism. Again, it can be, but it most often, is not. I would lump many kingdom building activities under the category of being sent people. See list below at the end of this page.

I got some feedback from people saying: "I don't feel "sent" when I sit in a meeting and make decisions and plans for KW." Or "I'm on the worship team (or children's team) and the practice and execution of that ministry takes a lot of time. How can I still have time to be "sent"?"

I would respond: You are living

out the paradigm behind being sent. When our priorities are the Kingdom of God and your time, energy and resources go to the kingdom, you are living out a sense of "sentness." Paul says in 1 Corinthians that we are the body of Christ... some do this, some do that... but it all builds up the body. So Paul was writing to those who thought some roles were more important than others, but each role allowed the body to do the thing it was designed to do.

Some concrete examples of what being sent looks like: (Notice that some are roles inside the church and some are external)

Food drive (coming soon, again. Thanks Pam!); Showing up early to set up; Staying late to tear down; Teaching Sunday School to our children (and learning the motions to those songs); Singing on the worship team; Servant Evangelism activities (bottled water handout, fun game for children at community party, coming soon); Watching the little ones in the nursery; Praying for your server at the restaurant; Being on the council; Going to the Gulf Coast to help rebuild homes (Appalachia next summer?); Intentional/random conversations of faith with co-workers; Leading a Bible study at work; Inviting someone to church; Inviting your neighbor over to grill something (or fry something!); Leaving a KW business card at a restaurant and leaving a big tip (Don't leave card without big tip);

There are too many to name...

The point is that being "sent" happens at home, at work, at church, or anytime you endeavor to contribute to the work of the Kingdom of God!

I can't give credit to the source, but someone once said "we are God's plan A for the distribution of the gospel. He has no plan B.

If the body of Christ isn't "sent," who will be? Multiple times, Paul talks about God trusting us as stewards of the gospel message (1 Thes 2:4; 1 Corinthians 9:16-17).

Being sent is an issue of stewardship with our time and resources. It is an issue of obedience. It's a mark of a mature disciple.

My dream for KingsWay is that it will become a community that gathers weekly to worship God, celebrate ways in which they were obedient to Him as sent people in the previous week or months, and will become a community seeking new inspiration and encouragement to continue to place God's Kingdom first in their lives.

Adam

P.S. Check out Kingsway-church.com/blog for most recent thoughts about being "sent," and to keep updated on some current thoughts on the life of KingsWay as we seek to launch September 20!



Health: Juanita Ansteatt, Jerry Miller, Margaret Morrison, Bonnie Nietzsche, Megan Anderson, Cathy Ball, Bob Bartley, Jim Baxter, Brett Bewley, Sister Mary Grace Burg, Slone Chapman, Chester Collins, Mr. Dooling, Katie Eppert, Dan & Kenny Evans, Don Fullmer, Ray Gagne', Maddie Gers, Doug Hall, Steve Hall, Lori Hollingsworth, Mr. Hopson, Desmond Kingston, Linda Kohler, Mr. McKinney, Maryann Miller, Dylan Nietzsche, Sandy Pugh, Lorraine Reeder, the Roberts Family, Pete Roderick, Ken Rohr, Kim & Nathan Schmidt, Mike Sheffel, Allen Spring, Eddie Stillwell, Claire Taylor, Patty Turkall, Jana Urban-Buzek, Bill Young.

Other: Ben Kelly, Becky Clifton, Jenny Cunningham, the Cutter Family, Charlotte Eads, Miguel Martinez, Adam & Tonya Metzger, Claire Molitors, Jerry & Mitzi Peters, Dan Reale, Greg Schmidt, Sandy Thayer, 2009 Church Council, a new Worship Leader, our volunteers, our nation and Military Personnel .

Answers: New attendees, the Metzger family, Re-Launch Teams, Church in a Box Industries, a new worship site and ministry community, willing volunteers, unity in Spirit, and God's abundant opportunities for KingsWay and His miraculous financial blessings for the ministry.



**KingsWay
Community
Church**

Meeting at:
**Hamilton Maineville
Elementary School
373 E. Foster Maineville Road
Maineville, OH 45039**

**Adam Metzger
Senior Pastor**

**Marlene Evans
Office Administrator
398-5900**

**Email:
Kingsway_church@yahoo.com**

**Web Site:
www.Kingsway-church.com**

This month we're checking in with Cincinnati transplants; Jeff and Annie Dieselberg, ABC Missionaries in Thailand. For additional information, log onto: www.internationalministries.org.



Jeff and Annie Dieselberg

Annie and Jeff Dieselberg serve in Bangkok, Thailand, a bustling metropolis of more than 10 million people. Annie is founder and CEO of NightLight Design Co. Ltd., a business-as-mission, which employs and empowers women who would otherwise be involved in the sex trade industry in Bangkok.

Jeff serves as chaplain to NightLight Design Co. Ltd and NightLight Foundation, both a business-is-mission and international organization committed to addressing the complex issues surrounding trafficking and prostitution by catalyzing individual and community transformation in order to provide hope, intervention, rescue, and assistance to women and children being exploited in the in the sex industry through alternative employment, vocational opportunities, life-skills training and physical, emotional and spiritual development to women seeking freedom from sexual exploitation. Jeff also serves as Senior Pastor of Song Sawang Church (translated Send the Light Church) along with 4 other pastoral staff members. Song Sawang is a new church start that began 1 year ago mostly with new converts from NightLight. Now, however, these women who are members of the church are reaching out to family, friends, and strangers bringing more growth and diversity to the congregational make-up. In addition, Jeff teaches urban transformation at 3 local seminaries along with a team of 4 trained adjunct faculty to encourage aspiring pastors and Christian workers to understand and engage in what God is doing in Bangkok and the cities of the world.

July 15 - Aaron Ansteatt

July 25 - Juanita Ansteatt

July 24 - Dara DeBoy

July 29 - Jerry Miller

July 24 - Shirley Dansberry

Look Who's Having a July Birthday!

July 2009

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1	2	3	4 Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Council Meeting 6:30 PM	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Evans' Small Group 6:30 PM	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

CrossRoads
KingsWay Community Church
P O Box 203
Milford, OH 45150
