



A People Who... Commit

Building a Kingdom Culture 3

Kingdom Culture



- Kingdom
 - The domain of the King... doing things His way
- Culture
 - ‘the ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society’ (Oxford Dictionary)
 - ‘How we do things around here’

Building a Kingdom Culture

‘Becoming a **people** whose **beliefs** and **behaviours** are increasingly **aligned** with the **heart** of **God**...

Revealing heaven to each other
and **to our world!**

Building a Kingdom Culture

1. Kingdom Culture
2. A People who... OBEY
3. A People who... COMMIT



'Acts 2' Church

42 And they **devoted themselves to** the apostles' teaching and **the fellowship**, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. **44** And **all who believed**

were together and had all things in common. **45** And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.

46 **And day by day**, attending the temple **together** and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, **47** praising God and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

- The Holy Spirit poured out at Pentecost empowers the church to be bigger, better and bolder in its expression of the Kingdom.

*'Our Father who dwells in
Heaven, May Your holy
Name be honoured. Let Your
Kingdom come, let Your will
be done here in Elim Church
Aberystwyth as it is in
Heaven. Amen.'*

They Devoted Themselves...

Acts 2:42 ... **to** the apostles' teaching and **the fellowship**, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

- **proskarteréō** (from *prós*, "towards, interactively with" and *karteréō*, "show steadfast strength," derived from *krátos*, "prevailing strength") – properly, to consistently showing strength which prevails (in spite of difficulties); to endure (remain firm), staying in a fixed direction. (Strong's Concordance)
- It is not 'lovey dovey' devoted... it is an 'even when its difficult' devoted (maybe a bit like having to listen to my sermons?!!!)

Covenant God

- Our God is a God who commits!
- Scripture is a story of His covenant promises and committed heart to His people.
- He is totally committed to YOU
- Let your yes be yes

Coals in The Fire

- Do not give up meeting together...
- We NEED each other
- Iron sharpens iron / coals in the fire
 - Not always comfortable or enjoyable – but good!

Heb 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. **24** And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, **25** not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Commit

- To a local expression of the body of Christ
 - Time
 - Energy
 - Money
 - Accountability
 - Heart
- Not because it is perfect... because it needs you and you are part of it whether you like it or not!



In Elim Church Abersytwyth we will
be a people who are
committed: to love, serve,
encourage and be accountable to
one another...

A **family** united in the name of
Jesus, building a kingdom culture.



Membership at Elim Aberystwyth

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE

Pictures of Church in the New Testament

- **Family** (Children of God - Jn 1:12-13)
- **Building** (1 Cor 3:9)
- **Temple** (1 Cor 3:16)
- **Body** (members of one another - Ro 12:5)
- **Bride** (Rev 19:7)
- Togetherness, commitment, life

Elim Aberystwyth

- ‘We exist to LOVE GOD and LOVE people’

37 Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’^c 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’^d 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” (Matthew 22)

- ‘We seek to express the good news of Jesus Christ to the people of Aberystwyth, Wales and beyond and to become fully devoted disciples’ (In progress!!!)

19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. (Matthew 28)

Membership in the Elim Constitution

- All born again persons shall be eligible for membership of the Elim Pentecostal Churches.
- The Church Session shall have the right to accept any such persons as Church members and to remove them from membership.
- Anyone who desires membership should complete a Membership Application Card.
- Applicants should be interviewed by the minister who must satisfy himself as to their suitability and make recommendations to the Church Session.
- New members should be welcomed into fellowship at a Sunday service when the Minister should introduce them to the church and give them the right hand of fellowship.
- The church Session may not accept into membership persons who are Freemasons.

Why Membership?

- Express support to the church, its leadership and vision.
- Commit to your responsibility as a part of the church – in fellowship, finance, ministry and so on...
- Have a voice in voting issues such as the confirmatory selection of elders.
- Counter culture – the world we live in is often skeptical of the demands that come with commitment and accountability. In contrast to this skepticism, we can express trust, faithfulness and responsibility
- Why not?!

Membership and Money Matter

- **ELIM CONSTITUTION: CHURCH FINANCES 1.** Tithes and Offerings Members should be encouraged to give at least one-tenth of their income to the work of the Lord in their local Church. Offerings may be taken at all indoor services or as directed by the Church Session. It is recommended that the amount of the offerings be announced regularly.
- Give as you are able (1Cor 16:2), even beyond ability (2 Cor 8:3), willingly and cheerfully (2 Cor 9:7), in a systematic and ordered way (1Cor 16:2), With faith in the knowledge that God is our provider (Luke 6:38).
- **Giftaid** – UK Taxpayers can increase their giving by 25% in money reclaimed by us from the Inland Revenue. Good Stewardship?
- **Handling** – By law we have to have a treasurer, he/she will not just simply have a mind for figures, but will be full of the Holy Spirit & faith. Our Treasurer is Graison John. The Treasurer receives all monies raised for the general purposes of the church and is responsible for the safe custody of the offerings and all cash in hand. All our offerings are counted by at least two people & are stored in the safe until banked.

Membership and Money Matters

- **Financial Returns** – The Treasurer prepares monthly and quarterly returns detailing all financial transactions which are forwarded to our Headquarters Office.
- **Where the money goes** – In the church here the giving is used to:
 - Pay the salaries of the Ministers & staff.
 - Maintain the church buildings & pay for the hire of the halls we use.
 - Finance ministry at home & abroad. We set aside an extra percentage of our annual income each year to support outreach activities.
 - Cover practical costs such as stationary, heating, lighting, etc.
 - A tithe of the total general income of the Church is paid to Headquarters each month. This is to cover administration, pastoral care and removal funds, regional funds and emergency welfare.
 - Special projects, events and individual ministries.

Foundational Truths

- Elim has a set of statements explaining our beliefs on certain foundational matters
 - See reverse of the Membership application forms available this morning
 - Also available at www.elim.org.uk

Our Leadership

- Pastoral Leadership Team (Joel Pridmore, Jon and Sharon King, Engobo Emeseh, David Fardouly)
- Session Team (Joel Pridmore, Jon and Sharon King, Engobo Emeseh, Brian Garrod, Marion Densham, Sue Jemmott)

Membership and Me?

- I have prayerfully considered becoming a member of Elim Aberystwyth.
- I confirm that I am born again and have been or am seeking to be baptised in water and baptised in the Spirit.
- I also agree with the Elim Foundational Truths and desire to support the leadership and vision of Elim Aberystwyth.
- I will seek to...
 - ... be in regular attendance at church meetings
 - ... participate in the life of the church
 - ... contribute financially through tithes and offerings
 - ... submit to the authority of the leaders as they submit to God
 - ... maintain good relationships with other members of the Church

Membership and Me?

- **Leadership Commitment**

We are committed to supporting you as you seek to develop your relationship with God & with others in the church. We will stand with you, to serve & strengthen & help stimulate your spiritual welfare, so that you may fulfil your purpose in God.

(Don't expect us to go it right all the time)

- **Members Commitment**

Having received Jesus Christ as my Saviour & Lord I commit myself to follow Him with passion. I desire to live a life obedient to God's call, consistent with the church's values. I commit myself to partnership in the mission of Elim Aberystwyth, accepting the privileges, responsibilities & accountability of the church.

(And we won't expect you to either!!)

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