

A faint purple crown graphic is centered in the background. It features a cross at the top, a central circle, and a series of smaller circles along the top edge. The crown has a scalloped base and a central vertical element.

# **Kingdom Culture**

Building a Kingdom Culture 1

# Kingdom Culture

- Kingdom
  - ‘A territory ruled by a king’ (Oxford Dictionary)
  - The domain of the King... doing life His way
  - Heaven = His realm
- Culture
  - ‘the ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society’ (Oxford Dictionary)
  - ‘How we do things around here’
  - Derived from words for growth and life

# 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!**

# Citizens of Heaven

- Too often churches settle for being part of a commonwealth: enjoying occasional visits and with only the limited influence of their king.
- We want to be a people of a kingdom where the King Himself resides and has full reign and authority.

*‘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.’*

# What is an '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.

# Importance of Culture

- Culture is immensely powerful
- Can you think of something that has had a greater impact upon the way you live your daily lives than the culture of the family and community you have grown up in?
- The way we feel, act, respond, think and many more have been enormously shaped by the culture we have been cultivated in!

# Aspects and Determinants of a Culture

- Language
- Values
- Traditions and customs and rites of passage
- Context
- Belief / faith systems
- Creative expressions (art / music etc)
- Food
- Clothing
- Authority / Government

# Characteristics of Kingdom Culture

A Kingdom Culture is characterised by a people who...

- Pray
- Love and worship The Lord
- Love and honour one another
- Overflow with hope and life
- Seek Righteousness
- Live by the Spirit
- Bring wholeness (shalom) to their world

... and more!

# The Fruit of a Kingdom Culture

- The word 'culture' is derived from French and Latin agricultural terminology = cultivating, growing, life, development.
- We want to build a culture that leads to kingdom minded and living people...
  - Bigger People (Acts 2)
  - Better People (Acts 2)
  - Bolder People (Acts 3)

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# How Do We Build a Kingdom Culture?

- Growing in our focus upon and devotion to the King and His Kingdom
  - ‘Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith’ (Heb 12:2)
  - ‘I will Build my church’ (Matt 16:18)
  - ‘Abide in me and I will abide in you’ (John 15:4)
- By laying foundations of Kingdom beliefs and behaviours in the the life of our church
  - We certainly won’t always get it right, but we’ll sure as **heaven** try!

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