



Raising Up People Of Strength (part 3)

05 September 2004

OUTLINE:

1. GOD'S DESIRE FOR YOUR
2. SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF PEOPLE OF STRENGTH
3. CHURCHES THAT NURTURE PEOPLE OF STRENGTH

Purpose of this series:

Directed at our spiritual lives - both as individuals and as a church, to challenge us to rise up to new levels in our spiritual walk with God.

PART - 3: CHURCHES THAT NURTURE PEOPLE OF STRENGTH

- * It is really important what kind of church you are part of.
- * Overtime, people in the congregation usually come to imbibe the characteristics, the strength, the anointing of the Leadership and those who minister to them in the local church.
- * What the church is, it produces. Every thing reproduces after its own kind.
- * What kind of churches produce people who:
 - * are strong in spirit.
 - * are filled with revelation knowledge.
 - * are equipped to minister.
 - * are maturing into Christ likeness.
- * What kind of churches, produce people who are:
 - * breaking free from religious bondage.
 - * walking God's ways, thinking God's thoughts and pursuing God's purposes.
 - * being established in present truth.
 - * fulfilling God appointed ministry.
 - * maintaining unity by walking in love.

Our Approach

1. What did Jesus say He wanted the church to be? What does the New Testament say the local church should be?

The answer to this question will help us determine how to be a church that nurtures people of strength - the kind of people we know God wants us to be.

Matt 16:18, 1 Timothy 3:15

The local church is the physical manifestation / representation of the spiritual body the church

The founder and builder of every local church is Jesus.

Eph 5:25-27

The church will be brought to a place where it is without spot or blemish or any such thing.



The "process" by which the church will be brought to this place, is described in Eph 4:11-16

Eph 4:11 - 16

* In this passage we find 7 things that Jesus desires to be happening in His Church. If we as a local church, align ourselves to this and attempt to do this, then we will be a church that nurtures people of strength.

#1. A CHURCH THAT IS FOCUSED ON EQUIPPING SAINTS FOR MINISTRY.

- * We must be committed to equipping every one for ministry.
- * Jesus desires every believer to be equipped for ministry.

Education is not the same as equipping.

Education is impartation of knowledge.

Equipping is imparting knowledge and skill. It is giving some one the necessary tools and showing them how to use it.

#2. A CHURCH THAT IS COMMITTED TO EDIFYING THE BODY OF CHRIST

- * Our goal should not be just to build our own local church.

* We must commit ourselves to building up the Body of Christ. DO what it takes to build up the Church in our city, nation and around the world.

#3. A CHURCH THAT IS BRINGING PEOPLE INTO THE UNITY OF THE FAITH

1 Cor 12:25

- * We must come to a place where we all believe the same thing, say the same thing concerning the faith and flow together in one heart and purpose.

#4. A CHURCH THAT IS BRINGING PEOPLE INTO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SON OF GOD.

- * We are to be centered around the Son of God, not around a person or a denomination.
- * We are to progressively increase in our knowledge of the Son of God - to come to know Him for all that He is.

#5. A CHURCH THAT IS MATURING PEOPLE INTO CHRISTLIKENESS

#6. A CHURCH THAT IS ESTABLISHING PEOPLE IN SOUND DOCTRINE

- * There are so many winds of doctrine blowing through the body of Christ.
- * We must commit to establishing people in sound doctrine so that they will not be tossed around with every wind that blows.
- * The key to discerning error is to be established in the truth. One cannot discern error, if one does not know the truth.
- * Every movement has had its own set of terminologies. We need to carefully examine the use of such terminology and see if there are truly Biblical.



* Too often the "cliches" and "terminologies" that we use is nothing more than "fad" and "fluff", that boost our spiritual egos - with no Scriptural basis. For instance think about these: "Governing churches", "Territorial churches" - is there a Scriptural basis for such terminology or for the concept these terminologies convey? There is a whole lot more that we need to re-examine and discard those that are not Scriptural. [Have you ever wondered: if all these terminologies that we throw around and puff ourselves with were so important - how come the apostle Paul never took time in his Epistles to write and explain about them ? Are we just fooling ourselves using such high sounding cliches and jargons in the present Apostolic/Prophetic/Saints movement and not really accomplishing much!!]

* Our focus should always remain: "Speaking the truth in love, and growing up into Christ in all things."

* If a teaching does not really help us mature into Christlikeness - then it is best to leave it alone.

#7. A CHURCH WHERE EVERY MEMBER IS DOING THEIR PART

* Where every member is Fulfilling their God appointed function.

* None of us can work in isolation.



USEFUL RESOURCES



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

WORLD MISSIONS: <https://apcworldmissions.org>