



Becoming A Cell Church Sunday March 20, 2005

Understanding The Vision for A Cell Church

Moving from a program/event based church to becoming a cell church.

What is a cell Group ?

- A small group of people (not more than 1 Leader + 12 others) meeting together regularly, building relationships, edifying each other in the things of God and ministering together.
- A microcosm of the Kingdom of God.
- A small unit of the local church.
- Not just a Bible study. Not just a prayer meeting!! Not another church service!!
- In every cell group, people can be evangelized, receive prayer, healing, deliverance, fellowship, Bible teaching, edification, visitation, follow-up, discipleship, and more.
- Anything needed in the body of Christ ought to be found in the cell group.

The Biblical Pattern

Acts 2:46 Acts 20:18-20

Why cells ?

1. Provides The Most Efficient Means for Pastoring & Evangelism

The cell church is the most efficient means of reaching unbelievers and pastoring believers. Opportunity to provide personal ministry to all believers.

2. Recapturing Families

When believers get involved in ministry, they move out of the receiving mode and into the giving mode, out of the distribution line and into the contribution line.

When they begin using their homes to host cell-group meetings, they bring ministry activity right into the heart of their lives and are actually touching lives all around them, just as Jesus commanded.

Quote: "we used to go to church to get God and bring him home. Now we get God at home and bring him to church"

3. Increasing the Church

Please remember that without a harvest, our church can't grow. All our future leaders are out there in the harvest.

4. Making Disciples

Discipleship of believers takes place effectively in small groups.

To make disciples in the Hebrew sense of the term is to live the life of a mentor before your protégé.



5. Having True Fellowship and Edification

Build meaningful relationships – difficult to do in a large gathering.

6. Exercising of Spiritual Gifts

7. Raising up leaders

8. Accountability:

Every member of the Church is accountable to evangelize, to grow spiritually, and to fulfill his own part of the vision to the fullest measure of his capacity. This not only includes evangelism and church attendance but also encompasses ministry to each other and to the world this cell group is set amongst.

Because the cell groups are given responsibility for all aspects of local church ministry, except for Sunday celebration services, close accountability exists, and productivity is easily measured.

9. Avoid Continuation of Dead Programs

By carefully monitoring the health of the individual cells, the cell church thus avoids the continuation of dead programs or traditions that have outlived their usefulness.

What does a cell church look like ?

- Have Sunday services where every one come together for worship and instruction in the Word and to keep in sync with the overall direction of the local church.
- Meet during the week – once a week or twice in a week in cell groups.
- Build strong relationships – every one feels cared for.
- People in need are ministered to right away (e.g. when pastor is traveling!)
- Ministry is done through cell groups. They do not have to wait for the church to start a program or ministry. A cell leader sees a ministry opportunity and takes their cell group to meet that need. Cells work together to meet ministry opportunities.
- Souls are continuously being brought in to the Kingdom. The local church keeps growing continuously.
- The churches and ministers are focused on building leaders and providing training.
- The vision of the church permeates the entire church structure. Every individual is possessed by the vision of the Church. In each cell-group meeting, this vision is rehearsed over and over again so that it was never lost

Examples of cell churches:

The ACP-12 cell model

Explain the model and its advantages

- See our “APC-12 Cell Groups” publication

Why The Model of the 12

- Twelve tribes Genesis 35:22-26
- The way God multiplies His people genesis 49:28 God’s number for fruitfulness and multiplication.



- God's government – the way God governed His people: OT Exodus 24:4 Matthew 10:1 Revelation 21:14

The Cell Group meeting

Time limit that we have set is 90 minutes (meetings begin at 7:00 PM and end at approx 8:30 PM)

Some general guidelines we need to keep in mind:

- All members are encouraged to share and we ask that everyone speak openly and honestly.
- Each person should feel safe about opening up...but please remember it is very important that we stress confidentiality. All matters shared within our group need to remain in strict confidence.
- We will reach out to our family, neighbors, and friends with goals of bringing these people to Christ.
- We will keep the interaction in line with what Christ is doing in our midst, and refrain from storytelling that is irrelevant to the subjects we are discussing.
- We will not murmur or gossip.
- Prayer ... this is an area that can bring the most growth and strength to our group. We ask each cell member to include the cell members and the ministry of our group in their prayer life.
- We will always keep the vision of our church foremost in our mind...

At All Peoples Church our vision is to be salt and light in the city of Bangalore and a voice to the nation of India and to the nations.

A sample of the schedule

15 min Arrival, (refreshments – optional) and fellowship

10 min Praise and Worship

10 min Icebreaker

40 min Word Study with open discussions

15 min Prayer and ministry

The Cell Group Leader

- Preparing The Word Study and Discussions
- Guiding The Discussions
- You are the Leader and Mentor
- Following up with individuals during the week
- Encouraging cell members to start their cells
- Ministering to needs – contact church/pastor for additional help

Existing Cell Group Listing

Leader	Day/Time	Area	Contact Phone	Information
Dillip Nanda	Mon 8:00 Pm	R.T.Nagar	9880225037	Young Men
Barry Peacock	Tues 6:30 Pm	Ulsoor	9886027204	Young Men
Rakesh & Archana	Tues 6:30 Pm	Kormangla	9845101180	Family
Maria Prasanna	Wed 6:30 Pm	Indiranagar	25274643	Family



Floyd & Asha	Wed 7:30 Pm	Cox Town	25487295	Family
Georgy & Joyce	Wed 5:30 P.m	M.S.R.Nagar	9886090060	Family
Lalit & Nancy	Wed 6:30 Pm	R.T.Nagar	23335504	Family
George Simon	Thur 8:00 Pm	R.T.Nagar	988082448	Young Men
Stephen & Shakila	Fri 6:00 Pm	Vidyaranyaपुरa	9845048322	Family
Rachna Asirvatham	Fri 7:00 Pm	Kamanahalli	9886399726	Young Ladies
Vanitha	Sat (flexible)	Kormangala	984534077	Young Ladies
Zampe Salomi	Sat (flexible)	Benson Town	9886326593	Young Ladies
Prem and Vanitha	Sun 9:30 Pm	Benson Town	9845062339	Young Couples
Ajit Sivaram	Mon 8:00 Pm	Frazer Town	9886191810	Young Men
Surya Rao	Sat 6:30 Pm	Jayanagar	26553135	Family
Abraham & Beulah Christopher	(Starting from April)	Jayanagar	30619052	Young Couples
Dr. Jayanthi	(Starting from April)	Benson Town	23335140	Family
Binu Abraham		Mallya Hospital	22238296	Medical Professionals

Only committed members of APC can become Cell Group Leaders.
You must be part of a cell group to become a member of APC.

What will it take to make this happen ?

How do we transition to becoming a cell church ?

- **Single Task**

The only way to make cell ministry work is for it to become the single task of the church. It is imperative, therefore, that everyone be doing the same thing.

- **Change**

The chance for growth requires the risk of change.
Change can cause a sense of instability, but not continuing to change can undo all the changes that you made to get where you are.

- **Regular church activities transitioned into cells.**

Our current programs: Face 2 Face for Teens N Twenties, Covenant Keepers and the Biblical Foundations Course will be transitioned into the cell groups over the course of this year.

By next year, APC in addition to the regular weekend services, there will be only the monthly all night prayer meeting. There will be no other regularly scheduled meetings other than the cell groups. The main program of APC will be just one – cell groups.

Make sure that the cell leaders and members are ready to assume the ministry function of the old program before terminating that program.

- **Adding Additional Support Staff**
- **Prayer**
- **Educating the whole church**



- Training Cell Group Leaders
- Supporting The Transition
- Making The Transition Over Time

What are some of the problems we may encounter and how do we handle them ?

- Change in perception of how a local church operates.
- Difficult to stop programs/events that have been started.
- Equipping Cell Group Leaders
- Cell Groups becoming mini-church services
- People pursuing personal agendas – breaking off and sprouting an independent church

Cell administration - the DNA of cell ministry

The Administrative side of things

Dilip Nanda – Our Cell Group Coordinator (effective March 01, 2005)

Cell Pastors : Dilip, Sunil, Atobo,

Ajit – youth cells

Cell Pastors are essential to facilitating the dynamics of growth and pastoral relationships through their interaction with cell leaders and cell members. They are key under-shepherds who are under the direction of the senior pastor.

Zones (several Districts) – Districts (small regions)

All the training, cell multiplication, and staff additions created the pressing for district offices, resource materials, and report forms. Districts covering regional areas of the city were established. A district pastor supervised each district, and offices were set up in the back of the church for each district.

Weekly Reports

weekly reports will be required from Cell Group Leaders

Will record not only recorded the numerical element but also reflected the human element. the quality of the groups was more important than the quantity of attendees.

Cell Group Leaders Training

Ordination of Cell Group Leaders

The Unlimited Possibilities of Cells

Different kinds of cells

Area Cell Groups

Business & Workplace Cell Groups

Couples Connection Cell Groups

Joyful Mothers to Be (Believing God for Children)



Marriage Cell Groups
Music Cell Groups
New Members' Cell Groups
Nursery Cell Groups
Nursing Home Cell Groups
Prayer Cell Groups
Prison Cell Groups
Senior Adults Cell Groups
Singles Cell Groups
Single Mom's Cell Groups
Special Interest Cell Groups
Support Cell Groups
Women's Cells Groups
Men's Cells Groups
School Cell Groups
Prayer Ministry Cell Groups
Young Adult Cell Groups
Youth Cell Groups

1. Cutting edge cells for the next generation (TNT)
2. Strengthening marriages and families through cell ministry
3. Taking Christ out into the marketplace
4. Cells that break through the cultural barriers

Reference:

The Cell Driven Church, Billy Hornsby.