

**WE ARE
THE SALT
OF THE WORLD.**

(your name)

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WELCOME SALT 2013

SAM HEU
YOUTH DIRECTOR
HMONG DISTRICT

Welcome to SALT 2013

Thank the Lord for His gracious work on your behalf in bringing all of you here this weekend. May the Lord continue to bless you as we fellowship together as a part of the body of Christ, the Church. We are also very thankful to those who have worked tirelessly and sacrificially in order to make this conference possible.

We would like to clarify some confusion as to the theme of our conference *Called to Love the Church*. The confusion lies with the notion that we are calling people to merely love our own ethnic churches, in this case the Hmong Church. Another confusion lies with the idea that we are merely addressing the needs of individuals who have been called especially for service within the local church. We see in Scripture that God loves the Church, so much so, that He sends His only Son to die on the cross in order to redeem the Church. Through faith in Jesus Christ, regardless of race and/or ethnicity, we have all been incorporated into the body of Christ, the Church. As the body of believers, no matter what our ethnicity or whether or not we have been called into vocational ministry, our greatest motivation to love the Church is because God loves the Church.

There are numerous passages in Scripture that speak about God's love for the Church, but one that stands out is Ephesians 5:25-33. From this passage, we tend to think that the love of Christ for the Church is like the love of a husband for his wife. But in truth, the motivation for a husband to love his wife is actually modeled and grounded in the love of Christ for the Church. For example, a husband is to love his wife self-sacrificially as Christ loved the Church and gave His life for her. Thus a Christian marriage in a way depicts the relationship between Christ, the Bridegroom and the Church, the Bride. These next few days, as we study God's Word together, we will see further how Christ's love for His Church plays out in every believer's life.

Again, we would like to welcome everyone to SALT 2013. If there is anything that we can do to make your time with us better, please do not hesitate to let us know.

We thank God, whom has saved His Church and continues to sanctify the Church for His own glory.

Sam Heu

Youth Director of the Hmong District

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

JULY 20-JULY 23

CALLED TO LOVE THE CHURCH

SATURDAY, JULY 20

10:00 AM	CHECK-IN	Registration
12:00 PM	MEET & GREET	
2:00 PM	OPENING SESSION	Sam Heu
3:30 PM	SMALL GROUPS	
5:00 PM	DINNER	
7:00 PM	WORSHIP	Dwight Smith
9:00 PM	ACTIVITIES	(Open Gym, Games)

SUNDAY, JULY 21

7:30 AM	BREAKFAST	
9:00 AM	WORSHIP	Yong Xeng Yang
10:30 AM	SEMINAR SESSION 1	
12:00 PM	LUNCH	
(12-2PM)	PRAYER (for those seeking prayer)	Edman Chapel East
2:00 PM	SEMINAR SESSION 2	
3:30 PM	SEMINAR SESSION 3	
5:00 PM	DINNER	
7:00 PM	WORSHIP	Dwight Smith
9:00 PM	CONCERT	Aaron Shust
10:30 PM	SMALL GROUPS	

MONDAY, JULY 22

7:30 AM	BREAKFAST	
9:00 AM	WORSHIP	Jon Nielson
10:30 PM	SEMINAR SESSION 4	
12:00 PM	LUNCH	
(12-2PM)	PRAYER (for those seeking prayer)	Edman Chapel East
2:00 PM	SEMINAR SESSION 5	
3:30 PM	SEMINAR SESSION 6	
5:00 PM	DINNER	
7:00 PM	WORSHIP	Dwight Smith
9:00 PM	SMALL GROUPS	

TUESDAY, JULY 23

7:30 AM	BREAKFAST	
9:00 AM	WORSHIP	Chou Xiong
10:30 AM	SMALL GROUP	
12:00 PM	LUNCH	
2:00 PM	DEPART	

*****Note: Everyone must vacate the college premises - No later than 5pm.**

**FOR LIVE
UPDATES:**

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER:

[#SALT2013](https://twitter.com/SALT2013)

**OR FIND A SALT 2013 SCREEN IN THE
TODD M. BEAMER STUDENT CENTER**

SPEAKERS & WORSHIP



DWIGHT SMITH

KEYNOTE

Dwight P. Smith, D. Miss., Biola University, was elected to the position of President of Saturation Church Planting International, Inc. (SCPI International) in January 1996. Prior to that time, he most recently was the President of United World Mission (UWM), the President of the Alliance for Saturation Church Planting (Alliance), the founding Pastor of Cornerstone Bible Church, San Jose, California, and he served two terms in South America, one developing Theological Education by Extension (TEE) programs and the second as Bolivarian Area Director.

In 1989, under Dr. Smith's leadership, UWM seized a unique opportunity and relocated from limited and restricted space in St. Petersburg, Florida to Union Mills, North Carolina adding an International Training Center in the process. Situated in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains,

the main facilities on the 30 plus acres included classrooms, student housing, a fully equipped cafeteria and administrative offices. Under Dr. Smith's leadership, UWM's support and revenues increased more than 100%. Later, with the breakup of the former Soviet Union, UWM, under Dr. Smith's leadership, along with Worldteam, Slavic Gospel Association and Dawn, convened and launched the "Alliance".

The Alliance is a strategic network of over sixty mission agencies and local churches that continues to be engaged in training, facilitating and Church Planters and church planting throughout the former Soviet empire. SCPI International's ultimate commitment is to world evangelization through Saturation Church Planting...an SCPI movement initiated in every country and/or every significant geographical region of the planet within this generation.

In recent years, Dwight has worked with a growing number of church leaders and church planters in the US. The goal of those relationships is the re-evangelization of the some 300 million people living in America by the planting, replanting and repurposing of 100,000 churches. Dr. Smith and his wife Patti have four children and eleven grandchildren. More about SCPI is available at www.SCPI.org



SAM HEU

YOUTH DIRECTOR HMONG DISTRICT

Prior to serving as the Youth Director of the Hmong District, he was the Associate Pastor of Second Generation Ministry with the Sacramento Hmong Alliance Church (Elk Grove, CA). He also served as the pastor of the First Hmong Alliance Church (Aurora, IL).

He is married to Sarah and has two lovely children, Lucas and Tabitha. They are also very excited about welcoming their third child in the near future. He has earned degrees from Toccoa Falls College (1999) and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (TEDS) (2007).

Sam is passionate about the Gospel and longs to see the day when biblical young men and women take up the mantle of leadership within the Hmong District to grow biblically healthy, Gospel-centered, Christ-honoring churches that would impact the world for God's glory.



YONG XENG YENG

FORMER DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT HMONG DISTRICT

Having served consecutive terms as the District Superintendent of the Hmong District during its infancy from 1982-1990; having pastored a number of churches within the Midwest; Rev. Yong Xeng is now retired and lives with family in Milwaukee, WI.

During the early years of the Hmong District, Rev. Yong Xeng played a crucial role in guiding, nurturing, and bringing strength and stability to the Hmong District. He is a revered leader and a sought after speaker among Hmong churches. He maintains a vigorous speaking and travel schedule and especially enjoys traveling overseas with his wife and life-long ministry partner.

His love and commitment to the Church has been clearly evident throughout his life and continues to be a model of Christ-likeness and servant leadership to younger and fellow pastors alike.



JON NIELSON

COLLEGE CHURCH

Jon Nielson grew up in Wheaton and attended Wheaton College, where he studied English literature and played basketball. After graduation, he spent nearly five years in Chicago, attending Holy Trinity Church and participating in the Chicago Plan ministry training program there. During that time he worked in youth and sports ministry and served as the pastoral resident for Holy Trinity's west side congregation, while working on his M.Div. at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (TEDS).

He also worked for several months as director of training for the Charles Simeon Trust - an organization chaired by David Helm that provides training in biblical exposition.

In 2007 Jon met his wonderful wife, Jeanne. They were married in December of 2008. Jon and Jeanne live in Wheaton and have two daughters Adelyn and Averie. They are joyful and thankful that God has called them to serve Him and the College Group at College Church. Jon and Jeanne both love sports of all kinds, literature, music, dogs and anything outdoors.



WANG CHOU XIONG

LIVING STONE ALLIANCE CHURCH

Chou is currently serving as senior pastor of a growing and vibrant church (Living Stone Alliance Church) in Appleton, WI, where he also served as lay pastor and youth pastor from 1994-2004. He has been married for 22 years and have five beautiful children, three daughters and two sons. He is a graduate of Crown College (1993) and is currently pursuing his graduate degree.

He is a member of the District Executive Committee of the Hmong District. He enjoys reading, playing music, and exercising. He is also very committed to discipling the next generation of young men and women as they will one day become the leaders within the Church and their community. He lives by the motto, "To live is Christ, to die is gain (Phil. 1:21)."

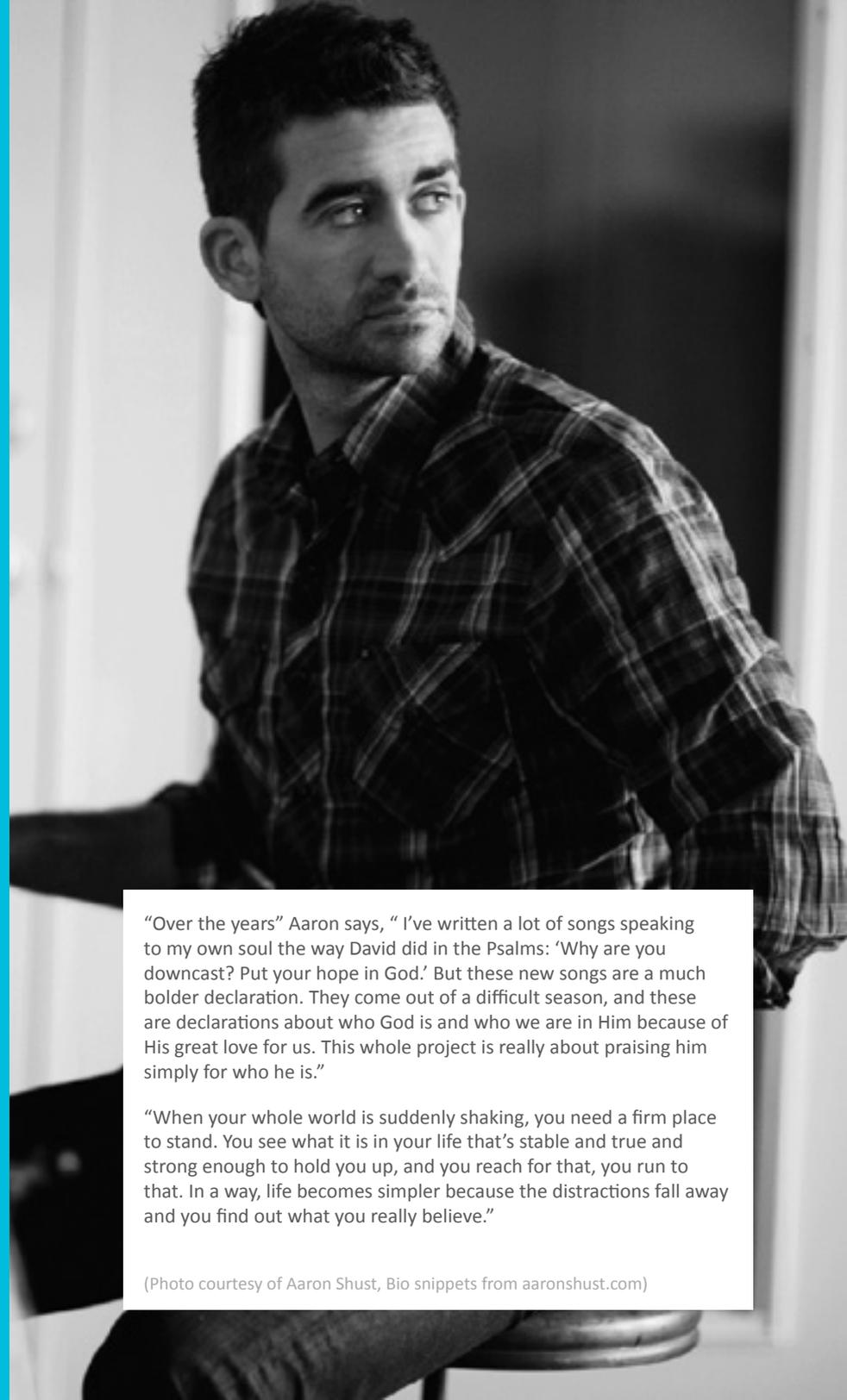
WORSHIP

LED BY AARON SHUST
ALL WEEK

“Over the years” Aaron says, “ I’ve written a lot of songs speaking to my own soul the way David did in the Psalms: ‘Why are you downcast? Put your hope in God.’ But these new songs are a much bolder declaration. They come out of a difficult season, and these are declarations about who God is and who we are in Him because of His great love for us. This whole project is really about praising him simply for who he is.”

“When your whole world is suddenly shaking, you need a firm place to stand. You see what it is in your life that’s stable and true and strong enough to hold you up, and you reach for that, you run to that. In a way, life becomes simpler because the distractions fall away and you find out what you really believe.”

(Photo courtesy of Aaron Shust, Bio snippets from aaronshust.com)



SEMINARS & SPEAKERS



SEMINAR: SESSION 1 - 10:30AM

SEMINAR/SPEAKER	ROOM
(1) BIBLICAL MANHOOD NAO XIONG HER	CORAY GYM
(2) BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD NAOMI THAO	BLANCHARD 339
(3) CHURCH W/O GLORY CHRISTOPHER THAO	BGC 138
(4) COACHING EVANGELISM: PLAN CHAR YER SOUNG	ADAMS 301
(5) COPING W/ CRISIS:SOURCE TIMOTHY VANG	SCI 145/BUYSE
(6) MY MISSION BEN STEWART	PHELPS
(7) SPIRITUAL FORMATION KEN KONG & REBECCA YANG	ARMERDING
(8) MEETING JESUS IN BIBLE STUDY BOB GRAHMANN	BGC 136
(9) THE HMONG CHURCH LANTZIA THAO	BGC 130/132
(10) UNDERSTANDING BIBLICAL DISCIPLESHIP JACOB YANG	SCI 021

SEMINAR: SESSION 2 - 2:00PM

SEMINAR/SPEAKER	ROOM
(11) BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD NAOMI THAO	SCI 021
(12) COACHING EVANGELISM: PLAN CHAR YER SOUNG	BLANCHARD 339
(13) COPING W/ CRISIS IN THE CHURCH TIMOTHY VANG	SCI 145/BUYSE
(14) CAMPUS KINGDOM LEADERS JOSHUA BILHORN	PHELPS
(15) SPIRITUAL FORMATION KEN KONG & REBECCA YANG	ARMERDING
(16) LIVING THE GREATEST COMMANDMENTS DAVE MANSKE	BGC 138
(17) CENTRALITY OF THE WORD NHA LONG YANG	ADAMS 301
(18) ROLE OF THE HMONG: PURPOSE OF GOD STEVEN HER	BGC 130/132
(19) UNDERSTANDING BIBLICAL DISCIPLESHIP JACOB YANG	CORAY GYM

SEMINAR: SESSION 3 - 3:30PM

SEMINAR/SPEAKER	ROOM
(20) BIBLE COLLEGE STUDENT NETWORKING SAM HEU & SINGER SOUNG	CAFETERIA
(21) BIBLICAL MANHOOD NAO XIONG HER	SCI 021
(22) CHURCH W/O GLORY CHRISTOPHER THAO	BLANCHARD 339
(23) CAMPUS KINGDOM LEADERS JOSHUA BILHORN	PHELPS
(24) MY MISSION BEN STEWART	CORAY GYM
(25) MEETING JESUS IN BIBLE STUDY BOB GRAHMANN	BGC 136
(26) LIVING THE GREATEST COMMANDMENTS DAVE MANSKE	BGC 138
(27) CENTRALITY OF THE WORD NHA LONG YANG	ADAMS 301
(28) THE HMONG CHURCH LANTZIA THAO	ARMERDING
(29) ROLE OF THE HMONG: PURPOSE OF GOD STEVEN HER	BGC 130/132

SEMINAR: SESSION 4 - 10:30AM

SEMINAR/SPEAKER	ROOM
(30) BIBLICAL MANHOOD NAO XIONG HER	BGC 138
(31) BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD NAOMI THAO	BARROWS - BGC
(32) CHURCH WITH GLORY CHRISTOPHER THAO	SCI 021
(33) COACHING EVANGLISM: LEAD TO CHRIST CHAR YER SOUNG	PHELPS
(34) COPING W/ CRISIS IN THE CHURCH TIMOTHY VANG	SCI 145/BUYSE
(35) DISCONNECT BEN STEWART	CORAY GYM
(36) SPIRITUAL FORMATION KEN KONG & REBECCA YANG	BGC 130/132
(37) MEETING JESUS IN BIBLE STUDY BOB GRAHMANN	BGC 136
(38) THE HMONG CHURCH LANTZIA THAO	BLANCHARD 339
(39) UNDERSTANDING BIBLICAL DISCIPLESHIP JACOB YANG	ARMERDING

SEMINAR: SESSION 5 - 2:00PM

SEMINAR/SPEAKER	ROOM
(40) BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD NAOMI THAO	BGC 136
(41) COACHING EVANGLISM: LEAD TO CHRIST CHAR YER SOUNG	PHELPS
(42) COPING W/ CRISIS IN CHURCH TIMOTHY VANG	SCI 021
(43) HOW TO BUILD A BIBLICAL YA MINISTRY JON NIELSON	CORAY GYM
(44) CAMPUS KINGDOM LEADERS JOSHUA BILHORN	ADAMS 301
(45) SPIRITUAL FORMATION KEN KONG & REBECCA YANG	BGC 130/132
(46) LIVING THE GREATEST COMMANDMENTS DAVE MANSKE	BGC 138
(47) CENTRALITY OF THE WORD NHA LONG YANG	SCI 145/BUYSE
(48) ROLE OF THE HMONG: PURPOSE OF GOD STEVEN HER	BLANCHARD 339
(49) UNDERSTANDING BIBLICAL DISCIPLESHIP JACOB YANG	ARMERDING

SEMINAR: SESSION 6 - 3:30PM

SEMINAR/SPEAKER	ROOM
(50) BIBLICAL MANHOOD NAO XIONG HER	BGC 138
(51) CHURCH WITH GLORY CHRISTOPHER THAO	ARMERDING
(52) DISCONNECT BEN STEWART	CORAY GYM
(53) HOW TO BUILD A BIBLICAL Y/A MINISTRY JON NIELSON	PHELPS
(54) CAMPUS KINGDOM LEADERS JOSHUA BILHORN	ADAMS 301
(56) MEETING JESUS IN BIBLE STUDY BOB GRAHMANN	BGC 136
(57) LIVING THE GREATEST COMMANDMENTS DAVE MANSKE	SCI 021
(58) CENTRALITY OF THE WORD NHA LONG YANG	SCI 145/BUYSE
(59) THE HMONG CHURCH LANTZIA THAO	BGC 130/132
(60) ROLE OF THE HMONG: PURPOSE OF GOD STEVEN HER	BLANCHARD 339
*(55) PANEL GENERATIONAL TRANSFERENCE OF THE GOSPEL DAO YANG	BARROWS - BGC

SMALL GROUPS

A GUIDE & PRAYER TRACK

INDIVIDUAL SECTION

SETTING

Find a place to be alone, but near your group to complete this section

OBJECTIVE

To introduce yourself to the small group and to know everyone's name.

INSTRUCTION

Complete this Individual Section

"Once again...welcome to my house. Come freely. Go safely; and leave something of the happiness you bring."

-Bram Stoker

[IN PREPARATION BEFORE THE GROUP MEETS, TAKE 5 QUICK MINUTES ALONE TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS](#)

My Name Is...Game

Find an adjective that not only describes a dominant characteristic, but also starts with the same letter of his/her name.
i.e. My name is generous George

Where are you from? City, state

How old are you?

What are you currently doing at home, school, etc...

One thing we should know about you.

10 QUESTIONS

1. If you had a time machine that would work only once, what point in the future or in history would you visit?
2. If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?
3. If your house was burning down, what three objects would you try and save?
4. If you could talk to any one person now living, who would it be and why?
5. If you HAD to give up one of your senses (hearing, seeing, feeling, smelling, tasting) which would it be and why?
6. If you were an animal, what would you be and why?
7. Do you have a pet? If not, what sort of pet would you like?
8. Name a gift you will never forget?
9. Name one thing you really like about yourself.
10. What's your favorite thing to do in the summer?

INTERACTION SECTION

SETTING

Get together with your small group. Make sure you can talk freely.

OBJECTIVE

Get to know each other

INSTRUCTION

Read each question and spend time sharing

[PLAY MY NAME IS... GAME](#)

Go around the group and ask each person to state his/her name and state an adjective that not only describes a dominant characteristic, but also starts with the same letter of his/her name.

[PLAY 10 QUESTIONS](#)

[PLAY RUZZLE NAMES](#)

Put everybody's name in the box below starting clockwise from the youngest person

In the example below: The youngest person would be Toulee. George is clockwise from Toulee, Paul is clockwise from George, etc.

[FIND WORDS IN THE ADJACENT BOX](#)

You may start anywhere, but your next letter must be adjacent to the letter.

In the example below: Starting with the letter "G" in Pangfoua, the letter "R" in Sarah, the letter "A", "P", "E". Grape.

Now find more words

The person with the most words win

Note: You cannot have a personal name count towards a word.

T	O	U	L	E	E			
G	A	O	R	G	E			
P	A	U	L					
P	A	N	F	O	U	A		
S	A	A	H					
A	L	E	X	A	N	D	E	R
N	K	A	U	J	I	A	B	
N	P	I	S					

[DISCUSS YOUR HOPES/EXPECTATIONS OF SALT FOR THIS WEEK.](#)

[CLOSE THE TIME TOGETHER BY PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER](#)

INDIVIDUAL SECTION: LIFE

What is the Lord's will for your life?

IF YOU COULD RATE YOUR LIFE, 1 BEING THE WORST AND 10 BEING THE BEST, WHERE WOULD YOU BE?

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10

CIRCLE THE CONDITIONS BELOW THAT DESCRIBES YOUR LIFE.

Procrastination	Tested
Organized	Reflection
Lost	Controlled
Free Spirited	Mediocrity
Competitive	Impulsive
Stubborn	Detailed
Great	Complacent
Quick Tempered	Different
Ignorant	Wasted
Isolated	Progression
Full	Incomplete
Unexamined	Unsatisfied
	Other _____

READ: EPHESIANS 5:15

Which conditions above could be caused by careless living?

Things that I am wise in my life are

"You gotta dance like there's nobody watching, love like you'll never be hurt, sing like there's nobody listening and live like its heaven on earth."

-William W. Purkey

¹⁵ Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is

Ephesians 5:15-17

EPHESIANS 4:17-24

¹⁷ So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. ¹⁸ They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. ¹⁹ Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more. ²⁰ You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. ²¹ Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. ²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

EPHESIANS 4:25-32

²⁵ Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body. ²⁶ "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ and do not give the devil a foothold. ²⁸ He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need. ²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

IN EPHESIANS 4:17-24, TWO TYPE OF LIFE ARE DESCRIBED.

DESCRIBE THE LIFE BEFORE CHRIST

DESCRIBE THE LIFE IN CHRIST

COMPARE YOUR LIFE WITH THE TWO WAYS OF LIVING IN THE PREVIOUS PAGE.

[INSTEAD OF BEING A “BETTER ME”, WHO IS THE NEW SELF TO BE LIKE \(V. 24\)?](#)

[WHAT IS TRUE RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HOLINESS?](#)

[HOW DOES ONE RECEIVE TRUE RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HOLINESS?](#)

¹⁵ Be very careful, then, how you live— not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is.

Ephesians 5:15-17

READ EPHESIANS 4:25-32 THEN LOOK AT THE CHART BELOW

Lay Aside	Put on	Reason
Falsehood (v.25)	Truth (v.25)	Members of one another (v.25)
Sinful Anger (v.26)	Timely Anger (v.26)	Don't want to give the Devil opportunity (v.27)
Stealing (v.28)	Working (v.28)	So that we can share (v.28)
Unwholesome Language (v. 29)	Encouraging Words (v. 29)	Extend grace to others - Don't Grieve Spirit (v. 29-30)
Vices (v. 31) Bitterness Wrath Anger Clamor Slander Malice	Virtues (v. 32) Kind Tender-hearted Forgiving	God has forgiven you (v. 32)

IF YOU HAVE A SMARTPHONE/INTERNET, PULL UP ‘THE LIVING YEARS’ BY MIKE & THE MECHANICS

This person missed the opportunity with his father. He wasted his time with his father. What areas in your life are you wasting your time away in? Every individual story of how each Christ follower came to grace is another unique brush stroke on God’s painting called grace. Without each of them it is incomplete, with all of them it tells the whole story God wants to tell. Write about the story of your life.

[WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO YOU?](#)

Are you daily listening to God in His word?

Is your heart in Holy Spirit renewal or educated rebellion?

“The mind is instructed by the Spirit, the heart is moved in response, but the will must be given to Him to do as He wants.”

-Dwight Smith

INTERACTION SECTION

SETTING

Get together with your small group. Make sure you can talk freely.

OBJECTIVE

To discuss with each about your life

INSTRUCTION

Read each question and spend time sharing

- 1 Share your answers from question 1-3 on the “Individual Section”
- 2 Discuss with your group how you feel about your life
- 3 Share your answers from questions 4-13 on the “Individual Section”
- 4 Share your thoughts on the song.
- 5 Tell your brush stroke life story to the group.
- 6 Discuss your hopes for this week
- 7 Pray together that God would use this week to make the most of your opportunities here at SALT.

INDIVIDUAL SECTION

What is the purpose of the Church?

Worship	Evangelize	Fellowship
Offering	Control	Equip
Forgiveness	Holiness	Help the Poor
Condemn Sin	Other_____	

WHAT IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO THE CHURCH? MARK WHERE YOU ARE IN YOUR CHURCH. DESCRIBE WHY.

GOOD _____ NEUTRAL _____ DISTANT

EPHESIANS 3:1-11

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles--² Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you,³ that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly.⁴ In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,⁵ which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets.⁶ This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.⁷ I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power.⁸ Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,⁹ and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.¹⁰ His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms,¹¹ according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

CIRCLE THE WORD MYSTERY IN THE EPHESIANS 3:1-11 PASSAGE. HOW MANY TIMES IS MYSTERY MENTIONED?

what does mystery mean?

A mystery is not to be understood as a riddle that is to be solved. A mystery is not to be viewed as something that is odd or weird. A mystery in the Bible is something which was once unknown, but now known. It has been revealed so that all can know.

WHAT IS THE MYSTERY THAT PAUL IS SPEAKING ABOUT? WHAT WAS ONCE UNKNOWN TO PAUL AND THE ISRAELITES?

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE MEAN WHEN IT SAYS IN EPH. 3:10, "THROUGH THE CHURCH, THE MANIFOLD WISDOM OF GOD SHOULD BE MADE KNOWN"?

WHAT IS GOD'S INTENTION FOR THE CHURCH?

DOES YOUR LOCAL CHURCH FULFILL ITS CALLING? DOES THE HMONG CHURCH FULFILL ITS CALLING? DOES THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL FULFILL ITS CALLING? WHY OR WHY NOT?

His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms,

Ephesians 3:10

man-i-fold

1. Many and varied; of many kinds; multiple: *our manifold failings.*
2. Having many features or forms: *manifold intelligence.*
3. Being such for a variety of reasons: *a manifold traitor.*
4. Consisting of or operating several devices of one kind at the same time.



HERE IS AN IMAGE OF AN EXHAUST MANIFOLD AS FOUND IN A CAR.

The purpose of the exhaust manifold is to collect engine exhaust from **MULTIPLE** cylinders and deliver it into **ONE** exhaust pipe.

INSTRUMENT OF GOD

“At this point in history, that instrument is the church, the body of the Lord Jesus Christ. Whatever God is going to do in the world, He is going to do through all of Christ’s people.”

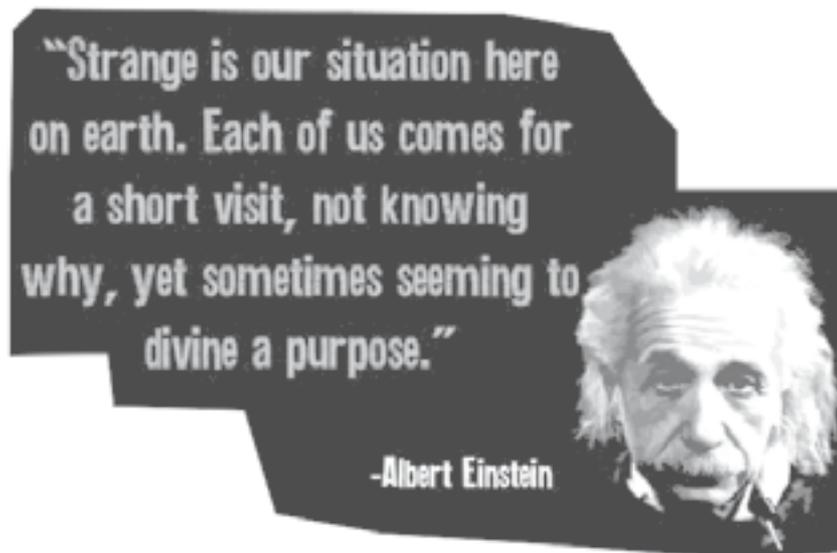
Dwight Smith

WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO YOU?

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN EACH MEMBER IN THE BODY LIVES ITS PARTICULAR, UNIQUE, EXHAUSTIVE, AND ULTIMATELY ETERNAL EXPERIENCE IN CONNECTION TO THE WORLDS WE LIVE IN?

WHAT KEEPS THIS FROM HAPPENING?

HOW CAN WE GO ABOUT RAISING UP THESE KINDS OF CHURCHES?



INTERACTION SECTION

SETTING

Get together with your small group. Make sure you can talk freely.

OBJECTIVE

To share your feelings about the church and discuss with each other how you are called to love the Church

INSTRUCTION

Read each question and spend time sharing

- 1 Share your answers from question 1-2 on the “Individual Section”
- 2 Discuss with your group how you feel about your life
- 3 Share your answers from questions 3-7 on the “Individual Section”
- 4 Discuss how this generation can change the Church.
- 5 If you are comfortable, pray together that God would use this week to strengthen your relationship with the Church.

INDIVIDUAL SECTION

SETTING

Find a place to be alone, but near your group to complete this section

OBJECTIVE

To surface and identify your feelings towards the yourself and the Church

INSTRUCTION

Spend time in prayer individually in part one and then complete part two.

PART ONE

Confess to God any rejection of, withdrawal from, or bitterness towards yourself or the church. Agree with God that this is wrong. Thank God for His forgiveness.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

Commit to God to love the Church based upon God's manifold wisdom and sovereignty. Be sure to put this commitment in your letter.

Tell God you are willing to let Him change you through both the church's strength as well as your church's weaknesses, differences, and selfishness.

³ Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. ⁴ For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. ⁵ There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ and one God and Father, who is over all and in all and living through all.

Ephesians 4:3-6

PART ONE

Write out the answers to the following questions in the form of a letter.

WHAT WERE QUALITIES THAT DREW ME TO THE CHURCH WHEN I FIRST STARTED ATTENDING?

WHAT QUALITIES DO I APPRECIATE OR HAVE LEARNED TO APPRECIATE MOST ABOUT THE CHURCH AFTER BEING WITH THE CHURCH FOR A PERIOD OF TIME?

HOW HAS THE DIFFERENCES IN THE CHURCH HELPED ME GROW SPIRITUALLY AND EMOTIONALLY?

WHAT STEPS WILL I COMMIT TO TAKE TO LOVING GOD AND THE CHURCH MORE?

WHAT STOPS YOUR CHURCH FROM TAKING UPON ITSELF GOD'S DESIGN FOR CHRIST'S CHURCH? WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP IT DISCOVER AND LIVE THIS DESIGN?

INTERACTION SECTION

SETTING

Get together with your small group. Make sure you can talk freely.

OBJECTIVE

To share your feelings and commitment to the church with each other.

INSTRUCTION

Read each question and spend time sharing

- 1 Share and discuss your letter.
- 2 Verbalize to your group the commitment you made to God during your individual prayer time.
- 3 Close the time together by taking turns thanking God for the church.
- 4 Write any points to remember or apply in the space below.



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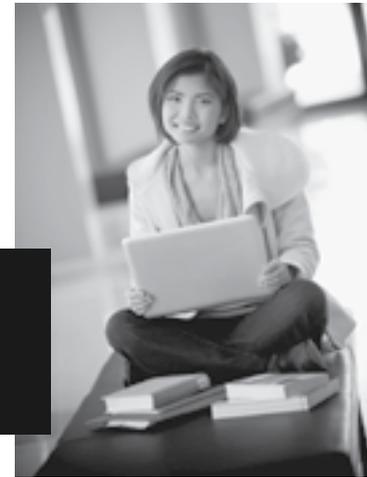


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