



APC 2017 The Road Ahead

Joshua 11:15,23

Joshua fought all the battles he had to fight to conquer and overthrow kings who were in the Promised Land.

In Joshua chapter 12, we have a list of kings conquered by Moses (12:1-6) and a list of 31 kings conquered by Joshua (12:7-24).

Joshua had spent 7 years fighting battles and had conquered 31 kings. He was about 100 years old at this time.

Joshua 13:1

Yet Joshua 13:1 begins with the statement : *"...There remains very much land yet to be possessed"*

Joshua 13:6-7, each tribe is allotted a territory

2 and 1/2 tribes were allotted land on the East side of Jordan (Reuben, Gad and half the tribe of Manasseh).

Joshua 18:1-3

Later, in Joshua 18:1-3, we see that seven of the tribes still neglected going in and occupying the land, and were still around Shiloh.

So Joshua came up with a plan to survey the remaining unoccupied land, divide it into 7 portions, cast lots, and allot each portion by lot to the remaining 7 tribes and charge them to go occupy the land allotted to them.

The battles with the chiefs and kings had been fought and won, and yet the land that was promised still remained to be possessed - inhabited, made a permanent dwelling, occupied and subdued.

We must move with FAITH and WISDOM to possess what is still to be taken.

As a local church community, the Lord has a call, an assignment for us. He has "territories" in the realm of the Spirit that He has called us to inherit. Different ones amongst us have been called to inherit certain territories, e.g. the marketplace, etc.

We need to have a plan, a strategy on how we are going to go in and possess the land and occupy the territories - spiritually speaking - that God has assigned for us.

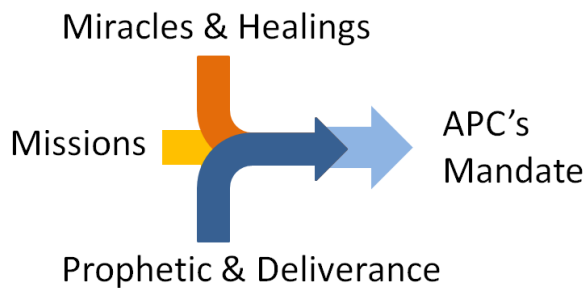
So today is more of a reminder of how we are making this journey as a local church and some directions on what we plan to do and emphasize in 2017, as part of our strategy to "possess the land".

Our Vision as a Local Church

Our vision is to be salt and light in the city of Bangalore, a voice to our nation and to the nations.

"salt and light" means we must be a people of "influence and impact" for God's Kingdom in our city. As a "voice" we release what God is saying to the nation and to the nations.

At APC God has called us to to bring together three streams of Miracles & Healings, Prophetic & Deliverance, Missions : three streams merged into one



The House of God

We follow, what we call as "God's blueprint" when we work at developing the local church.

We see in Scripture 10 pictures for the local church and we work at developing or growing in all of these 10 areas. (For those who are interested you can read more about this in our free publication called "The House of God").

GOD'S BLUEPRINT FOR THE LOCAL CHURCH

THE BRIDE In love with our Bridegroom God	A HOUSE OF PRAYER AND WORSHIP Continuous worship and prayer	THE TEMPLE OF GOD God dwelling among us and His glory revealed through us	THE VINE AND THE BRANCHES Intimacy that births fruitfulness	THE LAMPSTAND Our standing before Him makes us light in a dark world
THE BODY OF CHRIST We represent Him and carry out His purposes	THE FAMILY OF GOD We live as His family here on earth	THE PILLAR OF TRUTH We uphold truth in this world	GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE We demonstrate Kingdom culture and values	AN ARMY We overthrow the works and powers of darkness
THE EARLY CHURCH A prototype to follow and exceed				

2017 Sermon Plan

So typically towards the end of a year, we prayerfully prepare the sermon plan for the entire year ahead. We keep God's blueprint in mind, evaluate where we are as a church and focus on developing (growing) the church in certain areas through what is taught and brought to the church, throughout the course of the entire year.

So as part of the plan for 2017 we will be doing a few book studies: 1 Timothy, Ezra and Nehemiah.

We will do a few series designed to strengthen certain areas:

- Manifesting the glory of God
- Restoration of our souls
- Ministering the Gifts of the Spirit
- Life-Skills

We will intersperse these with a few individual inspirational sermons, and also have about 6 guest speakers minister to us through the course of the year.

Your Role

Given our vision as a local church, and given the blueprint according to which we are building, what should your role be in the local church community:

There are three areas we wish to bring to our attention, where we desire for all of us to be actively involved in

EVANGELISM : reaching out to unsaved family and friends in your circle of influence. Each one of us should do what we can to reach others. There are many ways you can go about this. First of all **start praying** for a few people that they can be saved. **Have conversations** with them where you can share about Jesus. **Invite them** to your small group or even to church if they are interested. **Give them** tracts and other material that would help them in their journey of discovery.

DISCIPLESHIP : helping people become strong in their faith and grow into Christlikeness. Spend time with others who are still young in their faith journey, help and encourage them in their faith.

MISSIONS : sharing what we have received from God with those who do not have. We will publish our missions calendar for the year and you can plan on going out and serving and giving to others what you have received.

Of course to be able to do these, we all need to **get equipped**.

This will happen through our Sunday services, weekend schools and workshops we will have. You can also make use of our free publications. The best way to get equipped is to start serving in one or more areas in the local church community. As you serve, you learn, you grow and you are strengthened.

Our Ministries

While we will continue and strengthen much of what we have been doing, we would like to bring you attention to a few new things we will be doing this year:

Couples Dinner Date : An evening where we help strengthen marriages by addressing topics that are relevant and also provide opportunity for couples to spend time with each other in conversation. We will do this twice this year.

Youth Workshops (on selected Saturdays 4pm-8pm): Address topics relevant to young people who are in college and in the workplace, with Christian principles, Discipleship, Witness and Missions in mind.

We will have four such workshops:

- Education & Career Choices
- Skills for Success
- Maximizing Potential and Performance
- Growing Professionally Within An Organization
- Entrepreneurship

We'd really like YOU, experienced professionals in the congregation to come share and impart to our young people. We also see this as an important way to build intergenerational bridges within the local church community.

Professionals Meetup (3 times this year on selected Saturdays 6pm-9pm) : to address topics of relevance to Christians in the marketplace with Christian principles, Discipleship, Witness and Missions in mind. Also make it an intellectually stimulating experience, so that they have takeaways for their workplace. This will also be a good opportunity to build friendships amongs professionals and could be an opportunity to invite non-believers as well.

Our Outreach & Missions Strategy

As APC continues its efforts in missions and outreach, we see a clear missions strategy evolving that has three specific areas: EQUIPPING, CHURCH PLANTING, EMPOWERING. We are working towards establishing this three pronged strategy state by state, region by region, across India.

EQUIPPING	CHURCH PLANTING	EMPOWERING
is to spiritually train and strengthen pastors, Christian workers and Churches through our free Publications, TV programs, Christian	is important to establish Kingdom presence in a village, town or community. We get behind Christian workers by supporting their church planting work	is to assist those who are under-privileged by providing practical means to elevate their lives through Education Sponsorship Program and Micro-

<p>Leaders Conferences, FOUNDATIONS for youth, Short Term Bible Colleges, and Weekend Schools (including marriage seminars and worship workshops).</p>	<p>through Christian Workers Support, Church Building projects and Urban Church planting .</p>	<p>Financing. This is something we will begin to engage in soon.</p>
<p>Typically, we work with people we personally train and equip, in our Church Planting and Empowering work.</p>		

As our cup overflows, we need to give out to others.

So lets work together to go possess the land.

Lets all engage in Evangelism, Discipleship and Missions this year.