A Community attractive to God

Being a resting place for God's presence

God's word to YWAM Singapore 2010

"I don't want to visit you anymore,
I want to stay."

God's word to YWAM Singapore 2010

What does this statement imply?

We have been inviting the Lord to come and when it is finished, he leaves.

This house is not His.

God is always longing and looking for a community that he feels comfortable to rest upon them.

When God's presence is comfortable within a community, when the community learns how to host the presence of God both individually and corporately, they become attractive and people are attracted to them.

This community learns how to gaze on God's beauty, know Him intimately and comfortable being in His presence.

This community learns the ways of God and how to rightly represent him in all affairs of church and life.

This community learns how to display the manifold wisdom of God to the unreached world and communicate the good news in a language that they can understand The journey of Israel is a story of God's longing for a people to be His, a resting place amongst His people,

to represent His nature and character and through them to communicate to the world.

Slaves

Israel's Condition:

There were 70 people when they went to Egypt – Jacob.

Stayed in Egypt for 400 years. 100 years as guest of the Pharaoh and 300 years of slavery.

When they left Egypt, there were 600,000 able-bodied men (Ex 12:37). Taking the ratio at the family of 70 origins, it was 4.5 women to 1 man. Total at least 2.5 million to 3 million, excluding foreigners.

Israel's Condition:

From the time they left Egypt, it was multinational. They took slaves from different nations with them.

The largest refugee camp in the world. They were in the worst stage of life.

Israel's Condition:

No school

No land

No government

No economy

No work ethics

No agricultural

No Healthcare

No money

No army

No system of social

responsibility

No industry

No religious

system

Of all peoples, God chose Israel to represent Him. Why?

Deut 7:7-9

7 The LORD did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. 8 But it was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your forefathers that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

He did not select Israel because of their strengths, gifting and intelligence. He selected Israel because they were nothing in the sight of other nations and they were a broken people.

God personally led Israel. He did all the mighty acts:

- Parting of the Red Sea and drowning Pharaoh's army
- Giving water from the rock
- Manna and Quail

- Taught them how to defeat the enemies
- Revealed himself in cloud and fire
- Gave them the ten commandants and other instructions to help them to live as a nation
- Gave them a tabernacle as a communal location for worship

Ex 33:7-11 Joshua in the tent of meeting. What was Joshua staring at?

When Israel chose a golden calf over the presence of God, they rejected the essence of God over their lives.

Then God responded in Ex 33:1-3

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Leave this place, you and the people you brought up out of Egypt, and go up to the land I promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants.' 2 I will send an angel before you and drive out the Canaanites, Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.

³ Go up to the land flowing with milk and honey. But I will not go with you, because you are a stiffnecked people and I might destroy you on the way."

This is probably one of the saddest statements God made. God's heart was probably both grieved and angry. This is a people that He handpicked to draw them close to him. They had nothing and God wanted them to be a people that belong to him. They chose to reject him.

Out of his love, he said to them "I will help you achieve your destiny, but I am not coming with you."

Lesson:

We can achieve our life goals and destiny with the help of God but not the presence of God going with us.

Here is a challenge of **focus** – God's focus is His resting place on a community. Israel's focus is the destination, reaching the Promised Land through easiest, quickest and most comfortable way.

Question:

What do we want more?

The fulfilment of the promises/blessings of God or the presence of God?

For Moses, He knew that this is not about the destination of the Promised Land.

He was once the prince of Egypt, equipped with intelligence and eloquent in speech and powerful in action (Acts 7:22).

He knew his destiny as a deliverer and took matters in his own hands, he failed miserably and escaped to the desert and became a shepherd for 40 years.

When God found him, he was a broken man. When God confronted him, he became slow of speech and lack of confidence. God said, 'this is a man I can use, a broken vessel.'

When God said that he would not go with Israel. Moses knew that this is not about the destination; it is about the heart and the desire of God, a people for himself Ex33:13 'remember that this nation is your people'.

Moses pleaded with God in v15 "if your presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?"

To Moses – having God's presence represented the pleasure of God and the mark of distinction above the rest of the pagan world

Hence God started a journey to teach Israel to be led by him.

Cloud by day and fire by night. The tabernacle was the central piece of the camp. All eyes are set on the Lord, whenever they see the clouds lifted or the fire moved, all will pack up and follow.

Pastors' Summit 2010

God's current word to the Family of God in Singapore.

"I don't want to visit you, I want to stay."

- 1972 Clock Tower story in ACS Barker that brought major revival to the Methodist Churches
- 1973 move of the Holy Spirit spread to the Anglicans through young people in SAJC and at the same time, the Bishop of the Anglican Diocese, Bishop Chiu Ban It was baptised in the Spirit in Bangkok through a reading of Dennis Bennett's book on 'Nine O' clock in the morning.' Revival broke out in the Anglican Churches.

- We knew very little, it was the Lord that taught us His ways, led and bless this nation to be the first world within one generation.
- 1978 through Billy Graham's crusade, He gave us our destiny, Antioch of Asia.
- Singapore was founded, chosen and blessed by God so she can be a blessing to the nations and unreached people groups in Asia.

Who is this God who longs to lead and guide us?

Genesis:

The Creator of the universe, the breath of life and the Seed of the Woman – one who would crush Satan's head

Exodus:

The Passover Lamb – the one takes away our sins

Leviticus:

The High Priest – who stands in the gap for us

Numbers:

The Cloud and The Fire – one who faithfully guides us

Deuteronomy:

The Prophet Like Moses – one who delivers us from slavery

Joshua:

The Conqueror of the promised land – one who leads us into victory

Judges:

The Judge And Lawgiver – one who brings us back to the Father

Ruth:

The Kinsman Redeemer – one who redeems us

· 1 & 2 Samuel:

The Prophet of The Lord — one who speak the word of the Lord

1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles:

The Reigning King – one who reigns and sovereign over all despite the frailty of men.

Ezra: The Faithful Scribe – one who teaches

Nehemiah: The Rebuilder of The Broken Walls – one who rebuild broken lives

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Esther: Mordecai – one who guides us to live our destiny in God
Job:

The Redeemer that lives – one who far greater than all our troubles

Psalms:

The Lord Who Is Our Shepherd – one who makes us lie down in green pastures, leads us to quiet waters and one who restores our soul

Proverbs & Ecclesiastes:

The Wisdom of God – one who has answers to all areas of life

The Song of Solomon:

The Lover & Bridegroom – one who is a lover of our soul

Isaiah:

The one who is seated on the throne who's name is wonderful, counselor, the mighty God and the everlasting Father.

Jeremiah: The potter who molds and shapes us

Lamentations: The Weeping Prophet – who weeps when we go astray

Ezekiel: The breath of life in dry bones – one who revives

Daniel:

The 4th Man in The Fiery Furnace – one who is faithful in all hardships

Hosea:

The Bridegroom - one who is a stubborn lover

Joel: The Baptiser With The Holy Spirit – one who empowers

Amos: The Burden Bearer – one who carries our burdens

Obadiah: The Mighty Savior – one who saves us from our pits

Jonah: The Forgiving God – one who forgives no matter how sinful we are

Micah:

The Messenger With Beautiful Feet – one who constantly speaks

Nahum:

The Avenger of God's Elect – one who is our defender

Habakkuk:

The Great Evangelist crying For Revival – one who reaches out to all

Zephaniah:

One who rejoices over us with singing and dances over us with shouts of joy

Haggai:

The one who shakes nations and will fill His temple with glory

Zechariah:

The Almighty one – one who says it's not by might, power but his Spirit

Malachi:

The Son of Righteousness – with healing in his wings

Matthew:

The Messiah – who is the coming king Mark:

The Servant King— who shows us the role of a servant leader

Luke:

The Son of Man – who shows us his humanity

John:

The Son of God — who shows us his divinity

Acts:

The fire from heaven, the Ascended Lord – who died, resurrected and raised to heaven so we can hope

Romans:

The Justifier – one who makes us right as though we had no wrong

1 & 2 Corinthians:

The Power and the Gifts of The Spirit

– one who shows Himself relevant in
all situations

Galatians:

The One Who Sets Us Free – from all bondages and slavery

Ephesians:

The One who blessed us with riches – so that the church may display the wisdom of God

Philippians:

The God Who Meets Our Every Need – one who is a faithful provider

Colossians:

The Fullness of The Godhead – one who holds all things together

1 & 2 Thessalonians:

The Soon Coming King – one who is our ultimate savior, redeemer

1 & 2 Timothy:

The Mediator Between God And Man

– one who is a bridge, the man of
peace

Titus:

The Faithful Pastor – one who cares for our growth.

Philemon:

The Friend, Closer Than a Brother – A buddy

Hebrews:

The Blood That Washes Away All My Sins

James:

The Great Physician – one who is a healer of our body, soul and spirit

1 & 2 Peter:

The Chief Shepherd – one who leads by his sacrifices and exemplary lifestyle

1 & 2 & 3 John:

Everlasting Love – one who loves and loves and loves to the power of infinity

Jude:

The keeper of His people – the one who keeps us from falling and presents us faultless to God

Revelation:

The Prince of Peace, the Son of God, the Lamb of God, the Great I Am, the Alpha and the Omega, the King of Kings & the Lord of Lords! - one who is coming again for his spotless bride!

Revelation:

He is the faithful One, worthy of all of our praise and worship. He is the Reigning King where nations, tribes and tongues and angels will bow before Him and worship crying "Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God Almighty who was and who is and who is to come!"

Our vision is to become God's **WORLD**We endeavor to be a

- Worshipping and Praying Community
- Outreach and Witnessing Community
- Redeeming and Caring Community
- Leadership Developing Community
- Discipling and Serving Community

Is PMC an attractive community? Individually and corporately?

What is the distinctive mark of your life?

What is the distinctive mark this community?

Open up the key

Verse 1:

Our beloved Father please come down and meet us

We are waiting on Your touch Open up the heavens shower down Your presence

We respond to Your great love

Pre-Chorus: We won't be satisfied with anything ordinary We won't be satisfied at all

Chorus:

Open up the sky fall down like rain
We don't want blessings we want You
Open up the sky fall down like fire
We don't want anything but You

Verse 2:

Our beloved Jesus we just want to see You In the glory of Your light Earthly things don't matter they just fade and shatter
When we're touched by love divine