

Tyler :

Rev Cotter recently asked me to re-organize the Bay Area Family Church website so it's more useful to our local community. To that end, I've asked all department heads and group leaders to post their own announcements, articles and events to the website from now on rather than faxing them to Josh's overworked secretary. This memo, is therefore a guide for classing info on the website.

To get a handle on the diverse activities and vast amounts of information out there, I've adopted Rick Warren's "Five Purposes of the Church" to classify our information. I also believe that if we organized our activities based on these categories, it will help us get a better handle on things.

I'd certainly welcome your feedback on any of this but most especially in the paragraphs titled "BAFC Activities in this category include..."

For your information, Kevin Thompson and I spent 18 months studying Rick Warren's writings with the aim of adopting his principles to our church activities. We were especially interested in analyzing why no one has joined in the last 20 years and developing a new strategy to break the log-jam. To this end we spent a good deal of time studying Warren's writings as well as your book *Family, Church, Community, Kingdom*. We were actually making some progress when our effort was interrupted by his sabbatical in Texas.

In a nutshell, I came to understand that, whereas we have a hundred and one programs to reach every strata of society with our message, we lack a "process" to assimilate new members. To date, I've written half dozen memos, reports and proposals to address this without much response. Kevin was the only one who seemed to understand what I was talking about. Unfortunately, it appears he won't be returning to the Bay Area as a Pastor. After the "witnessing summit" in Chicago, Sheri Retuer asked me to write a memo outlining my vision of how we could gain 30,000 new members. I have a concrete proposal about this and I hope I can get Kevin to accompany me to Los Angeles to sell it to Sheri. I'm not optimistic but I'll keep you posted.

In the meantime, I'd sure appreciate your feedback.

Warmest Regards,

Charles

### **The Five Purposes of the Church**

By Charles Kamins

In this article, I will briefly describe the design strategy I will use to organize the information on this website. I hope this information will serve as a reference for contributors and users alike.

The Family Federation for World Peace and Unification is a vast organization with hundreds of departments, projects, programs and activities. Our local Bay Area Family Church reflects this diversity in a wide range of ministries, activities and departments. As a model, I have drawn inspiration from the writings of Rick Warren, pastor of Saddleback Church in Southern California.

The 'Five Purposes of the Church' is an organizational model described by Rick Warren in his book Purpose Driven Church. Warren takes his inspiration for this from the words of Jesus: the 'Great Commandment' (Matt. 28:37-40) and the 'Great Commission' (Matt. 28:19-20).

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.... Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the prophets hang on these two commandments. (Matthew 22:37-40)

Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. (Matthew 28:19-20)

These two passages summarize the five historic missions, or purposes, of the church. Although we are now in a new age in the Providence, we can learn a lot from those sincere Christians who have gone before us. With that in mind, I have adapted Warren's guidelines and insights to the new circumstances of the Age After the Coming of Heaven.

## **Worship**

### ***Purpose #1: Love the Lord with all your heart***

God's purpose of creation is to experience joy through the give and take of love with God-centered families. Here the word "worship" does not only refer to formal ceremonies or services, but also to the substantial relationship of each one of us to the Absolute Being and Parent of humankind.

*BAFC activities in this category include but are not limited to:* Sunday Service, Holy Days, Ahn Shi Il, meditation, Holy Spirit, Spiritual Fire, music and prayer, attendance, filial piety.

## **Ministry**

### ***Purpose #2: Love your neighbor as yourself***

The exact opposite of selfishness is to live for the sake of others. It is only through substantial action of serving and loving our neighbors that we remove our fallen nature and come to resemble God, Christ and True Parents. Each time you reach out to others you are ministering to them. As God's people, we should consider the needs of our

friends, neighbors, family, community and members before our own. This includes physical, spiritual, emotional and financial needs.

*BAFC activities in this category include but are not limited to:* public service, service for peace, marriage enrichment, counseling, prayer requests, visitation, charity, home church.

## **Outreach**

### ***Purpose #3 - Go and make disciples***

Witnessing, evangelizing and sharing the news of God's new covenant and new gospel are our most urgent responsibilities. True Parents have identified outreach as our most sacred, central responsibility.

*BAFC activities in this category include but are not limited to:* witnessing, outreach, AFP, Inter-faith, WFWP, MEPI, HDFC, evening program, CARP, Junior STF etc.

## **Fellowship**

### ***Purpose #4 - Change of blood lineage***

The major difference for God's people in the Age After the Coming of Heaven is that we are no longer "adopted" but direct children of God's original lineage. Membership in our community is not simply a matter of "belief" but also of "belonging" to God's family. The true heart and correct attitude therefore is to consider ourselves brothers and sisters, aunts, uncles, parents and grand parents to every member in this community.

*BAFC activities in this category include but are not limited to:* the blessing, salvation, Blessed Central Families, Blessed Wives Association, Blessed Family Association, matching, Tradition, Holy Wine, Holy Salt, Holy Ground, Holy Candles, True Family, True Children, family ministries, counseling, charity, ancestor liberation.

## **Education**

### ***Purpose #5 - Teaching, discipleship***

Education and Divine Principle study are not just for new members. "Do not focus on growing your church through programs, but focus on growing your members through a process." Education in our community should be an ongoing activity for every member at every level every single day.

*BAFC activities in this category include but are not limited to:* Hoon Dok Hae, Divine Principle Study, Lecture Practice, 7-day, 21-day, 40-day, spiritual retreats and workshops, Cheong Pyeong Providence, STF, UTS.

## **Conclusion**

I realize these categories are rather broad but they will have to do for now. As always, I welcome comment and suggestions especially as concerns the "BAFC Activities" at the end of each section.

My purpose here is to organize information on this website and on the calendar in a rational manner. To that end, I encourage all contributors to this site and the calendar to consult this memo when posting articles and events. Don't worry if you're not 100% sure which category your information belongs to. With time I hope our activities and our website will come into sharper focus.

It has been my observation that, in the past, our communities have focused on one or two of these five major purposes. I believe that, for the sake of the spiritual health of our community, we must not neglect any of these areas in favor of the others.

For further inspiration I recommend our department leaders read Father's speech from the inauguration of the Original Palace "*Declaration of the Establishment of Cheon Il Guk*" with special attention to the section titled "Path of the People of Cheon Il Guk." Therein, Father outlines the seven "missions" of the citizens of Cheon Il Guk. Anyone curious about the definition of "membership" will find it there. A copy of that speech can be found on the BAFC website here : <http://bafc.org/wordpress/?p=12#more-12>