

Church Plant Info Meeting

June 14, 2008

+What's the name? “**Second Mile Church**” (www.secondmilechurch.com)

+We are targeting the Queen Creek/Williams Gateway area. Why?

- Second Mile Church will be a doctrinally and philosophically distinct church in this community.
- There are exciting plans for the development of the Queen Creek/Williams Gateway area.
- The target area is a strategic ministry location.
- The target area fits my experiences and strengths.
- This area currently has people from EVBC who can help the church launch strong.

+Do we have a space to meet? Yes.

- We have reserved space next to the student union at ASU Polytechnic (in the Cooley ballrooms)
 - Flexible space that could accommodate a single gathering of 120-250 with children's space
 - We'll use ASU's chairs, which they will set up and tear down
 - Built in projectors and screens—we plug and play
 - Next door is the union, which opens at 10am and serves coffee and food
 - Plenty of parking
 - Very affordable

+What commitment to Second Mile looks like

- Launch team = the group of people who are actively working to make Second Mile Church get started on the mission. Commitment to the launch team will typically involve these things:
 - **Come** to a prayer group (pre-launch) and community group (post-launch).
 - **Go** to your network of relationships with friendship and hospitality (cultivate an incubator with at least 2 non-Christians that you are constantly investing in).
 - **Give** your financial resources to support this mission.
 - **Bring** your friends to prayer meetings, worship services, or social events.
 - **Serve** in at least one “official” capacity that helps make Sunday gatherings happen.

+Next Steps:

- Smaller, in-home informational meetings (10-20 people)
- ***Please fill out the info card*** before you leave tonight
- Feel free to contact Luke: 480-889-3460, luke@secondmilechurch.com

+Very real challenges

- “One possible source for launch team members is a sponsoring church which can appeal for volunteer families...This presents both positives and negatives. A strong positive is that the planter has a launch team almost overnight, and the length of start-up time decreases considerably. The church can begin services while developing one-on-one relationships. In addition, the planter usually finds that these volunteer families are solid believers who can assist almost immediately in the development process...On the negative side, these ‘experienced’ believers may have strong feelings about the form of worship, leadership style, and other matters. Such convictions, if different from the vision of the church planter, can create significant conflicts in the early development of the congregation.”

(Ed Stetzer, *Planting Missional Churches*, p. 200)

- “We used to be told that the number one indicator of a new church’s success is how many people they have when they start. Now we say, the number one problem you’ll have will be based on bringing too many people with you. Why? Because a good majority of the Christian world...has good hearts, but they hate change, they’ve gotten used to being provided for, and many will take too much of your time and energy to keep on mission with you.”

(Hugh Halter and Matt Smay, *The Tangible Kingdom*, p. 27)

- “In our experience with core groups, we have seen many solidify to the ultimate detriment of the church. We’ve heard comments from core group members such as ‘Pastor, why do we need to invite all these other people? We have such a great thing going. Why ruin it?’ And, ‘Pastor, how are you going to meet my needs if so many others start coming?’ Obviously you don’t want to develop a group that is going to be focused on their own growth rather than on sharing God’s love with the community through your new church.”

(Nelson Searcy and Kerrick Thomas, *Launch*, pp. 143-144)

- “I came to realize that, by far, the most important person to recruit to this new church was neither the long-time Christian nor the non-Christian. The key person was the brand new Christian, because he or she was without the baggage of expectations from former evangelical churches, and still had lots of strong relationships with non-Christians who could be invited to church.”

(Tim Keller, *Redeemer Church Planter Manual*, p. 9)

- “82 percent of the unchurched are at least ‘somewhat likely’ to attend church if they are invited...*More than eight out of ten of the unchurched said they would come to church if they were invited...*The next obvious question is: Are Christians inviting non-Christians to church? The heartbreaking answer is no. Only 21 percent of active churchgoers invite *anyone* to church in the course of a year. But only 2 percent of church members invite an unchurched person to church.”

(Thom Rainer, *The Unchurched Next Door*, pp. 24-25)

+My mission, vision, values, and ministries—these may or may not be the exact statements or values of the church, but they’ll give you a sense of what drives me.

Mission Statement.

“To be a church that embodies Jesus’ message and mission in every sphere that God sends us.”

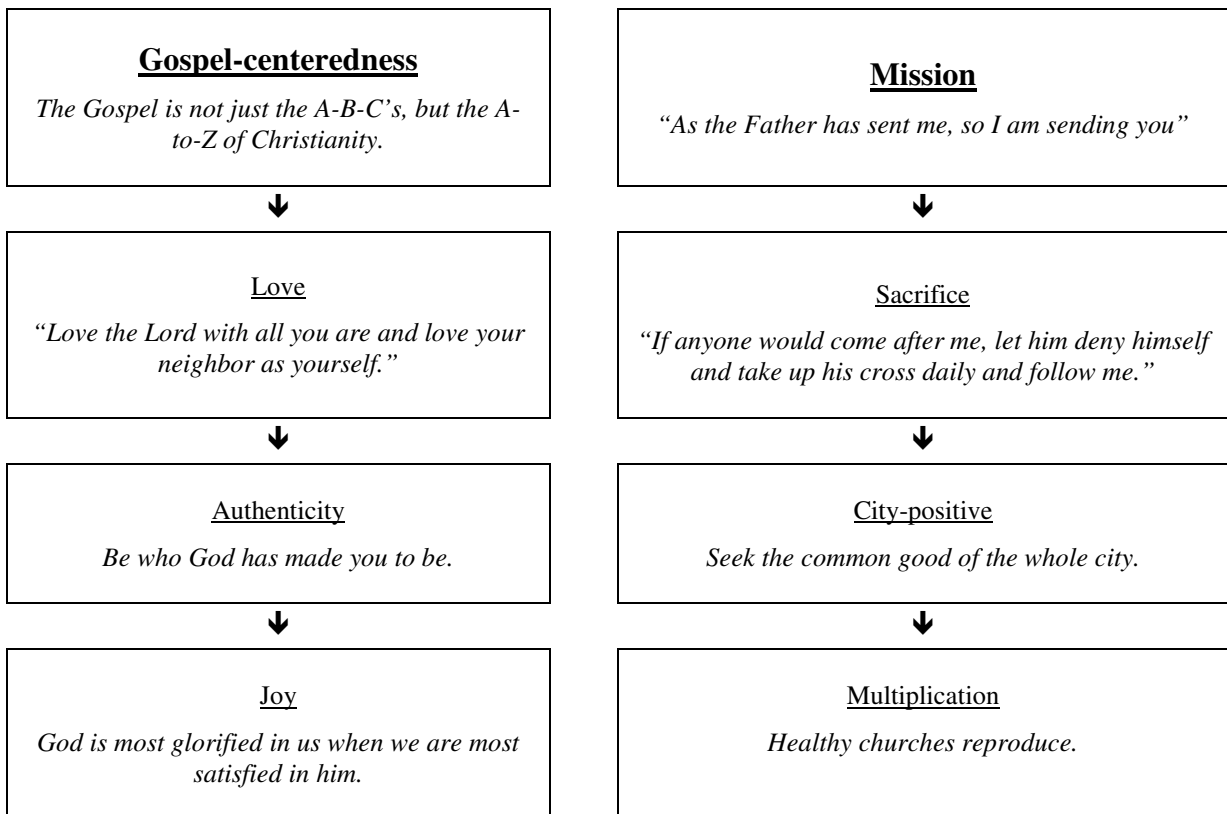
Vision Statement.

“To saturate the Queen Creek/Williams Gateway community with Gospel-centered churches who work to love and transform the community.”

No one local church can single-handedly live out the Gospel mission in a particular community. Therefore, Second Mile will aggressively plant multi-site locations and other churches and will also partner with EVBC and like-minded churches to saturate the entire Queen Creek and Williams Gateway communities with Bible-teaching and missional churches. We think of saturation as including two things: 1) each resident being within 15 minutes or less of a church, and 2) enough churches to accurately reflect the various cultures and people groups in the community.

Core Values.

The following values are key elements in living out the above vision and mission. They flow out of two primary values: 1) Gospel-centeredness and 2) Mission.



MINISTRIES (LONG-RANGE VIEW)

The following ministries will, *over time*, be key parts in Second Mile Church accomplishing its vision and mission.

1. Community Groups – smaller communities of people who are working together on mission and growing in gospel-renewal.
2. Sunday Worship Gathering – weekly gathering for study, fellowship, communion, prayer and praise
3. Sunday Children’s Ministry – ministering to children during the Worship Gathering
4. Prayer – Kingdom-focused prayer as the fuel for intimacy with God and strength for his mission
5. Occasional Equipping Seminars – just-in-time equipping about areas of need in the body
6. Mercy Ministry – caring for the poor and weak (mostly happens through community groups)
7. Redemption Ministry – bringing wholeness and freedom from idolatry through the Gospel
8. Church Planting – multiplying the church’s mission in other places
9. Leadership Development – preparing men and women to lead, shepherd, care and multiply
10. Student Ministry – shepherding Jr. High, High School, and college students through their age-specific issues

MINISTRY FOCUS

In a church that places a high value on living on mission, simplicity and focus are essential to ministry programming. One of the key factors that leads to “extractational ministry” (extracting believers from the cultures they live, work and play in) is over-programming by church leadership. Thus, there are many good ministries and programs that church leadership will not sponsor or provide—especially not in the early years. Rather, it will do a few things, do them well, and do them at the appropriate time. This way, church members can be freed to develop friendships with unchurched people and live on mission.

MINISTRY TIMELINE

The ministries of Second Mile Church will be implemented in this timeline:

| Pre-launch | 0-6 months | 6-18 months | 18-24 months |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prayer - Leadership development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community Groups - Sunday Worship Gathering - Sunday Children's Ministry | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mercy Ministry - Occasional Equipping Seminars - Plan for second site/plant | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Redemption Ministry - Launch second site/plant - Student Ministry - Ongoing church planting |

+What will be the style of the weekly Sunday gathering?

- Music will be in the neighborhood of EVBC's "unplugged" service.
- Teaching will be mostly verse-by-verse through books, with occasional topical series.
- Regularly feature testimonies and stories from within the body during the service.
- Celebrate communion weekly.

+Basic pre-launch development strategy and timeline

1. Building prayer support team (*currently 147 people*).
2. Relocation and community engagement (*our house is under contract in just 7 days*).
3. Fundraising
4. Logistic work (June '08 – launch).
 - Incorporating as a legal non-profit organization
 - Establish necessary legal, accounting, and organizational systems
 - Setting up financial controls
 - Creating a pre-launch and launch budget
 - Designing a logo and other branding
 - Designing promotional publications and fundraising materials
 - Securing Sunday meeting space (*DONE*)
 - Securing necessary equipment for Sunday services and children's ministry
 - Creating a website (*DONE* – www.secondmilechurch.com)
 - Etc.
5. Informational meetings.
 - We'll do some smaller, in-home info meetings with people who are still interested after the June 14 meeting and possibly another large info meeting.
6. Ask for launch team commitments by September 1.

7. Launch team prayer/vision meetings (June '08 – launch).
 - Start with one dinner/vision/prayer meeting for leadership couples/families.
 - We'll multiply these meetings to include other launch team members (by August). These *prayer groups will be the primary gatherings for people to be involved in* during the fall.
8. Identify potential community group leaders and begin modeling a missional community group together (Sept '08-launch).
9. Establish Advisory Board (By September '08).
10. Preview Worship Gatherings
 - Monthly during the three months prior to launch.
11. Launch Community Groups and Weekly Worship Gatherings (early '09).