

FOURSQUARE leader

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In Just Three Years

It was only a few years ago—in 2013—when the concept of Reimagine Foursquare was first introduced to Foursquare’s convention body in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. Since that time, The Foursquare Church in the U.S. voted to pursue specific measures that would see real, movement-wide change begin in earnest. During these past two years, there has been significant progress toward implementing the Five Stakes*.

Local Foursquare churches began receiving 2 percent of their extension tithe for missional investment. The National Church Office developed a “one team, 11 districts” team approach for each of the Missional Objectives* they had defined, and we are reaping the benefits in areas of leadership, church and community. The legal team has worked tirelessly to find new property options, and Foursquare Foundation has been finding ways to further support the Foursquare mission.

We have been working together to be prepared for this *kairos* moment. Ultimately, each part of Reimagine has been about aligning everything Foursquare to the Great Commission. Whether at home or abroad, our task is to take the gospel to every tribe, tongue and nation. Therefore, as we enter into the next stage—Reimagine 2.0—we must continue to expand our horizons. After all, the U.S. Foursquare Church is part of our global Foursquare family.

One of the complexities of a global body is cohesion amid diversity. How do we retain unity without creating uniformity? What are the essentials of faith and practice? These kinds of questions are prayerfully considered by our Global Council, which in 2012 committed to six Global Distinctives (see page 8).

In this special issue of *Foursquare Leader*, we offer you perspectives on these Distinctives and what they look like in real-world ministry. You will also find encouragement on how you can prepare for and participate in this special moment of our Foursquare history. If our desire is to see the whole church taking the whole gospel to the whole world, then we need to find effective ways of equipping, empowering and releasing local members and local churches for ministry to ends of the earth.

Our hope is that the stories, ideas and reports contained in this publication will be used by God to spark or strengthen catalytic change in each of us and our churches.

*Catch up on Reimagine Foursquare, the Five Stakes and Missional Objectives at reimaginefoursquare.org

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 —Matthew 25:40 NIV*

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IT'S YOUR TURN

Glenn Burris Jr., President of The Foursquare Church



In the first phase of Reimagine Foursquare, we hinged everything on aligning to the Great Commission. Now we move to Reimagine 2.0. The time is now for the local church to be equipped, empowered and commissioned to lead and serve.

Recently, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association invited me to a private retreat residence in the mountains of North Carolina. The retreat, called Mount Doxology, provides a panoramic view of the mountains and surrounding countryside.

We were hosted by Billy Hanks Jr., a businessman who owns and resides at Mount Doxology. He was also the first intern and disciple of Billy Graham. Though he never went into vocational ministry, Billy Hanks Jr. has been an integral part of the Billy Graham story. He has disciplesd 38 young leaders; most went into business but maintained a deep commitment to ministry. One young seminary student whom Billy Hanks Jr. took under his wing was Rick Warren. Billy Graham consistently trained disciple-makers and empowered the laity.

It's that kind of culture that ignited the early church in its journey to fulfill the Great Commission. It was a culture of empowerment. Paul disciplesd Timothy and trained Timothy to disciple others, who would disciple others.

The early church also recognized and celebrated the value of marketplace ministry. It was a culture that recognized and celebrated outsiders, and empowered lay leaders.

I would note, however, that establishing that culture was not easy. In many ways, the early church changed only when there was a problem (Acts 6) or when there was a threat to their inner circle (Acts 15). Those initial challenges turned out to be the avenues God used as catalysts for growth and influence of the early church.

In the first phase of Reimagine Foursquare, we worked toward aligning everything to the Great Commission. Everything was under scrutiny. Nothing was sacred except our message and our mission. We were willing to change significant, long-held ways of doing life together and develop processes that place trust and responsibility at local levels.

But I don't believe our efforts simply meant that there will be institutional change. I believe it means a culture shift in how all of us think about and do ministry. We believe empowerment should be evident at every level and place of ministry, from the institutional organization to the local church, to every believer. Cultures and practices are difficult to change, but we must get there. And we will.

REIMAGINE 2.0

As we have traveled together on the Reimagine Foursquare journey, it has become obvious that the next phase belongs at the local church level. We are calling this phase Reimagine 2.0., "It's Your Turn Now." It's capturing the intent of the Ascension by Jesus in Acts 1. There was no Plan B. Jesus' followers were trusted to carry out the mission of God. It was risky and dangerous, but with a tremendous upside.

In an interview with *Christianity Today*, Author and Researcher Ed Stetzer said: "It's not that the church has a mission, but rather that the mission has a church." There will be a lot more conversation about this concept in the days ahead. There are so many people who have vision and dreams, ready to be equipped, empowered and commissioned to lead and serve. We must let leaders lead.



Empowerment should be evident at every level and place of ministry, from the institutional organization to the local church, to every believer.

- Glenn Burris Jr.

I was recently moved by the following quote:

I simply argue that the cross should be raised at the center of the marketplace as well as on the steeple of the church. I am recovering the claim that Jesus was not crucified in a cathedral between two candles, but on a cross between two thieves; on the town's garbage heap; at a crossroad, so cosmopolitan they had to write His title in Hebrew, and Latin and Greek ... at the kind of place where cynics talk smack, and thieves curse, and soldiers gamble. Because that is where He died. And that is what He died for. And that is what He died about. That is where church-men ought to be and what church-men ought to be about.

—George MacLeod

Imagine a powerful force of all believers on mission for God. May our legacy as leaders, as the local church and as a worldwide movement, say that we helped mobilize "the whole church to take the whole gospel to the whole world."

GLOBAL DISTINCTIVES

In 2012, nearly 240 leaders gathered in Phoenix for a Global Summit. That meeting concluded with six clear, core Global Distinctives. We left with the conviction that these accurately describe the unifying principles that help guide Foursquare's missional efforts.

Two of the six Distinctives deal directly with the challenge of empowerment: Spirit Empowerment and Empowering Leadership. That says to me that now, four years later, there is a clear continuity of what the Lord is speaking to our family at this juncture.

According to the Jewish calendar, we are celebrating the Year of Jubilee, which occurs only once every 50 years. That it takes place in the same year that we are celebrating an "Empowered" theme is another reminder of the direction we must head. Anything less than a globally empowered church will not advance God's mission. Let's do this. ✠

TURN THE PAGE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SIX GLOBAL DISTINCTIVES FROM SIX FOURSQUARE PASTORS. ➔



GLOBAL DISTINCTIVES

Foursquare is a global family, present in over 140 nations. Given that all national Foursquare churches are sovereign and autonomous, how do we simultaneously maintain our beautiful cultural diversity and the strength of our unity?

The Global Distinctives, agreed on by nearly 240 leaders at the 2012 Global Summit, are six unifying principles that bind our whole Foursquare family in doctrine and culture. Dealing with empowerment, theological foundation, kingdom principles and shared mission, they are banks to the river that allow us to run our course with power and joy.

We asked six Foursquare leaders to share why these Global Distinctives matter to everyday ministry. Read what they have to say.

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KINGDOM PARTNERSHIPS

GLOBAL DISTINCTIVE: We will work alongside other Christians and churches. We will be a distinct movement, but will also hold a collegial spirit and maintain a helpful and cooperative posture with whom we can partner in mission.



Antonio Sims

I come from a family that looks like the nations. My mom is Vietnamese, and my dad is African-American. My family covers the spectrum in skin tone and complexion. In the city of Detroit, in the 1970s, we were different; we didn't look like our neighbors. Today, our neighbors are from all over the world.

My mom didn't speak English fluently when we first came to the U.S. in 1973. In my younger years, I saw how my mom lacked confidence in speaking to people. She avoided conversations with strangers because she felt like an outsider. My mom is a loving person and would do anything for anyone who was in need. People didn't get to experience the love she had to give back then because of a language barrier.

My mother's experiences clearly demonstrate the reason there is such a need for kingdom partnerships. My city is being transformed by working with not only Foursquare churches, but also with churches outside of the denomination. Matthew 4:17 states,

"From that time Jesus began to preach and say, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand'" (NKJV). Jesus came to change our minds about how we do life where we live.

More than 40 percent of the population in Hamtramck, Mich., is born outside of the U.S. We are experiencing a tremendous culture shift, so we have strategically

Kingdom partnerships have far-reaching effects and go beyond the cities we live in.

partnered with leaders in our community, other churches and nonprofit organizations who work with the Bengali and Yemeni populations in our city. Together, we identify resources and how to most effectively distribute those resources to our neighbors.

Kingdom partnerships have far-reaching effects and go beyond the cities we live in. Those partnerships helped us get water to Flint, Mich., during the recent and ongoing water crisis. Local Foursquare churches, Foursquare Disaster

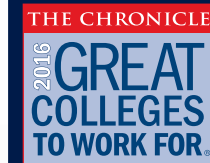
Relief (FDR), American Red Cross and Convoy of Hope worked together to provide over 200,000 bottles of water to the citizens of Flint. Aligning with our Global Distinctives to develop effective partnerships, we were able to help a non-Foursquare church to become a water distribution site.

The apostles we read about in the Bible preached the gospel, and the message spread like wildfire. But they needed kingdom partnerships to have the type of impact they experienced. As we continue to be God's hands and feet on the

earth, let us strive to reach the lost with others who have the heart to see God's kingdom come.

I am reminded of the cornerstone at Angelus Temple, which states, "Dedicated unto the cause of interdenominational and worldwide evangelism." Our mission is God's mission, and it will take all of us working together in love to see the lost come to Jesus.

Antonio Sims is senior pastor of True Worship Church (Ferndale Metro Foursquare Church/Hamtramck Foursquare Church) in Detroit, Hamtramck and Ferndale, Mich.



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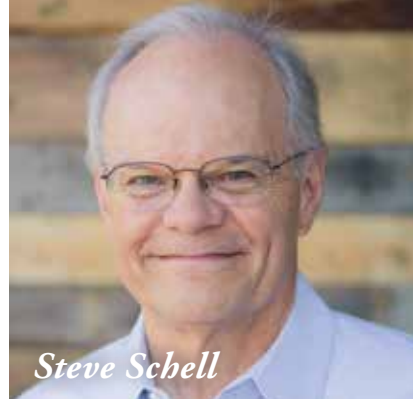
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Steve Schell

SOUND DOCTRINE

GLOBAL DISTINCTIVE: *The Declaration of Faith* of The Foursquare Church will guide our practice, church polity and call of believers into the work of the kingdom. It will be a biblical statement, apply to all members, and be the *Declaration of Faith* for all churches and all member nations.

diversity, doctrinal diversity, didn't produce growth by being inclusive. Instead it drove people apart. But there is a diversity that builds up the church. It's the diversity that can be built on the foundation of a common faith.

And that's what Mary and I found in 1978, standing in line waiting to buy some cassette tapes in The Church On The Way (Van Nuys Foursquare Church) bookstore in Van Nuys, Calif. There on the counter, beside the cash register, was a stack of small, gray pamphlets titled, *This We Believe*.

I took one home to read carefully. It contained 22 statements of faith. Each did little more than collect and summarize important teachings of Scripture, with some Bible verses quoted in support. The wording was straightforward. There were no strange philosophical twists. Would you understand what I mean if I said, it was "clean"?

When I finished reading, I put it down and said with a sigh, "Why, that's what I believe!" Then Mary read it and agreed, and we knew we'd found a home, a family, a place to belong. And it has been.

Foursquare is remarkably welcoming, which is why, today, it's remarkably diverse. You might even say of Foursquare that "Our strength is in our diversity." But our diversity isn't in the essentials of our doctrine. Here we believe, "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity" (Anonymous).

With one heart and mind, we've learned to carry Christ into the world in a wide variety of ways. We're diverse in culture, language, styles of ministry, styles of worship, gifting, calling and personality.

We've become a beautiful tapestry, a mosaic of many different kinds of people and ministries. We've learned to give one another the freedom to express creatively our common faith. For us, doctrine is based on the unchanging Word of God. Instead of dividing us, it has become the firm foundation that supports a worldwide movement.

Steve Schell is senior pastor of Northwest Church (Federal Way Foursquare Church) in Federal Way, Wash.

Download the *This We Believe* brochure at 4sq.ca/webelieve.

Foursquare is not the only denomination in which my wife, Mary, and I have pastored. We're "newbies" in some circles. We came to Foursquare in 1979.

There were wonderful people in our previous denomination: great pastors and church members. They weren't the reason we felt the need to leave. We left because that denomination was rapidly abandoning its historical foundations. For a growing number of pastors, doctrine had become a matter of personal opinion, not biblical revelation.

A common saying among them was, "Our strength is in our diversity," and what they meant by "diversity" wasn't cultural diversity, or the diversity of worship or ministry styles. In fact, those matters were non-negotiable. What had become diverse was doctrine, and by that I mean on the most basic truths such as the authority of Scripture and the divinity of Christ.

We were no longer a people of one mind or one heart. We believed very differently, and it made for wild pastoral gatherings. I learned to carry a bottle of aspirin in my pocket to such meetings because, sooner or later, angry arguments would break out in the midst of public discussion. What was happening was sad. We were coming apart.

Now, that was many decades ago, and I've watched that once-great church decline about as fast as a large, well-endowed institution can decline. That kind of



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EMPOWERING LEADERSHIP

GLOBAL DISTINCTIVE: According to God's gifting and calling, we will intentionally prepare and release men and women across generations and cultures into all positions of leadership and areas of ministry.



Mike Kai

Whether we are senior pastors, ministry pastors or missionaries, each of us serves under a particular kind of leadership culture. To me, culture can simply be defined by the phrase, "It's the way we do things here."

As my good friend and leadership consultant Sam Chand says, "Culture will eat strategy for breakfast, every day." We could have the best strategy and vision, but, if we don't concentrate on creating and cultivating healthy, empowering and reproducible environments, then it is going to take us much longer to get where we want to go.

In our Foursquare family, we have some outstanding senior pastors who have cultivated empowering leadership environments. Some of the greatest movements of church planting and multiplication in Foursquare exist because these pioneers were not shy in shaping young men and women, who were called by God, to lead churches and campuses in order to continue to advance the Great Commission.

Here's what I have learned from Sam Chand, and what I would also like to add about leadership cultures that are empowering. I'll call these the three C's of empowering leadership cultures and environments:

CONFRONT WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONFRONTED.

The opposite of an empowering environment is one that stifles. But just as bad is one that enables behaviors that are counter-cultural. What we need to do is confront what needs to be confronted.

It could be an attitude that has finagled its way into your teams, or a key leader who is misrepresenting your vision and values. There are so many examples of things we can often tolerate for one reason or another.

It could be that we want peace. Peace at any cost will often steal the very thing that you need in your culture: peace. It often costs us much, much more than we bargained for because we tolerated things that needed to be confronted. If you have a tough time doing this, you'd better learn how—and quickly!

COMMUNICATE WHAT NEEDS TO BE COMMUNICATED.

Keeping people "in the loop" is important. But communicating to people who need to know what you know is often the key to empowering environments. When we become careless in communicating the who, what, where, when and why to the appropriate people, people get nervous and begin wondering where they stand within the church, or what their status is with us. Insecurity can

come into play, but, if we simply over-communicate what needs to be passed on, our teams will fly farther than we expected.

CULTIVATE WHAT NEEDS TO BE CULTIVATED.

It's common for us to have grown up in a culture where some of the most important factors and principles in ministry were expected to be "caught and not taught." It sounds so good! If that is the mainstay of how we lead, our environments will be chaotic at worse, and ambiguous at best.

Environments that empower have two characteristics. They are defined and then they are coached in "real time." In other words, they are "taught until they are caught." If we are going to empower a new crop of leaders, it would serve us better if we could articulate and define what is expected of them, and what a "win" is. We all need to know where the target is and how to hit it. Then, coaching, correcting and encouraging people at the first opportunity that presents itself will help us all become all God intended us to be.

So, confront, communicate and cultivate for a greater, empowering leadership environment.

Mike Kai is lead pastor of Inspire Church, a multi-site Foursquare church based in Honolulu, Hawaii, with four campuses including one in Manila, Philippines.

Bringing the Gospel to the Ends of the Earth

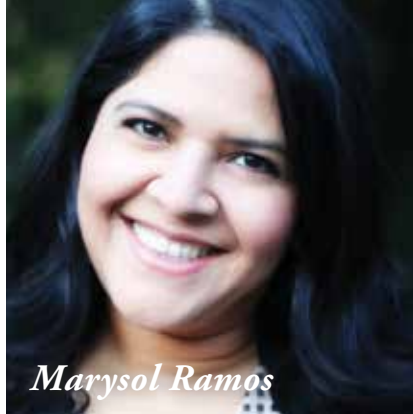


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Marysol Ramos

FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

GLOBAL DISTINCTIVE: Our Foursquare Church is a global family. We may look different and have different customs, but we are part of one kingdom, and we serve one Lord. As we receive God's grace and extend it to one another, we can become instruments through whom God's redeeming grace can be known throughout the world.

What would I do without my family? They have been my go-to-place when I have felt lost; they are my biggest fans; they are my greatest reason for moving forward.

It isn't any wonder why God said: "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him" (Gen. 2:18, NLT). We really are much better people when we are surrounded by others; we need family, friends and neighbors. Just as God chose the perfect family for me, He chose many family members in the body of Christ who have become very important in my life.

I first worked in ministry alongside my fiancée, and we have now labored together as husband and wife for 20 years. We have had the privilege of working with amazing people who have been great mentors in our personal lives and ministry.

Many have invested in us as a family and as ministers in The Foursquare Church. I still have much to learn, but I know without a doubt that I would not be where I am today if it weren't for so many who have become so important in my life.

I highly value family, and not just people related to me by blood

or marriage. I also value people in ministry, men and women of all backgrounds and cultures, to whom I have become connected—almost in a divine way.

Growing up in Nicaragua and moving to the U.S. when I was 16 years old, I never thought I would come to

We need people who will walk alongside us, laugh with us, cry with us and serve with us.

know so many people from so many different places, people that I now consider my family. Pastors, leaders, volunteers, elders, teachers, co-workers and simply servants of God who are now part of my family circle. I thank God for every person with whom I have had any connection.

The people who are now part of my life and my world play an important role in my life, ministry and job. I refer to them as family because I end up spending so much time with them, learning from them, growing with them and serving with them. I like to see this as the vine and the branches Jesus talked about (John 15:5). Surely there has to be more than one branch connected to the vine, if not so, then it wouldn't be a fruitful vine. I'm a much better

branch, a much better person and a much better leader when I'm connected to the vine and to other branches; I bear more fruit that way.

God could have left Adam all alone and let him try to enjoy everything all by himself, but how sad it would have been for him. Instead, God created another being who was right for Adam and made him complete.

When Jesus ended His earthly ministry and entrusted the spread of the gospel to His disciples, He chose people who did not seem to have much in common—except that they were connected by the same

passion and vision. They served the same Lord and received the same commission.

We need people who will walk alongside us, laugh with us, cry with us and serve with us. We are one body, and we need one another to fulfill God's call in our lives. We were not made to function alone; we were made for family and community.

Family is forever, and it's not limited to lineage. Family is also made up of the people God has brought into our lives to allow us to reach higher than we can by ourselves.

Marysol Ramos is assisting minister of Dios Restaura (Glendale Hispanic 2 Foursquare Church) in Glendale, Calif.

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The Life Journal Reading plan is a great way to read through the Bible! Over the course of a year, you'll read through the Old Testament once and the New Testament twice. The Life Journal makes it easier for your entire church to study the Word together and can even be a great tool for forming community and small groups.

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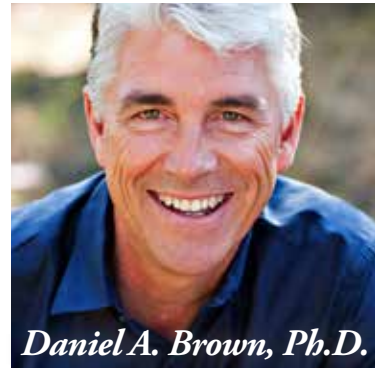


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SPIRIT EMPOWERMENT

GLOBAL DISTINCTIVE: As a Spirit-filled movement, we will consistently minister the baptism with the Holy Spirit, and teach and encourage believers to fully express the gifts of the Spirit in their daily lives. We totally submit ourselves in obedience to the Spirit's use of our lives and His miraculous works in our day.



Daniel A. Brown, Ph.D.

I am the (grand) son of two rich traditions in Christ's church: my father's parents were Bible-teaching *Evangelicals*, emphasizing centuries-old creeds, articulated doctrines and careful Bible study; my mother's folks

Christ-like is speaking words that don't come by our "own initiative" (John 8:28).

Incomplete Bible study (Moses stuttered) left my mother feeling unsafe, and lost her from what could have been her ministry portion. It delayed my exposure to things of the Spirit. So, since that 1973 Pentecost (and several months later when the Spirit gently transposed words from the spiritual dimension into syllables and sounds I could utter with my lips), I've been passionate about explaining from the Bible what it means to be empowered as Jesus' witnesses after we get *baptized with the Spirit* (Acts 1:8).

I think we get misled by our English understanding of *power* and *witnessing*. Receiving "power" is not like being given a stand-alone battery pack or a concentrated dose of dynamism to use however we desire. It is, instead, a heightened ability to perceive what Jesus is doing and saying.

Before testifying to others, we must first "witness"/observe something, and Spirit-empowerment capacitates us to better behold "things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard" (1 Cor. 2:9, NASB). From the spiritual realm, the Holy Spirit passes Jesus' works and words to us by transforming those "works" into a form we can grasp with our natural faculties. What the Spirit reveals we can then duplicate in our world.

Spiritual takes on a simple meaning—supernatural words and works, from the invisible/intangible realm, translated by the Spirit into expressions, understandings and promptings we can speak/do in the natural arena. It explains *spiritual* language (speaking as the Spirit gives us utterance) and *spiritual* gifts (knowing, declaring and doing things disclosed to us by the Spirit).

Spirit-led, Spirit-empowered, Spirit-filled essentially mean following Jesus' pattern—not acting on His "own initiative," but doing/saying only what He first witnessed in His Father (John 5:19, 30; 8:42; 12:49 and 14:10). As a Spirit-filled movement, The Foursquare Church teaches its members to set aside their natural abilities and initiative, to speak and act, instead, by revelation and inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Daniel A. Brown, Ph.D., is the founding pastor of The Coastlands (Aptos Foursquare Church) in Aptos, Calif.

were Bible-expounding *Pentecostals*, emphasizing present-day manifestations of the Spirit, miraculous evidences and inspired preaching.

Because my mother was exposed too many times to well-meaning but poorly trained efforts to cast out the demons that made her stutter (a shame she carried most of her life), my parents stayed away from "Spirit-powered" types of ministry. Growing up in church, I heard the pastor read 1 Corinthians 11 prior to communion each month—but never once did the reading stray even one verse into chapter 12: "Now concerning *spirituals*, I do not want you to be unaware." ("Spirituals" is usually translated "spiritual gifts," but "gifts" isn't in the original.)

In 1973, while an undergraduate at UCLA, I unintentionally attended a Pentecostal church on Pentecost Sunday because it was the only ride I could catch to church. That's a wild combo for someone who knew next to nothing about the *baptism with the Spirit!* Sure enough, the pastor offered prayer for anyone to be *baptized with the "Holy Ghost."* I prayed earnestly; the prayer team pressing unrelentingly down on my head prayed earnestly, but nothing happened.

Neither before nor after my failure to *speak in tongues*, did anyone give me a Bible explanation about what it means to be "filled"; or how speaking words given to us by the Spirit is following the pattern of Jesus, who spoke words given to Him by the Father (John 14:10); the Spirit follows the same pattern, speaking words He hears from Jesus (John 16:13). A key aspect of being



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SHARED MISSION

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At the heart of our purpose as a Foursquare movement is the recognition that we exist for others, for those who have not yet heard the gospel (Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 1:8).

Angelus Temple, the first Foursquare church building, was built on a cornerstone inscribed with the words, “Dedicated unto the cause of inter-denominational and worldwide evangelism.” This is the primary thing that we are trying to accomplish, and is reflected in our shared mission of multiplication and evangelism. As we are continually renewed in this purpose, we stay true to our roots and experience the greatest potential for ongoing fruitfulness.

DEEP ROOTS AND LASTING FRUIT

At Foursquare Connection 2016, the Foursquare family celebrated the ministry of fruitful missionaries and apostolic indigenous leaders working in countries such as Turkey, Kazakhstan and Côte d’Ivoire. For me as a Foursquare minister, this is one of my favorite things about our family; we are part of something bigger than ourselves and are privileged to participate in a number of shared global missions around the world as the Holy Spirit leads.

It is a joy to financially support, pray for and personally engage in these works, but I also need to keep my eye on the ball as a local pastor—engaging in shared mission within my own community.

I’m glad that we can do both by belonging to this family.

I remember the day I signed on to our shared mission. We didn’t call it that then, but it was no less a shared mission and no less Foursquare. Thirty years ago, I was listening to Ron Mehl preach in a service, and I said to myself, “I don’t know what Foursquare is, but if that guy’s Foursquare, that’s what I want to be.” The message was simple, and it had all the basic ingredients of shared mission:

- God loves you.
- Come be a part of our family.
- We’ll build you up and send you out to be the church.
- We’ll continue to equip you as you worship with us regularly.

OPENING NATIONS AND NEIGHBORHOODS

It’s important to me that I never lose touch with the things God established in my life early on. But I realize that He always brings fresh expressions to our shared mission.

The familiar rhythms of decades past give way to a simplified weekly gathering and more hands-on forms of service today, such as adopting the school across the street, providing a community food bank, offering ESL classes and facilitating compassion clinics that provide medical and dental care. These acts of love and kindness, when breathed on by the Holy Spirit, form a bridge to the surrounding community. And they’re the first

step at evangelizing and multiplying when accompanied by a bold gospel proclamation.

At the local level, we may not be opening countries directly, but we can still open neighborhoods. For instance, our church serves the most ethnically diverse city in Oregon. While actual numbers may be small for each group, Beaverton has more diverse ethnicities than anywhere else in Oregon.

We’ve undertaken a number of initiatives that ensure we disciple leaders who can share the mission within specific cultural contexts. We welcome people who are recent immigrants, along with their children, and we help them integrate into our church through language translation and language specific small groups. We also seek to empower leaders who are raised up in different cultural contexts. Without that, shared mission becomes pragmatic paternalism.

MAINTAINING OUR PURPOSE

If we lose our purpose as a movement, we will end up hammering on commitment. When we are involved in purpose, commitments come easily. Our mission hasn’t changed: We multiply, and we evangelize. I can readily commit to a movement and church that prioritizes those things. Let’s all share that mission together.

Randy Remington is senior pastor of Beaverton Foursquare Church in Beaverton, Ore.



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WHY I WANT TO BRING MY CHURCH UNDER FOURSQUARE



Senior Pastor Bruce Grecco and his wife, Rebecca, planted Summit Church in San Diego eight years ago. As a Foursquare-ordained minister of a nondenominational church, Bruce has found ways to integrate their church's calling and mission with Foursquare's leadership and principles.

How did you first connect with Foursquare?

BRUCE: I'm a transplant, but my wife grew up in Foursquare. Her parents were Northwest District supervisors many years ago. While in Bible school, my mother-in-law actually did research for Aimee Semple McPherson's sermons. After Rebecca and I married, we spent plenty of time with her mother at district conferences, so I met a lot of people in Foursquare. After we started our church in 2008, I asked myself who had impacted my life the most, and it was Foursquare. So I thought: "You know what? It's time to make the shift."

Which Foursquare leaders have been important sources of encouragement to you?

BRUCE: Not long after we planted our church, my wife and I met with Glenn Burris Jr., Sterling Brackett and Rod Koop. That was when the discussion of Foursquare Association came up, and Glenn reminded us that the cornerstone of Angelus Temple is "dedicated unto the cause of inter-denominational and worldwide evangelism." We went away that afternoon really honored to have met these guys, and impressed by the spirit of humility and openness. We wanted a spiritual covering and a community we resonated with. To have both of these things and be able to pursue God's calling for our church was such a blessing.

How was Foursquare Connection 2016 in Hawaii?

BRUCE: I really loved this last conference. The QuickTalks were amazing, especially hearing from guys leading churches of all sizes and from different contexts. The overall tone of our leadership is very humble, inclusive and God-honoring. Also, Foursquare's global focus is so important because I think it keeps the church here encouraged. There's just a momentum in Foursquare that God's breathing life into, and that excites me.

How is the Reimagine Foursquare initiative changing things for you and your church?

BRUCE: It gave us clarity. About six years ago, I had our then district supervisor, Kimberly Dirmann, come to our church to see who we are, even though we're nondenominational and an Association church. I wanted her to know that I wanted to be Foursquare. I asked her, "I know my church is independent, but where do we fit?" Now, I feel like I've finally moved out of the waiting room and into a solid identity. I think Foursquare's done a brilliant job of putting together a bylaw change that doesn't compromise their values but still draws a wider circle for people like us who resonate with Foursquare but are in different situations.

What do you envision for your church's future?

BRUCE: We still meet in a high school theater, so our next big step is finding a permanent location. We know God has another home for us, so we're praying for that transition. In the meanwhile, I know exactly what the next level of involvement with Foursquare could look like in the future, and how I can move forward as our church progresses from a community church to a covenant church.

This story was written by Rachel Chimits, a freelance writer in Reno, Nevada.

WHY ARE YOU FOURSQUARE?

From the earliest beginnings of The Foursquare Church, we have celebrated the breadth and depth of Christ's body around the world. Simultaneously, we have held fast to our deep, biblical convictions that inform the distinctives of our Foursquare movement. Of all the myriad expressions of the church around the world, why do more than 250,000 people in the U.S. and almost 9 million people globally call Foursquare home?

We asked some of our family why they came into Foursquare, and why they have stayed. See how relationships, history, theological distinctives and a culture of empowerment have influenced women and men around the world, and given them a lasting place at the table in The Foursquare Church.



LARRY SPOUSTA

Leadership Health Coordinator and National Pastor

"Foursquare has been my family ever since I came to know Jesus at a Foursquare camp."



KEITH JENKINS

Senior Pastor
New Life LA (West Adams Foursquare Church)
in Los Angeles

"We are relationally bound, theologically sound and mission obsessed."



WE GAVE UP OUR INDEPENDENCE TO BE **FOURSQUARE**

Senior Pastor Patricio Serrano and Assisting Minister Rosa Serrano had been independent pastors in Grand Junction, Colo., for seven years when their paths crossed with the Foursquare family at a youth camp. Learn how this dynamic couple brought their church under Foursquare as Aliento de Vida (Grand Junction Hispanic Foursquare Church).

Why did you choose to join the Foursquare family?

PATRICIO: In 2011, my church attended a Foursquare youth camp. One of our youth leaders had come from a Foursquare church and encouraged us to attend. When we were there, we felt very welcomed and included in everything. We kept going back to the youth camps, and, in 2013, we started going to the Gateway District trainings. Eventually, I talked with my wife and told her we should either think about joining Foursquare or stop going because we were receiving so many resources and a lot of training, but we weren't Foursquare. Prior to that, we felt very isolated, and we didn't really have fellowship with other pastors. Now, we had people looking out for us. Pastoral care is really big in Foursquare, and that's something that's really helped us.

Continued on page 26

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A Child of God

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Annette Clay

Aloha Activation Network



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WHY FOURSQUARE?

What is pastoral care like in your district?

ROSA: Liliana Hanold, our divisional superintendent, calls us often and asks us how we are doing in our personal lives, and in the church. We also pray with her and the group of pastors in our region, and we talk about different important topics each time. We have received calls from Martin Ruarte, the leader of Hispanic ministry in our district, also to ask us how we are doing. We do not feel like we get lost in the group; they have a more personal relationship with us.

What are some benefits that you've received by attending district trainings?

ROSA: Although we had been pastors for several years, the district trainings have been like the foundation of the ministry we now have. Many of the things they teach us in regional trainings have to do with pastoral care, how to care for ourselves and how to care for the congregation, how to multiply. It is not so much about how to preach, but more about how to make the church flourish.

Who helped you in your transition to become Foursquare pastors?

ROSA: We cannot name just one person because there were several: Daniel and Monica Prieto, Martin Ruarte, Liliana Hanold, Martha Gallegos. It's a group of people. It's a team, and they work in unity. They work very

closely with one another, and everyone does their part in what they are responsible for.

Which Foursquare Connection events have you attended?

PATRICIO: We have attended two: Dallas in 2014 and Anaheim in 2015. At the Anaheim convention, several speakers talked about starting things—starting different ministries, small or big. So when we came back, my wife and I started a young adults Bible study. We live about 10 minutes from Colorado Mesa University, and young people come to Grand Junction from different parts of Colorado to either study or work. We wanted to connect with them and be an extended family to them. For an entire school year, we invited them to our house, my wife cooked dinner for them, and I would do a short Bible study. Then we'd have a time of fellowship.

How would you encourage other Foursquare pastors who are reading your story?

ROSA: It has been a great blessing for us to be under the covering of The Foursquare Church. Knowing we have a family that is supporting us in every area, both spiritually and physically, makes our job so much easier. We have been given the necessary resources and tools so that we can have a successful ministry.

This story was written by Melisa Prieto, the administrative assistant for the Distrito Hispano del Suroeste (Southwestern Hispanic District).



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WHY DO YOU STAY FOURSQUARE?



TERESA KOOP
Chaplain, Missionary to Alaska
"Because the people that I am closely connected to are authentic, and they are our family."



STEVE CECIL
Pastor serving in Russia
"The friendships, relationships and connections. And, of course, I believe deeply in the mission and vision of Foursquare."



GRACE KLADNIK
Co-Pastor
Vintage Faith (Culver City Foursquare Church) in Culver City, Calif.
"For me, it's having a culture that empowers women. I grew up in Foursquare seeing women preach, teach and lead. I feel privileged to co-pastor with my husband and be an example to the next generation of ladies that they too can lead with authority, power and grace."



MARK WARREN
Lead Pastor
Grace Capital (Pembroke Foursquare Church) in Pembroke, N.H.
"I stay Foursquare because we are a movement on a mission—we are going somewhere as a church. We are a releasing movement, an equipping movement and an entrepreneurial movement that celebrates a catalytic environment."



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SIX CHANGES IN FOURSQUARE

While the Reimagine Foursquare initiative can seem like it's the first time we've been bold enough to shake things up, history proves otherwise. What we take for granted now—things such as sending someone to another country to share the gospel, buying and selling a radio station, and feeding people during the Great Depression—were pretty earthshaking when they first were initiated. Take a glimpse back at some major initiatives, and their outcomes.

PROPERTY

DEC. 30, 1927
International Foursquare Gospel Lighthouses is officially incorporated by registering with the State of California.

1929-1939
The Great Depression

1934 Foursquare requires all new churches to have their property titles held in common by the corporation.



1.3 MILLION
Number of people clothed and fed during the Great Depression by the Commissary under the direction of Aimee Semple McPherson

2016
Bylaw amendments are approved by the convention body that allow new churches joining Foursquare to retain their property.



KFSG + FOUNDATION

1924
KFSG-FM's first broadcast debuts from Los Angeles. Startup costs totaled \$30,000 for the broadcasting equipment and transmission towers.

150 MILLION
Number of people KFSG potentially reached at its peak. The radio station was heard as far as Australia to the west and the island of Cape Verde off the coast of Africa to the east.

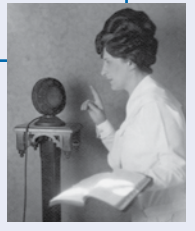
2004 Foursquare Foundation formed with \$200 million of the KFSG sale.

2005-2015 Foursquare Foundation provides 1,002 grants and sees:

- 8,622,528** † Decisions for Christ
- 814,394** 💧 Water Baptisms
- 733,553** ✨ Holy Spirit Baptisms
- 9,374** 🏛️ New Churches Planted
- 279,773** 👤 Leaders Trained

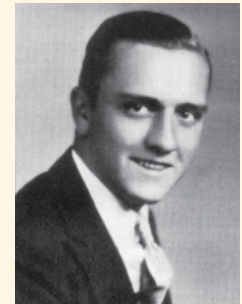
\$250 MILLION
Amount Spanish Broadcasting system, Inc., agrees to pay to acquire the KFSG-FM license in November 2000

2015
As part of Reimagine Foursquare, Foursquare Foundation has realigned and now allocates money toward the Global Cities Strategy, Global Council, Foursquare Missions International, senior living subsidies, the education commission and the Risser Endowment.



SUMMER CAMPS

1934
Foursquare summer camps first initiated by a 20-year-old Harold Chalfant



85
Number of campers enrolled in 1934 at Camp Seeley, owned by the city of Los Angeles

1946
First Foursquare camp property purchased by the Eastern District. The 87-acre site was located near Durham, Ontario, in Canada, north of where Aimee Semple McPherson was born, and was purchased for \$2,425. It was named Camp McPherson.

2015
More than 12,000 Foursquare campers attended 82 Foursquare camps, which led to:

- 2,436** 🏆 Healings
- 1,420** ✝️ People Called to Ministry
- 3,344** ✨ Holy Spirit Baptisms

GLOBAL MOVEMENT

1924
First Foursquare missionaries sent to India: Carl Linden and Alfred Kleinschmidt

1924
First Foursquare church planted internationally in Prince Rupert in British Columbia, Canada, and pastored by J.R. Wiley

1993
While our missiology has been with us since the beginning, the term "Four-Stage Model" was first introduced in the September 1993 edition of *Foursquare World Advance Magazine*.



146
Total countries and territories with Foursquare works today

74,481
Number of global Foursquare churches and meeting places today

852
Total missionaries sent through FMI since 1924

97
Total FMI missionary units on the field today

DISTRICT CHANGES

1927
The 10 original Foursquare districts open their doors; they were overseen by General Supervisor John Goben.

2002
Three original Regional Administrative Centers are opened: Pacific Region, Central Region and the Atlantic Region. They would later be renamed Administrative Resource Centers (ARCs).

2003
District multiplication model announced with supervisors appointed over 76 new districts

2009
Districts consolidated to 14 districts

2011
Foursquare's three ARCs are discontinued.

2014-2016
Districts further consolidated to 11 districts under the Reimagine Foursquare initiatives

FOURSQUARE PRESIDENTIAL HISTORY

1923-1944
Aimee Semple McPherson

1944-1988
Rolf K. McPherson

1946
Presidential term limits set to four years. Term limits would begin upon the retirement of President Rolf K. McPherson, son of Aimee Semple McPherson.

1988-1997
John Holland

1997-1998
Harold Helms (Interim)

1998-2004
Paul Risser

2003
Term limits expanded to five years

2004
Jared Roth (Interim)

2004-2009
Jack W. Hayford

2009-2010
Glenn Burris Jr. (Interim)

2010-2020
Glenn Burris Jr. (Elected Terms)

2013
Presidential absentee balloting is approved at convention.

2015
The ratification of Glenn Burris Jr. is the first presidential election that also accepted absentee balloting.

What Becoming a Catalytic Culture Means

Do you want to lead a church of life-changers, neighborhood-changers and community-changers? It's time to use what ignites you to get on mission with what God has already empowered you to be.



TAMMY DUNAHOO, GENERAL SUPERVISOR OF THE FOURSQUARE CHURCH

A catalyst is a sparkplug, an inciting incident, a stimulus, one that ignites changes. A catalytic culture is an environment in which people are encouraged to be innovative; new, out-of-the-box opportunities are sponsored; people collaborate for greater impact; and dreamers can dream. But, more important, a catalytic culture is one in which Creator God leads.

Jesus fit the description as a catalytic leader. He drew crowds everywhere He went. They commented that His words were different; there was grace and truth in them, and they produced powerful results. His demeanor drew the notorious sinners who wanted to hear what He had to say. Something changed when He came on the scene!

Having a catalytic culture requires someone who can inspire people to join in dreaming a God-designed vision and then move together toward it. In Reimagine 1.0 we realigned our national and districts offices with catalytic leadership. We now lead and make decisions with mission and movement as the central focus. We interviewed and appointed district supervisors who have characteristics of change agents and can bring people together for collective impact, locally and regionally as well as nationally and globally.

In Reimagine 2.0 we are using the phrase, "It's your turn!" Pastors, church leaders, what do you see? What ignites you and the people of your church or congregation to get on mission with God, making disciples, shaping and sending leaders, multiplying churches and congregations, and having community and world impact?

Our collective theme as a movement last year was "Sent"; our theme in 2016 is "Empowered." These two words are focused on catalyzing local movements of people sent to their communities and empowered by the Holy Spirit to embody the love and grace of God to the world.

Pastors, this means your church having a greater awareness to the needs of your city than the programs of your church, and planning your church's calendar with plenty of room for people to live on mission with one another and live healthy lives as a model of goodness. This usually requires a complete reorienting of how we "do" church from recent years. It means having relationships in the community as much as within the church.

This is salt and light, both of which are catalytic agents immediately when used! I love to tell stories of Foursquare churches that had tried hard to reach people to no avail until somebody got a creative idea because of real need in the community; churches that had no life are reaching people like never before.

One did this through getting involved in the foster care system, one did this through opening a thrift store, and one did it through getting involved with the public school across the street. Several saw their demographics had changed and turned their churches over to congregations that looked like the neighborhood!

In the book *Influencer* (McGraw-Hill Education), authors Kerry Patterson, Joseph Grenny and David Maxfield

describe someone who will be catalytic and have influence as someone who "departs from the pack." Most people have a proclivity, when others cause inconvenience or pain or behave badly, to suspect that they have selfish motives and malicious intentions.

Influencers or catalysts are reluctant to conclude that others have a moral defect; instead, they see them as those in

moral slumber. It's our job to wake them up. This reminds me of the spirit of the Beatitudes. It's our perspective that will determine how we view others and how we engage them. It also aligns to much of the New Testament instruction about how to engage a blinded, darkened people. We must have Jesus' model of compassion: He saw people as sheep scattered and with no shepherd.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

Who Will Be the Change-Makers?

In *The Next Christians* (Multnomah), Gabe Lyons says that the next generation of believers that make a difference in the world will have these qualities:

- **Provoked, not offended:** People who are provoked to action rather than being offended by the ways of people and systems. Why be offended when sinners sin?
- **Creators, not critics:** People who ask the Creator God for answers and act upon them to solve human dilemmas.
- **Called, not employed:** People who see the workplace as their mission field.
- **Grounded, not distracted:** People who are well rooted in their identity in God, His Word, and who are being daily transformed by the Spirit.
- **In community, not alone:** People who refuse to be Lone Rangers.
- **Countercultural, not relevant:** People who understand that being like Jesus will make us countercultural and exactly what the world needs.

The church is in a wonderful time in our world. There is great opportunity for catalysts to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit and spark movements all over our nation and around the globe. Leader, will you awake from your own slumber? Will you focus your energies on God and be transformed daily? Those being changed are the ones who bring about the greatest change in the world around them.

HERE ARE SOME QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOURSELF AND YOUR CHURCH:

- How many friends do we have who are not Christians, not our “evangelism project,” but who are really our friends?
- How many civic, education and other local leaders have you interviewed to see what needs are in the community and to discover how your church could partner with them to make a difference?
- How many relationships do you have with other pastors in the community who are building a network of the church in your area to be a blessing to the city?
- What have you been teaching your church about the mission of God and their role in it?
- How do discipleship and mission fit together, and does our church calendar and programming reflect these core purposes?
- Are we discipling and teaching our children and youth to be missionaries in their world?
- Do we have an intentional system that disciples all ages and makes disciplers out of disciples? Do we have an intentional leadership formation process? Are we multiplying?
- And the ultimate question: “If we closed our doors tomorrow, would the community notice and feel a loss?”

Servanthood in Action

The value of a catalytic church can be seen in the experience of Life Church (Angleton Foursquare Church) in Angleton, Texas. After torrential rains struck the area in early June, a call went out for volunteers who could help serve 150 Brazoria County residents who had been flooded out of their homes.

After Senior Pastor Cere Muscarella issued a call for help, so many members showed up to cook, serve food and pack boxes that he had to ask half the volunteers to leave.

“Every single night of the week, 40 people came,” Cere says. “We had to cut the numbers back because shelter personnel said it was too many for them to handle. Our folks have gotten so servant-oriented they want to pour themselves into other people.” —Ken Walker

A Shepherd’s Eye

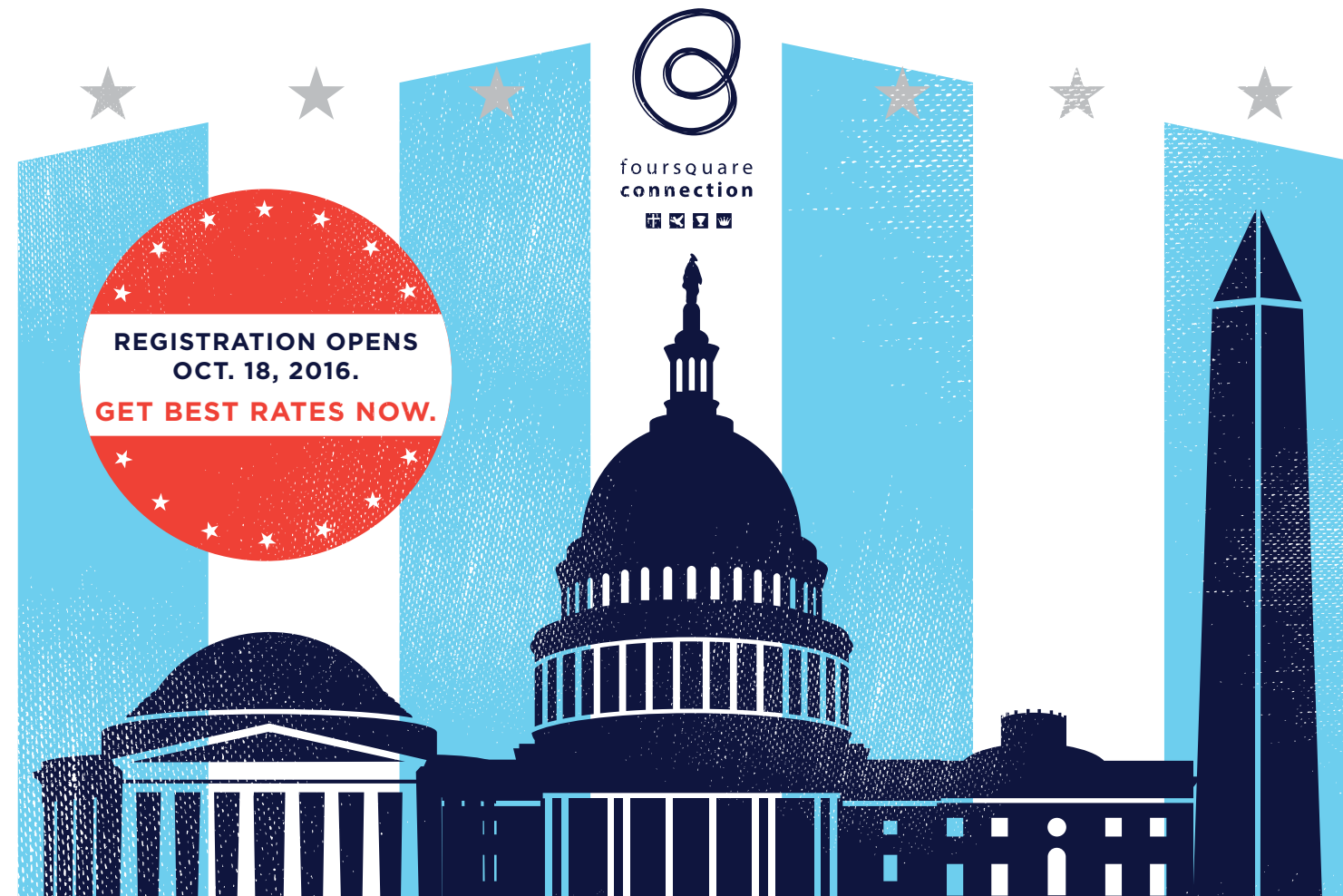
Senior Pastor John Wiley can’t list all the ministries going on at River Church Family (Kansas City East Foursquare Church) in Raytown, Mo., because he doesn’t know all that members are involved in. They are encouraged to live out the church’s core value—loving others and building relationships—as God leads them, rather than being recruited for top-down programs.

“I don’t want to be a sideshow barker that is trying to persuade people that Jesus needs a little bit of your time too,” he says. Such a hands-off approach means being secure in your giftings—“I keep a shepherd’s eye on people, but I am not their boss or CEO”—and a diverse leadership team. —Andy Butcher

Lighting the Ignition

A catalytic explosion needs fuel, a combustion chamber and a spark, notes Senior Pastor Bernie Federmann, who provides the ignition at Lompoc Foursquare Church, which is widely known for its many community service projects in its Southern California city.

With the fuel of regular celebratory reports about all that the church is involved in and the combustion chamber of teams and systems, Bernie then aims to “speak to the spark in people,” he says. “If we can find out what the spark is, as Paul says in 2 Timothy, we fan into flames the gifts that He has given. That is our assignment as leaders.” —Andy Butcher



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#Connection17

CREATING A GLOBALLY MINDED CATALYTIC CULTURE

Take a look at how your church can create a globally catalytic culture that reaches far behind your walls, neighborhood and even country.

Can you believe we get to live in the greatest time of human history for bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to the people of the world? Never before have we had access to so many people in such diverse ways. We can travel to nearly every people group in the world, and they can travel to us. With social media, we can make friends and share the gospel around the world without even boarding a plane.

We're not alone in our travel mobility either. Foursquare is now a growing, global church where each nation has Acts 1:8 in their Bibles just like we do. More of Christ's followers are taking the Good News throughout their nations and unto the "ends of the earth," which if you're from Papua New Guinea just might land you in Dallas (true story).

PARTNERSHIPS

What does this mean for us? It means that we can develop partnerships with others who share our mission—working together is our specialty. An old African proverb says: "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." —African Proverb

CATALYTIC CHRISTMAS

At Faith Chapel (Billings Foursquare Church) in Billings, Mont., Senior Pastor Nate Poetzl does something he calls "Increase Christmas." In December, he challenges everyone to redirect their typical consumer spending toward increasing Christmas for people around the globe. "We want to never stop caring about those outside the church," he says.

As part of this initiative, Faith Chapel produces a catalog in which more than 50 percent of the purchases are in direct partnership with Foursquare Missions International (FMI). Every year, Nate says, the church's response is astonishing and humbling.

"FMI is as healthy a missions organization as I know out there," he affirms, "and it's a pleasure to be able to say that and work with them." —Rachel Chimits

Foursquare Missions International (FMI) is poised for partnership. FMI can help equip you for global ministry and link you with catalytic nation-changers from your family around the globe. Through these strategic partnerships, the spread of the gospel can be increased exponentially.

We are not naive to the perils and threats throughout the world, nor are we looking through the glasses of the 10 spies who missed out on divine destiny because their viewfinder had the lens of fear; rather, we're looking through the glasses of Joshua and Caleb, who saw opportunity and promise.

GO

Catalytic people see the harvest where it's the hardest. Those hard places are where we need to go. Millions are waiting to hear the Good News of Jesus. However, before we jump on a plane to those difficult places, we must acquire essential preparation and training. The world has changed, but the Word has not. So what do we do?



TED VAIL, DIRECTOR OF FOURSQUARE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

PROCLAMATION AND DEMONSTRATION

Packed right into the first verse of Acts 1, Luke, the writer, gives us clues and says that he's written about all that Jesus began to do and teach. Simple but profound, Jesus was a person of action, or "demonstration," and teaching, or "proclamation."

His promised Holy Spirit empowerment is given to us so that we might experience this and bring the kingdom of God to where it isn't. This proclamation is written into the Great Commission of the Gospels as we teach and proclaim with our words. Demonstration, according to Jesus' ministry, involved power to heal and deliver as well as compassion to serve, care and love.

Interesting that these have really been genetics of the Foursquare movement since the onset. We are a proclamation and demonstration movement, that the world

might not only hear the gospel, but also see the gospel. This empowerment is the reactor core of catalytic ministry. It is this type of ministry that deserves the term "catalytic."

To be globally catalytic requires that we be contextual and incarnational. The message is the same, but the methods change. Jesus was the first missionary, and He came to us and lived full of grace and truth among us. True catalysts are boundary-crossing missionaries who live out Christ's message in the power and compassion of His Spirit. They are clothed in Christ in such a way that the locals see Jesus as one of their own.

Great things are happening today, and they can happen through all of us. I'm not sure how you feel, but I don't merely want to watch these great things happen through the window. I want to be right in the middle of it all. Let's go do this together as a Foursquare family on a mission.

CULTURE-SHIFT

Ted Vail shares nine ways you can help develop a catalytic cross-cultural culture.

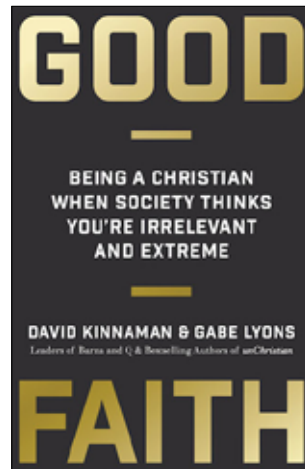
1. Invite people to pray in languages in addition to the primary language of your church; platform and celebrate other nations, and build a culture of praying for them.
2. Teach frequently and expositively from the Scriptures about mission.
3. Get involved locally with the nations in your neighborhood. God has brought many unreached people and under-reached groups to your city for a reason. Learn about these neighbors, and share what you learn with your congregation.
4. Build relationships of respect with your neighbors from other nations (add coffee, tea and food). This is great for families, seniors and youth alike.
5. Identify the homelands of your city's immigrants. Consider connecting with Foursquare in their home nations. If you love their nations, they'll often love you and want to help you as you help their homeland.
6. Mobilize everyone. It's harvest time; equip and unleash your global force.
7. Connect with global missionaries and leaders through FMI. They know their area needs and how you might be most effective in catalyzing the world there.
8. Discover those in your church whose hearts are already being stirred by the Spirit to reach the nations. Appoint a point person for global ministry at your church to keep the awareness and opportunity always in front.
9. Build a culture of response to the Great Commission: Teach people to pray consistently and tenaciously that strongholds will be broken so that the gospel can be proclaimed effectively.

CATALYTIC RESOURCES FOR

Check out these resources recommended by Foursquare leaders to help you catch the vision

CATALYZE YOUR CULTURE

GOOD FAITH (BAKER BOOKS) BY DAVID KINNAMAN AND GABE LYONS



Where once we bemoaned the apathy of society toward the gospel, today we face not only a rejection of the faith, but a rejection that our faith is good. Arguments rage online and in our daily lives as we seek to walk with integrity and commitment to the whole of God’s Word. Whether it is a discussion on human sexuality, sanctity of life, race or religion, Christians are in deep need of confidence that we do not have to accept the labels of “irrelevant” and “extreme.” We have something to say, and something the world desperately needs to hear—if only we could get past the rhetoric, listen to people and help them hear us.

Based on a wealth of research by the Barna Group, *Good Faith* provides a timely response to our current culture’s attempts to dismiss Christians in the public square. As the authors write: “If Christians are to be agents of good faith, we’ve got to overcome the real or perceived barriers to talking with people who don’t already agree with us. We need to become experts at engaging in difficult conversations.”

We recommend that you read this book, talk about it and make it available to your congregation. The cultural and religious topology defined in this work will help 21st-century disciples bring the impact of the gospel into their own communities. When Christians are built up to respond lovingly, clearly and compassionately, the conversations with non-believers will bear more fruit and allow for the transforming power of God’s Word and Spirit to move in the midst of today’s hot-button debates.

CATALYZE YOUR CHURCH

THE MISSIONAL QUEST (IVP BOOKS) AND *MISSIONAL ESSENTIALS* (THE HOUSE STUDIO) BY LANCE FORD AND BRAD BRISCO

At times, it seems easier to launch a new boat than to change the course of an existing one. Transitioning mission, vision, core identity and practices of a church can be slow and challenging. The missional conversation has been taking place for a long time in the Western church. We know we should be making disciples, engaging the cities we live, work and play in, and seeing kingdom transformation take place. We also know that some of the old ways of “doing church” are not bringing the outcomes we long for.

The Missional Quest offers a theological foundation of the church’s missionary identity, with practical steps to bring catalytic change in areas of church, community, neighborhoods and the daily rhythms of every disciple’s life. *Missional Essentials*, a workbook for small groups, offers another way of understanding and applying the ideas offered by the authors.

We recommend leadership teams reading and praying through *The Missional Quest*. Answer the “Steps on the Quest” questions in each chapter to develop both an understanding of your existing church body and concrete action-steps to help people become more engaged with the mission of God in their lives. Consider using the 12-week workbook, *Missional Essentials*, as a tool of discovery and recalibration for small groups of disciples within your local church.



YOU + YOUR CHURCH

for igniting and strengthening a catalytic culture in your church community.

CATALYZE YOUR CONTEXT

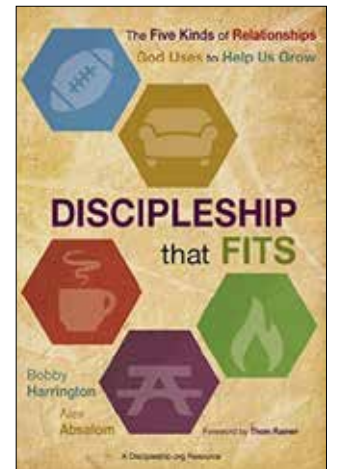
DISCIPLESHIP THAT FITS (ZONDERVAN) BY BOBBY HARRINGTON AND ALEX ABSALOM

Unless you like to geek out over sociology, you probably haven’t read about proxemics. But we bet you innately understand and live by its foundations. Developed in the 1960s by Edward T. Hall, proxemics considers the relationship between culture and space. Later developed further by Christian author Joseph Myers, it is a key idea that could help you develop a new framework of discipleship.

The core concept is understanding the five main contexts of our lives: public, social, personal, transparent and divine. Each context provides unique opportunities and obstacles. The material presented by the authors will also help educate you, your team and your congregation about the right expectations we can hold for each context so that we get maximum benefit from each area of life.

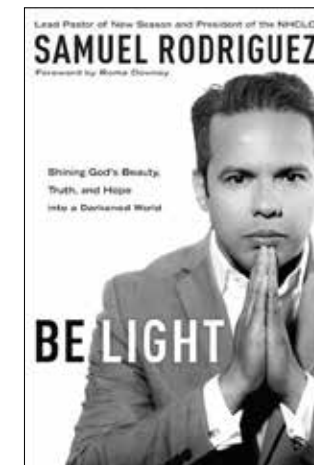
This resource will help you think through observable outcomes for each ministry endeavor. Instead of receiving a prescribed list of action-steps, you can discover what fruit should be gained from each space and plan toward the goals, rather than making the plans the goal.

By understanding each relational space in your own church and community, and by being intentional about appropriate discipleship in each space, you can use this resource to spark a whole church revolution of discipleship that sees every member in every context as a vital disciple-maker.



CATALYZE YOURSELF

BE LIGHT (WATERBROOK) BY SAMUEL RODRIGUEZ



“For the church to function fully as the light of the world, we must see ourselves as the church. She will shine only as brightly as we do,” writes Samuel Rodriguez in *Be Light*.

Looking to light a fire in yourself and understand the depth of what our call to “be light” is all about? Take 30 days with this engaging author, president of the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference (NHCLC), and he will help you think through how you can bring transformation, revelation and hope to the people in your own life.

Each chapter ends with a “reflection” to help you continue meditating on the truth and calling of God’s Word. This book would be a great church-wide personal study or group study, especially when paired with a month-long preaching series that focuses on the concepts of God, disciples and the church as they pertain to light.








FIND YOUR AFFINITY NETWORK

Today's church is faced with the world's great need. As new issues present themselves, we are seeing believers embrace the call to transform people and places with the love and compassion of Christ. Are you or a leader in your church eager to make a difference in the current state of homelessness, insufficient employment, food insecurity, human trafficking; or serve the needs of immigrants, refugees, or international students in your community? Check out the newly formed Foursquare Affinity Networks available to help begin and sustain an effective ministry.

JOIN A NETWORK

Interested in learning more about a network? Check out the current list of Affinity Networks, or contact Sue Spousta at sspousta@foursquare.org.

CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION

-  **Anti-Human-Trafficking Network:** Nita Belles (nita@inourbackyard.org)
-  **Business As Mission Network:** Jonathan Hall (jhall@foursquarefoundation.net)
-  **Campus Ministry Network:** Russ Collins (collins.russ@gmail.com)
-  **Compassion Ministries Network:** Craig Oviatt (craig@salemdreamcenter.org)
-  **Foster Advocacy Network:** Sue Spousta (sspousta@foursquare.org)
-  **International Student Outreach Network:**
Sam Johnson (fsqinternationalstudents@nym.hush.com) and
Bruce Primrose (bprimrose@foursquare.org)
-  **Refugee Care Network:** Bethany Seremet (bseremet@foursquare.org)

WHAT ARE AFFINITY NETWORKS?

Affinity Networks afford our movement an opportunity to support leaders and sponsor distinctive missional activity even outside of the local church. Connecting leaders who share like passions creates space for the following:

1. An organic exchange of ideas and resources
2. Opportunities for collaboration
3. Healthy multiplication of ministry

The networks, in cooperation with U.S. districts and churches, are part of the holistic, kingdom-focused mission of God and Foursquare's call to multiply disciples, leaders, churches and movements.

IGNITE

LIFE PACIFIC COLLEGE



**Pursue your Life
Mission and pave
the road for others
to follow.**

ignite.lifepacific.edu

WHY BORROW FROM FOURSQUARE FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS?

As the Foursquare Church's only affiliated financial solutions provider, Foursquare Financial Solutions seeks to partner with your Foursquare church in its spiritual and financial growth. When speaking to one of our loan representatives, expect an individual that not only wants your church to succeed financially, but also has a heart for the Kingdom and a passion for your ministry.

BENEFITS

- Quick, easy prequalification process
- Competitive interest rates
- Fully amortized loans
- Up to 25 year terms on new borrowing
- No prepayment penalties
- Established dual-track process with Properties department
- All interest stays in the Foursquare family
- Kingdom focused; we celebrate your vision

LOAN PRODUCTS

- REFINANCE
- PURCHASE
- PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS
- NEW CONSTRUCTION
- \$25,000 MINIMUM LOAN REQUEST
- DEFERRED MAINTENANCE LOANS

**RATES
AS LOW AS
3.95%!***

I highly recommend Foursquare Financial Solutions. They responded quickly, helped us navigate a difficult transaction, and provided the perfect loan solution. See for yourself the benefits of working with our Foursquare family for your funding needs!

Rene Charest - Executive Pastor of Valley Christian Center (Fresno, CA)

When considering lending options for Angelus Temple's upgrade, we knew that Foursquare Financial Solutions would be our first and best choice. Their team is fast, friendly, accommodating, and helpful, which made the approval process smooth and effortless. We highly recommend their services for all of your financial needs.

* 3.95% 1-year rate review selection subject to review and approval for Tier One graded credits.

Loans are offered exclusively to Foursquare churches and are subject to borrower credit quality.

HOW TO GET PREQUALIFIED

4SQFS.ORG/QUESTIONNAIRE | 855.547.6948 | loans@4sqfs.org