## **GOVEMBER - THE METHOD**

Vision Statement of Impact Church is: Transforming Lives to Impact Their World:

We are committed to the core to establish a household of faith built from and by the love of Jesus that restores and rebuilds broken lives.

In Short: It is Global Glory!

Habakkuk 2:14 For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. NIV

**New Living Translation** 

For as the waters fill the sea, the earth will be filled with an awareness of the glory of the LORD.

This is what will break down the stench of the pharisaical religious piousness. TITLE: IF YOU'RE NOT DEAD, HE'S NOT DONE!

Matthew 5:13 "You are "The" Salt of the earth."

S. See as Jesus- You see and bring value to people

A. Accept as Jesus- Where they are

L. Love as Jesus- Unconditional

T. Touch as Jesus- Transformational

We are called salt because of:

A. **Our Preserving Ability** - Salt wards off rot and decay! It is rubbed into meat in an effort to preserve it. I am convinced that the presence and the prayers of "salty" Christians has done more to preserve this nation than anything else we could name. It is the righteousness of God's children that made Canada great.

**Prov. 14:34.** "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

**B. We are called salt because of Our Penetrating Ability** - Salt will penetrate and infiltrate whatever it touches. It is an aggressive substance. (The early church - Acts 8:1, 4; Acts 17:6.) I believe that we have been called by the Lord to be an active force in the world around us.

**C. We are called salt because of Our Purifying Ability** - Salt has remarkable cleansing ability. (III. 2 Kings 2:19-22 - Elisha cleansed the waters at Jericho with salt. In ancient times, newborn babies were washed in salt to cleanse their bodies and to give firmness to their skin) Salt in a wound can cleanse the area. We as Christians have a purifying effect on the world around us. We are to offer our lives as an offering to the Lord, Rom. 12:1-2. When we do, it proves that we are worth our salt!

**D. We are called salt because of Our Pleasing Ability** – Salt brings out the best. Salt blends and adds flavor to food. In fact, there are some foods that are better off not eaten if there is no salt! We should flavor the world around us. As salt, we are to live our lives that we bring out the best in those around us. That is what Jesus did time and again, and that's what you and I are supposed to be doing for His glory!

**E. We are called salt because of Our Poisoning Ability** - Salt kills some things! Ever poured salt on a slug? Slugs and salt do not mix! Salt poured on a lawn will kill the grass. Too much salt is not good for your blood pressure. Abimelech, in Judges 9:45, took a city and the sowed the city with salt to prevent the ground from being used to grow crops. He killed the fields with salt. By the same token, when true Christianity is sowed into the lives, homes and communities of the world, some things will be put to death. We can make an impact on our world by the very fact that Christianity is pure poison to sin. When Jesus comes into a life, the old is put to death 2 Cor. 5:17.

**<u>F. We are called salt because of Our Promoting Ability</u>** - Salt creates a thirst for water in those who are exposed to it! As salt, the Christian has the wonderful opportunity to promote a thirst for Jesus in the world. Remember what the Lord told us?

He said that out of our bellies would flow rivers of living water - John 7:37-38. When we take the call of Jesus seriously and live right, we have the ability to create a thirst for Jesus in the hearts of those around us. When that happens, we can point men to Jesus and share with them the water of life.

We must never give anyone cause to say, "*If that is a Christian, then I never want to be one*." Instead, our lives inspire and motivate people to say, <u>"*That is what I want my life to be.*"</u>

<u>**G.**</u> We are called salt because of Our Proven Ability</u> - Salt changes nearly everything it touches. We are to be the instruments that God can use to implement change.

Matthew 4:19 "Follow me and I will make you **Fishers of Men**. Acts 1:8 "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be prosecutors? Judges" informants, NO!!! **my witnesses.** 

## People can fight and argue about doctrine but not your story Followers-Fish Worshippers-Witness

Mark 16:15 Jesus said to his followers, "Go everywhere in the world and tell the good news to everyone"

What is the goods news? Who knows it? John 3:16 There is a kingdom.

As Jesus Christ came preaching the gospel of the Kingdom of God, He said that this Kingdom is "at hand" (Mark 1:15)

John 4:39 Many Samaritans from the village believed in Jesus because the woman had said, "He told me everything I ever did!

A whole town came to Jesus because of 1 woman's story She went from hurt to healed.

Salvation can come from your story! What was it like to have her kind of faith?

#### I. SHE HAD SIMPLE FAITH

- A. Jesus had come to His own people and had demonstrated His power and His identity through many miracles and signs. He had perfectly fulfilled the prophecies about the Messiah, and yet they had rejected Him. **John 1:11**.
- B. But, here is a woman, a child of the hated race of the Samaritans. She hears the word of God and she believes. There are no miracles! No water is turned to wine. No demons are cast out. No multitudes are fed with a little bread and a few fish. No one walks on water. No one is raised from the dead. Jesus simply tells her the truth and she believes it and is saved! Her's is a simple faith!
  - C. This is the kind of faith that saves souls! Jesus said that we had to come to Him as little children, **Matt. 18:1-5**. We are to be open and honest. We are to simply believe Him by faith. Saving faith is a simple faith! Grace works in the heart of the sinner and shows him his condition. Grace shows the sinner where to look to be saved and grace provides the faith to look. That is saving faith and it is so simple! The best testimony in the world is the simple testimony of salvation by grace. The best testimony is your testimony! It's the one thing you never have less of because you have shared it!

#### II. SHE HAD SINCERE FAITH

A. After she meets Jesus and believes in her heart that He is the Messiah, she forgets everything but Him! She drops her waterpot, v.
28, and heads back into the city to tell the others that He is here!

This man who moments before had meant absolutely nothing to her was now the focus of her thoughts and her actions. What an amazing transformation!

B. This is how it works for everyone who meets Him! One moment He is the Lord Jesus Christ, some holy, distant man who died on a cross.

But, when faith is exercised in Him, He instantly becomes a personal friend and the absolute focus and center of your being. His salvation is amazing because it brings about such an instantaneous depth of change, **1 Cor. 5:17**.

C. Think about all the things that changed for you when you received Jesus as your Savior! The women hated her because she was an easy mark for the men. The men used her body but didn't care a thing about her. She left town a nobody, but she returned to town a new born child of God! Everything had changed in an instant! When simple faith is exercised in Jesus Christ, and a soul is saved, sincere faith quickly develops in the heart of the believer!

### III. SHE HAD SHARING FAITH

A. After she is saved, the first thing this woman wants to do is go and tell somebody else. She ran back to town to the crowd who knew her best and told them about Jesus, v. 28-29. Not only did she tell them about Him, she invited them to come and meet Him for themselves. She said, "He's still out there and what He did for me He will do for you if you will come to Him!"

It must have done some good too, because several of those men believed because of her story and others came to know Jesus because of her invitation. This woman was responsible for a town turning to God, **v. 39-42**.

C. There's just something about meeting Him that makes you want to tell others about Him! It's hard to keep to yourself

#### IV. SHE HAD SHINING FAITH

- A. Something about this old girl was different when she came running back into town. I guarantee you they had never heard her talk about "*religion*" before. Now, here she is talking to them about the Lord and inviting them out to meet Him. The change in her life was plain to see!
- B. When the Lord is truly in your life, you won't be able to keep Him a secret. I guess it's the whole "*light and candle*" thing. When He puts His light within your heart, you will stand out from the darkness.
- C. I pray He will fill us up so that we get a good case of the "*can't help its*" and make fools of ourselves for Jesus' sake. Let's ask the Lord to give us a shining faith that glorifies Him before the world!

#### V. SHE HAD SAVING FAITH

Best of all, this woman had saving faith. She went to the well that day to get enough water to last the day, she returned with enough spiritual water to last an eternity

## AT IMPACT CHURCH WE ARE CALLED TO IMPACT OUR WORLD THIS IS OUR METHOD: AWARE-SHARE-PRAYER-CARE How do I implement the method?

Imagine what it could be like to break all the rules and restrictions and have an all out southshore revival?

## **Repeat with me: PACK THE HOUSE!!!**

## 1) **BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS**

2 Corinthians 10:13 We will not boast about things done outside our area of authority. We will boast only about what has happened within the boundaries of the work God has given us, which includes our working with you.

NKJV We, however, will not boast beyond measure, but within the limits of the sphere which God appointed us—<u>a sphere which especially includes</u> <u>you.</u>

In other words, you have a sphere-circle of influence. You have an area of influence, you are a gift, a voice, an eye witness.

ESV- But we will not boast beyond limits but will boast only with regard to the area of influence God assigned to us, to reach even to you.

A sphere is a RULE. Greek is KANON, fixed within the limits of which ones power of influence is confined

YOU HAVE A SPHERE OF INFLUENCE!! God has planted you, positioned you on purpose with a purpose to present a living Jesus to a dying world.

We are all equipped to do ministry because that is what we are. When does ministry end? It doesn't

# IF YOU'RE NOT DEAD HE'S NOT DONE!

Did you know the purpose of the kingdom isn't just to get you to heaven but to get heaven in you? We are to Impact this city with the Kingdom of God

1 . A person can enter a church but not enter the kingdom. Only those who accept the king and the lifestyle of the kingdom will inherit the kingdom. Church membership does not mean Heavenly membership.

2. The church is not the end goal of Christianity. It is the means to the end, which is citizenship in the Kingdom of God. The church platforms and serves the Kingdom. The Kingdom does not exist to serve the church.

3 . Jesus didn't say, "Your church come as it is in Heaven." He said, "Your Kingdom come as it is in Heaven." The goal is not how many people you can get to come to your church, but how much of the kingdom you can get into people.

The church is relevant only to the degree to which it obeys the lifestyle of the Kingdom. If a church does not promote and adhere to a biblical Kingdom lifestyle, then it remains dysfunctional and disillusioned in its purpose

5. Jesus did not tell you to build his church. He said you are to build the Kingdom. Jesus said that he will build His church. He said "seek first the kingdom." When we place first priority on church building, we have placed worldly emphasis above kingdom emphasis. We quickly become self-seeking through an institution.

ACTS 16:31 They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household."

Household (oikos) The place where one has fixed his residence, family descendants of one.

Identify your sphere : My people, my place and my passion Then you want to impact your sphere: My manner, moments and message

## 1. Identify my sphere

**MY PEOPLE:** The demoniac wanted to come with Jesus. Mark 5:19 But Jesus said, "No, go home to your family, and tell them everything the Lord has done for you and how merciful he has been."

### SHARE YOUR STORY IN YOUR SPHERE TO YOUR SOCIETY!

**MY PLACE:** Acts 17:26-27 From one man<sup>[a]</sup> he created all the nations throughout the whole earth. He decided beforehand when they should rise and fall, and he determined their boundaries. <sup>27</sup> "His purpose was for the nations to seek after God and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him—though he is not far from any one of us.

God preplanned, planted and positioned you for such a time as this. This is your crowning moment! This is the day you sprout, blossom and spread your wings. Seize your moment. Live in your moment.

You're going in has prepared you for your coming out! God wants you to tell your story and quit blaming your lack of zeal on your personality or your past!

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**MY PASSION:** Acts 9:39 So Peter returned with them; and as soon as he arrived, they took him to the upstairs room. The room was filled with widows who were weeping and showing him the coats and other clothes Dorcas had made for them.

Dorcas used her gifts, talents and abilities. Dorcas mastered the art of generosity and comfort. She used the things she delighted in to display the goodness of God within her. She served God by serving the community with what she had.

I have passions and things I like. I like GA Bulldogs football and Buffalo Bills football with Chicken Wings, roller skating, Bowling, Christmas lights, I had someone last year stop by a bless me with 4-5 boxes of red and green lights. I like cycling. I like Chase Elliott in Nascar . Royal Caribbean. Seafood etc

## IMPACT MY SPHERE

**MY MANNER**: Colossians 4:5-6 <sup>4</sup> Pray that I will proclaim this message as clearly as I should. <sup>5</sup> Live wisely among those who are not believers and make the most of every opportunity. <sup>6</sup> Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.

We need to have a conversation that is pleasing to the ear. People walked miles and listened for hours just to hear an echo of Jesus speaking. His speech was soothing to the soul.

MY MOMENTS: Psalm 37:23 "The Lord directs the steps of the godly."

Acts 8:27 So he started out, and he met the treasurer of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under the Kandake, the queen of Ethiopia. The eunuch had gone to Jerusalem to worship,

A man's heart plans his ways but the Lord directs his steps. PROV 16:9

#### MY MESSAGE:

1 Peter 3:15 <sup>15</sup> Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. NLT

NIV **<u>Always be prepared</u>**. You may not know all the rights text but you do know your testimony! You may not be prepared for a speech but you do have your story. You may not have all the facts but you do know your forgiven.

# 2. SHARE

Romans 10:13-14 <sup>13</sup> For "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." <sup>14</sup> But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? **And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?** 

**1 Corinthians 3:5-8** <sup>5</sup> After all, who is Apollos? Who is Paul? We are only God's servants through whom you believed the Good News. Each of us did the work the Lord gave us. <sup>6</sup> I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow. <sup>7</sup> It's not important who does

the planting, or who does the watering. <u>What's important is that God</u> <u>makes the seed grow.</u> <sup>8</sup> The one who plants and the one who waters work together with the same purpose. <u>And both will be rewarded for their own</u> <u>hard work.</u>

SAM WILLIAMS " Evangelism is helping people discover how God is already at work in their lives"

God is already working with people and he waiting for us to partner with him. He has already put the syrup on the pancakes, you just have to get people to taste it.

#### <u>3. PRAYER</u>

PRAY THE WORD Father Draw them John 6:44 Blindness Must Go 2 Corinthians 4:4 Encounter Believers Ephesians 6:19 Give understanding Ephesians 1:17 Personal Encounter Romans 8:15

## 4. CARE

1 Corinthians 9:19-23 Even though I am a free man with no master, I have **become a slave to all people to bring many to Christ**. <sup>20</sup> When I was with the Jews, I lived like a Jew to bring the Jews to Christ. When I was with those who follow the Jewish law, I too lived under that law. Even though I am not subject to the law, I did this so I could bring to Christ those who are under the law. <sup>21</sup> When I am with the Gentiles who do not follow the Jewish law, I too live apart from that law so <u>I can bring them to</u> <u>Christ.</u> But I do not ignore the law of God; I obey the law of Christ.

<sup>22</sup> When I am with those who are weak, I share their weakness, for I want to bring the weak to Christ. Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some. <sup>23</sup> I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings.

Luke 19:5 New Living Translation

<sup>5</sup> When Jesus came by, he looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name. "Zacchaeus!" he said. "Quick, come down! I must be a guest in your home today."

HE SEES ME HE KNOWS ME HE NEEDS ME