

Toward a Ministry Direction (DRAFT)

A Synopsis of Summit Discussions to Date



King Road MB Church
January 11, 2010

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Overview

How did this document come to be?

As you are aware, we are involved in a process of “ReFocusing”. Last year our leaders working with feedback from the congregation came to the realization that we needed to have a clear sense of what God wanted us to be and do as a church family. Without this we could easily fall into debating and even arguing about program and ministry direction. It was felt that we needed a process in which we could discover as an entire church family God’s call for us and surrender to it anew.

Three big events marked our journey – Three Summits. These were times of solid discussion, sharing and discovery. At each summit we endeavoured to answer one question.

- **Summit One:** "Where have we been?"
- **Summit Two:** "Where are we going?" .
- **Summit Three:** "How will we get there?"

After each Summit, a digest was written and circulated widely. Opportunities were given for people to give feed back in “discussion groups”. The information received was added to our understanding and is reflected in this document which is a compilation of our discussions.

This summary will provide a base from which our leaders and staff will continue to work with our facilitator in putting together a clear Ministry path for the church’s consideration. The process will be transparent and your input will be welcomed as we move forward together.

Our Biblical Purpose

Why we exist as a church

*The purpose of King Road MB Church is
to glorify God, love people, and invite them to follow Jesus.
(Matthew 22:37-40, Matthew 28:18-20, 1 Peter 4:7-11)*

Our Ministry Milestones

How God has shaped us in our past

After a thorough reflection on our past, we felt God would affirm us for our perseverance in ministry and hard work. He would celebrate our unity, our care for each other and our concern for people in every tribe and nation. He would be glad that we value His Word and that we are endeavouring to go into the entire world as commanded.

When asked what God would **nudge/challenge us** on we responded. This is what we thought Jesus would say.

- “Stop acting out of fear! I love you! You can risk going forward with me!”
- “Pioneer with me. Give up your illusion of control and financial security. After all, I am in control!”
- “Change is going to be thrust upon you. Why not surrender to me now (be proactive)?
- “Don’t depend so much on your finances and traditions but depend on Me. PRAY!” “Remain in me” John 15
- “I have this complaint against you. You don’t love me or each other as you did at first. You have fallen from your first love!” Rev. 2:2-5
- “I have set a great feast. Where are the lame, the poor, the broken among you? Where are the marginalized? You have great feasts among yourselves but where are the others I died for?”
- “Focus a little more on family and how faith is nurtured in your families. Have the boldness to be authentic with your children. Have the courage to talk about the things of the heart.”
- “Have the courage to be authentic with others.”

We felt that if we were to meet these challenges and move on with God together there would be some significant points of surrender. Some of the things we identified were:

- Our own perspectives – We need to be willing to see through other’s eyes and understand them
- Our fear of friction – we can’t be people pleasers
- Our false sense of security – the need to always know the plan.
- Our need for control.

- Our hurts – the offences of the past. When we hold on to the things of the past it makes us bitter. We must forgive.
- Our fear of what other people will think
- Our rights
- Our need for recognition – we do what we do for Jesus
- Our fear of losing our culture/traditions

In summary, as we looked back, we can see God has been with us. We have experienced blessing and growth. We have also experienced challenges. Yet in all of this, we believe God has been shaping us. If we let him have his way, the future is full of hope and opportunity. However, we will need to take seriously the things we have learned.

Our Mission Focus

Whom God has called us to reach

We identified our Mission Focus through the lens of Acts 1:8. “You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth.”: Based on this, we believe God has given us the following groups of people to love and reach:

Our Jerusalem – People we are already reaching

- | | |
|---|--|
| o South American immigrants like us; church members; mostly blue collar | o Believers who have moved to our community |
| o Some Mexican workers | o Some immigrants (other than South America) |
| o Some Youth and family members | o Some workplace contacts |
| o Believers who have retired here | |

Our Judea – People we could reach if we became intentional

Primarily unbelievers with whom we already have relationships and connections

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| o Friends | o Paraguayan immigrants who no longer go to church |
| o Neighbours | o Community Children (TREK) |
| o Co-workers | o Lone (single) parents |
| o Family members | o People suffering from addictions and mental illness |
| o Young Adults (religious alumni) | o International Students |
| o Recreational connections | |

Our Samaria – People we will not find it easy to reach

Unbelievers with whom we have few connections

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| o Indo Canadians | o Homeless People |
| o Secularized Canadians | |

Our Ends of the Earth - People physically removed from us

- o Russia and the former Eastern Bloc
- o Latin America - Peru (church planting), Uruguay, Paraguay, Brazil, Bolivia, Mexico
- o Africa – Chad, Nigeria
- o Other - Papua New Guinea, Austria, Thailand

Our Preferred Values:

Who God wants us to be

- o Dependence on God - We value God as our source, joyfully celebrating who He is in our worship and prayerfully depending on Him in all things because without Him we can do nothing.
- o Biblical Teaching - We value sound doctrine, the teaching and application of God's Word to our lives because without His direction and grace we are truly lost.
- o Christ as Centre – We value Christ as our centre because without surrender and obedience to Him we cannot have true fellowship with God or each other.
- o Missionary Vision - We value a bold, enthusiastic vision of reaching all people with the love of Christ at home and among the nations. We will send, serve and go to whomever He has called us. Playing it safe is not attractive to us.
- o Loving Relationships - We value loving and enjoying people just as Jesus did. Life transformation takes place through compassionate and authentic relationships. Therefore everything we do we will do relationally.
- o Sacrificial Service - We value serving others like Jesus served us. This means we are willing to serve God and others regardless of the personal cost.
- o Disciple Making - We value discipleship that results in passionate lovers of Christ empowered for ministry - lives that are transformed by God's Holy Spirit.
- o Relevance - We value our faith expressed in a meaningful way so that all can understand. They will know we are Christians by our love and social responsibility.
- o Empowered Leadership - We value faithful servant leaders who shepherd and protect us. Our leaders provide direction and foster unity.

The following behavior shifts could take place as we live out these values:

- o Instead of making people fit our moulds we will become more discerning
- o Instead of relying on ourselves we will depend on God
- o Instead of resting in comfort we will be willing to take risks for God
- o Instead of fearing loss we will move forward in faith
- o Instead of focusing inwardly we will focus outwardly
- o Instead of sitting in the bleachers we will get on the field
- o Instead of waiting for leaders we will step into leadership
- o Instead of judging we will be accepting
- o Instead of holding on to control we will trust / empower others
- o Instead of our own ways we will embrace God's way

Our Vision

Where God is leading us in the future

We envision a growing church of caring, adventurous Christ followers, who are enjoying a deepening relationship with God and reaching their friends, neighbours and world for Him.

Specifically...

- o We see prayerful dependence on God underlying everything we do.
- o We see celebrative worship services that communicate God's forgiveness and truth. They are relevant to life. People are coming to Christ and being baptized into the church regularly.
- o We see the people of our church building relationships in our community. (e.g. co-workers, friends, family etc.) These friendships will be lived out through the week as we meet needs, engage in community service, offer hospitality and introduce people to Jesus. We see bridging and harvest activities designed to help us bring these friends to Christ.
- o We see intentional discipleship, one on one and in groups where people are led to Christ then taught, mentored and equipped to live out their God-given call.
- o We see small groups of various kinds passionately ministering and caring for people. These groups are safe places where no one stands alone but rather experiences intimate community. We see each of these groups reaching out to the community and serving God in their unique settings.
- o We see reaching out and engaging people who are often marginalized e.g. newcomers to Canada, people suffering with poor mental health, youth at risk, lone parent families to name a few.
- o We see an environment where we reach beyond ourselves and think "outside the box" to maximize our redemptive potential. This may include partnering with other organizations and churches to reach as many people as we can, both in Abbotsford and around the world.

Our Ministry Model

A model that facilitates our vision and values

A Ministry Model depicts how people flow through the life of our church and how the ministries of our church integrate into a holistic system. The following is our best understanding to date.

Model Description:

One Church, One Leadership and Multiple Expressions

We are one church worshipping in multiple languages. Together we seek to minister to and evangelize people with whom we have connections. The church remains one through its shared leadership, vision, values and ministries.

In the diagram on the following page, the solid line around worship services indicates we come together from time to time (Christmas, Easter etc.) celebrating, supporting each other and worshipping in common services. The dotted line around Ministry / Leadership Orientation indicates that we will work together as possible but not necessarily all the time. We will respect each other and realize there are times we can be more effective working in our separate languages.

Worship Services are relevant, meaningful encounters with God, designed for believers yet sensitive to unbelievers who are not yet personally following Christ. Worship services, ministry programs, and small groups all serve as entry points into King Road. We strive to welcome people warmly, encouraging them to develop friends and participate in a small group where they can continue to be welcomed, cared for, and disciplined in their journey with Jesus.

Small Groups (in our Ministry Model) are not just care groups or home groups, but also include Sunday School classes, youth and other specific ministry-focused groups, and various leadership groups. They are any group that has the four components of healthy community and ministry (Care, Disciple, Serve, and Plan). See “Small Group Model” on page 9.

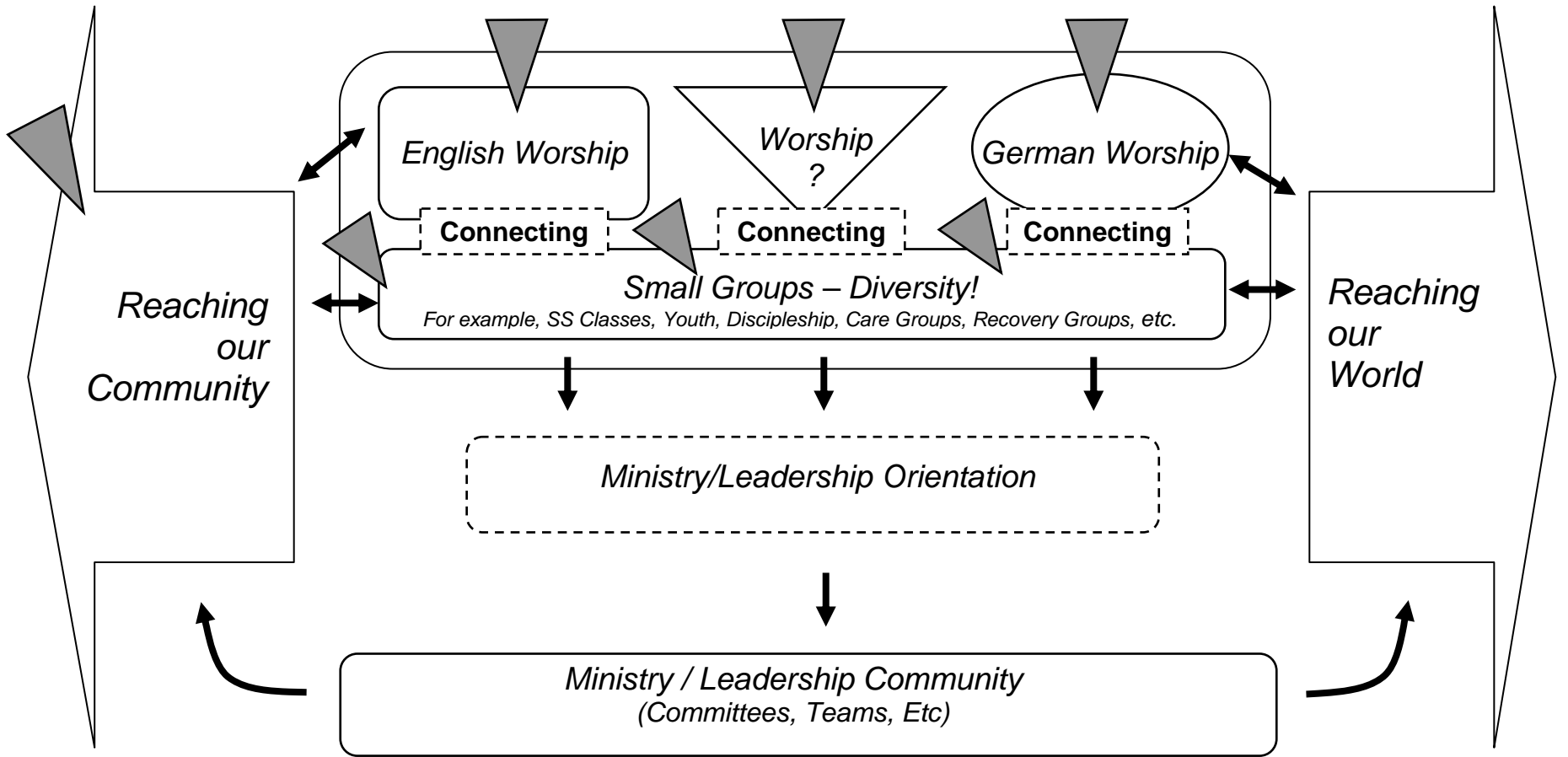
Reaching our Community and World happens through friendships, felt-need ministry, personal evangelism, age-level programs and outreach events. Small groups allow for greater intimacy and for specific spiritual, relational and ministry needs to be met. Discipleship and ministry take place in small groups, and personal evangelism (sharing with friends and colleagues and inviting them to be a part of our church) will be encouraged. These groups may be focused on the following:

- **felt-need ministry** (personal work and programs that address the felt needs (relational, financial, physical etc.) of people in our community. For example, 12-Step Groups, Parenting Workshops, Financial Planning, etc.),
- **age level/gender programs** (ministries that reach out and disciple a specific age or gender. For example, Youth Ministry, Women’s Ministry, Sunday School, Trek, etc)
- **outreach events** (programs or ministries that are primarily oriented to bring people to a decision for Christ. For example, Sports Camps, Dinners, Special Programs, etc.).

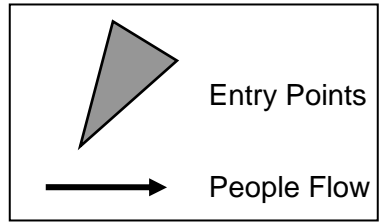
Ministry / Leadership Orientation helps people understand their gifts and how to use them in service. Basic processes in gift, ministry and leadership identification and mobilization will be utilized to help enable people to know themselves (their call, gifts and abilities) as well as a place of ministry in the church or community. People are also taught to understand cultural differences so we can embrace and support each other in our diversity as Jesus would.

The **Ministry/ Leadership Community** provides ongoing support and encouragement. The community of people and leaders that make everything happen as they serve Jesus and others together. Led by the Pastors and Leadership Team (Council/Pastoral Committee), they gather as necessary for encouragement, affirmation, skill development and vision casting.

King Road MB Ministry Model



The arrows in the model show how people flow.



Small Group Model:

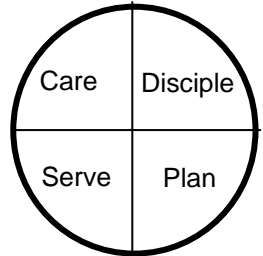
At the heart of our ministry model will be small groups. These small groups do the following:

Care: Each group cares for each other and lives out biblical community by practicing the 'one anothers' of scripture – love one another, encourage one another, serve one another, pray for one another, etc.

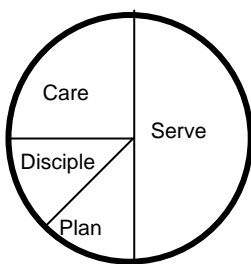
Disciple: Each group is intentional about growing together as disciples of Jesus Christ by learning and studying God's Word together, by practising mutual accountability, by serving together, etc.

Serve: Each group will regularly and intentionally engage in service opportunities in the church, in the community, in group projects, in mission projects, etc.

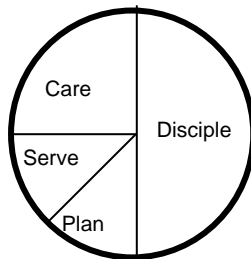
Plan: Each group will plan for growth/multiplication, be intentional about discerning and developing future leaders, monitor their focus/evangelistic edge, etc.



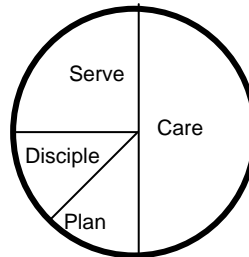
The amount of time and effort given to each of the components determines the kind of small group it is. For instance...



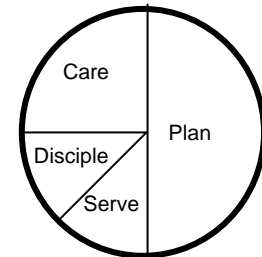
Youth Ministry Team
Choir, Worship Band,
Maintenance Team
Etc.



Discipleship Group,
Sunday School Class,
Alpha Group, Baptism
Class etc.



Care Group,
Recovery Group,
Visitation Team
etc.



Leadership Team,
Greeters Team,
Council
etc.

Our Steps of Obedience:

How we will accomplish our vision

Definition:

Steps of Obedience are major ministry developments or critical steps of obedience that become the shared priority of the entire church if we are to get serious about carrying out the vision God has given us. The steps we identified are as follows:

- Prayerfully develop and implement a proactive two-fold approach to **outreach that both strives to connect people into the church and is intentionally evangelistic in ministry focus**. (This will mean welcoming newcomers into meaningful community and ministry so they feel they belong and thinking through all our events in regard to becoming more intentional and proactive about evangelism.)
- Prayerfully develop and **implement small groups** (as described in our Ministry Model) and **ministry orientation** (focused on discipleship) that results in a majority of our congregation involved in care and ministry, both in the church and in the community.
- Prayerfully **clarify our functional structures** to serve our vision so there is clear communication and clarity on roles and responsibilities.

Our Next Steps

How we will we move forward from here...

On January 11, 2010 our Council, Pastoral Committee, and ReFocus Lead Team met to review the work of the Summits (adding clarity where necessary) and worked out an initial plan of action. It is recognized that we cannot do everything at once. Initial steps will be prioritized. The final document (draft) will be brought to the entire congregation on Sunday, January 17, 2010 for discussion and response and prayer. Our next step will be affirming our ministry model.