

# Impartation - Redefining Church

I have in recent weeks been talking into this theme of 'Impartation'. I have been seeking passing on that which God has in His Divine storehouse for you.

I would like you to think of this as a 'strategic' season of releasing and raising up ministries, creating capacity in the house for our future.

## 1. ***What outcome do I have in mind - what do I see?***

Well - let me ask you a question ... Why do you think you were saved?

Yes, you were saved to go to Heaven; but more than that you were saved to serve!  
Like the eagle you were born to fly!

So this is a time when the eagle is stirring the nest ... this is your time to fly ... its a time of stepping into new things!

So what I see is a Church where believers are embracing their destiny and purpose in Christ.

## 2. ***This may have a significant impact on the way we do Church.***

One of our targets this year is to 'grow' the church. Well they say it is foolishness to do the same thing over and over again and expect something different!

I don't think we will really grow unless we embark on something quite radically and fundamentally different.

We have been working on being an "***Attractional Church***"; i.e. our basic mentality has been 'let's be so wonderful, so amazing that people will come to us'.

So has been about great programmes; great music; great user experience and so on. Problem ... its not really working!

What we really need to rediscover is what it means to be a "***Missional Church***" - a church that goes to the people.

We need to find a way to be a believing community that takes its faith outside of the walls and the confines of this building and its tradition.

Imagine if you began to use part of your Sunday to start a small Outreach group in your area; or ran a Community project; or began an Alpha or Life Skills, or a Prayer

Room or a Worship event; and so on and so on. Just imagine that.

This could not only radically change the way we do Church; but it would radically change the way you live your Christian life. You would be living as a minister!

And that's where we want you to get to. So for me the radical question in all of this is – "What do I need to do to make Ephesians 4:12 really work?"

### **3. *Going 'Deeper' means being a 'Growth Environment's***

What is a GE ... It is a place that promotes a ministry mentality; it is a place that promotes affirmation; it is a place that is committed to resourcing and supporting your venture of faith

Let me just underline that first point a bit more - we are committed to seeing you begin to minister in some way or another.

Christian ministry is all about being a servant ... NT words that translate 'minister' all present a common idea - 'servanthood'

We follow in a noble and long tradition of servants: -

Christ was a servant (Matthew 20:28)  
Paul was a servant

*(Eph 3:7 - diakonos/servant/waiter; Rom 1:1 - doulos/slave; Acts 26:16 & 1 Cor 4:1 - huperetes/underrower; Rom 15:16 - leitourgos/public servant)*

***This is not about reward, fame or fortune; it is all about serving God and pleasing Him. Let's do it!***