

Faith Christian Fellowship
January 19, 2014
2014 Being a Real Church
A Real Church is a Fruit Market

TEXT: Matt 9:35-38 / Matt 5:14-16

A fountain of healing power: Repair, prepare, celebrate!!!!

FCFT is an organic church where our slogan is "The Word and the Spirit ...Keepin' it real!

2014: **We are now a real church with a sustainable base and a long reach. It is time to impact Tucson.**

A Real Church: It is the people of God striving together to follow God, individually and corporately, through His Word and His Spirit

The Big Question: What does a real church full of real disciples do to really impact a community and the world? We pray and we have a plan..

- ❖ This year's admonition:
 - Stay focused on the main thing. Don't get caught up in controversy (2Ti 2:14 NLT) Know the purpose and the plan for you and us, and don't allow life to distract you
 - Ez 3:9-27. Tell them! **It is time to impact Tucson and beyond.**
- ❖ The Real **Organic Church bears fruit on the branches**
 - Organic church - Where are we?
 - An apple tree is desired for its apples, not its roots. Lk 6:44
 - The church as organism:
 - We are family – Eph 3:15 born into the family, then grow into what they were created to be. Eph 2:8-10
 - You are God's field. 1 Cor 3:9 Growth is a process of putting out shoots, when having them pruned. Every season the oranges get bigger and juicier.
 - **Our success must be measured in how well people are fulfilling their destiny:** supernatural growth product of the people God has planted here, either by birth or grafting. We will be who you become.
 - **You are not part of my ministry.** My ministry is preparing you to fulfill yours.
 - Our challenge: Grow yet maintain the local church as an organism rather than an organization, a family rather than a corporation.
 - Our response to the challenge has been to

- Develop leaders who can mentor leaders
- We strive to do three things:
 - Identify talent and calling
 - Developing vision/plan
 - Mentor ministries into fruitfulness.

❖ **Our fruit is not programs, it is people!**

- We have a culture, an atmosphere, and a message that are conducive to people being received, transformed, and trained. Rom 15:7 / Jn 8:31-32 / Matt 9:38-10:1
 - We have a houseful of transformed lives. John 3:1-8
 - We have ministries and places of service that spring from the hearts of the people God put here; Matthew 9:35-10:1
- ❖ An organic church impacts the community through its fruit. Don't hide the light Lk 11:33, **we are lit**
- Our FCFT culture, atmosphere and message must be experienced. Taste and see – Cheers, Party, Level ground
 - Your transformed life and real discipleship makes you a representative everywhere you go – your job, your home, your friends – they can taste your life... Eph 4:12, 16 / 1Pe 3:15 MSG / Php 2:12-16 NLT
 - Finding and filling our individual roles causes the Body to be built: 1 Peter 4:10-11 / Eph 2:10 You were created for good works
 - Mat 5:14-16 Let your light so shine before men, **that they may see your good works** and glorify your Father in heaven.
 - We have a long list of good works. Uncover the light
 - We also have an untapped mine. Luk_6:45 / Prov 20:27
 - In this season, it is time to let the community see our good works to the glory of God. We are no longer a startup or an upstart. We are a real church, a city on the hill.

We have established the root, now to extol the fruit

The tree that is beside the running water is fresher and gives more fruit.

Teresa of Avila