

Pastor's Perspective (February 2009)

If You Build It He Will Fill It

On Sunday morning the first of February, I was taking some time to pray. I felt we had a great Saturday night service and still felt the presence of the Lord. His presence is our trademark. Moses said to the Lord, "If Your presence does not go with us do not send us up from here. What else will distinguish me and Your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?" Exodus 33: 15-16.

As I was sitting and asking the Lord for this distinct manifestation in all of our lives I was immediately reminded of a vision I had years ago. I was sitting in a little chapel looking out a nearby window. There was a beautiful stand of trees right outside. The Lord sort of took me into it. It was beautiful and pristine. Then I heard a noise. It was someone hammering. It did not fit in and was distracting. Man was building something in the midst of this untouched habitat. It was agitating. I felt that the Lord was showing me something. He does not want us to build His house. He wants to build it. It will be pristine, holy, beautiful, attractive and compelling. And then He said, "If you will build I will fill it." How can we build something when He is the One who is to build His house? The Lord wants to use us in a cooperative way to establish something here on earth that reflects His heart and His nature. He does the work, we obey His word. Every work is established on His Word. Every Word that is obeyed brings life.

Here are the two things I felt that the Lord was saying to build in obedience to His word. Build a house that is warm and inviting. We are to have a friendly atmosphere about us. The Lord wants us to be a people who care. He wants us to not be so concerned about our own lives and problems that we do not see the hurts and pains of others. We are to be loving. Love one another deeply, Paul says. The second thing we are to do is to build a Spirit-filled and Spirit-led environment. This is both a place and a people who are carrying the presence of God. The Spirit of God will guide us into all truth. How can we stand in a generation where there is so much deception unless we are filled with the Spirit of the Living God?! Our vision is to go for Him, re-presenting Christ and His Kingdom here on earth. There is no way to do that unless we are filled with His presence.

Let's build with God. He wants to establish a house here on earth that people are compelled to, drawn to. Let's join together as a people in unity to do what His Word will sustain. The Word of the Lord will never return void, it will always accomplish what it was sent out to do.