

Dunamis Fellowship Canada

A Regional Expression of Presbyterian-Reformed Ministries International

Exalting Jesus Christ! Igniting the Church in the power of the Holy Spirit

Under the authority of Scripture as the Word of God

Through Prayer, Leadership Development, Congregational Renewal, Mission Outreach

So that the Church will be empowered to do all that Christ commands to the glory of God the Father



Growing Leaders – Growing the Church Trying or Training?

Ray Vander Kooij



How do we flourish as leaders in the ministry to which Christ has called us? How do we become leaders God can use to grow the church?

In the church I serve, as staff we are seeking to grow as godly leaders. At a recent staff meeting, we reflected on the difference between the impact of *trying* and of *training*, in response to the statement “Trying only gets us to Tuesday” that Greg Ogden makes in *Leadership Essentials*.

We each expressed a renewed sense of call and commitment to connect to Jesus in the rhythm of our daily lives and ministries, surrendered afresh to being shaped by the Holy Spirit.

Growing the Church in power

What’s true for us is true for the church. Growing the church by trying has limited results. Programs, boards and committees, organizational structure and the like, all have their place. Only the Holy Spirit equips and empowers, guides and gifts the church of Jesus Christ to grow in faithfulness and fulfilling our commission.

To help meet the need for spiritual training in cooperating with the Holy Spirit to develop the church, Dunamis Fellowship Canada (DFC) is pleased to offer *Growing the Church in the Power of the Holy Spirit*. This event will be held May 1-4, 2012 at Guelph Bible Conference Centre in Guelph, Ontario.

Cooperating with the Holy Spirit

Growing the Church equips church leaders in the foundations and dynamics of cooperating with the Holy Spirit as individuals and as churches. The training includes biblical and reformed teaching and practical application

through prayer, group interaction, and personal reflection.

Teaching themes include growing in love and other Christ-like qualities, receiving divine guidance, spiritual discernment, spiritual gifts. In taking the course, I found that the teaching especially went deep and the small groups became a place of personal training. Sharing, searching, and being supported in prayer really served to bring the themes to bear on my leadership and ministry.

Brad Long and Cindy Strickler from Presbyterian Reformed Ministry International will provide the primary teaching. Myself, a Christian Reformed pastor, and Winston Newman, a Presbyterian Church in Canada pastor, are on the leadership team. Both of us are on the DFC Board of Trustees.



Embodying patterns for growth

Pastors, staff, elders, and others will be blessed and enriched through this equipping. Rather than taking back a program, you’ll embody patterns you can weave through your life and the ministry of the church.

Come away to be refreshed in the beautiful facilities of Guelph Bible Conference Centre. Accommodations and meals are available on site at a charge. However, as is DFC practice, there is no charge for registration; instead, an offering is taken each evening. The enclosed brochure provides more information, and you can contact our office to receive more information or for brochures to share with others.

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Listening Evangelism Project Challenges Participants

Les K. Ferrier

Around 80 people, including leaders, staff, and volunteers, participated in the Dunamis event on Listening Evangelism, October 12–15, 2011 at the Guelph Bible Conference Centre in Guelph, Ontario. Speakers included Brad Long and Cindy Strickler from PRMI and Bernie McGale. Nancy Mostert, Stephen Dunkin, and Marg Rekman were Gateways teachers. Barb and Les Ferrier taught the Facilitators course for those who want to offer Dunamis video courses in their congregations.



Evangelism made real

During this event, we learned evangelism is not a program, though it can involve programs, but a step-by-step process in which the Holy Spirit works through us to draw people to Jesus. We were challenged to practice evangelism by listening the Holy Spirit for guidance (hints, pictures, anything!) that would lead us to people and enable us to listen to them and their needs and then, with their permission, to pray with them.



One morning we went into the community in trust, and faith challenged us at places like Tim Horton's, big box stores, and the local mall. Some of us became unexpected intercessors; some had adventures like crashing a car into a wall, an accident that opened the way to many conversations. Once again we knew the presence of the Holy Spirit and were inspired. We learned that the Holy Spirit does open the door so Jesus can be invited in.



Listening Evangelism continued on page 3

Beyond the surface - A testimony from Listening Evangelism

People who know me from my home church would describe me as a "spiritual person."

But coming to a Dunamis Conference has shown me that I have barely even scratched the surface in my knowledge of the power and workings of the Holy Spirit. I realize how important it is to have a solid Reformed understanding as one begins to co-operate in the dance of the Holy Spirit's work.

Anita Plat-Kuiken
London, Ontario

New DVD course on the Holy Spirit available.

The *Listening Evangelism* DVD course will be shipped in January 2012.

This 10-week Dunamis DVD course is a powerful teaching tool for congregations or small groups. It combines teaching and practice, and makes a lasting impact.

Other DVD course titles:

- Gateways to Empowered Ministry
- In the Spirit's Power
- The Power of Prayer

To learn more or order a course, contact DFC at 519-821-3603 or email dfc@dunamisfellowshipcanada.org

Listening Evangelism continued from page 2

Prayer and worship

Prayer ministry ran smoothly under the leadership of Melody Melzer and Janet Lammers and the teams were solidly booked for private appointments. Prayer ministers also prayed for and blessed people during the teaching times.

Sandy Bassie again led the onsite intercession team and Martin Boardman the offsite intercessors; we were well protected from Satan's interference. Sandy Jenvey led worship playing both the keyboard and the harp beautifully. I am grateful for the excellent job done by all the volunteers.



Joshua Kang discusses prayer evangelism with Cindy Strickler

A challenge

This Listening Evangelism track marked the completion of the Ontario Dunamis project, which led to mixed feelings. People were thankful for the teaching and saddened that this was the last of the six tracks on the person and work of the Holy Spirit, which have been offered over three years.

Now, a significant challenge lies ahead. The Holy Spirit is calling DFC to hold Dunamis tracks in other parts of Canada. We are also being called to develop Canadian teachers for our events. This will stretch us but the Holy Spirit asks us to step out in faith to further join the Great Commission. Please join us in asking God to bless these future Dunamis tracks.

Les Ferrier was track director for Dunamis Project Ontario. Photos were courtesy of Stephen Dunkin.

Meditation

Called for the Sake of Others

Nancy Mostert

I have been reading the book *A Light to the Nations: The Missional Church and the Biblical Story* by Michael W. Goheen (Zondervan). The book challenges us to ask why we are a chosen people. Goheen suggests that "God's chosen people do not exist for themselves, rather, they exist for the sake of God's glory and his mission, and for the sake of others toward whom God's mission is directed." A relationship with Jesus Christ is not an individual project. It is about being a covenant community whose role and identity is tied with making disciples of all nations.



Acts 1:8 is a foundational text for establishing the identity of the early church; "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." If you recall, 120 men and women gathered to pray for 40 days prior to Pentecost, waiting on this promised Holy Spirit. They were a community of believers who deeply desired to fulfill all that Jesus had called them to do.

How about our Canadian church context? Are we leading and teaching our people to wait on and be empowered by the Holy Spirit? Not only for individual salvation and sanctification, but also to become covenant, Spirit-empowered communities who chose to be a light in our communities. Are we thinking, planning, and setting aside resources to be intentional witnesses outside as well as inside our church walls? God is calling all believers, to be community to our communities, for his sake and theirs.

Funding Power Tool Training

Barb Ferrier

Power tools are great inventions. But to use them well, we need training. I might trust my two-year-old grandson to play with a hammer (supervised, of course). However, he needs a few more years of maturity and some solid instruction and mentoring before he'll be trusted with a power drill or chain saw.

The Holy Spirit has entrusted us with gifts to use for kingdom building. But to use these power tools well we also need instruction and mentoring, which we've gratefully received from PRMI.

In 2011, thanks to your designated donations, DFC provided funds to help develop two PRMI initiatives that benefit Canadians.

Canadian gifts helped PRMI develop the online infrastructure for the Dunamis Institute. This fall, Rev. Bernie McGale in Welland led the online equipping of high-level intercessors from Welland, Ontario. Les and I trained eight more Dunamis Video Course facilitators from Guelph. And Canadians have taken courses taught by others.

Thanks to DFC gifts, PRMI has produced a *Listening Evangelism*, the fourth Dunamis video course, and we're

thrilled that it will be available soon for use in our Canadian churches. The filming of the videos and editing of the manuals was funded in large part by DFC.



PRMI uses videos of events to reach a wider audience. DFC gifts made the purchase of this camera possible.

Canadians who direct gifts to PRMI through DFC receive Canadian charitable receipts. This is possible because DFC has a government-approved agency agreement with PRMI.

As a PRMI Board member, I've had the privilege of overseeing and encouraging this Kingdom work. Thank you for your generous gifts .

To direct gifts to PRMI through DFC, go to Donations on the website and click on PRMI agency agreement. The current agency agreement projects are 1) online infrastructure and courses for the Dunamis Institute, 2) mission trips by Canadians to countries outside North America and 3) furnishing and decorating a prayer facility at the Community of the Cross.

DFC Upcoming Events

Ignites

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| February 2012 | Ignite 1 - Gateways to Empowered Ministry: The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit
Essa Road Presbyterian Church, Barrie, Ontario |
| April 20/21, 2012 | Ignite 1 - Gateways to Empowered Ministry: The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit
Lakeside Presbyterian Church, Summerland, British Columbia |
| Spring 2012 | Ignite 3 - Prayer in the Power of the Holy Spirit - First Christian Reformed Church, London, Ontario |

Growing the Church in the Power of the Holy Spirit

May 1 to 4 Guelph Bible Conference Centre, Ontario—Flyer Enclosed

Dunamis Fellowship Canada Annual Conference

May 5, 2012 Location to be announced

See www.dfc@dunamisfellowshipcanada.org for updates on events

See www.primi.org for further information on USA Events

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Please take a look at our new website.