

BENEFITS OF NETWORKING IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

Wellsford and District Church Leaders– 22/05/07 – ekb

There are many benefits in the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ, through building relationships of trust, integrity, reliability, communication and companionship.

1. Such relationships enable **mutual support, assistance and encouragement through** prayer, phone calls, emails, visits, and sharing resources. *Jn 13:12-17, Mat 20:28, Eccl 4:9,12.*
2. Where such relationships exist, and there is **harmony in the Lord's House, the Lord commands His blessing. There is an increase of God's presence, angelic visitation, visions, revelations, gifts of the Spirit, miracles, signs and wonders and anointing on the preaching of the Word.** God's people are willing to step forward and volunteer. The anointing oil of the Comforter is poured out upon the Lord's people to reach the lost and needy. *Ps 133, Joel 2:28,29, Jn 15:4,5, Ps 110:3.*
3. **The people of the world will have their eyes opened** to the Gospel and to the Saviour, when they see our love for one another. Unity and oneness in the Body of Christ, through love of the saints for one another, reveals the purpose of the Father in sending the Son as the Saviour. *Jn 13:35, Jn 17:21-23.*
4. **The effectiveness of our prayer is increased,** as we are drawn together in agreement by the Holy Spirit, into the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. When leaders and believers meet to pray in open hearted loving agreement, there is tremendous power in God to overcome the enemy and establish the purposes of God. *Mat 18:18-20.*
5. The elders of the "city", who meet in the "gate," **have the authority of God to control what comes in and what goes out.** They are in the place of spiritual and practical authority over the life of the "city". When the church leaders of the town or city are in oneness and agreement in Christ, they have the authority of Christ to rule in His Name. *Deut 25:7-9, Ruth 4:1-12, Deut 22:15-18.*
6. **Communication is a strength in the Lord's House.** As the leaders share together what the Lord is saying and doing, it is a very great encouragement. *2Cor 13:1, Deut 19:15, Mat 18:19.* When the Lord works in a particular way, every leaders who is seeking the Lord will hear the Holy Spirit's leading. Sharing together will confirm and reinforce what the Lord is doing. *Jn 5:19.*
7. Out of secure relationships **the whole Body of Christ can move together to present God's love to a needy world.**

Whangarei, Easter Good Friday, 07

Five churches walked through the city to celebrate the stations of the Cross. Francis Xavier, St Johns, Central Baptist, Salvation Army, St Andrews and many from other congregations joined in. (650 approximately)

Kaikohe, Christmas 05,06

Christmas in the Park and Church in the Park. Almost all churches combined to present the Good News. 2500 people gathered each year. (Refer Pastor Dick Goodwin, Kaikohe)

Dorothy and Ken have been travelling in the North among the churches for 30+ years and have seen the benefits of networking to build relationships.

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