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***INTRODUCTORY PACKET***

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## Tyrone's Story

I was born in East Los Angeles at the General County Hospital on August 31, 1982.

When I was 7 years old some older kids jumped me (beat me up) and put me into their gang. If you want into a gang that is the only way in. The gang was called the OPHS, which stood for "The Orphans", and it was a Hispanic gang. My dad was okay with me being in a gang; in fact, he even let gang bangers sleep in our home.

When I was ten we moved to downtown Los Angeles. We lived in welfare hotels, which is not a good place to live if you are a kid. All I saw were people selling drugs, using drugs, and lots of prostitutes. At least twice a month someone would get thrown out of a window from the tenth floor of our building. There were rats the size of small cats that ran through the building, some which lived in people's rooms. The hotels always smelled bad.

My mom and dad were drug addicts. They stayed up all night using drugs while me and my brother would be sleeping. We had to hide money because mom and dad would spend it on drugs.

I started going to a church's youth center at that time where I met adults who cared about me. Each of them tried to help me get into school and stay out of trouble; but it was very hard. I started tagging, which is spray painting on walls. I even joined a tagging crew, which is just like a gang.

My Secondary Nurturer just made life harder because he pushed me to do the right thing. Each time I would drop out of school he was there to get me back into another one. He helped me to stay out of jail by going to court and speaking on my parent's behalf, making me look good in front of the judges.

If it were not for my Secondary Nurturer I could be dead.

## ***“It will take prayer and fasting”***

Too many kids are walking through life with no responsible adult able or willing to give them the guidance they need. These kids end up searching for meaning, for love, in all the wrong places – many do this for the remainder of their lives.

God’s family has the opportunity to reach out to these kids providing what He intended for them. Christian Secondary Nurturers can walk with them through life, dynamically imparting God’s love.

These kids need adults to spend time with them, holding them accountable (when no one else will), challenging them to go beyond what they thought possible – adults who will guide them into the loving embrace of Jesus Christ.

*“You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, ‘visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me.’” Exodus 20:5*

The children and teenagers who must be reached are those whose ancestors knowingly or unknowingly set them up for failure. You and I serve a loving, merciful God who will redeem these kids.

In a time of prayer for at-risk kids the Lord spoke to us, “It is going to take prayer and fasting, but not fasting from food. It will take adults willing to fast from the things they want to do for themselves because they are devoting their lives to those kids” (Isaiah 58:6-12).

Several weeks later a youth worker, (independent, and not knowing what had been spoken to us), had the same words spoken to her. Driving through her neighborhood, she prayed for the children as they played around drug dealers. “How Lord, how can this be changed?” she cried out. “Through prayer and fasting, but not fasting from food,” she heard.

The vision we believe the Lord has given us is *impossible*. Thankfully, we serve the God of the impossible (Luke 1:37).

We believe He will raise up churches that will reach at-risk kids in their neighborhoods. The churches understand this is going to be a long-term commitment. Adults will have to give up time that is precious to them to spend it with kids who need their loving attention.

These adults, “Secondary Nurturers”, will be at church with the kids’ everyday the KidTrek Center is open. They will visit the home, the school, and interact with social service professionals. They will strive to model a biblical lifestyle – spiritual, mental, physical, emotional, and social.

## *Purpose/Mission Statement*

### **KIDTREK EQUIPS THE CHURCH TO REACH FAMILIES IN CRISIS**

*Developing a partnership with local churches, KidTrek establishes opportunities for their youth. Through modeling, training, and coaching KidTrek equips the Church to build such intentional, long-term relationships with families in crisis the kids will grow to become **CHRIST-CHANGED, HOPE-FILLED, PRODUCTIVE ADULTS.***

## *Core Values*

- **CHRIST-CHANGED LIVES**
- **WALKING WITH KIDS THROUGH LIFE**
- **AT-RISK KIDS ARE VALUED**
- **WHOLE-ISTIC INVOLVEMENT**
- **SAFETY AND SECURITY**
- **LOCALLY, CHURCH-BASED**
- **A STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE**



# Core Values Description

## **CHRIST-CHANGED LIVES**

The greatest gift we give to kids is leading them to the Truth. Every component of KidTrek reflects this value. Ours is a *transformational ministry*, bringing kids into a dynamic relationship with Christ.

- All adults who work directly with the kids must be born-again Christians.
- Churches agree to our Statement of Faith (see addendum A).
- No funding will be pursued or secured that prohibits the teaching of Scripture, and its role as the infallible and sole word of God.
- All activities and curriculum are Biblically based.

## **WALKING WITH KIDS THROUGH LIFE**

When God created us He intended that we would be nurtured in family units, as He models for us through His own relationship to /with Himself (i.e., Father – Son - Holy Spirit). For at-risk kids, this seldom happens. The absence of nurtured children results in devastation – not only to at-risk kids, but also to our communities.

- Scripture is calling the church to individual whol-istic ministry of kids (Deuteronomy 6; Matthew 18:1-14; Mark 10:13-16; Proverbs 22:6)
- Secondary Nurturers minister to a small group of kids. The number is determined by the time available to a Secondary Nurturer – but rarely to more than five kids.
- Secondary Nurturers are at the Center every day that it is open. They participate and/or lead each session in which their group is involved. The number of days a Center is open is based on the availability of Secondary Nurturers. We suggest at least two, but not more than three days a week.
- Secondary Nurturers visit homes a minimum of once a month. Secondary Nurturers build trusting relationships with each child's primary-nurturer.
- Secondary Nurturers visit or have contact with each kid's teacher a minimum of once a month. The Secondary Nurturer supports the teacher as an encourager. A Secondary Nurturer may offer to help in the class for an hour a week. The Secondary Nurturer learns from the teacher how to best help the child/teen academically.
- Secondary Nurturers build a relationship with any social service professionals that might be involved in the child/teen's life, providing a consistent relationship, especially for those moved from home to home. It also ensures that the Secondary Nurturer can stand in the gap for the kids, no matter what may happen. Social Service professionals may include, but not limited to: social workers, probation officers, attendance officers, judges, public defenders, and police.
- Secondary Nurturers model a godly lifestyle in all aspects of their relationship.

## **AT-RISK KIDS ARE VALUED**

Un-reached children and teens are hidden from society, that is, until they do something to get our attention. Lashing out at society is proof of the absence of nurturing. Consequently, kids form their own *family units* – gangs! For these critical reasons, we urgently value kids.

Some signs of being “at-risk:”

- Abuse – verbal, physical, sexual, neglect
- Abandoned by parents, single parent home, both parents working, lack of extended family support, frequent moves
- Alcoholic and/or drug addicted parents
- Lack of spiritual guidance
- Lack of adequate education
- Poverty
- Violent or criminal environment

We believe that what Satan planned for evil God will use for good. By providing Secondary Nurturers to at-risk kids, and leading them to Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, broken family systems are healed resulting in a new generation of godly men and women.

## **WHOLE-ISTIC INVOLVEMENT**

In Deuteronomy 6, the nation of Israel is commanded to minister to their children – when sitting in their homes, when walking, when lying down, and when rising up. Kids need to see that biblical truth applies in every area of their lives.

- KidTrek Associates use the KidTrek curriculum to ensure that biblical truth is flowing through each aspect of their lives. The curriculum is written specifically to make certain that this will occur.
- The program must include: Bible Focus/Bible 101, Life Skills, Tutoring, Recreation, Read-Aloud, Homework Assistance, The Arts, Snack and Family Time.
- Secondary Nurturers walking with kids through life provide the kids a model of comprehensive biblical lifestyle modeled for them.

## **SAFETY AND SECURITY**

“It’s the only place in my whole life where I am safe”, is how a child described her Center experience. Kids deserve to know that there is a place where they can be safe and secure – with adults who love them unconditionally.

KidTrek Associates are trained in the following:

- Emotional needs of a child
- All Secondary Nurturers are screened – including fingerprinting and background checks
- Emergency plans are written and posted in appropriate areas of the building.
- Smoke detectors are installed and working.
- Facilities are maintained and child safe.
- Directors and Secondary Nurturers receive First Aid and CPR Training.
- Any adult driving kids must have a valid driver’s license and proof of insurance.
- Each church has proof of liability coverage.
- Each center has written expectations of child/teen behavior.

## **LOCALLY CHURCH BASED**

God ordained the Church to carry out His Mission. KidTrek comes alongside the local church, empowering it to carry out God’s work.

- KidTrek partners with local-churches to do in-your-life nurturing of at-risk kids.
- When KidTrek Associate is a para church ministry, KidTrek partners with ministry to get kids, and families, connected to a local-church.
- KidTrek assists Associate Ministries to seek participation from local church membership.
- As an Associate Ministry, the local church agrees to the Minimum Standards (page 10), but otherwise has autonomy over its own Center.
- The goal is to fold kids and their families into the local church.
- We believe that as communities see kids being positively impacted, they will be drawn to Christ and His church. “*When I saw the change in Jessica’s mom, I knew I had to know the God that could do that*”, said an elementary school principal. Subsequently, the principal attended a new believer’s class at the local church.

## **A STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE**

We represent the King of King's, the Lord of Lords. At-risk kids deserve the best ministry we can provide them – their angels are watching (Matthew 18:10).

We believe ...

- He is a God of order, I Corinthians 14:33. The center should be a place of order, where kids know what to expect and what is expected of them
- The amount of money spent does not equate with excellence.
- Kids need intentional, long-term, sacrificial, relationships with Christ-centered, God-fearing adults...not haphazard and periodic!
- In providing an excellent ministry, it is understood that adults will be stretched and challenged. Adults must count the cost (time, talent, treasure) before they commit to children and teens. Abandonment of at-risk kids makes it worse than if the ministry had never happened. To the kid who is abandoned by the Christian (Body of Christ) it is as if Jesus abandoned him.

# Defining Associate Ministries

KidTrek Associates are Church and Para church ministries who have developed a vision for reaching the families in their community, but realize they need training, support and resources to get the results they desire.

The term "Associate" is used in conjunction with the fact these ministries work solely in association with KidTrek, as partners and collaborators, through the training, coaching and resources provided, but the actual ministry itself is run and managed by the Associate Ministry.

KidTrek desires to equip Associate Ministries to reach the families in their community through such intentional, long-term relationships, the kids will grow to become Christ-changed, hope-filled, productive adults.

There are two Associate Ministry Models:

## After School Program

After school programs have become a popular means for ministries to reach kids in their community. KidTrek equips these ministries to implement a high quality after school program.

The after school program model is also viewed as a tool; a means by which to build trust within a specific community. A place to offer important academic and life skill needs, but also a place to teach important critical thinking as it relates to their maturing and growing in Christ.

Within the after school program KidTrek starts each Associate Ministry with nine (9) units of curriculum to be used in the relationally-based evangelism and discipleship of the children and their families.

Each unit contains four full weeks of biblically-based materials related to:

- one particular subject /theme (e.g., Confidence, Choices, Kindness, Prayer/Thanksgiving, Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Goodness, Self-control).
- guiding kids in these biblically-based subjects and how they relate to each aspect of their lives through Bible, life skills, art, recreation, meal and family time lessons, leading them toward a sustainable faith in Christ (see page 10 for more details).

## S.A.M. & Beyond

Sunday Morning (S.A.M.) & Beyond is our partnership with churches who have a desire for an excellent Sunday morning, mid-week and beyond ministry to their church kids.

While mom and dad should be the primary discipler of their children, they should not do it alone. Sad to say, even within the local church, many parents are not capable, for various reasons, to properly disciple their children.

Deuteronomy 6 challenges all of Israel to be diligent in the discipleship of its children. Kids today are looking for adults, in addition to mom and dad, who will walk with them through life – they are hungering for discipleship as modeled by Jesus.

# Counting the Cost

## Isaiah 58:6-12

It is important, before starting, each potential Associate Ministry evaluates whether or not they can, or should, begin. Some questions to ask before you get started...

1. Purpose & Motives...
  - a. Why are you doing this...what do you hope to accomplish and why?
  - b. Are the goals you hope to achieve realistic?
2. Location...
  - a. Where is your ministry located...is it conducive to reaching families?
  - b. Is it near a school, park, apartment complex or family-oriented neighborhood?
3. Resources
  - a. Does your ministry have the resources (funding, staff, and volunteers) need to reach the families in your community?
  - b. If not, do you have a reasonable and realistic plan to do get the needed resources?
  - c. What will your Ministry do to provide needed resources for the intended ministry to be successful long-term and sustainable?
4. Time commitment...
  - a. Has your Ministry, at both the Leadership and grassroots levels, thought about the time and sacrifice commitment this will take to truly reach the families in your community?
5. Safety...
  - a. Has your Ministry considered and thought through the important safety precautions you will need to take regarding background checks, fingerprinting, facility maintenance and upkeep...what about meeting kids emotional needs in regards to their safety?
6. Training...
  - a. Has your Ministry considered, that to reach the families in your community, you will need to know what you are doing?
  - b. Do you have a plan in how you will do it?
  - c. How will you gain the expertise needed to help, rather than harm, the families in your community...how will the Lord God Almighty's great Name be reflected by the results you do or do not get due to your level of expertise?
7. Funding...How should I plan a budget?
  - a. How big a budget will we need (note: \$1500 to send one person to 880; not recommended to send more than two)?
  - b. Size of annual budget determined by Associate Ministry, so how will you raise, or " earmark" funds already in budget for needed items (e.g., staff, supplies, utilities, field trips, etc.)

# How KidTrek Helps...

## Training Package

### KidTrek's 880\*

1. Eight-day, eighty-hour "Basic" Training, some of which includes:
  - a. Children & Salvation (leading a child to Christ)
  - b. Understanding Reality Learning (experiential lessons)
  - c. Child Development, including the emotional needs of a child
  - d. Safety & Emergency Issues
  - e. Volunteer Recruitment
  - f. ASP's\*\* learn to work with Schools and Social Services
  - g. Learn how to build intentional relationships with kids and their parents
  - h. Administration
2. In addition, Associates receive:
  - a. 8 days, 8 nights Room and Board
  - b. Hard copy Director's Manual; (650 pages)
  - c. Hard copy Staff Manual (500 pages)
  - d. CD containing Staff Manual and needed Forms
  - e. Assistance in ministry specific strategic planning
    - i. Goal Boarding – Throughout week develop specific steps to accomplish goals for your unique ministry
3. SAM & Beyond Ministries receive added pages for manual specific to Children's Ministry

### Nine Units of Curriculum

1. Each Unit contains Four full weeks of Lessons
  - a. Each week breaks down into 3-day, 3-hour lessons and activities
2. Each Unit is created to be flexible to meet unique needs of ministry
3. Each Unit is thematic in nature; using both lessons and life experiences to teach kids God-centered, Bible-focused topics, for example:
  - a. Confidence
  - b. Choices
  - c. Prayer, Praise and Thanksgiving
4. Kids learn Jesus is a part of each aspect of his/her life through:
  - a. Bible Focus, Life Skills, Arts n Crafts, Recreation, Family Time
5. A Leader's Guide containing:
  - a. Detailed instructions for implementing each lesson
  - b. Devotional for Leader; focus on own need for lesson
  - c. Needed resource list

### Twelve Months of Coaching

1. Unlimited phone support
2. Two Webinars
3. Two site visits
  - a. Additional travel costs may apply; dependent on ministry location.
  - b. Purpose: Observation and assistance with problem areas

### Cost

1. \$1,500 for package ( a \$5,000 value)
2. Save 10% with early registration\* (\$150 savings)
3. Scholarships may be available; check website for more information

# Steps To Become an Associate Ministry

1. Potential *Associate Ministry* indicates interest.
2. KidTrek Regional Facilitator presentation to the Ministry leadership.
3. Ministry decides they want to become an *Associate Ministry*:
  - a. Ministry sends their KidTrek Director to the 880  
Strongly encouraged Ministry sends a second person as well (Pastor/ED recommended)
  - b. Center Director, with assistance of the Regional Facilitator, trains Ministry staff and volunteers.
  - c. Staff works together preparing for opening – one to two months is recommended.
4. KidTrek Associate Center opens.

# The Lausanne Covenant

We, members of the Church of Jesus Christ, from more than 150 nations, participants in the International Congress on World Evangelization at Lausanne, praise God for his great salvation and rejoice in the fellowship he has given us with himself and with each other. We are deeply stirred by what God is doing in our day, moved to penitence by our failures and challenged by the unfinished task of evangelization. We believe the Gospel is God's good news for the whole world, and we are determined by his grace to obey Christ's commission to proclaim it to all mankind and to make disciples of every nation. We desire, therefore, to affirm our faith and our resolve, and to make public our covenant.

## 1. THE PURPOSE OF GOD

We affirm our belief in the one-eternal God, Creator and Lord of the world, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who govern all things according to the purpose of his will. He has been calling out from the world a people for himself, and sending his people back into the world to be his servants and his witnesses, for the extension of his kingdom, the building up of Christ's body, and the glory of his name. We confess with shame that we have often denied our calling and failed in our mission, by becoming conformed to the world or by withdrawing from it. Yet we rejoice that even when borne by earthen vessels the gospel is still a precious treasure. To the task of making that treasure known in the power of the Holy Spirit we desire to dedicate ourselves anew.

(Isa. 40:28; Matt. 28:19; Eph. 1:11; Acts 15:14; John 17:6, 18; Eph 4:12; 1 Cor. 5:10; Rom. 12:2; II Cor. 4:7)

## 2. THE AUTHORITY AND POWER OF THE BIBLE

We affirm the divine inspiration, truthfulness and authority of both Old and New Testament Scriptures in their entirety as the only written word of God, without error in all that it affirms, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice. We also affirm the power of God's word to accomplish his purpose of salvation. The message of the Bible is addressed to all men and women. For God's revelation in Christ and in Scripture is unchangeable. Through it the Holy Spirit still speaks today. He illumines the minds of God's people in every culture to perceive its truth freshly through their own eyes and thus discloses to the whole Church ever more of the many-colored wisdom of God.

(II Tim. 3:16; II Pet. 1:21; John 10:35; Isa. 55:11; 1 Cor. 1:21; Rom. 1:16, Matt. 5:17,18; Jude 3; Eph. 1:17,18; 3:10,18)

## 3. THE UNIQUENESS AND UNIVERSALITY OF CHRIST

We affirm that there is only one Saviour and only one gospel, although there is a wide diversity of evangelistic approaches. We recognise that everyone has some knowledge of God through his general revelation in nature. But we deny that this can save, for people suppress the truth by their unrighteousness. We also reject as derogatory to Christ and the gospel every kind of syncretism and dialogue which implies that Christ speaks equally through all religions and ideologies. Jesus Christ, being himself the only God-man, who gave himself as the only ransom for sinners, is the only mediator between God and people. There is no other name by which we must be saved. All men and women are perishing because of sin, but God loves everyone, not wishing that any should perish but that all should repent. Yet those who reject Christ repudiate the joy of salvation and condemn themselves to eternal separation from God. To proclaim Jesus as "the Saviour of the world" is not to affirm that all people are either automatically or ultimately saved, still less to affirm that all religions offer salvation in Christ. Rather it is to proclaim God's love for a world of sinners and to invite everyone to respond to him as Saviour and Lord in the wholehearted personal commitment of repentance and faith. Jesus Christ has been exalted above every other name; we long for the day when every knee shall bow to him and every tongue shall confess him Lord.

(Gal. 1:6-9; Rom. 1:18-32; I Tim. 2:5,6; Acts 4:12; John 3:16-19; II Pet. 3:9; II Thess. 1:7-9; John 4:42; Matt. 11:28; Eph. 1:20,21; Phil. 2:9-11)

## 4. THE NATURE OF EVANGELISM

To evangelize is to spread the good news that Jesus Christ died for our sins and was raised from the dead according to the Scriptures, and that as the reigning Lord he now offers the forgiveness of sins and the liberating gifts of the Spirit to all who repent and believe. Our Christian presence in the world is indispensable to evangelism, and so is that kind of dialogue whose purpose is to listen sensitively in order to understand. But evangelism itself is the proclamation of the historical, biblical Christ as Saviour and Lord, with a view to persuading people to come to him personally and so be reconciled to God. In issuing the gospel invitation we have no liberty to conceal the cost of discipleship. Jesus still calls all who would follow him to deny themselves, take up their cross, and identify themselves with his new community. The results of evangelism include obedience to Christ, incorporation into his Church and responsible service in the world.

(I Cor. 15:3,4; Acts 2: 32-39; John 20:21; I Cor. 1:23; II Cor. 4:5; 5:11,20; Luke 14:25-33; Mark 8:34; Acts 2:40,47; Mark 10:43-45)

## 5. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

We affirm that God is both the Creator and the Judge of all men. We therefore should share his concern for justice and reconciliation throughout human society and for the liberation of men and women from every kind of oppression. Because men and women are made in the image of God, every person, regardless of race, religion, colour, culture, class, sex or age, has an intrinsic dignity because of which he or she should be respected and served, not exploited. Here too we express penitence both for our neglect and for having sometimes regarded evangelism and social concern as mutually exclusive. Although reconciliation with other people is not reconciliation with God, nor is social action evangelism, nor is political liberation salvation, nevertheless we affirm that evangelism and socio-political involvement are both part of our Christian duty. For both are necessary expressions of our doctrines of God and man, our love for our neighbour and our obedience to Jesus Christ. The message of salvation implies also a message of judgment upon every form of alienation, oppression and discrimination, and we should not be afraid to denounce evil and injustice wherever they exist. When people receive Christ they are born again into his kingdom and must seek not only to exhibit but also to spread its righteousness in the midst of an unrighteous world. The salvation we claim should be transforming us in the totality of our personal and social responsibilities. Faith without works is dead. (Acts 17:26,31; Gen. 18:25; Isa. 1:17; Psa. 45:7; Gen. 1:26,27; Jas. 3:9; Lev. 19:18; Luke 6:27,35; Jas. 2:14-26; Joh. 3:3,5; Matt. 5:20; 6:33; II Cor. 3:18; Jas. 2:20)

## **6. THE CHURCH AND EVANGELISM**

We affirm that Christ sends his redeemed people into the world as the Father sent him, and that this calls for a similar deep and costly penetration of the world. We need to break out of our ecclesiastical ghettos and permeate non-Christian society. In the Church's mission of sacrificial service evangelism is primary. World evangelization requires the whole Church to take the whole gospel to the whole world. The Church is at the very centre of God's cosmic purpose and is his appointed means of spreading the gospel. But a church which preaches the cross must itself be marked by the cross. It becomes a stumbling block to evangelism when it betrays the gospel or lacks a living faith in God, a genuine love for people, or scrupulous honesty in all things including promotion and finance. The church is the community of God's people rather than an institution, and must not be identified with any particular culture, social or political system, or human ideology.

(John 17:18; 20:21; Matt. 28:19,20; Acts 1:8; 20:27; Eph. 1:9,10; 3:9-11; Gal. 6:14,17; II Cor. 6:3,4; II Tim. 2:19-21; Phil. 1:27)

## **7. COOPERATION IN EVANGELISM**

We affirm that the Church's visible unity in truth is God's purpose. Evangelism also summons us to unity, because our oneness strengthens our witness, just as our disunity undermines our gospel of reconciliation. We recognize, however, that organisational unity may take many forms and does not necessarily forward evangelism. Yet we who share the same biblical faith should be closely united in fellowship, work and witness. We confess that our testimony has sometimes been marred by a sinful individualism and needless duplication. We pledge ourselves to seek a deeper unity in truth, worship, holiness and mission. We urge the development of regional and functional cooperation for the furtherance of the Church's mission, for strategic planning, for mutual encouragement, and for the sharing of resources and experience.

(John 17:21,23; Eph. 4:3,4; John 13:35; Phil. 1:27; John 17:11-23)

## **8. CHURCHES IN EVANGELISTIC PARTNERSHIP**

We rejoice that a new missionary era has dawned. The dominant role of western missions is fast disappearing. God is raising up from the younger churches a great new resource for world evangelization, and is thus demonstrating that the responsibility to evangelise belongs to the whole body of Christ. All churches should therefore be asking God and themselves what they should be doing both to reach their own area and to send missionaries to other parts of the world. A reevaluation of our missionary responsibility and role should be continuous. Thus a growing partnership of churches will develop and the universal character of Christ's Church will be more clearly exhibited. We also thank God for agencies which labor in Bible translation, theological education, the mass media, Christian literature, evangelism, missions, church renewal and other specialist fields. They too should engage in constant self-examination to evaluate their effectiveness as part of the Church's mission.

(Rom. 1:8; Phil. 1:5; 4:15; Acts 13:1-3, I Thess. 1:6-8)

## **9. THE URGENCY OF THE EVANGELISTIC TASK**

More than 2,700 million people, which is more than two-thirds of all humanity, have yet to be evangelised. We are ashamed that so many have been neglected; it is a standing rebuke to us and to the whole Church. There is now, however, in many parts of the world an unprecedented receptivity to the Lord Jesus Christ. We are convinced that this is the time for churches and para-church agencies to pray earnestly for the salvation of the unreached and to launch new efforts to achieve world evangelization. A reduction of foreign missionaries and money in an evangelised country may sometimes be necessary to facilitate the national church's growth in self-reliance and to release resources for unevangelised areas. Missionaries should flow ever more freely from and to all six continents in a spirit of humble service. The goal should be, by all available means and at the earliest possible time, that every person will have the opportunity to hear, understand, and to receive the good news. We cannot hope to attain this goal without sacrifice. All of us are shocked by the poverty of millions and disturbed by the injustices which causes it. Those of us who live in affluent circumstances accept our duty to develop a simple life-style in order to contribute more generously to both relief and evangelism.

(John 9:4; Matt. 9:35-38; Rom. 9:1-3; I Cor. 9:19-23; Mark 16:15; Isa. 58:6,7; Jas. 1:27; 2:1-9; Matt. 25:31-46; Acts 2:44,45; 4:34,35)

## **10. EVANGELISM AND CULTURE**

The development of strategies for world evangelization calls for imaginative pioneering methods. Under God, the result will be the rise of churches deeply rooted in Christ and closely related to their culture. Culture must always be tested and judged by Scripture. Because men and women are God's creatures, some of their culture is rich in beauty and goodness. Because they are fallen, all of it is tainted with sin and some of it is demonic. The gospel does not presuppose the superiority of any culture to another, but evaluates all cultures according to its own criteria of truth and righteousness, and insists on moral absolutes in every culture. Missions have all too frequently exported with the gospel an alien culture and churches have sometimes been in bondage to culture rather than to Scripture. Christ's evangelists must humbly seek to empty themselves of all but their personal authenticity in order to become the servants of others, and churches must seek to transform and enrich culture, all for the glory of God.

(Mark 7:8,9,13; Gen. 4:21,22; I Cor. 9:19-23; Phil. 2:5-7; II Cor. 4:5)

## **11. EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP**

We confess that we have sometimes pursued church growth at the expense of church depth, and divorced evangelism from Christian nurture. We also acknowledge that some of our missions have been too slow to equip and encourage national leaders to assume their rightful responsibilities. Yet we are committed to indigenous principles, and long that every church will have national leaders who manifest a Christian style of leadership in terms not of domination but of service. We recognise that there is a great need to improve theological education, especially for church leaders. In every nation and culture there should be an effective training programme for pastors and laity in doctrine, discipleship, evangelism, nurture and service. Such training programmes should not rely on any stereotyped methodology but should be developed by creative local initiatives according to biblical standards.

(Col. 1:27,28; Acts 14:23; Tit. 1:5,9; Mark 10:42-45; Eph. 4:11,12)

## **12. SPIRITUAL CONFLICT**

We believe that we are engaged in constant spiritual warfare with the principalities and powers of evil, who are seeking to overthrow the Church and frustrate its task of world evangelization. We know our need to equip ourselves with God's armour and to fight this battle with the spiritual weapons of truth and prayer. For we detect the activity of our enemy, not only in false ideologies outside the Church, but also inside it in false gospels which twist Scripture and put people in the place of God. We need both watchfulness and discernment to safeguard the biblical gospel. We acknowledge that we ourselves are not immune to worldliness of thoughts and action, that is, to a surrender to secularism. For example, although careful studies of church growth, both numerical and spiritual, are right and valuable, we have sometimes neglected them. At other times, desirous to ensure a response to the gospel, we have compromised our message, manipulated our hearers through pressure techniques, and become unduly preoccupied with statistics or even dishonest in our use of them. All this is worldly. The Church must be in the world; the world must not be in the Church.

(Eph. 6:12; II Cor. 4:3,4; Eph. 6:11,13-18; II Cor. 10:3-5; I John 2:18-26; 4:1-3; Gal. 1:6-9; II Cor. 2:17; 4:2; John 17:15)

## **13. FREEDOM AND PERSECUTION**

It is the God-appointed duty of every government to secure conditions of peace, justice and liberty in which the Church may obey God, serve the Lord Jesus Christ, and preach the gospel without interference. We therefore pray for the leaders of nations and call upon them to guarantee freedom of thought and conscience, and freedom to practise and propagate religion in accordance with the will of God and as set forth in The Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We also express our deep concern for all who have been unjustly imprisoned, and especially for those who are suffering for their testimony to the Lord Jesus. We promise to pray and work for their freedom. At the same time we refuse to be intimidated by their fate. God helping us, we too will seek to stand against injustice and to remain faithful to the gospel, whatever the cost. We do not forget the warnings of Jesus that persecution is inevitable.

(I Tim. 1:1-4, Acts 4:19; 5:29; Col. 3:24; Heb. 13:1-3; Luke 4:18; Gal. 5:11; 6:12; Matt. 5:10-12; John 15:18-21)

## **14. THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

We believe in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Father sent his Spirit to bear witness to his Son, without his witness ours is futile. Conviction of sin, faith in Christ, new birth and Christian growth are all his work. Further, the Holy Spirit is a missionary spirit; thus evangelism should arise spontaneously from a Spirit-filled church. A church that is not a missionary church is contradicting itself and quenching the Spirit. Worldwide evangelization will become a realistic possibility only when the Spirit renews the Church in truth and wisdom, faith, holiness, love and power. We therefore call upon all Christians to pray for such a visitation of the sovereign Spirit of God that all his fruit may appear in all his people and that all his gifts may enrich the body of Christ. Only then will the whole world become a fit instrument in his hands, that the whole earth may hear his voice.

(I Cor. 2:4; John 15:26,27; 16:8-11; I Cor. 12:3; John 3:6-8; II Cor. 3:18; John 7:37-39; I Thess. 5:19; Acts 1:8; Psalms 85:4-7; 67:1-3; Gal. 5:22,23; I Cor. 12:4-31; Rom. 12:3-8)

## **15. THE RETURN OF CHRIST**

We believe that Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly, in power and glory, to consummate his salvation and his judgment. This promise of his coming is a further spur to our evangelism, for we remember his words that the gospel must first be preached to all nations. We believe that the interim period between Christ's ascension and return is to be filled with the mission of the people of God, who have no liberty to stop before the end. We also remember his warning that false Christs and false prophets will arise as precursors of the final Antichrist. We therefore reject as a proud, self-confident dream the notion that people can ever build a utopia on earth. Our Christian confidence is that God will perfect his kingdom, and we look forward with eager anticipation to that day, and to the new heaven and earth in which righteousness will dwell and God will reign forever. Meanwhile, we rededicate ourselves to the service of Christ and of people in joyful submission to his authority over the whole of our lives.

(Mark 14:62; Heb. 9:28; Mark 13:10; Acts 1:8-11; Matt. 28:20; Mark 13:21-23; John 2:18; 4:1-3; Luke 12:32; Rev. 21:1-5; II Pet. 3:13; Matt. 28:18)

## **CONCLUSION**

Therefore, in the light of this our faith and our resolve, we enter into a solemn covenant with God and with each other, to pray, to plan and to work together for the evangelization of the whole world. We call upon others to join us. May God help us by his grace and for his glory to be faithful to this our covenant! Amen, Alleluia!

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# Statement of Faith

## ADDENDUM

1. KidTrek believes the Lausanne Covenant to be a good and pure document. But for the sake of clarity, we feel we must address one statement in the Covenant under Section 2, "The Authority and Power of the Bible", where it is stated,

We affirm the divine inspiration, truthfulness and authority of both Old and New Testament Scriptures in their entirety as the only written word of God, without error in all that it affirms, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.

So there is no confusion we need to be sure it is understood KidTrek affirms the Holy Scriptures to be the *only* written word of God, without error.

2. KidTrek believes that salvation is by faith alone, but so there is always clarity between the church and KidTrek we have included the following clarifying statements.

KidTrek will teach *and* follow the following biblical concepts:

For a Christian the human body is the temple of God (1 Corinthians 3:16-17), so God's holy Word challenges us to use moderation in all things. Thus KidTrek will make a commitment to:

- i. not use drugs in an illegal manner (Galatians 5:1; Romans 6:15-23; Romans 13:1-7)
- ii. to be wise and prudent in the use of tobacco (Romans 14:19-23; 1 Corinthians 8:8-13)
- iii. to be wise and prudent in the use of alcohol (Luke 21:34; Proverbs 20:1; Ephesians 5:18).
- iv. keep sexual relations within the bounds of marriage; understanding that sex outside of marriage between one man and one woman is biblically forbidden (Ephesians 5:3-5; Galatians 5:19-21; 1 Peter 4:3-4).
- v. all human life from the time of conception is valued (Psalm 139:13-16)
- vi. taking care of their body through proper nutrition and exercise (Proverbs 23:20-21; ).
- vii. personal spiritual disciplines, in order that s/he may grow closer in his/her relationship with the Lord and others (Colossians 3:5-17)