

# TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS COMMUNITY

## Foundations 3, Our Call Talk 1 – A Vision Given by God Outline

1. We are a response to an initiative of God
  - The main way we know how to live is through Christian (biblical) teaching, but also through particular calls. We understand particular calls by the way God works with us and at times through prophecy or other special direction.
    - See “Key Initial Prophecies”.
  - a. We began out of the charismatic renewal (renewal in the Spirit)
    - 1) Pentecostal Roots.
    - 2) They encountered the Neo–Pentecostal Movement (1967).
    - 3) From that grew a major new movement.
  - b. We then responded to a call of the Lord to enter into a covenantal relationship with him and one another to be a community (1970).
  - c. There was a rapid growth of communities who desired to be in a relationship together.
  - d. In that context, came prophetic words. We were:
    - called to be a bulwark (c. 1975)
    - called to be intercultural, international, ecumenical
    - called to be The Sword of the Spirit.

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- e. We have seen an initiative of God at work in a people.
  - 1) It is hard to discern the full message all at once (we are still in our beginnings).
  - 2) Trials are the test of a call (cf. Abraham, Moses, David, Jesus).
  - 3) This is “a time of grace”.
  
- 2. Our call is a call for this age.
  - a. We are in a “change of ages”.
    - 1) Major technological changes began two centuries ago and are rapidly increasing.
    - 2) A major social change has accompanied it.
      - There has been a moral decay and weakening of social institutions.
    - 3) There is also a new Paganism and a war on Christianity.
  
  - b. The state of the churches
    - 1) Most churches today are struggling to cope with our age with varying degrees of success.
      - The overall result in Western society has been loss.
    - 2) There are notable renewal attempts, but few of them touch the root of the moral confusion and spiritual decline.
  
  - c. There is a need, and desire, for what we have been called to.
    - There is a desire for Christianity when it is spiritual and vital.
    - There is a desire for human relationship that is stable and reliable (family, community).
  
  - d. It was for this age that we have been called.
  
- 3. Responding to the Lord’s call: to be a community of disciples on mission  
See “Our Identity” and “Our Call”.

