



S.T.L. Relationships

GOD'S PLAN: CHURCH GROWTH

October 3rd, 2015

Knowing God's Plan

Church Growth

Why is it hard to stand firm as a Christian in Brentwood?

Situation in Ephesus

& so Paul longs for them to...

Future Hope (1:9-10, 11, 18)

Past Achievement (1:20-23 / 2:1-10 / 2:11-23)

- What has God already achieved?

- Why should knowing that strengthen us to stand firm?

Present Purpose (2:10, 22 / 3:10)

'Our Father in Heaven, please help us at Immanuel...

Speaking Truth in Love

God's Blueprint for Growth

Ephesians 4:11-16

- What does he give to the church?
- Why is this so important?
- What has this got to do with God's Plan?

The Gift

The Value

The Outworking

Living out the Blueprint

Discuss

- How does understanding this help us support the Bible teachers?
- Why do we find 'speaking the truth in love' so difficult?
- Is there anything you've found helpful in developing STL relationships?

Sunday sermons

Other points in the week

Growing One-to-One

Why?

What?

- different kinds
- different ways
- key components

Discuss

- What do we need to be careful of?
- What have you found works well?
- Would you do anything differently with a non-Christian?

Resolve to model...

- confidence in God's Word
- application of the gospel
- dependence on prayer
- progress in godliness
- partnership in ministry

Why might an increase in 121 ministry at Immanuel lead to church growth?

Further Reading...

'The Trellis & the Vine', Marshall & Payne; *'Unleash the Word'*, Karen Soole;
'You can really grow', John Hindley; *'One to One'*, Sophie de Witt