This was the result of the implementation of successful cells. The church and its cells were growing and reaching the men in their locations.

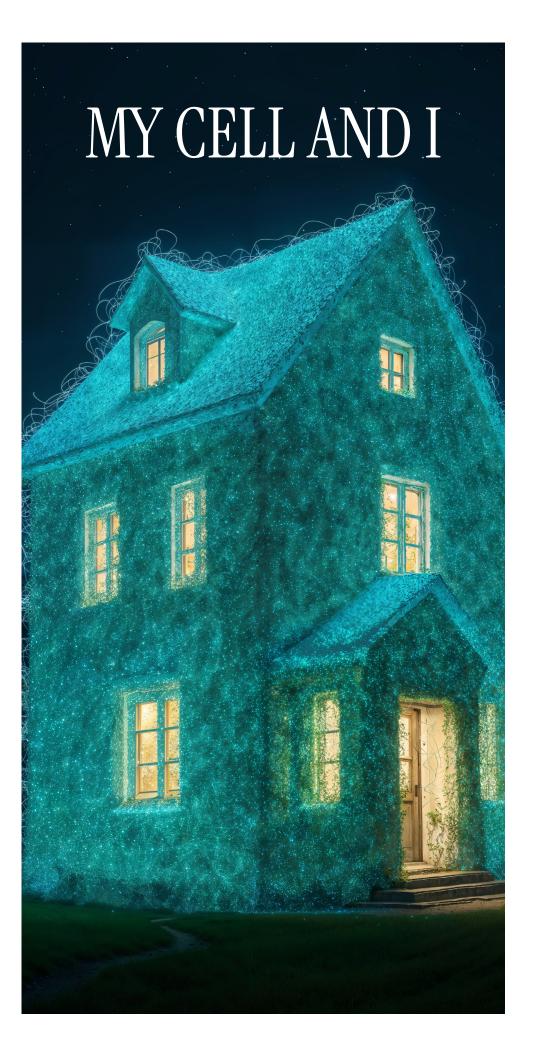
Now, go! Plant yourself, engage and commit yourself to your cell and its respective vision, and fulfill God's plan for your life today!

Have you been blessed by this?
Would you like to ask questions?
Please kindly reach out to us.
We look forward to receiving you!

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Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Jesus instructed his disciples to make people students of the word via explanations from the Holy Scriptures. This implies that the apostles were supposed to make believers disciples, in the manner that they were taught by Jesus Christ. The word "disciple" implies an apprentice, a learner, and a student of God's word. A disciple is someone who learns from a teacher with the end goal of becoming like them. Jesus taught his disciples how to pray, heal the sick, preach, and teach like him. In the scriptures, we saw them grow to be able to do the same.

The instruction that Jesus gave to his disciples in Matthew 28 has also been given to us to follow today. This makes every believer a missionary, tasked with a responsibility to reach the entire world with the gospel. In handling this responsibility the believer is to regularly and deliberately engage in teaching the scriptures to others. This is to be done on a one-on-one yet growing basis, which is considered discipleship.

This training, for the effectiveness of the believer in this work, is carried out in a cell.

What is a cell?

The word "cell" isn't in the Bible, but the concept is attributed to Pastor David Yonggi Cho; a South Korean minister who heavily emphasized and used this concept within his church that totaled over 700,000 members. A cell is a smaller unit of the church that mirrors the general assembly where definite leadership is given to those with oversight and responsibility over other believers. This means that the mission and goal of the cell is the same as that of the local assembly.

Moses worked with a similar system to effectively pastor the large Israelite congregation.

Deuteronomy 1:9-10, 12-15.

And I spake unto you at that time, saying, I am not able to bear you myself alone: 10 the LORD your God hath multiplied you, and, behold, ye are this day as the stars of heaven for multitude.

12 How can I myself alone bear your cumbrance, and your burden, and your strife? 13 Take you wise men, and understanding, and known among your tribes, and I will make them rulers over you. 14 And ye answered me, and said, The thing which thou hast spoken is good for us to do. 15 So I took the chief of your tribes, wise men, and known, and made them heads over you, captains over thousands, and captains over hundreds, and captains over fifties, and captains over tens, and officers among your tribes.

Moses as leader of the congregation could not bear the burden alone, so he chose men to help him do so. The Israelites were now to be overseen by rulers submitted to and accountable to Moses, who was the leader of the entire church.

How is a cell structured?

As a unit of the local church, the structure of the cell should mirror the general assembly. This starts from the leadership. The cell is led by cell leaders who are determined by the pastor of the general assembly, in the same manner that Jesus appointed his disciples. A cell leader must possess certain key characteristics:

1. Be of good character

1 Timothy 4:12

Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity

A cell leader must be a man of good character. A cell leader should be someone honest and upright with a positive demeanor. Their speech should also be well composed and contain a certain level of maturity.

2. Uphold the vision

Habakkuk 2:2

And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

A cell leader must be able to embrace and uphold the vision of the lead pastor. They must be able to run with it and ensure that it moves forward. Most likely, the vision may not have existed before, yet the leader should hold it deeply in their mind and spirit and lead the members toward that vision. This vision should be constantly repeated and reiterated to the members to the point where they too can recite it verbatim. When the vision is this clear to everyone within the cell, it enables the members to withstand distractions and keep a sharp focus.

3. Be passionate

Romans 12:11

Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord

A cell leader must be a person who is passionate toward the activities of the cell. Without passion, there can be no growth. In serving the Lord, there must be zeal, fervency and enthusiasm. These attitudes should be at the forefront of the leader's heart when leading a cell instead of ambitions for fame, offenses and ungodly pressures. As passion is proof of spiritual

growth, it can be noted that anything that diminishes it is not of God.

What are the activities of a cell?

A cell is a smaller unit of the local church, in which discipleship takes place. Therefore, the same activities that take place in the local church should also occur in the cell on a consistent basis in a personal yet growing scale. Consistency is birthed from the implementation of definite meeting locations and times. Both should be accessible to as many members as possible. The activities that occur in the cell during these times shouldn't differ from that of the local church because the cell is an extension of the church. Some of these activities include prayer, the word, the move of the spirit, evangelism, and discipleship. All of these things are done for the result of spiritual growth in the believer.

1. Prayer

The cell is to be a house of prayer. Engaging in the work of discipleship and reaching the nations requires God's hand and power! Therefore, it is important that the members of the cell are constantly emphasizing and engaging in the act of prayer. All through the scriptures men were given to prayer. That shows that for a church to walk in God's desires and plans, it is vital to commit to prayer, and that is what a cell should be committed to.

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Pray without ceasing.

2. The word

The teaching of God's word must be given first place in the cell. As a church maintains its devotion to God's word and provides thorough explanations of the scriptures, the same must be done within the cells.

Acts 2:42

And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers

Philippians 1:9

And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;

Paul's consistent prayer was that each local church would grow in precise knowledge of God's word. The same should be true for cells today as the believer can only grow in the knowledge of Christ Jesus by the teaching of God's word.

3. The practice of the things of the spirit

Within a cell, there must be room for the practice of the things of the spirit which include the following:

1st Corinthians 12:8-10

For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; **9** To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; **10** To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

As these gifts are practicalized in the cell, they should be further taken out into the surrounding area via evangelism, as demonstrations of God's spirit aid the believer in reaching the lost.

Acts 8:4-7

Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word. 5 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. 6 And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. 7 For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed.

4. Evangelism and Discipleship

The last thing the cell must embody is a strong culture of evangelism and discipleship. The purpose of the church is to train its members to be ministers of the gospel as only believers can reach the unsaved. As men are trained to do this, the mandate of *Matthew 28:20* is continued. Once the unbeliever is preached to and saved, the next thing that they need is further discipleship and growth in the knowledge of their saved state. This entirely is the will of God for every man's life.

2 Corinthians 5:19

To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

What is the goal of a cell?

The goal and purpose of a cell is to replicate what is being done in the general assembly. The vision of the cell must align and be the same as that of the lead pastor. Whether that is to reach the nations, to raise ministers of the word, to light up dark places and ensure spiritual growth in the lives of men in the cell location, or another objective, this vision must be prominent in the cell.

Acts 19:20

So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed