



Village Church of Laguna Woods: Vision 2010 and Beyond **Our Mission and Our Work: Salt & Light**

Salt and Light Works

Salt preserves—light reveals. We bring salt and light to those around us by doing good deeds that meet real needs.

A. What is Church?

The word “church” in the New Testament NEVER refers to a building or a place. It always refers to a people: either the total number of believers who have ever lived, or a local group of those believers.

1. The Church Universal: *Eph 1:22-23*

We are the Church, the ‘Body of Christ’ according to *Eph 1:22-23*, “And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.”

2. The Geographical Church: *Acts 11:22*; *1 Cor 1:2*

3. The Local/Home Church: *1 Cor 16:19*; *Col 4:15*

B. Where Does the Village Church Fit?

The Village Church like any other local church is part of the universal church, the geographical church and the local church.

1. Our geography: Officially we are becoming a part of the Southern California District of Assemblies of God churches which covers an area from Fresno to the Mexican border and from the Pacific Ocean to the California border
2. Our specific geography: Our target geography is Laguna Woods Village and the friends of Laguna Woods Village. This encompasses between 16,000 and 20,000 people.
3. Geographic culture: Our geography places an emphasis on an adult/senior 55+ population.

C. Our Church Ministry in 2010 and Beyond *Matt 5:13-16*

1. Ministry within the Church: We will cover this aspect of ‘growing up in all things unto Him who is the head—Christ’ [*Eph 4:15*] in a future message in this series.

Becoming a Servant-Church *Mark 10:44*

2. Ministry to Laguna Woods Village: God has called us to a ‘salt and light’ ministry that ministers to the ‘needs’ of those living in and around our community.
See Eph 2:10; Titus 3:14; Col 1:10; 1 Tim 6:17-19; Gal 6:10; 1 Thes 5:15; Rom 12:20a; Matt 5:44; Luke 10:30-37

Father, we thank you that you have placed us here at this time to be Your Church and reach out as salt and light to our community. Show us those who are in need and how to best meet those needs to your glory and praise.

3. Ministry to the World: Local and world wide missions will be covered in a future message in this series.
4. Ministering the Gospel: We will cover this in the next message in this series [*Message 2*].

Matthew 5:13-16 (NKJV)

:13 "You are the **salt of the earth**; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

:14 "You are the **light of the world**. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

:15 Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

:16 Let your light so shine before men, **that they may see your good works** and glorify your Father in heaven.

Good Deeds For Real Needs

“And let our people also learn to maintain good works, to meet urgent needs, that they may not be unfruitful.”

Titus 3:14

In *Acts 9:36* Luke tells us that there was a disciple named Tabitha (*or Dorcas*), “This woman was **full of good works and charitable deeds** which she did.”

She got sick and died. When Peter came to see her it says in verse 39, “And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them.”

Dorcas was part of a group of widows who spent their time making clothes and distributing them to the needy.

What are the deeds that you have planned/done in your life which would result in people giving God praise?