**

**People Get Ready– Part 1**

*(Preparation is not lost time)*

**Intro:**

**Very often life’s moments are about 95 % preparation…
… and 10 % delivery**

Ask any mother who spends 9 months preparing the child for birth and then…

The disciples prepared for the initial Holy Spirit outpouring at Pentecost

**Acts 1:14**

God had been setting things up for this momentous timeframe (approx. 4000 yrs!)

**Galatians 4:4**

 God’s timing does not always equate with ours

 Our job is to be prepared…

 … like any sportsman will tell you in preparing for the big game.

**‘People Get Ready’**

Personally & Corporately (together)

**Backdrop to His plan this year**

God is determined to bless us

He’s given us His blueprint, starting in the Book of Acts

We are to live with ‘desire and expectancy’

**What is God up to at this time?**

Pouring out His Spirit in fresh waves…

**Two major waves: (Early & latter rain)**

Early rain for planting & growth

Later rain just before harvest

**4 things God is doing in His people**

He is establishing His presence as paramount in His ‘temple’

 -It’s about Jesus…in us.

He is equipping us for winning as His army.

 -It’s about the fight of faith.

He is positioning us in His body to function interdependently.

 -It’s about relationships and giftings.

He is giving us protection and belonging in His family.

 -It’s about heritage received and passed on.

**What we see:** (For this facility and church usage)

Develop a resource center for connecting people to God through Jesus.

 - ‘Loving people to life’.

Display signage to reflect both aspects of facility use

 -On street and the building (and on the internet).

Do things with a level of excellence that gives good first impressions.

 -Exterior & Interior.

Facility décor to be multifunctional, thus not ‘churchy’.

**More specifically:**

Church focus:

 Worship services

 Special Series (Eg. Discovery)

 Art & music encounters as outreach

 Bible studies / Prayer meetings / Youth

Facility use:

 Our own use

 Rent out to an other church (Eg. Sunday afternoon).

 Community wide Youth worship nights: “Friday night live”

 Weekday seminars space rentals.

**Prayer Needs:**

People you’ll invite

Easter ‘launch’ service: April 16th

Favor with people in the building

Favor in the community

People drawn to this facility

Worship Leaders

Outreach engagement

‘Helps’ ministries: (Eg. Hospitality / Greeters etc)

Children’s minister’s

Youth Ministers