

WOODLAND HILLS

C H U R C H



The River of Life: Crossing Cultures, Building Bridges

1. The Original Unity:
Let Us Make Humankind
in our image...(Gen 1:26)
2. The Beginning of
Babbling (Gen. 11).
3. The Global Mission of
Israel.



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The Global Mission of Israel

Gen. 12:3 ...in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”



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The Global Mission of Israel

Is. 49:6 I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.

The Global Mission of Israel

Psa. 22:27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.



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4. The ministry of Jesus / the atonement

The ministry of Jesus / the atonement

Eph. 2:14-16. he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us...that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two... through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.

The ministry of Jesus / the atonement

Gal. 3:27-28. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek...for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.



4. The ministry of Jesus /
the atonement:

5. The Spirit in the Church
(Pentecost)...

6. The Vision of the Kingdom

The Vision of the Kingdom

Rev. 7:9-10 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb... They cried out in a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”



The Vision of the Kingdom

Rev. 21:23-26. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will *bring their glory* into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it *the glory and the honor of the nations.*



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The Vision of the Kingdom

Rev. 22:2 On either side of the river is the tree of life... the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

A photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, California, taken at sunset. The bridge's towers and suspension cables are silhouetted against a vibrant sky transitioning from deep blue at the top to bright orange and red near the horizon. The water of the bay is visible in the lower portion of the frame.

The River of Life

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John 4:4-8

Now he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

John 4:9-10

The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

John 4:11-12

"Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?"

John 4:13-15

Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."

John 4:28-30

Then leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?” They came out of the town and made their way toward him.



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Principle #1

Reconciliation requires
a **Divine Mandate** from God.

Principle #2

Reconciliation requires a **Real Need** for people who are different from us.

Principle #3

Reconciliation requires
Intentional Interaction
between diverse people.

Principle #4

Reconciliation requires
Risk Taking.



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Principle #5

Reconciliation requires
Counter-cultural Social Action.

Principle #6

Reconciliation requires
Relinquishing Power.



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Principle #7

Reconciliation requires
an **Authentic Spirituality**.

Principle #8

Reconciliation requires
Reciprocity.



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Principle #9

Reconciliation requires
Bridge People.

Revelation 22:1-2

*Then the angel showed me
the river of the water of life...
And the leaves of the tree
are **for the healing of the nations.***

