

## TRUSTING GOD FOR MORE IN 2004!!

On the first Sunday of this new year I introduced some initiatives for 2004. I mentioned that if there is one word that I think sums up what God is calling us to it would be the word “more.” I believe that God wants us to pray more, to reach more, to trust Him more, to train more in 2004.

With that in mind I want to revisit those initiatives and share some recent developments.

**Initiative # 1-The Prayer Experiment.** I want to invite you to try a 6-week prayer experiment. I want to ask you to take the book of Ephesians and use one chapter a week as your prayer guide. Pray those truths for yourself and for the people in our church. If you missed out on the start I am going to encourage people once they have finished the 6-week experiment to re-up for another 6 weeks by praying through this great book again.

**Initiative # 2- Reach one more for Jesus in 2004!** I put out the challenge for all of us to reach one person for Jesus in the new year. I ask you to pray along with me that God would use you to reach one person for Christ and bring them to church. I have asked you to pray with me that God would help us reach 2% of the population of Tracy. Let me share with you a tool that God can use.

Many of you have heard about the upcoming film “The Passion of the Christ.” On March 14, 2004, New Hope Community Church is going to rent out the Tracy theater for a Sunday morning viewing of this film. We will have a separate theater available for the children. We are asking you to prayerfully invite as many people as you can to watch this motion picture with you. We will follow-up the movie with an explanation of why Christ had to die. I will also be preaching a series starting the next week entitled “Experience the Passion.” I want to ask you to begin thinking now about whom you could invite to see this film.

**Initiative # 3- A mentoring program.** Theresa Root is going to help me coordinate the matching of men with men and women with women in one of two mentoring relationships. First, is a five-week study of the basics of the Christian life. Second, is a 26-week study of the essentials of the Christian life. If you would like to mentor someone or be mentored please let the church office know.

**Initiative # 4- The implementation of a Vision Alignment Team.** I invite you to be part of a group of people who brainstorm about how to make the vision a reality. We will ask you to meet approximately once a month to discuss how the vision can become a reality. There will be some things to either read or listen to prior to the meeting. In addition, we will have a leadership retreat where we will spend time assessing our current realities; and dream about what God would have for us in the next 3 years.

If any of this resonates with your heart, I would encourage you to let us know. I believe this is going to be a great year of seeing God do more than ever before in 2004!!!