

WHAT IS PARTNERS IN HARVEST?

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Partners in Harvest is a family of churches, missions and ministries. It is a venue offering relationship (mutual encouragement, blessing, and accountability) and practical support (particularly for evangelism, church planting, missions leadership training, conferencing, and strategic networking.) It is a partnership of churches and ministries in which each member brings unique individual resources with them into the fellowship. It is a partnership identity point, a covering and a fellowship of shared input.

Partner pastors, ministry leaders and congregations share common foundational Kingdom beliefs, values and goals, which form and support a clear sense of purpose and identity. We are willing to link together locally, regionally, nationally and internationally to share resources, provide training and form strategy. This is based upon the understanding that each PIH member church/ministry is autonomous, yet has the freedom to choose to opt into any of these activities on a regional or international basis. In this way, PIH family members can each help in successfully attaining mutual ministry goals linked closely together in the Father's Love.

WHY DO WE NEED TO BELONG TO A FAMILY OF CHURCHES AND MINISTRIES?

Relationship: Relationship is a two-way vehicle through which pastors, ministry leaders and churches can serve one another. We need peers who know and love us, who will both listen to us and speak into our lives.

Pastoral Care: We all need interaction, feedback and loving input. Because ministry can be a lonely place, a family or family of churches and ministries is a safe place where members can be heard, loved and receive prayer and healing. Because everyone in the Partners in Harvest/Friends in Harvest family (PIH/FIH) is a senior church or ministry leader, he/she can empathize with your particular prayer requests. Many can probably offer insights gained from personal experience.

Training: We as a body want to encourage, equip and mobilize the saints for their personal development and ministry, in areas of service, evangelism, church planting and missions. We are prepared to give and receive from each other what we have learned and possess and in turn network and cooperate in specific areas of ministry.

Protection and Care: On our own, we are targets for attack from those speaking accusation, criticism and discouragement, so it is helpful to belong to something bigger than ourselves, a "family to circle round us in times of trial." The family of churches and

ministries is designed to be an atmosphere of protection, not control, where we can maintain our identities and fulfill our callings. Congregational distinctions are valuable.

Networking Opportunities: Though PIH/FIH principally gather together prior to various conferences at Catch the Fire and during the PIH Conference in October of each year, other get-togethers occur as well. (See PIH Yearly Events section.) On an international scale, Catch the Fire Conferences, modeled after CTFs' October conference, have been hosted by larger churches.

REGIONAL GATHERINGS

Regional gatherings are periodic gatherings of PIH and FIH senior pastors and ministry leaders held in various regions around the globe. Regional gatherings provide opportunities for both PIH and FIH members to be encouraged and blessed by PIH and FIH leaders and peers through a smaller family-gathering-type atmosphere. Everyone in the room are leaders of churches and ministries and have similar passion to yours for pursuing God.

PIH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

PIH International Conferences are four to five day gatherings designed to facilitate closer relationships among PIH and FIH pastors and leaders and other like-minded pastors, paid pastoral staff, missions and other ministry leaders. The purpose of the conference is to be blessed and encouraged in the presence of the Lord, challenged in the Word by renowned teachers, and encouraged through personal contact and fellowship, and hands on prayer ministry.

PIH COMMON OR FOUNDATIONAL GOALS

1. TO HAVE AS OUR HIGHEST GOAL THE FIRST AND GREATEST COMMANDMENT:

Matthew 22:37 And HE said to him: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."

In other words, to see a passion for Jesus permeate everything we do, to understand first that this passion is only in response to the love of the Father poured out on us, in us, and through us.

2. TO COMMIT OURSELVES TO ACTIVELY LOVE, BLESS AND SERVE EVERY MEMBER IN THE BODY OF CHRIST AS A RESPONSE TO THE FATHER'S LOVE:

Matthew 22:39 "The second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself. "

3. TO BRING RENEWAL TO THE INTERNATIONAL BODY OF CHRIST THROUGH THE PERSON AND POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT BY GIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT TOTAL FREEDOM TO MOVE IN BOTH OLD AND NEW WAYS.

4. TO PURSUE REVIVAL IN THE HOLY SPIRIT UNTIL THE LOST ARE SAVED AND SWEEPED INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

5. TO SEE THE CHURCH MOVING IN THE UNITY OF THE FATHER AND SON:

John 17: 20-23 "I do not ask in behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in ME through their word; that they may all be one; even as THOU , Father, are in ME, and I in THEE, that they also may be in US; that the world may believe that THOU didst send ME. And the glory which THOU hast given ME I have given to them; that they may be one, just as WE are one; I in them, and THOU in ME, that they may be perfected in unity, that the world may know that THOU didst send ME, and didst love them, even as THOU didst love ME."

6. TO PROVIDE IDENTITY AND FELLOWSHIP THAT IS INCLUSIVE AND NOT EXCLUSIVE: TO RELATE IN THE BODY OF CHRIST LOCALLY, NATIONALLY, INTERNATIONALLY OVER BROAD RELATIONAL LINES; TO BE INSTRUMENTS OF RECONCILIATION WHEREVER POSSIBLE; TO BE SUPPORTIVE WHEREVER AND HOWEVER GOD CHOOSES TO MOVE, AND OF WHOMEVER GOD CHOOSES TO USE.

7. TO HAVE APPRECIATION FOR THE VALUE OF RECEIVING FROM OTHERS, INDIVIDUALS AND MOVEMENTS, IN THE BODY OF CHRIST, UNDERSTANDING THAT WE DON'T HAVE THE WHOLE PICTURE, BUT JUST ONE PIECE OF GOD'S ETERNAL PUZZLE.

John 17:24 "Father, I desire that they also, whom THOU hast given ME, be with ME where I am, in order that they may behold MY glory, which THOU hast given ME; for

THOU didst love ME before the foundation of the world."

In other words, the broader picture of the Body reveals more of HIS Glory.

8. TO SEE THE FUNCTIONAL REALITY OF UNITY IN WHICH WE ARE NOT RECOGNIZED BY RACE, NATION, CLASS, GENDER OR DENOMINATION, BUT ALL ONE UNDER THE CROSS OF CHRIST:

Galatians 3:27-28 "For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

9. TO SEE THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST PROCLAIMED IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TO EVERY NATION, TRIBE AND TONGUE (ACTS 1:8) AND TO SEE CHURCHES ESTABLISHED WHERE NEEDED TO DISCIPLE AND BUILD UP THE SAINTS AND NEW BELIEVERS.

10. TO SEE THE SAINTS EQUIPPED FOR THE WORK OF THE SERVICE TO THE BUILDING UP OF THE BODY OF CHRIST:

Ephesians 4:11-15 "And HE gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the Body of Christ; until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into HIM, who is the head, even CHRIST."

11. TO LIVE BY GOD'S GRACE IN INTIMACY WITH HIM, SIMPLICITY OF LIFE STYLE, HUMILITY IN DEMEANOR, OBEDIENCE TO HIS WILL AND IN A WILLINGNESS TO HONOUR AND ESTEEM OTHERS IN THE BODY OF CHRIST.

12. TO PRAISE AND WORSHIP THE LORD IN SIMPLICITY AND INTIMACY AND TO ENCOURAGE NEW HEIGHTS OF WORSHIP.

13. TO BE A PEOPLE WHO PLACE A HIGH VALUE ON PRAYER AND INTERCESSION.

14. TO BE A PEOPLE WHO LOVE THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF THE WRITTEN WORD OF GOD

15. TO WALK BY FAITH, NOT SIGHT; INDEED TO HAVE A RADICAL FAITH, TO RISK WALKING IN ALL THAT GOD CALLS US TO, THROUGH ALL THAT HE IS.

16. TO BE A PROPHETIC CHURCH, TO WELCOME THE WORDS OF GOD; TO PASTOR AND NURTURE THOSE THUS CALLED.

BENEFITS AND OBLIGATIONS OF BEING IN PARTNERS IN HARVEST

BENEFITS OF INVOLVEMENT WITH PIH

1. Identity and fellowship in a loving family of churches and ministries that are pressing forward together in the Lord toward revival and harvest. Relationally we function more like an immediate family does.
2. Invitations for pastors to annual (international and regional) PIH family events.
3. Care, counsel and fathering is available to PIH pastors and churches.
4. Access to apostolic resource teams of travelling ministers, moving in Eph. 4:11 anointing and gifting.
5. Each PIH church is listed on the PIH web page and as such your website is linked to ours, which gives people an additional means of finding your church locally.
6. Free registration for all PIH Senior pastors and their spouses to all PIH sponsored conferences and to the Pastors and Leaders conference at Catch the Fire Toronto in January.
7. Pastoral ID cards that help open doors to hospitals or prison ministry.
8. Strategic networking with other PIH churches in regard to church planting, missions, conferencing and pastoral training.
9. Partners in Harvest functions as a primary covering and identity for churches.
10. Resource packets of worship music, tapes and CD's along with published books by PIH senior leadership available at no cost. They will be sent to you initially as you are accepted into PIH and then distributed at conferences and regional gatherings. If members wish to distribute their CD's or books for free to other members of PIH, please contact us directly.
11. Access to volunteers and interns trained in the School of Ministry who are available to help and serve in your congregation.
12. You will receive the Partners in Harvest e-newsletter monthly that will keep you informed as to what is happening in the family.

PIH APPLICATION PROCESS

Your application form will be processed and we will then make contact with you to arrange an initial visit. Please note that application fees are non-refundable and will be cashed on receipt of your application, as they are not contingent upon your acceptance into PIH. Details for the initial visit to your church are set out below:

1. Gathering of your Elders/Leadership team to meet with Dan Slade or one of our other PIH coordinators during the initial visit.
2. There will be a chance at this time for us to get to know each other and for you to ask any question about PIH and discuss the implications of joining our family of churches.
3. A chance for Dan Slade or one of our other coordinators to share a message with your congregation at a Sunday service and get to know them.
4. Arranging accommodation for Dan or one of our other coordinators, preferably with yourselves.
5. Covering costs of travel for Dan or one of our other coordinators when they come for the visit (honorarium or love offering for their ministry as appropriate).
6. Providing feedback to us about how you felt the visit went to help us to evaluate how we conduct these application visits.

Once the application visit has been made, Dan will then liaise with one of our other coordinators if appropriate and assess and resolve your application accordingly. An approved PIH applicant will be sent a welcome letter, acceptance package and ID badges will be sent out.

Those ministries who submit an application form should be aware that the application process will be slightly different from that listed above, because of the difficulty in assessing the fruit of a ministry as opposed to a church. The 2.5% in the case of ministries will be of their total income, rather than tithes.

IN RESPONSE, WHAT ARE YOUR COMMITMENTS TO PIH?

Commitment to send a 2.5% tithe of your weekly offerings to help defray the ministry and administrative costs of the mission of Partners in Harvest. Within a two years we expect you will attend a Healing Week, an ILSOM and also to make every effort to attend PIH international and/or regional conferences.