

# Themes and summary from November 28, 2024 online prayer event

On November 28, 2024, a national online prayer gathering was held to discern next steps related to our General Assembly vision to 'Double our Reach' in the next 10 years. Several key themes emerged that we believe are important for ongoing prayer and reflection among our Alliance family.

1. There was a sense of **God's pleasure and delight** that we have set this aspiration to double our reach.
  - a. He wants this to be a season for great kingdom exploits where we take risks and collaborate together for the advance of the kingdom.
  - b. We are invited to be courageous and creative as we dream together with God for 'a new era of kingdom story-writing' in the Alliance!
  - c. God is zealous for the world to know him; the initiative to double our reach is his. He is just getting started; will we join him?
2. As we seek to double our reach, there was a sense that this needs to flow from a **doubling of our pursuit of his presence.**
  - a. We must be careful not to try to double our efforts in 'Martha-like' frenetic behaviour. We double our reach by doubling our depth, resting in God's presence and listening for invitations to join him in what he is already doing.
  - b. We need to allow Jesus to lift off any ill-fitting burdens or expectations to do 'twice as much' to reach this goal in our own strength. We should instead find great joy in the journey as we go on this adventure with Jesus.
  - c. Doubling our reach should not be the focus. It is as we double our focus on Christ that we will see where he is working and the multiplication will follow.
  - d. Jesus was saying: "Trust me. Listen to me daily and say yes to joining Me in the work I'm inviting you into."

- e. He is calling us to 'gather around the bonfire of his presence.'
- 3. There was a sense that God is calling us to **contend for unity**, over and over again.
  - a. We tasted unity at General Assembly; he is calling us to keep pursuing this unity in greater ways.
  - b. God is calling us to celebrate every part of the Body, big and small, young and old, the unseen and the exciting. We need to humble ourselves and learn from each other.
  - c. We sensed an invitation from Jesus to gather and partner together more.
- 4. There was a sense that doubling our reach **cannot be achieved by a top-down organizational strategy**.
  - a. There is a great need to see ALL of God's people released in the power of the Spirit to multiply disciples in our own contexts.
  - b. Kingdom multiplication should be our focus, not organizational growth.
- 5. As we seek to double our reach, we must **be bold and courageous**, even when we face adversity and opposition.
  - a. Jesus is calling us to stand firm, to not water down our message, to courageously hold onto the truth. This is foundational for doubling our reach.