

2018 CORE COMMITMENTS

OUR MISSION, PRIORITIES AND VALUES

A document for apostolic teams and the churches they serve. Application may vary in different cultures and contexts, and so this document is primarily intended to serve in relational discussions between leaders, teams and churches.

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WHAT IS SALT & LIGHT?

An international family of apostolic teams and churches planting and equipping churches for God's mission

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6 TEAM PRIORITIES

- Extension
- Supernatural
- Foundations
- Leadership
- Problem-solving
- Unity

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4 CORE FAMILY VALUES

We are...

- Family
- Disciples
- Servant-leaders
- Apostolic

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5 MISSION GOALS

- Church planting
- Apostolic bases
- Apostolic teams
- Leadership development
- Transforming society

4 CORE FAMILY VALUES

Below are listed our core beliefs. Of course, these beliefs characterise very many Christians and churches, and are not specific to Salt & Light.

So what characterises our family? We have chosen 4 words to sum up our core family values:

DISCIPLES

Discipleship is about growing all of God's people into maturity, so that each one can both enjoy relationship with God and play their full part in his mission.

Therefore, everyone is called to be both making disciples and disciplined in an accountable relationship. This includes church senior leaders, who should relate to someone for input, accountability and care (*"every Pastor needs a pastor"*).

A key practice for us is to live generously. This is vital for individuals and communities to enjoy the blessing of God, and to play their part in his mission as we are generous with possessions, finance and people!

SERVANT-LEADERS

We aim to equip every Christian to be a servant-leader, in the home, church community and at work.

Anointed servant leadership is vital in the body of Christ, and help all to grow to full maturity and fulfil their God-given destiny.

Leaders must be servant-leaders!

A key practice for us is to understand and receive the spiritual authority of anointed servant-leaders, allowing us to live under its blessing.

4 CORE FAMILY VALUES

FAMILY

Family is in the nature of God. This relational life is therefore expressed in both natural and spiritual family, in local church and across a wider family of churches.

Fatherhood and motherhood is key to fostering family, with an atmosphere of belonging, love, fun, security, vision, encouragement, care and training.

A key practice for us is to recognise the spiritual headship of men in family, so while men and women must lead together, most of our church families appoint men to be elders. (*For more on this see our document 'Local Leadership'*.)

APOSTOLIC

We are all called to be part of God's apostolic purposes for his world.

So, receiving apostolic teams (i.e. apostles and other gifted leaders) into local churches brings vision, spiritual impact, and draws churches into these bigger purposes of God.

We value the diversity of our international family. It helps us understand and enjoy the richness of the body of Christ, as we respect, honour and relate to Christians in other nations.

A key practice for us is to see that every local leadership team needs an active and healthy relationship with an apostle and his team, in order to flourish and be part of the Salt & Light family.

(*For more on this see our document 'How the Wider Family Works'*.)

CORE BELIEFS

Along with the global charismatic and evangelical* movements we share some core beliefs:

1 The Bible

Through the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, God has revealed universal, eternal and authoritative truth to humankind in such a way that all can grasp it.

2 The person and work of Christ

God's eternal Word became human in the historical man Jesus, who definitively reveals God to humanity and made atonement on the cross for human sin.

3 Conversion

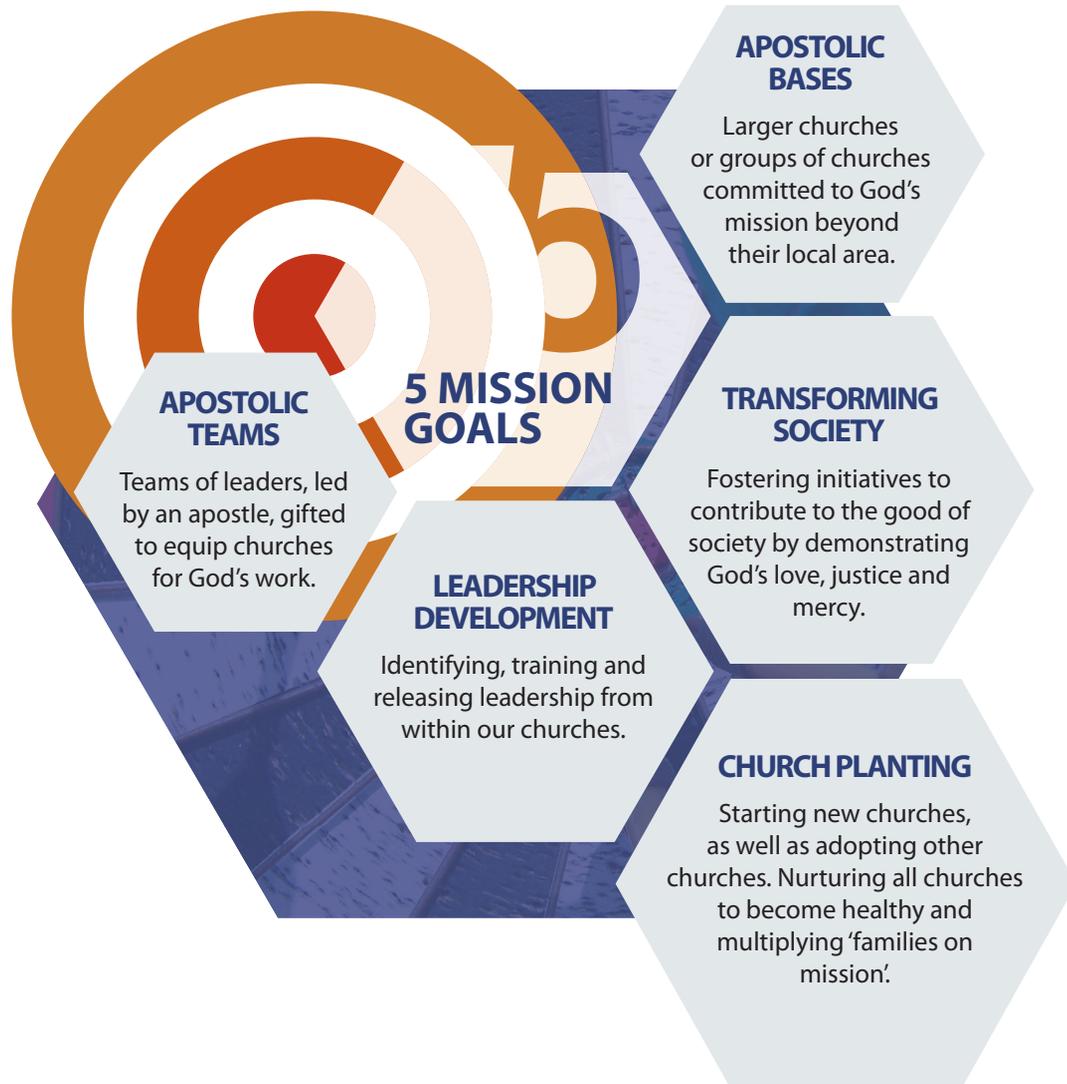
The truth of the eternal gospel must be appropriated in personal faith, which comes through repentance, and a reorientation of the sinner's mind, heart and life towards God.

* A fuller statement of evangelical belief is found here, for example: www.eauk.org/connect/about-us/basis-of-faith.cfm

5 MISSION GOALS

God's mission is a grand plan to redeem mankind and the whole of creation as his church works out God's call to be ambassadors, witnesses and servants. A life of discipleship starts with personal conversion through the work of Jesus on the cross.

As a family of churches, we work together on 5 priorities:



4 Mission and activism

We join with God as he shows his love to the world, redeems the world from sin, and gathers a family from all nations.

5 Holy Spirit

He plays an essential part in lives of individuals and churches as we allow him to help us live life with God, love other people and play our part in God's work.

6 Kingdom of God

God's rule impacts the whole of life, as we preach, live and demonstrate the gospel of the Kingdom, addressing injustice, poverty and oppression.

7 Church

Large or small, local communities of believers, in which everyone plays their part, are the centre of God's plan to change the world.

6 TEAM PRIORITIES

Apostolic (fivefold, Ephesians 4) teams have a heart and responsibility to create a movement of healthy, growing and missional churches, not simply sustain and support existing churches with their existing members.

We use a simple arrow graphic to teach these points, highlighting that extension and impartation of the supernatural should be at the leading edge of the mission.

As we read the NT descriptions of apostolic teams, we see a number of important things that they did. We see this as a pattern for our Salt & Light apostolic teams today:



CORE COMMITMENTS 2018 TOOLKITS AND OTHER RESOURCES

This summary, as well as supporting documents and toolkits are available online at www.saltlight.org

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Explaining and describing what we see as the biblical teaching on a subject, including what we have agreed to be normative for our churches:

- Local church leadership (eldership)
- How the wider family works (apostolic teams)

TOOLKITS

- Toolkit: How churches join the family ('adoption')
- Toolkit Questions: how are we doing as an apostolic team?
- Toolkit: How the apostolic team functions

