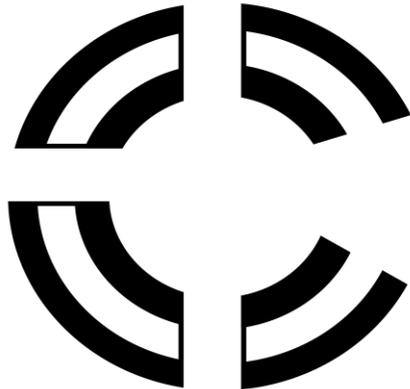


News from the Ntingas

December 2017



CHRIST
CENTRAL
— SOWETO

KNOW • LOVE • REACH

Dear Friends

Reflection

Over the last month I have been reflecting on the character of God and was reminded of his heart for the poor and helpless. He is the helper of the fatherless and the one who calls the wicked to account (Psalm 10:14-15). As the church plant approaches I have been reminded of how Jesus Christ did not come for the righteous and well but for the unrighteous, the lost, those in need of salvation. May we have the same heart as God!

Our Church Plant has a name

One of the fun things about a new ministry is that you have the proverbial clean slate to decide on your identity and vision. As a Launch team we said that our mission is: "*Know Christ, Love One another, and to reach the lost in Soweto with the gospel*". Our desire is to see 1% of Soweto reached for Christ, planting 29 churches in the 29 townships of Soweto. In essence we want to make Jesus famous in Soweto so we went for the name CHRIST CENTRAL SOWETO (*see our logo above*).

Growing as a launch team

One of the focuses of the last 6 months was for us as a launch team to get to bond and unite behind our common mission for Soweto. To help with this we have been looking at Paul's letter to the Colossians. This has been a wonderful time of growing in our understanding of the sufficiency of Christ, we do not only begin with Him but we continue in Him because He is supreme over all things.

As we wrestled with the distinctives of the Christian faith God has grown our number and we were able to grow from one bible study to 3 studies in various parts of Soweto. At the beginning of December also we went away as a team for the weekend and God used our time away to strengthen the bonds that we have but also to prepare us for the reality of church planting. Church planting is hard work, it requires sacrifice and a willingness to serve others but it's worth it because it is in line with what God is doing in the world.

Sunday Launch in March 2018

2018 is fast approaching and we have decided to aim for the first week of March for our Sunday Launch. Johannesburg Bible College (JBC), Soweto Campus has partnered with us

We are very excited about our new name, it has helped us to visualize what the church will look like but also capture and get excited about the vision of the church. May God bless our desire to make his name known!

in the use of their facilities on Sundays however there is currently construction taking place there. Please pray that construction is completed on time so that we do not have to postpone our launch date.

In the run up to the launch we will also be having a vision casting night as well as engaging the community, getting them excited about us as we get to know them. Pray that God may help us to build momentum ahead of the launch but also for many gospel opportunities.

Prayer points

- Thank God for the launch team, for the unity and excitement that God has produced in us under our common vision. Pray that God may continue to be at work among us and protect us from the evil one.
- Thank God for the many partners in the gospel. From individuals, churches, and networks who are supporting us financially, in equipping us for church planting, and in holding us accountable to the gospel.
- Pray for our launch date next year and the build up to it that we may be able to build the necessary momentum to keep growing towards sustainability. Pray that the JBC premises may be completed in time for our launch.
- Pray for our family (Masana and Ayabonga) as we take on the responsibility of running a church next year, that God may protect us from the common pitfalls of church planters and their families.



Christ Central Soweto at our weekend get away



Ayabonga and his Mommy
Man... How quickly these kids grow!