JANUARY FISKEBÄCKS MISSIONSKYRKA

Fiskebäck's Mission Church is taking steps to be a church without walls.

We are now starting our second semester with Brunnen and we are feeling excited. During our first semester we focused on building a foundation: getting to know one another, getting into the rhythm of the new church, and taking active steps get to know the churches in the area. We feel as if the foundation has a good start and we will continue to try to build a strong foundation, since this is what the church will be built on...yet we are antsy and many of us in Brunnen are longing to get OUT and meet people, to start to share the Gospel in creative ways. So, this spring semester we are hoping that starting a Language Café would be a tangible way for us to meet & bless people in Brunnsbo. Finally, we get to do what we feel called to.



"Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood before the Lord and said, "I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!" Jesus responded, "Salvation has come to this home today, for this man has shown himself to be a true son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost." Luke 19:8-10 (NLT)

Think about Zacchaeus. It amazes me to think that he only wanted to see Jesus, yet it was Jesus who offered to spend time at his house. It seems that even when people didn't ask, Jesus was ready to see their needs and provide.

Maybe today we are in a place where we feel that we are in need. Or maybe we feel that we have nothing to give. But our needs are God's business and He will surely provide for us. But we don't want to miss out on the joy of giving to others. It could be our loved ones who need more of our time or a total stranger who is in need of our help. Whatever it is that we can give to bless a person's life is worth taking the energy and the risk for.

We live most of our lives outside the walls of the church and most of the people we meet don't have a relationship with Jesus. This means

that we ought to be His witnesses at all times! So that we can to live out the Gospel more clearly; we have focused our Sunday gatherings around the acronym that we use in our DNA-groups, it is called BELLS:

<u>Bless</u> – others who are near you. Sometimes we need to be a little more mindful of how we engage and respond toward one another, and that we need to keep in mind that we, as Christians, are called to bless others and help those in need.

<u>Eat</u> – with other people outside your own household. Sharing a meal or coffee time with others helps relationships to grow deeper. It is also good to keep in mind to hang with people both inside and outside the Church.

<u>Learn</u> – Jesus by studying His Word. One can do this through focusing on the Gospels, by doing so one sees how Jesus lived His life so that we can do what He did. Jesus is our example of what we can do, both the small things and the big things.

<u>Listen</u> – to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit can speak through the Bible, other people, and also as a voice in our hearts. Practise actively listening to the Holy Spirit and then do what He says.

<u>Sent</u> – Pray and ponder whom God has sent you to (think short-term & long-term). Once you know to whom God has sent you to then go there and do what the Holy Spirit as challenged you to do.

The purpose of BELLS is not to be something legalistic, but instead it is to be an aid, which helps us to follow Jesus in more concrete ways. In what ways are you and your congregation concretely living out the Gospel in your town/city?





BEING MISSIONAL



But we don't want to miss out on the joy of giving to others!

Our Hope

Our hope is to start a new fellowship in Brunnsbo that reflects God's kingdom in its beauty and diversity where people can grow as Jesus followers. We long to do so in openness with other churches near Brunnsbo, so that we can proclaim and demonstrate God's whole Gospel to His creation.

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Fun ways God is moving!

- We have had good contact with people from Brunnsbo and Backa. These conversations have been an answer to prayer.
 - Aaron's economic support for Covenant World Mission has come in! We praise God and thank those of you who have helped out!

Prayer Requests

- That God will open the hearts of those who live in Brunnsbo.
- For concrete leading with the new Language Café.
- Thank God that Aaron's support has come in and that he is now a projectmissionary instead of a short-term missionary (it makes it a little bit more long-term).

What's next?

- We are in the middle of doing a "pre-study" to starting the Language Café. Looking at how other Language Cafés operate and we are learning how we can take an active step out into Brunnsbo, the place where God has sent us.
- The website is finished. You can visit the website <u>www.brunnen.cc</u> but keep in mind that most of it is in Swedish. We are looking for ways to add English.
- On January 17th we are meeting with Anders Stenbäck, the priest from Brunnsbo Church, again to talk about the church's relationship to the school and about the Language Café.