

MATTHEW 28:18-20

OUR LSBC
CELL MANDATE

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Introduction

- It is cell emphasis week
- I hope to inspire us to continue journeying with our cell groups with more clarity and conviction
- Help and persuade you decide to join a cell
- $5 voucher for anyone who signs up for cell today!

Introduction

OUR LSBC CELL MANDATE

MATTHEW 28:18-20

THE GREAT COMMISSION

18 AND JESUS CAME AND SPOKE TO THEM,
SAYING, “ALL AUTHORITY HAS BEEN GIVEN
TO ME IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH.

MATTHEW 28:18-20

19 GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF
ALL THE NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM
IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF
THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,

MATTHEW 28:18-20

20 TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE ALL THINGS
THAT I HAVE COMMANDED YOU; AND LO,
I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, EVEN TO THE
END OF THE AGE.” AMEN.

Introduction

- Cell groups are an **indispensable** part of our church.
- LSBC is known as a **CP church** or **Community Pastoring Church.**
- LSBC's God given strategy to reach out to the community around us through a **systematic adoption of HDB blocks.**
- **Witness** to the community for Christ.

Introduction

- **Simple Discipleship Church strategy:**
  - **growing strong disciples for Christ**
  - **4 Essentials:**



Introduction



- Cell is one of the 4 essentials of SDC
- Cell is a fundamental structural pillar of the church.

Introduction

Cell as a Pillar of the Church

- For true discipleship to take place, a period of close mentoring is needed
- Jesus modelled discipleship for us with 12 disciples for 3 years in an intimate setting.

Introduction

- **Mentoring is impossible in a large congregation setting.**
- **Intimacy and the personal touch are lost.**
- **This is why cell groups are an indispensable part of LSBC.**

Introduction

- We recognize that in order to have proper discipling, we must have a **vibrant cell ministry.**
  - A vibrant cell ministry provides the platform **for pastoral care**.
  - It provides an informal platform for **teaching** and **coaching** of disciples.

Introduction

- It provides a platform for close **interaction** and the formation of close bonds and **friendships**.
- It allows members to simply **'do life' together**.
- a **spiritual family**

Introduction

Our Twin Mandates

- We know God has commissioned our church with the Twin Mandates of:
  1. Witnessing and reaching the lost through CP.
  2. Discipling our new converts to become fully like Christ through SDC.

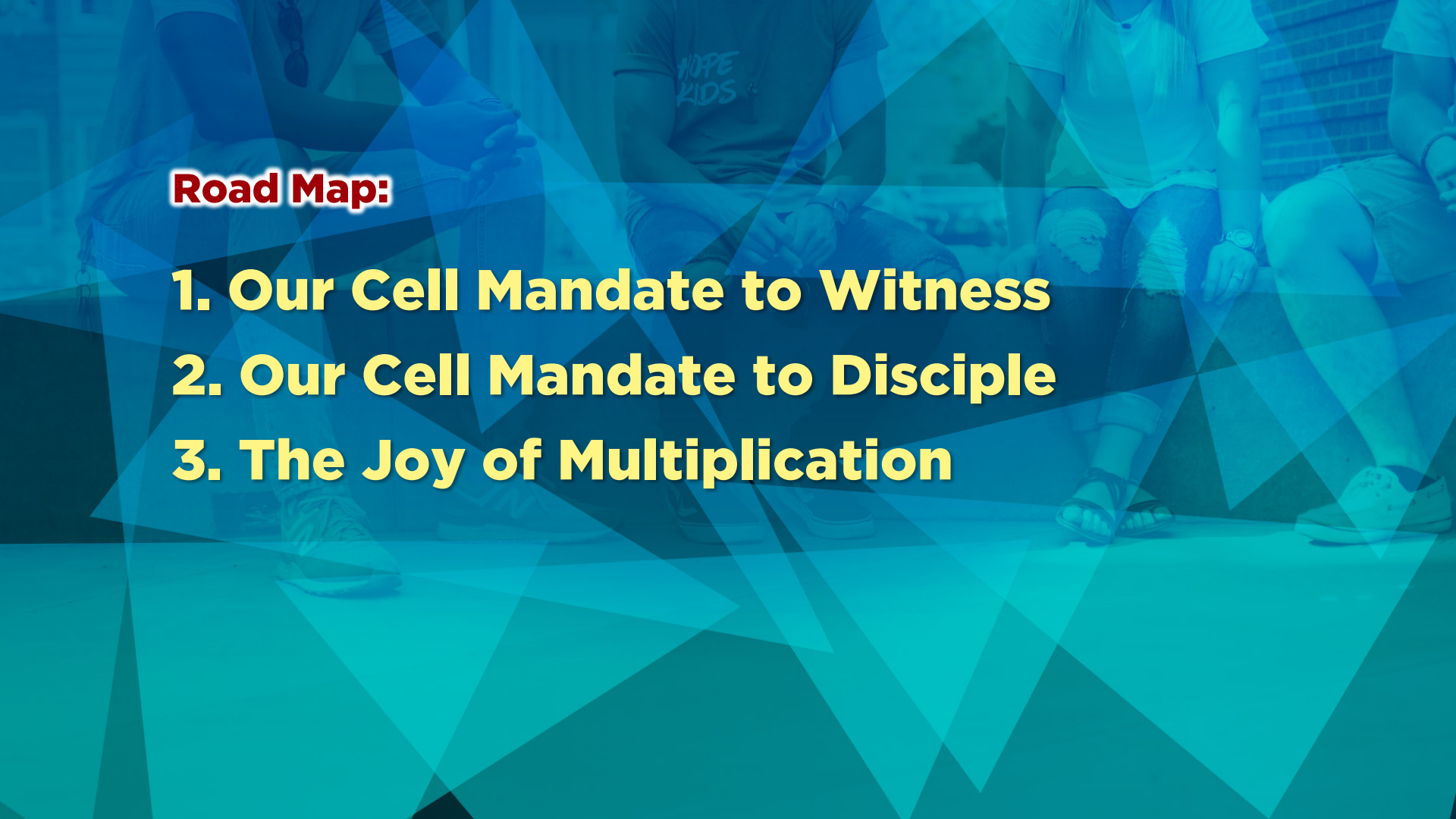
Introduction

Our Twin Mandates

- It is critical that our cells align to the Mandates of the church, to CP and to SDC.
- It is also important to recognize that **our cells have a unique role to play in the Great Commission**.

Introduction

- Cells can bring to the table **what other platforms cannot.**
- In obedience to God's Twin Mandates, **cells have a unique role to play.**



Road Map:

1. Our Cell Mandate to Witness
2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple
3. The Joy of Multiplication

1. Our Cell Mandate to Witness

Teamwork to Witness

- We have seen some amazing solo evangelists
- Philip the Evangelist
- LSBC's Auntie Lin Pak
- Pastor Chin Lee : one-to-one evangelism

1. Our Cell Mandate to Witness

Teamwork to Witness

- When cells own the **Mandate to Witness**, cells can witness for Christ in an equally effective or even more effective way.
- **Cell groups are a team.** They can utilise the **power of the community** and **the power of unity**

1. Our Cell Mandate to Witness

Teamwork to Witness

- **“Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men.”**
- **net fishing**



1. Our Cell Mandate to Witness

Teamwork to Witness



- 3 men on the boat.
- They constitute a team.
- They operate in teamwork.
- The strength of the entire team would be needed to haul in the fish and the nets.

1. Our Cell Mandate to Witness

Teamwork to Witness

- This concept of team and teamwork, did not depart from them even though their vocation had changed.
- They would have continued to operate as a team in their search for men.

1. Our Cell Mandate to Witness

Teamwork to Witness

- Witnessed in pairs (Mark 6:7)
- Book of Acts - the Apostles frequently went out in teams:
  - **Paul and Barnabas, Paul and Silas and Mark with Luke the physician**, etc.

1. Our Cell Mandate to Witness

Teamwork to Witness

- Teams are able to cover their partners.
- They can take turns in doing the heavy lifting.
- When one rests, the other can work.

1. Our Cell Mandate to Witness

Teamwork to Witness

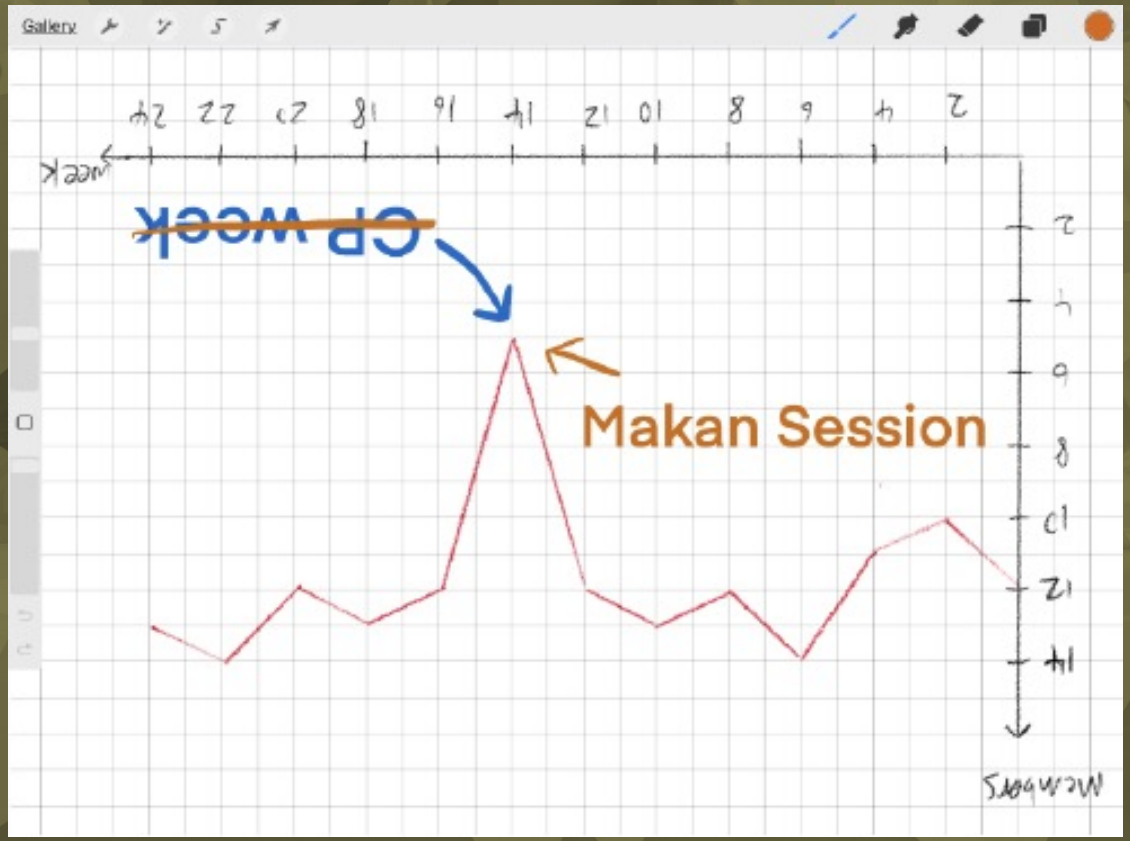
- **In the cell team**, members are able to complement each other's strengths and weaknesses.

1. Our Cell Mandate to Witness

Teamwork in CP

- There may be up to 80 units or more on average per block.
- If there is no teamwork in the cell group, the task of CP quickly becomes unmanageable.
- Just showing up is already a big win for teamwork.

1. Our Cell Mandate to Witness Teamwork in CP



1. Our Cell Mandate to Witness

Teamwork in CP

- **let us as cell groups put in the effort together**

1. Our Cell Mandate to Witness

Teamwork in Cell Meetings

- We would take extra care to make sure visitors felt welcome.
  - We utilised the power of the team.
  - Each cell member was expected to play their part.

1. Our Cell Mandate to Witness

Teamwork in Cell Meetings

- **Romans 12**
  - **We have different gifts and talents**
  - **Some are eyes, some are hands, some are feet and some are ears.**

1. Our Cell Mandate to Witness

Teamwork in Cell Meetings

- In essence, **reaching out becomes a team effort**.
  - It was not just the cell leader's job.
  - It was **the whole Cell's job!**
  - And because every cell member was involved, it often made a **tremendous impact** on our visitors.

2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple

1. Followership
2. Fellowship
3. Friction-ship

- **The cell is in a unique place to grow strong mature disciples.**

2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple

Followership

- **The Call to discipleship is the call to follower-ship**

MATTHEW 4:19 (NKJV)

JESUS SAID “FOLLOW ME AND
I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN.”

1 CORINTHIANS 11:1 (MEV)

“FOLLOW ME AS I FOLLOW CHRIST.”

1 CORINTHIANS 11:1 (NKJV)

“IMITATE ME JUST AS I ALSO IMITATE CHRIST”

2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple

Followership

- **Mentoring relationship with a mature believer**
  - **Often what we need is someone to speak into our lives**
  - **Someone to point out our blind spots**

2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple

Followership

- **Jesus exemplified for us the cell discipleship model.**
  - **He had 12 chosen disciples in close follower-ship with Him for 3 years.**

2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple

Followership

- Jesus exemplified for us the cell discipleship model.
  - Each had enough time and space to get close enough to learn from the master himself.
  - And they went on to change the world for Christ.

2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple

Fellowship

- Discipleship is also about the **fellowship** and **service to the community**.
  - Proper discipleship can only take place when we are able to **exercise love and service towards one another in a community.**

2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple

Fellowship

- Discipleship is also about the body life and service to the community.
  - No Solo rangers. We cannot love theoretically.
  - We must practice it and live it out.
  - **The closest thing to community is a cell.**

2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple

Fellowship

- **In cell**, we do life together.
  - Friends and co-workers in serving the Lord together in the church
  - We grow together.

2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple

Fellowship

- **One of the highlights of community and fellowship are the meals we have together.**






‘Fei Loh Ship’

2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple

Friction-ship

- **Things tend to get messy whenever human beings are involved.**
  - we often bring our past baggage and our old habits and sin along
  - We often step on each other's toes

JOHN 13:34-35 (NIV)

34 “A NEW COMMAND I GIVE YOU: LOVE ONE ANOTHER. AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, SO YOU MUST LOVE ONE ANOTHER. 35 BY THIS EVERYONE WILL KNOW THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES, IF YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER.”

2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple

Friction-ship

- It was the command to love one another **despite each other's faults**, just as Jesus loved us, **despite our faults**.
- The **hallmark** of being a disciple of Jesus is **love**.

2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple

Friction-ship

- **Only when friction occurs, then does the growing of our love really begin to take shape.**

PROVERBS 27:17

‘AS IRON SHARPENS IRON, SO ONE MAN SHARPENS ANOTHER.’

2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple

Friction-ship

- **For some of us, are you facing such a situation in your cell group today?**
- **But it is in these moments that we really grow in Christ-likeness.**

2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple

Friction-ship

- Let us take up the Mandate for Discipleship in LSBC and there is no better place to do it than in a cell.

2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple

Friction-ship

- **Discipleship is not just about Followership and Fellowship; discipleship is also about Friction-ship.**

2. Our Cell Mandate to Disciple

Friction-ship

- And of these 3, perhaps friction-ship is used greatest by the Lord in growing His children up into Christ-likeness.

3. The Joy of Multiplication

Acknowledgement for hard work

ACTS 2:47

“AND THE LORD ADDED TO THEIR NUMBER DAILY THOSE WHO WERE BEING SAVED”.

3. The Joy of Multiplication

Joy

- There is always the **pain of separation**
- but the **joy of seeing new cells grow and take on new life is absolutely worth it**

3. The Joy of Multiplication

Joy

- We must always make room for multiplication in our cells, if nothing else, **to bring joy to the Lord and to obey his Great Commission and Mandates.**

MATTHEW 25:23 (NKJV)

“HIS LORD SAID TO HIM, ‘WELL DONE,
GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT; YOU HAVE
BEEN FAITHFUL OVER A FEW THINGS,
I WILL MAKE YOU RULER OVER MANY THINGS.
ENTER INTO THE JOY OF YOUR LORD.’”

3. The Joy of Multiplication

Joy

- **“Come and share your master’s happiness!”**
  - At the end of the day, it is all about sharing in the Master’s joy.
  - Partnering with God to bring His love to those around us

CONCLUSION

- our twin strategies of SDC and CP that were given by God, LSBC has been called to witness and to disciple the community
- Our cell groups must flow and be aligned to our twin callings as a church.

CONCLUSION

- The church will be **supercharged** because **Cells are in that unique place** of effecting change in the community.
- And we are able to share in God's joy, simply because we know we have pleased Him.