

CONNECTIONS

Invest and Invite

As you know, we just finished a series called "Go Fish," where we saw that Jesus calls us not only to be followers of Him but also fishers of people. And many times, when we hear this, we know we should and yet we don't for many reasons. So, we want to partner with you to do what God has called us to do.

So, our strategy is simply to "invest and invite." Invest in relationships with people who don't know Christ or don't come to church for whatever reason. Invite them to church.

And as our congregation starts to "invest and invite," I truly believe that God will cultivate in us a heart for the lost. We will be a church that doesn't just exist for those who are here, but we will become a church that always remembers those who are not here.

This evangelism strategy is often called "relational evangelism." And so "invest and invite" is a

personal strategy. It means genuinely caring for people outside of the church and being bold enough to risk the relationship by inviting them into the church. It takes energy and effort to build and invest in a relationship. It takes equal compassion and courage to leverage that

relationship for the sake of eternity.

My prayer for you and for our ministry is to take this bold challenge and specifically ask someone to come to church on Easter Sunday, April 12. Not only are people open to going to church on Easter when

they are not used to going, but people just like the start of something. And since we will be starting our Second Service, it will be a new and fresh format where the emphasis will be on making people feel more comfortable and a "come-as-you-are" type of environment, as we worship our Heavenly Father.

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Want to learn more about Binnerri English Ministry?

Check us out on the Web at www.binnerriem.org. For general contact, please e-mail info@binnerriem.org.
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We are so excited about what God is doing at our church and what He will continue to do. So, let's invest and invite together. And when you ask and they say "no," don't be discouraged. And don't take it personally if they say "yes," but don't show. Just keep investing, keep praying, and keeping inviting.

Hope to see you AND your friends on Easter Sunday!

PK ❖

Upcoming Events

4/4: Couples Gathering, 6:30 PM

4/11: Men's Prayer Meeting, 6:30 AM

4/18: Women's Prayer Meeting, 6:30 AM

4/25: Golf Tournament at River Chase Golf Club, 1:30 PM

Easter Schedule:

4/5: Palm Sunday, 9:45 AM

4/6-4/11: Holy Week Early Morning Prayer, 5:30 AM

4/10: Good Friday Service, 8:00 PM

4/12: All Dallas EM Easter Sunrise Service at Semihan Church, 6:00 AM

4/12: Easter Sunday & Second Service Launch, 9:45 AM & 11:30 AM

From the Editors' Desk...

Wow! It's hard to believe that this is already our sixth issue. And there sure have been lots of changes along the way...ones that have hopefully improved the newsletter.

For us, it's very exciting to see *Connections* continuing like this. Hopefully, it is doing its job in keeping everyone connected to our ministry, and all that is happening. But in order for us to make this medium more useful to you, we need your input. How do you like *Connections*? Has it helped keep you informed? If not, why? Are there any changes/additions you'd like to see?



We'd love to hear from you. Send us your comments, concerns, and even criticisms. We're ready to take it all. After all, without your input, we won't know if we're doing it right or need change. E-mail us at connections@binnerriem.org.

Thanks,
Mari & Grace

Celebrations

New additions to our congregations are always a celebration. With that in mind, we'd like to take a moment to congratulate Scott and Cindy Chang on the birth of their second child, Hope, and Inchan and Emily Hwang on their marriage.

Scott and Cindy Chang

How is Hope different from your first child, Noah?

As expected from a baby girl, she is higher in maintenance compared to Noah. When Noah sleeps, nothing can wake him up, but Hope is a very light sleeper. She also REFUSES to take the pacifier so it's very difficult to soothe her. Despite these difficulties, she brings new, delightful experiences for us. I am actually enjoying shopping for girl things – they are much prettier than boy's stuff.

How did you prepare differently for the second child?

Even with a baby, our firstborn 2-year-old still needs a lot of attention. As such, we had to make sure that Noah was involved in every little detail in preparation for Hope so he wouldn't feel left out suddenly. At times, we just have to let Hope cry a little longer to attend to Noah's needs first. It seems that even the second child is all about Noah.

Is there anything you did for the first child that you now realize was way overboard?

Babies grow so fast and the first 2 years can especially be unpredictable. With Noah, I had planned and shopped for the next size in advance, but a lot of it ended up being useless, especially the shoes. I had no idea a baby had such a strong opinion about his shoes. He refused to wear anything but Stride Rite's LED fire truck tennis shoes until recently. I think we went through 3 pairs of those. I wouldn't buy shoes in advance anymore, even if I had to pay premium to buy as needed. We were pretty conservative with Noah so no major changes for Hope, although, we could be taking more pictures of only Hope. Noah thinks he has to be in all of our pictures!

Please share with us a funny moment/story about Hope!

Her hair shoots straight up with volume. Rather than, "Oh, what a cute baby!", she gets, "Oh, look at her hair!"



Inchan and Emily Hwang

Has married life so far been as you expected?

E: Yes, pretty much....although I didn't expect to compete with the TV and laptop for quality time!

I: It's more than having a roommate. It's MUCH more than that! Actually, I don't remember what I expected...all I know is that I'm happy.

What are some things (habits, routines,etc.) you had to adjust after becoming married?

E: I was the type who thought sleep was a waste of time. Inchan is the opposite. It's so difficult to wake him up. He's such a sleepyhead! The good part is that I don't live like a vampire now that I'm married. My mom is relieved that I'm finally sleeping normal hours thanks to him.

I: Having to sleep with a leg over my leg! Why does she always place her leg over mine in the middle of the night?

What is a surprising habit/quirk you have discovered about each other?

E: I'm sure couples can relate to this. I feel a sense of wonder at how strong he is when I am weak; at how weak he is when I am strong; and how God keeps us both from falling.

I: Women are known to be good at multi-tasking...but man. She really can!

What's the best thing about being married?

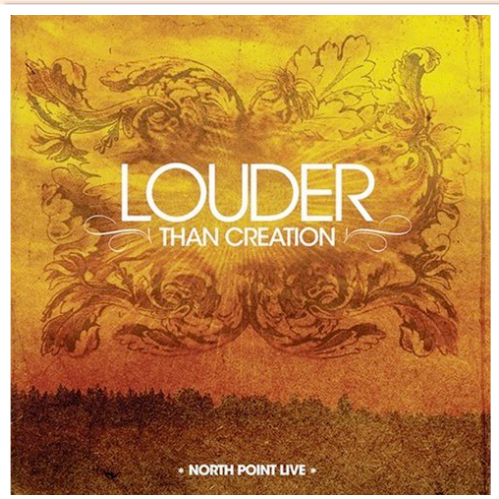
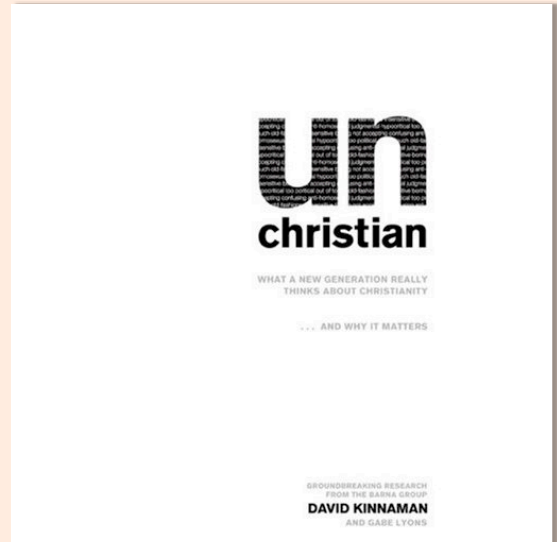
E: Growing old. No, growing up! With my other half.

I: I have a home now because she became my home. ❖

Christian Media Reviews

Book Review: *unChristian*, David Kinnaman

Ofentimes, it's difficult to get an objective gauge on how our modern culture views Christianity due to our lack of exposure to the various opinions people have outside our church walls. And because of this, it's often difficult to get an accurate pulse on what outsiders, or non-churchgoers, think about Christianity. However, according to David Kinnaman, president of the Barna Institute, and Gabe Lyons, Christianity has an image problem among the younger generation (ages 16 to 29). And in their book, "unChristian," they provide valuable insights into the negative perceptions this group has towards Christianity. Along with the aid and insights of other Christian leaders, this book not only presents the problem, but points the Church to a solution in engaging this younger generation for Christ. "unChristian" is definitely a must-read!



Album/CD Review: "Louder than Creation," North Point Live

If you've been looking for an inspiring and uplifting praise and worship album, "Louder than Creation" is one that will do just that. This album is a compilation of songs recorded by various praise leaders from North Point Community Church (Alpharetta, Georgia) during a night of live worship at their church. The songs on the album are a great mix of modern rock and worshipful ballads led by gifted leaders such as Todd Fields, Steve Fee, and Kristian Stanfill. Some of the new songs we've been singing at our church over the past few months are found on this album - "Beautiful Jesus," "Let Me Sing," and "Mighty to Save." This is a great album to listen to on your way to and from the office, or even just relaxing at home.

Both the book and album can be found on Amazon.com. ❖

Submissions

Want to submit an article? We'd love to hear from you! E-mail us with your articles/ideas at connections@binnerriem.org. Submissions must be made by the third Sunday of each month.

Want to serve in a different way? Join the *Connections* team!
E-mail us at connections@binnerriem.org for more information.