God Is on the Move in Bloem

HJ Nel 2 July 2019



It's only been 4 months since we officially planted Unity Life Church, a Four12 partner, in Bloemfontein – and what a journey it has been. From our first Sunday morning meeting, where we realised that we hadn't thought of buying a cable for our new speakers (and consequently had to run around calling people to try and arrange one on the fly), to seeing people grow and fall in love with Christ and His church.

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In the first month of our plant, there was a lot of curiosity. We had 120 first time visitors, so there were a lot of connecting coffee visits and phone calls. Some visited (and unfortunately left as fast as they came) and some stayed and planted themselves in the church. Others came looking for the "man of God", but only saw normal people, saints, loving Jesus passionately.

We can honestly say that it is going well with ULC. People are planting themselves and giving of themselves to the church. We have had salvations and baptisms. We have seen people with church hurts and abandonment issues being set free and finding their place in family. There is a real hunger for authentic community life, so much so that our weekly community nights (life groups/small groups) rarely end before 10 pm.

> **Some drove more than 8 hours just to support us on a Sunday morning.**

A lot of people from Four12 partnering churches have come to visit us. Some drove more than 8 hours just to support us on a Sunday morning. Through acts like this, our new church family of ULC have seen the heart of Four12 and have caught it! An amazing testimony of this is how one man, who was a pastor, gave his preaching license back after he saw and tasted what Four12 is, and he is now slotted in at ULC.

We are really thankful for the immense support that we have received from a lot of our partners across Four12, and for the apostolic input and guidance we have received and are still receiving. Without this, I don't think we would have seen all the fruit that we have thus far.

> **'I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.'**

We are so thankful for God's grace and His hand over this time. We love seeing how He moves and how He is adding people to our family, because ultimately it is God who builds His church and makes it grow. This makes me think of how Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 3:6, 'I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.' We can truly say that we have learned a lot in this short time, and if we were asked to do this again, our answer would still be 'YES!' God is without a doubt moving in Bloemfontein and its surrounds, and we as Unity Life Church have the privilege of being a vehicle God is using to bring His Kingdom to Bloem. We are excited to see what the future holds.