

## Events and Opportunities: 2017

This is the initial newsletter for KMUSA and we want to use this forum to inform, update and educate as best we can by providing information and articles on a quarterly basis.

### QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS

January | April | July | October

### KMUSA CONFERENCE CALLS

January 12<sup>th</sup> | May 11<sup>th</sup>  
 August 10<sup>th</sup> | November 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Call Number: (712) 770-4010  
 Access Code: 585656 - 10amPST

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE

April 26-28, Victorville, CA

### REGIONAL CONFERENCES

West Regional (October 19-20)  
 East Regional (October 26-27)

### KMUSA MEN'S ADVANCE

July 17-20, Northport, WA

It is our aim to motivate and mobilize the church through these and other events and opportunities. Make note, get involved and spread the word!



*Please share this newsletter with your people by reproducing copies. We want everyone to be aware of the KMUSA impact!*



**KINGDOM  
 MINISTRIES USA**  
 Connect - Commune - Collaborate

11783 Amethyst Road  
 Victorville, California, 92392



**KINGDOM  
 MINISTRIES USA**  
 Connect - Commune - Collaborate

# KMUSA

## Year of Reformation

*500th Anniversary of the Reformation (1517-2017)*



When Martin Luther posted his "Ninety-five Theses" on the church door in Wittenberg in 1517, no one expected the breadth of evangelical reforms in Christian teaching and practice that followed. In every dimension of Christian faith a renewed trust in God's forgiving mercy replaced a reliance on teachings and practices that, like the sale of indulgences, were vulnerable to abuse and corruption.

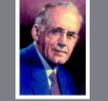
Preaching a few years later, Luther said, "I opposed indulgences ... but never with force. I simply taught, preached, and wrote God's Word; otherwise I did nothing. I did nothing; the Word did everything." When he began to propose reforms

in worship, he wrote similar words. "This is the sum of the matter: let everything be done so that the Word may have free course."

Nearly 500 years later, the results of this evangelical confidence in God's forgiving and liberating Word are evident today in Christian communities of all types.

During 2017, congregations and communities will observe the anniversary of this evangelical reformation in a variety of ways. May we also appreciate this historic time that changed the world!

### CONTENT

	KMUSA Distinctive: The Power of Covenant	2
	KMUSA National Conference Reformation 2017: Courageous Acts for Foundational Change"	3
	Social Issues and Culture: Will America Ever Be Great Again?	4
	Church Growth and Leadership: Seven Obstacles to Healthy Growth	5
	Church Ministry and Development: Looking for Volunteers?	6
	Spiritual Maturity and Growth: An Appropriate Word from Tozer	7
	2017 Events and Opportunities: Share the News and Engage	8

*"Beware of placing even the smallest drop of your confidence on anything apart from the gospel"*  
 John Calvin



## KMUSA Distinctive: The Power of COVENANT

From the creation of man, God has consistently worked through covenants to establish and guide his relationship with all of mankind. Covenants with Adam, Abraham, Moses, David, and Solomon foreshadowed the New Covenant where God revealed himself through the person and work of Jesus Christ, the express image of the Father. The New Covenant provides all mankind with the opportunity to enter fully into a relationship with God and know him through the work of the Holy Spirit. Even those who have no salvific knowledge of Christ continue in a covenant of works with the Father and are responsible for their sin. This covenantal identity and working is what establishes the work of God in the world and obligates the nations to act for Him.

In times past, God excused ignorance but now calls all mankind to repentance and a fuller relationship with him.

As a result, the paradigm for relational dealings is biblical accountability and government by way of covenanted agreement. Through this model, individuals, partners, and organizations affiliated with KMUSA will better fulfill the calling of God as faithfulness is exhibited together between God and his church. This same covenantal paradigm provides the basis for corporate business but is most easily seen in the union and work of husband and wife. KMUSA commits to the biblical male-female distinctive that God has put in place and made plain both in the Scriptures and in life.



In addition, we see the Trinitarian relationship as the centering point of all reality, and thus the grounding for how we honor both the one and the many. By application, we will commit to help produce in one another:

- Embracing the biblically based accountability and government men, ministries, and organizations need in order to fulfill their maturity and destiny on earth.
- Honoring and promoting of the team that we believe husbands and wives form in ministry.
- A biblical and practical defense of the male-female distinctive as the essential genius of God.

*All interaction with God begins with recognizing and embracing the non-negotiable terms through which God enters relationship with man and leads man to His desired end.*

*“God Builds Relationally through His Covenants”*



### An Appropriate Word

from  
A.W. Tozer  
(April 21, 1897–May 12, 1963)  
*Tozer was an American Christian pastor, preacher, author, magazine editor and spiritual mentor. This article is an excerpt from The Divine Conquest.*

That every Christian can be and should be filled with the **Holy Spirit** would hardly seem to be a matter for debate among Christians. ... I want here boldly to assert that it is my happy belief that every Christian can have a copious outpouring of the **Holy Spirit** in a measure far beyond that received at conversion, and I might also say, far beyond that enjoyed by the rank and file of orthodox believers today.

It is important that we get this straight, for until doubts are removed, faith is impossible. God will not surprise a doubting heart with an effusion of the **Holy Spirit**, nor will He fill anyone who has doctrinal questions about the possibility of being filled.

In light of this, it will be seen how empty and meaningless is the average church service today. All the means are in evidence; the one ominous weakness is the absence of the Spirit's power. ... The power from on high is neither known nor desired by **pastor** or people. This is nothing less than tragic, and all the more so because it falls within the field of **religion**, where the eternal destinies of men are involved.

**Fundamentalism** has stood aloof from the liberal in self-conscious superiority and has on its own part fallen into error, the error of textualism, which is simply orthodoxy without the **Holy Ghost**.

Everywhere among conservatives we find persons who are Bible-taught but not Spirit-taught. They conceive truth to be something that they can grasp with the mind. If a man holds to the fundamentals of the Christian **faith**, he is thought to possess divine truth. But it does not follow. There is no truth apart from the Spirit. The most brilliant intellect may be imbecilic when confronted with the **mysteries of God**. For a man to understand revealed truth requires an act of God equal to the original act which inspired the text. ... "Now we have received, not the Spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God; that we might know the things which are freely given us of God."

For the textualism of our times is based upon the same premise as the old-line rationalism, that is, the belief that the human mind is the supreme authority in the judgment of truth. Or otherwise stated, it is confidence in the ability of the human mind to do that which the Bible declares it was never created to do and consequently is wholly incapable of doing. Philosophical rationalism is honest enough to reject the **Bible** flatly. Theological rationalism rejects it while pretending to accept it and in so doing puts out its own eyes.

Few there are who without restraint will open their whole heart to the blessed Comforter. He has been and is so widely misunderstood that the very mention of His name in some circles is enough to frighten many people into resistance. It is no use to deny that Christ was crucified by persons who would today be called fundamentalists. This should prove to be disquieting if not downright distressing to us who pride ourselves on our orthodoxy. An unblessed soul filled with the letter of truth may actually be worse off than a pagan kneeling before a fetish. We are saved only when our intellect are indwelt by the loving fire that came at **Pentecost**. For the **Holy Spirit** is not a luxury, not something added now and again to produce a deluxe type of Christian once in a generation. No. He is for every child of

God a vital necessity, and that He fills and indwells His people is more than a languid hope. It is rather an inescapable imperative.

Now the **Bible** teaches that there is something in God that is like emotion. ... God has said certain things about Himself, and these furnish all the grounds we require. "The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing" (Zeph. 3:17). This is but one verse among thousands which serve to form our rational picture of what God is like, and tell us plainly that God feels something like our love, like our joy, and what He feels makes Him act very much as we would in a similar situation; He rejoices over His loved ones with joy and singing.

Here is emotion on as high a plain as it can ever be seen, emotion flowing out of the heart of God Himself. Feeling, then, is not the degenerate son of unbelief that is often painted by some of our **Bible** teachers. Our ability to feel is one of the marks of our divine origin. We need not be ashamed of either tears or laughter. The Christian stoic who has crushed his feelings is only two-thirds of a man; an important third part has been repudiated. Holy feeling had an important place in the life of our Lord.

"For the joy that was set before Him" He endured the cross and despised its shame. He pictured Himself crying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost."

The work of the **Holy Spirit** is, among other things, to rescue the redeemed man's emotions, to restring his harp and open again the wells of sacred joy that have been stopped up by sin.



## Looking for Volunteers?

By Kent Evans

*Used with Permission from Kent Evans of Manhood Journey and Church Central*

Are you ever the one tasked with finding volunteers for your church or nonprofit? It's not easy is it? It can be a painfully slow process. And, it often yields shallow resource pools and frustrated team members.

I believe one reason we often struggle with this is because we are not habitually observing those around us. We sit squirreled up until one day we realize we need help. We pop above ground and grab the nearest guy, dragging him into our hole and putting him to work, regardless of his skill, passion, or bandwidth.

Yet, if we become "always-on" observers of others, we can ride this tiger instead of constantly being dragged behind it clutching the tail.

The challenge of course is that observation is not fast, cheap, or easy. It requires that we invest time and have an open mind regarding the gifts and passions of others.

Often we have a need and we set out to find those skills in the people around us. Our eyes and ears deceive us and we imagine skills that aren't really there, simply because the need is great.

We have to accept the truth. We cannot try to implant certain capabilities just through the power of positive thinking.



Sometimes we need to fill a gap quickly, so we take a one-size-fits-all approach to enlisting volunteers. This is understandable and sometimes everyone needs to pitch in and take out the trash. However, it's not a good long-term strategy.

Our former men's pastor, Kurt Sauder, was a master of this craft. He is a hunter and seemed to apply some of those same skills in volunteer recruitment. He observed the patterns of his "prey" (!) and tracked it diligently. Then, when he needed to snag them he was already in close range.

He would often approach someone saying, "Joe, I just realized that you work as an accountant, right? That's terrific. You probably have a ton of skill doing budgets and making sure money is well spent. Would you consider joining our leadership team and managing our annual budgeting process?"

It wasn't always that easy or custom-fit, but I heard him connect the skill-to-need dots dozens of times. He first observed what a guy was good at; then, he prayed about how he might be able to leverage those skills; then, when the time was right, he popped the question.

Many ministry professionals give into the temptation to focus only on "What do I need done?" and "Who can do it?" Find a problem. Get a warm body on it. Skipping various steps in between. Haste is usually the hunter's enemy.

Who are you surrounded by? What are they good at? What gets them excited?

Make a note of this. It just might come in handy one day.

*Kent Evans is a marketing and business guy who helped create Manhood Journey, an organization helping to restore fatherhood and discipleship through small group Bible study. He resides in Louisville, KY with his amazing wife and four sons.*

[www.manhoodjourney.org](http://www.manhoodjourney.org)

### FIVE QUESTIONS TO ASSIST

#### THE IMPROVEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

**How Clear and Concise is the Mission?** A lack of clarity leads to inactivity and not being concise leads to confusion.

**How Clear and Concise is the Strategy?** People will not feel that they can fit in if the strategy is not clear and concise.

**How Clear and Concise is our Communication?** People need to know about the need, but more so, they need to know how they can contribute.

**How Clear and Concise is the Need for Volunteers?** Do people see the need to volunteer or do they feel unneeded due to staff roles or exclusivity among leaders.

**How Clear and Concise is our Theology of Service?** Creating a culture of service from a Biblical foundation is critical. Do people understand the power of service and the example of Christ?



The KMUSA National Conference will take place April 26-28 at the Gate Church of the High Desert in Victorville, California. We want to invite all leaders in the KMUSA family to attend! This year's theme is:

### "Reformation 2017: Courageous Acts for Foundational Change"

Based on the acts of the Reformers and the great courage it took for them to provoke foundational change, we believe a new reformation is needed in our time. It is our desire and hope that we can become the change agents in our culture. It begins with the people of God rising up to a new level of faith and building out God's Kingdom in tangible ways.

The 2017 KMUSA Conference intends to focus on ways for this change to occur. We will emphasize the following:

#### Healthy Fellowships | Growing Communities Fruitful Ministries

Hotel Information is listed below. Host homes may be available upon request. Please make plans NOW to join us for this amazing time together!

- Hawthorne Suites by Wyndham, Victorville (\$86)  
(760) 949-4700
- La Quinta Inn, Hesperia (\$84)  
(760) 949-9900
- Holiday Inn, Victorville (\$96)  
(760) 245-6565
- Hilton Garden Inn, Victorville (\$112)  
(760) 952-1200

## REFORMATION 2017 KMUSA National Conference

*"Courageous Acts for Foundational Change"*

April 26-28, 2017  
Victorville, California

### KMUSA National Conference, April 26-28

#### Wednesday, April 26

3:00pm – 5:00pm | Registration  
5:00pm – 6:30pm | Dinner Together  
7:00pm – 9:00pm | Evening Session

#### Thursday, April 27

8:00am – 9:00am | Breakfast  
9:00am – 9:30am | Prayer and Worship  
9:30am – 10:30am | Session  
10:30am – 10:45am | Break  
10:45am – 11:45am | Session  
11:45am – 12:00pm | Summary  
12:00pm – 1:30pm | Lunch

1:45pm – 3:00pm | Session  
3:00pm – 5:00pm | Break  
5:00pm – 6:30pm | Dinner  
7:00pm – 9:00pm | Evening Session

#### Friday, April 28

8:00am – 9:00am | Breakfast  
9:00am – 9:30am | Prayer and Worship  
9:30am – 10:30am | Session  
10:30am – 10:45am | Break  
10:45am – 11:45am | Session  
11:45am – 12:00pm | Summary  
12:00pm – 1:30pm | Lunch

1:45pm – 3:00pm | Session  
3:00pm – 5:00pm | Break  
5:00pm – 6:30pm | Dinner  
7:00pm – 9:00pm | Evening Session

## WILL AMERICA EVER BE GREAT AGAIN?

*Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. (Galatians 6:7)*

Our nation has been traumatized as we went through a debauched public dialogue of personal insults and personal misdeeds. As demoralizing as it was, it gave us all a very clear picture of two things: How divided as a nation we are and how far from greatness we are. Many see this and have added their insights as to the causes and possible cures/remedies to these related challenges. Clearly, a divided and infernally hostile nation is not great nor can it be until it is unified around what constitutes greatness itself.

“Were we ever truly great?” must be our first question. That will force us down to an even more foundational question: “Great by whose standards?” Is greatness measured by power, wealth, reputation, wisdom, compassion, or justice? Quickly we see the two distinct categories this list breaks into: power attributes and character attributes. It always comes down to these two ingredients if carefully thought through. For emphasis, let me reverse the order of these two titans – let’s make the issue of character precede power. I assert that greatness must first be rested upon the foundation of character because power itself is neither inherently good nor evil. It can be either depending upon the character which created it and wields it.

As is now usual in our public conversation, little was said about what actually constitutes greatness. Neither people nor nations be great if they do not have the capacity to have great conversations. Words and concepts themselves must first be carefully examined, refined, and then set in place to be the guardrails and focus of the conversation. Our public conversations are stunningly superficial, contrived, rhetorical, and manipulative. Without great conversations, no nation, nor any relational union, can ever be great. I submit that our nation’s greatest conversations took place during our birth process and yet, even then flawed but pregnant with great aspirations. Friends,

our GDP and military power do not make us great without a great conversation to guide them.

Let us move now to the question of, “Great by whose standards?” Let me be emphatically clear about the following three points:

1) The unity and whatever greatness we lay claim to was driven by an overwhelming public unity that the Judeo-Christian God was the chosen measurer of what “great” means and how society is to conform to His standards. The various “shades” of Christians, or even of benign secularists, recognized this reality even if they disagreed how that should shape the body politic. Serious contention around this as a historical fact is secularist historical revisionism.

2) The core division in the nation today is around three opinions of God’s role in bringing us to greatness if we but follow him. Group one are the secular progressives who deny God’s existence or relegate Him to irrelevance in terms of applying His opinions to public policy. Secular evolutionists believe power goes to those who are most highly adaptive and that character is relatively useful only as a unifying force of group dynamics.

The second group are “believers” who somehow believe God exists and that if He is the God of the Bible, His moral standards are generally applicable for personal conviction and behavior, but God does not, and probably should not, attempt to impose His standards in the material realm of political/economic realities. They separate spiritual realms from natural realms (platonic dualism) and believe that God’s social community standards are only to be applied in an eternal heaven. Therefore, their political opinions are formed by the world system’s thinking process rather than by the Scriptures.

The third group is made up of Christians who believe that “man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God (Matthew 4:4). Hence, God’s principles apply to the

community of man on earth today and to all he is and does. This group was the driving force and majority of our nation’s founders.

3) Until there is a clear understanding of these conflicting points of view, there will be undefined conflict and the inability to intelligently discuss, compare, and contrast what greatness is or how to achieve it. That great discussion will not unify us, but it will, at least, define the issues and options and give us a way to analyze the results of various applications of what is set forth by the various groups as “truth.”

So, the question is, as President Elect Trump puts forth, “Will America ever be great again?” I trust you can see that the answer is relatively simply: Not until we successfully respond to the Great Conversation. I actually expect Mr. Trump as the most business-minded president in our history to get lots of things going in unprecedented ways beyond the troubling social issues. However, those of us who understand the issues I am raising have a spiritual-citizen responsibility to educate and influence those in our spheres of relationship. There are thousands of you receiving this monthly Bottom Line article, and virtually all of you have leadership responsibilities. So, will America ever be great? That rests a great deal on our prayer and in the bold engagement of those we influence. And that really is... THE BOTTOM LINE!



*Dennis Peacocke is the founder of Kingdom Ministries International, an apostolic team that gives spiritual covering to KMUSA. He is a leader of leaders and a voice to the nations through Go Strategic, a prophetic ministry to every sphere of society.*

## SEVEN OBSTACLES TO HEALTHY CHURCH GROWTH

In over 30 years of ministry, I have been part of fast growing churches, slow growing churches and even churches that have declined in growth. In every situation I have paid close attention to the causes for such things. Although there are circumstantial situations that can play a part, I have observed some basic things that can be obstacles to real, tangible growth.

### Obstacle Number One: The Absence of Faith

For fear of failure, some leaders will begin making excuses before they even begin. The lack of belief in the concept of growth has picked up more steam in recent years. Yet faith is a major component to all we do for God. Leaders should not just believe that their church will grow but they should have expectations for growth and behave as if it were a given.

### Obstacle Number Two: The Absence of Knowledge

There are many church leaders that live by trial and error even refusing to seek out those that can teach them something. People perish because of a lack of knowledge according to Hosea. So, it is true that what you don’t know can kill you!

### Obstacle Number Three: An Entitlement Mentality

Some leaders feel that they are entitled to growth simply because they entered into ministry. It is as if they have made the ultimate sacrifice and therefore something is owed to them. However, the laws of growth equally apply to everyone. Prayer, fasting, labor and patience are vital in order to see a healthy product. Of course, our trust is in God to bring the results, but faithfulness and work are essential. You are not entitled just because you have leader or pastor before your name.

### Obstacle Number Four: Avoiding Growth as a Goal

The New Testament church was about growth! The Scriptures record the story of growth even giving us an account of numbers. It has become popular today to downplay numbers because it seems so insensitive to the real heart of ministry. But we must not be afraid to count people, God does!

### Obstacle Number Five: A Lack of Confidence in the Leader or Leaders

Proverbs says, “Where there is no vision, people perish!” Many leaders are unsure of what to do because they have no vision. They have no vision because they have not gained the heart of God for their people. So activity is random, direction is unclear and confusion abounds. Be certain by knowing the heart of God for your people and community. Have a plan and be decisive with it. Otherwise, people will find another path to follow.

### Obstacle Number Six: A Lack of Corporate Prayer and Fasting

Prayer and fasting opens the hearts of those who participate to hear clearly what God is saying and doing. When prayer and fasting are centered on what we believe is God’s direction, then we will begin to be united on the strategies and plans necessary to get the job done. A lack of prayer and fasting by the congregation will keep things vague and volatile never leading to positive results.

### Obstacle Number Seven: Improper Motives for Growth

It is sad when a church takes on a corporate mindset that more people provide more funds to keep the machinery running. This mentality is too common and though it may lead to more people, it really doesn’t produce spiritual or healthy growth. Behind every number is a human soul in need of a holy Savior! Our motives (if based upon the Word) are for souls to be saved, sanctified and serving the Lord Jesus. Making disciples and creating community leads to building the Kingdom of God.

While these are not the only obstacles, these are some that will stand in the way of effective growth. Perhaps we will point out other obstacles in the months ahead, but for now, pay close attention to your own situation and make sure these obstacles are overcome in your life and ministry!



Randy Howard, Senior Leader  
*The Gate Church of the High Desert  
Victorville, California*



JOIN THE BROTHERS OF KMUSA AS THEY GATHER IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS OF WASHINGTON FOR A GREAT TIME OF FELLOWSHIP, FUN, FOOD AND FAITH BUILDING! MORE INFORMATION TO COME!