

## MOVEMENTS VS. METHODS

KAUAI BIBLE COLLEGE

<http://www.kauaibiblecollege.com>



# Introduction: Movements vs. Methods

Over the past couple of months, Kaua'i Bible College has conducted research on the Calvary Chapel movement.

Documenting the various methods used within this movement, we have been fascinated at the potential impact this study may have on others in ministry. In conjunction with this project, we created and administered a survey of leaders and others within Calvary Chapel with over 80 respondents.

Compiling all the data from the survey and the research, we have created a report that delineates:

- A list of survey questions
- A summary of the responses
- Potential ramifications of the responses
- And our own observations on the future of Calvary Chapel

A compilation of all survey results can be found at the end of the report document.

Realizing that the survey and report was produced in a fairly short time span, we freely acknowledge that a more thorough product could be obtained if the research and survey were conducted over a full year. While we believe the report is foundationally sound, we believe that a continued effort to secure reader comments will only strengthen the credibility of the report. Therefore, we request continued and ongoing input from each reader that has not already participated in this study.

## **The Research Team**

The primary author of the report is Josh Turansky, Director of Kaua'i Bible College. Overseeing a team of Bible college students and other Calvary Chapel leaders, Josh has been in full-time ministry since 2001, and part of the Calvary Chapel movement since 1996. Josh and his team compiled the components of the report, administered the survey, and edited the final report.

## **Purpose of the Research Project**

Representing an 'up and coming' generation of Calvary Chapel leaders, the Bible College has great interest in where the movement has come from, and where it is going. Potentially, these new leaders will have the option to either continue in the ministry of Calvary Chapel, or perhaps leave the association to work in other ministries.

During their educational experience, these students will undoubtedly be faced with questions about the Calvary Chapel philosophy of ministry. These students were not around during the 'genesis' years of the movement, nor are they able to possess first-hand knowledge of the cultural dynamics present in the movement's early years.

Potentially being raised in a Calvary Chapel fellowship, many students are coming of age and maturity in their lives that illicit questions of a "why" nature about the movement. It may be difficult to voice these questions in their home church without exciting a sense of misunderstanding or offense.

We believe that such questions are entirely appropriate, and that there is an appropriate way to address and answer student concerns. What better venue than in a Calvary Chapel Bible college to explain not only what the movement does, but why it does it. The last thing we desire is to appear prideful, critical, or contentious. We believe this report will bear out a heart that is fully appreciative of our roots and the movement itself, and seeks only to prepare the next generation of Christian leaders.

## **Movements and Methods**

The first set of questions we chose to tackle are very broad and rather basic. We decided to do research related to the work of the Holy Spirit in Calvary Chapel and the methods that were used in ministry. These two areas, movements and methods, may seem to be unrelated, but we believe they must be discussed simultaneously. The questions related to movements refer to the activity of God. The questions that relate to methods relate to the activity of man. Both God's work and man's work has happened since the beginning of Calvary Chapel. And the real question is not so much if God was working or if man was working, but rather, how do these two concepts reconcile and coexist.

Reconciling the concept of God's work and man's activity is so crucial for our Bible College students.

First, the conversation relates to expectations in ministry. We want students to have the proper expectations as they venture out into ministry. We don't want them to think that there is a special formula of methods that need to be practiced and will earn them the move of God's Spirit. But at the same time we do want their activity to be well informed and grounded in Scripture.

Second, the conversation relates to the "how to's" of ministry. By explaining the role that methods take in ministry, we are given the proper foundation for teaching the practical activity of church life. The answers also have implications on what future student's don't try in ministry. Aloha shirts don't earn you the favor of God. And modern hippies at Hait and Ashbury may not readily receive the Word of God like they did 40 years ago.

### **But, One Preliminary Question:**

Does Calvary Chapel's future really matter? Or asked in a positive way; shouldn't we be more concerned about the future of Jesus' church instead of "Calvary Chapel?"

Calvary Chapel happens to be the name given to a particular group of churches that were birthed out of the Jesus movement. The name was not even strategically designated by Pastor Chuck. Rather, the name was inherited as the name of a fellowship Pastor Chuck began to pastor in the late sixties.

So the name "Calvary Chapel" doesn't seem all that important. But we want to suggest that the name represents very important principles and the future of the Calvary Chapel movement ought to be a chief consideration for all leaders affiliated with it.

There probably will be Calvary Chapel churches in existence from now until the rapture. Church movements tend to live long lives. Take for an example the Lutherans, or Methodists. In the same way that those denominations have lived on, Calvary Chapel churches will continue on. And it is safe to say that some day in the future, if Jesus does not rapture the church soon, Calvary Chapel churches will become corrupted by men and be far from a biblical church. This is the pattern seen in almost all denominations. It is not a pleasant thought, but we can't deny this reality. It seems inevitable that the name Calvary Chapel will someday represent something none of us would be proud of.

So the question that Church History asks of us is; "How soon will Calvary Chapel go south? Will it be after two generations or thirty generations?"

At the risk of stepping on some toes let us say this: Calvary Chapel has been so focused on this generation being the final generation before the rapture, that it has not really cared about these things. The doctrine of Christ's imminent return has influenced the movement away from laying a foundation for future generations. This is seen in the realm of education, financial accountability and marriage/family training.

If Jesus does not rapture this next generation, this new generation will need to build off of the foundation they inherit from current Calvary Chapel leaders. Getting things right for this next generation is really important even while we live in anticipation of Christ's return.

So the name Calvary Chapel is not worth a nickel, but the principles represented, the equity accumulated in that name, and the lives associated with those ministries are able to be directed towards God's purposes or left alone for atrophy and compromise.

Allow us to first set the stage by defining the word movement and the word method; and then share some of the overarching questions that relate to these two themes.

**Dictionary's Definition of Movement:** a group of people working together to advance their shared political, social, or artistic ideas.

The problem with relating this definition to church movements is its emphasis on "people working". In a church movement God is working to advance his goal through human instruments. In an ironic sense the distinguishing factor of a true church movement is how much people are not working: God is working in spite of frail people.

The first great church movement is recorded in the book of Acts. God moved upon human instruments to spread the gospel all over the world.

Descriptions synonymous with church movements have been the word revival, or awakening.

There is an incredible history of church movements that can be found in recent Church History. There was the Great Awakening of 1723 which produced the Wesley brothers and George Whitefield. There was the Awakening of 1792 which birthed the modern missions movement. And there was the famous Welsh revival of 1858.

These past movements can provide for us a great deal of insight as we compare and contrast the Calvary Chapel movements next to them. Hopefully we can use some of this Church History to support the ideas that are proposed in this article.

**Dictionary's Definition of Method:** a particular form of procedure for accomplishing or approaching something, especially a systematic or established one.

The word "method" refers to the systematic activity that man does in a particular setting. We use methods all the time as we do our daily activities. I (Josh) have a particular method for making coffee in the morning. I have a method for shopping in Costco.

In Calvary Chapel we have Bible study methods like Dan Frinfrock's OICA method. We have methods for doing our worship services and planting churches. We have methods for expanding the ministry facilities.

Having defined both words lets move onto some important questions? We will first share questions related to the Calvary Chapel Movement. Second, we will share some questions related to the Calvary Chapel methods.

### **Movement Questions**

- Was the Calvary Chapel Movement an awakening/revival in the past? Or put another way; was the success of Calvary Chapel due to a unique move of God's Spirit.
- Has that movement lost steam and momentum over the last 15 years? And what would be the indicators that the movement has lost steam?
- If we can say that God worked in a unique way by His Spirit during the first 15 years of Calvary Chapel's history, but is no longer working in the same way, what changed?
- And if God's Spirit is no longer moving in the same way, should we be concerned, blame men, complain, or get frustrated?
- Should we try to regain that unique blessing or just be content with how God is working today?

### **Methods Questions**

- Why are people sometimes afraid of methods?
- What is the difference between ministry method and philosophy of ministry?
- Did Pastor Chuck have ministry methods that he followed?
- Were those methods the basis for God's work in Calvary Chapel?
- Have the Calvary Chapel methods changed over the years?
- Are those methods still relevant for ministry now even if the movement has lost steam?

### **Getting Answers**

Some of those questions were asked and answered by those who participated in the online survey. No doubt the reader has their own response as they read those questions. But before we get into the results of the survey or other answers that are currently being suggested, we wanted to look back in Calvary Chapel's history and see what has been said regarding these questions in the past.

At the writing of this report the only access we have to the answers of CC founders is by reading what they have written in books, said at conferences, and shared in conversations. This is one of the areas of this report where there will be apparent holes. It takes a lot of time and research to gather the valuable perspectives of those who were vital to Calvary Chapel's first 40 years. We hope that there will be helpful follow up information provided to authors after this report is released.

### **Chuck Smith on the Holy Spirit and the Calvary Chapel Movement:**

It seems pretty clear that Pastor Chuck believed that what happened in Calvary Chapel was a unique move of God's Spirit. He does not view the movement as a "normal" ministry experience. Here are some quotes that we found.

“As I describe to you the explosion of church growth that happened in the Calvary Chapel movement, I speak as a spectator. If there is any credit to be give, it belongs to God alone.”

- Harvest, pp. 9

“Those pictures in Look, Life, Time, and Newsweek magazines of our massive Calvary Chapel baptisms in the Pacific Ocean resemble a human harvest field. Literally thousand of people can be seen crowding the shores waiting to be baptized. Images like these illustrate that this is a colossal phenomenon as far as churches go.”

- Harvest, pp. 9

“There was a vital sense of God stepping into the picture and as lives changed before our eyes. The sense of being in the middle of a miracle kept feeding itself like a bonfire.”

- Harvest, pp. 11

By using words like explosion, colossal phenomenon, and miracle it seems clear that Pastor Chuck credited the growth of Calvary Chapel to a unique work of God’s Spirit.

#### **Chuck Smith on the Calvary Chapel methods:**

What about methods? Has Pastor Chuck ever said anything about ministry methods or practical ways of doing ministry? Here is what we found:

“We are convinced that the concepts that the Lord has taught us in forty years of ministry are transferable to others. If followed, these principles can help build strong churches all over the country.”

- Harvest, pp. 2

“I have always felt it important to maintain a sense of intimate fellowship. For this reason, the building was designed with pillars and beams that break up the sanctuary into segments of two hundred to five hundred seats so that each person has the feeling of being in a congregation rather than in a large crowded auditorium.”

- Harvest, pp. 13

“Calvary Chapel never asks for money. We avoid pressuring our members for ‘faith pledges’ and no appeal for funds is ever made over our radio or television outreaches. Our feeling is that begging for money brings discredit to God.”

- Harvest, pp. 14

#### **Chuck Smith on the balance between man’s activity (methods) and God’s activity (the movement):**

So we have seen the Pastor Chuck believed that the Calvary Chapel movement was a unique work of God’s Spirit. And we have seen that he had some basic methods that he employed as he did ministry. But how did these two concepts of movement and method find reconciliation? Here is what Pastor Chuck had to say:

Chuck Smith said regarding the possibility of turning away anyone with bare fee: “I am sure that the flow of God’s grace would have gone from a gush to a trickle if we had been that shallow.”

- Harvest, pp. 36

“God has opened the floodgates and shown us harvest field after harvest field. We have learned that if we do not erect any barriers, and if we surrender our lives to Christ’s purpose, there seems to be almost no limit to His grace.”

- Harvest, pp. 37

“We are convinced that when the Church becomes what God intended it to be, God will do through the Church what He has always desired to do... He desires to bless us if we will only but hear His voice.”

- Harvest, pp. 2

“In Calvary Chapel we find the teaching of the Word, and an open heart to the work of the Holy Spirit. It is this balance that makes Calvary Chapel a distinct and uniquely blessed movement of God.”

- Calvary Chapel Distinctives, pp. 1

So it would seem that Pastor Chuck believes that if a church does the right methods they too will experience a unique move of God’s Spirit. And it is clear that Chuck looks to the Bible (especially the book of Acts) to establish what methods should be employed in ministry.

But when we read this we are struck by a new question: “If doing ministry with the right methods brings about a move of God’s Spirit what does that mean for today? If the movement has lost steam then there seems to be two options. First option, Pastor Chuck is wrong to believe that right methods result in a move of God’s Spirit. Or the second option; Calvary Chapels are missing something in their methods and consequently God is not blessing the movement.

Again, this brings to the forefront the urgency of these questions as we disciple young adults to be the next wave of Calvary Chapel leaders. These young leaders need to know what to emulate and what to skip.

### **Survey Answers**

Starting September 29, 2009 we opened a survey to the public related to these questions. This survey dealt with the past, the present and the future. It was very interesting to see how people are interpreting the history of Calvary Chapel. And we found it shocking how many people viewed the future with skepticism. The full results from that survey can be found at the end of this report. But lets look at some of the key results that came out of that survey.

One of the first questions we asked was “Do you believe that Calvary Chapel's success can be attributed to an unusual or extra work of God's Spirit?” This was a very basic question which asked the individual to give their interpretation on history. We found that 71% answered in the positive. More than two thirds of the people who took the survey believed that God had worked in a miraculous way to bring about the great success of Calvary Chapel.

The second question was “On a scale of 1 to 5 how similar would you rate the work of God's Spirit today within the Calvary Chapel movement to the early days of the movement.” Number 5 represented perfect similarity, and number 1 represented complete dissimilarity. To this question the most popular answer (37%) rated the movement at a “3” or in the middle. Nearly 44% of those who responded to this question rated the current work of God’s Spirit in the Calvary Chapel movement at a 2 or below. This means that 44% believe that there is barely any similarity between Calvary Chapel today and the original work.

The third question "If you believe that the current work of the Holy Spirit in the Calvary Chapel movement is not the same as the early days, do you believe that leadership could make a change to reinstate the work of the Holy Spirit?" To that question 62% of those who responded said "yes", leadership could make changes that would be successful.

The fourth question asked "Do you believe that Pastor Chuck Smith has a method in his ministry?" And to this question we got a strong positive answer. 93% of those who responded said yes, Pastor Chuck has methods for ministry.

The fifth question asked "If you do believe that Pastor Chuck Smith has a method for ministry, do you believe that it is still valid for a church plant today?" To this question 66% said "yes" Pastor Chucks methods are valid for today.

For question six we asked people to pick what they believed was the most important component of Pastor Chuck's ministry philosophy. Some of the less popular choices were Chuck's view of the Holy Spirit, his openness to contemporary worship, his eschatology, his emphasis on evangelism. The answer that 61% of individuals supported was Pastor Chuck's exaltation of God's Word in the Worship Service.

The last question we asked was "Do you believe Calvary Chapel's best days are ahead or behind us?" The answer was surprising and admittedly sad. 69% of those who answered said that Calvary Chapel's best days are behind us. Only 31% of those who responded had optimism about Calvary Chapel's future.

### **Answering These Questions Today**

Finally, lets consider some of these questions from a present day perspective.

*Was the Calvary Chapel Movement an awakening/revival in the past? Or put another way; was the success of Calvary Chapel due to a unique move of God's Spirit.*

We agree with the majority of those who responded to the survey and with what Pastor Chuck wrote in Harvest. The Calvary Chapel movement was a display of God's power to save masses and mature believers in their faith. Only God could work in such a powerful way.

But we also found that the Jesus movement predated Calvary Chapel. Throughout the sixties God was drawing many young adults to himself. It appears that Pastor Chuck obeyed the Lord in forming Calvary Chapel to be a church home for this movement. He did this through a specific philosophy of ministry that created practical methods for ministry.

This is consistent with the history of movements. Typically church denominations and charismatic leaders are birthed out of movements rather than starting the movement itself. George Whitfield, the Wesley brothers, and the Methodist were the result of 1727 awakening. The modern missions movement was birthed out of the 1792 awakening.

So Calvary Chapel is the product of a movement started by God among a generation of young adults in the late sixties and early seventies. God started it, formed it, and raised up leaders to serve in it. It reminds me (Josh) of 1 Corinthians 3-4 where Paul explains man's role in God's work. Both of these chapters are incredibly relevant to this article, but in 1 Corinthians 4:7 Paul asks; "For who makes you differ from another? And what do you have that you did not receive? Now if you did indeed receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?"

*Has the movement lost steam and momentum over the last 15 years? And what would be the indicators that the movement has lost steam?*

We would say "yes" the movement has lost steam over the last 15 years. The reason why we believe this has a lot to do with our perspective. We are working with Calvary Chapel young adults as well as young adults from other denominations. Mind you, young adults were the epicenter of God's work during the Jesus movement. And this is typical in most church movements. God grabs a hold of the 20 somethings and radically infuses them with conviction and power.

There are a number of interesting observations that we have made over the last few years as we have worked with young adults.

First, the number of young adults coming out of Calvary Chapel and attending the CCBC program has been dropping gradually over the last few years. Almost all CCBC campuses are 3/4 full. Some would say that there are more campuses so the same number of people are spread out. But we believe that there is actually a decline in attendance. This means that less young adults are looking to Calvary Chapel for their Christian education. Calvary Chapel Bible College is partly to blame in that it is not an option for a wide variety of individuals. But even if the CCBC's program were off the charts, there are fewer young adults interested in this option.

Second, the age of the student coming to the Bible College dramatically shifted in the late 1990s. We don't know why this shift took place, but in the late 90s the average Bible College students age dropped. Many more high school graduates began attending the college and the older crowd (mid twenties) disappeared. For some reason these mid twenty somethings went away. This shift should have sent off warning bells in the Calvary Chapel movement and the Bible College movement, but 10 years later it has gone unnoticed.

Third, the caliber of students that were attending the Bible College dropped. Tied in with this fact was the lack of distinction between kids raised in Calvary Chapels verse kids raised in other denominations. For the sake of the reader let me distinguish between a high caliber student and low caliber student. A low caliber student is lacking spiritual zeal, they are not whole heartedly seeking the Lord, they tend to be emotionally driven rather than Spirit led. And they don't tend to be all that fruitful when they get out of Bible College. A high caliber student is earnestly seeking the Lord, has committed their life to serving the Lord, and they are fruitful while in school and beyond.

The number of high caliber students attending the Bible College has dropped to a desperately low number. And it reflects on the entire Calvary Chapel movement. We don't believe this is any one persons fault. But we do believe that the spiritual tide has or is going out and it is evident in Calvary Chapel as well as other Christian groups.

So, yes, we believe that the Spiritual movement that began back in the 60s and 70s has lost steam and we are not seeing the same powerful work of God as was seen 15 years ago.

*If we can say that God worked in a unique way by His Spirit during the first 15 years of Calvary Chapel's history, but is no longer working in the same way, what changed?*

There are three options in answering this question. The first option is that Calvary Chapels changed and so they stopped receiving the blessing of God. The second option is that God mysteriously determines the rise and fall of movements and has seen fit to slow the Calvary Chapel movement. And the third option is a combination of the first two.

There seems to be a group of Calvary Chapel haters (especially evident on the internet) that pick option one. They blame Calvary Chapel for changing or hindering the blessing of God. In their eyes Calvary Chapel has grieved the Holy Spirit and so God is no longer able to bless the movement. We have read accusations about corruption amongst leaders, abuse of power, the deemphasis of the Holy Spirit, the lack of speaking in tongues as potential reasons for God's blessing being taken away.

The authors of this article don't equate Calvary's weaknesses with the slowing of the movement. We recognize that man's actions can cause God's glory to depart. Even Chuck suggested this in his book Harvest. But we just don't think Calvary is there yet.

When we looked back at the history of church movements we found that God allows the spiritual tide to go in and out. Both the ebb and flow of God's spirit seems mysterious. The fact that God is blessing is plain and evident. But the reason for these movements starting or slowing down seem to be hidden.

Below, we write more about changing methods to obey God in a current generation. But for now, we will just say, we don't blame the current spiritual state of the movement on man's failures.

This leads us to the next question: *if God's Spirit is no longer moving in the same way, should we be concerned, blame men, complain, or get frustrated?*

Yes, we should be concerned. No, we should not blame men. We should not complain or get frustrated. Instead we should ask God to give us personal revival.

This question has been posed by so many fervent Bible College students. They see the spiritual lack amongst their peers. They hear the stories of great revivals. They want to see God work again. But their remedy is to beat others up spiritually. They give messages that are cut and pasted from Lenard Ravenhill's book; *Why Revival Terries*.

But spiritual awakenings starts with individuals who are yielded to God, and seeking personal revival. So often the personal testimony of God pouring out his Spirit on the individual will cause others to hunger and thirst for a similar work. The words of Evan Roberts comes to mind "Lord bend me."

Now, lets move into questions related to methods. You will recall that the questions related to methods have to do with the activity of men. We already quoted Pastor Chuck on the subject of methods. And we provided the results of our survey related to methods. It seems fair to say that Calvary Chapel leaders have created and followed methods since the beginning. But there still seems to be some questions related to methods that we would like to explore further in this article.

*Why does there tend to be a fear of methods within Calvary Chapel?*

Some of the readers are thinking "what fear of methods?" On the surface Calvary Chapel seems to embrace methods readily. We see this when it hosts its weekly worship services. There seems to be methods for preaching, leading worship, and for setting up a facility. Someone new to Calvary Chapel would not necessarily recognize a fear of methods. It is only when you get into the arena of training that the fear of methods really comes to the surface. How many practical steps have you heard a Calvary Chapel leader give related to finances, dating, marriage, parenting, leadership development? I (Josh) know that over the 15 years I have participating in Calvary Chapel ministries I have not heard very many practical "how to" methods related to these areas.

This was illustrated poignantly one day when I was listening to a small radio station doing an interview with a Calvary pastor about parenting. The host of the show was asking the pastor question after question about how to handle different parenting issues. The answer that the pastor had over and over was "It is only by the grace of God that you will be able to handle that." The host pressed further looking for something more concrete and again the pastor said, "Well God will give that parent grace to know what to do."

Hopefully we all agree that it is only by God's grace that parenting, leadership, or any other activity is accomplished. But is that all we are taught about God's grace in the Bible? 2 Corinthians answers that questions mightily. The whole book puts on display how God's grace became a concrete action in Paul's ministry. Take for example 2 Corinthians 6. In verse one Paul talks about being a worker with God and receiving God's grace for that calling. In verses three through ten Paul explains how God's grace was practically manifested in his life.

One Calvary Chapel pastor that seemed to break the anti-method mold was Brian Brodersen. A few years back, Brian had the guts to suggest that a pastor should shave before he goes into the pulpit and should spend time studying before they preach. Brian wasn't suggesting that a clean shaven face will gain a pastor God's favor, but he was saying that being well kept will commend the gospel to those who are listening. It is practical, concrete actions like this that God uses in accomplishing ministry.

Brian has written two excellent books that relate to this subject. *Excellence in Ministry*, and *Essentials in Ministry*. Both books suggest some very practical methods for ministry in a balanced way.

Lets return to the core question; "Why are people afraid of methods?" There seems to be a fear of getting concrete and practical. There seem to be a few different reason for why people fear methods. Some of these concerns are valid and others are not. Here are a few of those reasons:

The first reason people fear methods is because they think that methods are in conflict with the leading of the Holy Spirit. The method is thought to be rigid, but the leading of the Spirit is like the wind blowing where it wills.

The second reason people fear methods is because they tend to think that methods originate in the minds of men, rather than the mind of God.

Third, methods are often routine actions and the work of God's Spirit in the Bible seems to be anything but routine.

And the fourth reason that people fear methods is because sometimes those methods turn into tradition that cannot be changed no matter what.

Having recently read Pastor Chuck's autobiography it would appear that this fear of methods is directly inherited from Pastor Chuck's ministry experience. He came out of a rigid ministry experience that emphasized old methods intending to appeal to man's carnal nature. And those methods became traditions as the years went on.

This real life examples out of Chuck's life highlight two real problems with methods. The first potential problem arises when methods are developed by men's brains and appeal to the carnal nature of man. These methods are probably not the "method" of Jesus building his church. Second, methods that are rigid and formulaic often turn into traditions that cannot be deviated from.

But we also see the right approach to methods in Pastor Chuck's life. In the mid 60's Chuck had revelation from the Holy Spirit on different methods for doing church. The Holy Spirit illuminated specific scriptures that lead to the development of excellent ministry methods.

The next question splits some important hairs. *What is the difference between ministry methods and a philosophy of ministry?*

We are so glad you asked? Methods refer to activity. A philosophy of ministry are the principles behind the methods. A method is the result of applying a principle. In the realm of science we have the principle of gravity. And the principle of gravity births the method of careful walking when close to a cliff, or real good safety checks before you fly an airplane.

Philosophies of ministry are the core principles that give birth to all kinds of methods. Here are some examples of this in Calvary Chapel.

Pastor Chuck believed that God would use simple Bible teaching to work in peoples lives. The method that resulted was weekly verse-by-verse teaching.

Pastor Chuck believed that the Holy Spirit wanted to work in natural ways through young adults. The method that resulted was to treat young adults with the expectation and appreciation that God's Spirit was truly working and wanting to empower them for ministry. Young adults were placed into ministry.

Pastor Chuck believed that God loved the hippie culture and had a plan for them. The method that resulted was that Chuck welcomed those hippies into the church even though it would conflict with other church members.

I don't want to toot our horn too loud, but this is one of the great realities of Pastor Chuck's leadership. He read the Bible in a simple way. He recognized that the principles taught in the Bible were simple. And it lead to a simple method, done in faith, believing that God would bless.

So verse-by-verse teaching is not a dogma of church practice, but it is a wonderful method birthed out of faith in principles related to God's word. The same is the case with afterglows or contemporary worship music. These methods are not absolute, hard and fast, traditions that cannot be changed. But they do represent simple application of biblical principles. The principles do not change because they are the Word of God.

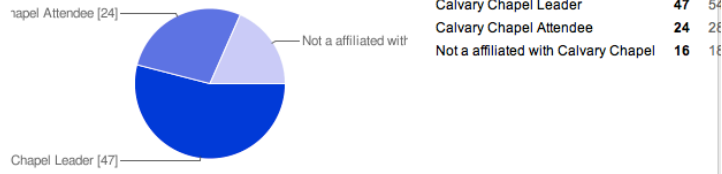
**Conclusion**

How we interpret the history of Calvary Chapel is crucial for our future decisions. We have looked at the movement of Calvary Chapel, and the methods that Calvary Chapel reemphasized.

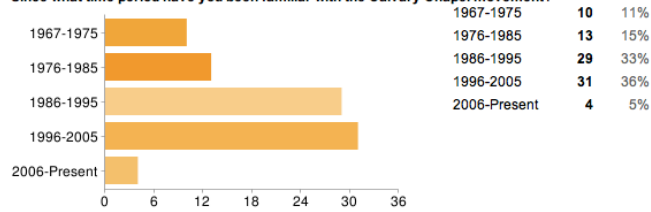
We now have a new generation of lives filling the sanctuaries that the Jesus people paid for. We have camps and Bible Colleges that train these young lives. This younger generation needs to see Holy Spirit inspired methods, and needs to experience a personal revival if Calvary Chapel is to benefit Jesus' church over the next 40 years.

## Summary [See complete responses](#)

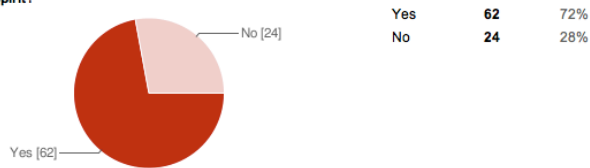
### Define your relationship to Calvary Chapel



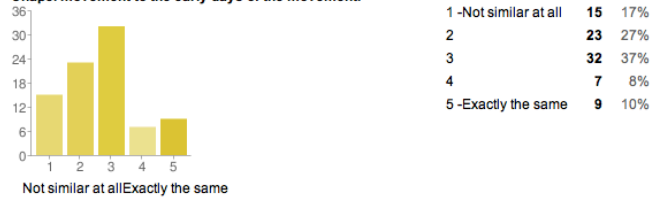
### Since what time period have you been familiar with the Calvary Chapel movement?



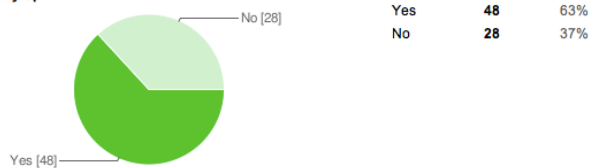
### Do you believe that Calvary Chapel's success can be attributed to an unusual or extra work of God's Spirit?



### On a scale of 1 to 5 how similar would you rate the work of God's Spirit today within the Calvary Chapel movement to the early days of the movement.



### If you believe that the current work of the Holy Spirit in the Calvary Chapel movement is not the same as the early days, do you believe that leadership could make a change to reinstate the work of the Holy Spirit??



Do you believe that Pastor Chuck Smith has a method in his ministry?

Yes	81	93%
No	6	7%

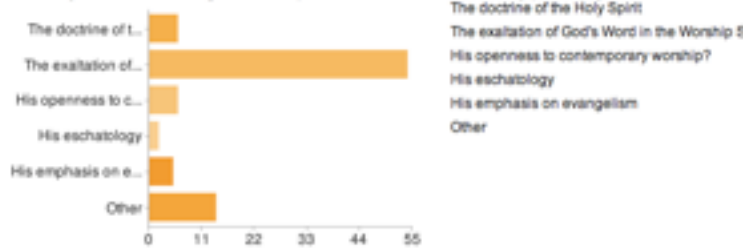


If you do believe that Pastor Chuck Smith has a method for ministry, do you believe that it is still valid for a church plant today?

Yes	52	66%
No	27	34%



What do you believe was the greatest component of Pastor Chuck's ministry philosophy?



Do you believe Calvary Chapel's best days are ahead or behind us?

Ahead of us	25	31%
Behind us	56	69%



Number of daily responses

