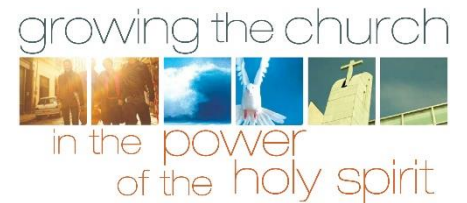


## Video 2B

# Foundation #2 – Churches who are growing to fullness in Christ



## Leaders are Jesus' gift to his Church

Ephesians 4:7-8, 11-13

Task includes:

### Prepare God's people for works of service

- ❖ Training for tackling the task
- ❖ Making sure people are equipped by the Holy Spirit's anointing

### Growing people's **unity in the faith**

- ❖ Creates a safe context for growing in the Spirit
- ❖ Satan works to destroy unity, divide church, promoting division

### Growing people's **knowledge of the Son of God**

- ❖ Matthew 17:5 – "Listen to him!"
- ❖ See how he ministered in the power of the Spirit

### Growing people in the **whole measure** of the **fullness** of Christ, including...

- ❖ Being born again – Incorporation
- ❖ Fruit of the Spirit – Transformation
- ❖ Unity in the faith & knowledge of the Son of God – Information
- ❖ Baptism with the Spirit – Empowerment

## 'Gateways' for congregations

Examples from Acts

- ❖ Pentecost (Acts 2) – Peter's message
- ❖ Samaria (Acts 8) – Philip, Peter & John

## Create the spiritual context

### ❖ Reality-shaping prayer

“Words fail to express how necessary prayer is, and in how many ways the exercise of prayer is profitable.” **John Calvin, Institutes 3.20.2**

### ❖ Balanced Biblical teaching about:

- Entering the Kingdom of God
- Encountering the Holy Spirit

## Open gateways for the Spirit's anointing

“...you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off – for all whom the Lord our God will call.” **Acts 2:38-39**

Don't deprive people of this promise!

- ❖ Take people to where the fire is burning
- ❖ Bring the flame into the local church
- ❖ Fanning the flame in everyday Church life
- ❖ Lay hands on people and pray for them to receive the Spirit