



PRESS RELEASE



For release 29 October 2009

MINISTER Takes a Page from Michelangelo

If you walked into a church service and saw someone painting a depiction of “The Last Supper” you could be excused for thinking that you were watching Michelangelo at his work. However, when the painter is actually New Zealander Phil Pringle and he begins to share the gospel of Jesus Christ at the same time, you would probably be at a loss for words. To understand the man it is necessary to understand that this preacher actually started out at Art College in the 1970’s. After discovering faith in Jesus Christ while studying he forsook that career path. The result of this is that he started what became known as The Christian City Church Oxford Falls in Australia. That was in 1980 and Phil’s goal for the year 2020 is to have planted 1000 CCC churches, or C3 churches, as they are now known.

The U. K. based TV and film production company OLI Productions (the media arm of a British leadership training charity HFC International) caught up with the Pastor from “down under” at C3’s first European conference in Amsterdam, Holland. Producer David Sullivan explains: “Phil was holding a first-of-its-kind European Conference when we caught up with him. He graciously shared with us and our TV audience from his years of experience leading this unique movement of both creative and non-creative people from different backgrounds and levels of society.” However, his churches look far from “the norm”. Due to his background in art and his training school for sharing faith in the creative arts, one is more likely to be seated in one of his churches next to an artist or an actor than in any other church. Youtube has a wide selection of the Pastor’s films sharing both his art and his faith. Another Australian based church movement called Hillsong is well known for its musical talent and output. This has led some describing the C3 churches as “Hillsong with art”.

Phil Pringle was being interviewed for the international TV programme “Principles of Leadership” which is currently being aired on more than twenty independent TV networks worldwide including SAT 7, Shine TV, CNL and The Miracle Channel. Previous guests have included well known Christian leaders and personalities such as Andrew Wommack, Anne Graham Lotz (daughter of evangelist Billy Graham), author Joyce Meyer, former Archbishop of Canterbury George Carey, “The Heavenly Man” Brother Yun.

Harvest Fields Commissioning International is a U. K. Registered Charity with the purpose of assisting in raising up and encouraging churches and leaders in over 45 countries and on all 5 continents for work in churches, charities and other humanitarian assistance groups. Its websites are at: <http://www.agapelive.net> and <http://www.hfci.net>.