

FORTY TRENDS BACK TO SIMPLICITY

Rethinking the Nature & Function of Ekklesia By Robert Fitts

1. **From the sanctuaries to the streets**
2. **From Christianity to Christ** (Not a philosophy or a system, but Christ in you!)
3. **From church houses to house churches** (simplify to multiply)
4. **From upward to outward growth** (Plan to have a church split! You'll be blessed!)
5. **From paid pastors to common, ordinary tentmakers** (rejecting the clergy/laity system)
6. **From a special priesthood to a priesthood of all believers**
7. **From hierarchy to servant leaders**
8. **From weekly worship to constant worship** (Worship is more than singing. Rom. 12:1-2)
9. **From bringing people to church to bringing church to people**
10. **From symbolism to substance in the Lord's Supper** (take it often)
11. **From denominations to Spirit-led networks** (Identify with the whole Body of Christ)
12. **From social respectability to SALT & LIGHT**
13. **From performance by professionals to I Cor. 14:26** (everyone has something to share)
14. **From program based to home based church**
15. **From the seminary system to the apprentice system** (2 Timothy 2:2)
16. **From tenth to total in our giving**
17. **From selective submission to total submission** (every authority, everywhere, all the time)
18. **From titles to function** (call no man teacher, father, Rabbi. e.g Paul, an apostle)
19. **From independence to inter-dependence** (embrace the city-wide church)
20. **From paper membership to Body membership** (we ARE members one of another)
21. **From the wheel to the vine** (releasing teams to plant simple churches in homes)
22. **From organizational unity to spiritual unity** (there is one step to unity - Rom. 14:1, 15:7)
23. **From Safeway-OR-7/11 to Safeway-AND-7/11** (embrace everything that God embraces)
24. **From "Us and them" to just "Us"**
25. **From planned church to spontaneous church**
26. **From bondage to freedom for women** (Acts 2:17-18, Gal. 3:26-28)
27. **From presbytery without the people to presbytery with the people** (Acts 15:22)
28. **From arbitrary guidelines to biblical guidelines for appointing elders** (I Tim. 3, Titus 1)
29. **From "my pastor" to "my pastors"** (MR. PASTOR, TEAR DOWN THESE WALLS!)
30. **From raising up leaders to appointing servants**
31. **From local vision to world vision**
32. **From building my kingdom to building His kingdom**
33. **From wall-wide church to city-wide church** ("they filled Jerusalem with their teaching")
34. **From fear of stealing sheep to fear of possessing sheep** (Acts 20:28-31)
35. **From building-centered pastors to people-centered pastors** (Acts 20:28-31)
36. **From using the word "church" to using the phrase the Body of Christ** (Acts 19:32-41)
37. **From restricted to unhindered fellowship** (I am a member of every church in town.)
38. **From overwhelming oversight to restful oversight** (a la starter motor)
39. **From lecture Bible study to interactive Bible study** (the Body ministering to itself)
40. **From dependence on programs to dependence on prayer** (the Acts 4:29-30 kind)