

# Joy Night 2009!

## A Night to Remember

### **Celebrating Kingdom Relationships**

ICHC Joy Night participants just had the most splendid time in a Spirit filled environment where Christians from many continents, races, cultures and ethnicities came together in unity to celebrate Jesus!

We had the opportunity to give thanks to the Lord for such a varied and tasty international buffet contributed by all participants expressing the culinary skills. The joy of everyone was felt throughout the room. There was no need to use “Ice Breakers” because though the night was a little cold, the hearts of the participants were warm and joyful.

There were three occasions when participants had table talk conversations center on releasing ourselves into praise and worship.

#### **Scripture Focus:**

The first scripture focus led by Bishop Bobby Holmes was based on Isaiah 65:8 We want to praise the Lord for an Awesome Joy Night, Monday December 7, 2009 Once more, this diverse and rich multicultural experience allowed us to know each other better and to learn more about each other’s food, cultures, mores, spiritual gifts, skills and strengths.

#### **Understanding the Multicultural Kingdom Relationships**

We have a blessing in our midst when we come together in unity in the name of Jesus to honor and exalt the King of kings and Lord of lords. Joy Night is one of those rare occasions in the Washington Metropolitan area, when church representing many nations tongues and many peoples groups Christians of all walks of life come together to enjoy the fellowship, share our spiritual experience freely with the opportunity to learn from others as they share with us.

#### **Small Group Dialogue:**

Each group named a representative who shared the collective thinking and common threads of the dialogue.

#### **The Now Generation.**

The representative indicated that his group was concerned about the similarity of the church with the world. There was not much difference. He said pastors have forgotten to emphasize holiness, purity, chastity. They are more concerned about the numbers and having young people content rather than disciplining them to be the next leaders of the church. Adults must take responsibility for the destiny of the children of this and upcoming generations.

**Small Group Dialogue continued:** Sampling of the uniqueness of each culture

**The African Group**

Pastor Kwasi Gyimah, the representative indicated that despite the fact the West has always called Africa, the Dark Continent Africans have always believed in one supreme God. The apostolic movement began in Africa with signs and wonders. Still today those manifestations are revealed because since there are not many doctors or hospitals; people pray asking God for healing, for provision, for everything they need and he abundantly provides for them what they ask. Africans are people of great faith, fervent prayers and rhythmic percussion expression.

**The India Group**

Dr. Abraham Moses, the representative for this group indicated that despite the fact that Indian believe in more than four million 896 thousand gods and were Hindus; Christianity has continued to grow. Many signs and wonders are being manifested all over in India. They are very serious about believing in God's power to help them and deliver them from whatever is needed. A very moral people; very sacrificial as needed for the education and protection of their children.

**The Caucasian Group**

The spokesman, Tom Corcoran indicated that there are multiple gifts in their body of Christ and that people should become freer using them. Bill Shobe reported other unique gift were systematic study and teaching of the word, bible translation/distribution and multi-media presentation,

**The Asian Group**

The Asian group was the most diversified: representatives from China, Korea and the Philippines. The reporter pastor Steve Eun, indicated that the gospel in Korea and around the Asian region is growing as a wild fire and that people are accepting the gospel. Korea's unique contributions early morning prayer, prayer mountains and designated public corporate prayer. China, Pastor Priscilla shared China's diversity: revival in Mainland China underground house churches in experiencing the Book of acts Walk. Not afraid of death for the gospel sake. Hong Kong commercial district. The church in Korea has the Western mindset. Thailand another Asian country is focused on engineering, economic, technology, math and logic.

**The African American Group**

Pastor Jeffrey Rogers the reporter indicated that the African American church was in process of fulfilling its destiny. In addition the group noted: The African American innate spiritual strength expressed by its spirit of endurance and survival. A deep faith in God expressive in the smile (in spite of misuse) and also, its expressive cultural creativity in the arts: music – rhythm, sewing, crafts, etc. An apostolic and prophetic compassion for preaching the Gospel was noted.

### **The Latino/Hispanic Group**

The reporter Pastor Carlos Peñaloza, indicated that Latinos are highly spiritual and strong worshippers. Many Latinos receive Christ in the United States. They become pastors, church leaders and active members. Some of them return to their countries and support ministries. They are hard workers and family oriented.

In closing we prayed and everyone joined hands singing the Song: I Need You to Survive  
by Hezekiah Walker

I pray for you, you pray for me  
I love you, I need you to survive.  
I won't harm you with words from my mouth  
I love you, I need you to survive.

Living **warm** and assured of enduring relationships!

**Wow!**