Introduce yourself to the people at your table

- Name
- Neighborhood
- Number of years at ACOG
SPIRITUAL IN NATURE – CIVIC IN EXECUTION

NO ONE ELSE IS COMING!
WHAT IS THE MISSION OF “THE CHURCH”?

- To witness to what we have seen and what Jesus will show us.

**ACTS 26:16-18**

16 ...for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee... unto whom now I send thee, 18 To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.
WHAT IS THE MISSION OF “THE CHURCH”?

- To rescue those we can in this space of grace.

**Ezra 9:7-8**

7 Since the days of our fathers have we been in a great trespass unto this day; and for our iniquities have we, our kings, and our priests, been delivered into the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity, and to a spoil, and to confusion of face, as it is this day. 8 And now for a little space grace hath been shewed from the Lord our God... that our God may lighten our eyes, and give us a little reviving in our bondage.
WHAT ARE THE COMMUNITY’S SPIRITUAL ISSUES?

- Spiritual Blindness

2 CORINTHIANS 4:3-4

3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.
WHAT ARE THE COMMUNITY’S SPIRITUAL ISSUES?

- Spiritual Oppression

**EPHESIANS 2:1-2**

1. And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; 2. Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:
WHAT ARE THE COMMUNITY’S SOCIAL ISSUES?

Education

- School funding
- School closings

Economic Development

- Unemployment
- Scarcity of black-owned businesses
- Lack of government contracts
WHAT ARE THE COMMUNITY’S SOCIAL ISSUES?

Public Safety
- Gang and gun violence
- Drug houses
- Police brutality

Health & Human Services
- Repeal of Obamacare
- Cuts in social and mental health services
- Unequal access to quality care
WHAT IS APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF GOD’S RESPONSE?

- Establishing a support system

ACTS 6:1-3

1And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration... 3Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.
WHAT IS APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF GOD’S RESPONSE?

- Addressing principalities & powers

**EXODUS 3:7-10**

7 And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; 8 And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians... 10 Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.
WHAT IS APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF GOD'S RESPONSE?
WHAT IS THE EVANGELISM OF GRACE (EOG)?

Evangelism of Grace is a spiritually focused initiative that provides planning, training and support, to people of faith and others, who are striving to bring their community’s back to a place that is vibrant, safe and nurturing.
WHY ARE WE DOING THE EOG?

It’s in the DNA of our Church!

MISSION STATEMENT – PARAGRAPH #3
“It is essential that we nourish and cultivate the Christian lives of our parishioners; that we concern ourselves with giving aid and comfort to the poor, to work for better living conditions in society in general, and in our community in particular. In order to effectuate this purpose, the ministries and auxiliaries of the Apostolic Church of God were founded.”
WHY ARE WE DOING THE EOG?

It’s the Call God has Placed upon the Leadership of our Church!
WHY ARE WE DOING THE EOG?

Our communities are suffering under spiritual and societal oppression!

IT’S NO ACCIDENT - IT’S BY DESIGN!
WHY ARE WE DOING THE EOG?

To fulfill our calling to go outside the walls of our Church and into our communities with an Evangelism of Grace that strengthens our communities, improves safety, and provides spiritual and social support to our people!

NO ONE ELSE IS COMING!
WHY ARE WE DOING THE EOG?

- We understand this is not a carnal war, it’s a spiritual war!

**EPHESIANS 6:12**

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
WHY ARE WE DOING THE EOG?

- We understand **spiritual war requires spiritual weapons!**

2 CORINTHIANS 10:4

4 For the **weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.**
WHY ARE WE DOING THE EOG?

- We understand **no amount** of governmental policies, social service programs or police, will restore and repair our communities!

Only an Evangelism of Grace will work!
HOW WILL WE RESPOND?

Prayer Vigils

Prayer Visits
HOW WILL WE RESPOND?

Organizing our Community

Mobilizing our Community
GOD GAVE THE PASTOR THE VISION TO ORGANIZE BY ZIP CODES TO CARRY OUT OUR CALLING.
OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS WE WILL BEGIN
ESTABLISHING COMMUNITY LIFE TEAMS (CLT)!

Who are they?

Saints that live in the Community, Good Life
Graduates, other Residents and Stake Holders
QUESTIONS
CLT PLANNING SESSIONS

Planning Session 1

Town Hall Workshop
• Date TBD

Team Building Workshop
• Date TBD

Planning Session 2
• Date TBD

Planning Session 3
• Date TBD
TEAM BUILDING EXERCISE

- Discuss the major spiritual issues in your community
- Discuss the major social issues in your community
- Save some time to pray together for your community
We'd love your feedback! Please take a few minutes to complete this short assessment.

1. I have a clear understanding of the Evangelism of Grace.
   - [ ] Strongly agree  [ ] Somewhat agree  [ ] Somewhat disagree  [ ] Strongly disagree
   If disagree, please explain:

2. As a result of today’s meeting, what is your understanding of the Evangelism of Grace?

3. I can explain the Evangelism of Grace to someone else?
   - [ ] Strongly agree  [ ] Somewhat agree  [ ] Somewhat disagree  [ ] Strongly disagree
   If disagree, please explain:

4. I understand why the Evangelism of Grace is necessary?
   - [ ] Strongly agree  [ ] Somewhat agree  [ ] Somewhat disagree  [ ] Strongly disagree
   If disagree, please explain:

5. What would best motivate you to get involved with the Evangelism of Grace?