

# Ministry of Helps - (Practical Ministries)

## CATERING & HOSPITALITY

*“These notes have been produced from within the boundaries of my experience & revelation. I have gained this understanding predominantly thru my Serving in Catering & Hospitality at Southside. I have discovered many principles, in catering, that would be difficult to see in other departments.*

*I asked the Lord to use me in an area that I couldn't do, because (I thought):*

*I didn't need to be a Christian to do what I could do, and I wanted to see God's Supernatural involvement.”*

*Kevin Cramp – Southside Christian Centre July 1999*

**The Lord is lifting up Churches to be an example, like Israel was to the Nations.**

I believe **Southside** is such a Church. A Church that is being used to impact, provoke and excite the Body of Christ into action, lifting and setting standards, changing the image of the Church. I have been aware of His hand upon this area of service.

**“The Bride is about to put her bridal gown on “.**

A bride is not a bride until she is wearing her wedding clothes.

Not until she looks like a bride.

There is something about the attractiveness of a bride. All eyes are drawn towards her. Any flaws in character or past wrong doings are forgotten in the radiance of her beauty. Such is the hour for we the Church, the Lord's Bride. We are about to be adorned.

He is doing a new thing, we cannot afford to be set in our ways.

We must be open and teachable, **leaning on Him and being led by Him.**

The practical Ministries are integral in making the **Bride look attractive.**

They are the helping, feeding, working, loving hands in the natural which will display His ways and love, attracting the lost & needy to Him.

**Catering & Hospitality is a unique area of service.**

- It is a **tool for evangelism.**
- It is a focal point to **build relationships** and therefore **unity.**
- It **breaks down barriers.**
- It **displays His Nature** in excellence, provision, liberality, generosity, and service, encouraging and lifting up, spoiling and making people feel special.
- It is a great **training ground in servanthood.**
- It is **fun!**
- Food & drink is a cornerstone of our natural existence. **We work to eat.**  
It is appreciated. **Your presentation of it will impact.**

The initial resources allocated to this area were low, but committed.

There needs to be a **commitment from the Top** if this area of service is to succeed.

We were entrusted with **complete authority** for the responsibilities of our department, which has almost endless possibilities to expand into. **There is no responsibility without Authority.**

**We did the best we could with what we were given**, putting our Heart into it.

We had **no experience in catering**, and I knew nothing about cooking and still don't.

You don't need experience, just a willing Heart to serve.

There is a **learning curve**, and over time the Lord prepares you for greater things as you faithfully serve Him..

At first, we have to gain **credibility**. There is at present, unfortunately, a **low expectation** of the Church, in general, of its' standard of excellence, and hospitality (service).

We, the Church, in many eyes are seen and treated as a Charity (in the World sense).

We are charitable, but we serve the Creator and the owner of all things. We have access to immeasurable riches.

We should resist compromising the display of God's nature by giving into lack.

During this time we had nothing but success.

The Lord revealed many principles that have proven true over and again.

Having gained credibility, 2 things changed:

1. **The focus changed to souls.**

- Even though it is indirect, we serve in an evangelistic role, we all do (or should).

- We are in a time of preparation for revival ... for souls.

- We must be ready, as a **farmer is ready for harvest time.**

- We are being prepared to handle the increase, to increase our capacity.

(the 3 parables of Matt 25 deal with Preparation & Serving, especially the talents)

2. **After you have set high standard levels – expectation increases**

- This puts immense pressure on your performance.

- If you simply meet expectation, even though it is high, there will be little impact.

- That is why it is **imperative that we keep tugging on the Lord.**

- What is the sense of lifting standards and expectations to at least that which the world provides, and even higher, and there be no Kingdom benefit.

- **We must have His presence & anointing.**

- What we do must give **Him Glory.**

- We must do it **His way!**

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## FOCUS & ATTITUDES

The **FOCUS** is purely upon your **HEART ATTITUDE** and motives.

*For it is your **heart** that God is after  
it is your **heart** that gets you into Heaven Rom 10: v9,10  
it is your **heart** that expresses your faith  
it is your **heart** that determines whether you sin or not*

*if your **heart** is focused, you will approach your service for the Lord with a desire to do your best & better and the practical will follow.*

### Why serve?

1. To **DISPLAY THE NATURE OF GOD**. God will only be revealed through each of us individually and the Church corporately.
2. To **GLORIFY GOD**. This will bring the Supernatural element into your serving and Success, for **He will not be robbed of His Glory!**
3. To **FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS**.  
**He came to serve**, not to be served Matt 21  
Jesus said that the greatest in the Kingdom is the greatest servant.  
We need to practice serving. We need to do the Word.  
Matt 25 Parable of the Talents: - shows how we are stretched into a position of greater responsibility. **We keep our gain 5-10-11**  
Everyone has equal relationship with the Father (no favourites)  
but not equal responsibility & authority  
eg1. There were disciples in general, the 12, and even an inner circle of 3 who were with Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration  
eg2. John was the disciple that 'Jesus loved'  
eg3. When Jesus was asked who would be sitting next to Him when the Kingdom comes He didn't say no one.(not everyone can be that close)  
eg4. Just as leaders close to the Senior Pastor see him more often and are closer in relationship, and others see him less often depending on their position and responsibilities.
4. **IT IS OUR 'REASONABLE SERVICE'**  
**Why not?** It is only a natural response to His supernatural Love towards us.
5. Servers **SEE THE MASTER'S FACE**.  
The Cup-bearer to the King, is allowed to come into the presence of his Master and sees the King's face. Not only this, the King sees the servant's face too.

6. Servers **SEE WHAT THE MASTER IS DOING** and can be included.  
eg. Only the servants saw the miracle of the water turned to wine.
7. **IT IS A SUPERNATURAL CALLING** (1 Cor 12 v6,v28)  
**Stephen** was on the ‘Catering Team’.  
Helps & Administrations, in number, are the **largest Ministry in the Church**.  
**The Purpose:** as part of the Ministry of Helps, to **assist the Pastor** to fulfil the vision for the church with **excellence** (your personal best)  
Your attitude, goals and motivations turn the ‘work’ into a ‘service’ and makes it a Ministry. This applies to anywhere you are and anything you do.  
The attitude we gain in serving on a Sunday needs to be applied all week.  
We breathe for Him!
8. It is an **HONOUR & A PRIVILEGE**.  
Imagine being approached to join ‘Her Majesty’s Service’.  
Only a select few could boast this.  
But a greater than ‘Her Majesty’ is here.  
We are called to serve the **King of the Kings**, and we are **all invited**.  
What an awesome responsibility it is to be a partner to the Holy Spirit and a member on the Lord’s team.

## **How?-**

### **1. GOD’S WAY**

A servant is only ‘good’ in his master’s eyes.

To be a good servant means to please your Master.

To please your Master is to do at least what he expects of you.

To do this will require you to know what he requires.

Ie. What He wants, not what you want.

**God is building His Church. He is doing it! We are helping Him.**

We need to **cooperate** with the Holy Spirit.

**God is the source** - we need to acknowledge Him.

We need God’s anointing & grace on what we can do as well as what we can’t do.

We need to **seek Him** whether we can do it or not.

**This will always bring guaranteed success.**

**Not in our own confidence.** Otherwise we will seek Him like the World does,  
-only when we need Him.

We therefore, cannot rely on what we have done in the past.

Doing something with a good attitude at right time etc without Him can fail .

Luke 5 / John 21 the fishermen were unsuccessful but at His word  
(direction) they obeyed & were successful.

- Leviticus 10      Nadab & Abihu - offered 'strange fire' and were destroyed
- 1 Chron 16      David placing the ark on a cart caused a man to die.
- no bad attitudes or motives.
  - They simply did not **honour God's way** – they dishonoured Him by **presuming** His instructions were un-important or could be changed.
  - They tried to please God **their way** not God's way.  
They were therefore **dis-obedient**. God blesses obedience.

## 2. WITH EXCELLENCE

Aim at excellence - not perfection. You will always fall short of perfection.

Excellence is giving God **your Best** .                      ( Malachi 1: 6-14)

Be excellent at the little things. Don't leave things half done –

- it is the little foxes that spoil the vines....

Make **displaying God's Nature** the number 1 priority, resisting & overcoming (within your authority) any obstacle that would 'cheapen' Him.

Eg Lack (insufficient budget)

At the same time we must '**Do the best with what we have**'.

To be extra-ordinary you need to do extra than ordinary (the 'God' factor)

Use what you have. And what's that? The bottom line – what God has!

He releases enough but leaves room for our growth

**Excellence costs – Time & Finances.**

Choosing quality food & the right décor will force you to shop around and the cheapest is most unlikely the best.

**Remember Who you are purchasing for.**

Eg Stirene cups are cheaper than cups & saucers, easier to set up and there is no washing up. Which would you prefer to be served to you?

Similarly instant coffee & percolated.

Have a **professional attitude** - as if paid

Dress well - not provocative or attracting wrong attention.

You don't take your children to work - don't have them around you as you serve.

**2 Cor 8 v7,8** states 'Just as you are **at the front** in.....be **at the front**, also, in the grace of giving". In today's language you could use '**on the cutting edge**'.

He is praising the Church for excelling in particular areas and encouraging them to have the same attitude in other areas, that other Churches are excelling in. "...testing the sincerity of their love.." against '..the diligence of others'.

This says a few things:

- i. Being at the fore-front is something worthy to be attained
- ii. Every function of the Church should be at the fore-front
- iii. Not every church is.
- iv. Your diligence and progress will be noticeable and be spoken of  
And will be used as a bench-mark to spur others on & vica-versa

**Eg. Hills Christian Life Centre**

**Read Malachi 1: 6-14 again**

### 3. AS UNTO CHRIST

You are **servicing Christ**, treat everyone as if they were Christ Himself  
They carry the presence of the living God or the Lord is using you to draw them towards Him.

When you “**did it to the least of these, you did it to Me**”

Matt25

Serve them on Christ’s behalf – be an extension of Him

**‘Do to others as you would have them do to you’**

Treat others the same way you would like to be treated. - SPOIL THEM

### 4. WITH PRESENTATION

People **eat with the eyes** first - if it looks good it will taste good

**First impressions - dress well** you are greeting the ‘King of Kings’  
**wear a smile**

**decorate (dress up the venue)**

**use the power of perception**

The **most impacting part of this Ministry is YOU** with God’s presence and Anointing

The practical things you do is the least value of your service.

Don’t under-estimate the value of your presence

This is a **front-line Ministry**. Take advantage of every opportunity to impact.

### 5. AS A SERVANT

Choose to **humble yourselves** to lift others up.

Keep an **‘on-duty’ attitude**

Keep the position of a servant as long as possible.

Be flexible & adaptable

Be attentive to the ‘Guests of the King’

All are the King’s Guests whether they be the Premier or lowly (in human terms).

They must be treated in the same excellent manner – lifting them up and making them feel special & important

Be a **good example** for others to follow.

Pastor Danny says that **‘leadership is influence’**.

How are you influencing others?

**Remember this is not work, it is Ministry.** don’t let it become work, take a break.

**Stay focused - we are serving God not the other way around.**

He is doing it, we are helping. – let Him have the driver’s seat.

Be prepared to serve in obscurity – God sees even if Man doesn’t .

We receive the same reward for what ever we are given to do, as long as we put our heart into it.

In the Parable of the Talents (Matt 25), both of the good servants received the same reward:

**“Well done, my good & faithful servant, you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.”**

So even if your task is to wash dishes or clean toilets, you can receive the same reward as your Pastor.

In 1 Cor 12 it says that in the Body, God has given more honour to the parts that lack it. He knows some tasks are not popular, but all necessary, and He provides His Anointing to do it, all the same, because the practical duties needed to run His Church are a Supernatural Calling.

As you serve God, He is working in your life, preparing you for bigger things.

**521 principle** - Matthew 25: 14-30 (Parable of the Talents)

Be faithful over the little, He'll make you ruler over much

But to whom much is given, much is required.

**Luke 19:12-27 v17** shows that there is a direct link between the quality of your service now, and the responsibilities you receive as a reward, in the coming Kingdom. **“Well done, good servant ...because you were faithful in a very Little, have authority over 10 cities”**

Do what you know to do.

**The Greatest in the Kingdom is the greatest servant**

We need to practice it, to get better at it. We are in training.

**Many are called but few are chosen**

Matt 20:16

Having said this it could all sound a little ‘pushy’, you have a choice:

- As
- i. you must **count the cost** before making a commitment
  - ii. you must **not look back** once you have put your hand to the ‘plough’

### **Word Picture:**

There was a mother who had 2 young daughters. The mother announced that she was going to make cakes, and asked her daughters whether they wanted to help her. One wanted to play outside but the other wanted to help. So her mother got her a chair to stand on and started to organise the utensils & ingredients. As the mother prepared the ingredients, she gave her daughter simple things to do, while she did the rest. Sifting flour, placing the cups on the trays and filling the mixture into them. When the cakes came out of the oven the daughter said ‘look at the cakes **I made**’.

**Which daughter did the mother love best?**

Both the same.

**But who gets to lick the spoon?**

## **6. AS A SON**

Remember **you are not an employee.** (paid or not paid)

You are not a charity worker

**You are a partner in the ‘Family Business’.**

What’s good for the business is good for you.

Take on the **responsibility.**

Responsible people can be relied on and will be entrusted with more.

**Own your area of service –put your heart into it as if it were your own.**

Be **Faithful** over the service entrusted to you.! Don’t be distracted

Be **Committed** – remember who you are really serving

**Put all your Heart into it** – your very best, as if it is the only thing the Lord is going to let you do.

Putting God's goodness in your heart into it will breathe Life into it.  
Where your treasure is, there will your Heart be also.. what about...?  
'where you put your Heart, there you'll find your treasure'

It is a **seed** – it will grow.

**Possess it.** Be diligent and devoted - pray over it.

Don't lose what you have gained. Don't slacken off!

## 7. IN UNITY

**Fellowship** with the team members, this will build **relationship** and develop a **Team Spirit** – and where there is unity there is power and God commands a blessing.

**Cannot have unity without submission**

## 8. IN SUBMISSION

Being submissive is like serving in the armed forces.

We do not have to respect the person (they must earn this),

**but we must respect ('salute') their God given authority** (stars or bars on their shoulders)

Remember, as we treat our leaders we do it to the Lord.

You cannot say that you submit to your Pastor but not be submissive to your immediate leader.

You serve your leaders to get the job done, and in turn they are here to serve you to ensure that you reach your potential – to build you up & keep you on track

Be concerned with the King's business and let the King be concerned about your business..



## **The ANNOINTING**

Jesus said “**My yoke is easy and My burden is light**”. Matt 11:30  
Sometimes this doesn't seem true as we serve Him.

I see the ‘Annointing’ of God as the Supernatural enablement that comes with the responsibility.

This lifts and carries us as we carry out His will, making it seem easy.  
There is an essential ingredient to ensure the flow of the Annointing is not hindered.

### **- Agreement**

The Annointing can be stopped by

**Not submitting to your leader** (rebellious or disobeying)

**Not putting your heart into the task/area**

If a leader receives a responsibility that he doesn't want or is disinterested in, and then delegates this area, the Annointing will not be available to the person taking this on.

The leader was not in ‘agreement’ and didn't put his ‘heart’ into it.

The result will be that however diligent the work is carried out, it will lack the annointing & presence of God and will not have the degree of success it could have.

**Don't take on a responsibility if you can't put your ‘heart’ into it!**

**Don't delegate away from you. You are ultimately responsible .**

If you are unwilling or unable to step in and take over the task , if your support cannot carry it out, then don't take it on in the first place.

**I do not delegate any task that I have not personally carried out, otherwise I will not understand what I am putting the server through.**

Submission is agreement.

Everything comes from above.

The Vision, the Responsibility, the Authority, the Annointing.

When we assign a responsibility to some-one, then even though we ultimately have the responsibility, we must submit ourselves under that authority (which is our own). We don't interfere. (unless, of course, adjustments are necessary, but even here it must be done in consultation with, and through, the person responsible, we don't override!)

***God submits to the Authority He has ultimately given to us. He will not interfere with our area of service unless we let Him. We must give Him permission!***

# Hindrances

What can get in the way of achieving success?

## 1. SELF

We do. Our lack of focus, faith and obedience.

Why would we succumb to this?

### Our own ambitions.

#### **To push our own barrow or to make our personal vision happen.**

Jesus was 30 before He started His ministry, yet He was astounding the scribes and teachers when He was 12.

He had to wait until the time set by God and when He was totally prepared. Until this time He served His father in obscurity.

Pastor Danny states that:

**“you’ll serve another’s vision before anyone serves yours”**

#### **Word picture 1:**

There was very successful businessman in a country.

The King of that country came to him and asked him to go to another land to handle some affairs on his behalf.

The businessman was reluctant to go because he needed to run his own affairs.

The King said **“You look after my business & I’ll look after your business”**.

#### **Word picture 2:**

Our walk in God is like taking a train to the city.

The city is the destination but you must go through each station even though you do not want to get off at these stations.

If you get off the train before the city you’ll need to wait for another train.

You must go through each station. Sometimes there are express trains that skip stations.

The city represents your vision. The stations represent the steps/seasons of your personal preparation for God’s plan.. After these steps are completed you’ll commence this ultimate purpose for your life, your destination.

Remember Isaac wasn’t looking for a wife, but his father knew his need and arranged a wife for him.

#### **Don’t chase your Ministry/Vision. It is God given and God fulfilled**

Imagine if the Master had given 5 talents instead of 2 to the servant.

Before you can cater for 500 people you must be able to cater for 50.

If you gave the task of serving a 4 course meal for 500 people to someone who had never catered before, they would most probably run away.

Yet if they were successful at something smaller they could progress to this.

Don’t run ahead.

Start at the beginning and walk the journey .

**Pay the cost – to be ready**

(matt25 Virgins)

In the Parable of the 10 Virgins they were all believers waiting for the return of Christ. The foolish ones were not ready and were told to go **buy more oil.** (relationship with the Father) When the Lord comes there will not be enough time to prepare yourself. Even if you were given a month's notice what could you do to make yourself more prepared? Of course there is more to being prepared than your standard of service and your capacity to serve.

Time is short. Now is the time of preparation.

If Adam to the Lord's return represented 24 hours, then,  
if Jesus was to return in 20 years we are in the last 5 minutes of opportunity. If He returns in 4 years, we are in the last minute.

**God is the promoter not man.** Let Him be concerned with your reputation.

**Your gift will make room for itself.**

*My **desire** in God, is to hear Him say “Behold, my son, with whom I am well pleased”*

*or “Well done, my good & **faithful servant** “ . In short, to please my God.*

*My **ambition** in God, is to be the **best servant** that I can possibly be, to reach my potential.*

## 2. FAMILIARITY

**Receive a Prophet & receive a Prophet's reward.**

receive a man.....?

Jesus could do little in his own home town.

Servants have more to do with Leadership and our Pastors. It is easy to fall into the trap of seeing them as 'mere men', as you 'rub shoulders' with them and get to know them. **Familiarity will rob you** of the Supernatural Power & Giftings they operate in as 'Men of God'.

See them with spiritual eyes & you'll be able to receive the supernatural treasure that they have for you. This is similar for leadership as a whole.

## **To Sum-up:**

- Our aim is to **Glorify God** by displaying His nature.
- We are serving the Lord - **His way**
- Doing **our best** not someone else's (excellence)
- Putting our Heart into it - **owning it**
- Cooperating with the Holy Spirit – he is doing it , **we are helping.**
- With a professional attitude Remember who you are really serving
- In obedience, with enthusiasm and diligence.
- Faithfully - like a husband to a wife , not distracted by another  
- committed
- Submitting to your leaders (cooperating in partnership) –  
- for the Kingdom's sake. (not my will but God's will)

## Matthew 25: 3 Parables of where we need to be at the return of the Lord. (for all of us so far, our “departing” is our Matt 25)

In a sentence, this chapter could be summed up as:

**“When the Lord returns, having paid the price of being prepared, be found doing your best at what He has given you to do, serving All on His behalf”**

### 10 Virgins:

- v1. They were all virgins. All had lamps. All waiting for the Bridegroom. They were all believers waiting for the Lord’s return.
- v3. **The 5 wise virgins brought extra oil.**
- v5. They all fell asleep while they waited.
- v7. Having been awakened to his imminent return they all arose trimmed their lamps.
- v8. The foolish virgins realised they were not prepared and were told that they needed to buy extra oil (pay the price). Some things cannot be given or imparted to you. You need to invest your time to gain the benefit.
- v10. While they were buying the oil the Bridegroom came, and the wise virgins who **were ready** went into the wedding and the door was shut.
- v12. When the foolish ones returned, they were refused entry, for **“Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you”**.

**The only difference between the wise & the foolish was that the foolish failed to pay the price to be prepared (for the ‘long haul’)**

### Talents:

- v14. The master **entrusted his business** to his **own servants**.  
He was going to a far country therefore He was going to be away a long time.
- v15. He gave responsibilities to each servant according to their own abilities..
- v16. Both, the servant given 5 talents, & the servant given 2 talents, **went at once and traded with them**.
- v18. The servant given 1 talent, hid his lord’s money in the ground.
- v19. After a **long time** the master of the house returned & settled accounts.  
  
The servant with 5 gained 5 more and servant with 2 gained 2 more.  
They both doubled what was entrusted, or, they gained 100%, or gained the “best return that they could.”
- v21 & v23 show that both these servants received the same reward
- v24. The servant given 1, knew the expectation of his lord but did nothing to fulfil it.
- v26. The master called him a **“wicked and lazy servant”**. Servants serve, what did he do while his master was away?
- v27. The master said that he should have at least let others put the talent to use for some gain. Servants with an attitude to please their master, will do much more with what is entrusted to them than outsiders.
- v28. The talent **was taken from the wicked** servant and **given to the servant who had 10**.

**What you gain will not be taken from you.  
You will eventually reach a level of competence where you can  
handle what ever is given to you!**

- v29. For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance:  
but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away.
- v30. Cast the **unprofitable servant** into outer darkness.

### **Sheep & the Goats:**

- v32. **All the nations** will be gathered before Him and **He will separate them** from one another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats.
- v33. And He will set the sheep on His right, but the goats on His left.
- v34. Then the King will say to those on **His right hand**, “Come, you **blessed** of my Father, **inherit the kingdom** prepared for you from the foundation of the world:” **see v10, v21, v23**
- v35. **“for I was hungry and you gave me food:** I was.....”
- v37. Then the **righteous** will answer Him saying “ when did we see you hungry and feed you, .....
- v40. And the King will answer and say to them “Assuredly I say to you **in as much as you did it to one of the least of these, My brethren, you did it to Me**”.
- v41. Then the King will say to those on **His left hand**, “Depart from Me, you **cursed** into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: **see v12, v30**
- v42. **“for I was hungry and you gave me no food:** I was.....”
- v44. Then they also will answer Him saying “ when did we see you hungry or thirsty, or a stranger .....
- v45. Then He will answer and say to them “Assuredly I say to you **in as much as you did not do it to one of the least of these, My brethren, you did not do it to Me**”.
- v46. And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

**This is straightforward. Knowing the Word isn't enough. Do the Word. When we see a need, we meet it as if it was the Lord Himself that we were helping. When we serve them we do it as if we were serving the Lord. We do it to them as unto the Lord and on behalf of the Lord.**

## Putting it into Practice:

The Catering Department was established in Oct'94, within months of our first Church meeting . Hospitality has always been on the heart of Pastor Danny.

The team consisted of my wife and I, and another couple.

This couple helped for the first 6 months until we were joined by **2 single mothers.**

(initially, most of our catering team were single mothers and widows, who we saw grow in confidence and self-esteem. All those who were with us for more than 6 months either remained on the team, numbering over 40, including hospitality, or moved on to serve in other areas).

**None of us had any food/catering experience.** I am an 'organizer' and my wife is a 'server'.

Finances were limited on our inception. We were allocated about \$25 per week to have nibbles and drinks in the Pastor's office for at least guests. We volunteered to extend this to every A.M. meeting, allowing the Pastor to meet with the Music team (then about 8) before the meeting.

At this stage we had no equipment or utensils, only what was borrowed or brought from home.

**Even so, we always used the best bowls and glasses we could get our hands on.  
There is no excuse not to present it well.**

The A.M. fare consisted of: Juice, percolated coffee,tea  
Fruit (seedless watermelon,strawberries,grapes,rockmelon)  
Cashews  
Choc sticks, M&Ms, Ferrero  
Tim Tams  
Mints

This is much the same now, except:

1. We have additional drinks on ice. Eg Bottled water, Diet Coke, cans of nectar Tonic water, Bitters based drinks
2. We allow for other choices, ie Decaf Coffee, flavoured & herbal teas, diet sweeteners, lemon juice, soothers
3. The musicians (now Creative Ministry) now total over 40 each service, including the choir and production, and are served separately.

**Percolated coffee is a must! The first item on your 'wish list' should be a percolator.**

We were eventually given a 100 cup percolator together with 2 dbl coffee pot warmers and 6 coffee pots. They have been well used and we could do with another 100 cup. We hire 2 more for almost every function we hold. An urn is about \$450 and they are about \$30-\$35 to hire.

We are looking now at the possibility of getting an Airpot system which will make it much more portable and easier to use. No power and smaller urns.

The first functions that were given to us were the 'New Friend Suppers' which were held every 3-6 months depending on increase. These were low budget (about \$1.30/head) and numbers were about 70-110 including new members and the Pastoral team together with home group, youth and children's church leaders.

We held our functions in the back (junk) room of our first Church building.

It was a challenge to make this room presentable.

We purchased plastic tablecloths so we could re-use them and to use them as drapes on our old mobile partitions. We also brought in our own palms.

The food consisted of: sandwiches  
cocktail pies & pasties, mini spring rolls  
home made quiches/ pizza (cut into smaller squares)  
crisps, M&Ms  
dips, savoury  
home made cakes  
cordial, instant coffee, tea

Little has needed to change here except:

1. To protect the quality of the food (hygiene) **no food is prepared by non-professionals outside the premises**. You only need 1 person to get food poisoning and your Dept is finished.
2. We have **percolated coffee and orange** juice.
3. We purchase any sweets (usually mignon size cakes)
4. We hired cups & saucers on a long term basis. Gold rimmed. (little cost difference)  
Recently we were given long term use of a considerable amount of catering items & equipment including cups & saucers.
5. The numbers are still the same but the budget is now about \$2/head
6. We now use a linen service.

This is a story on it's own.

Because of finances we started with plastic table cloths which we could wipe and re-use. (cost about \$4 each)

For presentation purposes we needed cloth so we had 12 rectangle and 6 small round cloths made by a linen wholesaler for about \$25-\$29 each and washed and ironed them ourselves. (to hire cloths would have been about \$8 each)

After some functions where all the cloths were used, washing & ironing became a chore we could do without. So we enquired at laundries and found we could have it done for \$1.60 each if we delivered and picked up – well worth it!

Then we enquired further and found that we could have a linen service supplied for the same amount. **This has been invaluable!** We also have glass cloths supplied instead of the typical tea-towels we have around the place in various states of cleanliness. Of course you will need to be using a minimum amount of linen before they will look at you.



Our first functions were many & varied at the old Church and yet we did no cooking except some vegetables for a seminar lunch.

We either used food that could be heated up in an oven, or used the local hotels.

**Remember it is not the food it is how you present & serve it!**

Let the world worry about paying chefs and making enough to pay for their capital outlays. It has been all laid up for us to utilise. You'll also find that they will be generous to you. I remember a seminar in the early days, where we catered for a 3 course lunch for about \$6/head for 100. The soup was purchased from a hotel for about 60c a serve and we ordered 100 serves of roast Pork at \$2/serve. We picked it up just before we needed to serve it. It was twice the qty we expected and they provided a half bucket of apple sauce and 2 roast potatoes per serve. We topped it off with hot apple pie (from Balfours) and cream & ice cream. Carafes of juice & percolated coffee.

All served hot and within 50 mins.

Unless you are very fortunate you will lack kitchen space, oven space & fridge space.

You will need to work around this until you have a commercial enterprise.

Trestles for work benches, hired ovens and maybe a 'borrowed' fridge from Coke.

**Don't be restricted by a lack of resources!**

We served a 3 course meal to 40 working on a door in our creche kitchenette which was about 2m x 3m with a fridge in another room, using only a domestic warming cabinet.

We served a 3 course meal in our now MP1 for 60 of our 'New Horizon' group before we had water on tap let alone a kitchen. We bucketed water from the other end of the church to wash dishes in a tub. Warmed up soup on a camp gas element, and had a 2 choice main meal being warmed up in 3 homes because the creche oven didn't work.

The candle light diners were not aware of any difficulties as they were served with dealc bubbly in stem glasses and treated as if they were at a restaurant.

**Some notes here:**

1. **Ask and it will be given to you.** When using regular suppliers, either ask for a regular discount or don't hesitate to invite them to be a financial partner to a function that you are short on budget for. All the hire companies we use give us 20% discount, for example..
2. **Keep it simple.** Take into account your resources. Don't burn-out yourself or your team. You are needed for the long haul.
3. **What is the role of your Dept?** Is it to make cups of coffee for everybody?  
Is it to be available for every Department that wants some catering?  
Is it to do weddings engagements and the like?

**This needs to be made very clear from the beginning.**

**We exist to assist the Pastor to fulfill His God-given vision.** Anything else is extra and should be optional. It is safer to allow all requests to go through the Pastor to protect you from being 'used' and to save the embarrassment of rejections.

We have found the most enjoyable Functions to be the ‘floating buffet’. This involves serving ‘finger food’ on platters.

They might typically consist of:

Sandwiches (seafood, chicken/lett/mayo, ham/tom/lett/mayo)	x3
Savoury (continental meats,cheese,fruit)	
Asian – (mini spring rolls, dim sims, semosa etc)	x2
Chicken drumettes	x2
½ chicken shaslks cooked on a BBQ	x2
continental mignon cakes	1
punch/juice, percolated coffee	

Depending on the function other items could include:

Salt & Pepper squid (from the local Chinese restaurant)	x2
Prawns & oysters	1
Fruit Salad	
Dessert cakes (supplement only not 1 piece each)	
Novelties – eg an icecream cart	
Dealc Bubbly	

The cost of the food/drink would range from about \$3.50-7.50/head  
Additional to this is:

1. Cost of hire (warmers \$45 perc \$30 cups/sauc/glasses .30 ea Platters \$3 etc) or about \$1.50/head
2. Décor: - lighting (coloured spots) extra are about \$5  
Plants (we have long term hire) extra are \$8 each  
Decorations – eg for weddings  
Flowers – about \$20/pot
3. Linen/ice etc

The total cost for an in-house type function would be about \$5-\$6/head.  
For a wedding or more formal/upmarket function –about \$11-\$12.

### Notes:

1. Sandwiches are cheap per item and a good ‘fill’ (cut the crusts off)
2. Steer away from pies&pasties – they are a domestic line
3. Check out the supermarkets, there are many other choices.  
Try to work to a 30-35c per piece average
4. Use juice at morning teas & formal, don’t use soft drink at all.  
We use 25L plastic containers for punch. Cottees orange/mango crush Cordial + 8L water + 4L Orange Juice + 2L Pineapple + 200ml Lemon + 1.25L Dry Ginger + bitters (offset sweetness) + Grenadine (colour) + ice.  
Before serving add 750ml Dealc Lambrusco+2L Lemonade (costs \$1/L)
5. Bubbly is used for drinks on-entry, or for a toast. 1 glass per
6. Allocate a hot drink table / 60 people. Serve cold drinks on separate tables,a table / 100. Use linen if possible. Use skirts. Either have some made, (black garbardine 1.5M cut down the middle and gathered and use velcro strip & table clips with reverse velcro on back) or use a tablecloth and sticky tape.

7. Dress the tables up.
8. **There must be a server at every table.**

Remember it is not what you are serving it is **how you present it** and **how you serve it.**

The Catering Dept is used to impact this World for the Kingdom of God not merely to provide a service or to save money. If it does not have the aim to bring Glory to God then we are wasting our time and we should get outside caterers in.

### **Presentation is most important.**

**Dress – black&white, bow ties, vests**

**Venue- Décor, create a welcome & comfortable atmosphere (avoid house lights)**

We saw the impacting benefits of this at our Conference in Oct'98 when we set up a **Delegates' Lounge**. We had the room manned from 30min before the first session to 11:30pm each day (6 days). We had sofas & palms, background music, perc coffee, juice and water. It was a real hit!

Our Church members are aware of what service they can receive at restaurants, function rooms and Motels (eg Hyatt). Our aim is to better than match it. We have the King! We have the **Supernatural element** that they do not.

We must draw on Him for the **creative touch**, for novel ideas.

**Don't be predictive.**

### **Areas to Begin with.**

#### **1. Guests:**

Treat them as they are – The Lord's Messengers or the Guests of the King.

Chauffeurs/Gift Baskets

Pastors Office      A.M. as above

   P.M. Add a savoury platter, bubbly for after the meeting (stem glasses)

-      Before and after the meeting. (Remember – only the Best)

Escort the guests to & from the Office.

Allow extra ('more than enough') to allow for the Pastoral Team to join in.

Hot finger food could be added after the meeting instead of going out to dinner.

Cost: AM \$30

PM \$60-120 (20)

#### **2. Pastor & Platform Team.**

The Pastor may not want to ask that He be looked after but it is needed and deserved. It is a time to relax before & after a meeting and allows meeting with key personnel in private.

Cost: about \$20

### 3. Visitors (New Friends)

Have an area where visitors can have refreshments after the meeting (at least A.M.) and be able to meet with Pastors and Leaders.

Percolated coffee, juice, cordial, cakes & biscuits, fruit

Remember children. Have some crisps and biscuits out for them, but serve the cakes on platters (above their heads) otherwise there will be nothing left for the adults!

Don't allow young children to serve themselves hot drinks, only their parents.

Remember **first impressions**. Put as much as you can into this area.

Cost: \$75 for 100

### 4. Morning Tea

We currently provide Tea & coffee after each of the AM meetings.

This is served in styrene cups (keep a balance) and we provide cookies & biscuits

We also provide cordial for the children.

The aim is to provide a means for the members to get together & talk

ie to help relationships to build and create unity.

This is a forerunner to providing lunch.

Cost: \$50 for 200

### 5. Pastor's House

Regular fortnightly or Monthly suppers. Leaders could be invited in rotation together with any other member couples or Church guests. 3 or 4 couples.

With children this may total to about 15.

The catering team sets up during the meeting and has everything ready to serve as they arrive. Nibbles, main course (eg bought Lasagna and Salad) dessert bubbly, juice, soft drink, chocolates.

Cost: \$110

### 6. Local Pastors

Informal meetings to build relationships during the day.

Morning Tea and/or light finger food luncheon.

Cost: \$30-\$100 (18)

There are **many ways the Catering Team could serve.**

Functions, Dinners (eg Alpha Groups), Suppers, Breakfasts, Seminars, Social, Private Eg weddings, 21<sup>st</sup>, engagements, and **of course outreach.**

## Responsibilities

We have broken down the areas of responsibility within Catering and put leaders in charge We work on a 1 in 3 week rotation. ie 3 teams do Visitors (a couple + a helper)

3 other teams do Morning Tea

There is also mix and match. Some team members want to serve more often.

The Department is split into Catering & Hospitality and Catering is further broken down by Sunday function.

Functions are handled across the whole team and is broken down by gifted ability. eg Waiters, Table, Food prep, etc.

**Plan as if you are already a large Department with many responsibilities**


eg We have our own Treasurer and purchasing for all areas is coordinated thru 1 person.

*Please remember this was written in 1999*



PRISON FELLOWSHIP OF  
AUSTRALIA

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Precedence:	Date: 14 March 1997	Time: 4:07:59 PM	Reference: Statecon
To: <b>Danny Guglielmucci</b>	Fax No: 8322 8101	Contact Phone No: 8322 2888	
From: <b>HELEN GLANVILLE</b>	Phone No: (08) 8362 3936 Fax No: (08) 8362 3934		
Signature: 	No of pages including this page: 1		

Danny,

Would you kindly note how impressed I was with the wonderful catering service at the State Conference. Although I have already personally thanked Kevin and Rolande Cramp I wanted you to know how impressed I am with the professionalism of everything that took place at the Conference. I have just left the world's work force where often I was responsible for organising catering for dignitaries, politicians and high ranking military officers and I can honestly say that the Lord's catering team can do better because we have His joy and servant hearts. I honestly thought you had brought the professionals in and when I discovered they worshipped at Southside I was so proud.

Phil Lowe is right, 'Your success is our success'. God bless you abundantly in all that you do and please give another hug to Sharonne for me. Helen.

**Fax To:** Southside Christian Centre  
**Attention:** Danny Guglielmucci  
**Fax No:** 08 8322 8101  
**From:** Ian Zerna  
**Date:** 14 March 1997  
**Pages:** 1 of 1

Dear Danny,

On behalf of the South Australian Assemblies of God, I would like to thank you and your entire congregation for hosting a very successful State Conference.

There have been many favourable comments on the quality of catering and hospitality, along with the genuine love and warmth of all those involved in the numerous area of serving over the three days. The singing, music and overall presentation of your venue reflected a spirit of excellence. You have not only set the standard in our state, you have effectively raised it as well!

Thank you again for the great effort from Southside, it has been a valuable investment in the spiritual life and growth of our state's pastors and leaders.

Yours in Christ,



Ian Zerna

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## **APPENDIX 1**

### **NOTES TO LEADERS**

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1. For the Vision to be Owned and to realise leadership potential, we need to **delegate responsibility**.

This will prepare us for larger congregations.

To facilitate this we need a responsibility structure for regular Sunday activities together with overall responsibilities in specific practical skill areas to handle non-Sunday activities and to enable backup for absentees (ie Coordinators overseeing 'pools' of servants).

Areas of service may be, Offering, Communion, Gatekeepers, Altar (catchers), Tenders, Visitor/comfort, Carpark/valet, First-aid, Waiters, Table servers, Kitchen, Food prep etc

2. Leaders need to be aware of their 2 fold responsibilities.
  - a. **To get the Job done** (practical Ministry) utilising those that serve them.
  - b. **Serving the servers** ('Pastoral' Ministry) encouraging, shepherding, building, with the aim of ensuring that the utmost is done to ensure the servers reach their potential and that they are trained and focused

On top of this, is the need to **develop a TEAM Spirit** with its benefits. Leaders are encouraged to set regular social get-togethers (no agenda) to develop relationships. This encourages mutual respect, knowing each others heart, dreams etc and allows correction to be received etc etc.

3. Leaders need to multiply themselves thereby **increasing the potential** of their team and removing reliance on 1 person.
4. Don't just rely on the reliable. This is a building project – competency, skills, confidence & self esteem.
5. 1 Kings 12: If you will serve them & answer them kindly they will always be your servants  
1 Kings 3:9 Solomon asked for 'an understanding mind & a hearing heart to judge' God's people.
6. Confirm, don't assume.
7. When you delegate responsibility, you are still ultimately responsible. Don't delegate away from you. If you can't put your heart into it don't take it on.
8. Submit to Godly authority and co-operate.
9. We lead by example. Be an example that others want to copy.
10. Aim at excellence (your personal best) rather than perfection. Nothing is ever perfect so disappointment, discouragement & hurt will be the result.
11. Be faithful over the little and He will make you ruler over much.  
Do the best with what you have.  
**521 Principle. Matthew 25: 14-30**
12. **Possess the Land!** Deut 7v22  
You can't keep on adding new responsibilities and personnel without taking stock to ensure its longevity and sustainability.
13. There is no responsibility without authority. We need to own it! Put your heart into it.

14. Stay focused. Keep it a Ministry, not work. Remember, we are serving God, He is doing the work. We need Him for everything we do. Rely on Him not in our own confidence.  
1 Cor 12V6,28:
15. When seeking new servers we need to break the duties down **to bite size portions** that they can swallow.
16. Keep communication open. Keep your team members informed. Share the good things the Lord is telling you or where you believe He is leading the Team. Allow ideas & discussion but don't be led away from where you believe the Lord is going.  
Make time for you team members. If you can't then you are too busy
17. Pray for each individual on your team and for each task
18. Be Faithful & Obedient, Respect and honour the authority of your Leaders, and be Loyal.  
Be of the same mind. Get hold of the Pastor's Vision.
19. Don't be familiar, keep a servant's attitude & see your leaders with supernatural eyes.
20. What is good for the Kingdom is good for you.



## **APPENDIX 2**

### **NOTES TO ORGANISERS**

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#### **AIM: TO DEVELOP A TEAM (S) TO ENABLE THE REQUIRED FUNCTION TO BE CARRIED OUT**

In excellence, without relying on a particular individual.

In the world the dollar is the number 1 motivation. Pride & ego are others.

In the kingdom **glorifying & pleasing God** is the number 1 motivation

- Displaying God's nature, adorning the bride, setting high standards,
- The dollar is merely a budgetary consideration, not a priority.

Need to be a **people person** – rely on other people to carry it out.

**Vision** - need to see it before you can organise it!!!!

#### **Presentation is more important than food itself.**

- **Décor** (theme?) Lighting, props, flowers, candles, balloons, plants etc
  - **Dress/professionalism.**
  - Dressing up the food itself
  - Equipment & plates/glasses etc
  - Little things impress (be excellent at attending to the little things
    - De-caf milo honey lemon, flavoured tea, artif sweet
    - Go the extra get the best nuts
    - linen serviettes, best crockery,
    - skirts on serving tables
    - bow ties
    - champagne glasses/flutes
- It will be more work & take more servers!

#### **Purchasing – remember who you are buying for**

- Ensuring the quality (freezers)
- Hygiene

#### **Budgeting – don't forget to feed the staff (paid or unpaid)**

- Allow 10% for variations (be conservative & generous)
- At least 7 pieces of food – 10 average about 30c a piece
  - Sandwiches are a cheap filling food – can be presentable & enjoyable

Most cooked pre-packed foods (or wholesale) range between 25-45c a piece

Uncooked or own-made can be considerably cheaper but may be more work

Or take more time. Remember the physical limitations .

- Sweets: need more than 1 per person eg: for 100 people supply 2-3 dessert type cakes (not morning tea sponge style) 25-40 pieces & include a large bowl of fruit salad (mainly canned fruit with some banana strawb & kiwi to give it the impression of being fresh) enough for at least 20 bowls, then supply mignon continental cakes (about 110-120) these are about 45c each as compared to 80c to \$1.20 a piece.

Of course, a sit down meal would be a single serve of something with maybe a choice if there is sufficient numbers.

- Entrée: try and include **prawns**. They lift the status of the catering & impress. They are perceived as expensive. Use extender as a base with about 4 large
- **Stay with popular foods.**
- Drinks: try and include **bubbly** for the same reason as prawns.  
Even if it is an initial glass on entry. (\$) dealc is \$3.60 each & bubbly grape juice is \$2.30 - 750ml  
Use juice or punch. Punch is mostly juice with cordial water lemonade ginger ale & ice + bitters & grenadine.  
**Coffee** – always **percolated** need 1 kg/100 cups have alternatives eg instant & de-caf  
Tea- tea bags or if sit down, make up pots to enable table serving

Use what the world has it has been setup for us. The local hotel or restaurant will usually do a good price on supply of cooked food utilising **their** kitchen & chefs.

Don't run out of food & drink. Make sure you have back-up.

Get food out early as delays will put pressure on the drinks.

## 521 Principle

Even though the Lord's provision is limitless, he releases it little by little according to our abilities and to encourage growth.

Therefore we must **do the best with what we have!**

Because of limitations - **KISS** (keep it simple son)

We need to seen as a complete team - not a group of teams. Therefore we need to be **consistent**. We all must approach our functions in the same way to **keep a standard** & to **meet expectations**. Any changes must be across the board with agreement.

Remember, your major resource is your servers (team members). Treat them right.

1 Kings 12: if you will **serve them & answer them kindly** they will always be your servants. Solomon asked for an **understanding mind & a hearing heart to judge** 'your people'.

Ensure that the venue is left in at least the same condition as found.

Return all borrowed and hired items. – **be responsible**

It is the 'little foxes that spoil the vines' - **don't leave any loose ends**

Keep an attitude of **hospitality**. Have someone greet the guests as **hosts**.

Continually aim at excelling in displaying God's nature.

Aim to spoil people as if they were the Lord Himself.

- More than expected
- More than enough
- Excellence
- Go the extra
- Spend time on the little things

**Don't assume** – Always double check & confirm your resources.

Don't just rely on the reliable & experienced. This is a building project!

**Stay focused** on who you are serving & why.

We are helping & being included in what God is doing. He is doing it.  
He is not helping us.

**Smile**

**Pray**

Think

Thank

**Bless the food.**

**Don't be familiar** with pastors. Keep the place of a servant.  
receive a prophet & receive a prophet's reward. Receive a man.....

## A Final Note.

“I learnt much from taking on both the Catering & Hospitality areas of service. You always see yourself as a Servant. Sometimes this is easy to forget when, say, as a Pastor or Leader, you meet with a couple to deal with an issue.

The greatest lesson I learnt, was that God the Father needs to be included and consulted and have freedom of input into all of your responsibility area. Let's not forget who ultimately has given you the task. Doing it God's way always brings success and His presence (anointing). He doesn't give you a responsibility without the enablement, unless you want to do it your way or do it like you did last time. So many times we (the Team) sat in silence and awe after finishing a function because the 'air' was thick with the presence of God. Our service meets a need but it is not what we do but who we are, or should I say, becoming, as this life is 'the school of life', and is about our Growth (whatever our service).

When Ps Danny invited the SA State presbytery to have their Christmas meeting and Lunch at Southside, I immediately heard the Word 'Impact'. This was about mid-year, but there were several functions of >300 people that I needed to plan for before this. I prayed and prayed for a vision and ideas regarding the Christmas function for months, knowing it needed to impact, bless and lift up the Pastors who were to attend, and I didn't receive a thing. Now October and I was stressing. On the last day of a week holiday in Sydney, I heard clearly. '**Don't you need me** for the other functions?'. Our Heavenly Dad and Senior partner is not an atm that you go to when you are in need. He is the Source. Do not seek the provision, seek the Provider.

The rest is history. A great scripture to get this revelation is **1Chron 14** where God is named 'the Lord of the breakthrough' by David....get a hold of this.

A key to getting hold of what Jesus has provided for you and the Kingdom has laid up for you is this, you need to **Ask for it.....and believe** that it is yours and be **patient** and wait thankfully in **gratitude**. You could say that the shield of Faith is made of patient confidence in your relationship with God. The enemy works through believing what the enemy says (ignorance of what God says will rob you). God works through your belief (faith) in His Word **and permission** (prayer and requests). Why? For a start He is not going to force anything on you and everything He wants to give you is Good. Why are we here in the first place. Heaven is missing a third of the Angels who were created to Worship Him. You and I are created in the hope that we will **Choose to worship Him**.

But the permission is also in regard to Authority.

A CEO has many Dept Heads and in each of the departments there are Managers and then the Members of their Team. The CEO cannot chastise or even interfere with the work of a Team member, even though he is the ultimate Head. To do this would be to come against his own authority which he has given to the Dept Head and in turn to the Manager and then to the Team member. The only way that the CEO has input is if the person down the tree asks for his advice (or he calls in the Dept Head and passes it down). There is no responsibility without authority. Do not assume that God is going to handle things without being asked. In fact, never assume.”

Kevin Cramp

*See you at the Wedding*