

Featured Church: Patmos Chapel

Once a quarter, I like to profile a church that is doing well in any one of these three areas:

Young adult involvement.

Visionary leadership.

Evangelism and church growth.

Last weekend I had the chance to visit Patmos Chapel in Orlando. Led by Pastors Sam Dade and Byron Crockett, it was a memorable weekend. Here are three observations:

1. Median age.

The median age of the church is 36. The pastors are intentional in engaging the younger generation in leadership positions. I will give you one example: The worship coordinator was a young woman, who has her own business. The level of professionalism, intentionality and leadership she displayed was impressive. Sharp. She was not the only one. The young man that did tithes and offerings inspired me to give, the special music by five young ladies, the teenage boy that was a deacon and ran around helping out. It's amazing what happens when we allow young people to lead. The church was packed out, many of them young professionals. With an attendance close to 900, it's easy to see why the church is looking for options that will allow them to grow even more. One question comes to mind: Why isn't this church talked about more? There certainly is a lot of good that is happening here!

2. Use of media.

To start off, I noticed the website. (<http://www.patmoschapel.org/>) First of all, it's easy to find because it has the exact name of the church. I can't tell you how many times I look for a church and can't find it because it has an acronym for its website name that makes sense only to them! Secondly, the website looks like it was created in this century, unlike most Adventist church websites. For most Adventist Websites, if the 1990's ever came back, we would be ready for it. Too bad we are in 2014.

Most people, especially younger people will first check out the website of the church before they attend. I need to be able easily find three things:

Where you are.

What you are like.

How can I contact you.

To those of you who like a million things that crowd the first page in your websites, remember this: Less **IS** more. Patmos Chapel is also on Praize Vision:

http://praisevision.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=151&Itemid=241

3. Evangelism.

This is a very simple one, but amazingly many churches I speak at have no plan to engage the people that come up front for a call, or to the church for that matter. As I finished my message and began my appeal, without having to say anything, around 7 leaders got up and stood in front of the platform facing the crowd. The people came forward, each of them were prayed for and information was gathered. This is called intentionality.

Patmos Chapel is in the midst of a prayer and visioning season where they are asking God to lead them to the next step. Will you join me in praying for them?