

Appendix D:

Liturgy: What a meeting at MBC looks like.

Maroubra Bay Church

Liturgy is a funny word that simply means, what we do when we meet together as a church. Since MBC meets in a local restaurant, the 'feel' of MBC will be quite different to churches that meet in different buildings. The main principle that will shape MBC's weekly service is that they are predominantly for Christians. The alternative of some churches is to design church services for non-Christians (such as the 'Seeker service'). Although MBC's Sunday service will be for Christians, MBC will always seek to be 'intelligibility' (1 Cor 14) to any who visit us or walk through our doors. As such, church services are designed to edify Christians in their faith and equip them to live as lights in this dark world, both in word and deed.

Due to the nature that MBC will initially be small and probably have fewer gifts across the church, therefore we will seek to do church simply. Simple church will seek to excel in word and prayer, with ample opportunity for the meeting to open for people to discuss ideas and ask questions. MBC will be 'simple' in terms of music and 'slickness'. MBC will be keen to foster a sense of relational closeness through an fairly 'open' format (i.e. a degree of flexibility) without compromising our essential focus on prayer and God's word.

The shape of MBC's Sunday meetings:

Week 1

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Welcome and Opening Prayer | 10.30 |
| a. Focus on gospel assurance and confidence | |
| 2. SONG | 10.35 |
| 3. SEGMENT: | 10.40 |
| a. Meet an MBC – share a story... | |
| 4. Open Bibles and read (in groups) | 10.45 |
| 5. Bible Talk | 10.50 |
| 6. Prayers (see monthly prayer program) | 11.15 |
| 7. <i>Tea and Coffee Break:</i> | 11.20 |
| 8. Love and Service: | 11.25 |
| a. What does this mean for our lives – discussion | |
| 9. SONG | 11.40 |
| 10. Closing Prayer | 11.45 |

Week 2

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1. Welcome and Opening Prayer (Humble and honest) | 10.30 |
| a. Focus on our response to gospel – honest humility | |
| 2. SONG | 10.35 |
| 3. SEGMENT: | 10.40 |
| a. Pastoral Spot / Discussion / Vox-Pop | |
| 4. Bibles reading | 10.45 |
| 5. Bible Talk | 10.50 |
| 6. SONG | 11.15 |
| 7. Prayers (in groups) | 11.20 |
| 8. Closing Prayer | 11.45 |

Week of Lunch (First Sunday of Month):

1. Welcome and prayer	10.30
2. SEGMENT:	11.35
a. Discuss MBC's ministry philosophy	
3. Open Bibles and read (in groups)	10.40
4. Bible Talk	10.50
5. SONG	11.15
6. Lord's Supper – around tables	11.20
a. An explanation of Lord's Supper	
b. Breaking bread together	
c. Sharing wine/juice together	
d. Praying for each other	
7. Prayer	11.30
8. SONG	11.35
9. Closing Prayer	11.40
10. Tea and coffee	11.45
11. Lunch	12.00

Music

At this stage MBC has little or no musicians that are able to play music weekly. Therefore MBC will either have little or no music, or will play music from CDs or other recorded music. This however will change as people with musical ability join MBC.

Preaching:

Most of the preaching at MBC will be carried out by its congregational pastor with occasional visits from the senior pastor. There will however be a number of spots where lay members can preach up to four sermons a year per preacher.

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Will we be a church that celebrates the two sacraments?

Yes, MBC will be a church that seeks to celebrate the Lord's Supper and to encourage everyone to be baptized in the name of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Lord's Supper will be celebrated usually the weeks that we have a meal together and will feature as an extension of our fellowship together. Baptisms we will do as the need arises and will probably be done at the beach after church services.

2. Will we have a crèche?

Due to the size of our meeting place, we will have no formal crèche. However it is our desire to provide a space that mums and dads feel comfortable in. This area will be in one dedicated area of the large space of El Toro and can be set up to cater for nursing mums and/or a space where children can be looked after. As the numbers of little ones multiplies we will need to keep re-evaluating this option and may even have to consider moving locations if we need to create a formal crèche for children.

For more information visit www.maroubrachurch.com

Or email Tim on: tim@stjohnsmaroubra.com

Updated: August 2011