

5 Key Trends - by Ian Shelton

As I've observed and built relationships with leaders in towns and cities across the English-speaking world, **5 Key Trends** are emerging that are characteristics of City Gospel Movement.

1. **The City is a Gift** - The church is seeing the city with fresh eyes - as a gift to humanity for its flourishing. The church is also seeing the city as its responsibility.
2. **Structure and Strategy** - Deepening relationships between leaders is resulting in resources being devoted to strategic engagement with the community. Gospel Movement needs structure.
3. **Diverse Leadership Teams** - Not only pastors but para-church leaders, younger leaders and female leaders reflecting a broader mix of giftings.
4. **Civic Engagement** - The church is seeing the importance of relating to politicians, business and social leaders. Developing a single point of contact is crucial for effective communication with civic leaders.
5. **The Harvest is in the Pain** - The church is hearing the cry of the oppressed and marginalised. In seeking to heal the pain of the city there will be a harvest.