

Apex Churches...FAQ's:

Is Apex a church?

Yes...and not quite...Apex in its purest form is a network or community of smaller, simple churches. For this reason, people are encouraged not to view "Apex" as their church home. Apex is "church" in the sense that all the Christians in Las Vegas are part of the universal church of Christ. However, "church" in its truest form is God's family on a mission. This is generally best expressed in an intimate sharing community of Jesus-disciples, what we often call a house church or simple church.

What is the vision for Apex?

The hope of the people of Apex is threefold:

Local Saturation: to see a church within walking distance of every person in Las Vegas.

National Initiation: to see a church planting movement in every major American city.

Global Participation: to encourage church planting movements worldwide.

It is our firm conviction that only God can bring these things about. We see our role as one of persistent prayers, patient watchers and faithful workers toward these dreams. Only Jesus can build his church, and we are constantly asking him to build it with or without our involvement.

Is Apex associated with a particular Christian denomination?

Apex has no official denominational ties. Our churches contain people of all backgrounds who together covenant together with Christ and each other. There is a firm commitment for Apex not to become a denomination itself that would rigidly include and exclude churches under any banner aside from Christ and his Kingdom.

What is the role of the Apex staff and elders?

The Apex staff and elders work together as a team of church planters, church networkers and shepherds/overseers. They view themselves as servants of the Apex churches and the missional vision of Apex. Any authority that they have is graciously received from God and acknowledged by the churches. No title or position alone gives authority within the Kingdom of God. Only the person who has become the "slave of all" has authority in the church.

The staff and elders are best seen as a team of traveling servants who go from church to church in an effort to encourage, strengthen and equip wherever they may go. This seems consistent with the biblical pattern found in Ephesians 4:11-13:

¹¹It was he (Christ) who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹²to prepare God's people for works of

service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.” -NIV

How does a house church become a part of the Apex network?

Apex churches live in a world of mutually submission one to another. Churches submit to the Apex staff and elders only because the staff and elders have submitted their lives to the churches. Churches voluntarily associate with Apex because they agree with the Apex beliefs and convictions, and honestly desire to see the Apex vision become reality. There are no formal commitments or forms to fill out.

Can Apex disassociate with a particular church?

As a last result, the Apex elders may wish to disassociate any church for retaining beliefs and/or practices that are antithetical to orthodox Christianity. Apex will not “shut down” a church, as the church belongs to God alone. However the elders may make known to the rest of the Christian community that a particular church is no longer part of the Apex community. These kinds of decisions will be made with great prayer and only after every hope of unity is diminished.

Who leads each Apex House Church?

Jesus. He holds the ultimate vision for each church and the agenda for the church meetings. Authority will surface in a church through servant leadership and spiritual gifts not through positional labels. Those who are affirmed as leaders by their church should humbly receive the authority that God has given them.

Because of this belief, the Apex community respects the autonomy of each church. An Apex elder or staff member is not in positional authority over a church, but rather serves the church as God’s slave. At a church’s bidding, an Apex elder may serve as a leader during a time of crisis.

What is the purpose of the Apex Sunday Gathering?

The Apex churches meet weekly on Sundays at 6:00 p.m. This “Gathering” is intended to focus the attention of the churches on God by participation in three key activities:

- Equip: to cultivate and disciple missional churches
- Express: to celebrate our love and devotion to God
- Proclaim: to tell about Jesus and his faithfulness

The Gathering aims to be a participatory time where the churches are able to both give and receive. It serves as the primary avenue that the small churches are able to relate and learn one from another.

How is Apex financially supported?

Apex is funded through the sacrificial giving of the individual members of each church. Collections are taken at every Sunday Gathering and may also be mailed into the Apex Offices at:

4874 W. Lone Mountain Road
Las Vegas, Nevada 89130

Ultimately, giving is a matter of the heart and no formula can be applied as to what is “right” or godly. The following recommendation may serve as a good example of giving within the Apex context:

It is recommended that each family set aside a minimum of 10% of their income for God’s people and mission. From that, the needs of their house church community and the poor in their church’s neighborhood should be taken care of first, and the remainder given to Apex for the starting of new churches and the networking of existing ones.

Do Apex churches pay their pastors?

As a general rule, simple churches do not need to pay a person to “pastor” or care for them. Generally, anyone who receives payment from the Apex network of churches should be able to function within an apostolically gifted team that helps start new churches and network them together. This is not usually a “pastor” by giftedness.

Are all Apex churches considered a ‘house church’?

No. Most Apex churches meet in homes or apartments, but this is not a fast rule. Generally, a church should meet where its community feels most “at home.” This could be virtually anywhere: a restaurant, lounge, park, or office environment.

Are there Apex churches outside of Las Vegas?

Apex is actively involved in sending people to start churches in other cities and countries. To discourage some form of pseudo-denominationalism, church planters outside of Las Vegas are encouraged to develop indigenous local networks of churches. This will normally mean leaving the Apex name and structure behind. Apex will continue to encourage these emerging networks in anyway feasible.

How do I learn more about Apex?

Web: www.apexchurch.org
Phone: (702)-839-3400