

## Brother Tim's Blog #7

It. Small word, big meaning. What in the world am I talking about? It. What is "it"? "It" is something that is difficult to define, difficult to get, difficult to find, but very easy to recognize when you see it. What is it? "It" can only be described as something that a person, or organization has, (or doesn't have). It is energy, excitement, anticipation, and momentum. Let me explain "it" this way. Ever go to a church that felt weird? Not weird because they were doing something strange or teaching something blasphemous; but, weird because something just didn't seem right. Maybe you couldn't put your finger on it, maybe you could; but, you knew something was out of sorts. They have good facilities. They have a pastor with a stunning haircut (parted on the side, of course). The people dressed nice. Padded pews. Nice carpet. Screens, sound, and lighting as good as any other church. But, something didn't feel right. The feeling was discomfiting. The feeling was apathetic. Whatever "it" is, they didn't have "it". No bustle of excitement as people went to the altar. No uncontrollable "amens". You may have found that the church had to beg for volunteers to get anything done. Nothing was really happening! If you asked a church member there if they noticed something "off", they would probably ask "What are you talking about?" You can be fairly certain that they had very few, if any, recent salvations, baptisms, or new members join the church. They didn't have "it".

Ever been to a church that had "it"? They may have the same facilities, pastor with a great haircut (again, parted perfectly on the side), padded pews, sound and lighting as the first church. But, something is definitely different. There is a feeling of excitement and energy when you walk in the door. People are almost nervous with anticipation when the service starts. If you didn't arrive a little early you wouldn't get a good seat (on the back 2 rows, of course). Everybody seems to be involved in some ministry. Lots of "amens" (maybe even a "hallelujah" from the guy on

the back row that got there before you did). People get saved, baptized, and join the church regularly. Volunteers have to be put on a waiting list to help with the ministry they want because they have too many. People go to the altar during the music, and again after the message. Folks hang around to talk about their experience because they are so excited. They have “it”.

Do we have it? If not, how do we get it? Can we get it if we don't have it? If we had “it” and lost “it”, can we get “it” back?

Good question. More on those questions in future blogs. Just think about “it” for a while.

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