



Senior Pastor Jeff Richards

*Introducing  
Alpha-PLUS*

I want you to be aware of some changes that we are making to the ministries of Alpha and Cleansing Stream at EVFC.

**We have found that for adult evangelism...** there is simply no better method than to be connected to a small group around a meal and hear the Word of God in the presence of the Holy Spirit.

**There are huge plusses to Alpha:**

- If people come to Alpha and listen to the first 3 messages... well over 50% of non-Christians will become Christians!
- If people come to the Alpha Holy Spirit weekend retreat, over 80% will be baptized in the Spirit, and will be baptized in water at the next opportunity.



Alpha Holy Spirit Weekend

**The problem with Alpha...** The 'sticking' rate to the church (or any church) is about 20%.

The spiritual 'high' that a new believer receives attending the Alpha course and the weekend retreat will fade... until next year. Hence the term "alpha-holics!" If people attending Alpha do not immediately get plugged into serving and/or a Life Connection Group, unfortunately they will usually fall off the map.

*So... the PLUS part of Alpha is a Cleansing Stream type module plus added Mini-Retreat!!*

We have been pounding heaven with prayers asking for revelation as to a solution... and the thought... if people could get saved and filled with the Spirit at Alpha, then go through Cleansing Stream and get some freedom, we believe they will want to become connected to the local church, serve and/or become part of a Life Connection Group and 'stick.' **So... the PLUS part of Alpha-PLUS:** We are linking Alpha with a Cleansing-Stream-Type teaching component, **PLUS** a one-day Mini-Retreat!

**The Goals for Alpha-PLUS: To Make Disciples of Jesus...** Q- Why are we combining? A - So that people can become Saved and Filled with the Holy Spirit, and learn to walk in the Spirit and in freedom, so that they can get connected and begin serving Jesus in the local church.

**We are discontinuing our involvement with Cleansing Stream Ministries:**

We have been a part of the Cleansing Streams Ministry (CSM) for over 10 years. During that time, those who apply the teachings into their lives become free of many issues from the past and move forward with the Lord. The problem with Cleansing Stream is that the national

**Recapping...**

- Alpha is becoming Alpha-PLUS with C.S.M.-type teaching & Mini-Retreat
- We are dissolving our partnership with C.S.M.

ministry has moved beyond where we are... and the amount of work to put together our Regional Retreat requires too much manpower & resources from our church.... So we are discontinuing our involvement with CSM and incorporating a Cleansing Stream type component into Alpha-PLUS!

Pastor Jeff