



To say we are honored to have you with us today is an understatement. **WE'RE**OVERJOYED! Center of Praise Ministries is committed to the fulfillment of spreading the Gospel and making disciples as Jesus commanded (Matthew 28:19), and we're grateful that you are a part of the journey.

This year the Lord led us to focus on **EXPONENTIAL GROWTH,** which means the rapid increase of the work the church exists to achieve. More specifically for **COP, GOING EXPONENTIAL** means rapidly producing more **EXPONENTS** (disciples) who **WORSHIP, LEARN** and **SERVE** for the glory of God.

This booklet contains the teaching notes for Easter weekend (March 31 - April 1) through June 2-3. Through these teachings we will gain a deeper understanding of **WHY** Jesus came and died on the Cross, as well as **HOW** and **WHY** we are connected to Him through salvation. This is captured by the title of our third teaching series for the year,

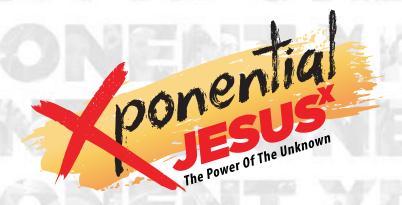
"The Xponential Branch."

Let me personally invite you to join us as we **WORSHIP**, **LEARN** and **SERVE** together. It is God's will for you to be connected to the Body of Christ just as a branch is designed to be connected to a tree. So let's **CONNECT** and **BECOME** Exponents as we carry the life and love of Jesus **EXPONENTIALLY** to the world we live in.

Sincerely,

Pastor Joseph Sissac, Victoria, Judah and Ellah

In the world of mathematics, an exponent is "a symbol or number placed above and after another symbol or number to denote the power to which the latter is to be raised." However, research of the term reveals another important, yet widely unknown and unused meaning.

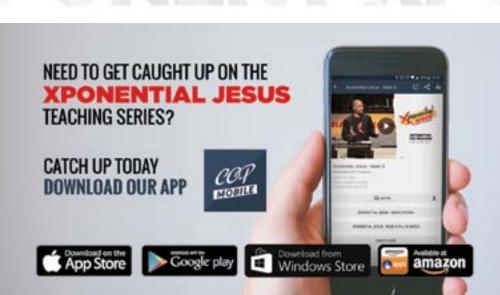


DEFINITION:

XPONENT

[ek-spoh-nuh nt]

A person who believes in and promotes the truth or benefits of an idea or theory and persuades others of its truths.



I Am The

"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit."

John 12:24 NASB

THE SEED

In His own words, Jesus reveals WHY He came to the earth and died by comparing Himself to a seed that was alone. We know that God doesn't want to remain alone, for He made mankind for intimate relationship (worship) with Himself.

Jesus is the Seed that contained the potential to **restore** what was lost in the Garden of Eden. But something else needed to happen before God and His creation could be reunited.

THE FRUIT

A SEED doesn't bear MUCH FRUIT unless it dies and becomes a tree (vine, Jn. 15:5) that has many branches.

The resurrected Jesus is like the new tree-state that is only realized when a seed dies. The seed that was alone, now exists as a living structure capable of a multitude of **connections**.

ponent

MARCH 31 - APRIL 1, 2018

This is who Jesus is for us today; A Savior who willingly sowed Himself as a Seed so that we can be **forgiven** and restored to relationship with God as fruit bearing branches.

Christ came, lived, died and resurrected because He didn't want to remain alone. He came as **THE XPONENT** to multiply the LOVE of the Father to a sinful world. He did it all to be with YOU. Every sinful branch must therefore **COME AWAKE** to **XPONENTIAL ETERNAL LIFE** found only in Christ.

THE GROUND

Jesus came down from Heaven to earth and went from the Cross to the grave just as a natural seed enters the **ground**. When this happened its seed state ceased... **THE SEED DIED**.

The death of Christ paid the price for the sin of all mankind. He willingly laid His life down on our behalf to pay a price that no man could afford. But just like in the natural, the death of a seed is the **beginning** of something, the death of Christ is the beginning of something exponentially greater.