

# Imagine in 100 years time ...

Assuming Jesus has *not yet* returned ...

What would be the **legacy** of our life and witness today?

What might be the number of people who can **trace** their roots of faith and discipleship back to **The Countess Free Church**?

What might be their geographic spread across the country or even the world?

What might they all have in common – the **key aspects** of their ongoing walk with Jesus?

Prayerfully imagining the answers to these kind of questions gives us our

## 100 Year Vision

## Countess Free Church

A local church in the cathedral city of Ely, Cambridgeshire.

We are one of the churches in the Countess of Huntingdon Connexion.

THE  
**CONNEXION**



Eastern  
Baptist  
Association

We are also associated with the Eastern Baptist Association, connecting us with baptist churches across East Anglia.

Put simply we are ...  
***a church in mission across the city.***  
With the simple motto of  
**Seeking to Worship, Seeking to Serve**  
*we want to see Kingdom Life across the city.*

The church is made up of people who commit to follow Christ together (the members). It is self-funded by donations of those who freely choose to support our work.

Registered Charity 1166937

“They are  
numbered  
in their  
thousands”

Countess Free Church

## 100 Year Vision

Seeking to Worship  
COUNT~~ESS~~  
FREE CHURCH  
ELY  
Seeking to Serve

## “They are numbered in their thousands”

A vision where in 100 years time ...  
more than 1,000 Christian disciples are ...  
    radically given over to following Jesus ...  
        sharing their faith wherever they are ...  
            drawing people to a rich spiritual life ...  
                connecting with other disciples ...  
                    forming local expressions of church.

Not one big single church. Instead churches in a variety of expressions and local places, each one:

- Faithful to Christ and the good news found in Him
- Maintaining deep rhythms of spirituality
- Missional in nature, reaching out to the community around them
- Standing against the injustices of their day, demonstrated with practical outreach initiatives
- Formed by their members, baptising new believers

Most likely the 1,000+ by this time will be scattered well beyond Ely (perhaps even around the world), but each with the desire to ‘see Kingdom Life’ manifest wherever they are. Collectively it will be a people who have this in common: that they learnt key missionary discipleship principles that can be traced from being part of the

*Countess Free Church in Ely*

Collectively these 1,000+ individuals might have a mission footprint that has a potential influence of 10,000s of people. We therefore want to be building right now a culture of rich missional discipleship that replicates and multiplies itself down the generations.

### What this means for us today!

The 100 Year Vision will form a backdrop to our vision and mission as a local church. We keep our everyday vision statement of:

***We want to see Kingdom Life across the City***

and for this we understand ourselves as:

***A Church in Mission Across the City***

Strategically we will prioritise initiatives that develop us *as a church right now*, but in each case asking the question 'does this initiative also help us towards the 100 year vision?'



Note this 100 year vision is not about the 'size of church in Ely'. It is not about our operations, or our buildings. It is about a *spiritual movement* that extends beyond ourselves and beyond our current cultural landscape.