

Is the Planetshakers church a cult?

Russel Evans of Planetshakers stated that he is accountable to know one. His followers are supposed to submit to his visions and divine direction. The structure of his Planetshakers church resembles that of the New Apostolic Reformation (NAR) cult which was founded by C. Peter Wagner.

Regarding this group, ChurchWatchCentral.com wrote:

The now deceased leader of the NAR C. Peter Wagner, talks about this type of Apostolic leadership that we are about to see in Russel Evans:

“Unless I’m mistaken, the most radical of all the changes from the old wineskin to the new wineskin is this: the amount of spiritual authority delegated by the Holy Spirit to individuals. The two operative words are authority and individuals.”¹

And it is these same Apostolic leaders who C. Peter Wagner claims are accountable to no one.

Russel Evans does a good job demonstrating that he is this individual who carries this “spiritual authority” in not only his movement but in his leadership:

1. God spoke directly to Evans: “the Lord says to me this, ‘I want next years Conference to be \$20’.”
2. He felt God give divine strategic direction, so he called a board meeting: “I felt the Lord say to me, so I called the board out of the meeting”
3. Board member speaks up and is mocked by Evans: “One of the board members ... says, ‘in my business we lift prices we never drop them’. I said ‘thank you very much for that encouraging statement’.
4. Board decided based Evans’s divine direction on emotion not on any sound reason: “we couldn’t work it out as in we couldn’t work out the natural part of it, but we said, ‘yes, we feel this is God’.”

This is not a Christian church – this is the New Wine Skin or Apostolic Center of the NAR cult. This apostolic structure centers around and exists solely for the Apostle. All are accountable to him....It is this exact ‘apostolic structure’ in the AOG and Hillsong that had them summoned to a Royal Commission. To question their divine visions, directions and revelations elevates them above the twelve apostles of Jesus Christ and makes you 100% wrong in your motive.

You will not be tolerated for being a Christian by testing what they say to God’s Word.²

¹ Source: C. Peter Wagner, Charisma Magazine, <http://www.charismamag.com/spirit/church-ministry/15676-where-are-the-apostles-and-prophets>, Published 25/06/2014. (Accessed 18/11/2015).

² Apostle Russel Evans of Planetshakers – are they a cult? 20 Dec 17: <https://churchwatchcentral.com/2017/04/01/apostle-russel-evans-of-planetshakers-are-they-a-cult/>

Plantshakers act like a cult--led by a charismatic leader rather than by the Lord Jesus (Eph 1:22, 5:23, Col 1:18).

Christ has given men authority as: apostles (2 Co 10:8), ministers (Tt 2:15) and righteous men (Pr 29:2).³ They are accountable to one another. Each will give an account to him (1 Pe 4:5) and answer for their actions toward, for example, their family (Josh 7:1–26) and community (2 Sa 24:1–17).

One's accountability is determined by his faithfulness (Mt 25:14–30). It would be foolish for one to believe that he can live a life without Christ and then expect to hear one day, "Well done, good and *faithful* servant!" Mt 25:23, emphasis mine.

Actions have consequences. True Christians appreciate being held accountable to one another as they serve the Lord. In Proverbs 27:17 we read: As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend (Pr 27:17).

³ Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). Nelson's quick reference topical Bible index (p. 73). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers.