

## **When I Wept for Central**

### **By Paul Covert**

Last Friday night at our Easter Services I got texts from Mesa and Gilbert. Both had so many people for service intercession that they had to use both prayer rooms to accommodate all the people wanting to pray for those attending the service and for those who would yet be attending. When I received the texts I couldn't help but cry. You might wonder why. Well, for the last eleven years I have prayed and dreamed that the day would come when we filled both prayer rooms at the Mesa and Gilbert campuses for service intercession and it finally happened.

One hundred and thirty eight people showed up to pray for those who were attending our Easter services on all of our campuses. They prayed hard and were amazed at how easy service intercession was to do and how fulfilling it was to join the team. I invited all those who participated to come back and join in regularly since we do this every weekend. One lady's response was precious, "Wild horses could not keep me away, I loved this!"

Another man was in the prayer room for the first time. He confessed that he was nervous at first but when we finished I invited him to join us again and his comment was insightful. He said, "This makes so much sense to pray for those who are here on this day. It just makes great sense."

Just to put this in perspective.... I don't know of another church in America who had 138 people praying for those who were attending their services. It is a joy to lead a group like this who gets it.

One final note... I prayed with a man for three years or so. He went on to join another church. He now leads their prayer ministry and wrote me on Easter Sunday. He was barely touching the ground when he wrote, "We had twelve people doing service intercession this Sunday at my new church and I am thrilled with what God is doing."

I think it is cool that what we are doing is being imitated at other churches across the valley and the country. Again I say it is a joy to lead a group that gets it.