



# INTERNATIONAL CHURCH PLANTING

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## Workshop Description:

According to Isaiah 2 & Micah 4 "*...in the last days...all nations shall flow...*" to the House of the Lord, thus as an apostolic movement we need to be intentionally and strategically planting churches in the nations of the world, not just sending support. This workshop will not only explore the Biblical mandate for international church planting, but mistakes to avoid as well as successes in assisting relational church planting/building on different continents. Several international church planters/pioneers will also contribute during the workshop.

Q & A to follow.

## REVELATION

- I. "...All Nations..." - Is. 2:2; Micah 4:1
  - A. Contemporary prophets from different ends of the socioeconomic spectrum. Isaiah – Royalty Access: Micah – Proletariat Prophet.

"Most scholars do not believe they copied each other, but rather the expression had become a common expression of several priestly and prophetic communities within the nation and that one or both drew it from that common heritage" – John Oswalt
  - B. "...Last days..." – "Not a technical term referring to a millennial period or a time beyond that, but a time within a time – perhaps the Church age." - John Oswalt

- C. Every people group, tongue, tribe, nation & culture.
- D. "Flowing or streaming in together."
- E. Malachi 1:11,14 – OT ends with the prophetic push that "...all nations'... will respond to the Gospel.
- F. All nations **flowing** to the house... Apostolically planted churches.

Isaiah/Micah-REVELATION



Jesus-INTERPRETATION



Paul-APPLICATION

## INTERPRETATION

II. Mt. 16:18 ~ "...Build (establish) my church..."

≅ "People called out for the purpose of assembly."

"The single most effective evangelistic methodology under heaven is planting new churches." C. Peter Wagner

## APPLICATION

III. Eph. 2: 19-22 ..."no longer...built together..."

A. Eph. 3:10-11 "...church...eternal purpose..."

B. Paul didn't just write about it... He did it!

## Seven Church planting lessons from Paul's life: (Acts 13-20)

1. Apostolic **Seed** planted by an Apostolic **Team** with an Apostolic **Eye** for emerging Apostolic **Leaders**.

Three Missionary Journeys ... always with a team.

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|-------------------------|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Journey | a. Paul & Barnabas ... John Mark (Acts 13-14)  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Journey | b. Paul & Silas... Drafted Timothy (Acts 16-18:17)   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Journey | c. Paul & Silas, Timothy & Priscilla & Aquila (18:18-22)   |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Journey | d. Paul & Team – Timothy Luke, Erastes, others (Acts 18:23-19:41)  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Journey | e. Paul & Team – Timothy, Erastus, Sopater, Aristarchus, Secundus, Gaius, Tychicus, Trophimus (Macedonia → Asia)                 |
|                         | f. Connected with leaders in each city for a base to Church Plant – (Corinth – Justus; Thessalonica – Jason; Ephesus – Tyrannus) |

*"First A Man, Then A Family, Then A Nation" – Anonymous*

2. Tailored approach to assure relevancy in the culture where Church is planted. (Must **Understand** that we don't **Understand**)
  - a. From an **Intellectual** approach at Mars Hill to a **Doctrinal** approach at Berea.
  - b. From Reasoning/**Experienced** based message at Corinth to a Reasoning/**Lordship** based message at Ephesus.

3. Apostolic/Kingdom Lifestyle Modeled – 1 Thes. 2:6-11
  - a. Personal **Sacrifice** 2 Cor. 12:15
  - b. Profound **Humility** Eph. 3:8, Tim. 1:15, 1 Cor. 15:9
  - c. Extreme Acts of **Love** 2 Cor. 5:14; 2 Cor. 11:23-28
  - d. Selfless **Service** 1 Thes. 2:8-9
  - e. Covenant **Relationships** 2 Cor. 7:3
  - f. Prolific **Pray-er** Rom. 1:9; Eph. 1:6; Php. 1:4; 1 Thes. 1:2
  
4. Three Ministry Emphases
  - a. **Character** Before Gifting (Php. 2:22)
  - b. **Family** Before Function (Eph. 6:1-4)
  - c. **Relationship** Before Release (1Thes. 5:12)
  
5. Kingdom Relational Principles Taught & Modeled
  - a. **Unassuming** Approach – 1 Cor. 9:2, 2 Cor. 10:13-16 → Embraced limitations.
  - b. **Attitude** - Eph. 4:1-3 & 32 ~ lowliness, gentleness, longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, unity of the Spirit, kind to one another, tenderhearted and forgiving.
  - c. **Communication** – Eph. 4:29
  - d. **Perspective** – Acts 9:4; 1 Cor. 12:27

6. Invest long enough financially & relationally to see a plurality of elders raised up.
  - a. Acts 14:23; 20:31, Titus 1:5
  - b. Mt. 10:11, Mark 10:10, Luke 10:7
  
7. Remain connected as an apostolic father to churches birthed and be available to provide oversight, encouragement and wisdom.
  - a. Summary of Paul's ongoing Apostolic Responsibilities
    - i). **Doctrinal** Balance
    - ii). **Moral** Purity
    - iii). **Relational** Unity

#### **IV. Mistakes Made**

**"Innovation requires gambling and risk taking. We tell our folks to make at least ten mistakes a day. If they're not making ten mistakes a day, they are trying hard enough."**

**Robert Metcalf, Chairperson 3Com**

- A. Conflicting Paradigms In The Same House...**
- B. "Raising The Roof w/o Fixing The Foundation"**
- C. Not Heeding Holy Spirit Warnings**
- D. Not Heeding People's Concerns**

# **Essential Ingredients in Strengthening and Planting International Churches**

## **V. Comments From International Apostolic Leaders ~**

### **A. Cali, Colombia - Ruth Ruibal**

- 1. Apostolic friend to **Walk** with –** Someone to share heart and vision with who has willingness to understand our culture. Genuine friendship, not just a “ministerial” relationship or sporadic friendship.
- 2. **Impartational** Teaching –** Someone in tune with the vision of the Church willing to consistently come and impart to the Church the theme God is leading in.
- 3. **Financial** Commitment –** Sufficient Support to allay overseer from living in continues financial crises. As well, as full or partial support for a support staff who can be trained for leadership and handle special projects.
- 4. Send Missionaries –** Mature leaders or families who are called and willing to give at least two years, preferably four, to missions. These would have to be flexible people who would study the language. They need to be able to adapt to the culture, learn to work with the people, and walk along side the senior pastor. They would need a pastoral heart and be good teachers. Their lives would have to be in such order that others can follow them.

**Summary:** Itinerate ministries can be a blessing and encouragement; the greatest need is for those who will walk along side to see the work established in such a way that they can reproduce themselves.

## **B. Cornwall, ON Canada - Roy Stephenson**

**On March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2002 Harvest Christian Fellowship was "sent out" of New Testament Church. Don Curry, Dick Iverson, Danny Bonilla and Bob Isabel served as facilitators of that event. Approximately 55 people were sent to be the beginnings of the Body we call Harvest Christian Fellowship. One year later the congregation has grown to approximately 100 and now just past year two we are seeing approximately 150 gathering on Sunday mornings. Looking back over this process, I would identify the following as significant factors contributing to the growth of this house.**

### **1. Generational Anointing/The Passing of Spiritual DNA**

- a. Leaders of the Church plant were "sons" of the parenting Church.**
- b. A significant spiritual heritage is released into the new work when this relationship exists. A true authority with a double portion was freely imparted to the daughter church.**
- b. The daughter work benefits since in reality it is not a new work but a continuation of the parent work.**
- d. The eldership team of the parenting church had full confidence in the timing of this event.**

### **2. Prophetic Impetus**

- a. Foundations of New Testament Churches are built by Apostles and Prophets. There was a strong Prophetic thrust behind this work.**
- b. Prophetic word indicated there would be a birthing**
- c. Prophets stirred those building**
- d. Prophets imparted significantly at the sending**

### **3. Apostolic (Fathering) Nurture of the New Work**

- a. Direct accountability for the marriages and family life of leadership couples**
- b. Open accountability for the finances of the leadership couples**
  - (i) The work was started without financial “stains”. Personal and Church finances were openly discussed and scrutinized by parenting eldership team.**
  - (ii) Financial support time frames were open ended to be regularly evaluated.**
- c. Don is an elder in the daughter work --- and is a functioning elder. He governs and feeds the body. An ongoing apostolic voice is necessary for growth and development.**
- d. The leadership team of HCF has full ownership of the work. NTC’s oversight is alongside not over top.**
- e. Resources (in the form of people, gifting and ministry) are given sacrificially from the parent Church –not just the parent eldership team. The church body of NTC feels they are a part of the new work.**

### **4. Foundation Laying is an Intentional Process Taken Very Seriously**

- a. Clear and concise goals are set and measured.**
- b. The leadership team of HCF understands that to whom much is given much is required. Regular accountability of vision, direction and building progress is closely monitored to ensure a proper foundation is being laid.**
- c. “Painful” adjustments are made before the cement of the foundation is set.**