

CHURCH PLANTING PRIMER

Why New Churches Are Needed
And How They Are Started



COURSE OUTLINE

SESSION ONE: A Biblical Rationale for Church Planting

SESSION TWO: The Need for New Churches

SESSION THREE: How New Churches Begin

SESSION FOUR: How Ordinary Christians Can Begin New Churches

A BIBLICAL RATIONALE FOR CHURCH PLANTING

“Church planting is the normal business of the local church, and the local church is where Christians are taught to obey everything Jesus commanded.”

– MARK DEVER

A BIBLICAL RATIONALE FOR CHURCH PLANTING

Church Planting is **important** because the church is **important**.

A BIBLICAL RATIONALE FOR CHURCH PLANTING

What role does the church currently play in our society?

How do Christians view the church?

A BIBLICAL RATIONALE FOR CHURCH PLANTING

We love the church because Christ loved the church. She is his bride – a harlot at times, but his bride nonetheless, being washed clean by the word of God (Eph. 5:25-26). If you are into Jesus, don't rail on his bride. Jesus died for the church, so don't be bothered by a little dying to self for the church's sake. If you keep in mind that everyone there is a sinner (including yourself) and that Jesus Christ is the point and not you, your dreams, or your kids, your church experience might not be as lame as you fear.

– KEVIN DEYOUNG AND TED CLUCK, CHURCH: LOVE IT, DON'T LEAVE IT

SO WHY SHOULD WE LOVE THE CHURCH?

- **Because Christ loves the church**

- *Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.*
Ephesians 5:25

SO WHY SHOULD WE LOVE THE CHURCH?

- **Because Christ loves the church**

- *Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.*
Ephesians 5:25

- **Because we can't obey Christ without the church**

- *So that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.*
1 Corinthians 12:25-26

SO WHY SHOULD WE LOVE THE CHURCH?

- **Because the world can't know Christ without the church**
 - *So that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. Ephesians 3:10*
- **Because the church is eternal**
 - *Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:20-21*

CHURCH PLANTING IN THE BIBLE

Virtually all the great evangelistic challenges of the New Testament are basically calls to plant churches, not simply to share the faith.

– TIM KELLER

CHURCH PLANTING IN THE BIBLE

- **Jesus** was a church planter.
- **Paul** was a church planter.
- The **apostles** were church planters.
- The **Great Commission** is a call to plant churches.

CHURCH PLANTING IN ACTS

- **Acts 1:8, 2:1-47**
 - Jesus authorizes his Apostles to plant the first church.
- **Acts 8**
 - Philip preaches the gospel effectively during the persecution and scattering of the Jerusalem church in Samaria.
- **Acts 9**
 - Saul (Paul) converts from being a persecutor of the church to a planter of churches.
- **Acts 11:19-26**
 - Barnabas is sent to authenticate and lead new church at Antioch.

CHURCH PLANTING IN ACTS

- **Acts 13:1-4**
 - Paul and Barnabas are called directly by the Holy Spirit on mission to launch new churches, and the church prays and fasts and affirms their calling.
- **Acts 14:23, Titus 1:5**
 - Paul’s missionary ministry of planting churches forms the rest of the story of Acts.
- **Acts 15:6-35**
 - Paul remains under the authority of the church that had first sent him.

A BIBLICAL RATIONALE FOR CHURCH PLANTING

“We encourage our members to leave us to found other Churches; nay, we seek to persuade them to do it. We ask them to scatter throughout the land to become the goodly seed, which God shall bless. I believe that so long as we do this we shall prosper.”

– CHARLES SPURGEON

CHURCH PLANTING PRIMER

Why New Churches Are Needed
And How They Are Started



COURSE OUTLINE

SESSION ONE: A Biblical Rationale for Church Planting

SESSION TWO: The Need for New Churches

SESSION THREE: How New Churches Begin

SESSION FOUR: How Ordinary Christians Can Begin New Churches

THE NEED FOR NEW CHURCHES

A net gain of 3,205 churches is needed each year for the American church to keep up with population growth; this is far [greater] than the actual yearly gain.

– DAVID T. OLSON

THE NEED FOR NEW CHURCHES

Church Planting is **important** because the church is **dwindling**.

THE NEED FOR NEW CHURCHES

Does the fact that the church in America is dwindling surprise you?

Why do you think churches are dwindling?

THE NEED FOR NEW CHURCHES

“Between the years 2010 and 2012, more than half of all churches in America added not one new member. Each year, nearly 3 million more previous churchgoers enter the ranks of the ‘religiously unaffiliated.’”

– HUFFINGTON POST

THE NEED FOR NEW CHURCHES

Church Planting is important because most existing churches are **plateaued** or **declining**.

“Today, of the approximately 350,000 churches in America, four out of five are either plateaued or declining. Many churches begin a plateau or slow decline about their fifteenth to eighteenth year. 80-85% are on the down-side of this cycle.”

– WIN ARN

THE NEED FOR NEW CHURCHES

So why not just help dying churches?

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE CHURCH?

- The church is getting bigger.
- The church is getting smaller.

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE CHURCH?

“We knew that over the past 30 to 40 years denominations had increasingly reported a decline in their numbers,” Marler says. “Even a still-growing denomination like the Southern Baptist Convention had reported slowed growth. Most of the mainline denominations were all reporting a net loss over the past 30 years. And at the same time, the Gallup polls had remained stable. It didn’t make sense.”

– KIRK HARDAWAY AND PENNY LONG MARLER

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE CHURCH?

- The church is getting more **professional**.

Professionalism has nothing to do with the essence and the heart of the Christian ministry. The more professional we long to be, the more spiritual death we will leave in our wake. For there is no professional childlikeness, there is no professional tenderheartedness; there is no professional panting after God.

– JOHN PIPER, BROTHERS, WE ARE NOT PROFESSIONALS

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE CHURCH?

- The church is getting more **inclusive**.
- The church is getting less **effective**.

THE NEED FOR NEW CHURCHES

Q: So what do we do about it?

A: We plant churches!

THE NEED FOR NEW CHURCHES

“The vigorous, continual planting of new congregations is the single most crucial strategy for 1) the numerical growth of the Body of Christ in any city, and 2) the continual corporate renewal and revival of the existing churches in a city. Nothing else – not crusades, outreach programs, para-church ministries, growing mega-churches, congregational consulting, nor church renewal processes – will have the consistent impact of dynamic, extensive church planting...The only way to be truly sure you are increasing the number of Christians in a town is to increase the number of churches. Why? Much traditional evangelism aims to get a ‘decision’ for Christ.

THE NEED FOR NEW CHURCHES

Experience, however, shows us that many of these ‘decisions’ disappear and never result in changed lives. Why? Many, many decisions are not really conversions, but often only the beginning of a journey of seeking God. (Other decisions are very definitely the moment of a ‘new birth’, but this differs from person to person.) Only a person who is being ‘evangelized’ in the context of an on-going worshipping and shepherding community can be sure of finally coming home into vital, saving faith.”

– TIM KELLER

COMMON OBJECTIONS TO CHURCH PLANTING

- “We just don’t have the people to send.”
- “We don’t have the money.”
- “Our people aren’t ready for that yet.”
- “I don’t feel God leading us in that direction.”

CHURCH PLANTING PRIMER

Why New Churches Are Needed
And How They Are Started



COURSE OUTLINE

SESSION ONE: A Biblical Rationale for Church Planting

SESSION TWO: The Need for New Churches

SESSION THREE: How New Churches Begin

SESSION FOUR: How Ordinary Christians Can Begin New Churches

HOW NEW CHURCHES BEGIN

Church attendance is as vital to a disciple as a transfusion of rich, healthy blood to a sick man.

– DWIGHT L. MOODY

MODERN CHURCH PLANTING MODELS

- Parachute planting
- Sent by an existing church
- Partnership between organizations
- House church
- Multi-site church
- Church replant
- Church split

BIBLICAL CHURCH PLANTING MODELS

- Jerusalem Model
– Acts 11:19

BIBLICAL CHURCH PLANTING MODELS

- Antioch Model
– Acts 13-20, Titus 1:5

BIBLICAL CHURCH PLANTING MODELS

- Ephesian Model

- Titus from Antioch
- Timothy from Lystra
- Gaius from Derbe
- Aristarchus from Thessalonica
- Secundus from Thessalonica
- Sopater from Berea
- Tychicus from Ephesus
- Trophimus from Ephesus
- Epaphras from Colosse

BIBLICAL CHURCH PLANTING MODELS

- Roman Model

HOW NEW CHURCHES BEGIN

- Vocational
- Bi-vocational
- Volunteer

HOW DOES ONE GO ABOUT STARTING A NEW CHURCH?

1. **Confirm** your calling.
2. **Prepare** yourself and your family.
3. **Recruit** a mentor and a partner.
4. **Plan** out your new church.
5. **Gather** necessary resources.

HOW DOES ONE GO ABOUT STARTING A NEW CHURCH?

6. **Assemble** a missionary team.
7. **Befriend** your community.
8. **Begin** worship services.
9. **Order** your church biblically.
10. **Repeat** the process by training new leaders.

CHURCH PLANTING PRIMER

Why New Churches Are Needed
And How They Are Started



COURSE OUTLINE

SESSION ONE: A Biblical Rationale for Church Planting

SESSION TWO: The Need for New Churches

SESSION THREE: How New Churches Begin

SESSION FOUR: How Ordinary Christians Can Begin New Churches

HOW ORDINARY CHRISTIANS CAN BEGIN NEW CHURCHES

What do you think is necessary to have in order to start a new church?

HOW ORDINARY CHRISTIANS CAN BEGIN NEW CHURCHES

A **ready leader** is the only necessary
ingredient in church planting.

HOW ORDINARY CHRISTIANS CAN BEGIN NEW CHURCHES

Q: Where do ready leaders come from?

A: They are made, not born.

HOW ORDINARY CHRISTIANS CAN BEGIN NEW CHURCHES

FAT people make great church planters.

- **Faithful**
- **Available**
- **Teachable**

HOW ORDINARY CHRISTIANS CAN BEGIN NEW CHURCHES

They are willing to be **“MAWL’d”**

- **Model**
- **Assist**
- **Watch**
- **Leave**

IS GOD CALLING ME TO START A NEW CHURCH?

Calling includes:

- Aspiration
- Adequacy
- Affirmation

BIBLICAL QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS

1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9, 1 Peter 5:1-4

- Above reproach
- The husband of one wife
- Believing children
- Sober-minded
- Not arrogant
- Not quick-tempered
- Self-controlled
- Respectable
- Hospitable
- Lover of good
- Upright
- Holy
- Disciplined
- Holds firm to the Word
- Able to give sound instruction
- Able to refute bad instruction
- Able to teach
- Not a drunkard
- Not violent, but gentle
- Not quarrelsome
- Not a lover of money
- Not greedy
- Good manager of household
- Keep children submissive
- Not a new convert
- Well thought of by outsiders

IS GOD CALLING ME TO START A NEW CHURCH?

“Can I still help start churches even if I’m not called to be a church planter?”

YES!

KEY MINISTRY LEADERSHIP NEEDS

- Prayer Advocate
- Worship Leader
- Discipleship Director
- Outreach Coordinator
- Children’s Ministry Coordinator
- Communications Coordinator
- Technical Director
- Service Coordinator
- Student Ministry Director
- Treasurer
- Small Group Coordinator

CHURCH PLANTING PRIMER

Why New Churches Are Needed
And How They Are Started

