

School of Church Multiplication

Facilitator's Manual



Revised August 2012

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Note: Words defined in the Appendices will be noted in italics throughout the booklet.

Teacher’s Note: Fill-in-the-blanks on the Student Manual will be highlighted in yellow here.

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The School of Church Multiplication

Overview of Movements

- Why movements?
- What are movements?
- How do movements start and propagate?

Endearment (Our Devotion to Christ)

- 5 Core Spiritual Disciplines
- Calling, Character, and Competence
- Daily Devotions using the Christian Calendar
- Richard Foster, Celebration of Discipline

Evangelism (Our Witness for Christ)

- 5 "P's"
- Good News to...
- Redemptive Analogies
- Evangelism Role-playing
- Definition of Terms
- Common Objections
- Evangelism Models
- Oikos, Person of Peace

Equipping (Our Making of Disciples)

- What is discipleship?
- 7 Commands of Christ
- Life Transformation Groups
- Discovery Bible Studies
- The Urban Ministry Institute

Empowering (Our Planting of Churches)

- What is church?
- DNA
- Fivefold Gifts (APEST)
- MAWL

Embracing (Our Fellowship with the Saints)

- Associations
- Threefold purpose
- Learn the background, biblical precedents, purposes, commitments, advantages and cautions of an association

Readings

- Nexus by David Garrison
- Forgotten Ways by Alan Hirsch
- Acts of the Apostles
- Organic Church by Neil Cole
- The Making of a Disciple by Keith Phillips
- Celebration of Discipline by Richard Foster

SYLLABUS
The School of Church Multiplication

Date	Class Topic	Homework (Due next week)
Session 1	Overview of Movements <i>Our Vision from Christ</i>	Read Chapters 1-2 from <u>The Forgotten Ways</u> . Suggested reading: <i>The Book of Acts</i> Do a reading response for all that you read.
Session 2	Endearment <i>Our Devotion to Christ</i>	Read Mark 1:35-39, John 10:1-6, 15:5, 1 Kings 19:1-13, & Psalm 139; Chapter 3 from <u>The Forgotten Ways</u> . Suggested Reading: "Welcome to the Nexus" & chapters 1, 2, 3 & 26 from <u>Nexus</u> . Start using some spiritual disciplines every day and tell us about it next time. Memorize John 15:5, study for the quiz and do a reading response.
Session 3	Evangelism <i>Our Witness for Christ</i> Quiz on Endearment	Read Chapter 4 from <u>The Forgotten Ways</u> . Do reading response. Begin to memorize at least one passage/verse for each of the "5 P's".
Session 4	Evangelism <i>Our Witness for Christ</i>	Read Chapter 5 from <u>The Forgotten Ways</u> . Do reading response and study for the quiz. Memorize at least one passage/verse for each of the "5 P's".
Session 5	Equipping <i>Our Making of Disciples</i> Quiz on Evangelism	Read Chapter 6 from <u>The Forgotten Ways</u> . Memorize at least one passage/verse for each of the "7 Commands of Christ", study for the quiz, and do reading response.

Session 6	Empowering Our Planting of Churches Quiz on Equipping	Read Chapter 7 from <u>The Forgotten Ways</u> . Suggested reading: Chapters 44-52 from <u>Nexus</u> . Memorize Ephesians 4:11-13 & I Corinthians 14:26, study for the quiz and do reading response.
Session 7	Embracing Our Fellowship with the Saints Quiz on Empowering	Read Chapter 8 from <u>The Forgotten Ways</u> . Suggested reading: Chapters 28, 29, 31, 53, 55, 58, 61 & 62 from <u>Nexus</u> . Memorize Acts 9:31 & Matthew 16:18 and do reading response.
Session 8	Wrapup Quiz on Embracing	Turn in all remaining reading responses, the Final Exam, Ministry Project, and Course Evaluation. Bryan Cullison c/o World Impact 2001 S. Vermont Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90007 bcullison@worldimpact.org

SCuM Grading Summary
The School of Church Multiplication

Summary for 2 Credits

Class Attendance & Participation	20%	80 points
Quizzes.....	12%	50 points
Memory Verses	23%	95 points
Ministry Project.....	12%	50 points
Reading Responses.....	17%	70 points
Final Exam	16%	65 points
Total	100%	410 points

Grading

- A – 90-100% Superior Work
- B – 80-89% Excellent Work
- C – 70-79% Satisfactory Work
- D – 60-69% Passing Work
- F – 0-59% Unsatisfactory Work
- I – Incomplete



OVERVIEW OF MOVEMENTS

Our Vision from Christ

The School of Church Multiplication

The Question:

How can we assure that every unreached person in Los Angeles, regardless of language, culture, and location, has access to a fellowship of Jesus followers?

The Answer:

There must be a church plant movement within every language, culture, and area!

Why is it called the School of Church Multiplication?

We believe that the only way to reach an entire city with the Gospel of Jesus is to have churches multiply at such a rate as to both meet the population growth rate and to overcome the disparity between those that are already unreached. Basic church growth and addition will never be fast enough. We need churches started that can all be reproducing themselves continually.

Why a movement?

For church planters around the world, the "Holy Grail", if you will, is a **church plant movement**. This is a 21st Century phrase, but it does reflect the heart of God. In Jesus' teachings, he emphasized multiplication when he talked of fruitfulness. In the parable of the sower, for example, he speaks of the good soil producing a crop that is 100, 60, or 30 times what was sown. Likewise, in the

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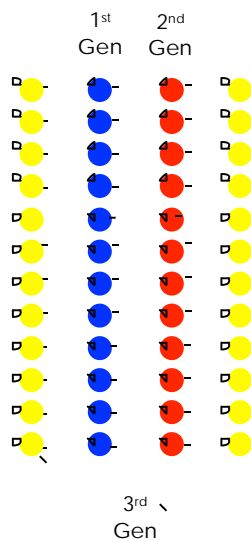


Figure 1

parable of the talents, the servants who doubled their original portions of five and two talents to ten and four, respectively, won the approval of their master, while the one who only preserved what was given him was reprimanded.

In other words, simply extending the faith one more generation without increasing your influence was seen as wicked and lazy! The Great Commission also has exponential growth inherent in its formula, as twelve apostles multiply themselves, which in turn yields twelve more, and these 24 multiply themselves, and so on into multiples of twelve many times over. In Figure 1, it can be seen that the 1st generation of disciples are a group of 12 (the blue circles), the 2nd generation yields 12 more (the red circles) for a total of 24, and these 24 in turn yield 24 more (the yellow circles) in the 3rd generation (for a total of

48). If we follow this pattern out to its logical end, we can see that even if we were to start from scratch today (say, 12 disciples) and took a complete year to disciple someone else, within one generation (30 years), we would have disciplined the entire world's population (see Table 1)!

The Apostle Paul indicates exponential growth as his expectation, if we read between the lines, when he advises his young disciple Timothy to entrust what he has been given to others who will also be qualified to teach others (II Timothy 2:2). This indicates four generations of discipling in this one phrase (Paul,

Cycle	Disciples
1	12
2	24
3	48
4	96
5	192
6	384
7	768
8	1,536
9	3,072
10	6,144
11	12,288
12	24,576
13	49,152
14	98,304
15	196,608
16	393,216
17	786,432
18	1,572,864
19	3,145,728
20	6,291,456
21	12,582,912
22	25,165,824
23	50,331,648
24	100,663,296
25	201,326,592
26	402,653,184
27	805,306,368
28	1,610,612,736
29	3,221,225,472
30	6,442,450,944

Timothy, those he teaches, those they teach), and also speaks to exponential growth as disciples continue to reproduce themselves. Thus, we have a clear understanding from Scripture why a church-plant movement is the aim given to us from the Lord.

Every church-plant movement (CPM) has a "brandedness" about it. The CPM's may not all look the same, nor will the churches resulting from a CPM, but they all have unique characteristics that can distinguish them from other church plants even in the same region. In the Fire & Maneuver model, we follow the Five E's:

- Endearment
- Evangelizing
- Equipping
- Empowering
- Embracing

This can be represented by a volcano (see Figure 2 below), where the hot, inner core is the movement, and the solid outer core is the holistic compassion ministries the churches and associations form to address the needs of the community.

Table 1

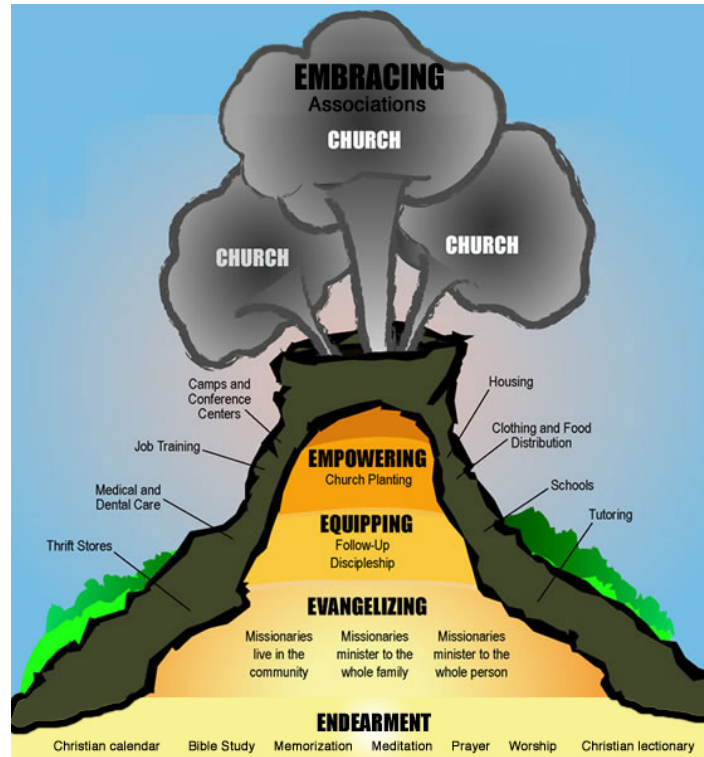


Figure 2

These five E's work together, with our endearment to Christ as the foundation. The other phases of the movement are not necessarily linear, but rather work simultaneously and cyclically. In other words, these are not segmented phases so much as activities happening all together. If God moves in a mighty way, this process serves us well to see large numbers of converts, disciples, leaders, and churches.

Homework

Read Chapters 1-2 from The Forgotten Ways.

Suggested reading: *The Book of Acts*

Do a reading response for all that you read.

Ministry Projects

Share the vision of your contribution toward God's movement with someone from your circle of influence.

Reading Response Sheet

Name_____

Date_____

For each assigned reading, write a brief summary of the main points (a paragraph or more). For additional readings, use the back of this sheet.

Reading 1

Book_____

Chapter_____

Reading 2

Book_____

Chapter_____

Do Endearment powerpoint along with module. Look for symbol below to advance show.



ENDEARMENT Our Devotion to Christ The School of Church Multiplication

The First E: Endearment

This is the foundation upon which all of our activity, our identity, and our purpose are formed. **Who you are** is more important than **what you do**. Activity cannot be a replacement for intimacy with Jesus (Matthew 7:21-27, John 15:1-8). As Alan Hirsch explains it, Christology forms our Missiology, which forms our Ecclesiology. "Jesus is Lord" is the operating phrase here. This must be true in our own lives and in the lives of those we disciple. Our movement is marked by the use of spiritual disciplines as a means to grow more like and in love with Jesus, particularly the disciplines of **worship**, **prayer**, **Bible study**, **fasting**, **meditation**, and **memorization**. We also employ the Revised Common Lectionary and the Christian calendar year in our personal and corporate worship. The use of these universal elements connect us with the larger Body of Christ in a common collection of Scripture every week, as well as center our focus and the marking of our time and celebrations around the life of Christ.



Starting principles

- Jesus is Lord
- Christology forms our Missiology which forms our Ecclesiology
- **Know** God, then make Him **known**.
- **Being** before **doing**.
- **Who** you are is more important than what you **do**.



Spiritual Disciplines

What is a SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE? (Refer to Richard Foster's book *The Celebration of Discipline*)

A practice which fosters endearment to Christ.

What are the 6 core spiritual disciplines we use in simple church planting?

1. **Worship**
2. **Prayer**
3. **Bible Study**
4. **Fasting**
5. **Meditation**
6. **Memorization**



Our Goal - The 3 C's

1. Calling
2. Character
3. Competence

Read Mark 1:35-39, John 15:5, John 10:1-6, 1 Kings 19:1-13, Psalm 139.

How do we currently endear ourselves to God?

There is no substitute for spending time with God. Spiritual disciplines are important tools to help us create space for God.

Read Chapter 1 from Richard Foster's Celebration of Discipline, together, out loud. Discuss our experience with each:

WORSHIP:

PRAYER:

BIBLE STUDY:

FASTING:

MEDITATION:

MEMORIZATION:

Homework

Read Mark 1:35-39, John 10:1-6, 15:5, 1 Kings 19:1-13, & Psalm 139.

Start using some spiritual disciplines every day and tell us about it next time.

Memorize John 15:5.

Read chapter 3 from The Forgotten Ways.

Study for the quiz and do a reading response.

Suggested Reading: Chapters "Welcome to the Nexus", 1, 2, 3 & 26 from NEXUS.

Ministry Projects

Daily Devotions.

One spiritual check-up with a pastor.

Attend a simple church meeting for 3 months.

Reading Response Sheet

Name_____

Date_____

For each assigned reading, write a brief summary of the main points (a paragraph or more). For additional readings, use the back of this sheet.

Reading 1

Book_____

Chapter_____

Reading 2

Book_____

Chapter_____

Do Evangelism
powerpoint first
as introduction
to module.



EVANGELISM

Our Witness For Christ

The School of Church Multiplication

While we recognize that there are a variety of excellent tools and models of evangelism, the primary tool we use in our evangelism is “the five P’s.” This is described as follows (for more Scripture, see the Appendix):

Purpose (The **Reign** of God) - God created the world perfectly and reigned over it. He created us for relationship with Him. (Genesis 1, Romans 1:18-20, Psalm 19:1-4)

Problem (The **Wrath** of God) - Humans rebelled against God by sinning. Our sin separates us from God. (Romans 3:23, 6:23, Genesis 3:21-24, Romans 3:11-12)

Plan (The **Love** of God) - God sent his Son Jesus to pay the penalty for our sin. He died in our place, so we can have relationship with God again. (Romans 3:25-26, 5:1, 8, 10-11)

Priority (The **Command** of God) - It is the priority of every human to decide what to do with Jesus. Those who believe in Him and repent of their sins are saved. Those who do not remain separated from God. (Romans 10:9-10, I John 1:9, Acts 2:38, 3:19, II Corinthians 7:9-10)

Proof (The **Expectation** of God) - Those who repent and believe will be transformed by the Holy Spirit. They will show the reality of their faith by their works, their character and the fruit of the Holy Spirit. (James 2:14-26, John 15:1-8, Galatians 5:16-26, Matthew 7:16-20, Matthew 3:8)

We believe that all five of these elements are necessary to share in one way or another for the whole Gospel message to be fully declared. The only limit to the ways that this evangelism can take place is your own imagination. Contact evangelism is but one of a variety of means utilized, but it is critical to share as soon as is appropriate and relevant.

The apostolic mindset of *Fire & Maneuver* is apocalyptic in that it operates with an urgency in its evangelism and discipleship. We want to make disciples as well and as quickly as possible. We do not assume a tomorrow. If something

happens to us or the Lord returns, the disciples we are making will have been given everything they need to follow and become like Jesus. The Apostle Paul never knew when he would be taken away from a city, so he poured into the church at that location everything the Spirit led him to. He did this knowing that if he did his job right, the disciples of that city could go on without him if need be.

Openers

What are your experiences with evangelism?

What emotions does the word trigger for you?

What are your lasting images of what an evangelist is?

When you go out to evangelize with someone, what are you feeling?

-

The Gospel as Good News

"We can easily understand how such a Gospel would appeal to the minds of St. Paul's hearers. To those who, among the conflicting claims and confused teachings of polytheism, were seeking for some unity in the world of nature and of thought, St. Paul brought a doctrine, at once simple and profound, of one personal God living and true, the Creator of all. To men who sought for some intelligent account of the world, its nature and its end, St. Paul revealed a moral purpose in the light of which all the perplexities, uncertainties, and apparent contradictions, resolved themselves into a divine harmony. To men of high moral instincts, appalled and dismayed at the impurity of society around them, St. Paul offered the assurance of a moral judgment. To men oppressed by the sense of sin he brought the assurance of pardon and release. To the downtrodden, the sad, the hopeless, he opened the door into a kingdom of light and liberty. To those who were terrified by the fear of malignant spirits he revealed a Spirit benignant, watchful and ever present, all-powerful and able at a word to banish the power of darkness. To men dissatisfied with the worship of idols he taught the pure service of one true God. To people whose imaginations were overwhelmed by the terrors and darkness of the grave he gave the assurance of a future beyond the grave in the bliss and peace of the Risen Lord. To the weak who needed support, to sinners bound with the chain of vice, to people unable to cope with the depressed morality of their heathen surroundings, he brought the promise of an indwelling Spirit of power. To the lonely he offered the friendly warmth and society of a company all eagerly looking forward to a bright day when Grace would come and this world with all its perplexities and troubles pass away. It is no wonder that this Gospel of St. Paul

appealed to men, fired their imaginations, filled them with hope, and strengthened them with power to face persecution.”
From Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours? By Roland Allen

What is Good News to.....?

- the undocumented immigrant from MacArthur Park
 - the Goth/punk girl from LACC
 - the homeless man from Venice Beach
 - the day laborer with 5 kids and no insurance
- the international student from a city college w/no American friends
 - the atheist
- the backsliding Christian with bitterness towards the Church
 - the Catholic-raised mother with no husband at home
 - the Universalist that believes all roads lead to God

Redemptive Analogies

Purpose

- raising your first child
-
-

Problem

- your friend betrays you
-
-

Plan

- your sentence is served
-
-

Priority

- parachute and the plane crash
-
-

Proof

- taking your medication
-
-

Common Objections/Stumbling Blocks

Responses/Verses

Purpose -

Problem -

Plan -

Priority -

Proof -

Spiritual Types: Roleplaying with the 5 P's

Instructions: Secretly assign students to each of the roles below and have them take turns evangelizing each other, one as the evangelist, one as the role, then vice versa. The idea is to assess through normal conversation and questions where the person is at spiritually and to appropriately share the relevant point(s) of the 5 P's.

- a Goth/punk who sees no hope
- a homeless man who believes in Jesus
- an atheist
- a backsliding Christian
- A non-practicing Catholic
- a PETA/Greenpeace animist
- a peace-loving Buddhist
- a seeking Muslim
- a complacent Christian
- A Universalist

What are some of the evangelism tools you have been trained with before now?

What has been your favorite, and why?

What has been the most effective, and why?

What do these tools have in common with the 5 P's?

What differentiates these tools from the 5 P's?

Can you eliminate anything from the 5 P's and still make a complete presentation of the Gospel? Why or why not?

Why the stress on the 5 P's tool over any other?

Types of Evangelism

Strengths

Weaknesses

Contexts

-

OIKOS

(John 4:53, Acts 11:14, 16:15, 31, 18:8, I Corinthians 1:16, 16:15)

PERSON OF PEACE

(Matthew 10, Mark 6, Luke 9, Luke 10)

Homework

Read Chapters 4 & 5 from The Forgotten Ways.

Study for the quiz.

Do a reading response.

Memorize at least one passage/verse for each of the "5 P's".

Ministry Projects

Pray for the lost, specifically those in your oikos that do not know or follow Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

Share the 5 P's with as many people as possible. Come prepared to share one story of an encounter you had with someone.

Suggested Readings

Out of the Saltshaker by Rebecca Manley Pippert

Get the Word Out by John Teter

Becoming a Contagious Christian by Bill Hybels and Mark Mittelberg

Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis

The Master Plan of Evangelism by Robert Coleman

Blue Like Jazz by Donald Miller

The Barbarian Way by Erwin McManus

Questioning Evangelism by Randy Newman

The Celtic Way of Evangelism by George Hunter III

Every Member Evangelism by J.E. Conant

Others...?

Reading Response Sheet

Name _____

Date _____

For each assigned reading, write a brief summary of the main points (a paragraph or more). For additional readings, use the back of this sheet.

Reading 1

Book _____

Chapter _____

Reading 2

Book _____

Chapter _____

Do Equipping powerpoint along with module. Look for symbol below to advance show.



EQUIPPING Our Making of Disciples The School of Church Multiplication



What is a disciple?

A person who loves and obeys Jesus.



What is discipleship?

Christian discipleship is a **teacher-student** relationship based on the model of **Christ** and **His disciples** in which the teacher **reproduces** the fullness of life he has in Christ in the student so well that the **student** is able to train **others** to teach others. – Dr. Keith Phillips, The Making of a Disciple



What are characteristics of a disciple?

- Faithful
- Available
- Teachable
- Obedient
- Submissive
- Loving
- Died to self
- Desires to spiritually reproduce



7 Basic Commands of Christ

Jesus left his disciples with the Great Commission at the end of the book of Matthew, and he told them to teach others to obey everything He had commanded them. George Patterson, a missionary to Latin America, read this and asked himself, "What did Jesus command us?" This question led him to search the Gospels to find out what the basics are that we should be obeying and teaching others we are *discipling* to obey. The result was a list of seven basic commands, which we use as our main discipling tool. They follow here:

- 1.) Repent and believe.
- 2.) Be baptized.
- 3.) Take the Lord's Supper.
- 4.) Pray.
- 5.) Give.
- 6.) Love God and neighbor.
- 7.) Make disciples.

Is there anything missing from the above?

Is there anything that should not be on this list of basics?

The Bible verses for these commands can be found in the appendices. These are the basic commands for every disciple of Jesus. Except for the first two, they are not listed in any particular sequence. These should all be happening all the time. You might ask, where is "Read the Bible"? Good question. This is obviously important, but not an explicit command of Christ. It is implied in the idea of all of it, as they are all gleaned from Scripture, and as it is impossible to teach another person to obey and make disciples when the Word is not read.

When discipling another, it is critical to emphasize the obedience to these commands, not just the learning of them. If a person learns one, and is obedient to that command, then continue teaching the next one. If they refuse to obey one of the commands, do not move on and continue to teach the next one. To do so communicates that knowledge is more important than obedience, which is not Biblical. These seven basic commands of Christ are the very first thing we begin to teach when a person comes to faith in Jesus, and they form the body of the Scripture we study from in those earliest discipling moments.

Discipleship Tools

Two key tools in furthering the discipling process are **Life Transformation Groups** (LTG's) and **Discovery Bible Studies** (DBS'). Neil Cole and Paul Kaak can be credited with the former¹, while the latter is from Carol Davis and Tom Wolf (International Urban Institute)².

LTG's are the smallest possible building blocks of simple churches. They are gender-specific groups of two or three people who agree to meet at least once weekly for **study of the Bible**, **accountability**, **fellowship** and **prayer** for those in their oikos who are unbelievers. It is an expectation of the members of an LTG that they will read large sections of Scripture between meetings, which forms the basis of the weekly Bible Study. Once LTG's grow to four people, they multiply into two groups of two, ensuring both reproducibility and smallness of numbers.

¹The Greenhouse Conference Training and Organic Church (page 27)

²Discovery Bible Studies manual



Life Transformation Groups (LTG's)

What they are

How they work

Why to do them



Discovery Bible Studies

DBS' are groups that agree to meet at least once weekly for Bible study. They are characterized by an inductive study approach to the Word, a standard set of simple questions that anyone could lead the group through, and an emphasis on obedience and application of the Word that is studied. There is a great priority on the authority of Scripture and the Holy Spirit in these groups, and less reliance on a leader "spoon-feeding" members what they are to learn. As a result, these are excellent in developing the confidence of new leaders and promoting the concept that everyone should be participating. A representative sample of the standard question set asked every week is:

3-Step DBS Model

Observation

(What did it mean to the original audience?)

Would someone please rephrase the passage in his or her own words?

What is happening in this passage?

Who is writing to whom?

When does this take place?

Where does this take place?

What genre of literature is this passage?

How does this passage fit in with its context (what goes before and after)?

What idea sticks out to you?

What idea is the most challenging?

What do you not understand?

Interpretation
(What is true for all people at all times?)

What is God trying to tell us as a church?
What is God trying to tell me personally?
What is God trying to tell us about Himself?
What is God trying to tell us about ourselves?
What is God trying to tell us about the world?

Application
(How should I respond to this right here and right now?)

What am I supposed to do about this?
What specific action or inaction does God want me to change?
What actions, words, or attitudes are not obedient to this right now?
What are we doing well on?
Who is a person God wants me to share this with?
Who is a person God wants me to witness to?
What phrase or verse does God want me to meditate on and/or memorize?

It is important to note that at this level the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper may be undertaken, with believers baptizing new converts and the disciples sharing communion together regularly.

Advantages of DBS

Disadvantages of DBS

Formal Theological Training

Many of the leaders in these simple churches should be trained beyond the basics, and go on to more formal and serious training in theology, Bible interpretation, and the like. Since it is neither convenient, nor cheap, nor culturally relevant in most cases for an urban poor leader to attend a seminary, how is one to get this theological training? World Impact offers The Urban Ministry Institute (TUMI), which is a training and research institution that equips leaders for the urban church, especially among the poor, in order to advance the Kingdom of God. Classes are offered at a fraction of the cost of normal seminaries (\$50/2-credit class), emphasize application and practical ministry in

their coursework, and are flexible in their timing and language. Theologically, the TUMI curriculum places its emphasis on the **Kingdom of God** and the **Nicene Creed** (the most universally accepted statement of faith). Even elders of a simple church who do not attend TUMI will be taught the Nicene Creed as a theological underpinning of the faith.

Homework

Read Chapter 6 from The Forgotten Ways.

Memorize at least one passage/verse for each of the "7 Commands of Christ",
Study for the quiz.

Do a reading response.

Ministry Projects

Teach the 7 Commands of Christ to your church or someone you are discipling.

Reading Response Sheet

Name _____

Date _____

For each assigned reading, write a brief summary of the main points (a paragraph or more). For additional readings, use the back of this sheet.

Reading 1

Book _____

Chapter _____

Reading 2

Book _____

Chapter _____

Do Empowering powerpoint along with module. Look for symbol below to advance show.



EMPOWERING Our Planting of Churches The School of Church Multiplication

When we plant the “seed” of the Gospel in the “ground” of a community, if it is good soil, it will grow, and it will take the form that best fits that culture and context. We do not place constraints on those we disciple on what type of church to form, or the particular structure or denomination of church to adopt. The apostolic team serves only as a coach to the indigenous leader, thinking transition from day one. We encourage the potential leader to think about making everything they do as reproducible as possible to those they disciple. They should not do anything that hinders their ability to make more disciples and to plant more churches. As Neil Cole, author of *Organic Church*, says it, we want to “raise the bar of what it means to be a disciple and lower the bar of how we do church.”¹ The idea of and commitment to church itself is not lowered, but simply how it is done. A high-bar disciple will necessarily have a high-bar commitment to the Family of God in his/her local context.

In particular, the *School of Church Multiplication* model is committed to planting simple churches that fulfill the biblical requirements for church in their simplest possible form and avoids any model of church that is complex. As A.W. Tozer says, “I would rather be a member of a group that meets in a little room on a side street than to be part of a great going activity that is not New Testament in its doctrine, in its spirit, in its living, in its holiness, in all of its texture and tenor.

We need simple churches. What is a church though? What are its irreducible minimums? Ask a hundred people, and you will get as many definitions. Cole and Kaak submit that church is, “The presence of Jesus among His people called out as a spiritual family to pursue His mission on this planet.”¹ It can also be as simple a definition as a community of disciples of Jesus. If they are disciples, as we define them, it is implicit that they will be following the seven basic commands of Christ (which includes the sacraments of baptism and communion), obeying the Great Commission, and making more disciples!

What is Church? Brainstorming Session

¹The Greenhouse Conference Training



Definitions of Church

Creedal: One, holy, catholic and apostolic church

Reformational: Word is rightly preached, Discipline is rightly ordered, Sacraments are rightly administered

Biblical: Family of God

Missional: Self-propagating, Self-governing, Self-supporting

Newbigin: A divine society bound together in a single visible fellowship with the Lord and His apostles, and visibly united in the sacramental life

Allen: people with a tradition/creed, the Sacraments, leadership/elders, and the Holy Scriptures

Organic Church: The presence of Jesus among His people called out as a spiritual family to pursue His mission on this planet (Cole/Kaak)

Simple Church: An elder-led community of disciples living out DNA and the Sacraments

Ultimately, we view church as any community of disciples who have the right DNA¹:

Divine Truth
Nurturing Relationships
Apostolic Mission

What is an example of an organization that only has the D and N of DNA?
school, club, "holy huddle"

What is an example of an organization that only has the D and A of DNA?
army

What is an example of an organization that only has the N and A of DNA?
cult

These include the **upward** relationship with God, the **inward** relationship with each other, and the **outward** relationship with the culture around them. In fact, all three elements embrace all three directions simultaneously. The Word of God is what we share with each other as believers, is the place where we meet Christ the Living Word as a conversation with our Father, and is the message we carry to the culture around us. Nurturing relationships should be with the Father, in the Holy Spirit through the Lord Jesus. They are both within the Body of Christ, and with those we are engaging in our own oikos. Apostolic Mission is only done with the call and empowerment of the Holy Spirit, in conjunction with other believers, and amongst the world.

¹The Greenhouse Conference Training



The Nature and Function of Simple Churches

- Participatory
- Spontaneous
- Spirit-Led
- Reproducible



Fivefold Gifts

God has given us His Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit has gifted members of the body to be **apostles**, **prophets**, **evangelists**, **shepherds**, and **teachers** (Ephesians 4). We believe the church should consist of a combination of people with at least these gifts, and it is intended that every member should be actively ministering and producing fruit. Simple churches foster this “every-member ministry” in the priesthood of believers. One cannot “hide” in a simple church. Additionally, within an association of simple churches, all five of these gifts should be present and active.

Apostle -

Prophet -

Evangelist -

Shepherd -

Teacher -



The Process of Empowerment - MAWL

Model

Assist

Watch

Leave

Homework

Read Chapter 7 from The Forgotten Ways.
Suggested reading: Chapters 44-52 from Nexus.

Memorize Ephesians 4:11-13 & I Corinthians 14:26.
Study for the quiz .
Do a reading response.

Ministry Projects

Learn and memorize the Nicene Creed.
Teach the Nicene Creed to your church or someone you are discipling.

Reading Response Sheet

Name_____

Date_____

For each assigned reading, write a brief summary of the main points (a paragraph or more). For additional readings, use the back of this sheet.

Reading 1

Book_____

Chapter_____

Reading 2

Book_____

Chapter_____

Do Embracing powerpoint along with module. Look for symbol below to advance show.



EMBRACING Our Planting of Churches The School of Church Multiplication

As these churches are formed, they will naturally want to be in **association** with one another. For one thing, many of them will have started out of the others, and so they will know each other already. Also, it is important for smaller churches to feel connected to something bigger than themselves. They are of course part of the Church universal, that is, the Body of Christ that has existed since Christ served as its foundation. They are part of that "great cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12), and it is through the association that our churches work to show that "the church is one" (John 17).

Associations are an intentional and concrete step which demonstrate practically this truth of unity. Associations can be defined as churches that have committed to:



- be involved in **mission** together
- share **resources**
- foster **fellowship**

Associations



Biblical Precedents



Advantages

Cautions

Associations agree to the following as they cooperate in mission:

- to evangelize and make disciples among the urban poor,
- to reproduce and multiply disciples through the planting of churches,
- to equip emerging leaders for the above church plants. TUMI will be the primary "arm" for theological training of these leaders.
- to the orthodox statement of faith found in the Nicene Creed

Associations are also key in accountability, as the network can be self-correcting if one simple church practices heresy or simply flounders.

Associations of simple churches also help in this brandedness that was first spoken of. They give an "identity", a shared spirituality, to each church and network. Since the disciples in the churches formed from this process will primarily have come to Christ through the hearing of the five P's, been disciplined through the seven commands of Christ, experienced an LTG or DBS, and understood the irreducible minimums of church being DNA, they will have their own language, heritage, and culture. They have common practices in endearment, evangelism, equipping, and empowering. This fosters movement.

Besides formal and informal daily and weekly accountability between association members, and quarterly and yearly retreats, monthly gatherings for the leaders of each church form the heart of our association times. These monthly association meetings generally follow this progression:

- fellowship
- Lord's Supper
- prayer
- devotional from the lectionary/Christian calendar
- vision and goal-sharing

Homework

Read Chapter 8 from The Forgotten Ways.

Suggested reading: Chapters 28, 29, 31, 53, 55, 58, 61 & 62 from Nexus.

Memorize Acts 9:31 & Matthew 16:18.

Do a reading response.

Ministry Projects

Attend one association event.

Reading Response Sheet

Name _____

Date _____

For each assigned reading, write a brief summary of the main points (a paragraph or more). For additional readings, use the back of this sheet.

Reading 1

Book _____

Chapter _____

Reading 2

Book _____

Chapter _____

FINAL MINISTRY PROJECT
The School of Church Multiplication

During the course of this class you have had many different ministry projects from the modules to engage in. For the final ministry project, you may either take the time to write a one-page summary of one or more of those experiences,

OR

you may share your insights from this class with a friend, co-worker, colleague, Sunday school class, church, small group, mentor or disciple.

If you do the latter, you will also write a one-page summary detailing what you shared, whom you shared it with, what their response was, and what questions arose from the sharing time.

ENDEARMENT QUIZ
The School of Church Multiplication

1.) Which one of the following is NOT a core spiritual discipline of Fire & Maneuver?

- A. Evangelism
- B. Prayer
- C. Fasting
- D. Bible study
- E. Bible memorization

2.) Which of the following is NOT one of the 3 C's?

- A. Calling
- B. Character
- C. Competence
- D. Compassion

3.) Fill in the Blank: (4 points)

W_____ you ARE is more important than What you D_____.

K_____ God, then make Him K_____.

4.) In your own words, what does it mean to be "endeared" to Christ?

5.) What steps are YOU taking to become more endeared to Christ this year?

6.) What are two advantages of using the Christian Calendar Year/Lectionary?
(2 Points)

Extra Credit: Explain the phrase, "Christology forms our missiology which forms our ecclesiology."

Write your memory verse for the week below (Indicate which Bible version) or say it to a classmate and have him/her initial it if you said it correctly.

John 15:5

EVANGELISM QUIZ
The School of Church Multiplication

1.) What are the five P's? (2 points)

P
P
P
P
P

2.) Which of the following is a description of how to share the gospel as good news?

- A. tell people what they want to hear
- B. share only the joys of heaven to come and the love of God
- C. share the full gospel in a way that makes sense to who they are
- D. share the full gospel with a smile and a good attitude

3.) How would you describe the term "oikos"?

4.) A Person of Peace has the following three things true about them: (2 points)

They have a strong R_____.

They are R_____ influential in their community.

They are R_____ to the Gospel.

5.) (TRUE or FALSE) You should always explain all 5 P's whenever you share the Gospel, regardless of who you are talking to.

6.) (TRUE or FALSE) It is important to always start with creation when sharing the Gospel, regardless of who you are talking to.

7.) Which of the following is the best way of describing the fifth "P"?

- A. You must earn your salvation by doing good works.
- B. You show the evidence of salvation by attending a church.
- C. You show the evidence of salvation through good works, character and the fruit of the Spirit.
- D. You are not saved until you have been baptized.

8.) How would you describe the term "redemptive analogy"?

Extra Credit: Give an example of a redemptive analogy.

Write your memory verse for the week below (Indicate which Bible version) or say it to a classmate and have him/her initial it if you said it correctly.

One of each of the 5 P's Scriptures

EQUIPPING QUIZ
The School of Church Multiplication

1.) What three elements are essential to every Life Transformation group (LTG)?

2.) What are the seven basic commands of Christ? (3 points)

- i.
- ii.
- iii.
- iv.
- v.
- vi.
- vii.

3.) What is an advantage of the Discovery Bible Study (DBS) method?

4.) What is a disadvantage of the Discovery Bible Study (DBS) method?

5.) What are the three steps of the DBS model? (3 points)

6.) How would you describe a "disciple" of Jesus?

Write your memory verse for the week on the backside (Indicate which Bible version) or say it to a classmate and have him/her initial it if you said it correctly.

One of each of the 7 Commands of Christ Scriptures

EMPOWERING QUIZ
The School of Church Multiplication

1.) What is the DNA of church? (2 points)

D
N
A

2.) Which of the following would NOT be a way to incorporate the "D" above into a church meeting?

- A. Sing worship songs to the Lord
- B. Read aloud a passage of Scripture during the meeting
- C. Have everyone share what is going on in their lives
- D. Take the Lord's Supper together

3.) Which of the following would be a way to incorporate the "N" above into church activities?

- A. Call each other during the week to share how things are going.
- B. Take up an offering for a member of the church who lost his job.
- C. Confess your sins to fellow member of the church.
- D. All of the above are valid.
- E. Only b & c are valid.

4.) Describe one way you could apply the "A" of church in your church activities.

5.) (TRUE or FALSE) According to the Bible, a church leader must be of high moral reputation and be more educated than all other members of the church.

6.) (TRUE or FALSE) At meetings, it is important for all members of the church to participate and exercise their spiritual gifts.

7.) Describe TWO advantages of a simple/house church meeting over a traditional preaching-based church.

8.) What are the Fivefold Gifts? (2 points)

A
P
E
S
T

Write your memory verses for the week below (Indicate which Bible version) or say it to a classmate and have him/her initial it if you said it correctly.

Ephesians 4:11-13

I Corinthians 14:26

EMBRACING QUIZ
The School of Church Multiplication

1.) What are the three minimum commitments of an association? (3 points)

S _____ R _____
Be involved in M _____ together
F _____ F _____

2.) Give an example of a way that churches in an association can do the first item above.

3.) Give an example of a way that churches in an association can do the second item above.

4.) Give an example of a way that churches in an association can do the third item above.

5.) What is an advantage of an association?

6.) What is a caution of an association?

7.) Which of the following is a good description of the idea of "brandedness"?

- A. a shared spirituality
- B. an identity
- C. a common DNA
- D. all of the above
- E. none of the above

8.) Name at least 2 activities that should take place at every association meeting.

Write your memory verse for the week below (Indicate which Bible version) or say it to a classmate and have him/her initial it if you said it correctly.

Acts 9:31 and Matthew 16:18

FINAL EXAM
The School of Church Multiplication

1.) What are the five P's of the Gospel and what is a good phrase which describes each? (10 points)

P	--	_____
P	--	_____
P	--	_____
P	--	_____
P	--	_____

2.) What are the seven basic commands of Christ to His followers? (7 points)

- i.
- ii.
- iii.
- iv.
- v.
- vi.
- vii.

3.) What is the DNA of a church? (3 points)

D
N
A

4.) What are five examples of spiritual disciplines which may serve to endear you to Jesus? (5 points)

5.) What does the MAWL acronym stand for? (4 points)

M
A
W
L

6.) Describe the three characteristics of a person of peace. (3 points)

- i.
- ii.
- iii.

7.) What are the fivefold gifts/functions/offices of the Church? (5 points)

A
P
E
S
T

8.) What are the three minimum commitments of an association? (3 points)

S_____ R_____
Be involved in M_____ together
F_____ F_____

9.) What are the five E's of a church plant movement? (5 points)

E
E
E
E
E

10.) Describe what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. (5 points)

11.) Describe some practices that you would incorporate in your church planting that would help a new church plant to reproduce itself after you established it. (5 points)

12.) Describe some practices that you would incorporate in your church planting that would help the elders of a new church plant not be dependent on you.

(5 points)

13.) How would you go about identifying and developing leaders and elders for a new church plant? (5 points)

Write out any memory verses for the course below (Indicate which Bible version) that you have not already said or written to this point.

ANSWER KEY
The School of Church Multiplication

Endearment Quiz

- 1.) A
 - 2.) D
 - 3.) Who you are is more important than what you do.
Know God and Make Him Known.
 - 4.) to be connected with Christ, to be intimate with Jesus, to live out "Jesus is Lord"
 - 5.)
 - 6.) common bond of the same Scripture readings, orders our year around Jesus
- E.C. Our relationship with Christ forms the foundation and understanding of how and why we do mission, which in turn forms our structure and understanding of church.

Evangelism Quiz

- 1.) Purpose, Problem, Plan, Priority, Proof
 - 2.) C
 - 3.) one's circle of influence
 - 4.) reputation, relational, receptive
 - 5.) False
 - 6.) False
 - 7.) C
 - 8.) A way of explaining a point of the Gospel through story, parable, or example
- E.C. a parachute on a plane, the betrayal of a friend, etc.

Equipping Quiz

- 1.) Scripture, Confession, Prayer for the lost
- 2.) repent and believe, be baptized, Lord's Supper, pray, give, love God and neighbor, make disciples
- 3.) allows wide participation, easy to lead, promotes application
- 4.) can be simplistic, relies heavily on everybody participating
- 5.) listening, reading, studying, memorizing, meditating, applying
- 6.) someone who lives out the principle of "Jesus is Lord", someone who obeys the commands of Jesus, someone who follows Jesus fully, someone who lives their life after the pattern of Jesus

Empowering Quiz

- 1.) divine truth, nurturing relationships, apostolic mission
- 2.) C
- 3.) D
- 4.) pray for the lost, go out and prayerwalk, evangelize in pairs, do an outreach

- 5.) false
- 6.) true
- 7.) encourages every-member participation, easier to reproduce leaders, more relational setting
- 8.) apostle, prophet, evangelist, shepherd, teacher

Embracing Quiz

- 1.) share resources, be involved in mission together, foster fellowship
- 2.) offerings, service projects, bibles, camps
- 3.) outreach, discipling, teaching or hosting TUMI, prayerwalking
- 4.) share meals, attend association meetings, go on vacations together, prayer network
- 5.) accountability, admonishment, corrects heresy, discourages isolation, connects to larger Body of Christ
- 6.) ingrown, abuse of power, "us" vs. "them", doctrinal bullying
- 7.) D
- 8.) fellowship, communion, prayer, Christian calendar/lectionary/devotional, vision and goal sharing

Final Exam

1.) Purpose - God created us for relationship with him, God made a perfect creation, God had perfect relationship with us
 Problem - We broke relationship with God when we sinned
 Plan - God paid for our sins with the sacrifice of his son Jesus, opening the way back for us
 Priority - each person must decide what to do with Jesus, must repent
 Proof - we show the evidence of our faith through character, fruit of the Spirit, good works

- 2.)
 - i. repent and believe
 - ii. be baptized
 - iii. Lord's Supper
 - iv. prayer
 - v. giving
 - vi. love God and neighbor
 - vii. make disciples

3.) Divine Truth, Nurturing Relationships, Apostolic Mission

4.) prayer, fasting, Bible Study, Bible Memorization, meditation, worship, solitude, simplicity, giving, celebration

5.) Model, Assist, Watch, leave

- 6.) strong reputation, relationally connected, receptive to the Gospel
- 7.) Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Shepherd/Pastor, teacher
- 8.) share resources, Be in mission together, foster fellowship
- 9.) Endearment, Evangelism, Equipping, Empowering, Embracing
- 10.) someone who lives out the principle of "Jesus is Lord", someone who obeys the commands of Jesus, someone who follows Jesus fully, someone who lives their life after the pattern of Jesus
- 11.) live out the DNA of church, keep things simple, apply the MAWL principle, etc.
- 12.) apply the MAWL principle, identify leadership early, disciple to replace yourself, communicate and live out transition from the beginning, do ministry with others always, etc.
- 13.) Look for the qualifications from I Timothy and Titus, look for F.A.T. people (faithfulness, availability, and teachability), look for those obedient to Jesus, who live out the principle of "Jesus is Lord"

EVALUATION
The School of Church Multiplication

1.) What module of the 6 did you most enjoy? Why?

Overview of Movements
Endearment module
Evangelism module
Equipping module
Empowerment module
Embracing module

2.) What module did you learn the most from?

3.) What would you change about the classroom sessions?

4.) What worked well?

5.) Did you find the book(s) used in this course to be helpful? Why or why not?

6.) What books would you like to see included?

7.) What teaching topics would you like to see included?

8.) On a scale of 1-10, your overall rating of this course would be:

Very Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Superior

9.) What is one thing you are taking away from this course?

10.) What did you like most about the classroom sessions?

11.) The homework load for this class was: *(circle the best answer)*

- a. Too easy
- b. What I expected
- c. Way more than I expected
- d. Too much for me to handle

12.) Was there anything about this class (from an organizational standpoint) that was frustrating to you or could have been made more clear?

13.) Is there any topic that you wish we would have spent more time covering in class?

14.) Did your instructor(s) do a good job facilitating class discussion? Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

15.) Any other comments or questions?

NOTES

APPENDICES

FIRE & MANEUVER MODEL "HOW TO" STEPS

- 1.) Fast and pray with your leaders. Obtain a charter, charge, or commission.
- 2.) Form an apostolic team (ideally a pair who is apostolic and prophetic).
- 3.) Pray for discernment and guidance on which areas the Lord would have you go.
- 4.) Look for the person of peace in the target area.
- 5.) Evangelize and disciple the person of peace, modeling endearment to Jesus. Emphasize the 5 P's of the Gospel and the seven basic commands of Christ. Equip them through LTG's, DBS', and TUMI.
- 6.) Model simple church with the person of peace and their oikos in their own context and empower the person of peace to lead the simple church from the very beginning.
- 7.) Establish/commission elders in the simple church.
- 8.) Embrace the new church in an association of churches.
- 9.) Transition out of the simple church.
- 10.) Celebrate!

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FIRE & MANEUVER VALUES

- 1.) *Spirit-led*—The Holy Spirit must lead, guide, empower, and embolden. Methods, modes, models, principles, and strategies will fail in the endeavor to build God's Kingdom without the Holy Spirit. It is the Spirit who orchestrates divine encounters, teaches, counsels, corrects, and gifts everyone in the process of church planting, and ultimately leads any church-planting movement. We serve only to facilitate what the Spirit initiates.
- 2.) *Apostolic*—Fire and Maneuver church planters are entrepreneurial and pioneering. They have some share of an apostolic gifting, or at least the desire of nurturing an apostolic heart. The mindset is one of a catalyst to begin a work and then move on to other areas with an apocalyptic urgency.
- 3.) *Faith*—Pioneering evangelism takes great courage and a confidence that it is the Spirit that has led you to the time and place where you are. It takes great faith to envision the unseen Kingdom of God in a broken and lost community. It takes great faith to see a leader or a pastor out of the drunk, strung-out homeless man who is asking you for his next dollar. It takes great faith to hand the reigns of authority over to a young elder of a simple church where you might be able to lead it better, but for the sake of reproduction, you must leave.
- 4.) *Empowerment*—Every activity must seek to teach, encourage and model for those you are discipling what to do, and their own ability to do so as well, possibly in a very different way. As the seed of the Gospel is sown in the soil of a community, the resulting plant will take the appropriate shape and bear the appropriate fruit for that context. Empowerment goes beyond delegation to the expectation and goal of leading your disciples to take the baton of leadership from you.
- 5.) *Reproducible*—Be certain that you do nothing that is not reproducible by those you are discipling. Avoid ministry activities that are cost-prohibitive, that require the use of outside resources or agencies that they will not have access to, and avoid complexity. Embrace the simple.

SUMMARY OF DEFINITIONS

5 E's of Movement-Endearment, Evangelism, Equipping, Empowering, and Embracing

5 P's of Evangelism-Purpose, Problem, Plan, Priority, Proof

7 Commands of Christ-Repent and Believe, Be Baptized, Take the Lord's Supper, Pray, Give, Love God and Neighbor, Make Disciples

APEST-the fivefold gifts/offices of Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Shepherd (sometimes called Pastor), and Teacher, as mentioned by Paul in Ephesians 4

Apostolic-one who is sent, marked by entrepreneurial skills and gifts, on the move; focus is on the urgency of tomorrow; impact is extension. Usually conducted translocally, pioneers new missional works and oversees their development (entrepreneur, pioneer, strategist, innovator, visionary)

Apostolic Team-a team of sent ones commissioned with the task of missional work, usually comprised of at least an apostle and a prophet

Association-a network of churches committed to fellowship, mission, and resource-sharing

Church-an elder-led community of disciples living out DNA (see below) and the sacraments

Church Plant Movement-a rapid and multiplicative increase of indigenous churches planting churches within a given people group or population segment. (taken from the International Mission Board)

DBS-Discovery Bible Studies, an inductive study group with a standard question set designed to be led by anyone, with authority on the Word and the Holy Spirit instead of one particular leader

Disciple-someone who lives out the principle of "Jesus is Lord", someone who obeys the commands of Jesus, someone who follows Jesus fully, someone who lives their life after the pattern of Jesus

DNA-the basic practices of a church; the irreducible minimums; Divine Truth, Nurturing Relationships, Apostolic Mission

Summary of Definitions (continued)

Fire and Maneuver-an apostolic model of church-planting based on the Apostle Paul and Luke 10

LTG-Life Transformation Group, similar to G12, Groups of Three, and other basic discipleship groups; developed by Church Multiplication Associates

Modality and Sodality-"A modality is a structured fellowship in which there is no distinction of sex or age, while a sodality is a structured fellowship in which membership involves an adult second decision beyond modality membership, and is limited by either age or sex or marital status. In this use of these terms, both the denomination and the local congregation are modalities, while a mission agency or a local men's club are sodalities." (from "The Two Structures of God's Redemptive Mission" by Ralph D. Winter)

Oikos-one's own unique circle of influence, including, but not limited to, family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, student peers, business associates, etc. See Don Davis' teaching on this in the TUMI course, Focus on Reproduction, for more.

Pauline Model/Cycle- (David J. Hesselgrave) The Pauline Cycle is a 10-stage look at the Apostle Paul's model/method of church planting.

1. Missionaries Commissioned: Acts 13:1-4
2. Audience Contacted: Acts 13:14-16
3. Gospel Communicated: Acts 13:17-41
4. Hearers Converted: Acts 13:48
5. Believers Congregated: Acts 13:43
6. Faith Confirmed: Acts 14:21-22
7. Leadership Consecrated: Acts 14:23
8. Believers Commended: Acts 14:23
9. Relationships Continued: Acts 15:36
10. Sending Churches Convened: Acts 14:26-27

Person of Peace-an indigenous community member who is marked by three characteristics:

- Receptivity/Responsiveness to the Gospel
- Reputation (well known in the community)
- Relational Influence (well connected)

Summary of Definitions (continued)

Revised Common Lectionary- a plan for continuously reading through all of the major passages in the Bible over a three-year-period. Each week there are four readings, one from the Psalms, one from elsewhere in the Old Testament, one from the gospels, and one from a New Testament book other than the gospels.

School of Church Multiplication-an extension of The Urban Ministry Institute which develops and explores Fire & Maneuver as an apostolic church-planting movement model

CORE SCRIPTURES

Fire and Maneuver:

Matthew 28:19-20; Luke 10

Fire:

Verses on the Spiritual element - Exodus 3:1-10 (Holiness)

Verses on the Strategic element - Mark 16:15; Acts 8:4; Romans 1:16 (Preach the Gospel)

Maneuver:

Verses on the Spiritual element - John 3:1-10 (Spirit Led)

Verses on the Strategic element - Luke 10:1-11; Acts 8:39; Romans 15:20
(Regional thinking; be where God is working)

5 P's:

Purpose- Genesis 1, Romans 1:18-20, Psalm 19:1-4

Problem- Romans 3:23, 6:23, Genesis 3:21-24, Romans 3:11-12

Plan- John 3:16, Isaiah 53, Romans 3:25-26, 5:1, 8, 10-11

Priority- Romans 10:9-10, I John 1:9, Acts 2:38, 3:19, II Corinthians 7:9-10

Proof- James 2:14-26, Galatians 5:16-26, Matthew 7:16-20, John 15:1-8, Matthew 3:8, Acts 26:20

7 Commands:

Repent and Believe-Acts 2:22-41, 17:30, Matthew 3:2,4:17, II Corinthians 7:8-11

Be Baptized-Acts 8:26-40, Matthew 28:18-20, Romans 6:1-5, Acts 2:38,
Galatians 3:26-29, I Peter 3:21-22

Take the Lord's Supper-Luke 22:1-22, Mark 14:22-25, Matthew 26:26-29,
I Corinthians 11:17-34

Pray-Matthew 6:5-15, 5:44, Luke 18:1-8, Ephesians 6:18, Romans 8:26,12:12,
Philippians 4:6-7, I Timothy 2:1-8, I Thessalonians 5:17, James 5:13-18

Give-II Corinthians 8:1-5, 9:6-15, Malachi 3:6-10, Acts 20:35

Love God and Neighbor-Luke 10:25-37

God-Deuteronomy 6:5-9, Joshua 22:5, Psalms 31:23

Others-Leviticus 19:9-18, Matthew 5:43-48, John 13:34-35,15:13,
Romans 12:9-21,13:8-10, I Peter 1:22

Both-Matthew 22:37-40

Make Disciples-John 15:1-17,8:31-32,13:35, Matthew 10:24-25,28:19-20,
Luke 6:40, 14:26-27,33

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, True God of True God, begotten not created, of the same essence as the Father, through whom all things were made.

Who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became human. Who for us too, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, suffered and was buried. The third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Life-Giver, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who together with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

We believe in one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sin, and we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the age to come.

Amen.

BOOK DISCUSSION GUIDES

Nexus Chapters-“Welcome to the Nexus”, Chapter 5

“Welcome to the Nexus” highlights:

- movements happen when church planting is simple, inexpensive, reproducible and missional
- differences between small groups, cell groups, house churches and simple churches
- simple churches are a return to the pattern of the NT church
- simple churches are full functioning churches in and of themselves
- simple churches are self-governing
- simple churches are open to the leading of the Spirit of God
- simple churches are formed with the intention of multiplying
- simple churches are connected by cohesive, decentralized networks with one another

Chapter 5 highlights

- the historical precedence of the original NT church meeting in homes
- church meetings were participatory, interactive, spontaneous, and Spirit-led
 - mystical elements—prayer, praise, and singing
 - intellectual elements—the teaching of the apostles
 - spectacular elements—prophecy, miracles, and others
 - symbolic elements—the Lord’s Supper and baptism
 - relational elements—“one another” and “each other”
 - evangelistic elements—when non-Christians visit
 - material elements—sharing the wealth
 - temporal elements—day, time, and length of meetings
 - sociological elements—the size of the churches

Chapter 5 Study Questions—p. 83

When you picture a movement taking place, what do you see?

Take 1 minute to imagine what Los Angeles would be like if a spontaneous, rapidly expanding simple church-planting movement were actually happening.

- What would churches be like?
- How many churches do you think could start every day?
- How many people could be saved and baptized every day?
- What would the role of an apostle be during this movement? A prophet? An evangelist? A shepherd/pastor? A teacher?

- How would your community change?
- How would your relationship with your neighbors be different?
- How would your relationship with your coworkers be different?
- How would your church experience change?
- How would your expectations change?

Why do we use the term simple church? What is simple church NOT?

What is church in its simplest form?

How do you foster participation in a gathering of believers?

How do you help believers discover their gifts?

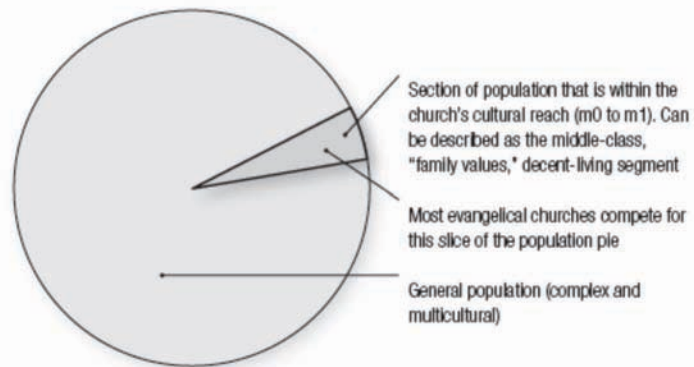
How do you help believers develop their gifts?

How do you help believers use their gifts?

Scripture: I Corinthians 14:26-33a

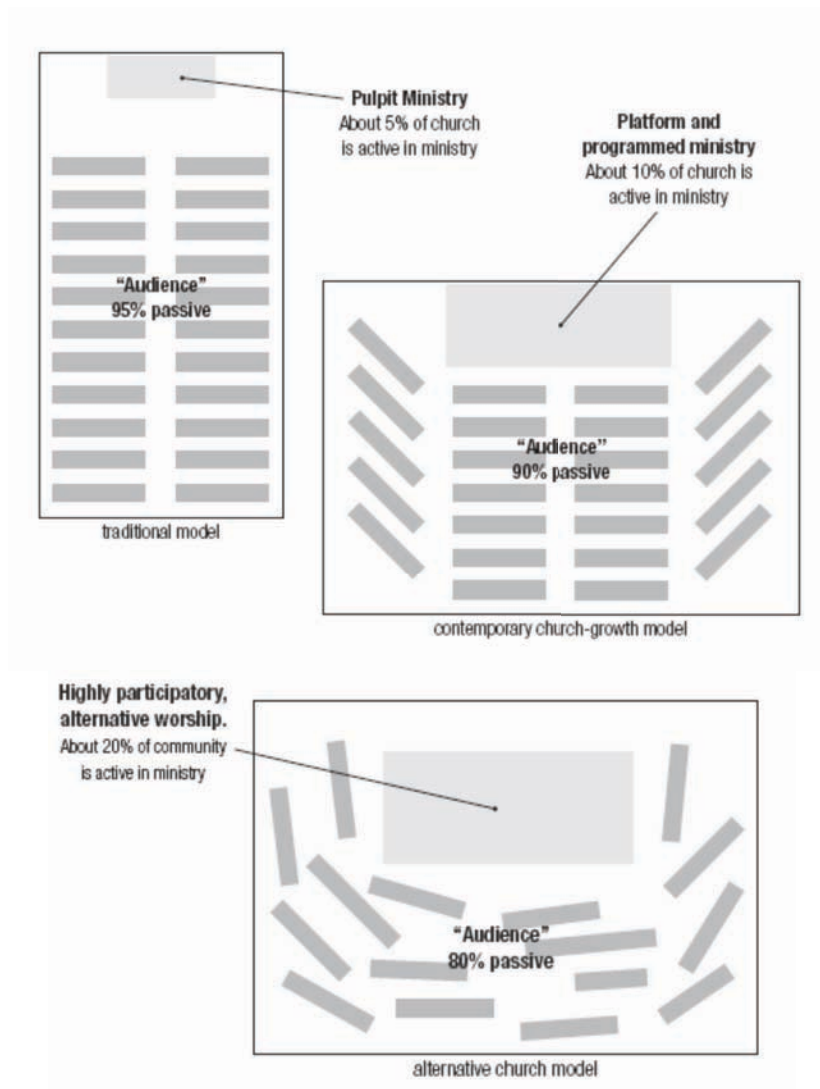
The Forgotten Ways

p. 34 "I had set about to seriously critique the Christendom mode of church and had begun to look beyond the attractational model of church to that of what I would later call a mission-incarnational (outward thrust and deepening seeding) one."



SIMPLE CHURCH MEETINGS IN HOMES ARE ON THE NON-BELIEVER'S TURF, WHICH IS MORE ACCESSIBLE AND NATURAL TO THEM. MEETING IN HOMES IS HIGHLY REPRODUCIBLE, CAUSES MULTIPLICATION OF THE MEETING PLACE TO BE THE NATURAL SOLUTION TO OUTGROWING A PLACE, IS FASTER TO DUPLICATE, CHEAPER, READILY AVAILABLE, AND MOBILE.

p. 43-44 "Winston Churchill once remarked that we shape our buildings, and then they shape us. How true. When we build our churches, the architecture and the shape say it all."



What do other models communicate?

What do our buildings say about us?

How do they help us? How do they limit us?

How does having one upfront, vocal, well-trained leader affect the church?

What is the goal, the aim, the desired result, the finished product?

