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DYNAMIC CHURCH PLANTING



Course Instructors



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SESSION 1

Why Plant Churches?

CHURCH PLANTING ESSENTIALS

SESSION 1

WHY PLANT CHURCHES?

Principles that Apply:

The Mission Principle #6

The central work of the new church will always be to help people put their trust in Christ, and grow into maturity as His followers.

The Multiplication Principle #11

Healthy churches will reproduce, and daughter church planting should be envisioned and planned from the new church's beginning.

Introduction

The Story of Justin Leveau.



SIX REASONS TO PLANT CHURCHES

1 To _____ God and Spread His Fame Among the Nations.

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. Ps. 96:3 NIV

2 To Follow the Biblical Strategy.

While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."³ So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off. Acts 13:2-3 NIV

They preached the good news in that city and won a large number of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, ²²strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. "We must go through many hardships to enter the Kingdom of God," they said. ²³Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord in whom they had put their trust. Acts 14:21-23 NIV

Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Mt. 28:18 – 20 NIV

3 To _____ Effectively.

“The single most effective evangelistic methodology under heaven is planting new churches” *Dr. Peter Wagner*

4 To _____ in the Harvest.

5 To Reach People Groups.

⁹After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." Rev. 7:9, 10 NIV

6 To _____ the Great Commission.

“The aim of missions is to bring about the obedience of faith among all the unreached peoples of the world.” - John Piper

NOTES





CHURCH PLANTING
ESSENTIALS

SESSION 2

Biblical Principles of Dynamic Church Planting



CHURCH PLANTING
ESSENTIALS

SESSION 2

PRINCIPLES OF DYNAMIC CHURCH PLANTING

Definition of a Local Church adopted by DCPI

"A church is a group of believers in Christ who meet regularly for biblical worship, learning, and mission."

Biblical principles form the foundation of a dynamic new church!

Evaluate each of the following principles in light of your own church planting project.



1. THE BOSS PRINCIPLE

Christ is the _____ of church planting and He has a vision for your new church.

²²And God placed all things under his (Christ's) feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Ephesians 1:22, 23 NIV

⁹During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. Acts 16:9-10 NIV



2. THE POWER PRINCIPLE

Prayer is the indispensable source of God's power and wisdom in each _____ of church planting.

⁷But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. Philippians 3:7-11 NIV

²Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. ³And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. ⁴Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Colossians 4:2-4 NIV

"Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field" Matthew 9:38 NIV



3. THE NEHEMIAH PRINCIPLE

God's _____ must lead to prayerful planning, the result of which should be a comprehensive task list set out upon a time line.

²⁸Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won't you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? Luke 14:28 NIV

⁹We should make plans – counting on God to direct us. Proverbs 16:9 TLB

¹⁴For want of a skillful strategy an army is lost; victory is the fruit of long planning. Proverbs 11:14 NEB



4. THE BARNABAS PRINCIPLE

Every church planter needs a _____.

A mentor is someone who has been where you want to go and is willing to help you get there.

²... the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Acts 13:2 NIV

Paul came to Derbe and then to Lystra, where a disciple named Timothy lived, whose mother was a Jewess and a believer, but whose father was a Greek. ²The brothers at Lystra and Iconium spoke well of him. ³Paul wanted to take him along on the journey, so he circumcised him because of the Jews who lived in that area, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. Acts 16:1-3 NIV

⁴He was accompanied by Sopater son of Pyrrhus from Berea, Aristarchus and Secundus from Thessalonica, Gaius from Derbe, Timothy also, and Tychicus and Trophimus from the province of Asia. Acts 20:4 NIV



5. THE TEAM LEADER PRINCIPLE

The church planting pastor is most effective as part of a team on which the planter serves as the visionary leader.

In the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. ²While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."³ So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off. Acts 13:1-3 NIV



6. THE MISSION PRINCIPLE

The _____ work of the new church will always be to help people put their trust in Christ, and grow into maturity as His followers.

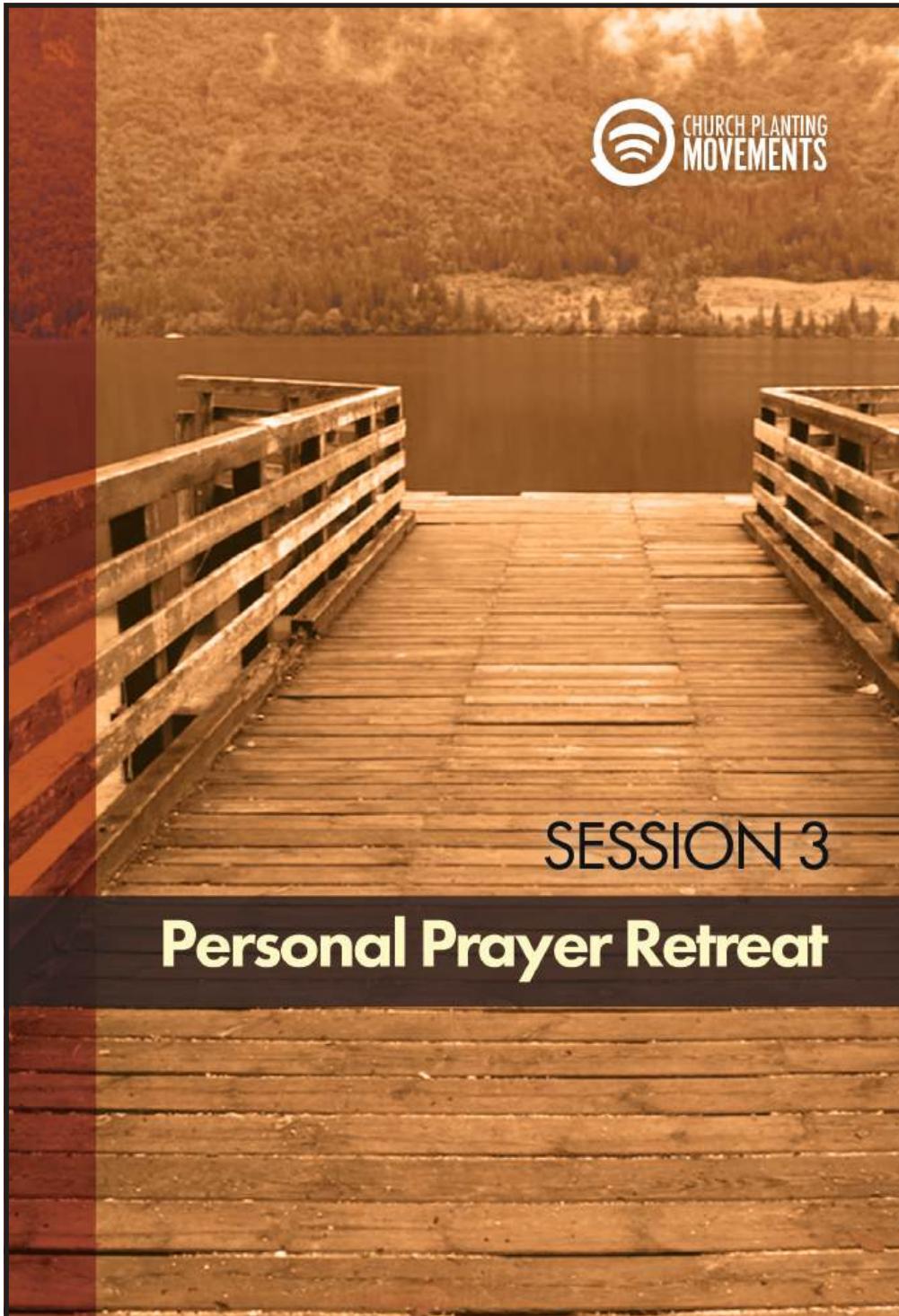
I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent. Luke 15:7 NIV

¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:18-20 NIV





SESSION 3

Personal Prayer Retreat

CHURCH PLANTING
MOVEMENTS



PERSONAL PRAYER RETREAT

What is a Personal Prayer Retreat?

A personal prayer retreat is a time you set aside to go away to be alone with God.



12 STEPS TO AN EFFECTIVE PRAYER RETREAT

Step 1 _____ to your retreat site and rest.

³⁰*The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught.* ³¹*Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."* ³²*So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place.* Mark 6:30-32 NIV

Step 2 _____ for your retreat.

⁵*If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.* James 1:5 NIV

Step 3 _____ your retreat.

²²*... those who plan what is good find love and faithfulness.* Proverbs 14:22 NIV

Step 4 _____ of your sins.

¹⁹*Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent.* ²⁰*Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.* Revelation 3:19-20 NIV

Step 5 Thankfully _____ how God has been _____.

Step 6 Submit to God's _____ for you.

²¹*Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails.* Proverbs 19:21 NIV

Step 7 Devour the word of _____ and take notes.

Step 8 Write down your specific issues and _____.

Step 9 Meet with God in a quiet place. _____ and take notes.

“But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.” Matthew 6:6 NLT

Step 10 Prayerfully respond in _____ to your questions and issues.

Step 11 Receive _____ from wise, godly people.

²²Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed. Proverbs 15:22 NIV

Step 12 Plan to your thoughts and delegate tasks.

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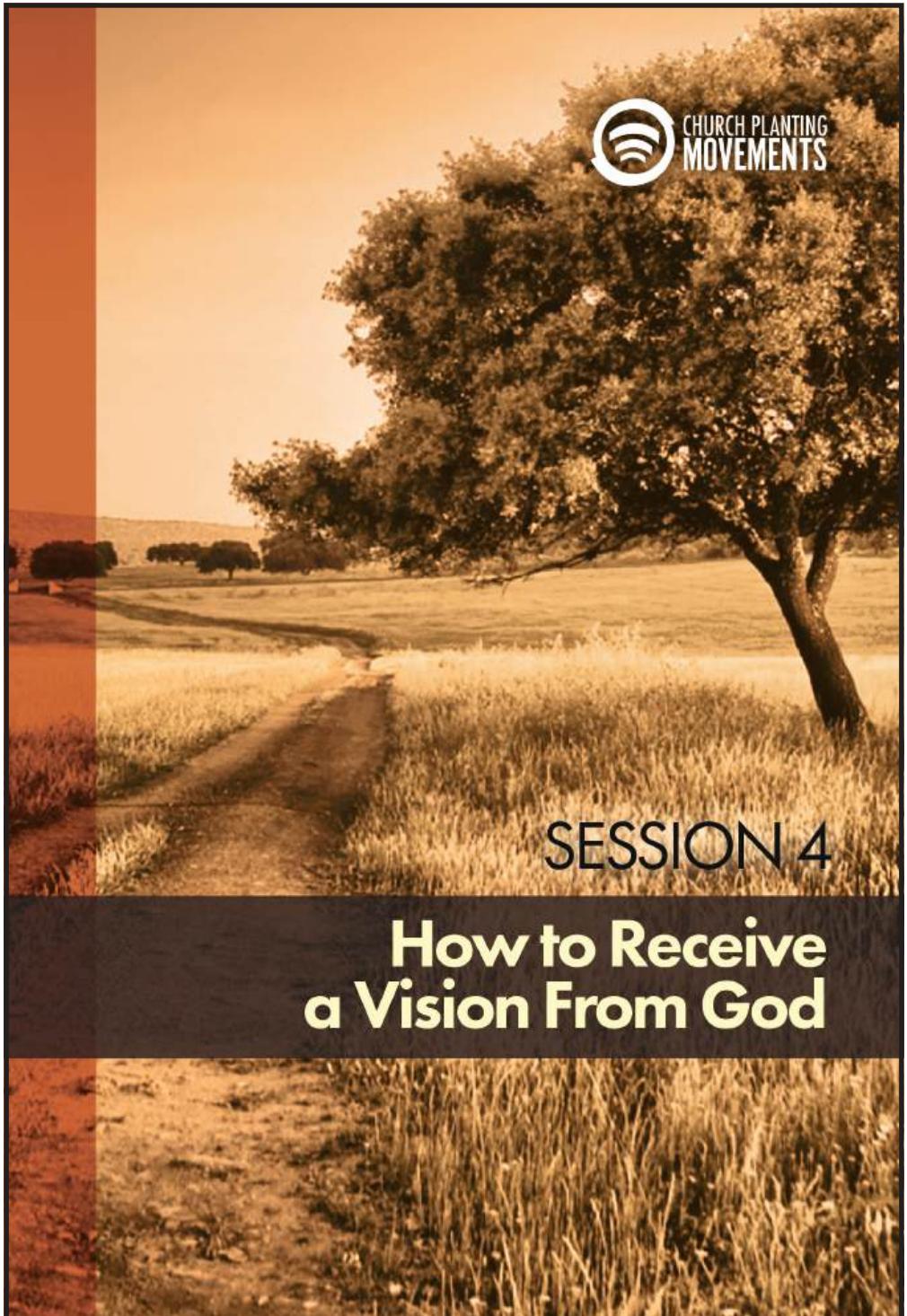
Prayer Retreat Challenge:

The challenge to you is to schedule and write into your calendar, and take, at least two personal prayer retreats each year.

How to refine your vision of a Church Planting Movement

- Confirm your vision through continued prayer
- Shape the vision through the counsel of key leaders





SESSION 4

How to Receive a Vision From God

CHURCH PLANTING MOVEMENTS



CHURCH PLANTING
MOVEMENTS

SESSION 4

HOW TO RECEIVE A VISION FROM GOD

DCPI - The Five Million Church Vision.

Equip leaders to plant 5 million dynamic churches to reach the world for Christ.

¹⁰*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.* Ephesians 2:10 ESV

⁶*And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.* Philippians 1:6 ESV

WARNINGS AS YOU PREPARE TO ENVISION A CHURCH PLANTING MOVEMENT

1 Do not create your own vision.

¹⁰*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.* Ephesians 2:10 ESV

⁶*And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.* Philippians 1:6 ESV

2 Do not let past failures hinder you.

¹³*I am talking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I take pride in my ministry.* Romans 11:13 NIV

⁸*For by God's power I was made an apostle to the Gentiles, just as Peter was made an apostle to the Jews.* Galatians 2:8 GNT

¹³*Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.* Philippians 3:13-14 NIV

¹⁶*Even if good people fall seven times, they will get back up. But when trouble strikes the wicked, that's the end of them.* Proverbs 24:16 CEV

3 Do not think you have to be the top leader to have a significant vision.

4 Do not limit your vision by what you can do. Vision is about what God wants to do.

"Glory belongs to God, whose power is at work in us. By this power he can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine" Ephesians 3:20 GW

By our own strength, we are quite limited. But by His power, we can see even the unimaginable. What a fantastic promise!

¹³You should know better than to say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to the city. We will do business there for a year and make a lot of money!"¹⁴What do you know about tomorrow? How can you be so sure about your life? It is nothing more than mist that appears for only a little while before it disappears. ¹⁵You should say, "If the Lord lets us live, we will do these things." James 4:13-15 CEV

⁶But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Hebrews 11:6 NKJV

⁸After this, I heard the Lord ask, "Is there anyone I can send? Will someone go for us?" "I'll go," I answered. "Send me!" Isaiah 6:7 CEV



HURDLES THAT KEEP US FROM HEARING GOD'S VISION

1 _____ you cannot _____ from God.
We must love and trust the Bible.

¹..."Shall I go up to one of the towns of Judah?", The Lord said, "Go up". And then David inquired, "Where shall I go?" And the Lord said, "Hebron". 2 Samuel 2:1 NIV

²⁷"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me" John 10:27 NIV

³¹...that the world may learn that I love the Father and do exactly what my Father has commanded me. Proverbs 14:31 NIV

"Don't act or speak for God until you are sure you represent Him correctly. For the spiritual leader, listening always comes before speaking." -John Maxwell

²¹The shepherds are senseless and do not inquire of the Lord; so they do not prosper and all their flock is scattered. Jeremiah 10:21 NIV

2 _____ to listen to God.

⁵...let the wise listen and add to their learning. Proverbs 1:5 NIV



HOW TO RECEIVE A VISION FROM GOD

"Schedule times of silence, of solitude. For many of you, God can't give you a dream because you won't sit down and shut up! You just need to be quiet before him. You start by getting God's perspective on your life." -Rick Warren

Are you willing to take the time to listen to and obey God?

A vision is a God-given picture of His preferred future for you and your ministry.



HOW CAN YOU RECEIVE A VISION FROM GOD?

The best way is to spend time alone with God on a personal prayer retreat or series of prayer retreats.





SESSION 5

Building a Launch Team

CHURCH PLANTING
ESSENTIALS



SESSION 5

BUILDING A LAUNCH TEAM

Principles that apply:

The Team Leader Principle #5

The church planting pastor is most effective as part of a team on which he serves as the visionary leader.



I. WHY DO WE NEED A LAUNCH TEAM

Definition - The people who come together to start a new _____.



II. WHAT SIZE LAUNCH TEAM IS NEEDED

A. The Rabbit Church



This is a house-church or _____.

A major strength of a Rabbit Church is its simplicity:

It doesn't take a lot of organization. They can focus more on relationships and less on programs. Thus, to start a Rabbit Church doesn't require a large Launch Team.

B. The Tiger Church

This is a _____ of 50-400 people. Most churches today are this size.



A major strength of these churches is that they offer a greater variety of ministry while still maintaining a “one big happy family” atmosphere.

Tiger Churches usually have several Rabbit-sized cell groups meeting each week.

C. The Elephant Church

A _____ or multi-faceted church.



A major strength of an Elephant Church is that it is able to offer a greater variety of ministries, such as ministries to single adults, counseling, outreach opportunities, specialized youth ministries, ministries to the physically or mentally challenged and so on.

Elephant Churches typically have dozens and even hundreds of Rabbit- and Tiger-sized groups meeting each week.



III. HOW LONG TO BUILD A LAUNCH TEAM?

FACTORS:

- Ministry Vision
- Familiarity
- Time Available

Time Approaches to Launch Team Development

A. A _____-driven approach

1. Your timing might not be God's timing.
2. You might feel pressured to put unqualified, immature people in positions of leadership, just to meet a timeline.
3. Illness, family emergencies, or other unexpected issues might delay your launch.

B. An _____-driven approach.

CHALLENGES TO TAKING AN OBJECTIVE- DRIVEN APPROACH

1. Some planters have an outside financial subsidy that decreases on a pre-set schedule which is quicker than their objective-driven approach.
2. It is possible to lose Launch Team members who are eager to get started and feel like things are progressing too slowly.
3. Association leaders or key supporters who want to see progress might not understand why it is taking so long to develop a Launch Team and get started.
4. Some might wait for the “perfect” circumstance or leader for one area of ministry and in doing so lose momentum in other areas.

C. A _____-driven approach.



IV. HOW SHOULD WE RECRUIT LAUNCH TEAM MEMBERS?

A. Reaching Pre-Christians

"Behold, now is the favorable time; behold now is the day of salvation." 2 Cor. 6:2b ESV

1. Entry-level jobs
2. Avoid leadership roles
3. Avoid up-front positions
4. Consider background checks

Ideas for Recruiting Christians

1. Use meal times to build relationship.
2. Recruit from a Mother Church.
3. Recruit from Partner Churches.
4. Recruit people who will serve short-term as well as those committed to long-term service.
5. Keep a list.
6. Network friends and family of Launch Team members.
7. Recruit full-time and part-time “staff” to work with you.
8. Culturally-relevant advertising.



PERSONAL EVALUATION

My natural inclination is toward a more **TIME**-driven approach or an **OBJECTIVE**-driven approach:

I anticipate that those working with me will be inclined toward which approach?

I will take the following steps to ensure that my ultimate timing is a **SPIRIT**-driven approach:



V. HOW TO GET PEOPLE TO COMMIT TO THE LAUNCH TEAM

A. Build Relationships

B. Discern Possible Motivations for Helping

C. Ask People to Make a Commitment



SESSION 6

Seasons of Church Planting

CHURCH PLANTING ESSENTIALS

SESSION 6

SEASONS OF CHURCH PLANTING

Principles that apply:

The Balance Principle #10

The church planter's walk with God, family life, and ministry must be in biblical balance.

The Barnabas Principle #4

Every church planter needs a mentor. A mentor is someone who has been where you want to go and is willing to help you get there.

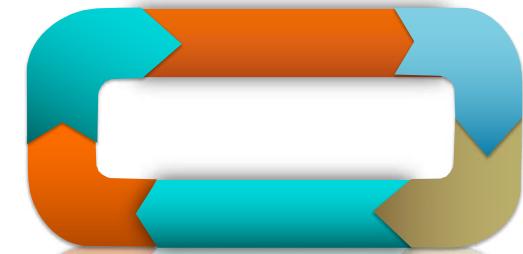


DIFFERENCES BETWEEN STAGES AND SEASONS

STAGES are linear: one follows the other.



SEASONS are cyclical: revolves around cycles.





TWO SEASONS OF CHURCH PLANTING



1. The Stage of Vision
2. The Stage of Planning and Implementation
3. The Stage of Trials



STAGES AND SEASONS OF CHURCH PLANTING



The first three STAGES are the same for both SEASONS.

(3) The Stage of Trials

- _____ warfare.
- Family pressures
- Financial strains.
- _____ expectations.
- Loneliness and isolation

4. The Stage of Crisis

- Personal
- Institutional



5. The Stage of Exhaustion & Withdrawal



(5) The Stage of Exhaustion & Withdrawal

- Go on a vacation and _____.
- Deal with any sin issues. Confess and overcome.
- Share your situation with _____.
- Go on a prayer retreat, refresh spiritually and confirm your call.
- Focus on pleasing the _____, not others or yourself.
- Seek counseling from a professional if needed.

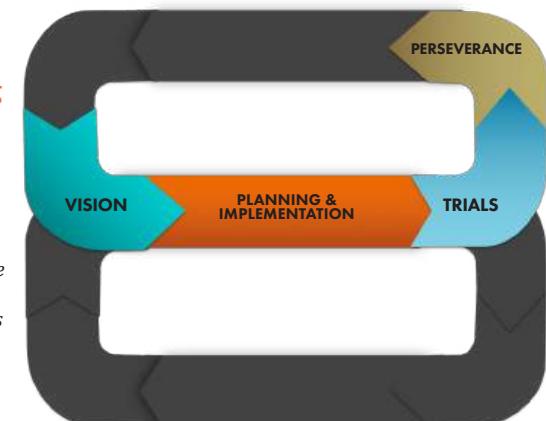
6. The Stage of Restoration & Healing



1. The Stage of Vision
2. The Stage of Planning & Implementation
3. The Stage of Trials
4. The Stage of Perseverance

⁴*Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring.*

2 Thessalonians 1:4 NIV



(4) The Stage of Perseverance

- Stay in _____.
- Remember your call.
- Cultivate a close walk with God.
- Develop a prayer team.
- Make your family a _____.
- Prepare to provide financially for your family.
- Remember the Barnabas Principle.
- Plan prayerfully, and then stick to your _____.

5. The Stage of Accomplishment & Success

6. The Stage of Celebration & Rejoicing





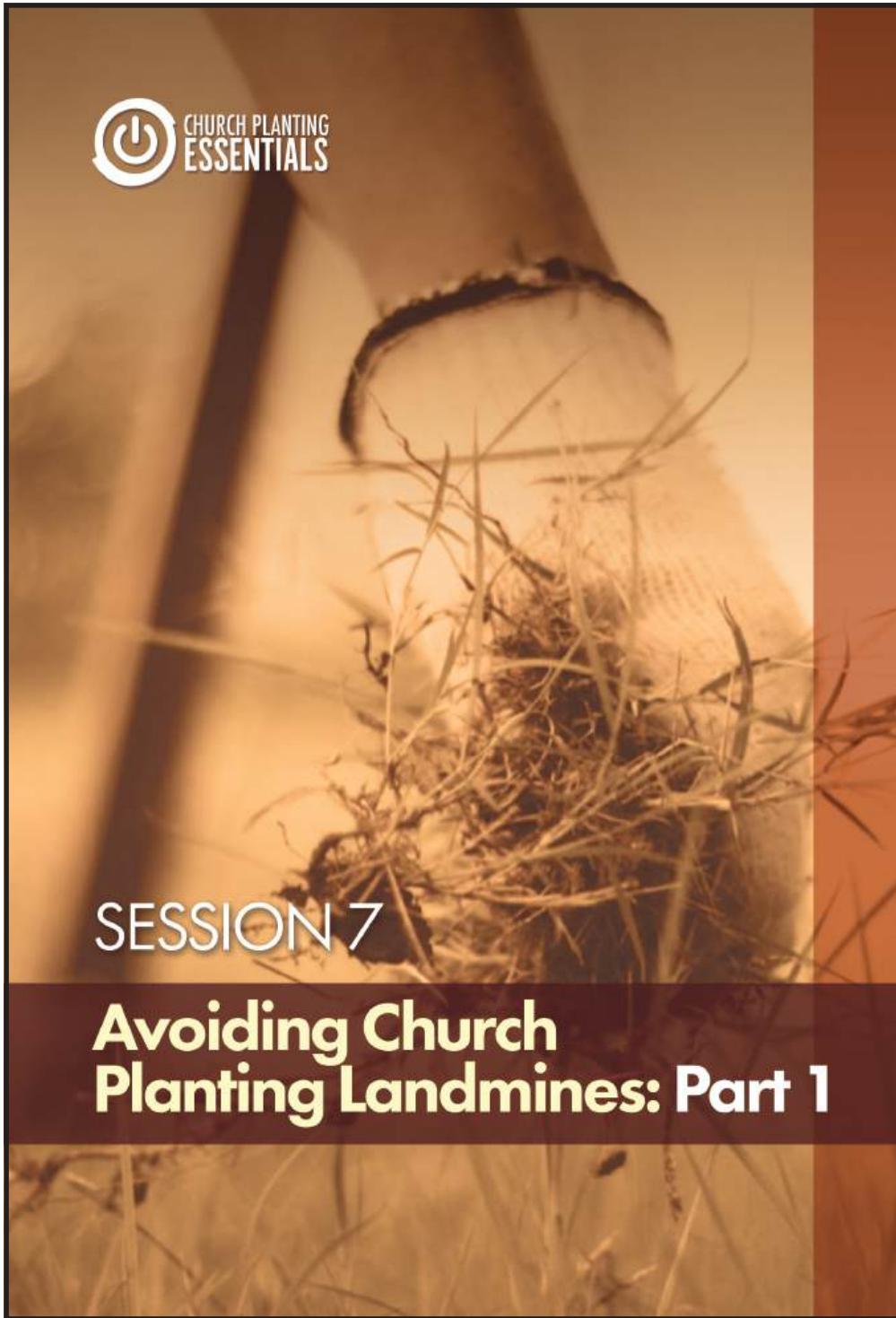
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SESSION 7

Avoiding Church Planting Landmines: Part 1



AVOIDING CHURCH PLANTING LANDMINES PART 1

What is a Church Planting Landmine?

A Church Planting Landmine is a dangerous, destructive, and often avoidable situation common in church planting.

Principles That Apply:

The Joseph Principle #12

Attending to organizational and administrative matters will protect and stabilize the new church, and enable it to grow in a healthy way.



COMMON LANDMINES

1 Trying to plant without being called by _____.

2 Trying to plant without being a church planter.

3 Wrong Location.

⁶Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. ⁷When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to. ⁸So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. Acts 16:6-8 NIV

- A community too small to support a new work.
- Multiple other church plants already in place.
- The presence of a single mega-church.
- The presence of a large dominant church with churches already ministering in the area.
- No public facility available.

4 Premature birth and lack of Launch Team Development.

5 Rushing people into influential _____.

6 Poor planning.

7 Spiritual Oppression.

¹³For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son
Colossians 1:13 NIV

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11Put on the full armor of God, so that you
can take your stand against the devil's schemes. Ephesians 6:10-11 NIV

8 Lack of supervision, support and accountability.

9 _____ Outreach.

10 Unrealistic Expectations.

NOTES



SESSION 8

Avoiding Church Planting Landmines: Part 2



CHURCH PLANTING
ESSENTIALS

SESSION 8

AVOIDING CHURCH PLANTING LANDMINES PART 2

What is a Church Planting Landmine?

A Church Planting Landmine is a dangerous, destructive, and often avoidable situation common in church planting.

Principles That Apply:

The Joseph Principle #12

Attending to organizational and administrative matters will protect and stabilize the new church, and enable it to grow in a healthy way.



COMMON LANDMINES

11 Lost focus on evangelism and _____.

12 No process of discipleship.

13 Sin in leadership.

³¹*Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'*" Matthew 26:31 NIV

³*But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one.*

2 Thessalonians 3:3 NIV

14 Missing your cultural target.

15 _____ launch team.

16 _____ spirit.

