

21 Critical Words for Church-Planting Movements

Adapted from David Watson (2009)

Strategic words

1. **Prayer:** Prayer is the starting point for all ministries. Know the mind of God and join Him in His work.
2. **Scripture:** Scripture is foundational and the source of all teaching and preaching.
Scripture → Principle → Practice
3. **Disciples:** Make Disciples, not converts. Converts focus on religion. Disciples focus on Jesus and obedience to His teachings.
4. **Obedience:** Teach Obedience to the Word, not doctrine. Doctrine is our church's teaching from the Bible. It may be highly interpretive, and may not consider the full counsel of the Bible.
5. **Churches:** Communities of Believers. Form new believers into minimal bible practice groups that will become Communities of Believers (churches) who transform families and communities.
6. **Authority:** Authority of Scripture and the Holy Spirit are all that is needed to start. Church Planting is an act of God through His Spirit and His people who are obedient to the Word and the Spirit.
7. **Persecution:** Persecution is part of being a Christian. In pioneer work it is expected and response is trained.
8. **Warfare:** In areas where the Gospel has never been preached, or in areas where traditional religions have reigned for a significant amount of time, it is not unusual to find those engaging in CPM activities confronted by Spiritual Conflicts that range from annoying to life-threatening.

Tactical words

9. **Groups:** Groups/Communities learn more quickly, remember more things and better, replicate more quickly and often when correctly led, protect against heresy, and protect against bad leadership.
10. **Plan:** Act Intentionally: Plan your work & work your plan in Access Ministry, Prayer, Scripture, Appropriate Evangelism and Church Planting
11. **Access:** Access Ministries open the door for Church Planting and lead to community transformation. Ministry should precede evangelism and evangelism must always be the end result of ministry. Timing is important and necessary.
12. **Peace:** Start with the Man of Peace or an existing relationship that will permit a Discovery Bible Study or Witness.
13. **Household:** Focus on households or families, not on individuals. Households include non-related individual living and relating together as family.
14. **Evangelise:** Evangelism is an intentional calling to a family to study the Word of God in order to move from not knowing God to falling in Love with Him through Jesus. The primary method to use is Discovery Bible Study in relationship with maturing believers. This makes Disciples, not Converts.
15. **Reproduce:** Reproducing disciples, leaders, groups and churches become a part of the group DNA.
16. **Outreach (Mission):** Reaching Out to "all" segments of society becomes a part of the group DNA as a result of obedience to the Great Commission (missions).

17. **Culture** (Embrace the Local Culture): Do not import external culture, but redeem local culture by embracing all you biblically can in a culture and transforming or redeeming the rest.

Leadership words

18. **Insiders:** Keep all things reproducible by Inside Leaders and directed/lead by Inside Leaders.
19. **Outsiders:** Model, Equip, Watch, and Leave. Outside leaders introduce new concepts that are contextualized by inside leaders. Outside leaders deculturalize, inside leaders contextualize.
20. **Self-support:** Local, bi-vocational leaders start and sustain all work, including groups, fellowships, and churches. Self-support may mean the worker has a job or business. This improves access and breaks down the barriers between clergy and laity.
21. **Training:** Discipleship and one-the-job leader training are done continuously and primarily through mentoring. This builds communities that hold each other accountable for obedience to the Word of God.
Education or **teaching:** increase Knowledge through teaching. (formal)
Training or **coaching:** increase Skill Sets primarily through coaching. (non-formal)
Equipping or **mentoring:** increase Capacity through mentoring relationships. (informal)