








## 21 'Ventures' that Lead to Church Multiplication




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Adapted from George Patterson for Church Multiplication Practicum PRTM 560-562

### Ventures 1 – 7: Experience Jesus' Presence








1		<b>Find.</b> Find and work with several "persons of peace" in a same neighborhood or network, who will welcome you (or your co-workers) into their home and will have you meet their family or friends. Outsiders may contact the first few. Old churches can work through new believers or members. <b>Luke 10:1-20</b>
2		<b>Invite.</b> Have persons of peace host "joy parties" for friends or relatives. Let folk sense Jesus' presence. Avoid churchy behaviour and Christianese language. Pray boldly to meet needs, to break addictions, for emotional and physical healing. Be patient with new believers' progress. <b>Mark 2:14-17</b>
3		<b>Gather.</b> New believers gather in homes or favourite haunts, forming tiny, interactive congregations, within their circle of family and friends, where they enjoy loving fellowship and interactive dialogue. Demonstrate how to lead 'discovery' Bible discussions. <b>1 Corinthians 14:24-26</b>
4		<b>Activate.</b> Believers crown Christ King of Kings and true Head of their church, by practicing all that He commanded. Practice biblical baptism, and celebrate the Lord' Supper the way that the apostles required. Heed biblical rules for naming shepherds. <b>Matthew 18:18-20</b>
5		<b>Coach.</b> Birth several churches simultaneously in a region. These encourage one another. If some churches fail, others will continue on. Name family heads as provisional shepherds, until leaders arise who meet biblical qualifications. Coach these leaders in pastoral duties. <b>1 Timothy 3:4-5</b>
6		<b>Tell.</b> Let the newly reborn tell friends and kin how they found Jesus. Teach them the original Good News from Jesus and his apostles. Let family heads tell Bible stories, and all believers share in their own way with their unsaved friends and family. <b>Acts 16:11-15</b>
7		<b>Train.</b> Have workers employ a menu-based curriculum in training and mentoring 'chains' of workers who multiply new churches. Train local believers who show their ability to lead. Trainers listen to workers, help them plan and assign appropriate 'studies.' <b>Acts 19:10, 20:20</b>

### Ventures 8 – 14: Expand Christ's Body

8		<b>Worship.</b> Arrange for all adults and children to participate actively in worship in home churches. Demonstrate worship activities suited to small groups. Allow a time of spontaneous, mutual encouragement. Allow for spontaneous emotions and expression of new faith. <b>Romans 15:5-14</b>
9		<b>Serve.</b> Expect God to enable believers to apply their spiritual gifts in worship and during the week. Balance formal teaching with spontaneous prophecy and mercy. Identify and recruit as workers those who show apostolic and leadership gifts. <b>1 Peter 4:7-11</b>
10		<b>Help.</b> Foster giving to meet urgent needs and to support outreach, dealing with spiritual and material needs simultaneously. Let even the poorest contribute, so they experience God's supply. Help the needy to earn an income. Avoid paying leaders with funds from outside. <b>2 Corinthians 9:6-7</b>

11		<b>Interact.</b> Keep flocks small enough to remain interactive and to multiply rapidly. Maintain relationships between mother and daughter churches, between father and son leaders. Help leaders to lay plans to start new churches. <b>Romans 16:10-16</b>
12		<b>Plan.</b> Draw maps of existing work and of opportunities, indicating both places and workers. Assess needs, pray for workers, lay plans, and coach volunteers. Provide new leaders with guidelines for pressing through barriers and skirting chronic snags. <b>John 5:34-38</b>
13		<b>Unite.</b> Closely-knit home churches serve each other in a unified regional body. Coaches guide home churches to work together, so that believers who have a particular gift can serve gatherings that lack that gift. Several gatherings interact as much as do members within a gathering. <b>Acts 2:43-47</b>
14		<b>Learn.</b> New shepherds mobilize the flocks that God has given them, solving their own problems with the wisdom that God gives. Turn inevitable new-church weaknesses into learning opportunities. Coaches pray with leaders, share advice, and recommend available studies. <b>James 1:5, 17</b>

### Ventures 15 – 21: Extend Christ's Mission

15		<b>Teach.</b> Teach believers salvation by grace through faith, proved by a holy life style. Remind them frequently to be filled with the Holy Spirit, to abstain from immorality and dishonesty, devoting themselves to love and good works. <b>Titus 2:7, 14, 3: 8, 14</b>
16		<b>Lead.</b> Demonstrate and teach servant-leadership. Promote as leaders those who keep disciples serving in harmony, while empowering apprentice workers, and coordinating with other church leaders. Coach leaders who prove able to implement agreed plans. <b>Matthew 20:25-28</b>
17		<b>Equip.</b> Let new churches equip and send out a new generation of God-given 'apostles.' Help new gatherings discover where God wants them to start daughter churches. Even tiny, new churches can implement ventures 1 – 7. Every worker has an apprentice. <b>Ephesians 4:11-12</b>
18		<b>Adapt.</b> Expect Satan to counterattack church multiplication movements. Bear criticism and opposition with grace, without retaliating. Fearlessly, honestly learn from the true parts of others' criticism. Distinguish Jesus' commands from apostles' methods and from traditions. <b>Luke 6:37, 9:23</b>
19		<b>Love.</b> Help old and new flocks to love, to respect and to serve each other, avoiding issues that distract from expanding Christ's kingdom. Protect home churches from legalists whose rules cancel God's grace, and from wolves who claim unwarranted authority. <b>Acts 20:29-32</b>
20		<b>Obey.</b> Obey our Lord Jesus Christ's supreme commandment by sending workers to distant, neglected peoples. Let them bond with a local society, adapting to their culture. Avoid making the poor dependent on you. Plant secret churches where necessary. <b>Matthew 28:19, Acts 1:8</b>
21		<b>Coordinate.</b> Appoint regional coordinators who reorganize workers often, to keep pace with spiritual growth and geographical expansion. Provide every level of worker with progress checklists. Align only with those external ministries that do not seek to control. <b>Acts 20:1-6</b>

Endless ventures: **Expect Christ's Power**