

SOME “BEST PRACTICES” IN URBAN CHURCH MULTIPLICATION

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January 2017

For the Consultation on Urban Church Multiplication

Hyderabad

February 15-18, 2017

NOTE

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Some “Best Practices” in Urban Church Multiplication (1 of 3)

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<p style="text-align: center;">Apostle Paul Acts 18, 19 & 20</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mikel Neumann, <i>Small Groups for Urban Cultures,</i> 1999</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Wolfgang Simson <i>The House Church Book,</i> 2009</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Neil Cole <i>Church 3.0,</i> 2010</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Jared James Looney <i>City Harvest,</i> 2010</p>
<p>18:1, 19 Move to the place . 18:2 Find receptive folk. 18:3 Work a job, if necessary. 18:4, 20 Persuade folk in several ethnic communities. 18:5, 19 Bring in experienced co-workers. 20:4 Strategize with experienced workers. 18:6, 20 Focus on the receptive. 18:26 Mentor engaged workers. 18:27 Empower willing workers. 18:27 Strengthen disciples. 18:28 Let God raise up gifted workers. 20:28 Let the Holy Spirit raise up overseers. 20:20 Teach publicly and in houses. 18:7-8, 19:5 Evangelise & baptise households. 19:6 Seek evidence of the Holy Spirit. 18:9-20 Get a vision for the city. 18:11 Remain necessary time, training new generations. 19:8 Teach, dialogue, persuade. 18:12, 19:9, 23 Expect opposition, adjust tactics. 18:17 Let God choose who must suffer.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vision: to bless the city spiritually and practically. 2. Structure: to implement the vision. Re-organize as needed. 3. Leaders: fulfill the vision. Most activities help to multiply groups. 4. Teaching: cultural learning styles, whether lecture, study, action or discovery methods. 5. Discipleship: applying truth to life, obeying Christ within groups and outside. 6. Evangelism: fueling growth. Many come to faith within groups. 7. Prayer: empower evangelism, in congregations, groups and privately. 8. Care: practical love, within groups and throughout week. 9. Worship: loving God together. 10. Communicate: in cultural forms and 12 signal systems. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enter a house of peace: receptive, respected, well heard. 2. Win families: link these with other families. 3. Multiply often: Every churches seek to reproduce every six to nine months. 4. Pursue a vision: apostles and prophets keep a vision alive. 5. Cooperate with the Holy Spirit: Listen often, for temporary alliances. 6. Empower ‘circles’: temporary, autonomous action groups. 7. Listen to ‘catalysts’: those who inspire without seeking to control or manipulate. 8. Facilitate champions: implement ideas and plans. 9. Leverage networks: existing communication media. 10. Keep structures flat: Let elders lead churches. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Decentralise control: empower all to obey without privilege or salary. 2. Train for reproduction of believers, disciples, gatherings and elders. 3. Keep organisation minimal. 4. Find all resources within the movement, not from outside. 5. Those transformed by God keep sharing the Good news. 6. Build interdependence through interpersonal relations. 7. Let reproduction happen first locally, eventually going into other regions. 8. Let personal, spiritual transformation precede community transformation. 9. Prefer group conversion to individual decisions. 10. Believes incarnate God’s Kingdom into every part of urban life. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organic Processes: Critical Contextualization 2. Relational Communities: Evangelizing Existing Social Units through POP 3. Relationship Primary: Belong Then Believe 4. Participation: Decentralization and Multiplication 5. Missional Impact: Evangelism Growth 6. Narrative of Transformation 7. Leadership: Begin with Discipleship 8. Discipleship: Priesthood of All Believers 9. Ecclesial Tensions.

Some “Best Practices” in Urban Church Multiplication (2 of 3)

<p style="text-align: center;">Bill Smith Research report, 2010</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Steve Addison <i>What Jesus Started</i>, 2012</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">City Teams “Disciple-Making Movements”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Andy Williams, “Church Multiplication Centres”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">David L. and Paul D. Watson <i>Contagious Disciple Making</i>, 2014</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fervent prayer: specific, targeted, frequent. 2. Close personal relationships: share life experiences as well as work tasks. 3. Local champions: promote generational growth through existing believers & workers. 4. Abundant evangelism: media, testimonies, call to repent. 5. Strategic segmentation: plans for geographic areas & social units. 6. Consistent tools & methods for generational growth: standard training & materials 7. Passionate work ethic: take more time, venues & workers. 8. Singular, endvision focus: successive generations. 9. Significant partnership with local believers: mutual teaching. 10. Life shaping by experience: Maturity & competence. 11. Super evangelists: Locals who enjoy unusual boldness with passion for souls. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Envision the end: growing movements. 2. Show compassion to the needy. 3. Share the good news simply with family, friends, and strangers. 4. Train disciples to obey Jesus’ commandments. 5. Gather believers who worship informally. 6. Work through ordinary folk. 7. Multiply workers in training chains. 8. Enjoy spiritual power, expecting God to act. 9. Spread the Word widely. 10. Keep records and report, as the apostles did. 11. Send tiny teams to neglected cities. 12. Map and plan to launch movements. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Envision cities saturated with churches. 2. Pray always, for God always present in disciple making. 3. Seek or welcome ‘persons of peace’ who reach family and networks. 4. Train new believers share gospel in acceptable ways. 5. Empower new believers to lead discovery bible studies. 6. Form new believers into new churches that worship in culturally-appropriate ways. 7. Make a disciple of every believer by teaching obedience. 8. Keep methods and activities reproducible. 9. Train continually. 10. Depend on self-supported volunteer workers. 11. Replicate local leaders who expand the work. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Top leaders and team leaders shift from growing their church to seeking to multiply. 2. Leaders commit time, workers and money for church planting. 3. Connect with a ministry that has personnel and procedures for rapid church multiplication. 4. Find a few experienced church-planters. 5. Evaluate their readiness through some form of assessment. 6. Train, coach and mentor. 7. Form strategic partnerships. 8. Identify, develop and deploy willing church planters from within congregations. 9. Regularly and publicly, send out teams or groups to start new congregations. 10. Cooperate with other churches in planting many churches. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strategy (What will it take?) & tactics (What will we do?) 2. Make disciples who make disciples, passion & obedience. 3. Fasting prayer, asking, listening & moving. 4. Engage the lost, serve others within their communities. 5. Be found by ‘persons of peace’, while leading a life of spirituality. 6. Keep starting discovery groups, posing S.P.E.C.K. queries (sin to confess, promise to pray, example to follow, command to obey, truth to know). 7. Let churches start churches that serve “one another”. 8. Strengthen recognized leaders who implement plans. 9. Mentor peers by sharing your life after teaching and coaching.

Some “Best Practices” in Urban Church Multiplication (3 of 3)

<p style="text-align: center;">Pam Arland “The Pocket Guide to CP,” 2014</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">George Patterson Research report, 2015</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Erik Fish <i>Disciple: Seven Experiences,</i> 2016</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Curtis Sergeant www.zumeproject.com, 2016</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Galen Currah Some urban CPM distinctives</p>
<p>1. Aim to multiply: ordinary folk expect God to start churches.</p> <p>2. Empower local folk to live out NT teaching.</p> <p>3. Follow five steps, continually: Pray, Meet folk, Make disciples, Gather seekers, Multiply soon.</p> <p>4. Work within existing networks: believers to go their friends, coworkers, family.</p> <p>5. Build mentorship ‘chains’: Follow outcomes to their fourth generation.</p> <p>6. Empower others: Christ will always give the five-fold ministers to his churches.</p> <p>7. Train with three methods: A) Accountability with worship; B) Bible study by discovery; C) Commit to pray, obey, act.</p> <p>8. Obey the NT above and before human tradition.</p> <p>9. Teach to obey Jesus’ general commandments.</p> <p>10. SAVE: show, assist, view, exit.</p>	<p>1. Affirm the legitimacy of three kinds of little flocks: seekers, seeders, and feeders.</p> <p>2. Maintain relational accountability.</p> <p>3. Provide skills training.</p> <p>4. Prefer self-supported workers.</p> <p>5. Keep ministry based on gifts.</p> <p>6. Coach workers through generational chains.</p> <p>7. Remain ready for persecution.</p> <p>8. Balance spirituality with best practices.</p> <p>9. Set training priorities.</p> <p>10. Choose training content.</p> <p>11. Avoid training “traps”.</p> <p>12. Debunk CPM “rules.”</p> <p>13. Assemble helpful materials.</p>	<p>Meet with willing local folk, and lead them through these experiences.</p> <p>1. Experience change. Repent, trust Jesus, let him change you.</p> <p>2. Experience baptism. Adopt a new identity as one who belongs to Jesus.</p> <p>3. Experience the Holy Spirit. Special anointing and daily filling.</p> <p>4. Experience telling your story and Jesus’ story. Help each one to practice and to plan.</p> <p>5. Experience love to others. Learn and meet spiritual, social and material needs.</p> <p>6. Experience gathering. Obey Jesus together, exercising gifts of the Spirit.</p> <p>7. Experience going. Make disciples in other places.</p> <p>Raise up tiny teams that go train others in these experiences.</p>	<p>1. Mission: lay mobilisation</p> <p>2. Vision: Every census tract</p> <p>3. Goal: every neighborhood</p> <p>4. Curriculum: Disciple making</p> <p>5. Training: coaches</p> <p>6. Teams: committed to goals</p> <p>7. Language: culturally neutral</p> <p>8. Method: multiplication</p> <p>9. Tools: practical spirituality; transferable materials</p> <p>10. Evangelism: prayer walk & talk</p> <p>11. Dynamic: sacraments</p> <p>12. Training: MAWL (model, assist, watch, launch)</p> <p>13. Cells: imitable practices</p> <p>14. Process: non-sequential</p> <p>15. Pace: individual + urgency</p>	<p>1. Congregations launch and nurture church multiplication.</p> <p>2. Urban dwellers have few intimate groups and many others with whom they exchange ideas.</p> <p>3. Communication takes urban forms, signals, media, methods and messages.</p> <p>4. Cultural, economic and language groups must be allowed to start new churches within their own communities.</p> <p>5. Training must raise up many new leaders who move away or who change job frequently.</p> <p>6. Strategy plan reach both geography and sociology, often.</p> <p>7. Form limited partnerships with specialised ministries.</p> <p>8. Hold frequent training, conferences and workshops for other ministries.</p> <p>9. Keep seeking responsive networks and communities.</p> <p>10. Keep seeker, seeder and feeder groups separate.</p>