

GROUP SESSIONS - CHURCH PLANTING (PRESENTER)

1. SEVEN FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES

Questions: Who, Why, What ?

1. Who is taking the initiative for Church Planting (Missions/Evangelism/Discipling) and where do we fit in? (God. God's Mission . Church planting is to take part in God's mission.

Gen.3:9; After the Fall: 8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. **9** But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

John 3:16; For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life

John 17:18; High Priestly prayer: As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world.

2 Cor. 5:18-19; Reconciliation: 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: **19** that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation.

Col.1:19,20 Supremacy Of the Son: 19 For God (Father) was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him (the Son), **20** and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross.

***Heidelberg Catechism, Lords Day 21, Q&A 54 (SEE BOTTOM OF PAGE)**

2. Why should we plant new churches? (what is the motive and goal) (To glorify God. The ultimate and primary motive and goal of church planting is God's glory)

Rom.11:36; For from Him and through Him and for Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever!

1 Cor.15:28: 20 But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. **21** For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. **22** For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. **23** But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. **24** Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. **25** For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. **26** The last enemy to be destroyed is death. **27** For he "has put everything under his feet." [c] Now when it says that "everything" has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. **28** When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

3. Who is King of the universe? (who should be King of peoples lives). (God. God's Kingdom. It refers to God's authority or to His rule as the King of kings

Mt.6:9-13; Prayer: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, **10** your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. **11** Give us today our daily bread. **12** And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. **13** And lead us not into temptation, [a] but deliver us from the evil one, for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Mt.12:28; 25 Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand. **26** If Satan drives

out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can his kingdom stand? **27** And if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your people drive them out? So then, they will be your

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judges. **28** But if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Mrk. 1:15: Jesus Announces the Good News: **14** After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. **15** “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

4. What is Church and who is the “owner”? (God. It’s God’s Church .The Church is those who is called by God / who belongs to God)

John 10:28-30; Christ: **27** My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. **28** I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. **29** My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all[c]; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand. 30 I and the Father are one.”

Rom. 8:28-30; 28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. **29** For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.**30** And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

Eph. 1:3-14; 3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.**4** For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love **5** he[b] predestined us for adoption to sonship[c] through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— **6** to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. **7** In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace **8** that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, **9** he[d] made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, **10** to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ. **11** In him we were also chosen,[e] having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, **12** in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. **13** And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, **14** who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.

***Heidelberg Catechism, Lords Day 21, Q&A 54**

5. What is our source and foundation for Church Planting. (God’s Word). It must be Word-Based / Bible-Based.)

John 17:17; Sanctify them by[d] the truth; Your Word is truth.

Ps.19:7; God’s Word / His revelation: The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple. **8** The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart.The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.**9** The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever.The decrees of the LORD are firm, and all of them are righteous.

1 Cor.2:3-5; 1 And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God.[a] **2** For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. **3** I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. **4** My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power, **5** so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God’s power

Lk.10:16: “Whoever listens to you listens to Me; whoever rejects you rejects me; but whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me.”

***Heidelberg Catechism, Lords Day 21, Q&A 54**

6. Who or what should be the centre and focus of our Church Planting? (Christ Alone. It must be Christ-Centred / Gospel-Centred.

Matthew 16:18; 15 “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”**16** Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”**17** Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. **18** And I tell you that you are Peter,[b] and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades[c] will not overcome it.

1 Corinthians 1:22, 23; **22** Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, **23** but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, **24** but to those whom God has called,both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Rom.1:16: **16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. **17** For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last,[e] just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”[f]

Who or what should assist us and directs us in Church Planting? (Holy Spirit Alone. It must be Spirit-Driven.)

Acts 1:8; “... you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 8:26-40; Philip and the Ethiopian **26** Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” **27** So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian[a] eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to

worship, **28** and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. **29** The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.” **30** Then Philip ran up to

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the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked. **31** “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. **32** This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: “He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. **33** In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth.”[b] **34** The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” **35** Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. **36** As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?” [37] [c] **38** And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. **39** When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. **40** Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

John 3:8: **6** Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit[b] gives birth to spirit. **7** You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You[c] must be born again.’ **8** The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with **everyone born of the Spirit.**”[d]

John 16:8,13,14; **8** When he (the Advocate / the Spirit) comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment:**9** about sin, because people do not believe in me; **10** about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer;**11** and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. **14** He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you.

2 Cor 3:4-6: **4** Such confidence we have through Christ before God. **5** Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. **6** He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant—not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life

*Heidelberg Catechism, Lords Day 21, Q&A 54

(*Heidelberg Catechism, Lords Day 21, Q&A 54: God gathers, protects, and preserves through his Spirit and Word, out of the entire human race, from the beginning of the world to its end for Himself a community chosen for eternal life and united in true faith)