

OUTLINE - CHURCH PLANTING

1. SEVEN FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES Questions: Who, Why, What / How ?

1. MISSIO DEI (God's Mission)

Church planting is to take part in God's mission (Missio Dei)

The mission of God is His redemptive purpose and redemptive plan to reconcile the universe with Himself through Christ (John 3:16; 2 Cor. 5:18-19; Col.1:19,20)

2. DEO GLORIA (God's Glory)

Related to Missio Dei

The ultimate and primary motive and goal of church planting is God's glory (Rom.11:36; 1 Cor.15:28)

3. REGNUM DEI (God's Kingdom)

Related to God's glory

It refers to God's authority or to His rule as the King of kings (Mt.6:9-13; Mt.12:28; Mrk.1:15)

The kingdom of God involves three essential aspects

4. EKKLESIAM DEI (God's Church)

Related to God's Missio Dei

Ekklesia / Kuriake (Greek) - The Church is those who is called by God / who belongs to God (Rom.8:28-30)

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 (John 10:28-30; Rom. 8:28-30; Eph. 1:3-14) (Heidelberg Catechism, Lords Day 21, Q&A 54,)

5. VERBUM DEI (God's Word)

Word-Based / Bible-Based. Christianity is all about *truth*. God's objective revelation (the Bible). Everything we need to know for life and godliness is there for us in Scripture. God wrote only one book — the Bible. It contains all the truth God intended us to order our spiritual lives by. We don't need to consult any other source for spiritual or moral principles to govern our lives. Scripture is not only wholly truth; it is also the highest standard of all truth – the rule by which all truth claims must be measure. It is powerfull. It is God Himself speaking to us. (John 17:17; Ps.19:7; 1 Cor.2:3-5; Lk.10:16)

6. SOLO CHRISTO (Christ Alone)

Christ-Centred / Gospel-Centred. Jesus Christ is the reason why we plant churches. The foundation of church planting and the entire Christian faith is Jesus Christ. Churches fall into error whenever they move away from Christ as their foundation, focus and center. (Matthew 16:18; 1 Corinthians 1:23;Rom.1:16)

7. SOLUS SPIRITUS (Holy Spirit Alone)

Spirit-Driven. Holy Spirit is the "Divine Director". (Acts 1:8; Acts 8:26-40; John 16:8,13,14; 2 Cor 3:4-6; John 3:8)

2. TEN PRACTICAL STEPS (A method)

1. GOD'S CALLING AND COMMISSION

Obedience and commitment (Mt.28:16-20; Acts 1:8; Acts 13:1-4)

2. BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER (Vision / Visio Dei)

What God wants (see Foundational Principles) (Acts13:1-4; Acts 15:39,40)

Outline - a Draft / basic work plan:

Sending Church (Must be a Healthy Church); Church Planter / Missionary (Leader of the Church plant project) ; Resources (Finances & other resources)

3. DETAIL WORKPLAN

Who, what and where (Lk.14:28 - Counting the cost)

Co-workers / Team (Acts 15:3; Mt.9:38); Duties; Committee (Management) ; Training

Community and area survey (Spiritual mapping)

Choose potential and initial ministries ("Open doors"- 2 Cor. 2:12):

Choose a location

4. LAUNCHING OF THE PROJECT

“Digging the trenches”

Site and meeting place (Venue / Tent / Building)

Events

Marketing

Basic Evangelism Outreach

5. DISCIPLE TRAINING

“Lay the foundation”

Disciples / New Christians / new members:

Christ as foundation (Ephes.2:20-22)

Grow in union with Christ (Col.2:6,7;

Grow in grace and knowledge (2 Pet. 3:8)

6. BUILD A HEALTHY CHURCH

“Build the walls”

Continual growth:

Signs of a healthy church

Activities of a healthy church

7. TRAINING AND EDIFICATION

Teaching members

8. LEADERSHIP: DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP AND APPOINTMENT OF LEADERS

(While continuing the previous steps)

“Put up the roof”

Leadership / Governance / Discipline

Leadership:

Governance / self government

Steps to become a mature and responsible church - the 3 self formula (New Testament model):

A self-governing church

A self-supporting church

A self-producing church

Church Discipline (part of supervision and governance)

Primary Purpose: The honor of God and to keep the church pure

9. ADMINISTRATION AND FACILITIES

Initially it is done by the the Sending Church

Administration and financial practices

Facilities, Property and buildings

10. LONG-TERM MINISTRY

“Handing over the keys”

Final step in a Church Plant Project

Formalization of the new church

Withdrawal of the Church Planter / Missionary (a process of stepping back)

Resources:

1. Dr Brian DeVries - Church Planting (Module for Diploma - Mukanyo Theological College)
2. Dr Flip Buys - Kerkplant Handleiding (GKSA - Admin. Buro)
3. Prof Derrick Mashau - Paper delivered at Church Plant Conference, Rustenburg
4. Pauline Cycle - David J. Hesselgrave

Rev. Koos Venter - 13 May 2017

"THE PAULINE CYCLE"

Pauline Cycle

