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Train & Multiply™

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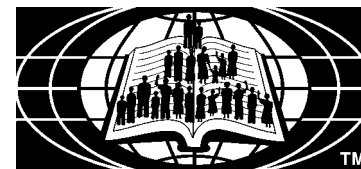
Church Planting Guide



Pastoral Leader Training Booklet

37

Train & Multiply™



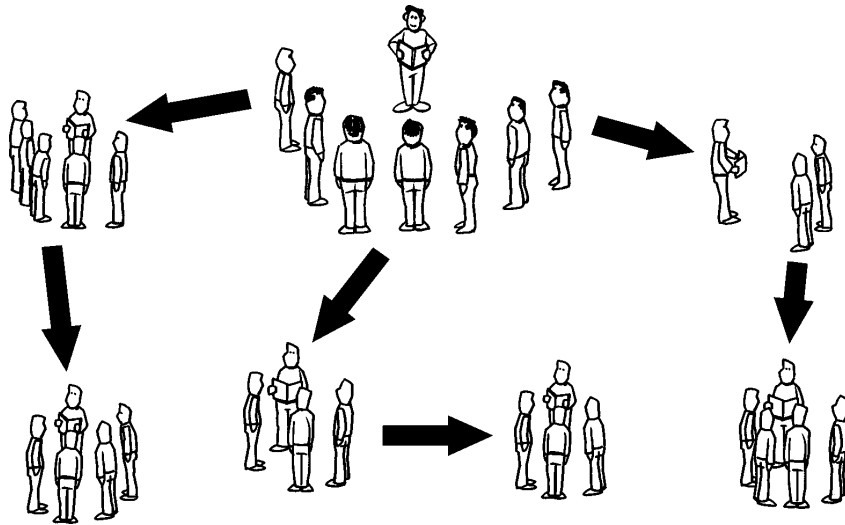
T&M™

SUMMARY OF THE GOAL

Train leaders for the new church using Train & Multiply™.

“Here is a trustworthy saying: If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer, he desires a noble task...”

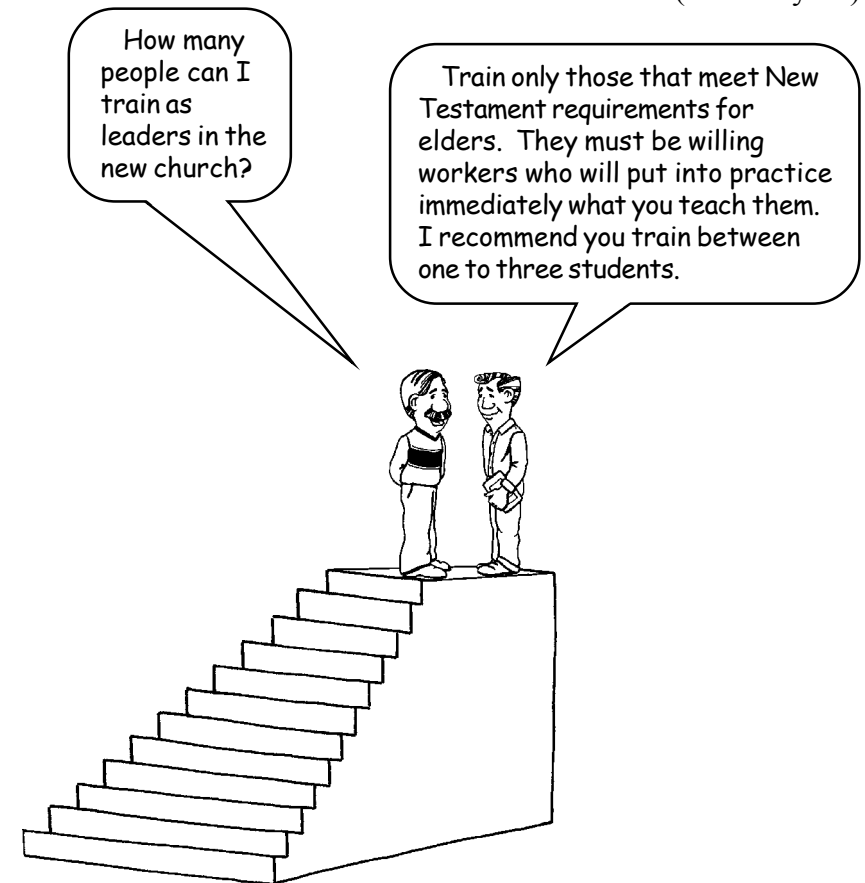
(1 Timothy 3:1)



“Open your eyes and look at the fields!

They are ripe for the harvest.”

John 4:35



How many people can I train as leaders in the new church?

Train only those that meet New Testament requirements for elders. They must be willing workers who will put into practice immediately what you teach them. I recommend you train between one to three students.

- Write the names of those who will be trained:

-
- Obtain a Student Activity Guide, and a set of Pastoral Training Booklets (booklets 1-63) for each student.

- Begin training by following the instructions in the Pastoral Training Manual and the Student Activity Guide of Train & Multiply™.

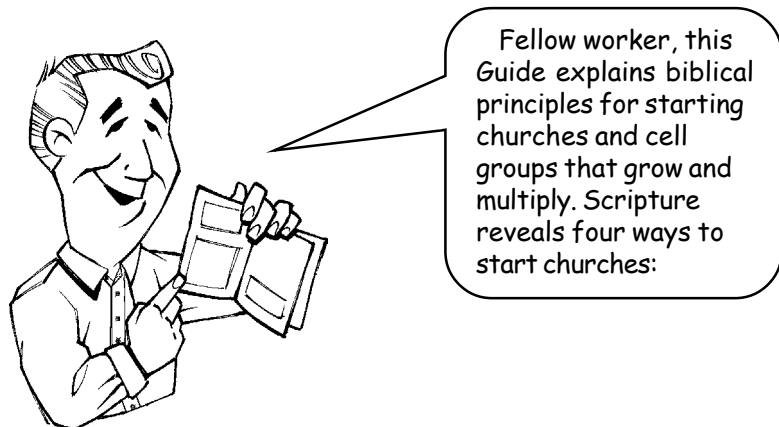
The First Level of the Training Booklets teaches the first steps of pastoral work: evangelizing, baptizing, teaching the congregation to love, worship, give offerings and make disciples. It covers much of the same activities as this Church Planting Guide. The great difference is that the new leader does the work instead of you. In the other Levels (Second and Third), the new leader works to develop many varied activities in the church such as organizing leadership, helping the needy, extending evangelistic work, sending missionaries, etc.

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INTRODUCTION



1. (Jethro's advice according to Exodus 18.)

This is a method in which large churches, house churches or cells divide. When there is an adequate amount of people in the congregation, house church, or cell, they send a number of their members to a new location.

2. (A team sent out from Joppa according to Acts chapters 10 & 11.)

In this case, a church (or several churches partnering together, perhaps with a mission agency) sends a group of workers to a nearby area. The group, which is usually large, works in an area for a short period of time.

This method has several advantages, especially in pioneer areas:

- Pastoral students study and do practical work simultaneously.
 - People of the neighborhood will identify with leaders they know.
 - The new believers feel responsible for the new church, and become more active in the Lord's work.
 - The multiplication of churches is possible only as more new leaders are continually being prepared.
- Have the trainer study the Pastoral Training Manual within Train & Multiply™ to learn his role.
 - Choose those whom you are going to train as pastoral leaders of the new church.

These should be obedient Christians, active in witnessing, probably heads of households who are respected in the community. They should aim to fulfill the conditions of 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9, for later they will assume pastoral responsibility.

(Ask the prayer group to pray for the new leaders of the church who will be trained, and inform them of any other prayer requests.)

“The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.”

(Titus 1:5)

Titus stayed in Crete teaching the leaders of the new churches. In church planting, the training of leaders is essential.

SUGGESTIONS FOR TRAINING NEW LEADERS

- Appoint someone from the church planting team to begin training leaders for the new church, using Train & Multiply™.

This method of pastoral training is ideal for the multiplication of churches, as the new leaders of the church, in turn, can plant other new churches.

3. (A small group of apostles in Antioch according to Acts chapters 13-14.)

The church in Antioch sent out a team to plant a church. This team was smaller and traveled farther away for a longer period of time to start many churches.

4. (Aquila and Priscilla’s home church according to Acts 18, Romans 16:5, 1 Corinthians 16:19.)

This husband and wife team moved from city to city and began a church in their home in Rome, Corinth and Ephesus.

WHAT IS A CHURCH? WHAT ARE WE PLANTING?

- A church is a group of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ, committed to obey his commands in love, through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- A church is not a “preaching event” where we preach to passive listeners. It is neither a building nor a man-made organization.

What does a church do? A church follows the Lord's command to make obedient disciples. (Matthew 28:18-20) This includes:

- evangelizing and baptizing our friends and relatives (Acts 1:8, Acts 2:37-41),
- edifying believers with the Word of God (Acts 2:42),
- worshipping God through the Lord's Supper, prayers, hymns and testimonies (Acts 2:42),
- cultivating loving fellowship (John 13:34-35),
- serving the needy, in love (Galatians 6:10),
- preparing its pastors and elders (2 Timothy 2:2).

Who can be a church planter?

We look for people who love to serve Christ. They need no extraordinary skills as long as they are willing to evangelize and make disciples who do the things listed above.

SUMMARY OF THE GOAL

Mobilize the new church to continue to evangelize others.

"And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." (Acts 2:47)

GUIDELINE 12 BEGIN TRAINING LEADERS

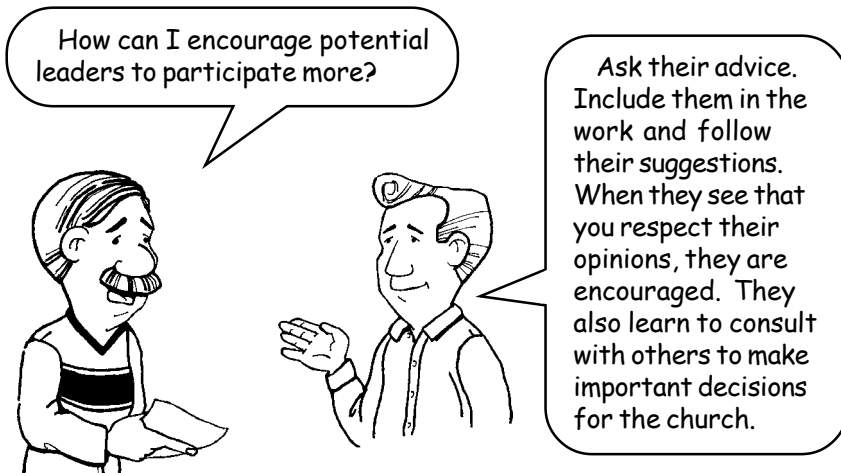
GOAL

- To help the church planting team develop the future leadership and future direction of the new church.



- ☐ Planned.
- ☐ Practice confirmed (date): _____.

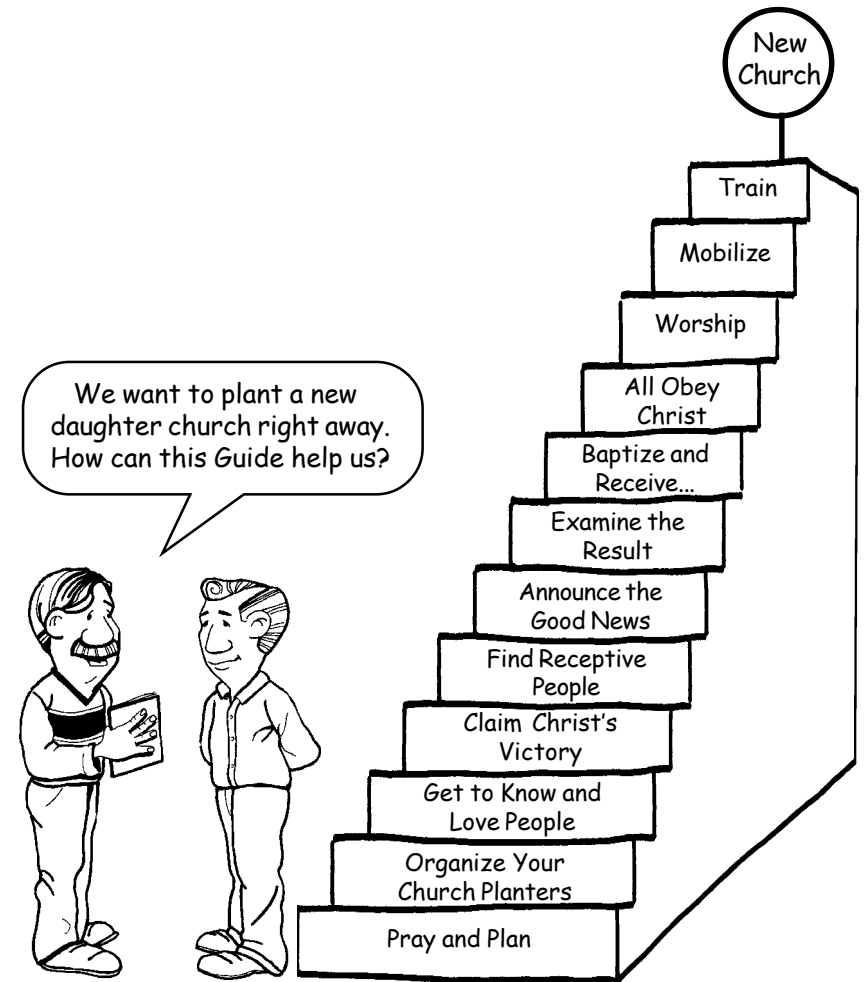
- Help the potential leaders of the new church to teach the other Christians how to obey the Lord's commands, plan and lead meetings, help baptize new believers, etc.



In what activities have the potential leaders participated?

How many members does the new church now have? _____

TWELVE CHURCH PLANTING GUIDELINES



Please look over the 12 Guidelines, and begin practicing them in any order according to your needs. Which and how many activities you do will depend on your particular area of ministry. You may work on several Guidelines at the same time.

Once the new church starts following a Guideline, help the church to keep practicing it. Do not stop one to start another.

There are many methods for planting a church. The method you use will depend on the kind of church you will start, the culture, resources available and other factors. This Guide shares 12 Biblical guidelines/activities for church planting. Methods will vary, but New Testament principles should be applied (implemented) in all methods.



- Write the names of potential leaders of the new church who witness to friends, relatives and neighbors.

Train these potential leaders to take responsibility for the new church. For more information, see Guideline 12 “Begin Training Leaders.”

- Encourage potential leaders to develop their own ideas to communicate the Gospel (dramas, story telling, etc.)

What evangelistic methods have the potential leaders of the new church developed and used?

- Help new believers to win their friends and relatives in OTHER AREAS (villages, towns, cities, etc).

In this way other new churches are born immediately. If you wait too long, the new church loses interest. Try to plant several new churches in the same area. If there is a good possibility of forming a new congregation in another area, those who work there should use another copy of this Church Planting Guide. They should inform you of their progress, just as you inform your own advisor.

Suggestions to Mobilize the Members of the New Church to Evangelize Others

- Teach the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) to the new believers.

Especially teach potential leaders about evangelizing others and making disciples. They must understand the purpose and importance of evangelism.

- Ask the new believers to make lists of their friends and relatives and pray for their conversion.

Explain that even the most wicked can be changed by God's power and love. Relatives living in other areas can provide bridges for planting other new churches.

- Invite the new believers (especially potential leaders) to accompany the church planters to witness, so they can learn from their examples.

The believers from the new church should evangelize their own family and friends first. They can use the course "Best News", or another simple method. A new church is a powerful evangelistic force. God uses the enthusiasm and changed lives of the new believers to attract others.

When moving from one activity to another, indicate when the activity has been planned and the work started. If the activity does not relate to your church planting endeavor, just write a note stating so.

WHERE CAN THE GUIDE BE USED?

The Guide is designed to help you plant new churches in a variety of situations:

- Within your own culture.
- Among people of a different language, ethnic group or culture (a missionary situation).

Note: If your Church Planting team does not have the same nationality, culture and language as those where you plan to plant a church, you may need to train the Church Planting team with Booklet 55 "Missionary Manual."

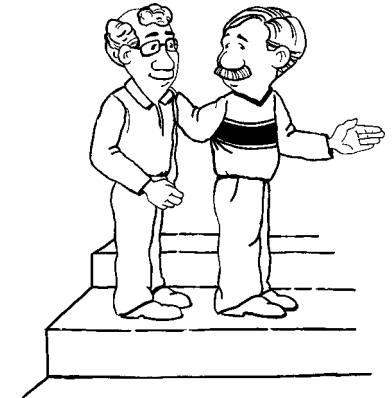
- Where a church has fallen into decline and needs a fresh start.
- Adapt the Guide to your situation. If possible prove your gifts in your own culture before engaging in planting churches in a different one.

GUIDELINE 11

MOBILIZE THE NEW MEMBERS

GOAL

- To teach and guide the new believers to evangelize relatives, friends, others in the community, and others in surrounding villages or towns.



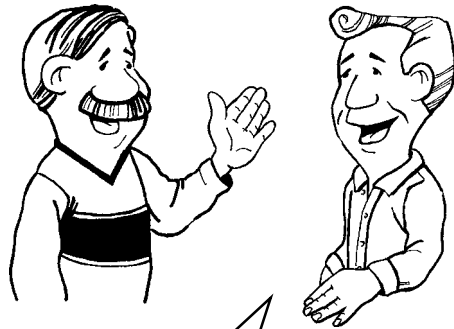
☐ Planned.

☐ Practice confirmed (date): _____.

(Ask the prayer group to pray for the new church's efforts to evangelize others and inform them of any other prayer requests.)

"Jesus said: 'Come, follow me and I will make you fishers of men.'" (Matthew 4:19)

But surely there's one method that generally works best!



There is no one best method. The forms or methods of the church plant relate to the specific area and circumstances. Many church planters fail because they want to apply the exact same methods or structure to every scenario. However, the general and foundational principles of the New Testament should apply to all methods of church planting. This guide provides those foundational New Testament principles for church planting.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO PLANT A CHURCH?

This will vary according to circumstances. If you work within your own culture and have leaders already prepared for the new church, it may take only a few weeks. If you work in a different culture, and do not have potential leaders of that culture working with you, it can take years to learn to communicate in the heart language of the people, and to establish trust.

- Services last too long when they are prepared to satisfy mature believers from other congregations. Most of the new believers are not ready for this yet.
- The services attract members of other churches with different ways of thinking and doing things. This brings different opinions that the potential local leaders find difficult to deal with. In order to maintain order the church planters are forced to control the church too much.

SUMMARY OF THE GOAL

Hold worship meetings according to the local culture which allow believers of that church to express their adoration and faith to God.

“...They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people...”

(Acts 2:46-47)

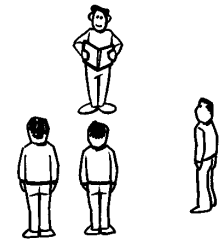
CHURCH GROWTH AND MULTIPLICATION

This Guide only deals with the beginnings of a new church.

Afterwards it will have to grow, mature and multiply.

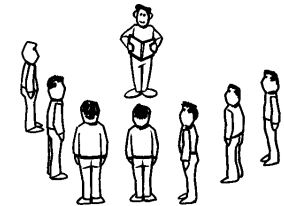
The Church is Planted

Use this “Church Planting Guide.”

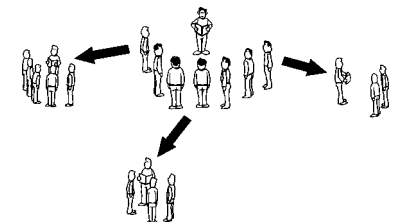


The Church Grows and Leaders are Trained

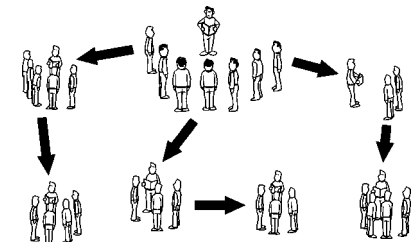
To train the new church's leaders, use the Train & Multiply™ Student Activity Guide and pastoral studies (small books).



The Church Matures and Establishes Daughter Churches



The Church Multiplies



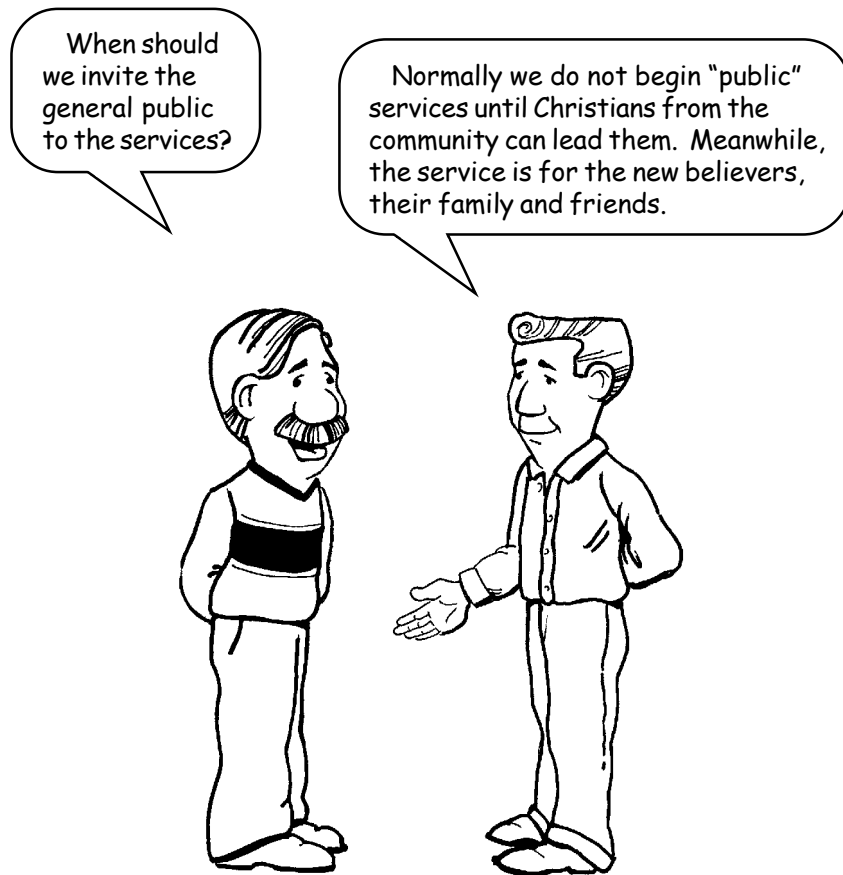


Many new churches fail because they begin public services too soon. The church planter should wait until he has prepared the new leaders from the community to lead the services. (An exception is if he stays on permanently as pastor of the new church.) Training new leaders is explained in Guideline 12.

Consider the following dangers of beginning public services without having leaders from the community prepared to lead them:

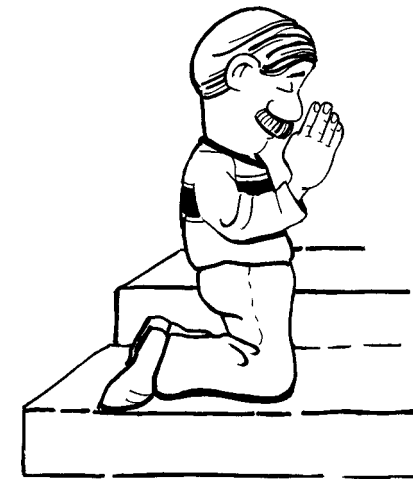
- Heads of households will not usually attend. Often those who come include only women, children and the curious.
- Public services require outsiders to take charge of the services because the local leaders do not yet have sufficient experience. This hinders the participation and development of these local leaders.
- Evangelism is neglected because the workers spend all their time preparing elaborate services. Workers depend on the services to attract new people.
- The church begins to compete with older churches, and imitates their formal worship style. (They should rather develop their own style of worship in a friendly atmosphere, suitable for smaller groups.)

Suggestions About Inviting the Public to the Worship Meeting



- Avoid inviting the general public to services while an 'outsider' (someone of a different culture) is still leading them.
- Prepare local leaders as soon as possible.

GUIDELINE 1 PRAY AND PLAN



GOAL

Pray and plan where to plant a church and what method to use to plant the church, for church multiplication.

- ☐ Planned.
- ☐ Practice confirmed (date): _____.

We pray at every step as we plant new churches, and ask others also to pray.

The main things to plan at this time are where to plant the church and the type of church you will start. The type of church you will plant depends on your resources, the unique circumstances of the area, the density of the population, available transportation, your concept of a church, and the way the Lord guides as you pray.

The Lord Jesus prayed before going to new places. (Mark 1:35-39)

God revealed His plans to Peter while he prayed. (Acts 10:9-16)

Likewise, we pray for the guidance and empowering of the Holy Spirit, because only God can give birth to a church and make it grow and reproduce.

SUGGESTED PRAYER ACTIVITIES

- Find people in the mother church who will form a special prayer group.

Ask them to pray for the team members who start the new church and for the new believers. Inform this prayer group of prayer needs each step of the church plant.

Suggestions to Evaluate the Effectiveness of the Worship Meetings

- After the services, guide the church in deciding what can be improved. (What went well and what did not?)
- Make any necessary changes in the style of service.
- Let the potential leaders lead the services; add more and more responsibility as they gain experience.

Avoid trying to satisfy members of other churches. In a new church, the services should be at the level of the new believers. Create an atmosphere that promotes worship. For example, if you meet in houses, rearrange the furniture if necessary. You might sit in a circle.



- Invite the congregation to respond to the Bible teaching.

They can respond to the message, by praying, singing, standing up, a public affirmation, or in some other way.

- Allow for time before or after the service for people to get to know each other, talk and plan activities.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES TO INCLUDE IN A WORSHIP SERVICE IN A NEW CHURCH

- Offerings given in a way that is appropriate to the culture.
- Special music sung or played by the new believers.
- Something for the children, preferable as part of the main service. (For example tell Bible stories. Children must feel that they are part of the new church.)
- Special times to make friendships. (The new believers should feel they are part of a community committed to a common purpose.)

- Pray and seek God's direction as you consider church planting.

Ephesians 6:18 encourages on-going prayer: *“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests...”*

- Plan to visit the area where you may plant a church.

Pray in your heart as you walk about and later pray with your team about observations, concerns, key people, etc., of that area. Choose an area for the church plant where you have friends or relatives of believers or where Christians who want a church.

SUGGESTED PLANNING ACTIVITIES TO DETERMINE A METHOD OF CHURCH PLANTING

- Study these Scriptures that reveal church planting guidelines:

Acts 13:1-3, Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 4:1-32, Romans 10:12-18, Romans 15:20-21. Ephesians 4:11-16 also promises “apostles” to every church, whom your church “sends out” to ignite the vision and lead the work.

- Decide on your general method of church planting. Let us examine some common methods:
 1. A group of forty or more believers leave a large mother church to form a new church in a different area. This group allows the new church to begin with a core group of mature believers.

This works well in urban areas where the members from the mother church are able to travel back and forth to the new area. God normally blesses mother churches that do this, by replacing those who leave with twice or three times the original number within a few months. If you use this method, some of the activities in this Guide will not apply to this method. For example, the original core of the new church is not made up of new believers. Also, this type of church plant does not require much discipleship in the beginning stages.

2. A mother church or group of churches sends a Church Planting team (CP team) to start a church in a new area. They may find Christians in that area who desire a church, or have to start by leading people to believe in Jesus. When the church is planted the team might remain with the new church, or return to the mother church.

“When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church.” (1 Corinthians 14:26)

Pray for the service, and plan it well. Involve potential leaders of the new church. Help the new believers see that they are the church, not just spectators.

- Confess sins through reading of appropriate Scripture passages with public or silent prayer.
- Declare God’s forgiveness, using an appropriate Bible passage or brief meditation from the Bible.
- Celebrate the Lord’s Supper. (Many churches find it edifying as a main part of each worship service.)
- Prayer for the sick, the needy, the nation, etc. (You may lay hands on the sick.)
- Share a brief Bible message.

Teach in a way that is simple and easy for the future leaders to imitate. Begin with Christ’s commands (see Guideline 9).

When will you hold the main weekly meeting? (day and time)

If you have other meetings, when are they held?

Suggestions for a Worship Service in a New Church

(Use whatever order fits the circumstances.)

- Have a definite start and finish.
- Worship God with songs and prayers.

Make sure that the believers know the songs. Conduct the Worship in such a way that all believers can participate. Help each one to take part with a testimony, reading, prayer, or song, etc. This helps them to use their spiritual gifts and to feel that they are *“fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household.”* (Ephesians 2:19)

3. Where there is no mother church, a CP team enters an area to start a new church. Sometimes, these workers are from another culture.
4. Like Aquilla and Priscilla in Acts 18, a nucleus of people form a house church. Some move to other areas to keep the churches reproducing.

Church Planters from outside the area of the church plant must give ample time and effort to love the people, learn the local culture and form their methods according the area and people of the church-plant. If your CP team is made up of outsiders, they should consider their team to be temporary like the ‘scaffolding’ of a building in the process. For scaffolding serves a temporary purpose. But when the permanent pillars are in place, the scaffolding is removed. Likewise, the CP team will train leaders from among the new believers of the area as soon as possible, and then leave the work in their hands. If you are temporary outsiders, you should prepare the local believers to implement the on-going work.

SUGGESTED PLANNING ACTIVITIES TO CHOOSE A LOCATION FOR THE CHURCH PLANT

- Find places to start new churches where friends or relatives of your church members live.

Are there areas that need a church and where friends or relatives of your church members live?

- Give preference to areas with no existing churches and where no one is effectively evangelizing. Paul preached to those who had not heard the Gospel. (Romans 15:20-21)

What people group or subcultures are not hearing the Good News or do not have effective churches in your area?

How many people live there? _____

What percentage of them already know the Lord? _____

How open are people to the Gospel? _____

- affordable.
- where people feel at liberty to worship.
- with enough space.

Where will the new church meet?

Things to Consider for When You Meet

- work and meal times,
- customary times for holding meetings,
- public transport schedules,
- market days when people come into a town or village,
- other factors:

- There are fewer interruptions.
- Some people expect to worship in a building set apart just for that purpose.

Requirements for the Place You Meet



- near people's homes.
- available when needed.

- Consider transportation.

Is the community where you plan to plant a church a reasonable distance to travel? _____

How would you and the other workers travel?

- Plant churches first in areas where people are interested in the Gospel.

Where are there areas in which people have shown interest in the Gospel?

- Consider and evaluate existing churches in the area.

Are the churches in the area really reaching and teaching others, or are they only small static groups?

What sort of evangelism do the churches in the area carry out?

How effective is their evangelism?

- They can more often avoid interference from authorities or “wolves.”
- They can evangelize people who avoid institutional churches.

Meeting in homes was a New Testament practice. (Acts 20:20, 1 Corinthians 16:19, Colossians 4:15, Philemon 1:2)

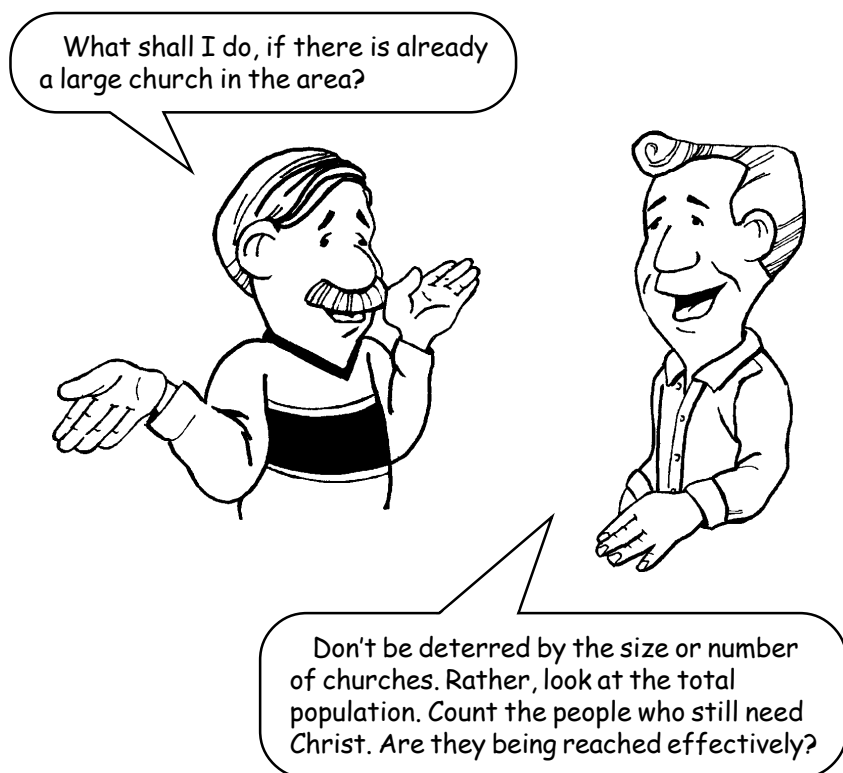
You can begin several small house churches at once in which the believers receive pastoral care, and participate in the Lord’s Supper.

These house churches should try to meet all together at regular intervals.

Other possible meeting places include schools, shops, community buildings, factories, offices, restaurants, or out-of-doors in good weather.

Common Reasons for Meeting in Church Buildings

- There is less pressure on those who host the church.
- More can gather and participate in a greater range of activities.



SUGGESTIONS FOR WHERE AND WHEN TO HOLD WORSHIP MEETINGS

- Assist the new church to determine where and when the church will meet.
- Pray with the new believers for guidance. If there are many people, it may be wise to meet in different homes, and also, from time to time, a larger meeting all together.

Common Reasons for Meeting in Homes

- It is easier for new leaders to lead a smaller group.
- Funds are freed for other needs besides renting, buying or constructing buildings.
- New house churches easily multiply and spread throughout a large area.
- They foster good relationships between believers and allow more to use their spiritual gifts in ministry.
- They allow for more personal pastoral care.

If you decide to plant a new church in an area where other groups already exist, show them respect and love, and do not steal their members. We are not in competition.



Do Christians live in the area that can help you?

- If you plan to work in a distant or different community, gather some general information about that community.

Talk to the people. If possible, seek information from a government census office, or other places that provides information about population and population trends.

SOME QUESTIONS TO GATHER INFORMATION

(People who have recently moved into a community are often more open to the gospel, for friends and unbelieving relatives exert less influence on them.)

Are many new people arriving in the area (refugees, for example)?

From where?

Are new industries starting?

6. How can you enable all members to participate in different parts of the service?

7. What is the best teaching method for a small, new group? (A brief Bible study, retelling Bible stories, formal preaching, dramatizing Bible stories etc.) Remember that it must be a method easily imitated by a new leader.

8. How would people normally pray if the church planters did not influence them? (Silently, aloud, kneeling, standing, with hands raised, etc.)

1. In what type of church have the new believers participated before? (if any)

2. What musical instruments do they play?

3. Could they be used in the service? _____

4. Could the people's own music be used to accompany hymns or create new worship songs?

5. Do the new believers prefer traditional hymns, newer praise songs, or other styles?

Is new housing being built? _____

Also it is good to consider work and social issues:

Where do most people work?

What are people's most common problems?

What is the general economic level of those you plan to work with?

What do people do in the evenings and other times when they are not working? To learn such things you might make a formal survey of the community, talking with a sample of people—if it is safe to do so. Ask someone with experience in such research to help you plan questions.

FOR CROSS-CULTURAL MISSIONARIES

If there are several groups with different languages and cultures in your area, then choose only one of them to begin work. Each one has its own ways of thinking, and, at first, will be more open to the Gospel if they meet with their own people.

Which ethnic groups live in the area?

What languages do they speak? _____

With which language or group will you begin work? _____

To relate well to these people, your CP team should, if possible, include workers who already know their language and culture.

Plan for the future multiplication of churches in the chosen area and in the surrounding district. Agree together on your long-term goals.

Do not model or teach the mother church's worship style (especially if the mother church is large). A small new group needs a simple method.

- If you work in another culture, facilitate people to worship in ways according to their local culture.

The way another cultural group worships may be different from the way the church planting team is used to. The apostle Peter had to learn to change his customs to adapt to a new situation. (Acts 10) Nonetheless, ensure that their way of worship is not contrary (disobedient) to God's Word.

Healthy, growing churches often compose their own songs and, with the Holy Spirit's guidance, develop their own creative worship style. Be sure they continue to praise God, confess sin and celebrate Communion, consider the Word, pray, give and cultivate loving fellowship.

Many new churches stagnate because they follow worship customs that feel strange to the new members. Thus, introduce a worship style that would best express the new believers' faith and sentiments. These questions will assist you in this process:

- Form the new church around leaders from the same community as the church.

A new church is best formed around leaders from the same community, especially if the new Christians come from a different culture from the church planters'. Pray for leaders from the target community.

- Do not teach or lead meetings in ways that the new Christians will find difficult to imitate.

Some church planters want services that are just like the ones in their mother church. But they are too complicated for the new believers.

The church planters must model a simple type of service that the future leaders of the new church can easily imitate.

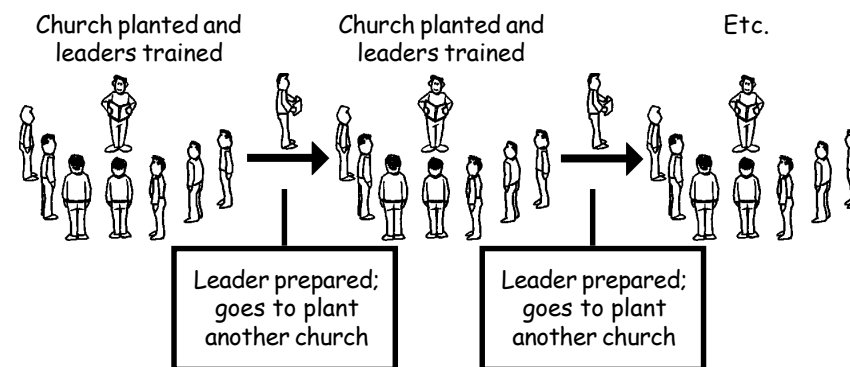


SUGGESTIONS FOR DEFINING YOUR VISION FOR FUTURE CHURCH MULTIPLICATION

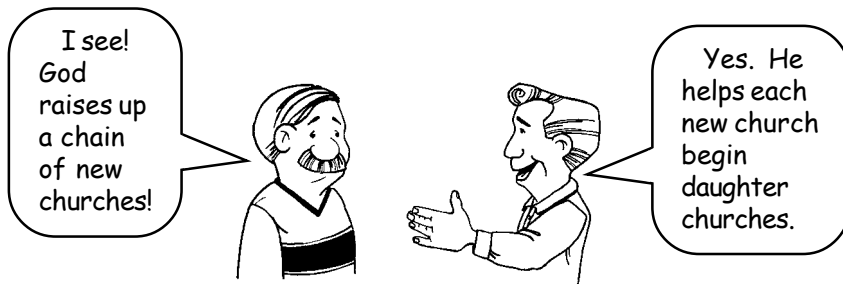
- Draw a simple map of the area to show future church multiplication.

Show any mother churches, and draw arrows from them to communities where you plan to form daughter churches. Add names of helpers from the mother church beside the arrows. Add beside the name of the new community the names of people who live there who might help.

- Review the diagram, which shows the process of leadership training multiplication.



The leaders you train will, in turn, plant other churches, and train new leaders in those churches.



- Draw arrows on the map from the daughter churches to where they might start granddaughter churches, and continue on for great-granddaughter churches.

God may lead you to change your plans on the map or add more details in the future.

SUMMARY OF THE GOAL

Pray and plan where to plant a church and what method to use to plant the church, considering church multiplication.

“Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and triumph, as it did among you.”

(2 Thessalonians 3:1)

(Ask the prayer group to pray for the new church’s regular worship meetings and inform them of any other prayer requests).

“Let us not give up meeting together...”

(Hebrews 10:25)

God is pleased with our worship when we seek to glorify Him, expressing our love and gratitude, also confessing our need for Him and our sins. Worshipping as a body helps new believers to grow spiritually.

GENERAL SUGGESTIONS FOR HOLDING WORSHIP MEETINGS

- Do not just add the new believers to the church planters’ meetings.

The new believers must understand that they, and not the church planters, are the new church. The new church should have its own identity. Otherwise a new, indigenous church fails to take root permanently in the community and culture.

GUIDELINE 10

HOLD WORSHIP MEETINGS



GOAL

- To begin regular worship, in a simple style that potential leaders from the new church can easily imitate.

☐ Planned.

☐ Practice confirmed (date): _____.

GUIDELINE 2

ORGANIZE YOUR CHURCH PLANTERS



GOAL

- Organize your church planting team, considering spiritual gifts of the team members.

☐ Planned.

☐ Practice confirmed (date): _____.

(Ask the prayer group to pray for the church planting team and inform them of any other prayer requests.)

Christ and His apostles never worked alone. They formed church planting teams that went to places for temporary. For example, Peter went with other helpers to evangelize in Cesarea. (Acts 10:23) Paul, Barnabas and John Mark went together from Antioch. The first team in a new area usually does extensive evangelism in order to form a nucleus of believers. The second team is normally those who train the new leaders of the new church.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES FOR ORGANIZING YOUR CHURCH PLANTING TEAM

- Ask the Lord to send workers.

Ask your mother church to pray for workers for the team, as well. The Lord Jesus Christ prayed all night before choosing certain disciples to accompany Him. (Luke 6:12-13)

- Gather and organize team members who have gifts that are beneficial for church planting.

SUMMARY OF THE GOAL

Teach new believers to repent and obey the commands of Jesus; be baptized; love God and others; share the Lord’s Supper; pray; give to God and others; and make disciples.

“Go and make disciples of all nations ... teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”
(Matthew 28:19-20)

“We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands.”
(I John 2:3)

Notes:

- Teach new believers to provide for the needs of others who are suffering, by sharing what God gives them.

As a church, pray and decide how to use the money from the tithes and offerings. (New believers give offerings more willingly when they know where the money goes.) Agree on the projects and a tentative budget. Support at least one project outside the local church.

What projects or persons has the new church decided to support?

- ☐ Help sick people.
- ☐ Buy evangelistic materials.
- ☐ Support pastors.
- ☐ Support workers that serve in another neglected area or country.
- ☐ Other: _____.

- Name a provisional treasurer and teach him to keep a simple register, give receipts, etc.

Name of treasurer:

This may include gifts such as: apostleship, evangelism, healing, and compassion. A team that has a variety of gifts and cooperates together will accomplish much.

- Avoid inviting workers who simply want to preach in front of a new church.

Shepherding skills and showing love for the people are more important functions. Explain to the team members their duties as part of the CP team. When they learn that they will not be preaching in the new church, they may decide to quit on their own.

- Gather and organize team members who are committed to making disciples. Disciples who obey Jesus commands:
 - Repent, believe and receive the Holy Spirit (we must explain the gospel clearly before people can do this).
 - Be baptized and live the new, holy life that it initiates.
 - Break bread in loving fellowship with fellow believers.
 - Love God and men, in a practical way (serve the needy), and forgive enemies.

- Pray daily.
- Give generously.
- Make disciples (witness for Christ, shepherd the flock, train leaders and send missionaries).
- If possible, find Church Planting team members of the same background as the people you want to reach.

Church planting teams members who have the same background will relate to the target group (those they are planting a church among) much more effectively.

- Write the names of those who will work with you on the Church Planting team:

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES FOR YOUR FIRST TEAM MEETING

- Explain to the Church Planting team about the apostolic practice of evangelizing two by two or in small groups.

- Meet to share the Lord's Supper (Luke 22:17-20),
- Pray daily (Matthew 4:4, 6:5-13, John 14:14),
- Give sacrificially (Matthew 6:19-21),
- Make disciples, obey God's Word (Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15).
- Keep a list of the new believers names and assign a caring person to help each one to obey all of Jesus' commands, listed above.
- Teach new believers how to pray.

Each new Christian should pray privately each day. Also, families should have daily devotions together, praying and learning God's Word. They should give thanks to God for each meal. You may need to demonstrate all this for them in their homes.

Members of many growing churches meet early each day to pray for the salvation of their lost friends and family.

A couple from another church has started coming, They have other ideas and are very legalistic. What can I do?



Set conditions. They must agree to help make disciples who obey Christ's commands first, and help multiply churches. They must inspire the new believers in their faith, in love.

- Teach the new believers to obey Christ's commands from a heart of love. The following list is a summary of Christ's commands:
 - Repent and believe (Mark 1:15, John 3:16),
 - Be baptized (Mark 16:16, Acts 2:38),
 - Love God, your neighbor, and brothers and sisters in Christ - live a new life for God (Matthew 5 - 7, Matthew 22:37-39, John 13:34),

When witnessing and counseling, men should minister to men and women to women.

- When you meet with your Church Planting team, pray and then review the twelve Guidelines in this Guide.

Make sure all workers agree with your plans and approach. Explain any long term plans to multiply more churches.

- Inform the Church Planting team that they will meet regularly as a team.

Your CP team should meet regularly to pray for one another and the people you are reaching, and to update their plans. Each worker reports whom he is evangelizing or disciple making and his progress or problems.

- Ask married workers of the Church Planting team to talk over with their spouses what their involvement will be.

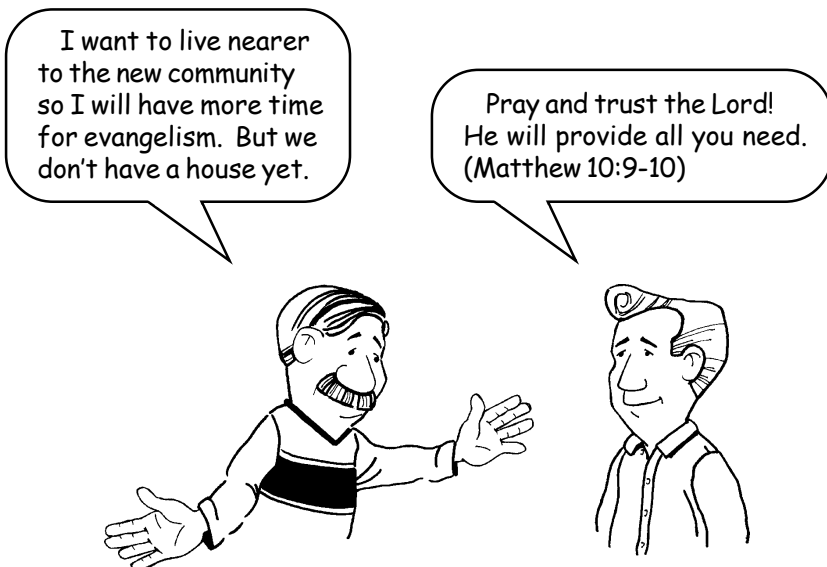
A wife may participate in the ministry directly or support it in prayer. Encourage co-workers to spend enough time with their families. Conflict in the family because of church planting work endangers both the family and the new church.

- Decide who will lead the new church.

Will you train local leaders or will a member of your CP team be the main leader?

- Commission Church Planting team members with a ceremony.

The church in Antioch commissioned Paul and Barnabas with the laying on of hands after prayer and fasting. (Acts 13:1-3)
Help the mother church to understand the project and its purposes.



SUGGESTIONS FOR TEACHING NEW BELIEVERS TO OBEY CHRIST AS FAITHFUL DISCIPLES

- Help your Church Planting team to understand that a church is established only when it is obeying Christ's commands.



(Ask the prayer group to pray for the new believers of the new church: that they obey Christ as faithful disciples and inform them of any other prayer requests.)

“teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you...”

(Matthew 28:20)

In the Great Commission, Christ orders us to make obedient disciples. The new believers must obey His commands, not just learn them.

It is natural for a Christian to want to obey God’s commands. Without obedience, faith is dead. (James 2:14-17) We are not saved by works, but we are saved to do good works. (Ephesians 2:8-10)

The first church in an area is a model for all churches born later. Emphasize clearly that obedience to Christ is essential. The new believers will imitate you and the other church planters. They will never forget the spiritual lessons they learn in the first few months after conversion.

SOME ADDITIONAL GENERAL SUGGESTIONS

If possible, obtain Bibles or New Testaments in a version that the people can understand well (in the language they speak at home).

Arrange for workers to serve together in a way that uses their spiritual gifts. Deal firmly with any worker who has a problem getting along with the others.

SUMMARY OF THE GOAL

Organize and begin to nurture your team.

“It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up...”

(Ephesians 4:11-12)

GUIDELINE 3

GET TO KNOW AND LOVE THE PEOPLE



GOAL

- Get to know and love the people. If you do not do this, the evangelistic work will not progress.

- Decide whom you will evangelize first.

☐ Planned.

☐ Practice confirmed (date): _____.

GUIDELINE 9

TEACH OBEDIENCE TO CHRIST



GOAL

- To teach the new believers to obey Christ's commands.

☐ Planned.

☐ Practice confirmed (date): _____.

If unconverted people cause problems, approach them with love to correct them. Avoid anger. If they continue in flagrant sin and refuse to repent, take others with you and ask them firmly not to meet with the church.

SUMMARY OF THE GOAL

Baptize new believers, celebrate the Lord's Supper together as a new church body, and invite the members to meet on a regular basis to encourage each other to follow Christ.

"...Baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

(Matthew 28:19)

"They devoted themselves to the apostle's teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."

(Acts 2:42)

(Ask the prayer group to pray for your efforts to come to know the people whom you will plant a church among and inform them of any other prayer requests.)

In Athens, Paul observed the city carefully. Then he spoke to the people in a way they could understand. (Read Acts 17:16-34.) We, too, evangelize more effectively if we know what the people are like.

IMPORTANT: If you are the Church Planting team leader, you should ensure that someone models the skills for inexperienced coworkers.

SUGGESTED PRELIMINARY ACTIVITIES

- As the Church Planting team begins to visit a community for church planting, consider the following situations that relate to cross-cultural Missions:

People prefer to gather with others of the same culture and class. (An exception is when several races have already fully integrated into the same culture of a community.) Once the people are converted we should teach them about their responsibility to love and help those of other groups.

For example you could find two groups in the same place who speak different languages. As they form separate communities, concentrate first on only one. The Gospel will spread through the friendship and trust that already exist within the group. Build on these relationships to evangelize the whole group. Another church planting task group might work with the other group.

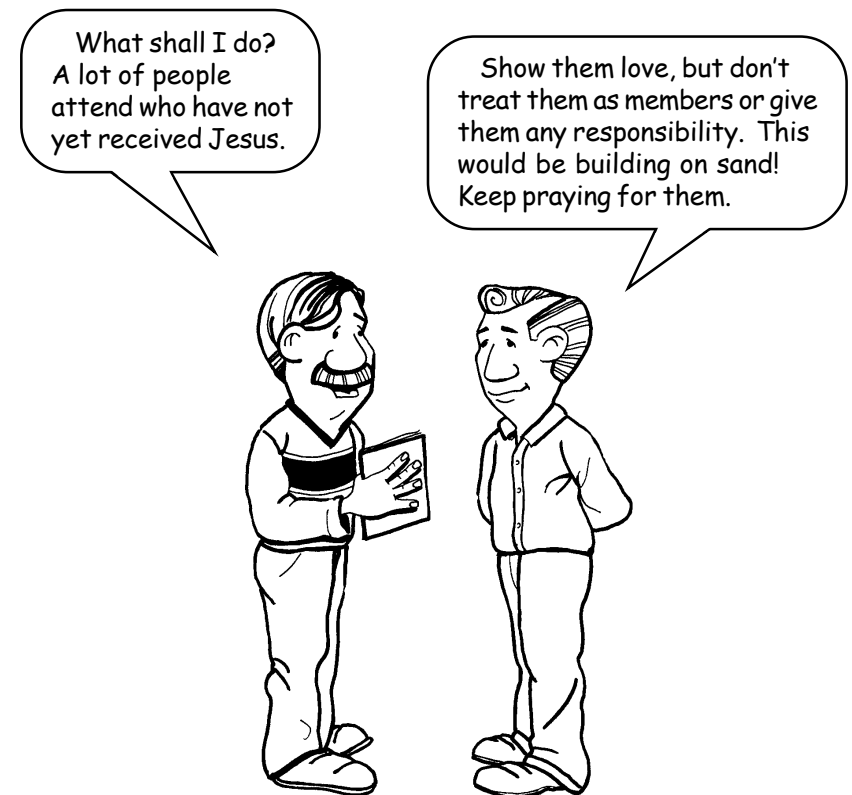


- Pray that God will help the Church Planting team to understand the people's needs and ways.

hiding secret sins, bad habits, sexual immorality, spiritism, or a robbery. Explain Christ's total forgiveness of the sins of which they repent. In love help them to solve their problems.

3. Those who do not affirm faith in Christ but attend meetings.

- Consider what to do with those who attend the group meetings but have not accepted Jesus yet.



Sometimes church planters only bring people together to sing, pray and listen to sermons. This is not enough. The new group should also obey the Lord's commands, baptizing new believers, celebrating the Lord's Supper and giving. Train local leaders to shepherd the group. This way you will form an active and obedient church.

- Name a provisional secretary from among the new believers.

Give him a membership register (it might be just an ordinary notebook). He writes the names of those who are baptized, and the date of baptism.

- Consider what to do with those who do not want to commit themselves to the new church. There could be at least three types of people:
 1. Those who are not converted or avoid meetings. Maintain friendship, but do not use up time with them if they continue to show no interest. Pray for them and visit them from time to time. Perhaps they will repent later.
 2. Those who say that they are converted, but appear indifferent. Pray for discernment. Perhaps they are

You might explain Acts 17:16-34 to your co-workers to show them how Paul called attention to the people's pagan devotions to introduce the gospel.

- Visit the people to get to know and love them. Get information that will help you relate well.

SUGGESTIONS TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH A SPECIFIC GROUP OF PEOPLE

- In some places, the Church Planting team members might simply walk through the area and observe the people.

For example, if you see many men drinking, ask yourself, "What does this tell me? Is alcoholism a problem?" At the same time, do not judge or condemn. Pray and study the situation to see ways of helping the people.

- Visit relatives and friends of your coworkers or other believers in your church.
- Talk with neighbors, humbly seeking friendship as one who wants to learn, not as an "investigator."

Speak to people in their homes, businesses, markets, buses, parks, etc. Get to know as many as possible. Ask questions with sensitivity. Listen carefully. Encourage them to speak of their needs and problems.

- Later, write down any valuable information you get, to discuss with your co-workers.
- Take part in community activities that are consistent with being a Christian.
- The Church Planting team could use a questionnaire to go from house to house.

If necessary, ask permission from the community leaders. A questionnaire can help reveal people's attitudes. However, questionnaires can also produce negative reactions. In some societies people will think you are prying and will use the information against them if you write down their answers in front of them. Ask someone with experience in such research how to do this.

- Ensure that the new believers feel that they are the church, and not just objects of the church planting teams efforts.

In the first meeting, the new believers were outnumbered by the workers from the outside, and did not realize that they were the new church. They thought they were joining the Task Group of outsiders.

The new believers should feel their own identity as the new church. Ask some of the workers from the outside not to attend meetings so that outsiders are never a majority.

A team of cross-cultural missionaries should not allow itself to become the church. Rather it serves as a midwife, helping members of the local community to form a new body; a totally new church is born.

- Ask the new believers to promise that, with God's help, they will obey Christ's commands.

Invite them to commit to obey Christ's commands, such as: to continue in faith and repentance, be filled with God's Spirit, love God and others, meet for the Lord's Supper, pray daily, give, evangelize and shepherd others.

SUGGESTIONS FOR IDENTIFYING THE GROUP OF BAPTIZED BELIEVERS AS A CHURCH

- Have those who were baptized celebrate the Lord's Supper together. At this time, declare that the group has now become a church.

They will not be just a Bible study group. They are a fellowship of believers obeying the Lord. They belong to Jesus. They are His Body. His Spirit dwells in them. Help them to see themselves as members of a church body that will grow, worship love and serve together with joy. Understanding these things, the new believers will work together and make sacrifices for the Lord's work.



THINGS TO LEARN ABOUT THE PEOPLE

Be careful how you get this information. In some societies you would not ask strangers a direct question about personal matters.

QUESTIONS ON RELIGION

This information about their spiritual knowledge will help you to present the Lord Jesus Christ in a way they can understand better.

What is their religion? _____

Do they practice other rites as part of their culture (e.g., praying to the dead)?

Why do they practice these other rites?

What do they believe about God?

In what way do they worship Him?

What meaning does He have for their spiritual lives?

What do they believe about Heaven?

What do they believe about Hell?

Pause for the people to meditate. Do the same when distributing the cup. (Luke 22:20) Leave detailed explanations about the doctrine of the Lord's Supper to another occasion. Let the Holy Spirit speak through the Supper itself.

- Baptize the new believers and receive them as members of Christ's church.
- Write the date and the names of baptized believers:

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

(If your church has no pre-established order)

A. Position: (for a small group)

Stand or sit around a table with the bread and wine on it.

B. Praise:

Sing known hymns. If they do not have hymnbooks, repeat psalms of praise. Tell them to read slowly, following the punctuation to keep together. (Do not ask everyone to read if illiterate people are participating. Rather memorize and repeat one or two worship Psalms.)

C. Prayer:

Ask them to pray silently, confessing their sins to God. Assure them of His forgiveness.

D. The Supper itself:

Celebrate the Supper solemnly: do not hurry, or it may lack reverence. When you break the bread, slowly and with authority, repeat the Lord's words ("This is my body..." Luke 22:19).

What do they believe about eternity?

What do they believe about Satan (or evil power) and evil spirits?

Do they fear them? _____

What do they believe about how the world was made?

What do they believe happens to them after death?

What do they believe about the spirits of their ancestors?

Do they believe the spirits of the dead will visit them? _____

What do they know about the Bible?

What have they already learned from the Bible?

Do they read it regularly? _____

Do they recognize that all people have sinned? _____

- Teach new believers that baptism is the Biblical way to declare their faith in Christ.
- Plan for the baptism and reception of members into Christ's church.

SUGGESTIONS FOR BAPTISM

(If you have no pre-established order)

- A. Ask the new believers to confess their repentance and their faith in Christ as Lord and Savior. Ask those already baptized to receive them and love them as brothers, and to pray for them and help them obey the Lord Jesus.
- B. Baptize them. (Follow your own church's method.)
- C. Lay hands on the new believers and pray that they will be filled with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 8:17)
- D. You may celebrate the Lord's Supper together immediately after the baptism. Baptism affirms their belonging to Christ and His people. The Lord's Supper affirms their communion with Christ. Normally, only those who are baptized should participate.

baptism. Once people had repented and confessed their faith in Christ (Acts 16:31-33) they were baptized. They often baptized people the day they were converted.

In the Bible, baptism was not the graduation ceremony of a long doctrine course. Rather, baptism allowed the new believer to begin his or her new Christian life in Christ (first steps of obedience). You will be able to teach new believers more after they are baptized. We give prolonged instruction on baptism only if there is a serious misunderstanding about baptism.

- If possible, baptize whole families together. (Acts 16:15, 31-33)



Do they believe that sin is committed against God as well as men?

If they were to go to a church, what would they hope to find (friendship, Bible teaching, salvation in Christ, material help, etc.)?

What things have they not liked about churches they have attended?

To whom would they pray in an emergency (an earthquake, etc.)?

In what other circumstances do they pray?

What do they believe about the Virgin Mary and the saints or intercessors with the spirit world?

Learn what they value in their current religion in order to explain later how Jesus meets the need in a better way.

QUESTIONS ABOUT NEEDS

If you know people's deepest needs, you can present the Lord Jesus Christ as the One who will satisfy them. Some needs are symptoms of spiritual problems. For example: the fear of death, sickness or war; feeling lonely, that no one loves them, or that life has no meaning. (Other needs and problems include unemployment, alcoholism, drugs, injustice, violence, marriage and family strife, illiteracy, lack of medical care, lack of nutritious food.)

SUGGESTIONS FOR BAPTIZING NEW BELIEVERS

Important Notes

Relating to cross-cultural missionaries:

Where there is violent persecution against converts, and declaring oneself a Christian could result in death, let new Christians decide whether to declare their faith publicly. Do not pressure them either way. Some missionaries baptize people secretly.

Relating to churches:

Different churches have different beliefs and practices regarding baptism. In this guideline, we share about the fundamentals of baptism from the Bible. You are to apply these fundamentals according to the practices of your church.

- Explain baptism to the Church Planting team members by studying the Bible together.

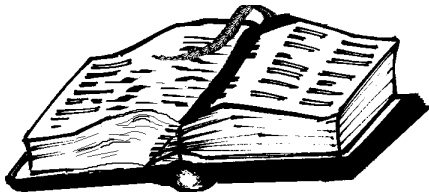
These Scriptures teach us about Baptism: Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 2:37-42, Acts 8:35-38, Acts 10:47-48, Romans 6:1-14. We find in the book of Acts that the apostles never delayed

(Ask the prayer group to pray for those who will be baptized and inform them of any other prayer requests.)

What is God's purpose for baptizing adult believers? The apostle Paul revealed it:

"Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin — because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him."

(Romans 6:3-8)



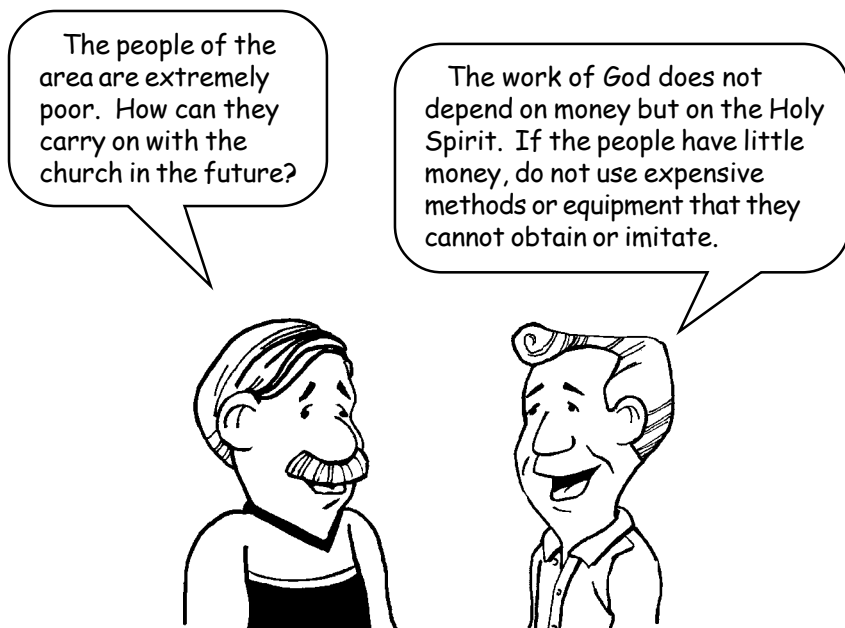
What are the people's most common problems and needs?

What are the most common forms of work?

What is the economic level of the people?

- ☐ poor
- ☐ unemployed
- ☐ on low wages
- ☐ farmers
- ☐ middle class
- ☐ upper class
- ☐ other _____

The new believers will witness to others. It is important that you or your coworkers give them good models of evangelism that they can imitate easily.



QUESTIONS ABOUT COMMUNITY LEADERS

Contact the respected leaders who make important decisions in the community (unless working in a restricted field where such leaders would be hostile). In a given area of a large city, try to identify those who exercise a lot of influence (e.g., town and school leaders). If these are converted others will follow them. Ask for their help and suggestions, and gain their confidence and support. Witness to them. They could become leaders in the new church. Work through them if possible.

GUIDELINE 8 BAPTIZE AND RECEIVE NEW MEMBERS



GOAL

- Baptize the new believers and receive them as members of Christ's church.
 - Celebrate the Lord's Supper as a new church.
- ☐ Planned.
- ☐ Practice confirmed (date): _____.

- Consider this question: “Does the church planting team have any problems that need to be solved?”



SUMMARY OF THE GOAL

Evaluate your work so you can improve your methods accordingly.

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”

(Galatians 6:9)

Who are the community leaders? (Note also their addresses and roles.)

NAME	ADDRESS	ROLE
<hr/>		
<hr/>		
<hr/>		

In what ways have the community leaders helped you?



QUESTIONS ABOUT ORGANIZATIONS

In cities and large villages, there are many organizations such as sport clubs. These groups meet because of common interests. Sometimes it helps to join an organization to get to know the people. Build on the close relationships between members of these associations to help to spread the Gospel as people get to know you. Evangelism is more effective when a relationship of friendship and confidence exists.

What organizations operate in the area?

- Circle those that could be used to extend the Gospel, and in which a Christian could work without compromising his witness.

With the information you now have collected, note down the problems that require your prayers.

If new believers lack love for each other, you should provide more social activity. Plan meals, outings, sports or other social activities for them, if practical. Let them see that they will soon be a fervent, joyful church, full of love for Christ and others.

- Consider this question: “Do the new believers maintain respectful and caring relationships with their unconverted family and friends?”

Keep encouraging new believers to maintain affectionate relationships with their unconverted family and friends. As far as possible, their relatives should be glad that they have been converted. New believers should cultivate good relationships by visiting and helping, sharing in family life, and by forgiving and asking forgiveness.

- Consider this question: “Has evangelism efforts decreased or ceased?”

Concentrate on the relatives and friends of the new believers. Some new churches rely too soon on public services, and stop evangelizing. Do not stop evangelizing just because you have begun worship meetings. Keep witnessing fervently for Christ!

- Praying with them (you may ask them to pray also, repeating each phrase after you).
 - Helping them to memorize Scripture.
- Consider this question: “Do people who show interest in the Gospel want to gather together with others?”

If the people show interest in the gospel but do not want to gather together, you may need to concentrate more on one group, type of people or area. Different groups do not mix well together in a new church. For example, an immigrant group, although they understand the local language, may prefer to worship in their own language. You would decide to concentrate either on that group, or on those who speak the local language. Many new believers leave a church because they cannot identify with the culture prevailing in it. Reorganize if necessary to form churches or cells in which new believers fit in comfortably with the church family.

On which group will you concentrate?

- Consider this question: “Do the new believers lack love for each other?”

What are your plans for dealing with the needs of the people and relating to them in a way that is consistent with their local culture?

SUMMARY OF THE GOAL

Become acquainted with the people and begin to build relationships with key people in the community.

“...Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla...Paul went to see them, and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them...”

(Acts 18:1-3)

GUIDELINE 4 CLAIM CHRIST'S VICTORY



GOAL

- As a church planting team, begin spiritual warfare through serious prayer.

☐ Planned.

☐ Practice confirmed (date): _____.

(Ask the prayer group to pray for your Church Planting team's spiritual warfare and inform them of any other prayer requests.)

SUGGESTIONS FOR EXAMINING THE RESULTS

- Consider this question: "Are people responding to the Good News?"

Work for results. If people do not become Christians, keep seeking God's guidance and use different methods.

"I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some."

(1 Corinthians 9:22)

- Consider this question: "Are there people who show interest in the Gospel, but don't understand or accept the fundamental truths of the Good News?"

If the people seem receptive but find it hard to understand the Gospel, you may encourage them by:

- Making sure when you share or teach, Jesus Christ is your central theme. Satan distracts us to talk about other themes that do not lead to salvation.
- Helping them to affirm their faith by answering questions such as: "What did Christ do to save us?" and explaining the Gospel stories to their family.

GUIDELINE 7

EXAMINE THE RESULTS



- Evaluate your work.

☐ Planned.

☐ Practice confirmed (date): _____.

(Ask the prayer group to pray for your church planting team's evaluation of their work and inform them of any other prayer requests.)



“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.”

(Ephesians 6:12-13)

Our victory comes through the “blood of the Lamb.”

(Revelation 12:11) With this blood we were redeemed from the power of Satan. (Colossians 2:15, Hebrews 2:14-15) On His resurrection, our Lord Jesus was declared “Son of God with power.” (Romans 1:4) Through our prayer (“Thy Kingdom come...”) and our evangelism, we extend God’s Kingdom in the community.

SUGGESTIONS TO ENGAGE IN SPIRITUAL WARFARE THROUGH PRAYER

- With your Church Planting team members, pray (and fast if it is your custom).

Pray to break Satan's power and invade the territory he has held. Also, pray for the power of God to be manifested in the salvation of many people.

In the Bible, the great victories of God's people were preceded by much prayer and, often, by fasting. We must reinforce our evangelism with prayer. In each region and town there are demonic forces that dominate and influence people so that they do not accept Christ as Lord. (2 Corinthians 4:4) God frees these captives in reply to our prayer.

- Organize prayer vigils through the night, or set apart days of prayer and fasting.
- Keep your mother church informed of your church planting work so they will intercede.
- As church planters set an example of holy living, which is a vital part of our spiritual armor. (Ephesians 6:10-20)

In summary, avoid a philosophical, highly theological approach. Extremely few people come to Christ through a process of intellectual reasoning. Let them see that you love Christ and that He loves them. Tell them what Jesus said to tell them: the historical account of His death and resurrection. (Luke 24: 46-48) Relate your own testimony, of what Christ has done for you. Use no methods or equipment that are beyond them. Do everything in a way that they can imitate at once to pass the gospel on to others. Telling stories from the Bible that illustrates redemption in Christ is normally the easiest way to keep the gospel flowing from friend to friend and family to family.

SUMMARY OF THE GOAL

Explain the Good News to those families who are willing to listen (especially determine who you will teach, what materials you will use, and what methods you will implement)

"Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ."

(Romans 10:17)

Urge families and friends to exercise faith together. In this way, they are not rejected by their non-Christian family. Normally, people come to a sincere decision by talking, discussing, and thinking (even arguing) with their family members and close friends.

- At conversion, invite new believers in Christ to reject every sinful and occult practice and all other gods.
 - Identify and renounce all such practices.
 - Destroy all occult objects and embrace freedom in Christ from their power.
 - Help those who repent to ask God to forgive and cleanse them through Christ's blood, and to be filled with the Holy Spirit.
- Pray for the healing of the sick.
- At a large meeting, give testimonies, sing simple songs and plan to get the names and addresses of those who want to hear more.
- In a meeting with many people, do not simply ask people to raise their hand, sign a card or 'go forward'. Such superficial actions often fail to bring people to Christ. Rather, help people to understand, repent, believe and be baptized.

Whatever your practice is, make sure your co-workers are seriously interceding with God for the people.

What are you doing to assure this type of spiritual warfare?

SUMMARY OF THE GOAL

Organize spiritual warfare prayer.

"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand."

(Ephesians 6:12-13)

GUIDELINE 5

FIND THE PEOPLE WHO SEEK GOD



GOAL

- Contact people who are open to the Gospel, especially heads of the household.

☐ Planned.

☐ Practice confirmed (date): _____.

(Ask the prayer group to pray for the Church Planting team's efforts to find people who are open to the Gospel especially heads of the household and inform them of any other prayer requests.)

- Use etiquette.

Make sure you are correctly dressed and presentable. Do not visit at meal times.

- Be friendly.
- Explain the benefits of following Christ.

The benefits of following Christ include:

- salvation and forgiveness;
- the Holy Spirit and eternal life;
- power to overcome our sins and vices;
- power to serve others and help them in their suffering;
- better family life;
- sharing in the love of God's people;
- knowing the meaning of life;
- peace of mind and a clear conscience;
- dealing with our deepest hopes and needs;
- the joy of obeying Christ and sharing the Good News.

- Explain that they may be subject to opposition, but that the Lord is with them to strengthen and protect them.
- Encourage them to talk over among themselves whether they will follow Christ.

- Teach in a way that can be easily imitated. Then those who are converted will witness in the same way.
- Use the Bible. Use other materials only if those who are converted will also be able to afford them. (Think about the cost for poor people.)
- Encourage them to obey God’s command to repent and believe.
- Ask questions about the Gospel so that the people affirm its truths for themselves.
- Help heads of households to teach their family and friends what they themselves have learned.
- Keep seeking friends and relatives of the families who are learning the Gospel.

They will be more open than strangers. As soon as a person is converted, help him express love to his family and friends. Go with him to show him how to witness to them. If new believers do not have contact with their friends, evangelism is stifled.

- Meet regularly.

“The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him: ‘We have found the Messiah’ ... and he brought him to Jesus.”
(John 1:41-42)

If you already have good contacts with interested people, move on to the next Guideline.

SUGGESTIONS ABOUT CONTACTING PEOPLE INTERESTED IN THE GOSPEL

- Make contact with many people, seeking those who are open to the Gospel.

Just as a fisherman casts his net wide to catch more fish, you and your coworkers also should contact many people to find those who show interest. Later we draw the net in.
(Matthew 4:19, Acts 17:32-34)

Where do people often meet to talk or for recreation?

Can you talk to them there? _____

- Visit families accompanied by people they know; they will have more trust and receive you with greater openness.

If possible, ask a respected person from the neighborhood to accompany you. Even if he is not a Christian, he will help to open doors. When you contact people, show the love of Christ for the needy. Pray for the sick.

- Seek heads of households who want to hear the Gospel.

Heads of households are the key to leading whole families and whole communities to Jesus Christ. If we avoid the head of the household, we will create division and barriers for those who need to hear the Good News. Also, some heads of households will become leaders of the church.

When do you find heads of households at home?

- Sow the seed on all types of ground, but concentrate on what shows promise of a good harvest.
(Matthew 13:4-8, 18-23)

GUIDELINES FOR TEACHING THE GOOD NEWS

- Prepare your hearts with prayer before visiting.
- Form house groups as soon as possible.
- Relate the teaching to what they already know and believe (the information you gathered in Guideline 3 of this Guide).
- Keep their attention by asking questions and helping them to discuss the topic.



3. The shameful son - Luke 15
4. An African is baptized - Acts 8
5. The conversion of the jailer and his family believe in Jesus - Acts 16
6. Jesus is the bread that gives life - John 6
7. Deliverance of a demoniac person - Mark 5
8. An enemy believes and is baptized - Acts 9

- Tell Bible stories to those who cannot read.
- Use drawings (unless you work with people who think that drawings are not appropriate for religious matters and have a magical purpose.)

You may be able to find other materials proven effective for the culture you work in.

Do not give much time to those who react with opposition or lack of interest. (Matthew 7:6) Paul went to the Gentiles because they were more open than the Jews. (Acts 18:6)

- To plant strong churches, win entire families in the same neighborhood, and not just individuals.

Whole families are the key to leading whole communities to Jesus Christ. If we lead individuals to Christ, separate from their families, we will create division and barriers for those who need to hear the Good News. You should plan to evangelize several families.

- Witness in ways worthy of the Son of God.

Sometimes, Christians have provoked negative reactions by using frivolous methods. These methods push people away from the Good News and mock God's character and ways.

- Use methods of evangelism in which new believers can imitate you easily.

In the future, those who you lead to Christ will share the Good news with others. If you use methods that are expensive or complicated to implement, the believers of the new church will

not be able to follow your examples. They should not need a great deal of knowledge or technical skill to evangelize others.

- In hostile societies, do not use methods that attract attention from the authorities.
- Choose methods that communicate well to the people's hearts and minds.

Methods vary from place to place, according to the culture and the local circumstances. Here are some suggestions:

- Visit homes to offer Bible study.
- Tell Bible stories to groups of neighbors.
- Preach in the streets.
- Pray for the sick or have healing campaigns.
- Have evangelistic meetings for the whole community.
- Place advertisements or write articles in the newspapers with a coupon to return, if they want a Bible study or prayer.
- Transmit radio advertisements or programs.
- Carry out a community survey.
- Sell literature.
- Hold marriage enrichment courses.
- Use music, songs, poetry, and drama.
- Mail circulars with a coupon to return.
- Have a sports event.

EXAMPLES OF EVANGELISTIC BIBLE STUDIES TO USE IN HOMES

- Passages in John's Gospel, especially stories of people who came to faith in Christ, and also His death and resurrection.
- Passages from Luke's Gospel: for example, The Lord's birth (1:1-38, 2:1-20), His baptism (3:1-22), His temptation (4:1-13), His miracles (5:1-11, 7:1-17, 8:26-56, 9:10-17), His teachings (6:17-49, 8:4-15, 10:1-37, 11:1-13, 14:25-35, 15:1-32, 16:19-31, 17:20-37, 21:5-36), His trial, death and resurrection (Chapters 22 - 24).
- Best News: An evangelistic course suitable for teaching to heads of households who can then teach the studies to their family and friends (Train & Multiply Pastoral Study Booklet Number 2). This includes stories about:

Studies of the Best News

1. Noah and the great flood - Genesis 6-8
2. The Lord's death and return to life - Luke 23-24

IMPORTANT CONTENT TO COMMUNICATE WHEN TEACHING THE GOOD NEWS

- Who is God? (His nature, holiness, love, plan of salvation, wrath and kingdom)
- What is sin? (unbelief, idolatry and other specific sins, the fallen condition of man before God)
- What is death? (physical and spiritual)
- What is judgment? (its meaning and certainty)
- Who is Jesus? (His divinity, lordship, birth, death for our sins, resurrection and second coming)
- What is eternal life?
- What is the new birth? What is the gift of the Holy Spirit?
- What are repentance and faith?
- What is baptism?
- What is the Church? (Christ is the Head of the Church)

A Bible study that has given good results is “BEST NEWS.” It consists of eight lessons, each with a drawing to interest people in the theme, a Bible passage, simple questions, and assignments which help the head of the household teach the story to his family, and draw nearer to God.
(Pastoral Training Booklet Number 2)

- Help with physical and community needs, especially in emergencies.

This demonstrates God’s love for the people. This is crucial in a society hostile to the Gospel. However, do not let social work take you away from your evangelistic mandate. Also, beware of setting up permanent distribution programs of free food or clothes that draw people to you for economic motives. Once founded, the new church must take responsibility for helping the needy. Your task force is normally temporary. It must not begin projects that the new church will not be able to carry on by itself.

How have you been able to serve needy people?



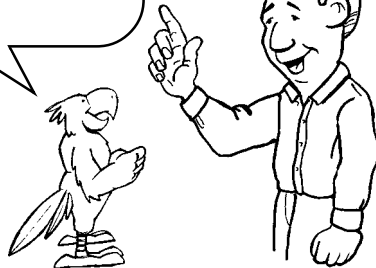
Remember that people are much more open to the Lord when going through a crisis or serious change (the death of a family member, an illness, moving to a different house, changing jobs, marriage, divorce, loss of a friendship, the birth of a child, etc.)

We gave out tracts in the street, but nobody showed any interest.



Try other methods. You as their leader should show the others how to do the Activities. Christ never told His disciples to anything that they had not seen Him do first.

You've done enough work for now. Leave it for a month and have a rest.



"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."
(Galatians 6:9)

- Arrange times to relax together for all those who are being taught the Good News.

Help them to get to know each other as future members of the new church. However, **DO NOT HOLD PUBLIC WORSHIP SERVICES UNTIL YOU HAVE A GROUP OF BAPTIZED BELIEVERS!** For now, concentrate on teaching them the Gospel.

- Baptize new believers according to Jesus' command.

Explain to those who believe that baptism identifies us with Jesus in His death and resurrection. Romans 6 explains that we die to sin and rise with Christ to new, holy life.

Now there are five new believers to baptize. But baptism doesn't come until Guideline 8. What shall I do?



Do several activities at the same time. Baptize those who are converted, and keep telling the good news to others.

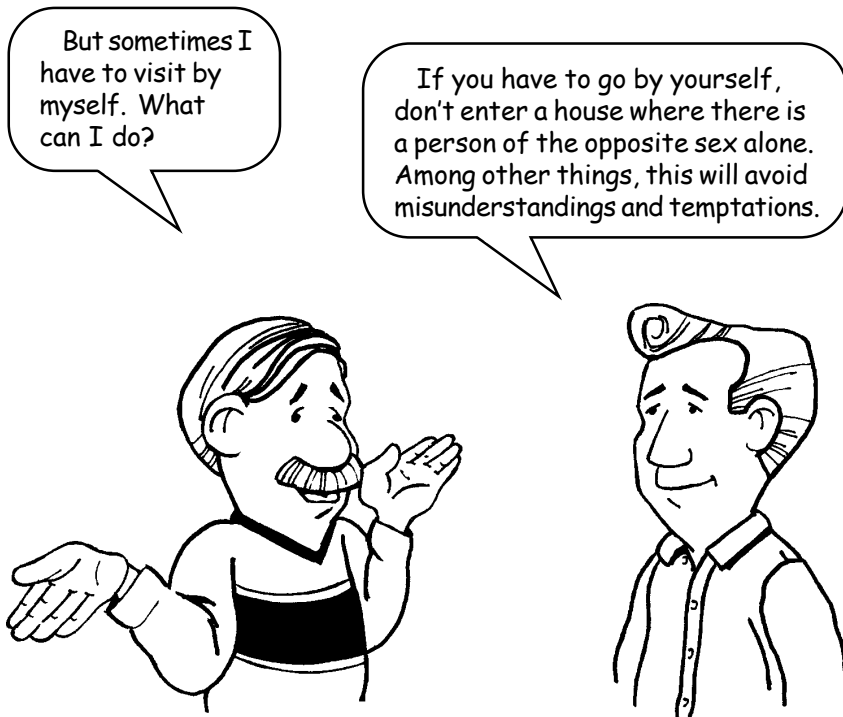
EVALUATE YOUR WORK AND MAKE PLANS

Are you satisfied with your evangelism efforts? If not, write any plans you have to see better results:

If people did not respond favorably, or were hostile, what was the reason? (Find out if you do not know.)

If the people have definitely proven to be unresponsive, even after you are sure you are presenting Christ patiently in a culturally relevant way, then 'shake the dust from your feet' and seek a more responsive community. (Matthew 10:14)

To contact more people, take those who show interest with you to visit their relatives and friends. This is much more effective than contacting strangers.



But sometimes I have to visit by myself. What can I do?

If you have to go by yourself, don't enter a house where there is a person of the opposite sex alone. Among other things, this will avoid misunderstandings and temptations.

- Prepare your Church Planting team members to teach the Good News, five to seven times to families. (This includes planning what and how you will teach the Good News.)

Prepare your church planting team members to present the Good News in a way that the listeners can readily understand and can imitate as they share with others. The percentage of those who persevere in the faith rises dramatically if the Gospel is presented between five and seven times before asking people to commit to follow Christ.

“Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”

(1 Corinthians 15:58)

SUMMARY OF THE GOAL

Contact people who are open to the Gospel, especially heads of the household.

CROSS-CULTURAL CHURCH PLANTER'S PROGRESS CHART

Measure your progress below. This will encourage you as you see yourself advancing during the time you are sowing by faith.

Write the date by each Guideline when you practice it, if it applies to you.

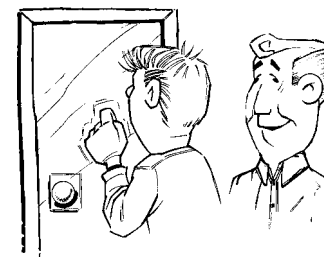
Working for the conversion of whole families takes longer, but produces a stronger church. Do not try to separate a convert from his family or group of friends. Otherwise they will resist the Gospel. The answer is to work for the conversion of the entire group.

- Record the names and addresses of those who agree to listen to the Good News and the name of the church planter who will visit and teach them.

Especially, teach heads of households who have begun to teach their own families.

- Organize the Church Planting team to go two by two (if possible).

The Lord sent out His disciples in pairs and the apostles rarely traveled alone. (Luke 10:1) Christian workers normally have more confidence when accompanied. The more experienced worker trains and helps the one who is less able. Two visitors make a greater impact.



SUGGESTIONS ABOUT TEACHING THE GOOD NEWS TO FAMILIES

Lead your church planting team to pray specifically about their communication of the Good News to families.

“Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the Kingdom of God.”

(Acts 19:8)

- Ask God for power and clarity to communicate the Gospel.
- Bind evil spirits, power of charms, witchcraft, and all occult forces in the homes of interested people.
- Ask God to cause His light to shine where Satan has blinded people’s minds. (2 Corinthians 4:4)
- Pray that relatives and neighbors hostile to the Gospel will be won over.
- Share with your Church Planting team about working for the conversion of whole families.

Learning Phase

- ☐ I have the help of a national of the same language and culture as the people (to assist in language learning, visiting, etc.)
- ☐ I have checked that my method of contacting people is in accord with the culture and the circumstances.
- ☐ I have checked the best contacts to begin with (in a field resistant to the Gospel, seek those who welcome changes in their society, often among the poorer working class).
- ☐ I have been received (and invited to return) by a head of household whose conversion will not cause great problems with his family or work. (During your first visits be a listener. Learn from the person about his culture and life. Ask questions and keep quiet to listen.)

Sharing Phase

- ☐ I have begun to share aspects of my own culture and life; I continue to listen to my contact (interchange of ideas).

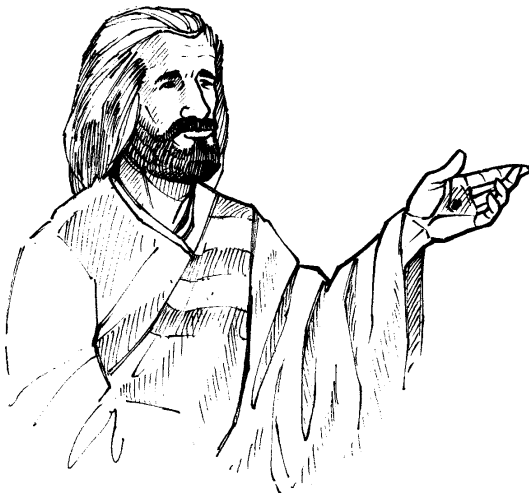
- ☐ I have participated in social activities with the family (meals, played games, gone on outings, celebrated birthdays, etc.); I love and feel a genuine appreciation for the culture.

- ☐ I have told brief stories from the Bible.

- ☐ The head of the household listens to the story of Jesus.

Storytelling Phase

- ☐ Heads of households are listening to (Best News with its eight lessons about Jesus, or another series of Bible stories suitable for the culture, dealing with the life, teaching, miracles, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus).



GUIDELINE 6 ANNOUNCE THE GOOD NEWS



GOAL

- Explain the Good News to those families who are willing to listen.
- ☐ Planned.
- ☐ Practice confirmed (date): _____.

(Ask the prayer group to pray for families who are listening to the Good News and inform them of any other prayer requests.)