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# MODULE 1

FACILITATOR'S MANUAL

MISSION TO MULTIPLY COURSE  
Planting Healthy Churches



*more churches, stronger churches*

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# MISSION TO MULTIPLY

## CHURCH PLANTING CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

	<b>MODULE 1 HEALTHY CHURCH PLANTING</b>	<b>MODULE 2 PREPARING TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS</b>	<b>MODULE 3 UNDERSTANDING GOD'S PLAN</b>	<b>MODULE 4 SHARING THE GOOD NEWS</b>	<b>MODULE 5 MOVING PEOPLE TOWARD FAITH</b>	<b>MODULE 6 GROWING DISCIPLES</b>
<b>DEVOTIONAL</b>	Biblical Foundations for Healthy Churches	Theological Foundations for Healthy Churches	Missiological Foundation for Healthy Churches	Strategic Foundations for Healthy Churches	Living the Gospel	Christian Growth: Christ the Focal Point (or <i>Christ the Center</i> )
<b>SESSION 1</b>	<b>WHAT IS A HEALTHY CHURCH?</b>	<b>SPIRITUAL MAPPING: PRINCIPLES OF RESEARCH</b>	<b>WHAT GOD IS SHOWING ME: SHARING YOUR RESEARCH</b>	<b>JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH</b>	<b>BARRIERS TO EVANGELISM</b>	<b>THE GREAT COMMISSION AND CHURCH PLANTING</b>
<b>HEALTHY CHURCH CONCEPT</b>	Communicating a Clear Vision	Mission, Text, and Context	Vision, Text, and Context	Affirmed in God's Call	Evangelism	Evangelism and Discipleship
<b>SESSION 2</b>	<b>WHAT IS A HEALTHY CHURCH PLANTER?</b>	<b>THIS IS WHAT JESUS DID FOR ME! DEVELOPING AND SHARING YOUR PERSONAL TESTIMONY</b>	<b>WHAT GOD IS SHOWING ME: SHARING YOUR TESTIMONY AND PRAYER WALKING</b>	<b>BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES OF LEADERSHIP</b>	<b>THE PROCESS OF CONVERSION I</b>	<b>KEYS TO SUCCESSFUL DISCIPLE - MAKING</b>
<b>HEALTHY CHURCH CONCEPT</b>	Affirmed in God's Call	Evangelism	Vision, Text, and Context	Empowering leaders	Evangelism	Discipleship
<b>SESSION 3</b>	<b>"Z" THINKING: WHAT DOES GOD WANT?</b>	<b>LEADING SMALL GROUPS</b>	<b>MY CHURCH PLANTING MASTER PLAN: DISCERNING GOD'S VISION</b>	<b>EVANGELISM AND CHURCH PLANTING</b>	<b>THE PROCESS OF CONVERSION II</b>	<b>KNOW YOUR GOAL, KNOW YOUR PEOPLE</b>
<b>HEALTHY CHURCH CONCEPT</b>	Communicating a Clear Vision	Evangelism, Discipleship, and Empowering Leaders	Communicating a Clear Vision	Evangelism	Evangelism	Discipleship
<b>SESSION 4</b>	<b>THE CHURCH PLANTING CYCLE</b>	<b>INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY METHODS II: OBSERVING GOD'S WORD</b>	<b>MY CHURCH PLANTING MASTER PLAN: DEFINING THE MISSION</b>	<b>STARTING A SMALL GROUP</b>	<b>SMALL GROUP EVANGELISM</b>	<b>INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY METHODS IV: APPLYING GOD'S WORD</b>
<b>HEALTHY CHURCH CONCEPT</b>	Communicating a Clear Vision	Evangelism and Discipleship	Communicating a Clear Vision	Evangelism and Discipleship	Evangelism	Evangelism and Discipleship
<b>SESSION 5</b>	<b>WHY SMALL GROUPS?</b>	<b>HOW TO MOBILIZE PRAYER FOR YOUR CHURCH PLANT</b>	<b>MY CHURCH PLANTING MASTER PLAN: DEFINING VALUES</b>	<b>EVANGELISM AND MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS</b>	<b>PRACTICE: SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>UNDERSTANDING WORLDVIEWS</b>
<b>HEALTHY CHURCH CONCEPT</b>	Evangelism and Discipleship	Evangelism	Communicating a Clear Vision	Service	Evangelism	Affirmed in God's Call
<b>SESSION 6</b>	<b>INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY METHODS I: LETTING THE BIBLE TEACH US</b>	<b>A CONCERT OF PRAYER: PSALM 95</b>	<b>MY CHURCH PLANTING MASTER PLAN: DEFINING STRATEGIES</b>	<b>INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY METHODS III: INTERPRETING GOD'S WORD</b>	<b>PRESENTATION OF MASTER PLANS</b>	<b>CONCERT OF PRAYER THANKING GOD FOR HIS FAITHFULNESS</b>
<b>HEALTHY CHURCH CONCEPT</b>	Evangelism and Discipleship	Worship	Communicating a Clear Vision	Evangelism and Discipleship	Synthesis of Concepts	Worship

	MODULE 7 BUILDING A TEAM	MODULE 8 BUILDING A TEAM	MODULE 9 CARING FOR PEOPLE	MODULE 10 ESTABLISHING THE CHURCH	MODULE 11 PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE	MODULE 12 GOING FORWARD IN UNITY
DEVOTIONAL	Transformed by the Gospel	Grace is for the Humble	Love, the Foundation of Ministry	So that the World May Believe: John 17	Counting the Cost	Till the Whole World Hears!
SESSION 1	BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS FOR THE CHURCH	TEAMWORK: WORKING EFFECTIVELY WITH OTHERS	RELATIONAL EVANGELISM	CORPORATE FUNCTIONS OF THE CHURCH	INTRODUCTION TO STEWARDSHIP	RESOLVING CONFLICT
HEALTHY CHURCH CONCEPT	Synthesis of Concepts	Empowering Leaders	Evangelism	Synthesis of Concepts	Stewardship of Resources	Fellowship
SESSION 2	THE CHURCH: A LIVING ORGANISM	TEAM DEVELOPMENT	CARING FOR SMALL GROUP MEMBERS	MINISTRY THROUGH SPIRITUAL GIFTS	FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP	REPENTANCE AS A WAY OF LIFE
HEALTHY CHURCH CONCEPT	Synthesis of Concepts	Empowering Leaders	Fellowship	Mobilizing the Body According to Spiritual Gifts	Stewardship of Resources	Fellowship
SESSION 3	WHEN IS A GROUP OF PEOPLE A CHURCH?	SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION DYNAMICS	CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY	HOW TO USE A SPIRITUAL GIFTS SURVEY	REPTANCE AND RESTORATION: CHURCH DISCIPLINE	REPTANCE AND RESTORATION: CHURCH DISCIPLINE
HEALTHY CHURCH CONCEPT	Synthesis of Concepts	Discipleship	Evangelism, Text, and Context	Mobilizing the Body According to Spiritual Gifts	Fellowship	Fellowship
SESSION 4	INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY METHODS V: WAYS TO USE INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDIES	TRAINING NEW SMALL GROUP LEADERS	CHARACTERISTICS OF GROWING CHURCHES	DYNAMICS OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE	RELEASING OTHERS FOR MINISTRY	RELEASING OTHERS FOR MINISTRY
HEALTHY CHURCH CONCEPT	Discipleship	Discipleship and Empowering Leaders	Synthesis of Concepts	Fellowship	STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOPS	Empowering Leaders
SESSION 5	PROFILE OF A CHRISTIAN LEADER	STYLES OF INTERACTION	SERVANT LEADERSHIP	HOW TO LEAD THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP	OUR CHURCH AND THE LARGER BODY OF CHRIST	OUR CHURCH AND THE LARGER BODY OF CHRIST
HEALTHY CHURCH CONCEPT	Empowering Leaders	Empowering Leaders	Empowering Leaders	Worship	Fellowship	Fellowship
SESSION 6	BIBLICAL PREACHING I: UNDERSTANDING THE MESSAGE	BIBLICAL PREACHING II: UNDERSTANDING THE AUDIENCE	A CONCERT OF PRAYER: EPHESIANS 3-5	BIBLICAL PREACHING III: THE PREACHER AS A PERSON	CONCERT OF PRAYER: PRAYING TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL	CONCERT OF PRAYER: PRAYING TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL
HEALTHY CHURCH CONCEPT	Worship	Worship	Fellowship	Worship	Stewardship of Resources, Communicating a Clear Vision	Evangelism

**MISSION TO MULTIPLY**  
**Planting Healthy Churches Modules**  
**Multiplication Network Ministries**  
**More Churches / Stronger Churches**  
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Translations and adaptations for your context are also encouraged.

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Gary Teja and John Wagenveld, Mission to Multiply editors

**[www.multiplicationnetwork.org](http://www.multiplicationnetwork.org)**

<b>SUGGESTED 1-DAY FORMAT FOR MODULE 1 TRAINING</b>		
	INTRODUCTION TO MODULE 1	8:00
	DEVOTIONAL: BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS FOR HEALTHY CHURCHES	8:15
	REPORTING	8:30
<b>SESSION ONE</b>	<b>WHAT IS A HEALTHY CHURCH?</b>	9:00
	BREAK	10:00
<b>SESSION TWO</b>	<b>WHAT IS A HEALTHY CHURCH PLANTER?</b>	10:15
<b>SESSION THREE</b>	<b>"Z" THINKING: WHAT DOES GOD WANT?</b>	11:15
	LUNCH	12:15
<b>SESSION FOUR</b>	<b>THE CHURCH PLANTING CYCLE</b>	1:15
<b>SESSION FIVE</b>	<b>WHY SMALL GROUPS?</b>	2:15
	BREAK	3:15
<b>SESSION SIX</b>	<b>INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY METHODS I: LETTING THE BIBLE TEACH US</b>	3:30
	CLOSING	4:30
	END OF DAY	4:45

# HEALTHY CHURCH PLANTING

## Module 1

**Learning Objective:** Participants will be able to tell in their own words

- » What a healthy church is;
- » Why planting a healthy church is important; and
- » The basic process of planting a healthy church



### Introduction to Module 1

#### Facilitator Introductory Remarks (2 min.)

- Welcome participants in a warm, friendly, and enthusiastic manner.
- Lead participants in a brief prayer together, dedicating the day to the glory of God.

#### Getting to know you activity (5 min.): Three Words

##### Facilitator Instructions:

- Ask the participants to think of three words that describe themselves.
- Tell the participants how many people are in the group and that they have 4 minutes to shake hands with everyone in the room, introduce themselves, and share their three words.
- At the end, see how many people actually made it to everyone in the room. You may want to ask for the number of people they interacted with. For example, if there are 20 participants: How many shared with 10 people or more, 15 people, 20 people? Celebrate and enjoy the moment.

##### Example:

Hi, my name is Mary.

I would describe myself as curious, kind, and hard-working.



### Healthy and Unhealthy Churches Activity (8 min.)

**Facilitator Instructions:** The purpose of this activity is to help participants establish an immediate focus on the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that are required for planting a healthy church.

- **Say**, “Each of you brings a wealth of experience with churches to your church planter training. The focus of this module is to help you describe the characteristics of a healthy church and what it takes to plant a healthy church.”
- Divide the large group into 2 smaller groups. Within 4 minutes, ask Group A to list as many characteristics of a healthy church they can think of based on their experience. Likewise, ask Group B to list as many characteristics of an unhealthy church they can think of based on their experience.
- Allow each group 1 minute to report its list of characteristics.
- **Say**, “Today we will be learning about the 10 characteristics that Multiplication Network Ministries finds to be the essential characteristics of a healthy church. However, first we are going to consider together five biblical reasons for planting a healthy church.”



# BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS

## FOR HEALTHY CHURCHES (15 MIN.)

### Opening Activity (2 min.)

**Facilitator Instructions:** Ask participants to share their thoughts on reasons for planting new churches. Ask them to listen to see which of these are mentioned in this session.

Assign the Bible passages for each biblical reason to different participants. Ask them to read the Bible passages aloud to the group. Lead the group to discover each biblical reason from the passages read and fill in the corresponding blank spaces in their workbooks.



### Devotional Bible Study (13 min.)

There are five biblical reasons for planting new healthy churches:

**1. Because God is the Father who seeks and finds the lost.**

Key verses | Genesis 3:9; Psalm 23; Luke 14:15-24

**2. Because Christ's love compels us.**

Key verses | 2 Corinthians 5:14-20; Matthew 18:12-14; John 14:23

**3. Because the Holy Spirit has been sent to all people.**

Key verses | Acts 2:5-11; 10:44-48; 1:8

**4. Because the local church is a branch of the Kingdom of God.**

Key verses | 1 Peter 2:5, 9-10, 12; Colossians 1:13-23;  
Romans 12:4-8

**5. Because planting new churches brings glory to God.**

Key verses | Ephesians 1:1-14; Revelation 7:9-12



### REPORTING

**Facilitator Instructional Overview:** Because no reporting is required for this module, use this time to 1) give an overview of the entire course and 2) explain the reporting requirements and forms that will be used for all modules.

Overview of Planting Healthy Churches Using the Mission to Multiply Course (15 min.)

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**Facilitator Instructions:**

- Ask participants to record the following Five Steps to Planting a Church in the graphic provided in their workbook. Begin with the first step, evangelism, and proceed to the final step, worship and service.

### Five Steps to Planting a Church



## Overview of Planting Healthy Churches Reporting (15 min.)

### Facilitator Instructions:

- Direct participants to the Course Overview at the beginning of their workbook.
- Explain the structure of the course (12 modules with 6 sessions in each module).
- Ask participants to read the titles of the 6 sessions of Module 1. Ask them how they would relate each session to the Five Steps to Planting a Church.
- Review dates and other logistical matters related to completing the 12 modules.
- Take time to answer questions from participants concerning the design and content of the course and logistical matters.
- Refer participants to the page in their workbook with the Church Planter's ABC: Monthly Report. Explain the reporting requirements for the course.
- Explain how to fill out the form.
- Explain how the group will report to each other during the Reporting Session in Modules 2 through 12.

# ABC CHURCH PLANTING REPORT

## MONTHLY REPORT

### GENERAL INFO

<b>MONTH OF REPORT</b>		<b>MENTORING MEETING ATTENDED</b>	YES	NO
<b>CHURCH PLANTER'S NAME</b>				
<b>CHURCH PLANTER'S ZONE</b>				
<b>ZONE COORDINATOR</b>				

### INDIVIDUALS

	MONTHLY GOAL	MONTHLY RESULT
<b>NEW CONTACTS</b> PEOPLE CONTACTED IN THE CHURCH PLANTING CONTEXT TO PRESENT THE GOSPEL		
<b>NEW CONVERSIONS</b> FOLLOWERS OF JESUS		
<b>NEW PERSONS BAPTIZED</b> PEOPLE PARTICIPATING IN THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM		
<b>NEW LEADERS IN TRAINING</b> PEOPLE THAT THE PLANTER IS TRAINING FOR LEADERSHIP		

### SMALL GROUPS | Minimum 2 new disciples and one leader

	MONTHLY GOAL	MONTHLY RESULT
<b>NEW SMALL GROUPS</b> GROUPS INITIATED THIS MONTH		
<b>NEW PARTICIPANTS IN SMALL GROUPS</b> NEW PEOPLE PARTICIPATING IN SMALL GROUPS THIS MONTH		
<b>NEW LEADERS WITH A GROUP</b> NEW LEADERS WITH A GROUP UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE PLANTER		

### PRAYER REQUESTS

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

### TESTIMONY

THREE LINES ARE THE MINIMUM REQUIRED

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## SESSION 1

# WHAT IS A HEALTHY CHURCH? (60 MIN.)

**Facilitator Instructions:** Review the following definitions with the participants. Ask them if they have other definitions and use the discussion as a learning opportunity.

## DEFINITION OF CHURCH

The Church is the Body of Christ, a community created by the Spirit, and a fellowship of believers who confess Jesus as Lord and Savior. It gathers regularly in local communities to live into its identity in Christ and to live out its vocation as reconcilers in the world. These communities participate with the triune God in renewing all things as ambassadors of the Kingdom to bear witness to and enact the redemptive purposes of the King.

## DEFINITION OF A HEALTHY CHURCH

"A healthy community of faith is rooted first of all in the character and nature of God. It understands its mission and purpose in the world and organizes its life and work to be faithful and fruitful in its context."

## CASE STUDY: STORY OF AN UNHEALTHY CHURCH (10 MIN.)

**Facilitator Instructions:** The case study leads participants to experience a real-life problem situation so the participant gains an understanding of the 10 characteristics of a healthy church. The case study begins by describing an unhealthy church, specifically a church that was planted in an unhealthy manner.

- Ask participants to read the "Story of an Unhealthy Church."
- Ask participants to describe some of the specific indicators of the church's unhealthy condition.
- Discuss with participants how these indicators relate to 5 Steps of Planting a Church.
- **Ask**, "When did this church start becoming an unhealthy church?" Participants should recognize that the church was on



an unhealthy path from the time it was planted.

- **Say**, "The purpose of this session is that you gain an understanding of the importance of the 10 Characteristics of a Healthy Church so that you will build them into your new church as you plant it. Unlike the Hosanna Church, your new church will be off to a healthy start!"

### ***Story of an Unhealthy Church***

When Hosanna Church was first planted, it began with conflicts and hurts. According to the church's history, the decision to plant Hosanna Church came from conflicts between one faction of a congregation who respected its retired senior pastor and another faction loyal to the current senior pastor. Finally, the denomination decided to separate the congregation into two churches. One of the new congregations, over time, took the name Hosanna Church. Pastor Lee was chosen to be the first senior pastor of one of the new congregations. Quickly he encountered conflicts with church elders who then left the church with some members.

In this church, every elder was over 55 years old. Both young adults and youth had a strong distrust of the church leadership. This distrust was one reason why the Hosanna Church separated from the former congregation. Hosanna Church did not easily accept changes in the direction of revitalization. As the composition of the church membership aged, Hosanna Church found it even more difficult to make the necessary changes to be a vital congregation.

The traditional worship style was a big problem, because only the older church members appreciated it. The sanctuary had a capacity of about 1,000 attendees, but Sunday worship service attendance averaged 200 worshippers. These problems were the tip of the iceberg.

The church's financial condition was bad. In winter, they did not use the heater because of the church's poor financial condition. During summers there was the same problem regarding the air conditioner. The church was in debt. What was worse, the church leadership did not commit to tithe. Follow-up systems for converts were nonexistent. Small groups were just formal groups for women and other small groups for church members. These groups were not reproducing through evangelism. Continual troubles, separation, and unfaithfulness to each other were

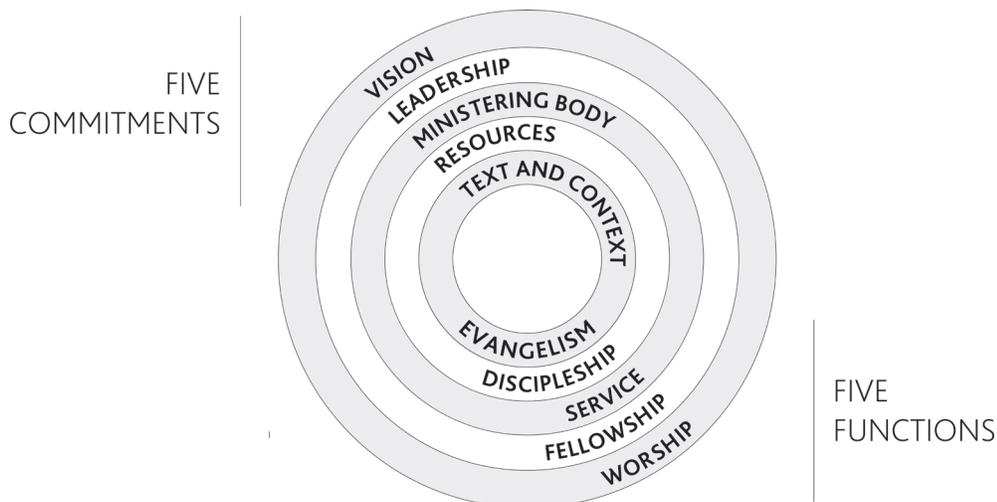
the substance of Hosanna Church. This summarizes the sad condition of Hosanna Church before it entered into a revitalization process to regain its health.

Adapted from: Park, H. W. (2009). An effective strategy for church revitalization through a case study of Hosanna Church. (Doctoral dissertation, Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary).<sup>1</sup>

## 10 CHARACTERISTICS OF A HEALTHY CHURCH (5 MIN.)

### Facilitator Instructions:

- Lead participants to fill in the following graphic as you discuss each topic.
- Also, ask participants to take notes in their workbooks.



**Say,** "The 10 Characteristics consist of five commitments and five functions." Ask participants to fill in the five characteristics and five functions in the places provided in the graphic.

**Say,** "Let's begin with the five characteristics." Ask participants to fill in the graphic and take notes in the spaces provided as you share this information in lecture format.

<sup>1</sup> Retrieved from <http://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1170&context=doctoral>

## FIVE COMMITMENTS OF A HEALTHY CHURCH (20 MIN.)

### 1.- CLEAR VISION

Definition: Having vision means looking toward the future to see in a clear mental picture what God wants to do through you to achieve His redemptive purposes.

“The church sees clearly what God wants it to be and do, so that the Body of Christ will serve to reflect his new creation in the community.”

What does God want the church you are planting to be and to do? During your training, you will write a vision statement that summarizes what God is calling you to be and do as a church. Use this to stay focused in your ministry.

### 2.- EMPOWERING LEADERSHIP

Definition: Christian leadership can be defined in the following way: “Christian leaders are people committed to God (character), who know where they’re going (vision) and who have followers (influence).”

“The church is served by people who understand its vision, can communicate it clearly to the congregation, and can organize the Body of Christ to make the vision a reality.”

Say, “Let’s look briefly at how Paul developed and empowered the leaders.”



- Have someone read 2 Timothy 2:2.

Say, “For Paul, developing the leadership of each local church was crucial so that the church would endure. This is what he did:”

- A. He gave the leaders space. He put them in charge of the work.
- B. He was committed to preparing them.
- C. He trusted them.

### 3.- MOBILIZED BODY

Definition: Church members work together using their gifts responsibly in the congregation and in the community.

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen." I Peter 4:10-11

#### ***Five Practical Steps to Mobilizing Members:***

- I. Prepare your leadership to mobilize the entire congregation.
- II. Teach about spiritual gifts and the stewardship of talents.
- III. Identify the gifts and the areas of interest of each believer in the congregation.
- IV. Ask each member to work in a ministry or area of service.
- V. Keep an eye on how the different areas of church life are going and make the necessary adjustments.

#### 4. - STEWARDSHIP OF RESOURCES

Definition: The Church challenges its members to be good stewards of their possessions, their resources and their goods. Stewardship is using these material and financial gifts to accomplish the work of the kingdom of God in the church and in its community.



"Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine." Proverbs 3:9-10

#### 5. - CONNECTION BETWEEN THE TEXT AND THE CONTEXT

Definition: A healthy church takes into account its context (geographic location, social and economic factors, cultures, etc.). While the message of the good news in Jesus Christ does not change, the methods for sharing it do.



"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17

## FIVE FUNCTIONS OF A HEALTHY CHURCH (15 MIN.)

### 1.- EVANGELISM

Definition: The Church announces the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and deed and invites people to be part of the Kingdom of God.  
Acts 1:8

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

### 2.- DISCIPLESHIP

Definition: The Church helps people to see God more clearly, get to know his will for their lives, and equip them to follow him in all aspects of life. 2 Peter 3:18

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching..." Acts 2:42

The four C's of discipleship:

1. CONDUCT
2. CHARACTER
3. CONTENT of the gospel
4. COMMITMENT

### 3.- SERVICE

Definition: The Church addresses the needs of people in the name of Christ and invites them to be his disciples.

"Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need...enjoying the favor of all the people..." Acts 2:4 5, 47

### *Three Types of Relationships between Service and Evangelism*

I. Ministry as a RESULT of evangelism: Conversion to Christ makes us attentive and eager to meet the needs of others.

II. Ministry as a BRIDGE for evangelism: Service to others as the starting point that later makes them willing to hear the gospel.

III. Ministry ACCOMPANYING evangelism: speaking of Jesus while serving others.

EVANGELISM - ANNOUNCES - WORD - DEED - INVITES  
 - DISCIPLESHIP - GOD - WILL - EQUIP - ALL - CONDUCT -  
 CHARACTER - CONTENT - COMMITMENT - SERVICE - NEEDS -  
 NAME - DISCIPLES - RESULT - BRIDGE - ACCOMPANYING

#### 4. - FELLOWSHIP

Definition: Members help carry each other's burdens, showing the love and compassion of Christ.



"They devoted themselves... to the fellowship... All the believers were together and had everything in common... Every day they continued to meet together with glad and sincere hearts..." Acts 2:42, 44, 46

#### 5. - WORSHIP

Definition: The Church gathers as the family of God to meet with the Father in worship, confession and gratitude, as well as dedicating themselves to service and prayer.

"They devoted themselves... to the breaking of bread and to prayer... praising God..." Acts 2: 42, 47

#### ***Small Group Activity: I Remember When . . . (10 min.)***



**Note to Facilitator:** The purpose of this activity is to provide participants with the opportunity to reflect on previous experiences and compare them to new learning.

#### **Facilitator Instructions:**

- Divide the large group into smaller groups of 3 or 4 people each. Ask each person in the small group to share a personal experience with a characteristic of a healthy or unhealthy church. Ask each person in the group to complete these phrases: I remember when [name the experience] happened; it made me feel [name the emotion], so I [name an action taken because of the experience], because [why you took the action].

Healthy Church experience example: I remember when my pastor took time to disciple me; it made me feel like I was important to him and to the church, so I volunteered to teach a new members class because I wanted our new members to know they, too, are important to the church.

Unhealthy Church experience example: I remember when I visited a church in my neighborhood and no one greeted me; it made me feel like no one cared about me, so I never went back to that church because I want to be in a church that cares for everyone.

*Here is the sentence formula in simple form: I remember when \_\_\_\_\_; it made me feel \_\_\_\_\_. So I \_\_\_\_\_, because \_\_\_\_\_.*

**Facilitator Instructions:**

- After everyone in the group has shared their experience, have the groups discuss how their experiences relate to the 10 Characteristics of a Healthy Church they have just learned.
- Finally, close the session by saying, "In the 12 modules of this training, you will learn how to apply each of these 10 Characteristics in your work as a church planter so that in the end we will celebrate together the birth of a new healthy church!"

***Break (15 min.)***

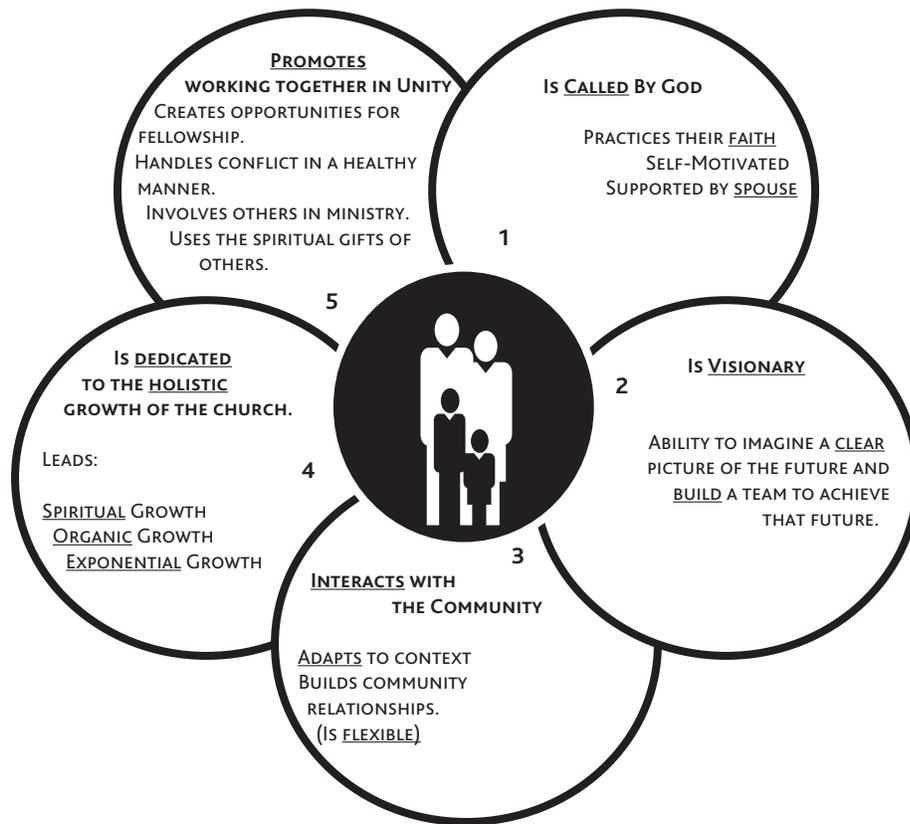
SESSION 2

# WHAT IS A HEALTHY CHURCH PLANTER? (60 MIN.)

## FIVE INDICATORS OF A HEALTHY CHURCH PLANTER (40 MIN.)

**Facilitator Instructions:** Say, "In order to plant a healthy church, the church planter must be healthy. In this session, we are going to learn about five indicators of a healthy church planter."

- Ask participants to fill out the graphic in their workbooks as you share the information.
- Begin with "Called by God" and continue clockwise around the graphic.



## ASSESSING MY CONFIDENCE LEVEL FOR CHURCH PLANTING

(20 MIN.)

**Facilitator Instructions:** The purpose of this activity is to help the church planter think about his or her experiences in the past in relation to the healthy church planter model.

- Ask participants to complete the following self-assessment and the plan for building confidence.

*Complete the following self-assessment by indicating which level of confidence you have about what each statement describes.*

Based on my past behaviors and experience, as a church planter...

- 1.- I will practice my faith consistently and maintain a strong devotional life.

Low Confidence       Some Confidence       High Confidence

- 2.- I will be self-motivated and work without onsite supervision.

Low Confidence       Some Confidence       High Confidence

- 3.- I have the support of my spouse.

Low Confidence       Some Confidence       High Confidence

- 4.- I can imagine a clear picture of the future related to planting a healthy church.

Low Confidence       Some Confidence       High Confidence

- 5.- I have the ability to build a team that can achieve that picture of the future.

Low Confidence       Some Confidence       High Confidence

- 6.- I will adapt well to my church planting context.

Low Confidence       Some Confidence       High Confidence

7.- I will build good relationships within the community.

Low Confidence       Some Confidence       High Confidence

8.- I will be flexible in dealing with people and circumstances.

Low Confidence       Some Confidence       High Confidence

9.- I will lead the new church to grow spiritually.

Low Confidence       Some Confidence       High Confidence

10.- I will lead the new church to grow as an effective organization (organically).

Low Confidence       Some Confidence       High Confidence

11.- I will lead the church to grow numerically through reaching the community through its members.

Low Confidence       Some Confidence       High Confidence

12.- I will create a sufficient number of meaningful opportunities for fellowship.

Low Confidence       Some Confidence       High Confidence

13.- I will handle conflict in a healthy manner.

Low Confidence       Some Confidence       High Confidence

14.- I will involve others in ministry.

Low Confidence       Some Confidence       High Confidence

15.- I will help others discover and use their spiritual gifts.

Low Confidence       Some Confidence       High Confidence

## MY PLAN FOR BUILDING CONFIDENCE

1. What is the #1 area I need to build confidence in right now?

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2. What step can I take immediately that will help me build confidence in this area?

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3. Observe your areas of High Confidence. These are likely to be your major strengths as a church planter. What steps can you take to maximize these strengths immediately in your church planting effort?

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4. Whom do I know that I can ask to support me in prayer and hold me accountable as I work on building confidence and making the most of my strengths?

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**Facilitator Instructions:**

- Ask participants to break into pairs or groups of three and share what they learned about themselves through this session and through the self-assessments and what actions they plan to take related to what they learned.
- Close the session by asking the pairs or groups to pray for each other.

**Optional Activity Instructions:**

- Use the self-assessment score sheet below to go deeper in understanding their experiences in relationship to the Healthy Church Planter Model.

### Assessing My Confidence Level for Church Planting Score Sheet\*

Low Confidence	Some Confidence	High Confidence	Total Score
In the box below, list the number of each question to which you responded "Low Confidence." Example: 1, 6, 7	In the box below, list the number of each question to which you responded "Some Confidence." Example: 2, 8, 10.	In the box below, list the number of each question to which you responded "High Confidence." Example: 3, 11, 15	
In the box below, write the total number of questions to which you responded "Low Confidence." For example, if you responded to 3 questions with "Low Confidence," write the number "3" in the box.	In the box below, write the total number of questions to which you responded "Some Confidence" and multiply that number by 2. For example, if you responded to 3 questions with "Some Confidence," multiply 3 x 2 and write the number "6" in the box.	In the box below, write the total number of questions to which you responded "High Confidence" and multiply that number by 3. For example, if you responded to 3 questions with "High Confidence," multiply 3 x 3 and write the number "9" in the box.	In the box below, write the sum of the Low + Some + High Confidence scores. For example, if your scores were Low = 3, Some = 6, and High = 9, your total score would be 3+6+9 = 18

**Score Ranges:**

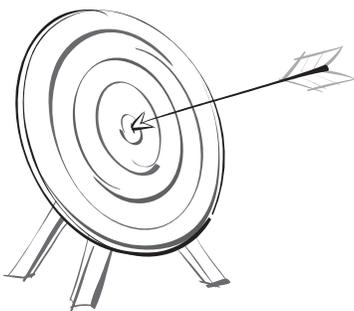
Overall Low Confidence: 15-25

Overall Some Confidence: 26-35

Overall High Confidence: 36-46

- Examine the questions that you grouped together in the three confidence levels. Do you find any patterns among these questions?
- Consider your overall confidence level score. How does the mix of the three confidence levels contribute to your total score? What does this suggest to you concerning your readiness to plant a church?

\*Please note this self-assessment is a tool, which aids the church planter to reflect on his or her readiness for the church planting task. The tool is not a predictor of success or lack of success as a church planter. Rather, it opens the door for self-reflection and productive dialogue with one's fellow church planters and one's church planting facilitator, mentor, or supervisor.



## WHAT IS "Z" THINKING? (10 MIN.)

## SESSION 3

# “Z” THINKING:

## WHAT DOES GOD WANT? (60 MIN.)



**Facilitator Instructions:** Say, “What is ‘Z’ Thinking?”

“Z” is the end result of what God ultimately wants for a nation, region, city, village, or neighborhood. “Z” is used because it is at the end of the English alphabet—the final or ultimate letter, just as Omega ends the Greek alphabet.

**Facilitator Instructions:**

- Ask various participants to read and reflect on the scriptures and questions provided.

**Read:**

Isaiah 11:9; 65:12-25; Revelation 21:1-4, 22-27; 22:1-5



**Reflect:**

- How do these texts describe the “end-game” (the ultimate end that God wants)?
- What is the danger of only focusing on heaven and not on the new earth?

**Read:**

Mark 13:10	Matthew 24:14	John 3:16
1 Timothy 2:3-4	Luke 24:45-47	2 Peter 3:9
Colossians 1:6	2 Corinthians 5:9	

**Reflect:**

- What do these verses tell us about God's plan for reaching out with the gospel?
- What are some of the ways God achieves His desired end result?
- What is the number one instrument that God uses in achieving His desired end result?
- Is there another means God is using more effectively today?



**Read:**

Matthew 28:18-20

Acts 1:8

Ephesians 3:10

**Reflect:**

- What do these verses tell us about our work in fulfilling God's desire for the world?

**SOME ESSENTIAL STEPS TO GET TO "Z" (15 MIN.)****Facilitator Instructions:**

- Divide participants into groups of 3 or 4.
- Ask individuals in each group to read aloud the Scriptures associated with each of the following 5 topics and discuss the related question in their group.
- After 10 minutes of group work, give each group one minute to share briefly the important points they discussed.

**A. Prayer | 2 Chronicles 7:14, Matthew 9:38**

What should we pray for in our quest to achieve "Z"?

**B. Love and Unity | John 13:35, John 17:20-23**

Why is love and unity essential to achieving "Z"?

**C. Vision | John 3:16, 1 John 2:2, Matthew 9:37**

What do these verses tell us about God's vision?

**D. Evangelism | Romans 10:14-15**

How can we find opportunities to witness to unbelievers in our area?  
How do believers reach beyond their circle of other believing friends to unbelievers?

**E. Church Planting | Ephesians 3:8-11, Ephesians 4:11-13**

What does God want his people to be doing? When a new church is planted, people are reached in the surrounding neighborhood that would not have been reached with the gospel without a new church. What are some reasons this happens? If you know of a case of this occurring, tell the group about it and discuss what happened.

**"Z" THINKING RESULTS IN "Z" ACTION (10 MIN.)**



**Facilitator Instructions:** Say, “Two actions that result from ‘Z’ thinking are ‘Z’ planning and ‘Z’ giving.” Briefly discuss the following questions.

1. What are some strategic questions that must be answered for church planting to occur?
2. What are some plans that need to be made as a church progresses toward planting a new church?

### ACTION PLAN FOR MODULE 2: YOUR “Z” PLAN (15 MIN.)



**Facilitator Instructions:**

- Read through the following assignment with participants.
- Point out that the results of this assignment will be shared with the group in Module 2.
- Take time to answer all questions about the assignment.

**Assignment:**

1. Prepare or obtain a map of your city or village where you plan to plant a church. Locate as many evangelical churches in your city or village as you can and indicate their approximate sizes on the map. Find out the population of the city or village.

Christian leaders have said that for a country to have church “saturation,” it must have one evangelical church for every 1,000 people. If we accept the idea that there should be one church for every 1,000 people, how many more churches do you think need to be planted in the city or village where you intend to plant a church?

2. Begin thinking about a plan for your church planting effort that includes prayer, unity and love, vision, evangelism, and church planting. Write down some initial ideas and share them with your mentor or the trainer of this session.
3. Think about your neighborhood, village, city, region, or country. Consider your answer to the questions:
  - “What does God want for \_\_\_\_\_ (name city, village, or neighborhood where you plan to plant a church)?

Write the answer in one paragraph.

- List three things that you will do to help see “Z” happen in your area.

### Getting to “Z Giving”! (10 min.)

#### Facilitator Instructions:

- Ask participants to read 2 Corinthians 8:7; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7.
- Discuss the following question.



How can we be assured that the funds needed for church planting will be given?

#### Facilitator Instructions:

- Share the following principles related to financing a church plant and ways to find funds for planting a church.
- Ask participants to fill out the appropriate spaces in their workbooks.

Say, “There are two important concepts regarding funding a church plant.”

## TWO PRINCIPLES IN FUNDING A CHURCH PLANT

1. Trust God
2. Contentment

#### Facilitator Instructions:

- Ask participants to read Philippians 4:6-7; 11-13, 19 and briefly discuss their relationship to these two principles.
- Then share with the class the following ways to fund a church plant.

#### Read:

Philippians 4:6-7; 4:11-13, 4:19

#### Ways to Finance a New Church Plant

1. Support from the mother church
2. Support from the denomination, mission, or organization
3. A special support group
4. Support from investors, friends, and relatives
5. Support from the sale of properties
6. Support from a second salary in the household
7. Bi-vocational ministry

### Lunch (60 min.)

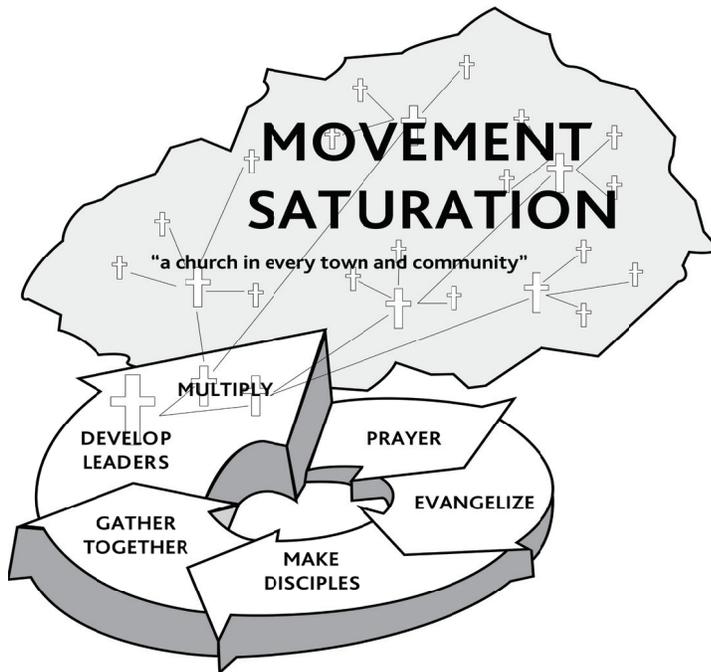
# THE CHURCH

## SESSION 4

### PLANTING CYCLE (60 MIN.)

**Facilitator Instructions:** Using the Church Planting Cycle graphic below, give a brief overview of the cycle of church planting.

#### THE CHURCH PLANTING CYCLE (5 MIN.)



#### Small Group Activity (25 min.)

##### Facilitator Instructions:

- Divide into 7 groups (1 group for each phase). Assign a phase to each group.
- Ask the groups to read aloud the Bible passages associated with their phase.
- Instruct the group to develop as many actions as possible to address the "Activities" and "Key Issues" associated with each phase.



**PHASE I: PRAYER** (Luke 10:2, Ephesians 6:18-19, Colossians. 4:2-4)**ACTIVITIES:**

- Begin with prayer.
- Locate the group with whom you will do evangelism and church planting.
- Pray for those who will help and for yourself.

**KEY ISSUES**

- What is my personal harvest field? What does God want from me in my area?
- What are things about the calling and vision that God is giving me that are different from those He is giving other people?
- Who is going to help?
- Who should I pray for? What should I pray for?
- What should I ask God to do in my own service to him?

**PHASE II: EVANGELIZE** (1 Corinthians 9:19-23; Acts 1:8)**ACTIVITIES:**

- Contact key leaders and build relationships.
- Evangelize the lost.
- Start evangelistic group Bible studies.
- Show the new believers how to do ministry by the way you do it.

**KEY ISSUES:**

- What evangelistic methods are most effective for us to reach our goals?
- How do we make contacts with key leaders? Who are they?
- How do we find them?
- How do we train new believers to be witnesses to their friends and family?
- How do we find out who the friends of the new believers are and begin evangelizing them?

**PHASE III: MAKE DISCIPLES** (1 Thessalonians 5:11; Matthew 28:18-20)**ACTIVITIES:**

- Disciple new believers.
- Mentor emerging leaders.

- Teach obedience and commitment to the Lord.
- Encourage believers to become like Christ.
- Teach new believers to obey Christ.

**KEY ISSUES:**

- How to develop and disciple a group of people?
- How to model effective leadership?

**PHASE IV: GATHER TOGETHER (Hebrews 10:24-25)**

**ACTIVITIES:**

- Expand evangelism efforts through the network of friends.
- Multiply cell groups by having each cell group work toward starting other groups.
- Begin ongoing regular worship.

**KEY ISSUES:**

- How will new cell group leaders be trained and released?
- When do we baptize new believers? When and who gives them communion?
- How will we establish a close fellowship of believers? How will new believers be brought into the fellowship?
- When we gather, where do we meet? How do we invite people?
- What forms will we use to reach our intended purpose?
- What style of worship will we use?

**PHASE V: DEVELOP LEADERS (2 Timothy 2:2)**

**ACTIVITIES:**

- Build a profile of leaders needed in each area of ministry.
- Find and write down the spiritual gifts of all members.
- Train cell group leaders.
- Assign and release leaders to ministry.
- Organize the structure and ministry positions you envision for the ministry.
- Follow-up with leaders to provide support.

**KEY ISSUES**

- How do we get new believers to discover their spiritual gifts? Who will train them?
- What are the areas of training that are needed? Where and how

will this training be provided?

- Who are the potential key leaders? What are their gifts and abilities? Are they faithful, serving people?
- Where will those trained have a ministry? What are the basic needs and issues in that area? When will their ministry in that area begin? To whom will they report? What is their job description?

### **PHASE VI: MULTIPLY (Acts 1:8)**

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

- Coach leaders to form church planting teams.
- Train workers for several different kinds of ministries involved in church planting.
- Research new regions where people feel led to start ministry.
- Plan and conduct evangelistic efforts in new regions.
- Establish and appoint leaders for the ministry who will work with us.

#### **KEY ISSUES:**

- What research needs to be done? Who will do it? Are there people groups nearby that are still unreached with the gospel? Are there potential leaders among them who can be trained?
- What goals need to be set and made available to the appropriate persons? Who is heading up the prayer effort to support this ministry?
- Who assigns and oversees all new church planting ministries?
- Do we need any additional training ministries to train different levels of leadership for this movement? Who will do the training? How will it be financed?

### **PHASE VII: MOVEMENT (Isaiah 11:9)**

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

- Cover all people groups of the country.
- Establish guidelines for the increase of the movement.
- Determine cross-cultural mission projects the groups will sponsor.
- Conduct prayer and praise rallies.
- Set regional and/or national goals.

- Establish higher levels of training for key leaders of the movement.

**KEY ISSUES:**

- Is the movement self-developing, self-supporting, and self-governing? If not, what needs to be done to make sure that it is?
- What regions or peoples are still unreached? What mission projects is the Lord leading us to initiate?
- What kinds of training are needed for the movement? How will it be supported?
- Who are the "apostle-type" leaders for the movement? How can we work together with them? How can we encourage and support them? What are their needs?

**Large Group Reporting (30 min.)****Facilitator Instructions:**

- Allow each small group 5 minutes to present their ideas for action related to their assigned phase to the large group.



## SESSION 5

## WHY

## SMALL GROUPS? (60 MIN.)

## BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS OF SMALL GROUPS (5 MIN.)

**Facilitator Instructions:** Say, "The use of small Bible study groups for evangelism and discipleship is central to the method of planting healthy churches taught in this course. In some church planting courses, a difference is made between the terms 'cell group' and 'small group.' In this course, we will use the term 'small group' but consider it the same thing as a 'cell group.'"

We define a small group (or cell group) as a small group of individuals that gathers to study God's Word for the purposes of evangelism, discipleship, and service, contributing to the formation of a healthy, worshiping, new church.

Facilitator Instructions:

- Ask the large group the following questions:
  1. Were there groups like those we call small groups in the New Testament Church?
  2. What are the things that make a Christian small group different from other groups?

## Small Group Bible Discovery Activity (15 min.)



**Facilitator Instructions:**

- Divide into 4 groups.
- Assign each group a question and the indicated Bible texts.
- Ask the group to read the Bible passages, to answer their question, and to prepare to report their answer briefly to the large group.
- Ask all the groups to work in the same room.
- Note that each group will have 10 minutes to complete this activity.
- After 10 minutes (without reforming the large group), ask each



small group to report briefly on how it answered its questions.

**Group A:** What are some evangelistic functions of New Testament small groups? (Acts 4:20; 5:42; 20:20)



**Group B:** What are some discipleship functions of New Testament small groups? (Acts 6:4, Colossians 4:17)

**Group C:** What are some fellowship functions of New Testament small groups? (Acts 2:42, Hebrews 10:25, Acts 20:7, 11)

**Group D:** What are some worship functions of New Testament small groups? (Acts 1:14; 2:47; 6:4; Colossians 4:2)



## BENEFITS OF SMALL GROUPS

Small Group Discussion (20 min.)

**Facilitator Instructions:**

- Remaining in the same small groups as above, assign the following questions to each group.
- Ask each group to be prepared to share their answers with the other groups.
- If available, ask each group to write their answers on large sheets of paper that can be attached to the walls around the room.

**Group A:** What are the benefits of small groups for evangelism?  
What are some possible activities of small groups that might enable them to reach out with the good news of Christ?

**Group B:** What are the benefits of small groups for discipleship?  
What are some possible activities of small groups that might result in helping, teaching, and mentoring?

**Group C:** What are the benefits of small groups for fellowship?  
What are some possible activities of small groups that might produce mutual encouragement, sharing, and friendship in Christ?

**Group D:** What are the benefits of small groups for worship?  
What are some possible activities of small groups that might praise

and glorify God?

### Large Group Reporting and Discussion



#### Facilitator Instructions:

- Ask each small group to report briefly on how it answered its questions. (10 min.)
- To close the session, lead the groups in a discussion of the following questions: (10 min.)

1. What are the benefits of small groups for developing leaders?
2. Based on all we have learned in this session, how do you summarize the benefits of small groups for church planting?

***Break (15 min.)***



# LETTING

## SESSION 6

### THE BIBLE TEACH US (60 MIN.)

#### INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY METHODS, PART 1

##### Inductive vs. Deductive (2 Tim. 2:15) (10 min.)

**Facilitator Instructions:** Using the outline below, explain the difference between an inductive and deductive approach to Bible study.



#### 1. The Deductive Approach

##### I. Deductive Reasoning

We begin with a known and accepted idea and take from it (“deduce”) a conclusion.

##### II. Deductive Bible Study

The teacher states a general rule that in the New Testament, yeast (or leaven) many times refers to sin. When we read Matthew 13:33, we assume that yeast refers to sin. Read the passage. Does yeast refer to sin here?

##### III. A “Typical” Method

Bible teachers often know what they want to say, and simply come to the Bible to find a verse that seems to support their understanding. Why would this create a danger for misunderstanding the true meaning of the passage?

#### 2. The Inductive Approach

##### I. Inductive Reasoning

We examine the facts closely in order to try to understand what the facts mean.

##### II. Inductive Bible Study

We carefully examine the text and context of Matthew 13:33 to determine what the word “yeast” or “leaven” is referring to.

##### III. Inductive is a Better Method

When helping people discover the truths of the Bible as they study, the inductive method is a good choice.



## STEPS OF INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY (20 MIN.)

**Facilitator Instructions:** Ask participants to complete the following outline in their workbooks as you share the missing words.

- A. Observation – What does it *say*?
- B. Interpretation – What does it *mean*?
- C. Application – What should I *do*?

## TIPS FOR INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY

**Build a solid foundation.** This begins with thorough observation. Carefully examine the content of the passage to determine its true meaning so that one can make a valid application.

**Take adequate time for the study.** Do not rush by beginning with a quick reading and assuming that you know what it means. Do not make a hasty and questionable application of what it teaches.

**Facilitator Instructions:** At this point, ask participants if they have questions about the inductive method of Bible study. Take time to respond adequately to their questions.



## A MODEL INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY (25 MIN.)

**Facilitator Instructions:** Lead the class in a brief inductive Bible study of John 1: 1-5. Be sure to encourage participation in the process. Ask participants to take notes on the passage in the outline provided in their workbooks.

**John 1:1-5**

**AN INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY**



A. - Observation: What does the passage say?

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B. - Interpretation: What does the passage mean?

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C. - Application: What should I/we do?

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**Action Plan for Module 2: Personal Inductive Bible Study (5 min.)**

In preparation for the next inductive Bible study lesson on observation, pick a sample short passage of Scripture to study (no more than a paragraph or so). Spend at least 1 hour prayerfully observing the passage and asking God to open your eyes to things that you have not yet seen. Record your observations. What did you learn? Be prepared to share your experience with your colleagues at the next training session.



## WHAT IS NEXT?

### Facilitator Instructions:

- Ask for volunteers to share in their own words the answers to the following questions:
  1. What is a healthy church? (see Session 1)
  2. What is the basic process of planting a healthy church? (see Session 4)
  3. Why is planting a healthy church important? (drawing on all sessions)
- Ask participants to share something they learned in the training that excited, encouraged, or motivated them for their work as church planters.
- Review the two Action Plans (see sessions 3 and 6). Answer any questions related to them.
- Sing a worship song together and close in a prayer of blessing for these church planters.

Before you come to the next module, we recommend you do the following:

- » Make 10 new contacts.
- » Present the gospel to 5 people.
- » Start one new small group.

### Action Plan for Module #2: Checklist

- » Complete the “Z” Plan assignment (see Session 3).
- » Take time to do an inductive Bible study (see Session 6).