

Notes from J. D. Payne, *Apostolic Church Planting: Birthing New Churches from New Believers*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2015

Key Principle – Biblical church planting is evangelism that results in new churches

Critical Issue – How does your team define church? p.21

Key ideas: “Plant the church that is, not the church to come.” p.23

“Church planters are to work with new believers from the beginning.” p.24

“Have high expectations.” p.26 Teach the Word, anticipate Spirit & Word to sanctify. Let the church function as church described in the Word.

8 essential characteristics of church-planting team members:

~Walks with the LORD – p.32

~Maintains outstanding character & full of the Spirit – p.33

~Serves the local church – p.33

~Remains faithful to the call – p.33

~Shares the gospel regularly – p.34

~Raises up leaders – p.35

~Encourage with speech and actions – p.36

~Responds appropriately to conflict – p.37

Pathway to Planting

Raise up Elders from the beginning of the plant (See Ephesian elders in Acts 20)

~Gospel Shared ~Disciples Made ~Church planted ~Elders appointed (50-51)

Six Stages of Church Planting – p.53-54

1. Pre-entry Stage – What do we need to do before we arrive?
2. Entry Stage – How do we enter the field?
3. Gospel Stage – Connect w/people & share the gospel; find the person of peace, share as prayerfully as possible in word & deed (p.56)
4. Discipleship Stage – What’s necessary for short-term and long-term?
Identify as a local church (p.58) Leadership development
Work to empower the church to stand alone
5. Church Formation Stage – How to lead new believers to self-identify as a church and organize for mission

Planned Role Changes

Learner – Learn about yourself and the people you will serve (p.62)

Team formation and development

Understand the context, language, cultural acquisition, strategy development

Explorer – Scout out community; observe people; get into market place; use public transport; develop a way of life. Get firsthand knowledge; set-up patterns; go to same gas station, lunch place, etc. Survey the community for needs that can be met. (p.63)

Evangelist – Sow broadly (p.64)

Teacher – Teach what to believe and what to follow. p.66-67

Developer – Appoint Elders (p.71) Teach about the role of Elder

Mentor/Partner – Train elders

Church Multiplication Cycle – keep on planting/multiplying (p.84-85)

Should be biblical

Should be reproducible – new believers should become imitators of us and of the Lord

Should be ethical

Should avoid paternalism

Should manifest Christ; sustained abilities; self-identifying; self-supporting; self-governing; self-propagating; self-expressing; self-teaching; self-theologizing (p.86-87)

Where to begin?

Assume the Great Commission – p.92

There is a specific calling to hard soil – p.93

Consider need & receptivity – p.94

Other Principles:

Manifest missionary faith (p.103)

Relinquish control

Consider Paul's method – p.104-105

- ~He modeled before the Elders what it looked like to be a disciple
- ~He taught them the gospel and the whole counsel of God
- ~He exhorted them to care for both the church and themselves
- ~He warned them of the problems to come
- ~He reminded them of his model
- ~He commended them to God and his Word

Keep eyes on Jesus who promised to build His Church (p.105)

Strategy Development

Prayerfully discerned – p.110

Need for Fasting & prayer

Spirit guided

Process – Preparation/Development/Implementation/Re-evaluation

Do not neglect daily devotion time with the Lord