



Deeper Christian Life Ministry
The Netherlands



EFFECTIVE CHURCH PLANTING

Acts 8:4-16; 14:21-23; Matthew 28:19-20

...earnestly contend for the FAITH which was once delivered unto the SAINTS (Jude 3)



What are the benefits of church planting?

Church planting is an integral component of the great commission.

- 1. Most effective approach of evangelizing the lost.*
- 2. It gives joy and fulfilment of obedience to the GC.*
- 3. Church growth and multiplication of disciples.*
- 4. Reproducing Christian leaders.*
- 5. It brings more financial resources to the church.*
- 6. The best way of experiencing the relevance of the gospel to people's needs when the church is near.*
- 7. God is glorified with new churches being planted.*





What is church planting?

Church planting refers to the process of planning, praying, preaching the gospel, training the church planters, and forming a core group of believers in a new location, that results in a new local Christian assembly being established. The new church should eventually have a separate life of its own and be able to function without the mother church, though it continues to stay connected with the parent body.





Why is church planting important?

Church planting is important:

- 1. To fulfil the mandate of the great commission (Matt 28:18-20)***
- 2. To reach the unchurched with the gospel of Christ***
- 3. To reawaken the church to people still in need of the gospel***
- 4. To conserve the fruit of evangelism***
- 5. To provide platform for edification and growth of the saved souls through regular fellowship***
- 6. To provide opportunity to believers to fulfil their ministry***



What are the hindrances to church planting?

1Corinthians 14:8; 16:9; Deuteronomy 1:6

- 1. Lack or loss of vision for the great commission***
- 2. Lack of spiritual direction***
- 3. Satisfaction with status quo***
- 4. Love of ease and convenience***
- 5. Fear of challenges of starting a new church***
- 6. Reluctance to let go of the leaders/workers in the mother church***
- 7. Satanic opposition***

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What are the requirements for church planters?

Acts 16:1,2; 2Timothy 3:14-15; Exodus 18:21

Gifts of the
Spirit

Holy Ghost
baptism

Knowledge of
the Scriptures

Passion for
soul

Prayerfulness

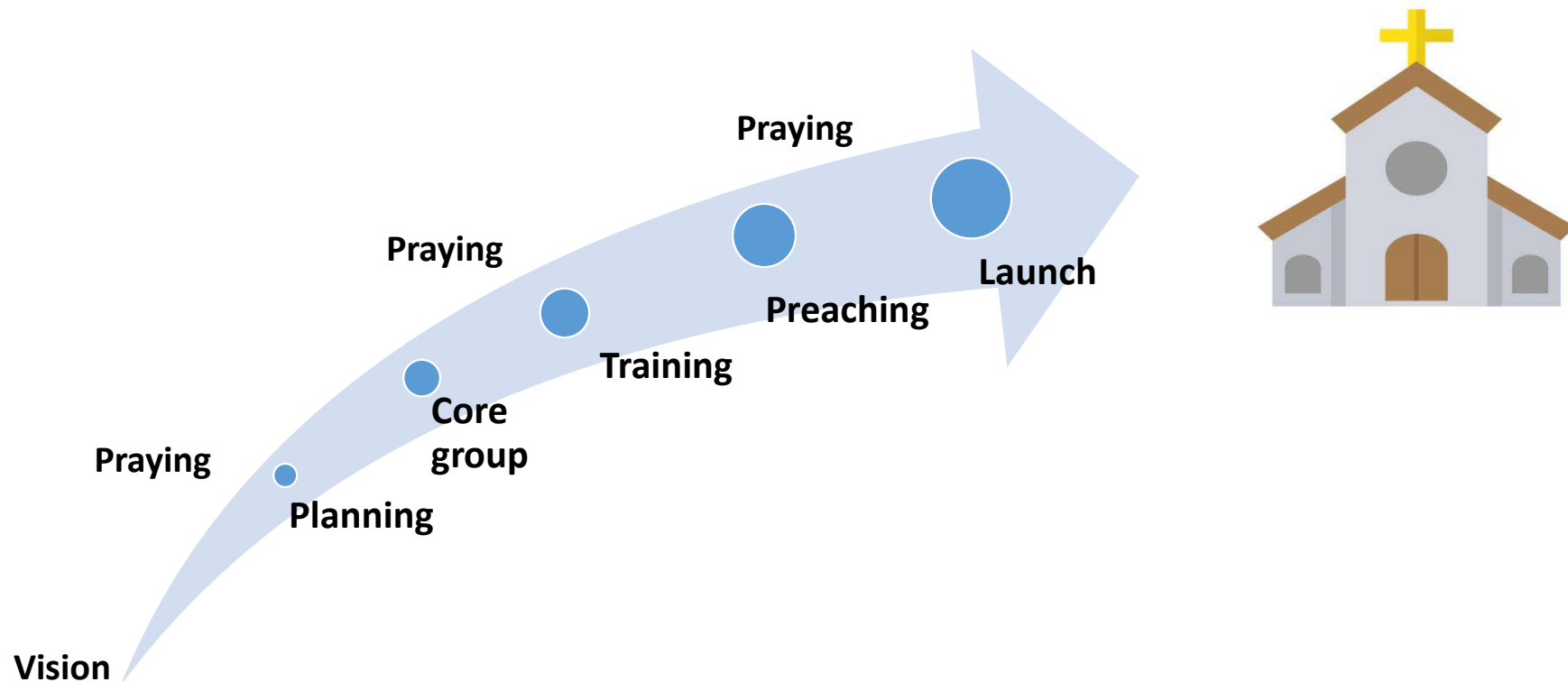
Christlike
character

Clear
conversion

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What are the key elements of church planting?



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What are the necessary preparations?

Our preparation for church planting should be Spirit-directed, thorough, practical and all-encompassing.

- (i) Getting a clear spiritual guidance. The Holy Spirit is a missionary spirit; hence, we should depend on His leadership (Acts 8:1,4-6,29; 11:2; 13:2-4; 16:6-10).
- (ii) Prayer is the main preparation for church planting (Acts 13:2,3; 1Corinthians 16:9) to dislodge the ruling and controlling powers.
- (iii) Strategic evangelism and publicity in the target location.
- (iv) Training of the church planters and potential leaders.
- (v) Survey of the community where the new church is to be planted (Acts 16:13; 17:16-23).



What are biblical principles for church planting?

- (i) It is always advisable to plant the new church in community with familiar cultural contexts.*
- (ii) Church planting is a joint ministry. So, there is need for a church planting team. Paul never went out alone to plant church as he always had a team.*
- (iii) Church planting is a warfare (1Corinthians 16:9) as there are adversaries along the way. Hence, the necessity of praying without ceasing.*
- (iv) Church planting can be challenging and very demanding. We should depend on God and focus on what He can do.*
- (v) Understanding needs of people in the target community is essential to reaching them effectively with the gospel. The new church must be relevant.*



The launch of a new church

Preparation

- *First impression always lasts long, so the church planters should prepare very well for the launch of the new church to create a lasting positive impression.*
- *Preparation includes both the spiritual and physical dimensions.*
- *Publicity in the new location – distribution of publicity flyers, sending letter of invitation to people in the neighbourhood, invitation through personal contact, invitation through social media.*
- *Corporate and individual prayer for the launch.*
- *Preparation of the venue of meeting.*



The launch of a new church

Methods

- ***Evangelistic crusade method.*** Crusade is conducted for some days in the location where the new church is to be planted. Then the new church starts immediately.
- ***Special musical concert or special programme method.*** This is to attract the people after which the new church starts.
- ***Home caring fellowship method.*** House fellowship is first established in the new location which then is transformed into a local church.
- ***“The start as you intend to continue method”.*** Essentially, the launch follows the typical programme that the new church will follow.



The launch of a new church

The launch day

- *Ensure that the hall of meeting is well prepared.*
- *The service should start on time and the minister should keep to time.*
- *The service should be lively, solemn, refreshing and need-oriented.*
- *New comers should be recognized and welcomed warmly, and they should be followed up.*
- *After the service, the church planters and the members of the core group should mingle and talk with the participants.*
- *It is always good to provide refreshments after the service.*



What can you do to facilitate and support church planting? Luke 19:13; 1Corinthians 15:10; 2Chronicles 15:7

- (i) Publicity including invitation of people to launch of the new church.***
- (ii) Praying. Join corporate prayer meeting and always remember to pray on your own for church planting activities.***
- (iii) Evangelism in the location where the church is to be planted. Be involved in personal and corporate evangelism.***
- (iv) Be available to be trained as workers in the new Church.***
- (v) Give sacrificially your time, talent and treasure for Church planting activities (1Chronicles 29:5).***
- (vi) You can participate in gathering relevant data on the new location.***

