

The Mission Focused Church Ministry

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The Mission Driven Church

What Are You Trying to Accomplish?

What is Your Purpose, Mission, Vision?

What Drives A Church?

- | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1. Tradition | 2. People | 3. Finances |
| 4. Buildings | 5. Events | 6. Seekers |
| 7. Programs | | |

A Lack of Clarity

“Let there be real harmony so that there won’t be splits in the church.... Be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.” 1 Corinthians 1:10

“Many are the plans in a man’s heart, but it is the Lord’s purpose that prevails.” Proverbs 19:21

“Nothing hinders morale more than when team members with separate agendas are pulling against one another. When this happens, it’s usually because those in charge have not taken the time necessary to clarify the win for their team.... Without clear direction, they are forced to chart their own course or follow whoever seems to have the best plan at the moment.” Andy Stanley, 7 Practices of Effective Ministry, pg. 72

“Many churches get involved in good projects, and people feel good about doing them, but if those projects are not helping the church fulfill Christ’s commission, then they are only camouflaging disobedience to Christ.” Russell Burrill, Waking the Dead, pg. 23

Why Clarifying Your Purpose Matters

- ◇ To discern God’s ideal for our church and align everything toward that end.
- ◇ To help the church maximize its redemptive potential for God.
- ◇ To be intentionally obedient to God’s will.

1. Creates your foundation
2. Prioritizes your local budget offerings
3. Directs your resources
4. Focuses your goals

Luke 14:28-33 "For which of you, desiring to build a tower..."

"The members of the church should give diligent attention to the Word of God, that they may understand their duty and then labor with all their energies of the mind and heart to make their church one of the most prosperous in the land." Ellen White, Review & Herald, September 6, 1911

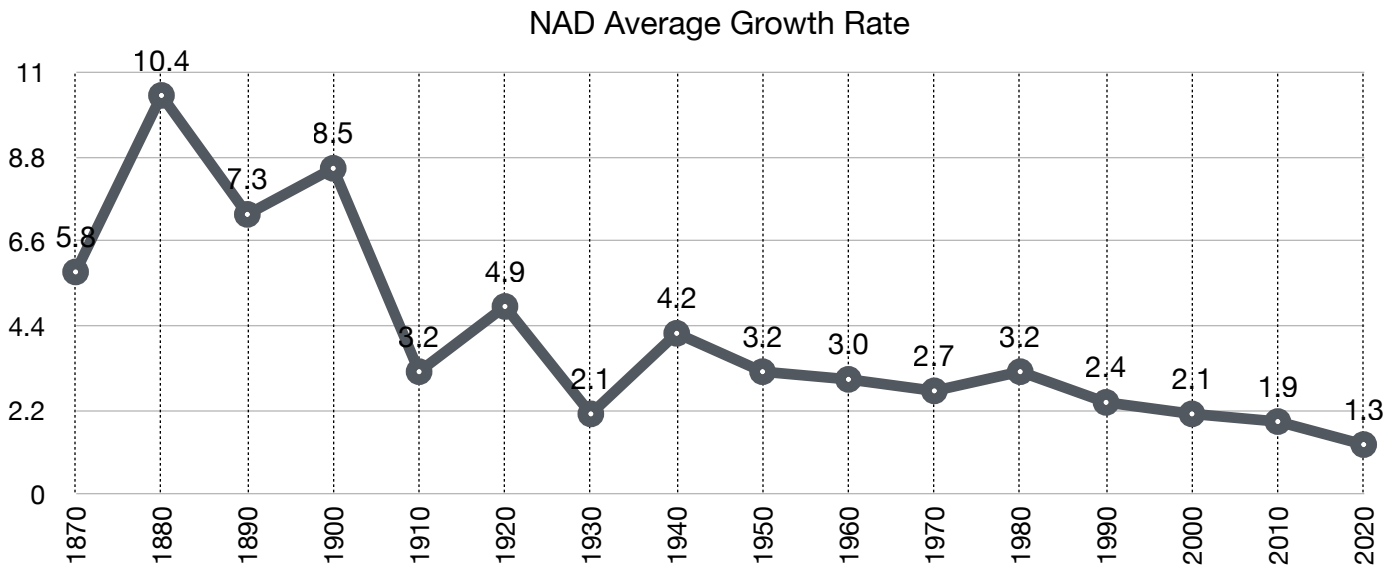
What is Our Mission?

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." Acts 1:8

"The church is God's appointed agency for the salvation of men. It was organized for service, and its mission is to carry the gospel to the world." Ellen White, Acts of the Apostles, pg. 9.

How Are We Doing?



Nature of the Church in North American Division

Current Number of Churches/Companies: 6,590

NAD Goal: 1 Church for Every 25,000 People

Over 354 Million People in Our Territory:

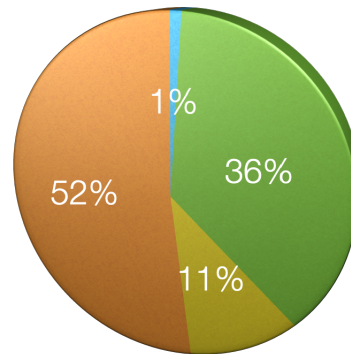
Number of Adventist Churches Needed: 14,160

We Need 8,142 More Churches

Currently 6,590 Churches in NAD

	Baptisms		Attendance	Plant
Multiplying	$\geq 7\%$	And	$\geq 7\%$	In 7
Growing	$> 2\%$	And	$> 2\%$	
Plateauing	
Declining	0%	Or	$< -2\%$	

Multiplying: 74- 1%
 Growing: 2321- 36%
 Plateauing: 680- 11%
 Declining: 3363- 52%



Is it Possible?

"The Seventh-day Adventist presence is shrinking in the NAD. If the number of the converts continues to grow below the rate of population growth, the church will become a shrinking part of the population, making it increasingly more difficult to fulfill its mission." Joe Kidder, Ministry magazine, Dec. 2010.

"Time is short. Workers for Christ are needed everywhere. There should be one hundred earnest, faithful laborers in home and foreign mission fields where now there is one. The highways and byways are yet unworked." Ellen White, Fundamentals of Education, p. 488 (RH Oct 15, 1903)

"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Matthew 8:37-38

"I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it." Matthew 16:18

The Mission of Discipleship

Our Mission

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:19-20

What is a Disciple?

Disciple: mathéteuó:

◊ to be the disciple of one; to follow his precepts and instruction.

◊ to be a follower of Jesus’ teachings and life.

◊ Mature Disciple: A follower of Jesus’ teachings and life that is making disciples of others.

Principles of Discipleship: Discipleship is a Journey — Not a Destination

“Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity...” Hebrews 6:1

*“Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”
Philippians 3:12–14*

Principles of Discipleship: Discipleship Happens Through Relationships

“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.” Hebrews 10:23-25

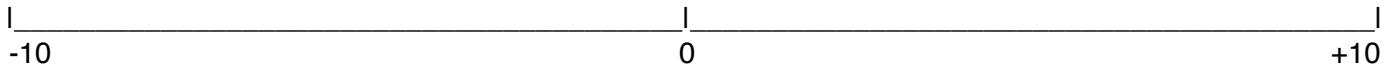
“After these things Jesus and His disciples came into the land of Judea, and there He was spending time with them and baptizing.” John 3:22

Spent time: Diatribo: dia- against, tribo- to rub
to rub against, to rub off

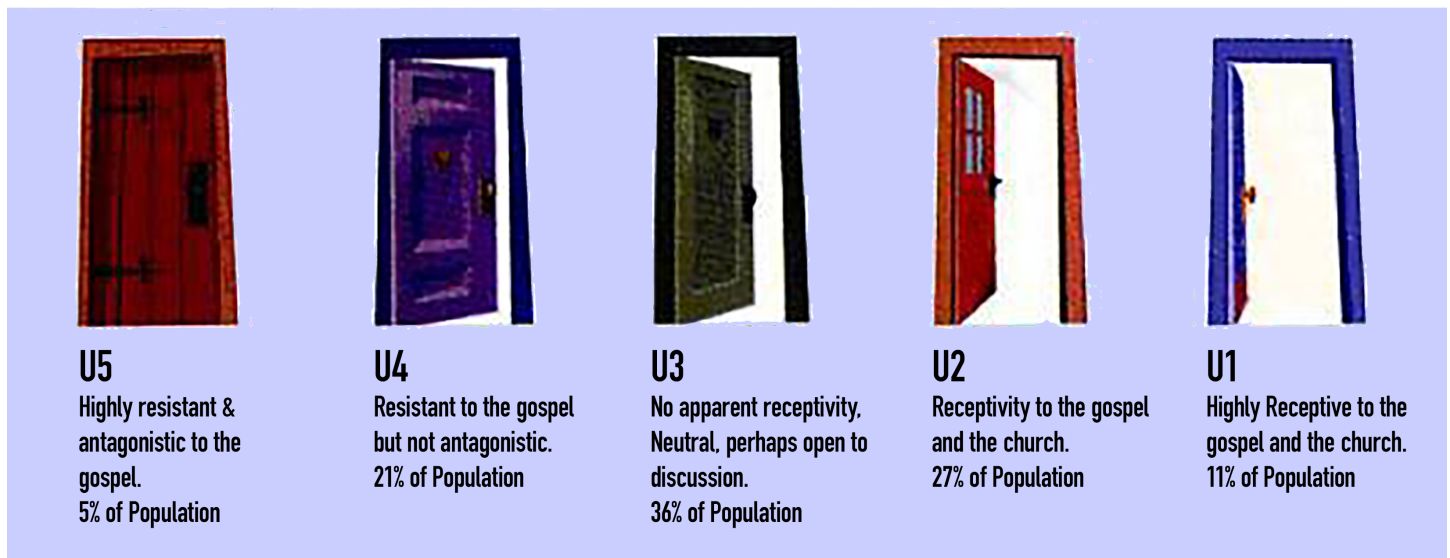
Creating a Discipleship Pathway

“It is essential to labor with order, following an organized plan and a definite object. No one can properly instruct another unless he sees to it that the work to be done shall be taken hold of systematically and in order, so that it may be done at the proper time.” Ellen White, *Evangelism* pg. 94

Engel Scale

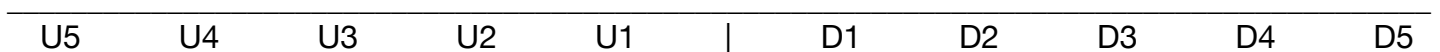


The Rainer Scale



The Unchurched Next Door, Thom Rainer,

Spiritual Address



The Steps of a Mission Participant

If I were to see a person fulfilling the mission of the church, what would be the marks or steps in fulfilling that?

Thinking Steps Verses Thinking Programs

◇ A Program is a system of services, opportunities, or projects, usually designed to meet a social need.

◇ A Step is one of a series of actions, processes, or measures taken to achieve a goal.

The Steps of a Mission Participant

Identify 4-5 steps of discipleship that creates movement and growth.

1. Every Step Should Be Simple
2. Every Step Should Be Obvious
3. Every Step Should Be Strategic

Intentional Movement

1. Begin with your Clearly Defined Process
2. Designate a Clear Entry-Point to the Process
3. Design Ministry for Each Step in the Process
4. Evaluate Whether Steps Create Movement

“God does not generally work miracles to advance His truth. He works according to great principles made known to us, and it is our part to mature wise plans and set in operation the means whereby God shall bring about certain results.” Christian Service, pg. 228

Example Discipleship Process

1. Connect People with God

Goal: To lead people to Christ and active involvement in the local church. Once an individual has given his/her life to Jesus Christ and has come to an understanding of the basic teachings of the character of God and His will for his/her life, he/she will display this commitment through Bible baptism. We are intentional about bringing people to Jesus.

2. Connect People with Each Other

Goal: To equip and place people in ministry in the local church. Once an individual has come to Christ and has become part of the church, discovering his/her spiritual gift, service in the local congregation and being part of a connect group is a vital part of spiritual development.

3. Connect People with the Community

Goal: To equip people to bring others into God’s eternal family. Once people have come to Christ, they are called to reach those in their community of influence with the love of Christ through service and personal evangelism. 2 Corinthians 5:20

4. Connect People with a Life of Spiritual Growth

Goal: To help people become more like Jesus Christ in their thoughts, feelings and actions in preparation for His second coming. This process begins when a person surrenders to the headship of Jesus Christ and continues throughout the rest of his/her life until His second coming. Ultimately, we see mature disciples of Jesus as men and women who feed themselves spiritually in a personal relationship with God, mentor others in their discipleship process and are willing to be sent to plant other churches throughout the world.

NEXT STEPS
WHAT’S YOURS?



The Mission of Discipleship Alignment

Systems Alignment

“But all things must be done properly and in an orderly manner.” 1 Corinthians 14:40

*“The work you are engaged in cannot be done except by forces which are the result of well-understood plans.” Ellen G. White, *Evangelism*, pg. 94*

*“Well defined plans should be freely presented to all whom they may concern, and it should be ascertained that they are understood. Then require of all those who are at the head of the various departments to cooperate in the execution of these plans. If this sure and radical method is properly adopted and followed up with interest and good will, it will avoid much work being done without any definite object, much useless friction.” Ellen White, *Manuscript 24*, 1887*

*“Merely because we are busy, or even skilled, doing something does not necessarily mean that we are getting anything accomplished. The question must always be asked: ‘Is it worth doing? And does it get the job done? Are our efforts to keep things going fulfilling the great commission of Christ? That we are busy in the church trying to work one program of evangelism after another can not be denied. But are we accomplishing our objective?’” Lyle Coleman, *The Master Plan of Evangelism*, p. 11-12*

Church Systems

1. Worship

How we plan, execute and evaluate the weekend service at our church

2. Evangelism

How we attract people to our church.

3. Assimilation

How we move people from first time guests to members at our church.

4. Small Groups

How we fill and reproduce small groups at our church.

5. Ministry

How we mobilize people for significant ministry at our church.

6. Stewardship

How we develop extravagant givers at our church.

7. Leadership

How to equip and train leaders and volunteers in our church.

8. Strategy

How we evaluate the mission focus in our church.

Systems Alignment

1. Churches have bought into a ministry “menu” philosophy.
2. Churches feel constant pressure to provide programs on the basis of needs.
3. Individuals have been allowed to build their identity around a program, not a mission.
4. Church leaders fear the fallout of eliminating certain programs.

	Children's Ministry	Leadership	Health Ministry	Small Groups	Evangelism	Social Committee
God						
Each Other						
Community						
Spiritual Growth						

Strategic Planning

Strategic planning is the process of discerning where we are today, where God is calling us to be in the future, and understanding how He wants us to get there.

Why Strategic Planning Matters

1. To discern God's ideal for our church and align everything toward that end.
2. To help the church maximize its redemptive potential for God.
3. To be intentionally obedient to God's will.

Essence of Strategic Planning

- ◇ Where Are We Now?
- ◇ Where Do We Need to Go?
- ◇ What Steps Do We Need to Take to Get There?

January 2023
to December 2025

SUMMARY OF STRATEGIC PLAN



Seventh-day
Adventist Church

MISSION

The mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is to equip fully engaged, missional disciples of Jesus.

Strategic Focus	Goals	Key Initiatives
<p>To achieve our Mission and realize our Vision, we will continually focus on...</p> <p>God To see people converting their lives to Christ and becoming actively involved in the local church.</p>	<p>Specifically, by the end of the calendar year, December 2025, we will strive...</p> <p>To add 50 people to our church family by baptism or profession of faith by December 2025.</p>	<p>We will achieve our goals by pursuing the following activities over the next 6-12 months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Evaluate and strengthen the hospitality process. ◇ Develop a yearly evangelistic calendar with a reaping series.
<p>Each Other To see people contributing their lives to Christ by serving in the local church.</p>	<p>For 50% of our members to complete the "Ministry Placement" course, placed, and actively serving in a ministry area by December 2025.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Organize and develop effective volunteer ministry team.
<p>Community To see people connecting their lives to Christ by sharing His love with others in their community.</p>	<p>For 50% of our members to complete a friendship evangelism training course and are praying for and investing time in at least one unchurched person by December 2025.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Evaluate and strengthen the personal ministry team. ◇ Emphasize friendship evangelism in Sabbath School classes. ◇ Provide personal Bible study training.
<p>Spiritual Growth To see people committing their lives to Christ and growing in spiritual maturity.</p>	<p>For 75% of our active church attendance to be participating in a Small Group by December 2025.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Increase the number of Small Groups. ◇ Increase the number of Small Group Leaders.

Strategic Planning

1. Evaluate Each Step of Discipleship Process
2. Set Challenging but Realistic Goals for Ministry Period
3. Develop Key Initiatives for Each Goal

Example Strategic Planning

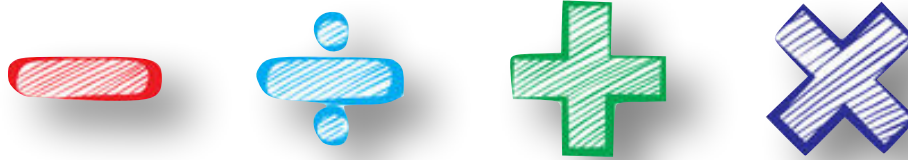
Strategic Focus To achieve our mission and realize our vision, we will continually focus on...	Goals Specifically, by the end of the calendar year 2025, we will strive...	Key Initiatives We will achieve our goals by pursuing the following activities over the next 6-12 months
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The Mission of Movement

Our Mission

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations.” Matthew 28:19-20

Culture of Multiplication



To Become a Movement, We Must Have Multiplying Churches
Adopting the Biblical Principle of Multiplication

Addition/Multiplication

“God blessed them [Adam & Eve]; and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth...’” Genesis 1:28

“And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.’” Genesis 9:1

Jesus’ Principle of Multiplication

Jesus Calls the Twelve

“And He went up on the mountain and summoned those whom He Himself wanted, and they came to Him. And He appointed twelve, so that they would be with Him and that He could send them out to preach, and to have authority to cast out the demons.” Mark 3:13-15

Jesus Sends the Twelve

“And He summoned the twelve and began to send them out in pairs, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits.” Mark 6:7

Jesus Sends the Seventy

“After this the Lord appointed seventy-two[a] others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” Luke 10:1-2



Jesus Appeared to the 500

“For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.” 1 Corinthians 15:3-6

Church Multiplies to 3000

“So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.” Acts 2:41

Church Multiplies to 18,000+

“But many of those who had heard the message believed; and the number of the men came to be about five thousand.” Acts 4:4

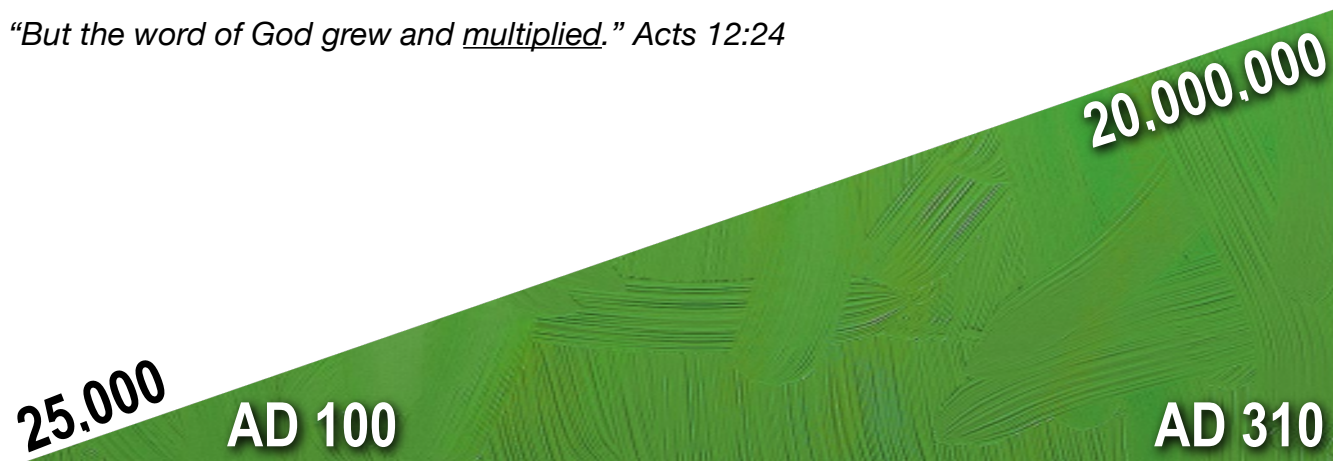
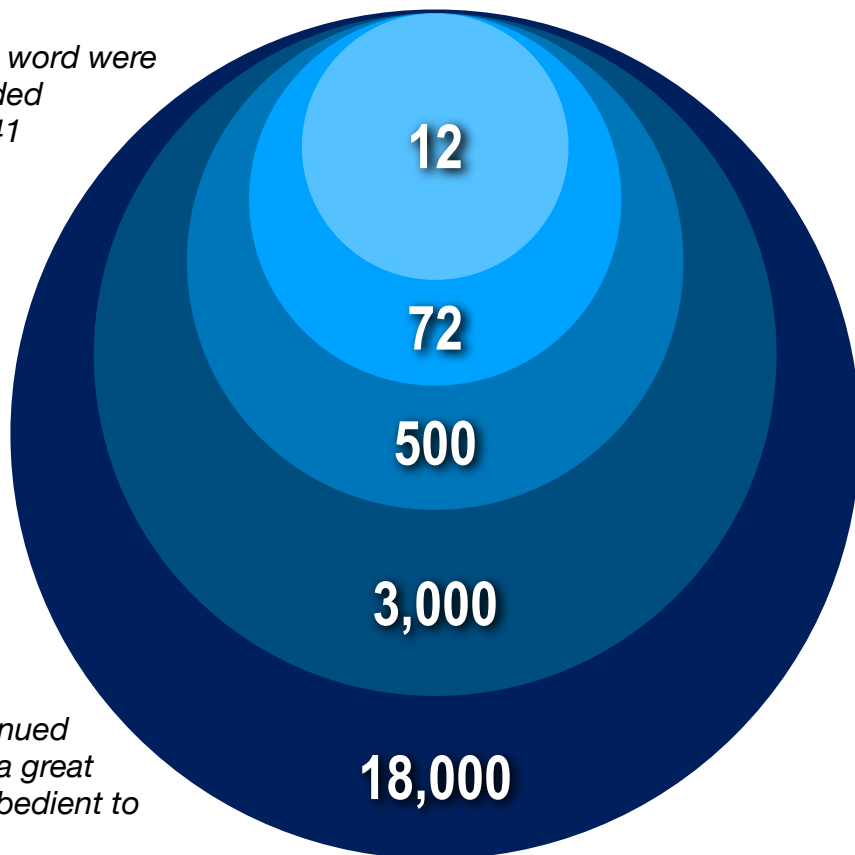
Church Continues to Multiply

“Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying...” Acts 6:1

“The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith.” Acts 6:7

“Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied.” Acts 9:31

“But the word of God grew and multiplied.” Acts 12:24



Create a Culture of Multiplication Growth

ATTRACTIVE	MULTIPLICATION
Addition	Multiplication
Attendees/Consumers	Disciples
Leadership Retain	Leadership Release
Gather & Accumulate	Release & Send
Staff Led	Group Led
Come	Go
Programs	Movement
Success	Significance
Loud	Silent
Church Building	Kingdom Building
Fill the Church	Start a Church
Lots of Committees	Simple Church Organization
Staff Mother	Staff Plant

Create a New Scorecard

Measure Disciple Making...

How many Disciplemakers do we have?

How many people are being mentored?

How many leaders do we have?

How many people are being transformed in community?

How many churches have we planted?

Develop Leadership Structures

“He appointed twelve— designating them apostles (apostolos)— that they might be with him and that he might send (apostello) them out to preach and to have authority to drive out demons.” -Mark 3:13-15

◇ Jesus’ top priority was multiplying leaders.

◇ He frequently left or overlooked the crowds, so he could more deeply develop his apostles.



Developing Leaders

Luke 5-8 The apostles assist Jesus in the mission on-the-job

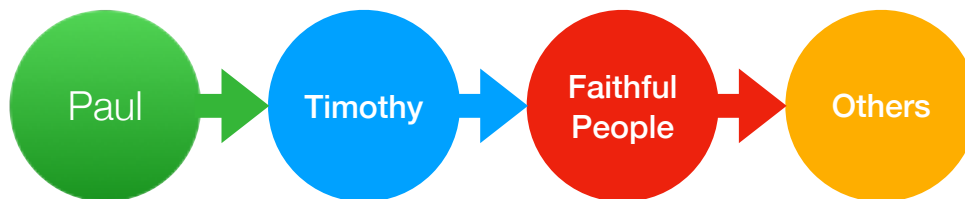
Luke 9 Jesus sends out the Twelve to do the mission they had observed and assisted with

Luke 10 Jesus sends out the 70, giving the Twelve a chance to empower others to do what they had just done

Multiplying leaders is "the single greatest investment you can make because it produces the single greatest return." John C. Maxwell

Develop Leadership Pipeline

"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others." 2 Timothy 2:2



Developing a Leadership Pipeline

Create a Culture of Multiplication

Create a Leadership Development Culture

Work with Ministry Matrix

Everyone Mentors Someone

Five Steps to Mentoring

