

Begin Session 11 (Friday morning #1)

SECTION 9 (Pg 56)

Getting Started

Pray, pray, pray!

1. Prayer walk your target area
 - a) Identify key areas
 - b) Locations
 - c) 7 Spheres
 - Education
 - Government
 - Media
 - Entertainment
 - Family
 - Business/Industry
 - Religion
2. Ask the Father to open your eyes and ears
 - a) Be open to supernatural revelations specific to where you are praying
 - b) Walk the streets, enter businesses
 - c) Pray discretely
 - d) Be open to doing “treasure hunts”
 - e) Most “natural” things reveal spiritual underlying issues
 - Poverty
 - Crime
 - Prosperity
 - Even parks, rivers, geography, etc.
3. Pray for supernatural contacts – man of peace profile
 - a) Specifically pray for people with the gifts resources you need
 - b) Respond when you meet them
 - c) Walk into a room “expecting” to discover the person you have been praying for...
4. Pastor your 'oikos' household, your neighborhood
 - a) Prioritize you own family.
 - b) 1 Timothy 3:4 NKJV one who rules his own house (oikos) well, having his children in submission with all reverence

- c) **Thayer Definition:** to set or place before; to be over, to superintend, preside over; to be a protector or guardian; to give aid; to care for, give attention to; profess honest occupations
5. Pray in a team of good people/believers. Paul started in the synagogues
 6. Pray for a clearly defined vision for your church
 7. Pray for a church name
 - a) Short
 - b) Non-religious sounding
 - c) Examples: River City Fellowship; Father's House Christian Fellowship; River Community Church;
 - d) Geographic connection can be helpful, but consider the possibility of a future move
 8. Impart an understanding for the reasons for starting a new church.
 - a) Calculate the number of un-reached people in your area
 - b) Identify the area of ministry that may be lacking
 - c) We are not competing with other churches but working together
 - d) Communicate your churches unique attributes that will help the city/region and build the kingdom
 - e) NEVER criticize other churches, or imply that you are coming to bring the "true" gospel, or a "good" church.
 - f) Build on your strengths – not other's weaknesses (real or assumed).

The initial group

1. A core of believers, pioneers, young singles and couples who ~~don't have a lot to lose~~ are willing (and able) to invest everything they have
 - a) Source of these individuals will depend upon Approach (session 8)
 - b) Include the possibility for new converts, or “renewed” christians that you meet, a group of new people attract new people – concept
 - c) Core leadership can be different than a core team.
 - Leadership must have maturity and stability
 - Core team can be anyone
2. People you have prayed for, who have potential and who buy into your vision
 - a) Those you have specifically prayed for, those with the gift mix you need
 - b) Be on the look out for “angels” -- people God sends that you did not anticipate, but are key to getting things started
 - Rick Warren – The realtor, and first person he met
 - Jones -- hairdresser
3. You need to keep sharing your vision, investing your time in the invited group getting to know them and their story well.
 - a) Build community
 - b) People are not looking for a friendly church, they are looking for friends
 - c) Core team needs to be “purpose” driven – not “meet my needs” driven
 - d) Draw them into the vision so that they own it, it is their vision
4. Pray them in. The right people do not need motivating, they are already motivated.
 - a) If you want something done, find a busy person!
 - b) They may be motivated, but they need direction...
5. Don't believe everything you hear.
 - a) Be discerning about anything you hear about
 - Other Churches
 - Other Pastors
 - People that come to your meeting
 - When someone tells you something, it may be “true to them” or from their perspective
 - So you must treat it as “real” for them

- But you reserve the right to NOT make any type of judgement on the others involved
 - You NEVER know the whole story
 - Keep focused on what you are there to do – start a church and minister the love of God, and stay clear of all that stuff...
6. Borrow a crowd: the people you start with may not be with you in one year.
- a) This is commonly true
 - b) Pioneers like to pioneer, once something is stable, they move on – that's okay!!!!
 - c) Teaming with an area church (with caution) to get attenders to your events
 - d) Jones –
 - area church that is fully supportive,
 - encourages their members to go to Jones' events
 - Far enough away that it is unlikely they will “steal” any members
 - e) Do non-Sunday morning events that focus on your values so that members of other churches can attend and “check you out.”
 - f) It is okay to borrow people, it's okay to receive transplants, it is not okay to actively “steal” members of other churches.
7. Your first group of leaders may be on loan for a short time.
- a) Initial leaders are there to lead the church plant, and may not be the permanent or long term leaders
 - b) You need to manage this carefully by not building false expectations, or promising long term positions
 - c) Be clear about
 - Up front expectations, responsibilities and benefits
 - NEVER promise or imply a paid position to anyone, ever
8. You will attract people like you but with all types of motives.
- a) Make sure that you don't allow others to hijack your vision
 - b) Cipcics and (“Keith”) -- include but don't give any authority for at least a year
 - Had hidden motives (innocent) yet different than the vision God had given the Cipcics
 - Gone in one year, but EXTREMELY useful during that time
 - c) You want people with passion, and vision and ideas

- Don't shut people down
 - “Never say “no” -- build momentum
 - But steer them into the vision God has given
 - Leadership, it is all about leadership
 - Test motives, get things “out on the table” as soon as possible
9. You should lead almost exclusively until you have about 65-85 adults with exception of worship ministry and children's ministry.
- a) With this size group the leadership too much “leadership” just slows things down
 - b) You need the ability to make a decision and implement it quickly
 - c) But you also need to delegate (Leadership = delegation) so this doesn't mean that you are doing everything
 - d) Depending upon the vision for the church this will vary
 - If you are the sole pastor, then you should teach every service
 - But others can take care of most everything else
 - If you are doing a team ministry approach, the key leaders should teach every Sunday
 - e) Principle: keep the decision making process as small and centralized as possible to enable flexibility and speed.
 - f) As the church grows the need for safety and accountability grows and requires additional “layers” of leadership.
10. Don't lay hands too quickly on anyone to bestow leadership on them or give them a ministry title (elder, deacon etc.) It is much easier to lay hands on than lay hands off of someone.
- a) Titles are great for books, lousy for people, they normally only get in the way
 - b) Formalizing roles is important, but beware of unspoken expectations
11. Keep praying in the ministers and leaders you will need. Discernment of the Spirit is very important to have. You will notice that elders, “eld”, and that deacons, “deac” whether you give them official recognition or not.
12. Watch for the ones who follow your lead, who like what you share and say, and who show humility.