

## We Plant Churches Through Teams

- We launch every project through effective teams.
- Though people might be called from other nations or regions, once they are a part of a project, planters and teams live in the ministry area (approx 10 minutes away from target area)
- Every Team Should Have at least three (3) people who, together have six (6) essential planting skills:

1) People Skills (People Magnet)

2) Vision Casting

3) Strategic Planning

4) Systems Architect

5) Preaching

6) Equipping

We believe in this team model so completely that we made the decision to tie Classis Funding to the Team Model. While most projects have a point leader, we know that no individual person has every gift needed for church vitality. Therefore we expect our leaders to exercise his or her leadership by establishing a team.

If a planter feels called to “parachute” into an area, we will assess and coach that planter, but not begin official funding until their leadership team is identified. Then we will assess the team to look at future potential and possible funding models.

Early assessment of a lead planter is often recommended before the full team is identified. This will allow the lead planter to gather a team based on his or her own strengths and weaknesses.

### Elaboration on Essential Skills for the Planting Team

#### 1) People Skills (People Magnet / Personal Evangelist)

This person has the ability to make many friends who are far from God. They are “people magnets” who can build a crowd quickly. Personal Evangelism happens naturally because so many people are around them.

#### 2) Vision Casting

While this person might not be the main leader, he or she has the ability to make the vision crystal clear in the minds of people outside and inside the church. When new opportunities and obstacles arise, the visionary is able to assess them in light of the vision.

### 3) Strategic Planning

Sometimes it's hard to remember that your job is to drain the swamp when you're up to your elbows in alligators. Church planting is messy and many teams get into a week-by-week survival mode. The Strategic Planner is able to keep a big picture view, mapping out the long term journey and helping the project move from where they are now to where God is calling them to be.

### 4) Systems Architect

Systems are documented, ongoing processes that leave no detail untended. They serve to simplify complicated tasks, making training and leadership development easier. Systems include Expectations, Rewards, Consequences, Communication and Behavior.

### 5) Preaching

Preaching is God's appointed method to gather His people to Himself. While planting projects probably will not begin with a weekly, sermon driven, worship experience, the core team needs to have someone who is gifted in presenting the Gospel of grace in a culturally relevant and doctrinally faithful way.

### 6) Equipping

Many planting teams burn out and unravel because they are made up of passionate "do-ers" who are energetic about Christ's mission. An equipper is necessary because they are able to identify leaders, train servants, and equip people to carry out the mission.

There are many other roles needed in every planting project, but these six are essential skills to have on the primary leadership team. Having this team allows leaders to work in the areas of their strengths instead of spreading themselves thinly over the entire project.