

DEVELOPING HOMEGROWN LEADERS FOR CHURCH PLANTING

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The key of the church planting is the God's called leaders, who have the strong conviction to obey God's plan to plant the church based on the God's word. The key of the Bible is about his church to love one another in the family relationship.

The Apostle Paul was called as a God's instrument as church planter, which he persecuted churches (Acts 9:4). Once he understood what the church was in relationship to Jesus, then he devoted his life in church planting as the missionary sent from Antioch, his home church, to the ends of the world to fulfill the Great Commission with the Great Commandment.

He lived for Christ in church planting as the missionary (church planting equals the missions, which the church plants churches for its church growth in 1 Corinthians 3:6). He wrote his epistles to the churches how they have to live for Christ to impact their community as His witnesses for the gospel.

In his church planting approach, he learned the team concept from his mentor Barnabas on the mission field, which is the best way to learn from being engaged in it under the leader. That is the hands-on missions to evangelize the lost with the message of Christ among people under the power of the Holy Spirit through prayer.

Barnabas raised Paul as a leader to carry on the church planting for the global missions. Then Paul mentored Silas and Timothy as next generation leaders to transform lives of people in teaching of the Word.

Likewise today's pastors ought to mentor their laypeople as the priority in the pastoral ministry as the homegrown workers as our Lord did it in a team of the Twelve to plant the Jerusalem Church. The Four Gospels are how he trained them, who had no idea about the church, to be the leaders to plant the first church in a team approach.

Thus our Lord spent his entire public ministry to equip the laypeople to do the work of God. He loved his church to die on the cross (Ephesians 5:25).

He revealed his plan to build his church (Matthew 16:18). Then, he gave his Great Commission to them to make the disciples of all the nations (Matthew 28:19-20). It is the church planting movement, which is to be done by laypeople by the power of the Holy Spirit through prayer movement until his return for the judgment.