

I Planted...
Church Planting: Taking A City
7 Principles To Be Part of Our 3rd Wave Church Planting Movement
1 Corinthians 3:6; Isaiah 54:1-3

1 Corinthians 3:6 (NKJV) — 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase.

Isaias 54:1–3 (NKJV) — 1 “Sing, O barren, You who have not borne! Break forth into singing, and cry aloud, You who have not labored with child! For more are the children of the desolate Than the children of the married woman,” says the LORD. 2 “Enlarge the place of your tent, And let them stretch out the curtains of your dwellings; Do not spare; Lengthen your cords, And strengthen your stakes. 3 For you shall expand to the right and to the left, And your descendants will inherit the nations, And make the desolate cities inhabited.

Introduction:

This morning the subject that has been given for me to share is "Church Planting"

This is a topic has been very close to the heart of our Founder, Pastor Sonny.

He continually shares with us the need to launch churches, and to develop strategies to carry out this task of taking cities effectively, especially with the focus of this 3rd wave generation...

There is an urgency in the heart of our ministry, for church planters, team members that could go out and expand the growth of our ministry!

If we think futuristically, (which we should all be doing) we have to think about planting new churches!

Today like never before is a time to plant ... After more than 50 years of victory outreach international, there is still a need to plant more churches!

There are so many cities around the world without the flag of Victory Outreach Ministry!

Planting churches is the way we will see the fulfillment of the great promise that has been given to our ministry...

Isaias 54:2–3 (NKJV) — 2 “Enlarge the place of your tent, And let them stretch out the curtains of your dwellings; Do not spare; Lengthen your cords, And strengthen your stakes. 3 For you shall expand to the right and to the left, And your descendants will inherit the nations, And make the desolate cities inhabited.

Planting churches is synonymous with expansion and growth.

As we read our promise Isaiah 54: 2-3 we find the words, stretch out, lengthen, expand, enlarge!

These are words that speak very clearly of growth and expansion.

But the question is, how is it going to take place? In a more effective, and even with a more accelerated pace!

The answer is very clear, everything centers at the task of planting churches!

It's still the same way we've done it since day one...each one of us is the result of someone planting a church!

I believe that God still has more growth, more expansion for Victory Outreach International... and the challenge is before us!

The challenge is, as we look back to the last couple of years, and if we truly examine ourselves, we need to confess that we have failed in this task!

In the words of our founder, we have been guilty, guilty, and guilty!

But what is the dilemma, the problem ...

When considering the promise, we must read a previous verse of Isaiah 54 ..., it is a very different tone, it speaks of a barren woman, one who never given birth, one who was never labored with child!

Isaiah 54:1 (NKJV) — 1 “Sing, O barren, You who have not borne! Break forth into singing, and cry aloud, You who have not labored with child! For more are the children of the desolate Than the children of the married woman,” says the LORD.

Seeing the root of this dilemma is barrenness, not giving birth, not sending, not planting churches.

Being Barren and unfruitfulness in the ministry is very dangerous!

Spiritual barren is being unable to reproduce, it is not having the ability to multiply, or grow!

John 15:5 (NKJV) — 5 “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

John 15:8 (NKJV) — 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

The will of God is to plant.

Bareness in the Bible was a curse, it was a shameful, it was of great reproach!

My prayer is that this morning the curse of sterility will be broken and that dozens of couples will come out of this 3rd wave to take cities all over the world.

How is it possible to be barren and unfruitful in a ministry like ours!

We have promise of inheriting nations, but to see it take place, we will need to give birth.

Days of expansion are coming like we have never seen in the history of Victory Reach International... the promise will be fulfilled, we will take cities, nations and countries!

The Holy Spirit wants to start the labor pains this morning in this 3rd wave generation...

You will rejoice, you will break forth into singing... you will give birth!

We are going to plant churches ...

I believe if this 3rd wave catches this, there will come a fruitful time like we have never seen it before, a spiritual explosion of growth!

Our descendants will grow, and it will increase, we will see the promise fulfilled before our eyes.

But this is not going to happen, only talking about vision, or only with a limited vision, thinking local... we have to expand our mentality, heart and vision!

3rd wave generation, we need church planters that will be city takers, city shakers!

Today Victory Outreach International is looking for Church Planters!

There needs to be a Third Wave Church planting movement VOI, an explosion of church planters...

I really think it's coming; we could already see the beginning of a great wave!

But we need those that could state like the Apostol Paul...

1 Corinthians 3:6 (NKJV) I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase.”

Paul planted many churches; he was a model church planter in the New Testament...

He is a great example for this generation...

Romans 15:20 (NKJV) — 20 And so I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build on another man’s foundation,

He gives us some very important principles and characteristics for those that desire to plant churches and take cities!

This morning I would like to share some with you...

First Principle
We Need A Clear Perspective of The Mission We Have Been Given To GO, GO, GO!

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

The heart of church planting is the Great Commission, Its very simple GO! But It’s effective and powerful!

Of all the disciples, I believe that Paul was the one who most clearly understood the great commission, he would not only go and preach, but he plant churches!

He took the great commission very serious; he understood the responsibility; he literally lived and breathed the vision!

He was like an instrument in the hands of God to plow open new territories for the expansion of the early church in the first century!

Through his missionary journeys, his number one goal was always to see churches planted in Corinthians, Ephesians, Philippi, etc.

The Apostle Paul was focused on the mission, he did not have time to get distracted!

Just like our founder and Pastor, he is focused on seeing our vision fulfilled, on seeing bases established and churches planted throughout the world.

Today we must strive and pray that we have this same clarity of mission, that the great task of planting churches be burning in our hearts!

Why is it that sometimes we are not focused on the mission?

1. We get distracted.
2. We get busy.
3. We lack understanding.
4. We don't have a clear vision.

We cannot get distracted to the point that church planting is the last thing on the list!

If we do not understand our mission, there will always be something more important than going out...

We must strive to see what our founder is able to see, have 20/20 vision!

In order to have a clarity of the mission of planting churches, and taking a City...

1. We can't just think local.
2. We must connect with others who are church planters in this 3rd wave movement.
3. Get out of the four walls of our church and be exposed to a bigger vision!

When we plant more churches and take cities... we are holding the arms of our Pastor in carrying out this mission and vision.

Second Principle

We Need To Understand That We As V.O.I. Have Church Planting In Our DNA.

We have been a ministry with a vision to plant churches from day one, when we were only one church on Gless St.

Since our humble beginnings, Pastor Sonny & Julie have modeled this!

If church planting was not in our DNA, there would only be one Mega Victory Outreach Church today.

but only because Pastor Sonny had a vision for church planting and taking cities, we are many, we are an international ministry.

From Panama, South Africa, to Europe and many other cities we see Pastor Sonny model an end time apostolic anointing.

Planting churches is in our DNA, it is an integral part of our mission, vision and values.

We are a ministry with an apostolic anointing, an anointing to continually send!

Our DNA is to go, go and keep going.

This anointing will only increase, and it will accelerate the planting of churches all over the world.

Third wave we must never forget, that Victory Outreach International has an apostolic calling, we are a church planting movement.

The calling, the apostolic anointing runs in our blood... it comes with the package!

Do you want this anointing? This anointing is within your reach, because it is part of our DNA!

Third Principle
We Must Have A Passion, Conviction, and A Genuine Burden To Take A City.

The motivation to plant churches should not only be out of obedience to the vision but should be birth out of a genuine burden!

We have to be careful that we not only hear the cry of the cities, or the challenge of going out time after time, and find ourselves doing nothing!

We have to have a deep conviction, a genuine burden for planting churches!

Planting churches is more than just a good idea, or a simple command, that we must obey... we have to have a burden, a passion that burns in our hearts!

When we have this genuine burden...

1. Then we have compassion.
2. We pray for the city.

3. We are willing to do what it takes.
4. Our world rotates around the mission.
5. We put our calling in priority.
6. We give towards the vision.
7. We are available and ready.

Can you hear the cry of the cities, of the lost, of the addict, those hidden treasures that has not yet been reached?

can hear the Macedonian call, like Paul did, when you have a burden... you will not only hear it, but answer it!

Acts 16:9–10 (NKJV) — 9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10 Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.

What a powerful image, of a man begging him saying, come help! Can you hear this cry?

The weeping of the lost, does it move you, do you hear the call?

A burden is important because it does not leave you the same, it pushes you to action, you can't stay still, you stay awake at night, thinking how are you going to fulfill this vision!

A genuine burden produces urgency ... "immediately we sought to go"

When you have a genuine burden, you understand that there is more than a need out there, it's God who is calling you!

Fourth Principle

The Results Of Church Planting Is Multiplication Growth, Not Just Addition!

Church planting produces explosive growth, we go from addition, to multiplication!

1 Corinthians 3:6–7 (NKJV) — 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. 7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.

There is a need for planters ... not just those who water ...

We need to grow not only in knowledge, but in action!

Today I think that the Apollos abound, "those who water" - Apollos was eloquent, well taught, well talented, charismatic, apologist, he knew very well how to water!

Many want only to water ... few seek to plant, on occasion it is easier to water, than to plant.

But from so much watering, I think that the ground on occasion is already very wet, too much knowledge, principles and points, but no fruit that extends out!

Remember that if the seed gets too much water, it will spoil.

It's time to do, not just know! It is time to plant, not just give a class on how to grow the church.

Paul had to remind us that before watering you have to plant. If we do not plant, what are we going to water...

Sometimes we want to build on the land of others, but we must open new ground, there is a lot of fertile ground to plant another seed!

Sometimes we want to know how to grow, but my question is if there will be someone who wants to "plant".

We all grow...

1. The sending church grows.
2. The Pastor grows.
3. The Sending Couple grows.
3. Our Faith Grows.
4. We grow as an international ministry.

Planting produces growth in so many ways: Faith, New couples, Talents and gifts, Potential.

Remember that not only is the church planted, but you never know how many churches will come out of that church planted!

It is said that the Apostle Paul planted about 20 churches personally, but from there other works came out generations later.

If we do it, God grows, multiplies, and expands.

Let's look at where we are at this morning, from Gless Street, East Los Angeles ... now we are all over the world.

Continued church planting will continue to expand the ministry of Victory Outreach International...

I have the faith to believe that if this 3 wave embraces planting churches and taking cities not only will we have Mega Churches, but we are going to reach 1000 churches all over the world in the short future!

Fifth Principle

**We Must Be Willing To Pay The Necessary Price To Plant Churches,
As We Take Cities!**

Remember that planting churches, taking cities has a price... the work of planting is not easy!

Galatas 4:19 (NKJV) — 19 My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you,

but it is more than just a price to pay, you must see it as an investment.

We have to remember the price and be willing to pay it!

1. We must go through the process of character building!
2. You must get prepared! VETI, UTC, MTC...
3. Be "willing" to do what it takes, at the end it will be worth it!
4. Give our best. "The best seed" - Best couple, best team member, etc.
5. It is not only to plant, but we must do everything necessary to be established the new church and make it successful.
6. It takes investment of time, and resources. The Apostle Paul sometimes investing up to three years of his time, resources and what is necessary to see the new churches established.
7. Remember "pay" now, and "play later" not the other way around!

Sixth Principle

We Must Have A Divine Strategy To Plant Churches, Its More Than Just Going Out!

Acts 13:1–3 (NKJV) — 1 Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. **2** As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, “Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” **3** Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away.

An effective strategy involves ...

1. The key couple.
2. A key city.
3. The key time.
4. A good financial plan.
5. A Team model.

Seventh Principle

We Must Understand The Responsibility We Have, The Model Is Set... Let's Do This!

For Paul was his son in the faith Timothy ... For us are those who are part of this third wave.

2 Timothy 4: 5-8 (NKJV) - 5 But you be sober in everything, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. **6** For I am already to be sacrificed, and the time of my departure is near. **7** I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. **8** For the rest, the crown of righteousness is kept for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me in that day; and not only to me, but also to all who love his coming.

And we believe that you are not only going to plant churches, but mega churches! Churches that reproduce!

Personal Action Plan
How I'm I Going To Be Part Of The 3rd Wave Church Planting Movement?