
WHY PLANT CHURCHES IN AMERICA?

I Corinthians 3:6,7

- All of us would agree that the Apostle Paul was a brilliant theologian, a gifted writer, and a spirit-filled preacher . . .
- But if Paul was anything, he was a missionary church planter!
- Paul and other godly men planted high-impact churches in key cities such as Derbe, Lystra, Antioch, Philippi, Corinth, and Ephesus.
- Just as it was accomplished in the days of Paul, it must be accomplished once again!
- Church planting is the center of all effective missionary endeavors.

I. WHAT IS CHURCH PLANTING?

- Church planting is a laborious yet **rewarding** spiritual journey that involves an orderly **process** of starting and building new local churches, based on the Word of God.

A. Church planting is **intentional**:

- There is a **purpose** = To glorify God by preaching Christ!
- There is a **plan** = To evangelize the lost!
- There is a **power** = To depend on the Holy Spirit!

B. Church planting is **inspirational**:

- It includes **faith** = It demands confidence in God!
- It includes **fellowship** = It requires teamwork!
- It includes **fun** = It involves excitement and anticipation!

II. EIGHT REASONS TO PLANT NEW CHURCHES IN AMERICA

- A. Because church planting is all about **preaching** the gospel – I Corinthians 1:17, 18, 23
- B. Because during the past decade, on average, **3,700** churches closed each year in the United States!
- C. Because the church-to-population **ratio** has declined.

Why Plant Churches in America?

- In 1920, **27** churches existed for every 10,000 Americans.
 - In 1950, **17** churches existed for every 10,000 Americans.
 - In 2004, **11** churches existed for every 10,000 Americans.
- D. Because many **Baptist** churches are not seeing people come to Christ.
- E. Because America's **population** is expanding at a record rate!
- The population of the United States **increased** by 27.3 million people between 2000 and 2010.
 - In 1900, there were **21.5** people per square mile. In 2010, there were **87.4** people per square mile.
- F. Because nearly **50%** of new church plants fail!
- G. Because Bible-believing churches in the United States form the greatest source of **international** missions endeavors.
- It is not that we have too many missionaries, it is that we do not have enough churches.
- H. Because **two-thirds** of the US population—some 200+ million Americans—**remain** a mission field!
- Church planting is NOT an option—it is an imperative!

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