

1-5-1

TRAINING MANUAL





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Winning Together

The blessing of a great harvest is always preceded by great broken hearts for the harvest.

It is obvious to me that Tennessee Baptists are becoming thoroughly broken over the 3.65 million people within the borders of our state who do not know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. With all of my heart, I believe we are standing on the promising picture painted by the Psalmist:

“They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.”

(Psalm 126:5-6, KJV)

The Scripture simply promises that if we are a brokenhearted people who will obey Him in sowing seeds of the Gospel, we will indeed reap a great harvest of lost people coming to Christ. You are an integral part of transforming a network of churches known as the Tennessee Baptist Convention into a more effective Great Commission work. We are committed to pour our lives into assisting your local church in impacting lostness in Tennessee. Thank you for allowing us the privilege of walking with you toward a time of great victory and great rejoicing.

It is a joy to be with you on this journey!



In Him,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Randy C. Davis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Randy" being the most prominent part.

Randy C. Davis

“Congratulations!”

We are all so blessed each time we are connected and related to another believer on mission for Christ to win the lost! You are one of those blessings! You are now becoming an all important part of the 1-5-1 Harvest Plants “TRAILBLAZER TEAM.” That means together we are going to open the way into our future here in Tennessee and beyond. Harvest Plants is an extremely effective Great Commission ministry to win the lost, equip the saints, grow disciples, revitalize the local church, and bring revival. Harvest Plants is to be led by lay persons at little or usually no cost to anyone. That means all size churches from the extremely small to the largest can realize the blessings because...

“Everyone CAN plant and Everyone WILL harvest!”

Furthermore, you and each of us on THE TRAILBLAZER TEAM are connected with Catalyst partners for each planting church (PPC). You remember their commitment to you...

As a TBC Harvest Fields Catalyst, I am committing TO YOU to be a devoted, available helper and supporter in any and every way I can that you will be a strong, productive Harvest Planter for the sake of lost souls.

In the following pages you will have the very best materials, training and encouragement to assure your way to being an extremely successful 1-5-1 Harvest Plant leader.

You, your Harvest Plant Starter Team, the TBC Catalyst, this training material, and the power of God’s Holy Spirit has truly placed us together to be used in an extraordinary way for Christ and the lost! It is such an overwhelming privilege and thrill for Dr. Davis, me and all others to be on this journey for Jesus with YOU for the lost!



So again, CONGRATULATIONS!

As Always...

With You In His Certain Victory!!!

Bobby H. Welch

BEFORE YOU PLANT



NOTES

*The harvest is past,
the summer is ended,
and we are not saved.*
-Jeremiah 8:20

*"If you always do what
you've always done,
you'll always get what
you've always got"*

*Say not ye, There are
yet four months, and
then cometh harvest?
behold, I say unto you,
Lift up your eyes, and
look on the fields; for
they are white already
to harvest. -John 4:35*

*He that goeth forth
and weepeth, bearing
precious seed, shall
doubtless come again
with rejoicing, bringing
his sheaves with him.*
-Psalm 126:6

*And daily in the temple,
and in every house,
they ceased not to teach
and preach Jesus Christ.*
- Acts 5:42

VISION TO PLANT

- **Truth about the number of lost people in Tennessee**

Population	6,346,105
Lost	3,655,040

- **Reality of baptism record/history**

1950 –	34,589
1975 –	31,445
2011 –	22,689

- **The harvest is _____ and our _____ must change**

Harvest Accelerators

- Baptisms
- Lay Leaders
- No/Low money
- Ethnic and African American Leaders
- Harvest Fields
- Plants
- Multiplication
- Cooperative Program

- _____ can do this!

- **Get _____ the walls of your church and into the _____**

COMMITMENT TO PLANT

NOTES

You are here because you are interested in reaching the lost in your community. It is obvious that if there is no plant there will be no harvest. “No _____ – No _____”.

Even before you plant there must be a commitment to plant. “No _____ – No _____ – No _____!”

Each Pastor Plant Church (PPC) will be challenged to make a commitment to plant one or more Harvest Plants. (Branch, Group, Church)



1 _____ to starting no less than
1 plant in the next year

5 Make your best effort, with the
Lord’s help, to _____, _____, and
_____ 5 people through each plant

1 Plan on _____ plant reproducing
itself by the end of the first year

“1-5-1” is one of the most distinctive characteristics of this strategy and sets Harvest Plants apart from other planting processes.

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

Tennessee Baptist Convention
staff is making an _____
commitment right beside the
Pastor Planter Church.



My Step Into THE HARVEST

*"The harvest is plentiful
but the laborers are few"
(Matthew 9:37)*

☐ YES, COUNT ON ME TO TAKE THIS STEP INTO THE HARVEST!

Believing our church will support this Harvest Strategy, I'm committing to join the Trailblazer Team from all across Tennessee to plant one or more "1-5-1 Harvest Plants." I understand this will require:

1. A starter team of 3 to 5, no more than 7 church members per plant.
2. The plant's strongest emphasis is on reaching, baptizing, and discipling lost persons.
3. I understand the "1-5-1" means that in 12 months: "1" – to begin at least one or more Harvest Plants; "5" – with the Lord's help try to win & baptize 5 persons; "1" – to reproduce another plant out of each original plant.
4. Some brief and focused training that is simple and to the point.
5. I can expect a TBC harvest catalyst person to contact me in the weeks ahead.

As a TBC Harvest Fields Catalyst, I am committing TO YOU to be a devoted, available helper and supporter in any and every way I can that you will be a strong, productive Harvest Planter for the sake of lost souls.

TBC Field Catalyst

Name _____ Church _____
Street _____ Church City/Zip _____
Email _____ Cell Phone _____
TBC Catalyst _____ Harvest Field # _____

HARVEST PLANT CHARACTERISTICS

NOTES

**The purpose of each Harvest Plant is
to _____, _____, and _____.**

- The primary purpose of all Harvest Plants is to be used of the Lord so He can win lost souls which are to be baptized and equipped to reflect demonstrated discipleship.

The DNA of each plant is...

- _____ to see the Word of God taught and obeyed
- _____ to see lost people saved and baptized
- _____ to see lives transformed and discipled
- _____ to see their plants multiplied
- _____ to see their church revitalized

Plant DNA

*DNA is
deoxyribonucleic acid
(Who we are)*

HARVEST PLANT DEFINITIONS

A _____ is an extension of a Sunday School class/or small group. It consists of 3 to 5, no more than 7 missionary-minded members who seek out lost people for the purpose of engaging them and leading them to faith in Christ.

A _____ is an intentional new church start, whereby a group from the parent church is sent out in an effort to reach a lost group of people. It consists of 3 to 5, no more than 7 missionary-minded members who seek out lost people for the purpose of engaging them and leading them to faith in Christ.

*Every Harvest Plant
should be
connected to a
Pastor Planter
Church (PPC)*

A _____ is an evangelistic extension of the congregation as a whole and is not directly connected to one particular ministry in the church. It consists of 3 to 5, no more than 7 missionary-minded members sent out by their local church to engage lost people in relationship-oriented, evangelistic small groups.

HARVEST PLANT STRATEGIES



HARVEST PLANT STRATEGIES

"I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost, That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh"
-Romans 9:1-3

"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved."
-Romans 10:1

How to Choose

A Pastor Planter Church may plant _____ or _____ of the 3 harvest plants. Many churches will start a number of harvest plants at their first planting. You choose how many and what type of harvest plants by prayer, fasting, searching, and a Holy Spirit burden and compassion for lost souls This discovery may come before or after you have a STARTER TEAM.

How to Start

You need a _____ of 3 to 5, no more than 7, together who are ready to plant. The STARTER TEAM needs a primary leader, associate leader, and a teacher as the minimum. Enlist and commission them.

How to Lead

The STARTER TEAM must have a _____ leader and an _____ leader. The associate leader becomes the primary leader of the new harvest plant that is to start within _____ months. The pastor will identify these leaders. Pastor, remember, "Do not say 'no' for other people." There are always unlikely people who will do well if only given an _____! This is a basic law of leadership!!

How to Teach

The PPC will need to provide materials that anyone, even the most untrained believer, can effectively use to teach any of the 3 plants. “Remember, don’t say ‘_____’ for others!” The resource list in the appendix suggest possible teaching materials that will provide a strong Bible and Baptist approach majoring on how to win, baptize, disciple, and multiply.

How to Win

A number of approaches, plans, and ministries are available that teach Christians how to effectively share their testimonies and faith. How to win the _____ is essential to each of us and our 1-5-1 commitment. The TBC will provide MORE LIFE materials for PPC congregations. _____ can be used to train a larger number of members within the church who may or may not be involved in any type plant.

How to Baptize

The STARTER TEAM must understand the importance of _____ by _____ to take place AFTER conversion. The plant teacher and others of the STARTER TEAM will often need to express the importance of baptism to those of the plant as well as the how, when, where, and who of baptism. Baptism testimonies are outstanding ways to explain and keep this need of demonstrated discipleship by baptism before newcomers and others. All aspects of plant baptisms are to be discussed with PPC. The PPC should communicate clear and precise expectations and guidelines on baptism and the Lord’s Supper to all members of the STARTER TEAM.



HARVEST PLANT STRATEGIES (CONT.)

How to Disciple

The Harvest Plant follows the Jesus model for _____ which is learn, observe, and do. The first giant step on the road of a disciple is _____. Additionally, new converts will learn discipleship by doing as well as being taught. This is what we call _____ discipleship.

How to Multiply

Multiply is the last 1 in your 1-5-1 commitment. Often the word “reproduction” is used at this point of discipleship. Harvest Plants will use the word _____. Multiply is to stress the commitment of a plant to unceasingly multiply itself over and over through all of its offspring plants. The basic requirement to multiply is to _____ a new starter team and _____ them out to start another Harvest Plant.

How to Continue

The originating Harvest Plant, as well as new Harvest Plants should _____ to _____ themselves each year. The keys to staying healthy are

- 1.) staying focused on God’s plan for _____ the lost,
- 2.) stay committed to 1-5-1, and
- 3.) _____ preparing leadership for the new Harvest Plants.



HARVEST DAYS



The Harvest

Together, we are seeking the lost -- your lost family, my lost friends, and our lost neighbors. Imagine the smiles on our faces as we celebrate _____ lives!

Soul Winners

Harvest Plants are not preaching points but they are _____ for harvesters to be soul winners. Begin the process of planting seeds, watering, and as the Lord provides, _____ the harvest.

Look for ways to ASK

- Plan special days as your group begins meeting. These _____ days give your team ASK?"that extra push to invite lost people.
- _____ your story during meeting times. Every leader of your plant needs to feel comfortable sharing their testimony.
- Get MORE LIFE in order to give more life.
- Share and celebrate _____ evangelism story. Celebrate the stories of your planting team doing relationship evangelism and _____ the harvest.
- Nothing communicates the possibility of the Harvest like a _____ celebration. Make sure the parent church and the Harvest Plant join _____ for this important time of a shared potential harvest.
- _____ family and friends will be at the baptismal service of this new disciple.

"The difference between teaching and evangelism is the ASK?"
-Bill Concord

NOTES

- The PPC and the Harvest Plant will need to give a great deal of thought to making the worship and the baptismal service _____.
- Use the evangelism events (VBS, revival, block parties, and servant-hood projects) of the parent church to _____ your plant into opportunities to invite others or opportunities for spiritual conversations.
- Mission fairs are wonderful ways to share the work of the Harvest Plant.

Day by day

Daily we should be praying for our Five on the Way

- _____, look for key relationships that can be developed
- Look for ways to _____ in the lives of those your plant is trying to reach

Five on the way cards can be ordered from the prayer/evangelism office TBC.



In Luke 16:19-31 we read the Story of the Rich man and Lazarus. The rich man being in Hell had an incredible passion to get a messenger over to his FIVE brothers who were ON THE WAY to Hell. He was given the bad news that he could do nothing about. We are reminded of the Good News we can do something about. Someone once said... "it's only Good News if they hear in time". It's not too late, it's still Good News to our brothers, neighbors and friends; our FIVE ON THE WAY.



1 PRAYER...
5 PEOPLE...
1 YEAR...

EQUIPPING TO PLANT



CHURCH PLANT

NOTES

“1-5-1” is one of the most distinctive characteristics of this strategy and sets Harvest Plants apart from other planting processes.

Harvest Accelerators

- Baptisms
- Lay Leaders
- No/Low money
- Ethnic and African American Leaders
- Harvest Fields
- Plants
- Multiplication
- Cooperative Program

A **Church Plant** is an intentional new church start, whereby a group from the parent church is sent out in an effort to reach a lost group of people. It consists of 3 to 5, no more 7 members who seek out lost people for the purpose of engaging them and leading them to faith in Christ.

STRATEGY: The Plant Strategy is for a group of people to meet for the purpose of evangelism, Bible study, worship, church ordinances, and fellowship.

GOAL: A Church Plant intentionally seeks and plans to become a multiplying church. The goal is to grow the church primarily through reaching, baptizing, and discipling lost people.

How to Choose

- Remember a Church Plant, Group Plant, and a Branch Plant will initially appear very _____.
- Pray for a clear vision and for God to open doors and to give you favor with the people He has placed on your heart to reach.
- Do _____ studies and learn as much as you can about the people group.
- Ask, Who do I see around me? What does God want me to do about it?
- _____ your vision with others.
- Start where God has placed you or where He has placed on your heart.

Harvest Church Plant Compared Typical Current Model of Planting

Harvest

- Focuses on “The One” and their circle of influence (John 4)
- Personal evangelism and discipleship primary outreach
- Lay leadership
- Little or no money
- 1-5-1 DNA
- Built around the Group
- Plants are heavy on lost people in attendance

Current Models

- Focuses on building the crowd
- Emphasis on evangelism but often people are invited to activity or event to hear The Gospel
- Seminary or College Trained leadership
- Start up cost for rental, equipment and advertising
- Built around the Leader or Team
- Groups are generally heavy on Christians in attendance

Remember: Look for the “one” and not the “group”.

How to Start

- Put a Starter Team of 3 to 5, no more than 7, together who are ready to plant.
- Begin praying for the _____ or the _____ you desire to reach.
- Build _____ with the people in your target area. Relationships are key to launching effective plants.
- Look for the “one” and not the “group.” Determine a place to meet and who will host the harvest plant. Get started.
- The Starter Team is critical to a church plant; they are most likely going to be together in this endeavor for a long time. They should be of great character, vision, hope, and faith.
- In Church Plants you may want to plan to carry out relational activities so as to identify the “one” or the person of peace.

How to Lead

- Determine who will be the primary leader, associate leader, and/or Bible study leader.
- Look for a _____ who has an affinity with the place and the people. This person will endorse and support the Harvest Plant as it launches. A person of peace may be a member of the church and sponsoring class, a business owner, or the owner of the house where the group meetings will take place, or an influential member of the selected Harvest Field.
- _____ the Starter Team based on the unique needs of the people in your Harvest Field.
- _____ the Starter Team.
- The leaders of a church plant must be people of high moral character and doctrinal soundness, highly committed to reaching lost people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- In a Church Plant the bond of the Starter Team must be strong. It is important to build in fellowship time not only with the Church Plant but also with the Starter Team.

How to Teach

- Determine the teaching environment that will be employed.
- _____ those in the Starter Team to engage and teach others.
- Remember your audience and the purpose of the Harvest Plant as you choose _____ curriculum and/or Bible passages.
- Use each time to share the _____ in a relational and relevant manner.

How to Win

- Be _____ about evangelism and seeing people saved and baptized.
- _____ the Starter Team to give a verbal witness for Christ. i.e. More Life.
- _____ each participant to build relationships for the purpose of leading people to Christ.
- Each time you gather, allow someone to share their salvation story.
- Constantly and consistently _____ people to Christ.

How to Baptize

- _____ is a church ordinance. The PPC will determine the particulars of baptizing those who accept Christ.
- When a member of your Harvest Plant professes faith in Jesus Christ, celebrate with baptism as the first step of _____ discipleship.
- _____ the importance of being baptized.
- Seek to baptize new believers regularly.

In a church plant one often asks, Who needs a place to worship?

How to Disciple

- Be _____ in demonstrated discipleship by incorporating the disciple making process of Jesus – learning, observing, and doing.
- _____. Being faithful to Scripture in your teaching opportunities.
- _____. Providing opportunities for members to observe leaders in action. Regularly serve within the context you are trying to reach.
- _____. Providing opportunities for members to personally engage in ministry, invite members to serve others in the group context.
- _____ a climate for disciple-making. People need to feel welcome and a sense of belonging.
- Hold each other accountable for discipleship.

How to Multiply

- _____ every Harvest Plant to multiply.
- Clearly _____ the idea of launching new Harvest Plants from the beginning.
- Regularly ask who your participants are praying for and if they would be willing to invite these to participate in the existing or a new Harvest Plant.
- _____ potential new leaders who have on-going relationships or common life experiences with people not currently involved with the existing group.
- Launch a new Harvest Plant!
- Part of a Church Plant's DNA is multiplying itself in the form of other new church plants.

How to Continue

- The originating Harvest Plant, as well as new Harvest Plants, should continue to _____ themselves each year.
- Stay _____ on God's plan for reaching the lost.
- Stay committed to 1-5-1.
- Continue to _____ new areas and prepare leadership for new Harvest Plants.

NOTES

A Church Plant has some elements that are unique from the other plants. For example: Worship through the Word, song, prayer, and giving are essential.

The Most Asked Questions of Church Plants

1. Isn't two by two more biblical than 3 to 5?

Yes, in the gospels for the purpose of evangelism. But in Acts where churches are being started it appears to be more than 2 by 2. Paul was always leaving others behind that had to catch up with him in the next city.

2. Is it ok to start a group or branch first and let it grow into a church later?

Yes as long as the PPC desires to do so. That decision lies with the pastor and the church.

3. Who can baptize and where can they baptize in a Church Plant?

Whoever and wherever the PPC decide. That decision is a decision for a local church.

4. Do I have to plant another plant like the first plant by the end of the first year? For example, if we start a Church Plant do we have to start another Church Plant for our second plant?

No, any one of the 3 types of plants can be started during the multiplication step.

5. Where do I start?

You start where God has placed you or where He has placed on your heart.

GROUP PLANT

NOTES

Also Consider:

- *Specific areas where no church exists*
- *Places where people naturally gather*
- *Partnering with a local community ministry*
- *Planting a Group Plant through an existing needs-based ministry of your church*
- *Ask community leaders, school officials, etc. where specific needs exist*

Places to Meet: The apartment building where you live; the break room where you work; the coffee shop in your community; the gym where you work out; your home; Anywhere people naturally gather!

A **Group Plant** is an evangelistic extension of the congregation as a whole and is not directly connected to one particular ministry in the church. It consists of 3 to 5, no more than 7 missionary-minded members sent out by their local church to engage lost people in relationship-oriented, evangelistic small groups.

STRATEGY: The Group Strategy focuses on reaching lost people with the Gospel through informal, relationship-oriented, intentionally evangelistic small group meetings in places other than the church property.

GOAL: The goal is to challenge members of our churches to plant a group of people who will reach their friends and acquaintances.

How to Choose

- Remember a Church Plant, Group Plant, and a Branch Plant will initially appear very _____.
- Pray for a clear vision and for God to open doors and to give you favor with the people He has placed on your heart to reach.
- Do _____ studies and learn as much as you can about the people group.
- Ask, Who do I see around me? What does God want me to do about it?
- _____ your vision with others who would have the same passion.
- When choosing a Group Plant, identify people in the community who share common interests, language, geographic location (such as neighborhood, school district), work experience, or common physical/emotional need.

How to Start

- Put a Starter Team of 3 to 5, no more than 7, together who are ready to plant.
- Begin praying for the _____ or the _____ you desire to reach.
- Build _____ with the people in your target area. Relationships are key to launching effective plants.
- Determine a place to meet and who will host the Harvest Plant. Get Started.

- Establish a prayerful presence by on-going prayer walks through the community in order to see the people and needs that exist within the community or place you desire to reach.
- Establish a visible presence by spending time learning the values, interests, cultural experiences, needs, and lifestyles of the people. Many Group Plants begin among a small group of people that are already sharing common life experiences.
- Establish a physical presence by choosing a meeting location designed to eliminate many of the barriers people have about an existing church building. These informal settings will emerge from the common elements among the group.

How to Lead

- Determine who will be the primary leader, associate leader, and/or Bible study leader.
- Look for a _____ who has an affinity with the place and the people. This person will endorse and support the Harvest Plant as it launches. A person of peace may be a member of the church and or sponsoring class, a business owner, the owner of the house where the group meetings will take place, or an influential member of the selected Harvest Field.
- _____ the Starter Team based on the unique needs of the people in your Harvest Field.
- _____ the Starter Team.
- Identifying leaders for Group Plants is an on-going process. It is important to identify leaders who are comfortable in ministry settings beyond the walls of the church.
- Developing and training potential leaders is also an on-going process. While relationships are key in the Group Plant process, it is also helpful when leaders of Group Plants are trained/coached in areas such as:
 - How to share the Gospel in a clear, conversational manner
 - How to engage people in conversation and dialogue

Important Leadership Qualities:

- Growing in Christian maturity
- A passion for making disciples
- A servant's heart
- Value forming personal relationships to share life together
- Cooperate as a team player
- Ability to lead a team that is diverse in gifts and personality types

GROUP PLANT

(CONT.)

How to Teach

- Determine the teaching environment that will be employed.
- _____ those in the Starter Team to engage and teach others.
- Remember your audience and the purpose of the Harvest Plant as you choose _____ curriculum and/or Bible passages.
- Use each time to share the _____ in a relational and relevant manner.
- In a Group plant, it is usually most effective to create an informal, relaxed environment. A setting that is familiar to those you are trying to reach will often create an environment conducive to their style of learning.
- Invite and encourage dialogue in the Group setting. Avoid using a classroom lecture approach to teaching.
- Look for spontaneous opportunities to teach as people build relationships and share life experiences.

How to Win

- Be _____ about evangelism and seeing people saved and baptized.
- _____ the Starter Team to give a verbal witness for Christ. i.e. More Life.
- _____ each participant to build relationships for the purpose of leading people to Christ.
- Each time you gather, allow someone to share their salvation story.
- Constantly and consistently _____ people to Christ.
- Schedule intentional parties, social gatherings, and activities in which to engage with prospects and to introduce them to the other members of the Starter Team. The sharing of everyday life and activities with one or two prospects and a member or two of your Starter Team is essential.

- Learn the needs of the people you are trying to reach. Meeting the needs of people in relevant and practical ways results in opportunities to share the Gospel.
- As a sense of belonging and trust builds, use opportunities to share the Gospel in a personal, conversational manner from the topic of discussion.

NOTES

Create a sense of Belonging

Lead people to the point of Belief

How to Baptize

- _____ is a church ordinance. The PPC will determine the particulars of baptizing those who accept Christ.
- When a member of your Harvest Plant professes faith in Jesus Christ, celebrate with baptism as the first step of _____ discipleship.
- _____ the importance of being baptized.
- Encourage those who are being baptized to invite their friends and family who are lost. This celebration can enhance relationships with people outside the group who may become the foundation for a new Group Plant.
- Conduct baptisms in public places such as community lakes, rivers, or swimming pools to increase the public testimony of baptism among others in the community.
- Partner with the local PPC to commission Group Plant leaders to join in conducting the baptism.

How to Disciple

- Be _____ in demonstrated discipleship by incorporating the disciple making process of Jesus – learning, observing, and doing.
- _____. Being faithful to Scripture in your teaching opportunities.
- _____. Providing opportunities for members to observe leaders in action. Regularly serve within the context you are trying to reach.
- _____. Providing opportunities for members to personally engage in ministry, invite members to serve others in the group context.
- _____ a climate for disciple-making. People need to feel welcome and a sense of belonging.
- Hold each other accountable for discipleship.
- Help members understand that discipleship involves knowing all they can about Jesus Christ, becoming more like Jesus Christ in their own lives, and making disciples of others. The process of discipleship is incomplete unless new disciples are made.

How to Multiply

- _____ every Harvest Plant to multiply.
- Clearly _____ the idea of launching new Harvest Plants from the beginning.
- Regularly ask who your participants are praying for and if they would be willing to invite these to participate in the existing or a new Harvest Plant.
- _____ potential new leaders who have on-going relationships or common life experiences with people not currently involved with the existing group.
- Launch a new Harvest Plant!

The task is to make disciples among people in the community, not simply to invite them to attend their church.

- Launch a new Group Plant when a new group of people are identified and an apprenticed leader is trained and ready.
- If several members of the initial Group Plant were mentored simultaneously, multiply the Group Plant into as many new Group Plants as there are prepared leaders.
- Develop an external focus. Raise the awareness level of people within the Group to observe signs of new people that need to be reached and new needs that need to be met.
- Nurture internal health. Celebrate and encourage those within the group that demonstrate the behavior and practices that lead to launching new Group Plants.
- Celebrate the birth of new Group Plants through a commissioning event with the entire PPC.

How to Continue

- The originating Harvest Plant, as well as new Harvest Plants, should continue to _____ themselves each year.
- Stay _____ on God's plan for reaching the lost.
- Stay committed to 1-5-1.
- Continue to _____ new areas and prepare leadership for new Harvest Plants.
- As Group Plants begin to multiply, provide opportunities for Group Plant Leaders to meet for on-going training, encouragement and fellowship.
- Avoid the temptation to control or micro-manage the development of new Group Plants.
- Enlist the right leaders, train them, and trust them to lead!

BRANCH PLANT

A **Branch Plant** is an extension of a Sunday School class/or small group. It consists of 3 to 5, no more than 7 missionary-minded members who seek out lost people for the purpose of engaging them and leading them to faith in Christ.

STRATEGY: The Branch Strategy focuses on reaching lost people with the Gospel through expanding the ministry of the Sunday School and/or Small Group Ministry in places other than the church property.

GOAL: The goal is challenging classes/small groups to plant a branch where lost people congregate and live for the purpose of saving the lost and leading them in baptism and discipleship through the Word of God!

How to Choose

- Remember a Church Plant, Group Plant, and a Branch Plant will initially appear very _____.
- Pray for a clear vision and for God to open doors and to give you favor with the people He has placed on your heart to reach.
- Do _____ studies and learn as much as you can about the people group.
- Ask. Who do I see around me? What does God want me to do about it?
- _____ your vision with others who would have the same passion.
- The sponsoring class group provides the majority of the Starter Team and nourishes the plant until it is ready to multiply.
- Churches should report branch attendance in the grand total of the Sunday School attendance on the Annual Church Profile.

How to Start

- Put a Starter Team of 3 to 5, no more than 7 people together who are ready to plant.
- Begin praying for the _____ or the _____ you desire to reach.
 - Establish a prayerful presence by on-going prayer walks through the community in order to see the people and needs that exist within the community or place you desire to reach.

The strength of a branch plant is that the new plant has a built-in root system in the sponsoring class or small group.

Planting a branch can give new life to an existing Sunday School and entire church.

- Build _____ with the people in your target area. Relationships are key to launching effective plants.
 - Establish a visible presence by spending time learning the values, interests, cultural experiences, needs, and lifestyles of the people. Many Branch Plants begin among a small group of people that are already sharing common life experiences.
- Determine a place to meet and who will host the Harvest Plant. Get Started.
 - Establish a physical presence by choosing a meeting location designed to eliminate many of the barriers people have about an existing church building. These informal settings will emerge from the common elements among the group.

How to Lead

- Determine who will be the primary leader, associate leader, and/or Bible study leader.
- Look for a _____ who has an affinity with the place and the people. This person will endorse and support the Harvest Plant as it launches. A person of peace may be a member of the church and or sponsoring class, a business owner, or the owner of the house where the group meetings will take place, an influential member of the selected Harvest Field.
- _____ the Starter Team based on the unique needs of the people in your Harvest Field.
- _____ the Starter Team.
- The branch approach needs one leader in every sponsoring class/group who promotes the growth of the plant.
- Don't do it alone. Enlist people to help. Give tasks and ministry away. Enlist leaders to carry out group roles and functions. Apprentice, release, and coach them.

Only those committed to the harvest will see the fruits. Like a farmer, the "Starter Team" must grasp a clear vision for the coming harvest.

NOTES

Bible Teaching that transforms is not just delivering a message.... you must be involved in building relationships and removing the obstacles that keep the seed from taking root.

Elements of a typical Branch Plant Meeting

- *Breaking Ground Time (building relationships/Create interest in)*
- *Dig (Discover the truths of the Bible Story)*
- *Share a Life-Needs Evangelistic Story*
- *Reflect: (Challenge them to practice the truths discovered)*
- *Prayer Time*
- *Food and Fun Time*

BRANCH PLANT

(CONT.)

How to Teach

- Determine the teaching environment that will be employed.
- _____ those in the Starter Team to engage and teach others.
- Remember your audience and the purpose of the Harvest Plant as you choose _____ curriculum and/or Bible passages.
- Use each time to share the _____ in a relational and relevant manner.
- Bible Teaching that transforms is not just delivering a message.... you must be involved in building relationships and removing the obstacles that keep the seed from taking root.

How to Win

- Be _____ about evangelism and seeing people saved and baptized.
- _____ the Starter Team to give a verbal witness for Christ. i.e. More Life.
- _____ each participant to build relationships for the purpose of leading people to Christ.
- Each time you gather, allow someone to share their salvation story.
- _____ and _____ invite people to Christ.

How to Baptize

- _____ is a church ordinance. The PPC will determine the particulars of baptizing those who accept Christ.
- When a member of your Harvest Plant professes faith in Jesus Christ, celebrate with baptism as the first step of _____ discipleship.
- _____ the importance of being baptized.

NOTES

The process of discipleship is incomplete unless new disciples are made.

How to Disciple

- Be _____ in demonstrated discipleship by incorporating the disciple making process of Jesus: learning, observing, and doing.
- _____. Being faithful to Scripture in your teaching opportunities.
- _____. Providing opportunities for members to observe leaders in action. Regularly serve within the context you are trying to reach.
- _____. Providing opportunities for members to personally engage in ministry. Invite members to serve others in the group context.
- _____ a climate for disciple-making. People need to feel welcome and a sense of belonging.
- Focus on building relationships. Effective discipleship is impossible apart from relationships.

How to Multiply

- _____ every Harvest Plant to multiply.
- Clearly _____ the idea of launching new Harvest Plants from the beginning.
- Regularly ask who your participants are praying for and if they would be willing to invite these to participate in the existing or a new Harvest Plant.
- _____ potential new leaders who have on-going relationships or common life experiences with people not currently involved with the existing group.
- Launch a new Harvest Plant!

How to Continue

- The originating Harvest Plant, as well as new Harvest Plants should continue to _____ themselves each year.
- Stay _____ on God's plan for reaching the lost.
- Stay committed to 1-5-1.
- Continue to _____ new areas and prepare leadership for new Harvest Plants.

ETHNIC PLANT

And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation.

Revelation 5: 9-10

The state of Tennessee has become a mission field as it relates to ethnicity. The 2010 census indicates that there are some 500,000 people living in our state from some ethnic background that speak more than 100 languages other than English.

These people come from diverse ethnic and language culture backgrounds such as Hispanic, Asian, European, Middle Eastern, African, deaf and hard of hearing to name a few. They have come here for a variety of reasons and under many different circumstances. Many of them adhere to non-Christian religions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Islam and other religions and have had very little personal contact with a Christian. But, being in the United States, and Tennessee in particular, they are now more open than ever to hearing the Gospel if we will but be committed to the Great Commission and step out to evangelize these people groups by planting Churches, Groups, and Branches among them.

Ethnic and language culture may be a totally new concept and challenge for you, so we hope this brief document will provide you with some essential information on the “How To’s” of beginning a Harvest Plant among ethnic and language culture people.

_____ : *What should I be praying?*

Pray that God will lead you in a direction to discover and connect with ethnic people in your community. Pray that God will begin to open the hearts of ethnic people you discover that they will be receptive to being a part of a Harvest Plant whether that be a Church Plant, Group Plant or Branch Plant.

_____ : *Where do I find ethnic or language culture people in my community?*

There are a number of factors that will determine the size and diversity of ethnic and language culture people in your community such as the size of your community,

types of employment, living conditions, etc. Normally, the larger your town, city or community population the greater the population and the more diversity will exist among ethnic people. Here are a number of places and people with whom to talk to be better able to locate Ethnic people. Make contact with these entities and others you might encounter to discover all you can about ethnic people that are a part of your community. Keep good notes of what you discover for future reference. Check www.peoplegroups.info for ethnic demographics for your community.

Ethnic restaurants and stores	School system	Apartment complexes	Mobile home parks
Social service agencies	Police Department		Post Office
Laundromats	Farming communities		Hospitals
Retail stores	Thrift stores		

As you make contact with ethnic and language culture people in your community, look for a person of peace who has an affinity with the place and the people. This person will endorse and support the Harvest Plant as it launches. A person of peace may be a member of a church and or sponsoring class, a business owner, the owner of the house where the group meetings will take place, or an influential member of a selected harvest field.

_____ : *What do we need to learn about the ethnic people we have discovered?*

Now that you have contacted some of the above mentioned contacts and have a pretty good grasp of ethnic people groups that exist in your community, what is it you need to learn about them before attempting to begin a new ethnic ministry? It is very important that you learn as much as you can about the people groups you are planning to reach. Seek to understand as much as you can about how they came here, how long they have been here, where they live and work, their families, their language usage, their cultural norms, their religious background, etc. All of these will place you in a better position to provide a more contextualized approach to evangelism and ministry.

ETHNIC PLANT

_____ : *How do we make connection with the ethnic people we have discovered?*

It is not uncommon to discover ethnic people in communities who have never had any type of personal contact from a church. Sometimes the language and cultural differences that exist between American people and ethnics may create fear among us that prevents us from making personal contact. However, once those contacts are made much of the fear will disappear. There are a number of ways to make initial contacts with ethnic people. Once you have discovered where they live or work, you can simply visit them to let them know you are from the church and wish to get to know them better. If you visit with them in their homes be prepared to spend more time than you would normally spend when visiting an American family. To make a short 10 minute visit in their home is saying to them that they are not worth much of your time. Be prepared to visit them often. The more you visit and get to know them, the more they will begin to trust you and the more open they will be to what you have to say to them regarding their spiritual condition. Always, pray and rely on the Holy Spirit to lead and guide you as you present the Gospel.

_____ : *How do we initiate a new ministry among an ethnic group of people?*

Now that you have discovered ethnic people, learned about them, and made a genuine connection with them, you are ready to intentionally initiate a new ministry among them that will reach them with the Gospel. There are 3 options you will have in the Harvest Plant strategy.

Harvest Plant options among ethnics

1. **Church Plant** -See description in Church Plant section
2. **Group Plant** -See description in Group Plant section
3. **Branch Plant** -See description in Branch Plant section

Normally, if you have a larger population of one particular ethnic group, you might consider planting a new church plant among that particular group. If you discover several other smaller groups of ethnic people, you might want to consider a Group or Branch Plant. It is usually more effective in reaching ethnic groups if you can somehow conduct this ministry in the dominant language of the people. You may discover in your community ethnic people who are evangelical and solid theologically who speak both English and the language of the people you are attempting to reach and could be the lead persons in the Harvest Plant. This would be the person of peace who can open many doors for you in that ethnic group. Also, you may discover many ethnic groups that have good understanding and communication skills in English that would be sufficient in starting a Harvest Plant among various ethnic people groups, but conduct Bible studies, worship, etc. in English, especially among second generation people.

_____ : *What kinds of resources are available for starting an ethnic Church, Group or Branch Plant?*

There are many different resources that available for use in beginning an ethnic Church, Group or Branch Plant for the purpose of evangelism and discipleship. There are evangelistic tracts, Bibles, Bible study materials, discipleship materials, etc. in many different languages you will be encountering in your ethnic communities. Here are some areas where you can find those resources:

American Bible Society www.americanbible.org
 International Bible Society..... www.biblica.com
 Multi Language Media..... www.multilanguage.com
 Ethnic Harvest www.ethnicarvest.org
 Life Way www.lifeway.com
 North American Mission Board..... www.namb.net
 International Mission Board..... www.imb.org
 Tennessee Baptist Convention..... www.tnbaptist.org
 Alta ESL www.altaesl.com
 ESL Resources

WHAT ARE YOUR NEXT STEPS?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

TAKE “THE STEP”

*One small step for man, one giant
leap for mankind.*

- Neil Armstrong

IN THE ARENA

It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done the better: The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena... who strives ... who spends himself ... who, at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory or defeat.

Teddy Roosevelt

APPENDIX

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Who baptizes and where? The Pastor Planter Church makes that decision. This will vary from church to church because of the local church's autonomy.
2. What do we teach? The material should be biblical, evangelistic in nature, and reflect the convictions/beliefs of the local church. Choose curriculum that is relevant to the people in the Harvest Plant, provides a "bridge" to presenting the gospel, and invites discussion and dialogue while developing demonstrated discipleship.
3. How does the Harvest Plant relate to the parent church? The relationship of the Pastor Planter Church and the Harvest Plant will be determined by the leaders of the PPC and Harvest Plant. In some cases the PPC will initiate the Harvest Plant. In other cases, the PPC will adopt a Harvest Plant in partnership with an existing ministry in the association or community.
4. How/who tracks the attendance of the Harvest Plant? The leaders of the Harvest Plant are primarily responsible with keeping track of attendance, conversions, and baptisms. Procedures for reporting attendance to the PPC should be determined by the PPC in cooperation with Harvest Plant leaders. The PPC should report through their annual ACP.
5. How much will it cost to support a Harvest Plant? All Harvest Plants can be started and supported with little or no cost. Anticipated cost, though minimal, would be related to curriculum and servant evangelism/ministry related activities.
6. Will the Harvest Plant attendees attend our church? Plant leaders will continue to attend the PPC on a regular basis. Those being reached by the specific Harvest Plant will most likely not attend church activities on a regular basis. Remember, you are attempting to reach people who are lost and who have had little or no connection to the church. In most cases, significant barriers to church attendance need to be eliminated. As attendees come to know Christ, are baptized, and begin growing as a disciple of Jesus Christ, many will choose to begin attending activities of the PPC.
7. What happens to money collected by the Harvest Plant? Decisions related to money collected by the Harvest Plant should be determined by the PPC. In most cases, general offerings should be routed through the PPC. Offerings are a key element of demonstrated discipleship and emphasize supporting missions both at home and beyond. Offerings educate about the importance of cooperative giving.
8. Is this the same as starting house churches? While some Harvest Plants that meet in homes may become churches, the idea is not to design a movement of house churches, but rather to reach lost people in smaller, less formal settings than the church building. Many of the people who are reached through Harvest Plants will eventually assimilate into the PPC, while also continuing to launch new Harvest Plants.

9. Can we do a Harvest Plant with one or two leaders? It is suggested that you start with 3 to 7 people including a primary leader, associate leader, and Bible study leader. There is strength, support, and encouragement in numbers.
10. Can Harvest Plants be started in our church building? The Harvest Plant strategy is an attempt to get outside of your church walls and penetrate an area or people group with the gospel. It is suggested you meet away from your church building.
11. What if we already have plants started? Would they be considered as Harvest Plants? What makes a Harvest Plant uniquely different from other plant models is the 1-5-1 strategy. While there are several distinguishing DNA, the 1-5-1 element is essential to Harvest Plants. The TBC has experienced and is ready, willing, and happy to assist existing groups to quickly and effectively add 1-5-1 to whatever plant or group you may have.
12. Does a Harvest Plant have to be a Bible study? The purpose of each Harvest Plant is to win, baptize, and multiply. While the Harvest Plant may or may not be started as a formal type Bible study, the purpose is still 1-5-1. As people are saved and baptized, they will need to be discipled; therefore, Bible study will always have a presence in some form within Harvest Plants.
13. Can a lay person start a Harvest Plant? Yes! Yes! Absolutely! The intent of the Harvest Plant strategy is that they are started by thousands of lay people across Tennessee. Lay leaders, men and women of all ages, were the planters for Jesus in the New Testament and throughout history. Lay leaders are now and will continue to plant Groups, Branches, and Churches all across Tennessee and beyond!
14. Can an ethnic Harvest Plant be started by a non-ethnic person? Yes! Yes! Absolutely! All that is needed is a person with the passion and desire to see the ethnic group in their area reached with the gospel. You can do that!
15. Can a Harvest Plant be started without a Pastor Planter Church? Because of the concern and commitment of some Christians for the lost we are sure that some Harvest Plants will be spontaneously started before they have a PPC. Our training and desire is that every Harvest Plant be connected to a Pastor Planter Church at some point.
16. What will my church get out of this? Your church would experience the following: the lost saved/baptized/discipled, equipped leaders for evangelism and demonstrated discipleship, a fulfilling of the Great Commission, a vision beyond the walls into the community, and the blessing of God. Revival and revitalization!

PLANT LANGUAGE

The development of the Harvest Field process has generated new terms to be defined and old terms which have new significance and meaning. A short, simple explanation of some of these expressions is provided here.

- **1-5-1** – one of the most distinctive characteristics of the Harvest Plant strategy and sets Harvest Plants apart from other planting processes: 1 - commit to starting no less than 1 plant in the next year; 5 - make your best effort, with the Lord's help, to reach, win, and baptize 5 people through each plant; 1 - plan on each plant reproducing itself by the end of the first year
- **Harvest Field Missionary** – an individual that has a call for the Harvest Field Plants and has been enlisted to serve as a missionary for the Tennessee Baptist Convention for the purpose of assisting the churches of the TBC in starting Harvest Plants to reach ethnics and African-Americans
- **TBC Catalyst** – a TBC employee assigned the responsibility of linking up with Pastor Planter Churches for the purpose of encouraging and equipping the PPCs and Plant Leaders in fulfilling their commitment to the 1-5-1 Harvest Plants
- **PPC** – Pastor Planter Church is the terminology used to describe the sending and encouraging church of the Harvest Plant
- **Harvest Plant/s** – can either be a Branch, Church, or Group that is started and committed to the evangelism and discipleship goal of 1-5-1
- **Harvest Field** – one of 7 areas in which the state is divided for the purpose of starting Harvest Plants. The Harvest Field is also used to denote the area that is being selected for a Harvest Plant
- **Team Leader** – an assigned TBC employee with the responsibility of leading and coordinating the TBC Catalysts and Harvest Field missionaries assigned to a particular Harvest Field
- **Plant Leader** – the recognized leader sent out by the PPC to lead a small group of people to start a Harvest Plant
- **Branch Plant** – an extension of a Sunday School class/or small group; consists of 3 to 7 missionary-minded members who seek out lost people for the purpose of engaging them and leading them to faith in Christ
- **Church Plant** – an intentional new church start, whereby a group from the parent church is sent out in an effort to reach a lost group of people; consists of 3 to 7 members who seek out lost people for the purpose of engaging them and leading them to faith in Christ
- **Group Plant** – an evangelistic extension of the congregation as a whole and is not directly connected to one particular ministry in the church; consists of 3 to 7 missionary-minded members sent out by their local church to engage lost people in relationship-oriented, evangelistic small groups
- **MORE LIFE** – The expressed purpose of MORE LIFE is to equip and empower all sizes of churches in the Tennessee Baptist Convention to do more discipleship and evangelism which is reflected by more baptisms resulting from lives transformed and committed and churches empowered and healthy. MORE LIFE a recommended way to equip Harvest Plants and to expand Harvest Plants
- **GPS** – The North America Mission Board's vision of God's Plan for Sharing (GPS) is to fulfill the Great Commission in Tennessee through Every Believer Sharing, Every Person Hearing by 2020
- **TBC** – Tennessee Baptist Convention
- **Starter Team** – a team of 3 to 7 people that have committed to start a Harvest Plant
- **Ethnic/Language Culture People** - We usually refer to ethnic people typically as those who have immigrated here to the US from some other country of origin; usually have a dominant language other than English and come from very different cultural and religious backgrounds. (We usually do not refer to African Americans as an Ethnic group. The deaf and hard of hearing is not an ethnic people but do have a distinct language and culture.)
- **Demonstrated Discipleship** – The Harvest Plant follows the Jesus model for discipleship which is learn, observe, and do. The first giant step on the road of a disciple is baptism. Additionally, new converts will learn discipleship by doing as well as being taught as seen in the multiplying of plants. This is what we call demonstrated discipleship.
- **Multiply** – Often the word reproduction is used when talking about evangelism and discipleship. Harvest Plants will use the word multiply. Multiply is to stress the commitment of a plant to unceasingly multiply itself over and over through all of its offspring plants.

ANSWER SHEET

VISION TO PLANT

- p. 6 — plentiful, methods
you
outside, Harvest Field

COMMITMENT TO PLANT

- p. 7 — Plant, Harvest
Commitment, Plant, Harvest
Commit
reach, win, baptize
each

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

- p. 8 — equal

HARVEST PLANT CHARACTERISTICS

- p. 9 — win, baptize, multiply
Fervor
Burden
Passion
Commitment
Desire

HARVEST PLANT DEFINITIONS

- p. 10 — Branch Plant
Church Plant
Group Plant

HARVEST PLANT STRATEGIES

- p. 12 — any, all
Starter Team
primary, associate, 12, opportunity
- p. 13 — no
lost, More Life
baptism, immersion
- p. 14 — discipleship, baptism, demonstrated
multiply, prepare, send
continue, multiply, reaching
continually

THE HARVEST

- p. 16 — transformed
opportunities, reaping
special
Share
every
seeing
baptismal
together
Lost
evangelistic
launch
- p. 17 — As you go
invest

CHURCH PLANT

- p. 20 — similar
demographic
Share
community, people
relationships

- p. 21 — person of peace
Equip
Commission

- p. 22 — Mentor
appropriate
gospel
intentional

- p. 23 — Train
Teach
invite
Baptism
demonstrated
Teach

- p. 24 — intentional
Learning
Observing
Doing
Build
Expect
communicate
Identify
multiply
focused
identify

GROUP PLANT

- p. 25 — similar
demographic
Share
community, people
relationships

- p. 26 — person of peace
Equip
Commission

- p. 27 — Mentor
appropriate
gospel
intentional

- p. 28 — Train
Teach
invite
Baptism
demonstrated
Teach

- p. 29 — intentional
Learning
Observing
Doing
Build
Expect
communicate
Identify
multiply
focused
identify

BRANCH PLANT

- p. 30 — similar
demographic
Share
community, people
relationships

- p. 31 — person of peace
Equip
Commission

- p. 32 — Mentor
appropriate
gospel
intentional

- p. 33 — Train
Teach
Constantly, consistently
Baptism
demonstrated
Teach

- p. 34 — intentional
Learning
Observing
Doing
Build
Expect
communicate
Identify
multiply
focused
identify

ETHNIC PLANTS

- p. 35 — Pray
Discover

- p. 36 — Learn

- p. 37 — Connect
Initiate

- p. 38 — Resources

Church Planting

- Basic Training for Church Planters: TBC church plant team
- Church Planting Networks
- Epoch: NAMB
- CHURCH PLANTING: Henry Oursler & Gregg Kappas
- T4T (Training 4 Trainers): A Discipleship ReRevolution
- Church Planting Movements: David Garrison
- Movements That Change the World: Steve Addison
- Free CPM Organic Churches Resources: 4 fields-Church Planting Process
- 7 commands Discipleship Cycles: George Patterson
- CPM VIDEO'S: Missiologist and practitioner Jeff Sundell
- Workers in the Harvest: Snowden Ministries International Atlanta, GA
- Seven Steps for Planting Churches: Tom Cheyney, David Putman, Van Sanders

Evangelism

- The Celtic Way of Evangelism George Hunter III
- Questioning Evangelism Randy Newman.
- A.k.a. "Lost": Discovering Ways to Connect with the People Jesus Misses Most Jim Henderson.
- More to Life: Four Story Approach Dennis Pethers
- Discipleship
- Building a Discipling Culture Mike Breen.
- The Missional Life Joe Waresak.
- The Missional Leader: Equipping Your Church to Reach a Changing World Alan Roxburgh and Fred Romanuk.
- More to Life: Dennis Pethers
- Pioneer Evangelism: Thomas Wade

Connecting/Assessing Community

- The Externally Focused Church Rick Rusaw and Eric Swanson.
- The Externally Focused Quest Rick Rusaw and Eric Swanson.
- Missional: Joining God in the Neighborhood Alan J. Roxburgh.
- Rapid Community Assessment David Mills.
- Refocus: Aligning Ministry and Service with Critical Community Needs David Mills Curriculum Resource
- The 180° Program: New Beginnings Group Study Rob and Meredith Kendall – (Specifically useful for Group Plants among recovering and/or transitioning adults)
- T4T Storying
- More to Life: Dennis Pethers
- Threads Series LifeWay

Missional/Community Groups

- Launching Missional Communities Mike Breen and Alex Absalom
- Missional Small Groups M. Scott Boren
- The Tangible Kingdom: Creating Incarnational Community Hugh Halter and Matt Smay
- The Tangible Kingdom Primer Hugh Halter and Matt Smay
- Missional Communities Reggie McNeal
- Training 4 Trainers materials

Missional Church Concepts

- Shaped by God's Heart: The Passion and Practices of Missional Churches Milfred Minatrea
- The Forgotten Ways: Reactivating the Missional Church Alan Hirsch
- Right Here Right Now Alan Hirsch and Lance Ford
- Introducing the Missional Church Alan J. Roxburgh and M. Scott Boren
- Breaking the Missional Code: Your Church Can Become a Missionary in Your Community Ed Stetzer and David Putman
- Planting Missional Churches Ed Stetzer
- Compelled By Love Ed Stetzer and Philip Nation
- Sent Ed Stetzer
- The Present Future: Six Tough Questions for the Church Reggie McNeal
- Missional Renaissance Reggie McNeal.
- Live Sent: You Are A Letter Jason Dukes.
- The Samaritan Way David Crocker
- The Essence of the Church Craig Van Gelder
- The Ministry of the Missional Church Craig Van Gelder

Ethnic

- A Beginner's Guide to Crossing Cultures Patti Lane
- Teaching English Language Learners the Good News This is a manual that is tied to a 8 or 14 hour workshop we provide. (This is a NAMB publication and is not being printed anymore in hard copy format but we have permission to print from their PDF file. Contact us at TBC to acquire this.)

MORE LIFE Evangelism

- MORE LIFE Guides
- MORE LIFE Guide
- MORE LIFE Guide Student Edition
- MORE LIFE Guide Spanish Edition
- MORE LIFE App (Downloadable on all major devices)

MORE LIFE Training Materials

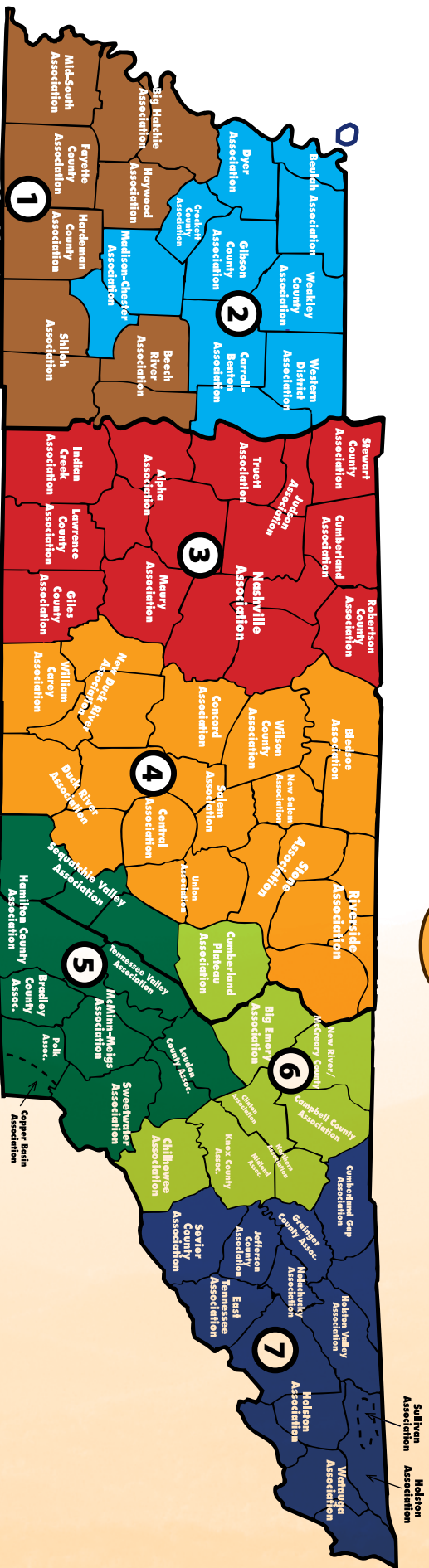
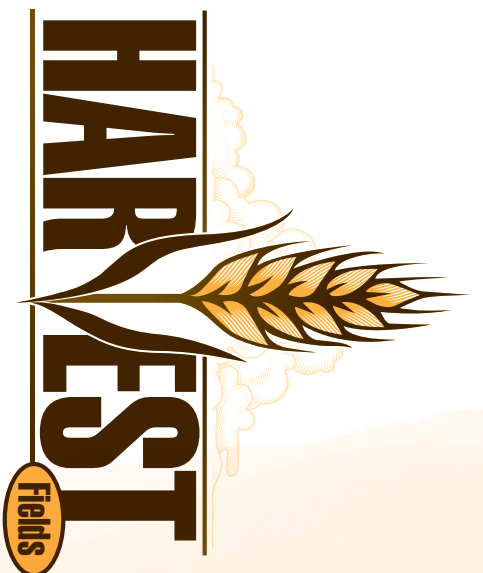
- Leader Lesson Plans
- Learner Guides
- Training Videos

MORE LIFE Discipleship

- MORE LIFE Discipleship Leader Lesson Plans
- MORE LIFE Discipleship Learner Guides

GPS God's Plan for Sharing

- Prayer Evangelism
- Five on the Way Cards
- Five on the Way Training PowerPoint
- Prayer Walking Guides



- ① 8 Catalysts - Team Leader: Bill Choate
- ② 6 Catalysts - Team Leader: Willie McLaurin
- ③ 9 Catalysts - Team Leader: Archer Thorpe
- ④ 8 Catalysts - Team Leader: Don Pierson
- ⑤ 9 Catalysts - Team Leader: Steve Pearson
- ⑥ 11 Catalysts - Team Leader: Phil Young
- ⑦ 9 Catalysts - Team Leader: Steve Holt

TIPS ON HOW TO OFFER “THE INVITATION”

What is appropriately referred to as “THE INVITATION” is the call for a person to make their sincere spiritual commitment to God and Christ immediately.

God opens the Bible with an “invitation” in the book of Genesis:

“Adam where art thou” (Genesis 3:9). God was extending Adam an invitation to look at his life as compared to the will and plan God had for Adam’s life.

God closes the Bible with an “invitation” in the book of Revelation:

“And the Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come.’ And let the one who hears say, ‘Come.’ And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost” (Revelation 22:17).

In fact, from cover-to-cover the Word of God overflows with appeals, exhortations, entreaties, pleadings, urgings, and “invitations” by God, Jesus, prophets, priests, disciples, and pastors, etc. for persons to make their sincere spiritual commitment to God and Christ immediately.

When you give an invitation you are only extending a “helping hand and word” of encouragement to a poor searching needy soul. NO – You absolutely CAN NOT save anyone! But you most certainly can encourage them toward the Lord – who can, in fact, save them!!

In the ministry of Harvest Plants you will have many God offered opportunities to give an invitation. Sometimes it will be for one person other times to several while other times more than a few. Many of your very best God presented opportunities for you to give THE INVITATION will be at the end of a Harvest Plant meeting when the Bible emphasis has concluded.

SOME TIPS

Following are some simple tips on How to Give “THE INVITATION” in a God blessed effective way. (Feel free to have a few brief notes located in your Bible on “How to Give the Invitation.”)

Step#1

PRAY: At the end of your time simply say to the persons – “Let us just bow our heads, close our eyes, and pray together.” As you close your eyes and bow they will do the same. Immediately pray just a short prayer of thanks to the Lord for His love and care and also, for sending Christ and His death on the cross and God’s willingness to save us. (Don’t worry – too much about every detail of the prayer – just pray in this type of spirit and intention.)

Step#2

OFFER: Continue your praying by offering to pray with any of the listeners. Emphasize that this prayer must become the person’s very OWN prayer to the Lord.

Step#3

THE PRAYER: This is what is often, appropriately and affectionately called “The Sinner’s Prayer” indicating that this prayer is to help a lost person to express their own desire to commit THEIR OWN HEART.

Say to those now praying with you – “If you are not certain you would go to heaven and be with Christ if you died today – you could right now pray TO THE LORD an earnest prayer to be saved. If that is your desire I can pray with you in that prayer. Tell them they do not have to pray aloud. Following is the prayer: (pause and allow them time to understand and to pray)

Dear God,

I know I have sinned and am missing the life you intended for me. I confess my sin and ask you to forgive me. I believe that Jesus died on the cross for my sins and arose from the grave. I repent (turn away from) my sin and place my faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. I want to follow you, live for you, and experience more abundant life.

“...for Whoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved” (Romans 10:13). - Amen

Note: The above prayer is adapted from MORE LIFE GUIDE which is an excellent piece to provide those who should need and desire it. (See info on how to obtain materials at no cost.)

Step#4

THANKSGIVING: After you have prayed give thanks to the Lord for those who have prayed earnestly to the Lord for His saving mercy and grace.

Step#5

CONCLUDE: Now, invite anyone who has prayed this prayer and is sincere in their commitment to the Lord to meet with you afterwards so you may give them some important material to help and encourage them. (Again, the MORE LIFE materials will be excellent to help these new converts at this starting point.)

Step#6

EXTEND: Usually, after the salvation prayer and commitment, you'll feel and sense the need to further extend the invitation before they open their eyes and look up. Some reasons to further extend the invitation:

- Ask them to raise their hand to indicate they have sincerely prayed the prayer to be saved. This raised hand action is very important because it is their first “baby step” after receiving Christ.
- Baptism is often an important need for someone during an invitation of confession.
- Church membership is a concern and need for some.
- Recommitment to Christ can be a very meaningful need for many Christians.
- Health and Healing seems always to be a pressing concern for someone.

THE INVITATION is one of the most important and critical acts a child of God will ever make. Make yourself some simple notes on THE INVITATION and place them in the back of your Bible. Practice THE INVITATION – PRAY about it – Be certain to leave enough time for THE INVITATION to be offered in an unhurried, respectful and spiritual way. Remember, THE INVITATION is a Spirit work! We just do our best to offer a Spirit led invite and trust the dear Lord Jesus to do what only He can do!

God has tremendous blessings waiting for you, others, and heaven when YOU offer THE INVITATION to one person or more! So...

SHARE THE GOSPEL AND GIVE THE INVITATION!!!

JOIN US AS
TOGETHER
WE REAP A HARVEST



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