LIBERTY BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

AN EXAMINATION OF REACHING, TEACHING, FEEDING AND LOVING PEOPLE FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD

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ABSTRACT

AN EXAMINATION OF REACHING, TEACHING, FEEDING, AND LOVING PEOPLE FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD

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The purpose of this project is to demonstrate the biblically prescribed methodologies and innovative tools for attaining the desirable results of more disciples instead of followers of Christ. It is incumbent on every believer to fulfill the mandate of the Great Commission, to go out into the world and preach the gospel to every ethnos. There are several contributing factors that are conducive to people globally starving holistically mainly due to a deviancy of knowledge imparted and less implementation of discipleship. The inclusion of this thesis is a partial account of interviews with some Christian leaders and selected Disciples of Christ that provided essential tools for an innovative church: (1) God has to be involved, (2) the innovative method is contextualized, (3) and the congregation must be empowered to reach the unsaved and to incorporate them into the church.
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INTRODUCTION

Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.

--Luke 10:2 King James Version

The most effective and innovative way for disciples to make more disciples is proven through church planting. “The investment in church planting is a great avenue for reaching potential disciples. It has been a phenomenon in terms of substantial resources on the mission field for kingdom growth. Most of the unchurched and the unsaved who attend new church plants have a higher percentage of new converts than those in the parent churches. This conversion growth is conducive to the acknowledgment of the demographics and use of these statistics to service the community in which it thrives. The surprising statistical conclusion was that older churches were baptizing four persons for every one-hundred members, while newer churches were baptizing sixteen persons per one hundred members.”¹

The basic obstacles to be aware of in church planting and reaching disciples are centered in an attitude of opposition. It is obnoxious for some leaders not to let some faithful disciples go to the newer church because some Christendom’s disciples are not daily seeking the lost. The pastor’s focus should not be on seating capability but the sent ones. There is discomfort in unleashing some of the best and most dedicated disciples. The principal reason that the Great Commission must be implemented because it was Jesus Christ’s last command to His disciples: “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, 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”²

How smoothly this transition will be depends on the personality and relationship the pastor has with Christ. The leader of the parent church must have an optimistic approach regarding kingdom planting. The juxtaposition of other churches in the area is also affected because of the innovative existing church. There is usually a great enhancement in the whole community where this innovative church is planted. Wagner said in his study of churches, “I believe it is important and beneficial to enjoy the approval of existing churches when a new church is planted. But while such an approval is a plus, it should not be as a prerequisite.”³

Church planting and discipling in the twenty-first century entails numerous types of approaches dependent on the situation or climate of the parent church. The leader or ordained person shepherds a network of smaller congregations each with its own executive committee (president, treasure, and preacher) elected annually from among its members. Each congregation is in turn a mother to several smaller missions or preaching stations, which are evangelistic outposts that are served by the disciples of the congregation. The ministry to the lost is not for the pastors alone but is crucial for the vivacity of local disciples. In discipling and equipping, every disciple who is taught teaches while building and connecting a network of healthy relationships. Supervision and accountability are provided within the network, where all disciples are connected structurally to the larger governing body and ordained pastor.

². Matt. 28:19-20 (King James Version).

The complications that Christianity is facing today in reaching disciples for Christ are twofold. Unbelievers can become so entangled in the material gains and the humdrum of the world that they occasionally overlook the foremost reason why God has created them. Some people place emphasis on attaining all the substance or money-oriented things that life has to offer in terms of wealth, fame, land ownership, large houses/mansions, luxury cars, guns, drugs, greed, prestige, power, and everything that will stroke their egos. Their mentality or mindset is “why serve God when there is no lack in our lives?” The world has a little cliché: “Life is too short!” There is little time to care about other people’s problems, so why not live it up?

Unbelievers wonder why their plans do not always last. “And Jesus spake a parable unto them, Can the blind lead the blind? Shall they not both fall into the ditch?” (Lk. 6:39, KJV)

Unbelievers’ do not always seek the Kingdom of God and love Him first, nor do they seek to please Him. Worldly people connect with those who are worldly too, so they can help each other advance more quickly up the ladder of success. Unbelievers sometimes connect to get material gains. People are not supposed to be used, but things are. “The younger generations of unbelievers, the Millennial Generation born from 1982 to the present, are more interested in the Internet milieu as a place to connect with others and meet new acquaintances. “Some in the Millennial Generation idolize or look up to those who drive luxury automobiles and wear the most fashionable clothes and jewelry (“the bling, bling generation”). They care about beautiful women, handsome men, the hottest movies, movie stars, pop stars, pornography, videos, reality shows, sitcoms, and the top of the billboard charts in secular music. They are relentlessly
craving something or someone to relate to or identify with, but they overlook the weightier (spiritual) matters.”

Satan attacked Adam and Eve’s identity by telling them if they ate the forbidden fruit, they would be like gods. When Jesus was in the wilderness, “the tempter came to him and said, ‘If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.’ Jesus answered, ‘It is written: Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God’.” “No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other.” (Mat. 4:3, KJV)

Beguiled person’s lost self-identity ought to be in Christ with a crucial need, wrapped in an urgency to be transformed and unleashed into eternity for the advancement of the Kingdom. “Some in the Millennial Generation (1982-present) have become so lost in trying to impersonate their favorite video rock stars and Hip Hop artists that they have no genuine identity.” These celebrities sometimes become the center of all their focus. In the last days, God will “turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.” (Mal.4:6. KJV) “The younger generations are really a lot shrewder than they are really given credit for being.” The younger generation is really not blame. Some Christians are misrepresenting the Kingdom of God. God’s true disciples are showing the younger and future generations (Baby Busters, 1962-1981, and Millennials, 1982-present) how to serve God, make an honest living, and how not waste their lives and time. God’s true Christians are exemplifying how to celebrate the life of Christ joyously.

Who will be that “Light” that John speaks of in John chapter 1 and Jesus taught in the

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5 Gwendolyn West Hill, “Bridging The Gap” (Sermon, Our Point Of Contact Outreach Ministry, Fayetteville, GA., April 14, 2009).

6 Ibid, Gwendolyn West Hill.
Beatitudes in Matthew 5? There are so many people in the world today who are covered in sheer darkness. God said in His Word that He is going to use His disciples to be that “Light” to reach, teach, feed, and love people providentially. “You are the light of the world.”7 The world’s way should not be swaying the family of Christ and influencing youths to desire the life of this world. Some youths cannot distinguish righteous living from unrighteous living. Some parents are teaching their children to do drugs, gamble, prostitute themselves, sell drugs, and engage in sex and all kinds of perversion.

Joel stated, “And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams.”8 First, pastors ought to be trained before they train others. Second, pastors ought to spend time training their disciples and assign them to help make and train new disciples. Third, then the pastors lay hands on them and send the trained disciples out to the unsaved world. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ taught His twelve disciples how to make disciples in proximity. Jesus was a great teacher and was not allusive or distant from His twelve disciples, but they were connected. “Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”9

What kind of fruit are parents producing?

Moreover, Christ taught His disciples how to love all people. Mankind is God’s most precious creation. Even God’s angel questioned Him, “What is man that you are mindful of

7. Matt. 5:14 NIV.
8. Joel 2:28 KJV.
9. John 15:4-5 NIV.
him?“  

10 God permitted His only Son, Jesus Christ, to lay His life down so that humanity may not be lost.  

11 How are Christ’s true disciples in the 21st century laying their lives down and showing gratitude for God’s only Son’s finished work and His grace? Do true believers have their fine lenses tuned and focused on the virtuous path of bringing people to Christ?  

Are some believers impersonating the world and encumbered by the cares of the world? Authentic disciples have made a commitment to be more Christ-like. Christians ought to be following Christ, making disciples, and training disciples to make new disciples. There are some Christians merging with the spirits of darkness in the world. It is truth that there is a slight difference between the Church and the world today. The above statements are presented as a challenge to the body of Christ to compel some believers to daily come out of their comfort zones and help make disciples for Christ as He has commanded in the Great Commission.  

Believers are to implement the Ten Commandments and Great Commission and connect our future generations to Christ. They are not to stay in the left wing with His disciples in the right wing. Believers are soldiers in God’s army and are called to “fight the good fight of faith.” Some anointed Christian disciples are daily successful through the Holy Spirit, winning the lost to Christ by obedience and the use of their time, gifts, talents and abilities. When the future generations are won to Christ and become Disciples, they are taught how to make disciples, by faith. They are trained how to strategically return to the place where they were once experiential seekers and go make disciples. The saved Baby Boomers, Baby Busters, and Millennial disciples connect and bridge the gap between the left wing and right wing. “And it is

10. Ps. 8:4 NIV.  
13. 1 Tim. 6:12 KJV.
impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.”\textsuperscript{14}

Contemporary disciples partner with a myriad of youth groups to spread the gospel. These empty vessels can be touched as young disciples who are anointed to utilize their God-given gifts, talents and abilities to bridge the gap between Christ’s disciples’ Jerusalem (place of residence and church), Judea (ten miles from place of residence and church), Samaria (place outside of the state of residence and church) and the Uttermost part of the earth (outside of the United States).\textsuperscript{15} The secular boys’ and girls’ baseball, basketball, bowling, golf, football, volleyball, soccer, and swimming teams, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts of America, fraternities and sororities are invited to use church facilities as their meeting place for activities. However, after practice or the competition of all of these events, Christ’s disciples will avail themselves to minister to the youths in Bible studies and fellowship by serving food and beverages.

The camaraderie between the youths’ partnership with Christ’s disciples and within a Christ centered environment of influence are very conducive to their salvation. They will experience the transition of physical relationships into healthy spiritual ones. Balance is everything. When disciples touch the lives of our future generations it is a very intricate part of implementing a strategy of making and training disciples to make disciples for impacting the world for Christ. Disciples should never give up on our youths. The woman with the issue of blood in the Book of John, after twelve long years pressed her way to touch the hem of Jesus’ garment. This woman’s perseverance and strong faith were why she was made whole and received the victory! (Mat. 9:20, KJV).

\textsuperscript{14} Heb. 11:6 NLT.

\textsuperscript{15} Acts 1:8.
Statement of Limitations

This project will be limited to the following: interviews with numerous senior pastors from many denominational and non-denominational churches in the United States and whether they received formal (institutional) or informal training before making disciples in accordance to the biblical mandate. Their members from each ministry were also selected for interviews to inquire about of the innovative methodologies from their senior pastor’s vision that they are presently applying in reaching the world, making disciples for Christ, and leaving a mark. All of the great charismatic pastors and their evangelical approaches to evangelism that have been successfully implemented, their outcomes, and the amount of time spent have not been documented as well as how many of their disciples participated and how much monies in their budget were spent to win souls for Christ.

How their church trains disciples in innovative ways applicable to implementing apologetics or for preparing them for the defense against other worldviews in the United States and abroad is also not documented here. What are the main issues that are plaguing twenty-first century churches and their communities, which could be hindering people from desiring to become disciples of Christ or could be barriers that are apt to confuse the issue of witnessing? What are the spiritual warfare tactics to be employed for combat against these issues that are hindrances to disciple making? Did they implement the tenets of spiritual disciplines for spiritual formation such as prayer, fasting, spiritual giftedness, evangelism, and church ministry?

All the exhausted Scriptures available and the accounts that are applicable for the contemporary church in accordance to the theological, historical, political, economical, and sociological methodologies that are explicitly and implicitly for the advancement of the Kingdom through evangelizing or reaching disciples for Christ could not be included. The
project will not have the inclusion of all the great and valuable resources that are accessible such as all evangelical authors or writers, internet, Podcast, and websites that have with solidarity contributed a wealth of knowledge pertaining to making disciples by reaching, teaching, feeding, and loving people providentially for the Kingdom.

The Theological Basis for the Project

“Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom; and with all thy getting get understanding.” 16 The theological basis for making more disciples is for church leaders to explain the Great Commission or the Word of God with simplicity while their disciples are in training. Jesus’ goal was to simply apply it and help His disciples to understand it, in accordance with His Great Commission, Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15-18, Luke 24:44-49, John 20:21, Acts 1:8, the Great Commandments, and Matthew 22:37-40. The twenty-first century discipling ought to be planned, one that is more contextualized and appealing to the unbelievers. Jesus was explicit when He commanded his followers to make disciples, and He meant everyone. 17 If the message of the cross and the power of God are applied by many believers in one accord with truth and simplicity, then more of the lost will become found with this message entwined in the goal in discipling. The demonstration of the Gospel should be handled in a more altruistic and serious methodology.

The practice of walking new disciples through their journey of the disciple-making process ought to ensure that through the Holy Spirit they will reproduce multiple generations for Christ. Their transformation and sanctification as they grow spiritually will be nurtured and not

16. Prov. 4:7 KJV.

abruptly cease after their completion of their new members/disciples’ class. Once the new disciples have embraced Christ, their new family of God has the responsibility to train the new disciples through the disciple-making process tenaciously, to preserve them in their faith, and support them in apprehending the significance of their giftedness as well as sharing their testimony. Since this is Jesus’ final command in Matthew 28 to His disciples, the implementation of the Great Commission and its implications ought to be taught through the pipeline of Christ’s grace. This is its foundation by faith for which the pivotal and motivational force for all His disciples possessing a Christ-like character develops unification of all their spiritual gifts or giftedness in serving God and that He will be glorified in the United States and abroad.

Jesus clarified in His disciple-making process to baptize new disciples and exhorted them to exemplify their faith publicly. The new disciple is also professing and honoring Christ by making an adherence to Him. Teaching is a lengthier process than to live out the command of obeying Christ’s instructions pertaining to disciples and making disciples. Everything that Christ commanded with instructions is conducive to the biblical mandate of successful discipling: The Sermon on the Mount, love God and love our neighbors, and The Upper Room Discourse (prayer). Christ taught these to His disciples, and they ought to be on the agenda of every church leader’s curriculum when training more disciples. Discipline and obedience practiced tenaciously are vital in disciple making because they are favorable in producing healthy leaders who are accountable.

Jesus was the greatest model for making disciples as well as the Apostle Paul. Christ modeled by strategy and by example. He did not command His disciples to do anything that he

would not do. Jesus taught them the principles, the protocol for winning others to the faith, and he lived it. “[Jesus], being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men.”19 The illustrative account of Christ’s unconditional love for making disciples was His encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well. After that encounter, He mentioned that the “fields are white already for harvest.”20 Christ’s victory opened the eyes of His twelve disciples and impacted the whole town of Samaria. The twenty-first century leaders should have eagle-eye vision. God can enable them to see far beyond their dispensation. Leaders ought to employ innovative methodologies and keep them contextualized to accommodate change in their community. These methodologies include church planting, satellite churches, multi-sites, internet/social networking, and ministry-based evangelism in the United States as well as in the uttermost parts of the world.

The Statement of Methodology

From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. . . . Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

--Matthew 4:17-19, KJV

After Jesus had planned, He taught His new disciples how to go fishing for souls and how to heal all those who had infirmities. The disciples and the multitudes followed Him and His name became great all over the land of Jerusalem. Jesus taught them the Beatitudes, how to pray (The Lord’s Prayer), and the Kingdom way of living. Pastors ought to have a vision and curriculums that incorporate an innovative methodology in alignment with the Kingdom way of living.

19. Phil. 2:5-7 KJV.
20. John 4:35 KJV.
making disciples and not a mixture of their own ideologies. The way to bring unbelievers to Christ and to the safe haven of His arms should never be reinvented but only rekindled or revitalized.

There are four Kingdom growth stages that can be incorporated into a disciple-making church. In the formative stage, Jesus exhorted potential disciples to come and see as He taught the disciple-making process. In the maturation stage, Jesus trained by showing His believers how to walk the walk as well as talk the talk. They all worked together and built healthy relationships of matured disciples with Jesus. Jesus challenged the twelve disciples whom He empowered with His knowledge, spirit of love, and grace to walk by faith as His first fruit. The twelve Disciples, which were the fruit that remained in Him, had to go out and make new disciples of men. They had to fulfill the Great Commission as Jesus sent them out to preach and teach the Gospel to the world.

The strategy for carrying out the vision has to be planned. It is incumbent for pastors to have an attitude and passion to plan to win. Disciples are to make God’s name glorified and not their pastor’s or any of his disciples. It is one thing to know about the Great Commission and another thing to really understand it, obey it, and investigate its true meaning and how to implement this biblical mandate. Disciples ought to be consumed by its meaning and its definition. They should have a willing heart for a lifetime to carry out the ministry of multiplying disciples.

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Jesus’ selection of His twelve for His ministry was not taken lightly because He was in prayer all night with His Father. Pastors ought to take heed to every stage of Kingdom development of the disciple-making process because Jesus was very strategic. He discerned those who had an ardent or burning desire to be great disciples. The qualities that a great teacher looks for in his or her disciples are faithfulness, availability, and teach ability. The faithful disciple will not desert his teacher come what may.

When the weather is below zero outside and the whole world has turned against the pastor, Christ’s disciples will beckon to the call of His leader’s cry. Whatever the place and whoever the people, His disciples are sent to win souls for Christ; they will follow instructions with joy to fulfill the request. The reward is much greater than the task. These are faithful disciples who walk diligently with God in humility. They have an attitude of gratitude for learning and understanding what it is meant to be strong in the Lord. How can disciples grow without moving daily from their comfort zones? A mature disciple seeks God daily and knows he or she cannot grow without a personal relationship with God. Christ’s disciples’ ability to multiply disciples comes from their dependence on God. There is no way Christ’s disciples can go out into the world on their own strength and agenda and without God. God’s disciples can burn out trying to do things on their own agenda.

The disciple’s dependence is not on his own experiences, accomplishments, gifts, talents, abilities or what he has been taught, but all trust is in Jesus. Even though his skills in multiplying disciples increases as he is faithful in doing what the Great Commission commanded, he can never give up in his trust in God. The ministry of multiplying disciples is a great challenge and it can stretch a devout disciple to the limits of his or her God-given giftedness. It can be compared to the commitment of being married for many, many years, and sometimes there are days of

frustration; however, there is no giving up! A disciple who depends on Christ and Him alone for strength will tap into the flow of living rivers in his or her belly and will draw all men to Christ.


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Review of the Literature

There is a wealth of various resources employed upon selection for the author’s inclusion and exclusively for support of her thesis project. The following sources are in the thesis’ inclusion: books, journals, magazine articles, Internet sites, and scriptures from the Holy Bible. The author’s lists of resources are as follows:

Books

*A Biblical Theology of Missions*. George W. Peters. The distinctiveness of this book is the method and comprehensive approach of its integration and unification of theological topics pertaining to missions. It lists as well as touches on the innovative compilation of approaches to these fundamental issues of evangelism and how to solve them. The authenticity of the view of missions is very sound, with the inclusion and exclusiveness of a biblical perspective.

*Boiling Point: How Coming Cultural Shifts Will Change Your Life*. George Barna and Mark Hatch. This avant-garde masterpiece entails the shift of cultural changes in the twenty-first century and how they affect lives in America and abroad. The vision is to catch, compel and revitalize God’s people to go out into the hedges and highways to win the lost to Christ Jesus. It employs the Kingdom of God’s perspective and sheds light on how tradition has made the Word of God of no effect, so that Christian Disciples’ focus is right and their contemporary approach will be to advance the Kingdom of God instead of a defensive one.

*Building Dynamic Faith*. Dr. Jerry Falwell, Sr. This book is a biblical road map for guiding leaders in building a great faith base for strong leadership in the ecclesiastical echelon.
He used his own life experiences of how to grow a mega church and a developmental plan for perpetuating God’s purpose in every facet of Christians’ life. Dr. Falwell’s thirty-one-day journey depicts his personal devotions and shared times of his moments of intimacy with Christ. It was his dynamic faith that compelled him to walk closely with God. Dr. Falwell’s, extraordinaire disciple-making leadership methodology and saturation evangelism led him to win millions of lost souls to Christ using every avenue, innovative method, anywhere, anytime, and to anyone.

_Comeback Churches: How 300 Churches Turned Around and Yours Can Too._ Ed Stetzer and Mike Dodson. These two evangelical authors collaborated to research over 300 Pastors and churches of various denominations and scrutinized their reasons for their church declining numerically and spiritually. Stetzer and Dodson also prescribed biblical keys to help revitalize dying churches. They also pointed out to them the need to share a “common vision, to reintroduce their belief in Jesus Christ’ and have a worship service that ignites everyone to celebrate Christ.’ “Everything rises, falls on the strength” and fortitude of leadership, but their disciples have to immerse themselves in helping the church to make a comeback.

_Community of Kindness: A Refreshing New Approach to Planting and Growing A Church._ Steve Sjogren and Rob Lewin. This book elaborates on how to keep a church refreshed and vibrant by employing the biblical methodologies of planting and growing a church. It exhorts all leaders of churches to stay abreast of innovative ways to enhance their leadership and exemplifies the importance of the implementation of the Great Commission.

_God’s Missionary People: Rethinking the Purpose of the Local Church._ Charles Van Engen. This is a church growth book that entails administration resources with theology, which
is applicable to every evangelical body. The author writes about the truth of church life and seeks to present it in a kingdom fashion.

*Growing a Great Commission Church.* Larry D. Reesor. This book explicitly gives its readers a precise understanding of global mission and the primary way to serve Christ according to the mandate of the Great Commission. When God’s people are on fire for His vision, their passion will spread and others will catch on fire, too! This ardent passion of God’s Disciples when they are truly on fire will spread from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth. The harvest for souls is global, and Christ commanded all disciples to reach the unsaved with the Gospel and to fulfill the Great Commission.

*Growing True Disciple: New Strategies for Producing Genuine Followers of Christ.* George Barna. There is vital data and illustrations in this book that will assist all leaders of the Gospel to see what God is doing in the churches today and their strategies in growing disciples for Christ. He has also elaborated on how to kindle Disciples, when to let them go, and how Christ is seeking those who are broken and are only dependent on Him. Barna’s research exemplifies how many churches globally are implementing the Great Commission and experiencing great results.

*How to Grow a Church.* Donald McGavran and Win Arn. This book inspires leaders to follow the keys for church planting to reach the unsaved and to keep disciples encouraged in making disciples. The biblical principles to follow are simple and true. The book points to the New Testament strategies, which were implemented by Christ and His disciples. The Apostle Paul strategically used these practical keys and was successful in building cities that were flourishing to fulfill the Great Commission.
Let The Nations Be Glad!: The Supremacy of God in Missions. John Piper. This book on missions for all generations contains biblical insights, which compares the miniaturization of our worldview with the global magnitude of our God.

Strategies for Church Growth. C. Peter Wagner. This book is a blueprint for making disciples. The author has tried the biblical recipe for making disciples and received wonderful results with sweat-less victories. It has as its model Jesus and his methods for instructing His Disciples in their spiritual calling and cultivating them in possessing Godly character.

Tell The Truth: The Whole Gospel to the Whole Person by Whole People. Will Metzger. This is a training manual on the message as well as methodology of God-centered witnessing for a mission-minded church. It is one of the best and most useful books for developing an evangelistic way of life.

The Me I Want To Be: Becoming God's Best Version of You. John Ortberg. When you flourish as a spiritual leader, those who are in your church will catch the passion of how you flourished in Christ and you will become more of what God wants you to be and not what you think you ought to be as soul winners.

The Spirit of the Disciplines: Understanding How God Changes Lives. Dallas Willard. This is a book that has the very essential keys needed to help guide the church for spiritual growth and understanding the disciplines for transformation.

Understanding Evangelical Media: The Changing Face of Christian Communication. Quentin J. Schultze and Robert H. Woods, Jr. Communication and technology are facets of channeling missions into the unsaved world and promulgating the Good News of Jesus Christ. These authors collaborated with scholars to assemble and open the windows of opportunity to an ocean of knowledge pertaining to the media.
Journals

This is a great publication to inform and keep its readers abreast of Liberty University, their growing student body and also its impact in the world for Christ.

Magazines

Ed Stetzer who is the publisher of Outreach Magazine informs and educates on innovative methods of keeping churches alive.

This is a wonderful magazine that entails all the local news of Atlanta World Changers and the progress of the ministries of New York World Changers as well as internationally.

Internet

www.barna.org: This website provides all of the most recent data from polls pertaining to Churches and their positions on growth/plateau, declining/downward spiraling, causes of these upward/downward experiences and the quality of leadership.

www.bible.org: This website includes the Word of God and explanations of what the scriptures mean according to context and origin. It also enhances and assists leaders of churches in their search for wisdom and understanding of their daily devotions and sermons.

www.blueletterbible.com: An awesome website for all pastors, laymen, ministers, and students of the Word of God. It has multiple purposes such as all the versions of the Bible, how to search for scriptures, translations in Greek and Hebrew and correct pronunciations of words in Greek and Hebrew, audio and video, commentaries, maps, images, bookstore, etc. This innovative tool will enrich anyone who is interested in being educated and stretched in the Word and desires to walk in it. The Blue Letter Bible website includes diverse, innovative tools for
understanding the Bible that can be implemented on all levels for teaching students great biblical skills in the United States and globally.

www.chuchleaderinsights.com: A call to all church planters to a website that can assist in maximizing church leadership skills and launching your next church plant. It provides a wellspring of resources to help develop and support the vision of the Great Commission mandate.

www.elmertowns.com: Dr. Elmer Towns, Co-Founder, Vice President of Liberty University, Dean of the School of Religion, lecturer, and distinguished author of over 300 books. Many of his books are used in many Sunday schools and university curriculums. He is one of the most sought-after evangelical speakers in the world.

www.evangelismexplosion.com: The late Dr. James Kennedy, pastor of the Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This site prepares disciples for the Great Commission by teaching them to obey God’s Word and to train others to do the same.

www.myfriendshipconnection.com: This website is designed for pastors to experience church growth through a proven fellowship with family and friends by bringing friends to Jesus. There is a possibility for someone in a pastor’s family and circle of friends’ network to help grow a church rapidly.

www.lifeway.com: A way of reaching the lost and encouraging the found through ministry tools that are innovative and universal.

www.understandingevangelicallmedia.com: The shift of media and the wide ranges of communication are used as a means to reach people of all cultures and ethnicity. This Internet site is a tool available to your church to build up the digital lines of communication.
The following scriptures are supportive of Jesus’ last command to all of His disciples to go make disciples “in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

Matthew 5:14 (NKJV): “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.” Born again believers are to allow the Word of God to shine through them as champions for Christ.

Matthew 15:9 (KJV): “But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.” God does not want believers to win souls for Christ and not practice the Word of God.

Matthew 16:26 (KJV): “For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?” Implement the Great Commission and God’s Commandments with the right motives and mindset, so that your efforts will bring glory to God.

Matthew 22:37 (KJV): “Thou shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.” God wants believers to have a heart that radiates with love as champions for Christ.

Matthew 28:18-20 (KJV): “And Jesus came and spoke unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world, Amen.” The Great Commission is making disciples for Christ from all ethnus.

26. Acts 1:8 KJV.
Mark 2:17 (KJV): When Jesus heard it, he said unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.” Believers are to do what Jesus did during His three-and-a-half years in His ministry: win the sin-sick souls.

Luke 6:39 (KJV): “Can the blind lead the blind?” Believers ought to implement the Word of God and help those in darkness to come to the marvelous light and into the safe harbor of Christ’s arms.

Luke 14:33 (KJV): “So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he has, he cannot be my disciple.” Sometimes, the Holy Spirit commands you to “go,” and you will have to leave everything and obey the Great Commission.

John 1:14 (KJV): “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.” God allowed His only Son to come to earth to show His disciples how to make disciples.

John 4:7, 9 (KJV): “There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink . . . Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, asketh drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? For the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.” God wants believers to be light to all those who are in darkness and not to judge people.

John 10:10 (KJV): “The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.” Christ grants His disciples unending provision, protection and direction.

John 10:15 (KJV): “As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.” Disciples ought to have a mindset to be willing to give up everything as followers of Christ, even laying their lives down.
John 15:5 (KJV): “I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abide in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.” Disciples cannot make disciples without God. You will become burned out trying to make disciples on your own strength.

Acts 1:8 (KJV): “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you” The Holy Spirit will help disciples to make disciples because of the power invested inside of every champion.

Romans 10:9 (KJV): “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.” When disciples make disciples and the new converts confess that Jesus is Lord of their lives, they are saved. It is as simple as this, and there is nothing else he must do once the new disciple has publicly confessed with his mouth and believes!

Romans 10:10 (KJV): “For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” When a new convert believes in his heart, which is the core of his Spirit, he will become a disciple and will be trained to make disciples for Christ.
CHAPTER ONE
LOOKING INTERNALLY, OUTWARDLY, AND UPWARDLY

There is a popular song titled “Man in the Mirror,” and the lyrics were written by the late, legendary, and world-renowned Michael Jackson, “The King of Pop.” They express that everybody should look within first before judging others:

I’m starting with the man in the mirror. I’m asking him to change his ways. And no message could have been any clearer: if you wanna make the world a better place, take a look at yourself, and then make a change. I’ve been a victim of a selfish kind of love. It’s time that I realize that there are some with no home, not a nickel to loan. Could it be really me, pretending that they’re not alone? A willow deeply scarred, somebody’s broken heart, and a washed-out dream: they follow the pattern of the wind, Ya’ see cause they got no place to be. That’s why I’m starting with me. I’m starting with the man in the mirror. I’m asking him to change his ways. And no message could have been any clearer. If you wanna make the world a better place, take a look at yourself and then make a change.

Change of one’s self first begins by looking inward, upward, and outward. The more the world stop pointing fingers at others and take a closer look at the man or woman in the mirror, the more we will accomplish. “Everybody thinks about changing the world.” Does anyone think of changing? The lost and the unsaved are searching for truth. Christians who are born again are to have the answers because Christ is the true answer!

Are Christians living Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John before teaching the truth of the Word of God? The unsaved will be more apt to be Christ-like when they can see Christ in God’s people. True believers have the power to tap into the lives of unbelievers because of the

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28. Ibid.

28. Gwendolyn West Hill, “Bridging The Gap” (Sermon, Our Point Of Contact Outreach Ministry, Fayetteville, GA., April 14, 2009).”
indwelling of the Holy Spirit. The unsaved are touched by the grace of God. The chosen few who are the “apples of God’s eye,” marked by His love, the crown of His glory, and are the “light of the world” move the hand of God. Grace abounds all of those who are obedient to the voice of God. He graciously gives unmerited favor to those who are faithful and believes in Him. “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” The omnipotence, omniscience, omnipresence of the Holy Spirit and His indwelling is an unstoppable force in every born-again believer that those in darkness cannot comprehend or withstand. Darkness will overtake people who are not in the Word of God. There is more sin and darkness in the world than light in this dispensation. The world is not to dictate to the unsaved the moral standards of right and wrong. The infallible Word of God is the final authority.

How do the unsaved transform from the world ways to the Word of God? How does the man in the mirror change his way of thinking? When a man changes the way he think, he can have change that lasts! Whatever a man eats is what he will become:

He said to me, Son of man, eat what you find [in this book]; eat this scroll; then go and speak to the house of Israel. So I opened my mouth, and He caused me to eat the scroll. And He said to me, Son of man, eat this scroll that I give you and fill your stomach with it. Then I ate it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth. And He said to me, Son of man go, get you to the house of Israel and speak to them with My words.

The prophet David mentions, “How shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed and keeping watch [on himself] according to Your word [conforming his life to it].”

Pastors and spiritual leaders ought to preach the truth, which is the Word of God, with simplicity and understanding to educate those who lack knowledge and empower them how to discern sin and deal with sin inwardly and outwardly. There is in these last days a cliché, “If it

30. Matt. 19:26 ESV.
32. Ps. 119:9 Amp.
feels good, do it!” The world is covered with sin because some people believe that it is all right to engage in sin because it feels good. However, there are consequences for wrong and sinful actions. God is the judge, and His word will not come back void. “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.”33 "And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the Lord of hosts. For I am the Lord, I change not.”34

God wants to use His soldiers, those who dress for success. They put on the whole armor, not pieces, and are always ready for the battlefield in every arena of life. The whole armor of God that the Apostle Paul states in the book of Ephesians:

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.35

Some believers presently are not staying spiritually fed and are unable to withstand or sustain the fiery darts of the wicked one when tested daily. Some are dying of heart failure because the weight of the world is too much to bear. Sometimes believers do not put on the whole armor before going out to the battlefield; they only put on pieces of the armor that the Apostle Paul wrote about to the church in Ephesus. They are not walking by faith but only by

33. Heb. 13:8 KJV.
34. Mal. 3:5-6 KJV.
sight! Seeing the “day of the [return of the] Lord”\textsuperscript{36} and living in the last days is causing many to fall away and to lose focus because of the economy, war, greed, sickness, population explosion, technology, transition of political leadership, and other internal and external factors. When some believers become too engrossed in the concerns of this world and their faith becomes vulnerable to the world’s way, they become experimental seekers. They no longer have faith in Christ because their strength has decreased. This is because of not spending enough time with God and sitting at His feet daily until He says, “Move forward!” Some become prey to the world’s way. In the book of Hebrews, it mentions the great falling away:

It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age and who have fallen away, to be brought back to repentance. To their loss they are crucifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace.\textsuperscript{37}

The writer of Hebrews exhorts believers to stay strong in their faith and to not waver:

“We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, so that what you hope for may be fully realized. We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.”\textsuperscript{38} Looking at the problems of the worldly life can take the focus away from Christ and the true purpose for which He created His Disciples to accomplish. The parable in the New Testament mentions the different soils that the seed of the Word of God fell upon. The cares of the world can choke the seed Word and the world’s way take residence.

Sometimes those who have fallen away just need to take a leap of faith into their purpose.

\textsuperscript{36} 1 Thes. 5:2 Amp.

\textsuperscript{37} Heb. 6:4-6 NIV.

\textsuperscript{38} Heb. 6:11-12 NIV.
in life for which God has called all to the faith. Dr. Jerry Falwell, Sr. exhorted that all believing Christians ought to stretch on the journey, “A leap of faith must be from a solid footing on the Word of God, trusting the God of the Word for whom we leap, while we don’t know where we are going and how we will get there, but we know the God who sent us will lead us and provide for us.”39 Those who stay strong in their faith will always keep their eyes on God during their valley low challenges or dark times. They will not allow any circumstances to overcome them because they know that God is bigger than any problem. “But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.”40

The late Dr. Jerry Falwell stated the following in his sermon “Spiritual Brinkmanship:”

Think big. What’s the biggest thing you want God to do for you? That’s a good question, but this second question is the important one. If, money were not the issue, what is the biggest thing you would do for God? Notice I reversed who does the action. The first question is where most Christians are located; they want God to do something for them. But to develop dream-reaching faith, you must be willing to step out in service to God. If, you do, you will see God reward with His blessings. Check your dream. Make sure the big thing you want from God is something God wants to give you.41

Dr. Elmer Towns expounded on the same theme:

The long, cold, dark winter’s night is also likened to a desert experience. Both are described as lonely, and shut us up to God alone. Both carry pain and suffering, and drive us to God for relief. Both cut us off from all our worldly attachments and diversions so we hunger for God. Both terrify us. When we face inevitable death, then we are ready to seek God’s deliverance, and then we cry out in desperation for His intervention in our life.42


40. Heb. 11:6 KJV.

41. Jerry Falwell, Sr., “Spiritual Brinkmanship” (Sermon, Thomas Road Baptist Church, Lynchburg, VA, February 19, 1995).

A.W. Tozer understood the same concept: “It is doubtful whether God can bless a man greatly until He has hurt him deeply.”

God tested many men and women of faith in the Bible to see if they were going to obey Him or His commandments. Jonah ran from his responsibility as a prophet to save the city of Nineveh from sin to make disciples of men. During his dispensation, Nineveh was the most sinful place on earth! Jonah ran the opposite direction aboard a ship, a storm came, and he was thrown overboard. A big fish swallowed him, and for three days he prayed to God and repented. God delivered Jonah and sent him to Nineveh. How many times does God command His disciples to serve Him, and they are wayward or disobedient? God wants to use men and women of God (disciples) for His glory; nevertheless, they run away from the blessing instead of to the blessing. God is looking for disciples with faith! Strong disciples are not afraid of standing alone with Him!

God states that He will never abandon His disciples (children). He is omnipresent, because He is a God who can be anywhere, anytime, and with everybody at the same time or simultaneously. God is the same in the Old Testament, New Testament, and this dispensation of grace. God wants His disciples to think so big and do great soul winning to increase the population in heaven.

John Ortberg conveyed in the woven tapestry of his masterpiece *The Me I Want To Be* that the world can become so entangled, engrossed, and encumbered in the hum-drum of daily activities that the most important or weightier matters are neglected—salvation, a personal relationship with Christ, and family.

Remember, the narrative in the New Testament book of

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Luke about the two sisters Martha and Mary? Jesus was ministering at Martha’s house, and she was busy in the kitchen preparing for her special guest. Most women would call it nervous energy and excitement over Christ’s presence, the King of kings and the Lord of lords being in her midst. While Mary was sitting at the feet of Jesus, this was annoying to Martha because her sister was not assisting her in the preparation of the meal and serving. Martha asked Jesus, “‘Lord do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me.’ And Jesus answered and said to her, ‘Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part [emphasis added], which will not be taken away from her.’”

“That good part” is what Ortberg has emphasized in *The Me I Want To Be.* The world ought to slow down and jump off the merry-go-round of life. It is high time to get into the overflow of the Zoe (quality kind of life) that Jesus laid His life down for. He referred to it as life “more abundantly” in John 10:10 (NKJV). When thinking patterns change, emotions, actions, habits, and character will follow only when they are all in alignment with Word of God. This is conducive for the transformation that is tailor made for every interested individual’s spiritual growth to flourish. The results are favorable.

“That good part” or weightier matter that Jesus preached and taught to His disciples is agape love. He is love! Mary sat at Jesus’ feet because she loved him. She was inspired to know more of logos or His Word. Mary was in the perfect will of God because of her passion, longing, and hunger or appetite for knowing Christ. “As the hart pants and longs for the water

45. Luke 10:40-42 NKJV.
47. Ibid., 48.
brooks, so I pant and long for You, O God.” Mary’s passion gave her a deeper meaning of God’s plan, principles, purpose, and prosperity for her life according to Christ’s [the Kingdom’s] way. “Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.” The Kingdom of God is everlasting, and everything else will fade away! Which is the good part or the weightier matter? Is it the understanding of Christ wrapped in Mary’s hunger for the Word or Martha’s diligence in preparing and serving a meal?

Do people really just exist, or do they enjoy life to the fullest? Do they stay busy by following a to-do list or their (I am) agenda versus God’s (I AM) agenda? In The Me I Want To Be, the author claims that God spoke to him through his wife, Nancy. Ortberg made a decision to take a better assessment of his life and to love Christ more and worry less about “the to-do list.” He pointed out, “I began to realize that what I really wanted isn’t any particular outcome on any particular project. Those are all just means to an end. What I really want is to be fully alive inside. What I really want is the inner freedom to live in love and joy.” Ortberg had to face the reality that he had not lived a life full of joy but had only existed in a life of daily going through the motions of his to-do list.

When Ortberg understood that God made him for His glory, he realized that he was a work in progress: “For are we God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ortberg’s own version of being the best that he could be was not what God had in mind. John had to change his vision and mission statement of what

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48. Ps. 42:1 Amp.
49. 3 John 2:2 KJV.
51. Ibid., 12.
52. Eph. 2:10 NIV.
Jesus meant by “that good part.” This is not an overnight success story, but it is a spiritual journey in process. John had to first locate where he was in Christ and not what he was about in the here and now only but what he was to become in Christ. This is part of the Christian disciples’ journey.

“Life is not about any particular achievement or experience. The most important task of your life is not what you do, but who you become.”53 There is a me that I want to be. The Apostle Paul put it out there this way: “And I am convinced and sure of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will continue until the day of Jesus Christ [right up to the time of His return], developing [that good work] and perfecting and bringing it to full completion in you.”54 The focus ought to be on Christ and the plan He has for believers and not total immersion into our problems and ourselves like hermits. It is truly all about Christ and not man.

Christ gave His whole life for the world, and man ought to surrender all to God. “Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good [emphasis added], and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”55 When disciples surrender all to Him, then disciples will flourish! How can anyone flourish if everything is done only for the betterment of only his or her life? The opposite of love is selfishness. Christ told His disciples, “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”56 This is how you will know if anyone is Christ’s disciple. Those who are in Christ are a blessing ready to happen and will spiritually explode anywhere, with any person, and

53. Ibid., 13.
54. Phil. 1:6 Amp.
55. Rom. 12:1-2 KJV.
56. John 15:12 NKJV.
anytime! Only God will get the glory and not yourself. Love and obedience are the main ingredients that make disciples into world changers. Christian disciples change all those that they come in contact with and the world one soul at a time. “The righteous will flourish like a palm tree . . . they will flourish in the courts of our God.”57 The more we are in God’s will, the more we will be like His image.

The image as a disciple for Christ is what God’s believers are projecting. There is sometimes a daily battle of the old man versus the new man. Christ gave His born again believers a new life when He entered into their hearts. John Ortberg pointed out, “This book is all about that battle as it moves from deep inside you to a world waiting for God’s redemption.”58 As long as the born-again Christian disciples keep the love that Christ placed inside their hearts activated and (come what may) just keep walking in the Spirit.

If cultivated daily our spirit man will help lead others to Christ and make generations of disciples. Connection with Christ in the spiritual realm is the beginning of our journey that will help lead others to eternal life. Believers’ minds (or the soul realm of man) are the place of thinking and making decisions. This is the essence of every Godly man to walk daily with Him and to experience unspeakable joy. Connecting with people to become disciples is accomplished through spending time with God and sitting at His feet. Spending time with Him daily will enable His disciples to fulfill the purpose of learning how to be available for service to God.

Technology has been a vital tool for people to connect verbally but not always physically. There are some barriers with the use of cell phones, iPads, MP3 players, computers/email, social networking, YouTube, etc. People are becoming more distant but still communicate without touching physically. Disciples of Christ ought to compel people at every given opportunity to be

57. Ps. 92:12-13 NIV.
58. Ibid., 17.
aggressive and move people into smiling, being better communicators, and being more relational like Christ.

Disciples of Christ must find a common ground and be able to communicate with people just where they are or find their niche and connect. First, as disciples we can prepare ourselves to connect by not placing our focus on ourselves. Try to acquire as much information on the disciple you are led to connect with and see how they are experiencing the world. If you can pinpoint how they perceive the world and themselves in it, you will be amazed how you can communicate on common ground. Second, know the reasons why the disciple of God assigned you to want and desire to communicate and build a bridge. Third, there are some barriers that can cause hindrances to effective communication such as “assumption, arrogance, indifference, and control.”

The illustration in the Bible in chapter 4 in the book of John depicts the narrative of Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well. Jesus knew how she felt because she was very unpopular with the women and very popular with the men. She did not know who Jesus was in the beginning, but Jesus knew the Samaritan woman. He knew how to connect to save her because He told her all about her previous life and present one.

The Disciples had been to Samaria previously and did not connect with the Samaritan woman as Jesus did. He knew exactly where she was on her spiritual journey. Jesus gave her the answer that she needed so that she would be able to experience His living testimony. Jesus kept it simple and straight-to-the-point without offending her. Jesus was a great example of a connector and communicator! When meditating on the Word of God, there are several examples in the Bible of how the Holy Spirit helped to connect people with others in making disciples.

59. Ibid., 37.
The key is having the ability to connect with people on all levels. It is a wonderful feeling to have an experience of being able to connect with a person one-on-one then speak to a group of people and connect as well. This is skillful! Some people have a natural gift to connect with others regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religious preference, etc. The bigger the audience, the more energy has to be released, and in smaller groups, you can ask questions and be repetitious about whatever you convey. Whatever the size of the group, they should have a positive and memorable experience. When they see you again, they should know your name as well as your face. When you are “others-centered” and not “self-centered” and really care about them, you will find yourself connecting.

There is a cliché that says, “People do not care to know what you know until you show how much you care.” Take time to listen to what people have on their hearts and minds and really show genuine interest. Never try to belittle people because they are not from the same side of the tracks as you. God has a divine plan and purpose for everyone. God did not make junk. God’s plan is all about loving Christ and others. “The three questions that you can ask: Do you care for me? Can you help me? Can I trust you?”60 This is good preparation material because people are always talking on cell phones, and you have to find a way to communicate face-to-face.

People are also looking for integrity, expectation, relevance, value, application, and change. The main three components are the choice of words, tone of voice, and your body language. Try to eliminate personal distractions such as appearance and bad habits. God wants to use His disciples as His best trophies to captivate mankind. How can He do this without a willing vessel? Living in a bubble is not the right way. If a caterpillar after its period of

60. Ibid., 187
metamorphosis stayed inside of the cocoon, how would we know and experience the radiance of its true beauty as a butterfly?

God is conveying the same message to us through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit can be quenched or grieved when we ignore His warnings concerning disobedience. He does not care how long it takes for us to grow and mature as healthy Christ-like Christians or His disciples. He does not care how much money we have, what our outer appearance looks like, or about all the things the world says we ought to be concerned with. He examines our hearts. God wants us to flourish and be the best we can be! He desires that we truly live a fulfilling life with meaning, purpose, and most of all love and joy, knowing and being all that He has created us to be as believers as well as what He planned for His children. The plan He has for you is “to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Great spiritual leadership in the church, home, educational system, and community ought to have a great impact on every developmental stage of Baby Boomer, Baby Buster, and Millennial generations during their transition from childhood to adulthood. Jesus did not allow His disciples to go into the world without formal training. Disciples without training cannot impact the world for Christ. Children should not be raising themselves and going out into the world unprepared. There are too many children raising themselves and too many parents who are not prepared to bring up children in the way they should go. The ratio of children who are fatherless compared to those of two parent homes in the twenty-first century is extremely high. There is a cliché that states, “It takes a village to raise a child.” Millennial generations are experiencing life without a communal and church family.

Churches with anointed youth pastors ought to have ministries that are supportive of the needs of the Millennial and their stages of development. Sometimes secular young people impart

61. Jer. 29:11 NIV.
the wrong information to other youth and lead them into the wrong paths. There are church programs available to assist youth-at-risk to help them turn around and to get on the path that God has for them. Roland Martinson in his scholarly journal mentioned, “Disconnected from the church, this young adult generation’s religious drift is more expansive and has continued longer. On almost any Sunday, these young adults are absent in churches. As their faith experience shifts, more young adults go away and stay away.”62

“The Millennial generation focuses on “since I raised myself,” and this is one of their major concerns when they move to another state; they usually do not visit their families very often. They usually tenaciously connect with close friends and those from their generation or peer group. The Millennial generation is connected because of issues they are facing such as HIV/AIDS, drugs, alcohol, gang violence, date rape, suicide, and depression. They “grow up on computers, electronics communication networks, global awareness and intellectually, and sitcom neighborhoods.”63 They live in a world that is wired and wireless--worked by instant and constant communications.”64 “Family life is placed somewhere on a remote island or distant land.” 65

Parents need to spend more time listening instead of lecturing. Sometimes it is what not said, non-verbal communication is, or silence that serves as a warning that the situation is very critical. Millennials’ verbal expression is only a part of what is going on in their world. Watch

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63. Gwendolyn West Hill, “Bridging The Gap” (Sermon, Our Point Of Contact Ministry, Fayetteville, GA.) April 14, 2009).

64. Ibid., 337.
for body language, isolation, types of tattoos, clothing, hairstyle, piercings, and their choice of friends as well as music. These are some indicators of whom and what they value the most.

First, whatever thoughts are in their minds are as seeds planted that take root. After a period of time, they become nourished with more and more of the same thoughts or more knowledge. Because when these thoughts have been nourished over a period of time, thoughts manifests into action. Everything that is said and done is seen in Millennials’ behavior because it is the result of the first seed of thought.

Parents have to listen attentively and carefully and take precautions in how matters are approached and solved. Most of the time, all they desire is a reliable and trusted person to whom they can pour out what is in their hearts. Condemnation is not what they need as an answer to their “growing pains.” Most of the Baby Busters and Millennial generations prefer to talk to their peers who are usually experiencing the same feelings. This is not always the best route, but it massages the pain for a little while and temporarily gives them relief. However, the pain will not go away without a Savior.

Jesus Christ is the one who is the answer and the healer to remove the hurt deeply rooted inside their wounded souls. He is the one who can fill their void and make them whole. It is imperative that parents worship at a church that minister holistically to the needs of all ages. Sermons ought to be based on the Word of God and directed to solve the problems of every generation. The Bible (sixty-six bags of Word seed) has all of the answers and the right Word seeds to place in the garden of their hearts to accomplish whatever needs to be accomplished for the cultivation of their minds and spirits toward a harvest.

The clergy and family of Christ are not to judge or degrade them because of their mistakes. Verbal abuse causes internal scares, rebellion, and feelings of rejection. Rejection and
rebellion lead to serious chemical imbalances in the brain and could lead to substance abuse, suicide, teenage pregnancy, physically moving to another place far away from home, emotionally disturbed or paralyzed, torn mentally, and not able to see their true self-worth.

Most of the younger generation believes in God. There are at least 95% who truly believe that God is real. They also believe in the power of prayer. “When they are confronted by their peers with homosexuality, heterosexuality, family, marriage, and other serious milestones in life without God, family, and true Christian friends it can be very chaotic.”66 The right disciple-making church living in the Word of God that really has the love of God radiating in their hearts can truly help a hurting lost soul. Disciples who can reach youth and win their hearts over to Christ can help bring change in their lives and experience positive results. Those who look down on young people for sinning are only causing them to run farther away from Christ. Some youth do not read the Bible and the only Words of God they can see are disciples who say that they love Christ and others.

Disciples of Christ cannot close the doors of opportunities to make disciples in the face of our hurting youth who are crying out for help. They are seeking truth with belief in God. Who will really listen? The more they find peace in their peers, social networking, and close friends they will cling more to them instead of their families and Christ. Sometimes Christians are in a hurry to get them in a church building instead of reaching out to a desperate, hurting, and lost soul wherever the soul resides.

Dragging the unchurched to church is not always the first step in getting the problem resolved. The unchurched do not have to accept Christ in a church building. People can be won to Christ by hearing a soul-stirring sermon from one of God’s anointed televangelists. Some

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66 Gwendolyn West Hill, “Bridging The Gap” (Sermon, Our Point Of Contact Ministry, Fayetteville, GA., April 14, 2009).
have received Christ at a gospel concert, retreat, or a teenage revival on a beach. Disciples have to see what it is that is preventing them from seeing their purpose. What is blocking them from hearing, seeing, and fulfilling who they are really created to be in life? The Holy Spirit inside His disciples will connect to what should be done to help restore a hurting and lost precious sheep to Him. Christian Disciples ought to connect and tap into those who are in despair, depression, bitterness, hurt, and discontent. The Holy Spirit will lead and guide disciples in what to say as well as what to do.

God wants disciples to make disciples by placing their focus on reaching instead of pulling them in the direction of a church building. Once a hurting soul knows that a disciple is caring and authentic as well as God-sent they, will have a burning desire to worship in Spirit and truth at their respective Church. Some ask, “Why go to a place where there is no true worship or evidence of God’s presence or the movement of God’s hand?”

Christ’s disciples followed Him because of change in their lives and His love and care for them, His precious sheep. He wants all to live a true life of worship and gratitude to Father God. He is still blessing those who are diligently seeking Him and loving others. “If they obey and serve [Him], they shall spend their days in prosperity, and years in pleasures.”67 The more love we show toward others, the more the excellent character of God will be revealed inside of His Disciples. God loves to reveal His true identity and nature in all His children.

When His disciples exalt Christ and who He is, they will draw others like a magnet to His place of grace. However, God will not reveal His secret to those who are disobedient. He will reveal to those who seek Him with a whole heart. If disciples are not reaching the lost, it is because of disobedience or unbelief. Jesus told His disciples their purpose from the very

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67. Job 36:11 KJV.
beginning; He would train them to be fishers of men. If seeds are not planted in a garden, how can there be a harvest?

Helping others is what Jesus did, and His disciples are to take this ministry to the next level. Reaching out to the unloved, homeless, elderly, widows, children, orphanages, the sick and the shut-in, hospitals, nursing homes, jails, and prisons is letting your light shine!

The Bible illustrated that Jesus’ ministry was about helping others. Luke wrote pertaining to Jesus and His ministry, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised. To preach the acceptable year of the LORD.”68 Christ tenaciously reached, taught, fed, healed, and loved all people on a daily basis. Mark pointed out,

And He went out from thence, and came into His own country; and His disciples follow him. And when the Sabbath day was come, He began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing Him were astonished, saying, From whence hath this man these things? And what wisdom is this which is given unto Him, that even such mighty works are wrought by His hands?69

He always admonished people to repent because the Kingdom was present.

The narrative of the Good Samaritan is a wonderful story about helping people in need.70 Our hearts have to be in the right place. We need to examine our hearts daily because whatever is in the heart will certainly come out of your mouth. We ought to study peoples’ character before pre-judging them. Stand back first and hear what the Holy Spirit reveals to you. The book of John states, “Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth.”71

68. Luke 4:17-21 KJV.
69. Mark 6:1-4 KJV.
71. John 16:13 KJV.
Listen to His instructions and cultivate your relationship with Him through obedience and moving forward in what He has told you to do last. His instructions may not make very much sense to you in the beginning stages of your journey, but if you take a “leap of faith” and obey, He will reveal to you what is His true purpose for your life.
CHAPTER TWO

A PARTIAL ACCOUNT OF INTERVIEWS WITH PASTORS, CO-PASTORS, AND DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

The interviews consist of the type of innovative models that were implemented by pastors and their disciples of various denominations. The illustrations, charts, and graphs depict how they reached, taught, fed, and loved people providentially for the Kingdom in the 21st century.

We can find evangelistic-type churches among Presbyterians, Congregational, Pentecostal, Baptist, and other denominations. The doctrine of a denomination is not the determining factor that makes them evangelistic. An evangelistic church usually (1) is action-oriented, as opposed to meditative or instructive; (2) has strong pastor leadership with the spiritual gift of evangelism, (3) has persuasive evangelistic preaching to get people converted; (4) has simplistic organization; (5) is organized to get lay people involved in outreach; (6) is growth-oriented (number's-oriented); and (7) is platform-oriented. Usually, the success of the platform ministry of preaching, special music, and the evangelistic appeal will determine the success of the church.¹

Jesus Christ said to the people: “And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.”² Dr. Whaley exclaimed, “Without His presence, we will not worship. But when God is with us, when He is present, worship is our immediate response. And when we respond to His nearness with worship, we can begin to know Him personally and to feel and understand His power.”³ We gain listeners because of our great selections of songs (or repertoire); we are always analyzing our repertoire and assessing what is said over the radio airwaves. Our Point of Contact Outreach Ministries is always in tune to God and the demographics to which we are speaking to and through the contemporary Christian music. This is very vital in our relationships as we lead

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2. John 12:32 KJV.

people closer to Christ.

The younger and older evangelicals are always interested in live interviews with the celebrities of Christian music that they hear on our broadcast to download on their iPods. Our Point of Contact Ministries give monetary awards with the help of some of these Christian millionaires in contemporary Christian music as well as free tickets to Christian concerts, backstage passes, DVDs, and CDs. These are incentives awards for choosing our radio broadcast and to help keep their radio dial stuck on our broadcast ministry since we are competitive to the mainstream counterpart.

Our Point of Contact Outreach Ministries is informative, educational, inspirational, and communal! The ministry encourages listeners to sow seeds into different churches, Para churches or outreach ministries. They assist Our Point of Contact radio broadcast ministry with pertinent information of situations pertaining to the less fortunate such as the homeless, Hosea daily feed the hungry program, clothing for all ages, back to school supplies for students and assistance with rent, mortgage (prevent foreclosures), and utility bills. “We seek to be a positive influence on our culture.”

4 “Unless evangelical television rethinks its business model and finds ways to attract younger viewers, it could face major challenges. Youthful, innovative evangelicals like the creators of Travel the Road, Tim Scott and Will Decker, who create compelling stories and sell them to both Christian and mainstream networks, may create the most influential tribe fare in the future.”

5 It is imperative to plan for the here and now as well as for the future evangelicals so that they will be capable of passing the torch to develop purposeful and creative programs that reflect the gospel to other innovative evangelicals.

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5. Ibid., 72.
Our Point of Contact Outreach Ministries partners with television (Channel 57 and Trinity Broadcast Network.) to evangelize and educate people who are available to help those who have an urgent need or are in distress for the near future. We are planning to have television programs to help others who have similar outreach ministries to have exposure through airtime to express to our audiences about their God-given visions and mission statements.

One of outreach incentives will be that whoever donates the most canned goods, best clothing, shoes, etc. will get free airtime. The ministry will also display contemporary Christian music talent, speakers, authors, liturgical dancers, etc. The goal is also to receive more attention from mainstream counterparts and get them to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior as well as to get the unsaved involved in Christ. Their gifts will no longer lay dormant but will be exposed on the radio, Internet, and television.

Evangelicals are truly faced with a dilemma in regards to the content of the film and movie industries. Parents have to monitor everything that their children watch on film and digital movies. What goes into the eye gate and ear gate affects what comes out of the mouth gate as well as their spiritual development. “Evangelicals have always had love-hate relationships with the movies, shunning and embracing this powerful medium. They learned early on that movies can communicate what is good, lovely, and true. But they also realized that films can deceive and abuse people with false or perverse sentiment, eroticism, violence, venality, cupidity or downright meanness.”

WorldWide Pictures is a film production company which was owned and operated by the world renowned Evangelist Billy Graham. “Such films aimed at teaching people how God used Evangelist Graham’s crusades to win people to Christ. As spiritual journey films, they inevitably

6. Ibid., 150.
led back to a preaching scene with Evangelist Graham.”  

Several evangelicals been have portrayed in Christian movies through the avenue of blockbusters such as *The Cross and the Switchblade* (1970), with Christian actor and singer Pat Boone; *Whatever Happened to the Human Race* by Francis Schaffer, and *Focus on the Family* by Dr. James Dobson.

The advent of the twentieth-first century and high-tech mass media environment are inspiring some Evangelicals and tribal communities to create their own movies presenting them professionally on YouTube. This is enabling more exposure of Christian movies to travel into the hands of mainstream counterparts. YouTube is an opening door for rare and new talent that is being globally introduced, which would not have been known due to the highly competitive film industry in Hollywood. Don Chapman, a lecturer in a worship class at Liberty University stated, “Worshipfilms.com is designed to expose gifts, talents, and abilities.”

Our Point of Contact Outreach Ministries has bigger future plans to showcase the talents of Christian actors, play writers, screenwriters and producers. We are going to produce movies that depict the lives of those who we have ministered to and are presently successful against the odds. Our movies portray our born-again Christians who had addictions (drug and alcohol) and lived on the streets of Atlanta, Georgia, and are presently successful Christian entrepreneurs training others in their respective fields. We will also employ Internet digital resources such as Bluefish.tv, Essentials.tv, and Onemission.tv. so that we share our true-life testimonies with the faith communities and counterparts.

7. Ibid., 156.

Tyler Perry, who is a born again Christian in Atlanta, Georgia, and owner of Tyler Perry Productions, is a very successful producer, comedian, screenwriter, and actor. He was once homeless and sometimes slept in cars. He is presently a multi-millionaire who is using his revenue to help those who are less fortunate. Tyler’s greatest movies are such as *Madea, The Diary of a Mad Black Woman, Madea’s Family Reunion, Why Did We Get Married Part I and II? Madea Going to Jail.* The purpose of adding humor to his films seems to be to have true messages revealed and made relevant to unbelievers and some Christians who do not truly acknowledge and live according to the Word of God. Perry has successfully reached the older and younger evangelical generations as well as the mainstream audience.

Tyler is always seeking fresh ideas from evangelical, creative screenwriters to bring to the movie industry. His focus is on the evangelical younger generation who are searching for identity. The movies that Tyler is producing are ones that express or show how having the undergirding of a strong Christian family with unity is conducive to a better evangelical life in Christ. Tyler thinks that Christians should live out the life of Christ by mimicking Him in every digital movie and films by using life’s persecutions, problems, and perseverance to propel them into their divine destiny. After viewing Tyler Perry’s movies, he hopes that people’s lives are changed and transformed by the Word of God through his device.9

Most young people of the twentieth-first century are turning away from Christian magazines and newspapers because they can surf the web for pertinent information online. Periodicals are used by some students who have assignments that compel them to grasp or pursue the wisdom of these great writers of periodicals.

Some Christian publications have remarkable distributions: *Decision* is an 800,000-

distribution publication of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association; *World Vision* magazine is published by the missions agency that bears its name and is sent quarterly to just over 500,000 people; *Relevant*, an edgy, independent publication for eighteen- to thirty-four year olds has 80,000 print subscribers and more than 100,000 unique visitors to its website monthly.¹⁰

The Christian magazine that is Atlanta-based called *Charisma* has an annotated compilation of Christian seminars, conferences, and contemporary worship artists to inform everyone. *Charisma* has been published by Teresa Hairston since 1989. She perpetually shares new events that will attract people from teens to the elderly. *Charisma* has become a household name because of Hairston’s tenacity to also utilize her God-given gift to enhance, educate, and inform the Christian world of the innovative devices to employ for Christian ministries.

Most publications attract a certain audience mainly because of their content. The Christian tribal audiences are interested in publications that enrich their understanding of living righteously, theology, and Christology. These publications are rarely in the mainstream bookstores or businesses, so there are not great deals of places to attain an ocean of knowledge of this kind. “Evangelical editors say that their top five editorial priorities are (1) inspiring believers, (2) persuading readers to act on behalf of a Christian social cause such as world hunger, evangelization, or the opposition to abortion, war or pornography, (3) providing news about missionary activities, (4) offering how-to-advice on interpersonal relationships or church issues, and (5) helping people better understand and interact with mainstream culture.”¹¹

The most vital issues in publishing have emerged because of the devastating effect of the many shifts in the world today due to socio-economic circumstances, politics, religion, and leadership. We have encountered the attack of suicide bombers on September 11, 2001, in Washington and New York, children being used as prostitutes (sex slavery) globally, the high

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¹⁰. Schultze and Woods, 72.

unemployment rate, homelessness, and crime is at its highest ever in America. Today writers must meet their audiences where the rubber meets the road. They have to understand how the people are thinking in the Christian church, evangelical world, and mainstream counterpart:

The growing flock of younger, edgier evangelical authors is one sign of such vital reforming of the tribe into a new tribe. At the same time, evangelical publishing is a complicated landscape of writers, agents, publishers, publicists, editors, readers, graphic artists, celebrity endorsers, and so much more. This landscape can give birth to books on just about everything imaginable---as long as the resulting books do not offend too many tribal leaders whose criticisms can cause significant bad publicity and financial problems for publishers.12

This is the reason why some writers are not seeking publishers to assist them in publishing their compiled works, but instead they self-publish their books and place them online (Amazon.com) for sale to the public.

Point of Contact Outreach Ministries has not written many books for the evangelicals, Christians, and the mainstream counterpart because most of our time is ministering to the harvest of the unemployed, ex-convicts, pregnancy and at risk teenagers, single parents, and people with drug and alcohol addictions. We are planning to write and publish more books once we have more staff people that we can rely on to minister holistically to the lost. We have many real-life stories to share that we can use as testimonies of people who were in the world but are now living in Christ.

The questions to ask about using worship media art are very essential when presenting or preparing for worship:

Who is the audience of my church’s worship media art—demographically, spiritually or otherwise? (2) Is my church’s worship media art made corporately? By both genders? By artists, technicians and theologians? (3) Do worship leaders allow media makers enough time to produce content? (4) Is the content relevant to your particular congregation? Approximately respectful of our denomination or other traditions? Is it theologically sound? Artistically beautiful? Technically well executed? (5) Is it legal? Does it violate

12. Ibid., 98.
copyright laws?  

Our Point of Contact Outreach Ministries can use this knowledge to be more equipped in meeting the standards of Christian media art for total worship and to tenaciously impact the lost as well as teach the found. Whatever we do for Christ, we love to give Him our best! When our ministry uses Power Point, it is for the presentation of certain facts about the Word of God to enhance the sermon topic as well as its content. We try to touch all senses of our congregation so that it will be with them forever. People who are lost and give their lives to Christ must be discipled. They will have a better understanding of who Christ is and who they are in Him. We use every medium feasible, such as Power Point to put the message before their eyes so they will keep the Word of God in their hearts as they move forward to help others to come to know Christ as Lord and Savior.

Our Point of Contact Outreach Ministries will tenaciously seek more professional aids to enhance our messages to people through http://www.etaworld.org. “Evangelical Training Association is a comprehensive organization dedicated to helping churches equip and build strong disciples, leaders, and teachers.”  

Whatever elements are utilized in worship or genre, these modern tools must be employed to lead the people providentially to a closer relationship with God. It is incumbent upon the church to restore the people in a unified manner back to God: Many tribal youth still like their parents’ and grandparents’ sacred music, but North Americans are increasingly divided over musical taste. Rather than grasping the opportunity for greater tribal diversity, evangelicals seem to be using the new technologies like everyone else to pick and choose according to personal taste.


Christians, Evangelicals and tribal youths have a myriad of choices of places to worship because of the wide diversity in America. However, as followers of Christ we are to obey the Holy Spirit’s leading. The gap between some of the different worship styles and younger generations and their theology of worship can be met on common ground through doing or practicing what the Word of God says. Dr. Elmer Towns, Co-Founder of Liberty University, pointed out in his book *Worship Wars*,

True worship involves change, and it also includes that which never changes. We must be careful that we don’t get the two mixed up. He does not adapt Himself to us, we adapt ourselves to Him (which is usually a very shallow expression) because we yield to Him, we obey Him, we magnify Him, and we lift Him up. True Worshipers are to worship in Spirit and truth.16

Charles Billingsley, worship leader at TRBC, mentioned in the lecture “Leading Creative Worship I,” “Worship is what we are created to do. It is not a style, songs, etc. Worship is far beyond the elements of music. It is the essence of why we are here. Loving God is what true worship is all about, all of what you are, and what we are all the time.”17

Greg Sheer, the author of *The Art of Worship* pointed out, “Even though the worship wars might not be as bad as observers believe, no individual or denomination can completely sidestep the hot debate about worship music. The various types of worship--traditional, classic, contemporary or postmodern--probably all have elements that are good for authentic worship and others that are problematic. Blended services seem to offer considerable flexibility, but they will not bring about complete peace.”18

Worship is to be biblical and to help bring people to the loving and safe haven of Christ’s


loving arms. Church worship has become too commercial and like the metaphor of a Restaurant with a buffet where there is a myriad of selections of foods to eat. Christians, Evangelicals and tribal youth ought to be on one accord in every facet of worship. Charles Billingsley said, “We must recognize our weaknesses, find out where everybody is, and worship together as one body.” Don Chapman, a musician at TRBC who collaborates with Billingsley stated, “God will grab their heart and soften it. Be sensitive to God’s lead and also be flexible.”

Lawson and Richmond go on to say, “Evangelicals’ triumphant entry into cyberspace reflects their desires to use new technologies to advance the kingdom of God. Google lists over fourteen million pages using the word evangelical, beginning with the Wikipedia entry that demonstrates how difficult it is these days to define the word. Evangelicals are very much aware of the importance of the use of cyberspace just as much as their mainstream counterpart is. Whether online or offline, Evangelicals are telling the story of Christ and receiving data and theology about Him from other sources.”

“How Americans use the Internet is as follows: Thirty-eight percent of the 128 million Internet users send and receive email with spiritual content. Thirty-five percent send or receive online greeting cards related to religious holidays. Thirty-two percent go online for news accounts of religious events and affairs. Twenty-one percent seek information about how to celebrate religious holidays. Seventeen percent look for information about where they can attend religious services.” Evangelicals are teaching online about biblical matters and sharing their interpretations with others. Spiritual leaders are able to communicate with their congregations as

20. Lawson and Richmond, 102.
21. Ibid., 107.
well as other pastors in corporate worship as well as within the online environment.

“In addition, evangelicals frequently enjoy witty online interaction and exchange delightful expression of faith. Blogs demonstrate that evangelicals take pleasure in poking fun at themselves too. ‘What should a good sermon be about,’ asks one website? Answer: ‘About God and about ten minutes.’ So much for long-winded preachers!’ ²² It is great to hear sermons because it blots out some of the evil devices that Satan’s people place online. This is a great opportunity and tool to equip Christians and evangelicals corporately about cyberspace spiritual warfare.

While evangelical congregations slowly introduced theater in worship, parachurch organizations contributed significantly to evangelical engagement. Rather than contending with seemingly over-concerned, anti-art critics within the local tribe, more progressive evangelicals formed theater groups without direct connection to specific church congregations and denominations. They found new ways to organize what they do, including theater. ²³

Brandon Pickett, who was a former television anchorman and a great lecturer, pointed out that “the worship service can have more flavor corporately.” ²⁴ An example he gave included the use of “a Canon camcorder . . . to download stories, plays and movies produced.” ²⁵

²³ Ibid., 265.
²⁴ Pickett.
²⁵ Ibid.
Table 2.1: A model for graphic representation of how churches should examine their ministry commitments and its strengths and weaknesses compared to the reaching soul for Christ strategies listed below:

Which One of These Reaching Souls For Christ Strategies Do You Employ?

- Soul Winning Information Cards (See page 55a)
- Knock On Doors Daily
- Send Neighbors Invitations to Church
- Family And Friends Day
- Homeless Shelters
- The Military Soldiers
- Greeting People at the Airports
- People at the Malls
- Nursing Homes
- Hospices
- Hospitals
- Big Name To Draw People/Gospel Hip Hop Artists
- Pastors Rap To bring People To Church
- Prison And Jail Offenders
- Camp Meeting
- The Use Of Gospel Tracts
- Telephone Evangelism
- Radio Evangelism
- Televangelism
- Internet Evangelism
INTERNET DAILY USAGE 2012\textsuperscript{26}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Level</th>
<th>Usage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 to 12 years of age</td>
<td>90 Percent</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 to 19 years of age</td>
<td>99 Percent</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 and Up</td>
<td>99.9 Percent</td>
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Table 2.2: Internet daily usage for 2012 divided by age groups.

SOCIAL NETWORKING DAILY USAGE\textsuperscript{27}

- There are over 160 Billion Tweets Daily
- 1 Out Of 8 Couples Marry On Social Media

\textsuperscript{26} Schultze and Woods, Appendix.

• 5 Divorced Within 5 Years

HOW ARE YOU USING SOUL WINNING CARDS FOR SOCIAL MEDIA FOR CHRIST?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th># Of People</th>
<th>Response</th>
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Jerusalem is evangelizing within the community where you reside or within your church community.

Judea is evangelizing ten miles from your community or residence and church.

Samaria is outside the state where you reside.

Uttermost Part is the location outside the United States.

Table 2.5: A chart prepared by the author to assist churches in social media outreach.

OUR CHOICE: HEAVEN OR HELL?

(The below questions can be used by pastors to help identify a person’s spiritual status.)

Have you ever taken something that belonged to someone else?

Have you ever lied?

Have you ever cheated on an examination?

Are you a believer and have you left Christ?

Are you born again?

If not, would you like to be born again?

If you have answered yes to any of the above questions, do you think you would go to heaven?

Table 2.6: Questions a pastor can use to identify a person’s spiritual state.
CHAPTER TWO

A PARTIAL ACCOUNT OF INTERVIEWS WITH PASTORS AND SELECTED DISCIPLES

Dr. Stephen Gardner, Pastor of Crown of Hope (www.CrownofHope.org) in Scottsdale, Arizona, reaches people by teaching the true gospel. The lack of literacy in the pulpit is causing some people not to be reached. Dr. Gardner spearheads the Kingdom Destiny Leadership Institute to challenge spiritual leaders to understand biblical leadership principles. Most senior pastors have not attended a seminary for institutional or formal training. Dr. Gardner pointed out, “The truth of the matter is that man should be influenced and taught the kingdom way of thinking instead of pursuing the American Dream. Pastors are to follow the mandate of the Great Commission in Luke 4:18 as it is written. The gospel is meant to work for everyone. Man ought to have God’s influence on his mind, soul, and spirit with the reign of God. ‘But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness.’”28 His influence should be spiritually instead of physically.29 “If spiritual leaders do not bring to light the true gospel to help people follow Christ or truth then they will be lost.”30

Dr. Stephen Gardner implements the Great Commission, Luke 14:23, and commandment to love God and love others, Matthew 22:37-40, by leading his disciples in the community and witnessing daily. He is a missions’ leader of short-term mission trips to Africa, India, and Jerusalem. His goal is soul winning, and he ministers to the sick, hurting, financially impoverished, and hungry. He also uses H.O.P.E. Ministries to help people to know the biblical keys to prosperity, conducts health awareness workshops and money management seminars, and teaches disciples how to make disciples.

29. Ibid.
30. Ibid.

God has sent all requirements through His Son, Jesus. You do not have to do this or do that! The message that Jesus taught was grace as well as Apostle Paul. He said in Romans 10:9-10, “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.” It is as simple as that! Sometimes, preachers are preaching other than what Romans 10:9-10 has stated in the Bible. Your sins have been taken care of because of the finished work of Jesus and His blood. There are no requirements! Just receive it! Some people feel that it is too hard. If you are a homosexual, come as you are. Bring all of who you are. You do not have to clean yourself up, and of course you are supposed to live holy. The Holy Spirit will instruct and teach you how to live, day by day. When we receive Him, the Spirit will come inside and live in us. You do not have to work for your salvation because it is a free gift.31

The reason why people have not turned to the message is because they feel they have to clean themselves up first. “By grace are ye saved,” and you did not earn it because it is a gift! You just have to receive it. The scripture in Ezekiel said, ‘I will put a new Spirit in you and I will write my law on your heart and on your mind.’ He was prophesying about receiving the gift of righteousness. Let the Spirit of God come in us to help us live right and not try to make ourselves live right, day-by-day. This is part of the issue today. . . . The Spirit of the Lord can make the change. Lots of people have not come to Christ because they think it is too hard to stop bad behavior. Preachers are going to have to return to preaching the true message of Christ and the grace that the Apostle Paul preached. “By grace are ye saved.” Some think that the devil has them trapped; just receive the message of Jesus.32

Dr. Iva Thomas, Co-Pastor of Ebenezer Church in Dallas, Texas
Graduate of Liberty Theological Seminary of Liberty University

Churches are busy having church while ignoring the Great Commission. The largest Protestant denomination in America, the Southern Baptist Convention, reported for the first time in its history that it is in decline. Churches must get back to the basics of the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. While “doing church,” churches have not dug into Scripture to ask the pivotal question: What is the essence of what we are called to do? They need to make the often-tough choices that result (EFCA Today, Great Commandment/Great Commission Essence, by George Klippenes). The church has neglected the Great Commission and it is showing up in the decrease in new membership and decrease in baptisms (new converts).

32. Ibid.
I am the member of a mega church in Houston, Texas. The church has just recently instituted an evangelism program. I have been asked to teach some of the classes. On Sunday as I was teaching, one student says that he does not tell others about his faith when presented with the opportunity and that he does not really have the desire. I then understood that this seasoned Christian Sunday School teacher and preacher, had not really taken the Great Commission seriously. How could a true believer not have the desire to share with those who are lost about the saving grace of Jesus Christ? That was my question.

As Charles Spurgeon, the great 19th Century English pastor, said this to his students about our concern for the lost, “If sinners will be damned, at least let them leap to hell over our bodies. And if they will perish, let them perish with our arms about their knees, imploring them to stay. If hell must be filled, at least let it be filled in the teeth of our exertions, and let not one go there unwarned and unprayed for.”

I also had the opportunity to speak to pastors in my last class at Liberty University and to ask them if they had an evangelism program. Only four pastors in the class said they had an evangelism program in their churches, and upon further questioning, I realized that what they were calling evangelism programs were really missionary programs, working overseas, etc. There is no shortage of churches, but there is a shortage in disciplining God’s people teaching the Word of God, and therefore there is a shortage of those who have a true concern for the lost. Church programs are good, and attending church is a scriptural mandate, but disciplining those in church is just as important as attending church on Sunday. Pastors, spiritual leaders, and teachers have a responsibility to obey the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. When these two mandates are an integral part of the church, we will see an increase in new converts and baptisms. According to the Gallop Poll of September 12-15, “The percentage of ‘unchurched’ Americans has remained relatively unchanged over the last quarter-century.” This should not be; the church should be growing every day, every month, every year, every century, but this is not the case according to polls.33

Gregory Colbert
Upper Room Faith Victory Christ Church
Franklin, Louisiana

Gregory Colbert, a senior pastor for over ten years, said,

The reason why some Pastors and disciples are having problems reaching people for Christ and keeping them interested is because in the book of Hebrews it warns us about the great falling away of people from God in these last days. People are starting to run away from the gospel or the grace of God. They are seeing the wrath of God in its purest form. Many are feeling and experiencing some preachers not living righteous enough. They desire leaders who are living the Word of God, which will draw them to Him. God’s hand is stretched out, but those who are in darkness cannot see this. They are in the stage where they are blind because they are not on this solid rock. Christ preached

33. Iva Thomas, interview by author, Lynchburg, VA, June 12, 2012.
about the solid rock. He was ministering to His disciple Peter in the scripture in Matthew 16:18: “Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

Today, Christ is still building the church upon the Word of God. People ought to see the understanding of the righteousness of God. Some spiritual leaders do have a relationship with God. Some have separated themselves from Him. God wants us to trust Him. Christians say they have faith, which is confidence in God’s word, yet many do not trust Him because this means commitment. Church is an open door to teach people how to trust God through His Word. God wants us to get our temple in order before the second coming of Jesus Christ.

The book of Revelation expounds on the seven churches: “I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.” Some people after experiencing a mishap or disagreement with someone in the church will not return. There are some who are saying, “I am the church.” This is the reason why Jesus sent His disciples to the unsaved, unchurched, and hurting because they were the church. If leaders and disciples wait until the people come to church, it is sometimes not inevitable. They felt that they would be compelled to be a member of the church in order to receive help.

The prophet Ezekiel preached the valley of the dry bones. He went to the dry bones and restored them. Some people are not going to church because the building is not a church. They know that the Spirit of Christ is still walking around, and they are searching for Him. Some people have a hunger and thirst for the truth. It is written in the Word of God that everything will be fulfilled. It must come to pass. The Spirit of Christ is preparing Christian believers for His second coming. Every word in the Bible that has not come to pass is being in manifestation in the last of the last days.34

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*Dr. Nellie McKay*

*Nellie McKay Ministries, Inc. of Atlanta, Georgia*

Dr. Nellie F. McKay was born in Fulton County, Atlanta, Georgia, at the Grady Memorial Hospital. However, she was reared in Spalding County, Griffin, Georgia. Reverend Dr. McKay has three sons and one daughter and is a devoted grandmother and great-grandmother. Reverend Dr. McKay has one sibling, a sister. Both of her parents are deceased. She is also a retiree from the United States Postal Service after twenty-five years of faithful service. Reverend Dr. McKay is currently a resident of Atlanta, Georgia. Twenty-four years of ministry exemplifies a faith of

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34. Gregory Colbert, interview by author, Lynchburg, VA, July 1, 2012.
Reverend Dr. McKay's educational background entails a degree equivalent from DeVry University in Atlanta where she majored in Business Operations and undergraduate coursework at the College of Arts and Sciences at Georgia State University. Reverend Dr. McKay's ministry license and ordination are from Holy Trinity Outreach Bible Center, Inc. She also attended the School of The Prophets in Atlanta, Georgia, where she was an honor graduate. Also, Reverend Dr. McKay acquired a Master of Divinity Degree in 2001 from the International Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia, with a graduate honor of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges in Atlanta, Georgia. Reverend McKay was honored with a Doctorate Degree of Theology and Philosophy in 2010 from Rockville University in Humble, Texas.

God has ordained Nellie McKay Ministries International, Inc. with Reverend Dr. Nellie F. McKay as Founder. This Ministry derived from a call of God. Considerably, God has called Reverend Dr. McKay to a local and global ministry that empowers preaching, teaching, and evangelism throughout the United States and Africa. Reverend Dr. McKay is a volunteer chaplain.

Theologically, tenure for ministering in Atlanta Prisons began in 1989 as Ben Hill UMC Prison Ministry Chaplain. Under the auspices of Chaplain Susan Bishop of Metro Correctional Institute and the Prison Fellowship Ministry, training was successful. Metro State Prison has endorsed Reverend Dr. McKay as a volunteer chaplain for their on-going Diagnostic and General Population Worship Services. Warden Williams at Metro State Prison acknowledged Reverend Dr. McKay with a letter of appreciation at the conclusion of the National Volunteer Appreciation Week on April 22, 2005. She also received a letter of appreciation from the Fulton County Sheriff’s Department for contributing to the Georgia Sheriff's Association’s Boys and Girls
In essence, Reverend Dr. McKay's Clinical Pastoral Educational Chaplain position at Atlanta Medical Center, service at Ports Bridge Hospice in Fayetteville, Georgia, service at Ports Bridge Hospice Facility in Riverdale, Georgia, and evangelism at Grady Health System embraced the lives of numerous families. Diverse individuals have received the gift of Salvation inspired by the Holy Spirit under the leadership of Reverend Dr. McKay. Nellie McKay Ministries International, Inc. "Itinerary" highlights Worship Services at Fairburn Health Care Center at Fairburn Center in Fairburn, Georgia. Sarah Adult Daycare/Riverdale, Georgia.

Reverend Dr. McKay has engaged in feeding the homeless at The Cascade House, Trinity UMC, and Woodruff Park in Atlanta, Georgia. Feeding the homeless at the Open Door Community and serving as a chaperon for bus transportation at the Open Door Community for families visiting incarcerated loved ones domiciled in prisons at Hardwick, Georgia, is rewarding for Nellie McKay Ministries International, Inc. Intercessory prayer is an aspect of Nellie McKay Ministries International, Inc. Reverend Dr. McKay enhances intercessory prayer via telephone and the community.

Nellie’s McKay’s previous church affiliation was with Higher Living Christian Church in Hampton, Georgia. Her current church affiliation is with Ray Of Hope Christian Church in Decatur, Georgia. She is also a member of the National Consortium of Black Women in Ministry.

Success by faith is what we accomplish when we are committed, dedicated, and tenacious. However, success is not “ego tripping” to reach the top. Worthiness is not complicated when we strive for the best. Sincerity and perseverance motivate an individual's success. Wealth, Fortune, and Fame do not determine our success. Our inner being propels us to successful endeavors as we are open-minded to reach our goals. Luke 12:48 states, “For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

Leadership is the ability to lead a composite group or mass of people to accomplish their goals with creativity, concepts, and innovated ideas. The key to strong faith in leadership is inspiring others with your leadership skills to soar high as the
"eagles.” Psalms 37:4-5 states, “Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.” The principles by which I engage in “great faith in leadership” are methodologies of facilitating and outlining programs to enhance each person's abilities, gifts, and talents. The best faith that I had to exemplify in leadership decisions was to receive my call into the ministry. Why? To trust and obey God and give my life totally to Him. My decision evoked surrender, humility, obedience, faithfulness, and contentment.

I meet with my son Rev. Danny McKay, the minister of Heart Ablaze Church and Ministries, Inc. in Orlando, Florida, via telephone. I also meet with incorporators, board members, and partners on a consistent basis.

Also, mentoring evangelist Gwen Hill gives me the opportunity to meet with her precisely on ministry and educational issues via email and telephone. My philosophy in developing “faith leaders” is to have a mindset that Leaders are made and not born. Individuals do not have to be perfect in order to be taught. Philippians 4:13 states, “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.” Ministry involvement keeps me motivated meeting people at the point of their need, consequently, to save, set-free, and delivered. I advocate the use of skills, work hard, embrace effective work ethics, and always be in preparation according to the program’s agenda and the faith legacy will speak for itself. Matthew 6:33 “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”

Dr. Nellie McKay has been serving the greater Atlanta area and surrounding states for over a decade in reaching souls for Christ. She said,

The problem is within some of the clergy and disciples’ circle of not reaching people to Christ because they lack a matured union. God is open for providence; there is a lot of Scriptures pertaining to providence. Many people in the world are still unsaved in the 21st century. If, we as spiritual leaders determine to have impact on the world, our motives have to be pure (the how and why we are trying to reach the unsaved). We are not touching people in these areas of faith, ability, and ministry. Some people we already have overcome from lust, and sin. We have to have the right type of heart to reach people. We need to sharpen our spiritual tools so that we can penetrate the hearts of unforgiveness. We should be open to teach and listen attentively.

The Word of God is a double-edged sword. It cuts on both sides. If you teach someone and reach the unsaved, it is because of Christ. Some have issues about the Word of God, life, current events, and youth. If we just reach out to someone with the love of Jesus, it will be easier to reach people. Sometimes, God will lead you to one or two people only. The darkness they have been walking in will be eradicated by the infallible Word of God. They have to be fed holistically (body, soul man and spirit man) or the whole man. Sometimes we are not on the level of the people to reach them. We have to just meet people exactly where they are.

Sometimes, people have to be set free or delivered from something before they can be saved. They may have a barrier that has to be broken down just where they are.

First, make a foundation and then a level that is plain. Then, they will be willing to move up as they grow. Some of our young people do not want to live holy before God. They prefer to stay in the pigs’ trough. The will to change or not to change is the question. Some ministries do not explain their vision of where they are going in Christ.

Spiritual leaders sometimes do not teach people with clarity or understanding how to be disciples for Christ. They should never counsel people without the Word of God. When we minister to someone about God, we are giving Him place. He cannot give you a place for ministry until you give Him all of your life. I’ll go wherever you send me; I’ll say whatever you have me to say, and I’ll do whatever you command me to do. When you give Christ place in your life, He will give you instructions. We are to be used by God to reach all people!  

Dr. Anthony Thompson, Jr.
Impact Church International in Charleston, South Carolina

Dr. Anthony Thompson, Jr., of Charleston, South Carolina, explained,

I gave my life to Jesus Christ around the age of 5 but didn’t get serious or born again until sometime after my first college experience. I went to college at Florida A & M University and received a B.S. in healthcare management. Then I went to Florida State University and received a M.S. in rehabilitation counseling and later took online courses through Liberty University and received a M.A.R. in pastoral counseling.

Dr. Thompson, a graduate and honor student of Liberty Theological Seminary of Liberty University and Pastor of Impact Church, believes the reasons why some Christians are not reaching the lost “is because of the lack of evangelism and church participation.” Dr. Thompson mentioned that it is imperative that his disciples are implementing the “grassroots” method of door-to-door evangelism. He compels community involvement, Bible studies in homes, and church training, and as an entrepreneur, Dr. Thompson helps people to get employment as well as have other needs met:

People do not care about what you know, until you show how much you care!
Success can only be achieved by a person who is moving in and towards the

36. McKay.

37. Anthony Thompson, Jr., interview by author, Lynchburg, VA, June 17, 2012.

38. Ibid.

39. Ibid.
things of God for their life. Only what you do in Christ will last. I think about the parable in Matthew 25 where it talks about the man giving his servants a number of talents. The servants who went out and multiplied their talents were rewarded for doing a good job. It appeared through this passage that they were successful in what their master wanted them to do. He told them they had done well. I believe that our faith and obedience in God warrants success regardless of how it appears. I believe that success can be measured by the results that come.

My definition of a leader who has great faith is a leader being able to guide and influence a person or group of people into the direction God desires for them and that they seek. Leadership is being in a position where people can follow you, demonstrate the things that you lead, and continue not only to duplicate but to expound on what you have already laid down.

I lead with the principles in the Word of God. When it comes to leading, I believe in caring and loving God’s people in the manner that He has done. John 13:34 indicates that we ought to love people according to the same patterns that Jesus did. In John 14:15, Jesus also lets us know that if we love Him, we will keep His commandments . . . not just the 10 Commandments, but every Word that proceeds out from the Word of God. From these, some of my guiding principles are loving and valuing people, praying and studying the Word of God, and continuing to sharpen myself and skills through relationships and personal development.

The best leadership decision that I probably ever made implementing my faith was obeying God to leave my past church and everything I had to come back home and grow more and aid in ministry. This was a leadership decision because I had influence in many areas of my past environment, but the decision had to be made whether to obey God or go with what’s comfortable and looks more naturally rewarding and appealing. I was being confronted with persuasion, position, money, and opportunity. It wasn’t until after I left that I began to appreciate obeying God because I am in His perfect will as I continue to reach the purpose and destiny for my life.

On a regular basis, I meet with my pastor/mentor and other leaders who are my brothers and sisters in Christ. My pastor is my spiritual father who helps guide and direct where God is taking me. As he imparts into me, I in turn help fulfill what God is doing in me and us collectively. My brothers and sisters in Christ encourage, sharpen, and help build the things God is doing in my life. All of these people I mention help me be accountable for where God is taking me.

I develop great leaders by serving God’s people and leaders in our church, on the job, and in an organization. I currently mentor young people in an organization we have called God’s Alignment for a Now Generation (G.A.N.G.). In this group, I teach the youth with principles of living according to the Word of God that they may reach others for Christ. I also teach them in areas of personal development so that they recognize what’s important to maintain a healthy and maturing lifestyle before people of all ages. I spend time with the youth and other people that I mentor so that they can see faith in leadership qualities in my life and how I care for their lives as well.

One of the things that keep me motivated is the things and agenda God has on His heart. The Bible declares that if we “delight in the Lord . . . He will give you the desires of your heart.” The more I desire the things of God, the more I want the same things He wants, and it stirs my spirit. I get excited when people come into salvation, when they
discover certain things about themselves in Christ, and when they get blessed in any measure by God. When I see the growth in a person, it motivates me to continue to grow more in God and become a better leader.

I cannot remember the specific quote or who said it, but I like the thought that if you’re leading down a path or road and no one is following you, you are just simply taking a walk. I think that it’s important that leaders evaluate who is following them and why people are following them. Sometimes we get caught up in the mechanics of leadership, but nobody is really following us. There are also other times when we need to check the motives of those who are following us. Whether you are leading or people are following with right motives, if you are a leader, you don’t just want to simply be taking a walk and not have the slightest idea of what’s going on.40

“There is a lack of desire among some Christians to obey the Great Commission; they have lost their ardent passion for saving the lost and are no longer effective.”41 Dr. Thompson and his disciples go door-to-door at least three times weekly. They take flyers, CDs, and DVDs to inform people about their church worship times, sermons, and upcoming events. He uses the radio stations, television, and Internet to share his faith with the lost. “Most people desire prayer when we go from door-to-door, and we usually follow-up in a week or two.”42

Giving people an understanding of the Bible and getting the Word to them is what we also do when we evangelize. We reach people just where they are providentially and help them find out their true purpose in life. They are taught the Kingdom principles versus the world’s ways of approaching their problems. Their spiritual development comes from the foundation of the Kingdom principles. ‘God thoughts are not our thoughts, and His ways are not our ways.’

We have to get on His agenda and off our own agendas. When we submit and yield our lives into His hand, we become more like Him or made into His image. The Kingdom way teaches how to live like Christ by making decisions in alignment with God’s Word. This is walking in accordance to the will of God. Christians who are led by the Spirit of God are called the ‘Sons of God.’ We are in the world and not of the world!43

Uzziel Wilson, Youth Pastor of New Vine Baptist Church

40. Ibid.
41. Ibid.
42. Ibid.
43. Ibid.
Lynchburg, Virginia

Uzziel Wilson has been youth pastor of New Vine Baptist Church for three years. Pastor Wilson stated that,

The Millennial generation (1982-present) is not being reached because their parents are too lax or nonchalant. The parents of this young generation are too busy working and are not involved in worship at church. In past generations (i.e. the Baby Boomer generation, 1940-89) the parents were relentlessly attending church out of their hunger and thirst for Christ. They were obedient to the Scripture, “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” The whole family tenaciously and faithfully attended church services everywhere. I think the issues of the time such as the transition of population change, economics, one-parent households, and wars have an influence in the way people think about church.44

The Millennial generation, the age group between ten years and fifteen years young, were not exposed to church according to Pastor Wilson’s survey in the Lynchburg, Virginia, area.

Pastor Uzziel Wilson pointed out that,

The younger parents, ages 20 years and 30 years young, are allowing the children to stay at home and watch television during church service times. Their peers are influencing them more than the Word of God or the ministry of the church. Technology can be a distraction to some youth and is swaying them away from their spiritual growth. Some parents are not being an example of how Christians should live and how to prioritize their time.

They find the world more attractive than training their children to participate in youth church activities and how to be a disciple for Christ. Some parents feel that commitment to Christ is too much for them and their children. They are not ready to be strongly dedicated to the cause of winning souls for Christ. The youth prefer to experience the things of the world over the training to be “light and salt” in a dying world. Some think that they have to be perfect before accepting Christ as their Lord and Savior. It is frightening to some parents and young people to be committed to Christ.45

Pastor Uzziel Wilson interviewed some of the Baby Buster and Millennial generation, and the results are apropos and appalling as to why they do not have an appetite for serving in the church and how church people treat people who are in church as well as guests. The first interview was with an eleven-year-old male, and he said, “Being a Christian is just boring, and

44. Uzziel Wilson, interview by author, Lynchburg, VA, July 7, 2012.
45. Ibid.
there are more interesting things to do! I’d rather stay at home, play my video games, and ride my bicycle with friends. I know who God is, how to serve Him, and believe in His message.”46

A fourteen-year-old male mentioned, “I am not getting involved in church because I love to sleep late on Sunday mornings. I do not mind attending church, but there are other things I’d rather do! I really, really want to come to church, but my friends do not like to go either. If I can find fulfillment, joy in serving, and fulfillment in knowing that I can do this, then I know I would be happy.”

“There are not enough young people or children my age serving in the church,” a fifteen-year-young male, exclaimed! “I do not feel comfortable around young people who are in Christ and go to church regularly. There is not enough serving my age! I find video games and other things more intriguing instead of serving the Lord.”

One twenty-one-year old female said, “I have gotten away from going to church as well as getting involved in serving. I know when I go back people are going to be staring at me and wondering where I have been. They will make me the center of attention instead of welcoming me back! I do not like too much attention. The truth is that I am employed now and in a relationship and both take most of my time! My male partner is not involved in serving Christ also.” When people who she stays with come home from church, they speak only negative things rather than what was said in the Bible. “Why should I go with that type of attitude that they are bringing home every Sunday? My parents took me to Sunday school in my youth, and I know God. When I feel in my heart that I am ready to be committed to Christ, I will go back to church.”

A male who is twenty-two years of age said, “The folks in the church ought to stop pointing their finger at people and judging others for their mistakes too. They should be more supportive! I have had bad experiences with some in the church, and I also do not see how I can benefit by attending. Church folks need to praise God and focus on Him! Why should I go to church when I believe in God? I live the right life and know right from wrong. I do not do things to intentionally hurt people. At the last three churches that I have attended, I was disappointed and had negative influences. Instead of encouraging me they were putting me down. If there were not so much negativity in the church, I would love to serve the Lord. If church folks would accept me, I would get more involved!”

A female who is involved with someone of the same sex said, “People are not trying to accept me in the church because I am gay. I do not believe that I can get in a church because I would be stopped at the door. I’m trying to find my way! I thought that the church was designed to do this. Sometimes parents and some Christians disagree with our lives, and we try to find help in the church. How can we grow if we are rejected in the church and at home? What are we to do when we have no mentors to plant the right words of correction? Where can we go and be accepted just like we are? What does Christ say about accepting people like they are?

If some parents would just take time to listen and not be so quick to judge like some of the folks in the church, then we can find ourselves in the journey. I think they are more ashamed of the way we live than they are about trying to encourage us to be

46. Ibid.
saved. Sometimes I think they just do not trust gays around other young folks. I believe it is a trust issue too! Satan must be influencing some of the folks in the church because I read in the Bible that ‘you are to come as you are.’ Well, until I know that a church will accept me as I am, I guess my place will be in the world finding my way on my own.”47

Youth Pastor Wilson exclaimed,

There ought to be no excuses why any of our youth should be rejected by some Christians in the church because of sin. There are so many outlets in the world that are drawing them away from worship. Christians should be the first to bring them to Jesus. The Word of God is prohibited in the schools; parents are not involved in the church nor serving Christ or showing children the true way to live. Their peers ought not to be ashamed of the gospel. When there is no positive influence in the home, then they’ll find interest somewhere else. We have to plant seeds of the Word of God and love. It is important that our youth receive both!48

47. Ibid.
48. Ibid.
CHAPTER THREE

AN EXAMINATION OF REACHING, TEACHING, FEEDING, AND LOVING PEOPLE PROVIDENTIALLY FOR THE KINGDOM

And the Lord answered me and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

-- Hebrews 2:2-3, KJV

What is needed is not merely another plan but a new approach--an effective strategy, biblical principles, to bring the unsaved to conversion and to integrate them into the church.

-- Timothy Yates, “Five Principles to Make and Multiply Disciples through the Small Group Ministry”

E-Church.net is taking the message, introducing the Messenger globally, serving the King of Kings and Lord of Lords to all ethnos, and conquering the Internet world through social networking and social media. E-Church.net fellowships first, later extends an invitation to a local church, and trains the new converts or disciples how to live in His Word and make generational disciples. Unnatural experiences that are happening in the real world are spilling into the world of the Internet. People are being reconciled to Christ, living in the Word of God, and making disciples for Him. E-Church.net is reclaiming our youth. The target groups begin as early as three-years-of-age and go to 21-years-old.

Today, the majority of youths are spending lots of their time on the Internet. It is imperative that the anointed disciples of Christ train our youths to capture the world for Christ. E-Church.net trains young champions for Christ for the ministry of regaining our youth’s confidence in Christ via the Internet or text messaging 24/7. The social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, MySpace, Godtube.com, Bluefishtv.com, Essentials.tv,
Sermonsearch.tv, Tangle.com, worshipdigitalmedia.com, and Vision_virginia_intern.mov are truly a harvest for souls. Many youths utilize their time communicating and connecting with their peers on these sites about similar interests and issues such as church, family, traveling, X-Box, cars, dating, fashion, tattoos, dance clubs, drugs, alcoholic beverages, sex, cyber bullying, hip artists, talent showcase, and concerts. Disciples for Christ strategically instruct, mentor, minister the Word of God, connect, and win them to Christ. When the youths are communicating on any social media and type certain words or phrases such depressed, lonely, hate, kill, rape, drugs, troubled, suicidal, sick, hungry, distraught, or anything that is red-flagged, they simultaneously connect to E-Church.net. E-Church.net will immediately direct depressed, troubled, suicidal, and distraught youths to the E-Church.net ministry for help.

E-Church.net always has anointed elders/mentors on standby to assist the mentee/youth ministers against suicide, substance abuse, child molestation, and predators that are cyber-bullying and luring young girls and boys into sex trafficking through talent scouts or searches (artist, entertainers, dancing, modeling, and acting) as well as other avenues. The elders/mentors are able to win souls. If the offender is a habitual sex offender/predator the elders will assist law enforcement in making arrests against tenacious violators of such hideous crimes.

Christ is against abusive relationships, especially toward women and children. Anointed disciples also incorporated in our evangelical schools will offer their gifts, talents, and abilities to help capture and win the lost to Christ and simultaneously save lives. The participating evangelical institutions will have a curriculum and mentoring program that will teach and train the angels and ambassadors for Christ how to minister to their peer groups and connect in the right way using technology.
Jesus trained His Disciples to go fishing where the harvest was plenty. In Luke 5 Jesus’ Disciples had been fishing in a ship all night in the Lake of Gennesart and had not caught any fish. Jesus said to Simon, “Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.” (Lk. 5:4, KJV). When, Jesus’ Disciples obeyed Him they caught so many fish that their net was broken. The ship had such a multitude of fish that their ship began to sink. Today, Jesus’ Disciples have to launch their nets into the Internet where the multitude of fish is to be caught. Go into the deep...as the Holy Spirit unction.

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<td>I Timothy 6:12</td>
<td>John 1:1, 1:14</td>
<td>Acts1:8-9</td>
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<td>Matthew 28:18-20</td>
<td>Mark 11:22-26</td>
<td>Philippians 4:4-9</td>
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<td>Practice to Capture</td>
<td>Internet Soul Winning</td>
<td>Athletic Games With Schools</td>
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<td>Salvation Prayer</td>
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<td>Concerts</td>
<td>Concerts With Comedy</td>
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<td>Disney Land</td>
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Table 3.1: Curriculum for ministering to female youth on social networking and digital mastering.

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LESSON PLAN

Angels: Ages 2.5-5 years of age

Scriptures: Ps. 23, 91; Rom.3:23, 6:23, 10:9-10; Isa. 58; Mat. 28:18-2; Mk. 11:22; Jn. 6:47; Eph. 2:8; I Tim. 6:12; Phil. 4:4-9; Acts 1:8-9.

Purpose: The Angels will learn beginner’s computer skills. The students will be taught how to pray and incorporate bible verses. The Angels will be mentored to how to find Jesus on the Web/Internet. They will also be trained the Christian way of how to communicate with each other on the internet by using the scriptures to network, Software, Websites, etc.

Objectives: The Angels Will Accomplish:
- How to Pray using the scriptures
- Beginners Computer Skills and incorporate Christian Social Networking
- Memorization of Scriptures and the Hebrew Alphabet
- Learn More About Jesus as a leader and His Disciples on the Internet
- Learn About the Prophet David as a king and leader
- Learn About Apostle Paul as a Missionary
- Life Application of being compatible with other Angels Incorporating the Scriptures.
- Knowing what is sin and what is righteousness.

Activities:
- Memory Exercises
- Puzzles
- Draw David as a leader/Shepherd and his sheep
- Draw Apostle Paul as a Missionary
- Finger Painting
- Puppets
- Storytelling
- A Play/Drama, Worship Music, using Psalm 23 and Romans 6:23, 10:9-10
- Children’s Software depicting the Characters of Jesus, David and Apostle Paul
- Internet Social networking Using the Scriptures
- Invite Parents to the Play and Serve Refreshments

Tools:
- Bible
- Computer
- Textbooks
- Children’s Software With Bible Stories (i.e. Veggie Tales)
- Canon Camcorder for recording Dramatic Plays, Role Playing, Puppets, etc.
LESSON PLAN

Angels: Ages 6- 9 years of age

Scriptures: Rom. 10:9-13, 10:13; Ps. 23, 27; Isa. 1:18; Mat. 5:48; Ezek. 18:4; Jn. 1:1, 1:14; Acts 16:31, 2:41-42; Mk. 11:22-26;

Purpose: The Angels will learn more computer skills and how to incorporate bible verses in their understanding of salvation. Finding and introducing Jesus on the Web/Internet. Angels will also be taught the Christian way of how to communicate with each other on the internet by using the scriptures to network, Christian software, Christian Websites, etc. Angels will be taught how to capture others Angels through prayer and Spiritual Warfare Tactics.

Objectives: The Angels Will Accomplish:
- Computer Skills
- Memorization of Scriptures and the Hebrew Alphabet
- Learn More About Jesus
- Learn About the Prophet David
- Learn About Apostle Paul
- Life Application of being compatible with other Angels Incorporating the Scriptures.
- Winning souls to Christ

Activities:
- Memory Exercises
- Puzzles
- Draw David as a leader/Shepherd and his sheep
- Draw Apostle Paul as a leader in missions
- Finger Painting
- Puppets
- Storytelling
- Children’s Software depicting the Bible Characters of Jesus, David and Apostle Paul
- Internet Social networking Using the Scriptures
- Invite Guest Speakers
- Invite Parents to the Play and Serve Refreshments
- Field Trips (i.e. Disney Land, Holy Land in Orlando, Florida).

Tools:
- Bible
- Computer
• Children’s Software With Bible Stories (i.e. Veggie Tales)
• Canon Camcorder for recording Dramatic Plays, Role Playing,

LESSON PLAN

Angels: Ages 10-12 years of age

Scriptures: Rom. 6:23, 10:9-13; Ps. 23, 27, 34; Eph. 2:8-9, 6:10-18; Isa. 40:29-31; Mk. 11:22-26; Lk. 10:1; I Tim. 6:12; Acts 1:8-9, 9:20-22,16:31; Phil. 2:4-9,4:4-9.

Purpose: The Angels will learn more computer skills. Students will be taught how to plant the word seeds into the garden of their hearts that will bring forth a greater harvest. Angels will incorporate bible verses in their understanding of salvation. Finding and introducing Jesus on the web/Internet. Angels will also be taught the Christian way of how to communicate with each other on the internet by using the scriptures to network, Christian Software, Christian Websites, etc. Angels will be taught how to capture others Angels through Spiritual Warfare Tactics.

Objectives: The Angels Will Accomplish:
  • Computer Skills
  • Memorization of Scriptures and the Hebrew Alphabet
  • Learn More About Jesus and Being About Your Father’s Business
  • Learn About the Prophet David
  • Learn About Apostle Paul
  • Life Application of being compatible with other Angels Incorporating the Scriptures.

Activities:
  • Memory Exercises
  • Puzzles
  • Draw David as a Shepherd and his sheep
  • Draw Apostle Paul
  • Finger Painting
  • Puppets
  • Storytelling
  • Invite a Speaker
  • A Play/Drama, Worship Music, using Ps.27 and Rom.10:9-13.
  • Children’s Software depicting the Bible Characters of Jesus, David and Apostle Paul
  • Internet Social networking Using the Scriptures
  • Invite Parents to the Play and Serve Refreshments
  • Field Trips
Tools:
- Bible
- Textbooks
- Computer/Laptop
- Children’s Software With Bible Stories (i.e. Veggie Tales)
- Canon Camcorder for recording Dramatic Plays, Skits, Music, etc.

LESSON PLAN

Teen Angels: Ages 13-18 years of age

Scriptures: Rom.1:17; Eph. 2:8-9, 6:10-18; Ps. 1; Ps. 91;

Phil. 3:13-14, 4:4-9; Prov. 3:7, 4:7; Lk. 9:23

Purpose: The Teen Angels will learn more computer skills and how to incorporate bible verses in their understanding of salvation. Finding and introducing Jesus on the web/Internet. Angels will also be taught the Christian way of how to communicate with each other on the internet by using the scriptures to network, Christian software, Christian Websites, etc. Angels will be taught how to capture other Teen Angels through prayer and Spiritual Warfare Tactics.

Objectives: The Teen Angels Will Accomplish:
- Computer Skills
- Memorization of Scriptures and the Recognition of Hebrew Alphabet
- Learning More About Jesus as a leader and His Disciples
- Spiritual Warfare on the Internet
- Learning About the leadership of Prophet David
- Learning About Apostle Paul and Missions
- Life Application of being compatible with other Teen Angels by Incorporating the Scriptures into Social Networking/Media.
- Introducing the new converts to the E-Church

Activities:
- Internet Soul Winning
- Prayer Line
- Invite A Speaker
- Concerts with Comedy
• Trip to the Holy Land Orlando, Florida
• Recreation
• Open Mic
• Invite Speakers
• Movie Night

**Tools:**

• Bible
• Computer/Laptop
• Textbooks
• Canon Camcorder for recording Dramatic Plays, Skits, Guest Speakers, etc.
The students’ curriculum would include the memorization of Bible verses, preparation and activities to train champions to win disciples for Christ through the Internet, social media, and E-Church digital mastering, and the ultimate goal of getting them to attend a local church.

Table 3.2: Curriculum (male youth) for capturing the world for Christ.
LESSON PLAN

Jeremiahs: Ages 2.5- 5 years of age

Scriptures: Ps. 23; Mat. 6:9-15, 28:18-20; Mk. 11:22; Rom. 3:10-11, 3:23, 6:23. 10:9-10, 10:13: Eph. 6:10-18; I Tim. 6:12; Phil.4:4-9

Purpose: The Jeremiahs will learn beginner’s computer skills. The students will be trained how to pray and incorporate bible verses. Jeremiahs will be taught how to find Jesus on the web/Internet. They will also be taught the Christian way of how to communicate with each other on the internet by using the key scriptures for Social Networking, Software, Websites, etc.

Objectives: The Angels Will Accomplish:
- How to Pray
- Beginners Computer Skills
- Memorization of Scriptures and the Hebrew Alphabet
- Learn More About Jesus on the Internet
- Learn About the Prophet David
- Learn About Apostle Paul
- Life Application of being compatible with other Jeremiahs Incorporating the Scriptures.
- Knowing what is sin and what is righteousness.

Activities:
- Memory Exercises
- Puzzles
- Draw Jesus as a leader and His Disciples
- Draw David as a Shepherd and his sheep
- Draw Apostle Paul
- Finger Painting
- Puppets
- Storytelling
- A Play/Drama, Worship Music, using Ps. 23 and Rom. 6:23, 10:9-10
- Children’s Software depicting the Characters of Jesus, David and Apostle Paul
- Internet Social networking Using the Scriptures
- Invite Parents to the Play and Serve Refreshments

Tools:
- Bible
- Computer
- Textbooks
- Children’s Software With Bible Stories (i.e. Veggie Tales)
- Canon Camcorder for recording Dramatic Plays, Role Playing, Puppets, etc.
LESSON PLAN

Joshuas: Ages 6-9 years of age


Purpose: The Joshuas will learn more computer skills and how to incorporate bible verses in their understanding of salvation. Finding and introducing Jesus on the Web/Internet. The Joshuas will also be taught the Christian way of how to communicate with each other on the internet by using the scriptures to network, Christian software, Christian Websites, etc. The students will be taught how to capture others Joshuas through prayer and Spiritual Warfare Tactics.

Objectives: The Angels Will Accomplish:

- Computer Skills
- Memorization of Scriptures and the Hebrew Alphabet
- Learn More About Jesus as a leader and His Disciples as followers.
- Learn About the Prophet David as a leader
- Learn About Apostle Paul as a leader and his Journey Missions
- Life Application of being compatible with other Joshuas Incorporating the Scriptures.

Activities:

- Memory Exercises
- Puzzles
- Draw Jesus as a leader with His Disciples
- Draw David as a Shepherd and his sheep
- Draw Apostle Paul as a leader
- Finger Painting
- Puppets
- Storytelling
- Children’s Software depicting the Bible Characters of Jesus, David and Apostle Paul
- Internet Social networking Using the Scriptures
- Invite Parents to the Play and Serve Refreshments
- Field Trips

Tools:

- Bible
- Computer
- Textbooks
- Children’s Software With Bible Stories (i.e. Veggie Tales)
- Canon Camcorder for recording Dramatic Plays, Role Playing,
LESSON PLAN

Josephs: Ages 10-12 years of age

Scriptures: Rom.3:10-11, 3:23, 6:23, 10:9-10, 10:13; Eph.2:8-9, 6:10-18; Ps. 91, 27; Isa.58; Mk. 11:22-26; I Tim. 6:12; Phil. 4:4-9: Acts 2:41-42; 16:31; Jer. 31:3; Ex. 34:7; Isa. 53:6; Mat. 28:18-20.

Purpose: The Josephs will learn more computer skills. Students will be taught how to plant the word seeds into the garden of their hearts that will bring forth a greater harvest. Josephs will incorporate bible verses in their understanding of salvation. Finding and introducing Jesus on the web/Internet. The students will also be taught the Christian way of how to communicate with each other on the Internet by using the scriptures to network, Christian Software, Christian Websites, etc. Angels will be taught how to capture others Josephs through Spiritual Warfare Tactics.

Objectives: The Josephs Will Accomplish:

- Advanced Computer Skills
- Memorization of Scriptures and the Hebrew Language
- Learn More About Jesus’s leadership and Being About Your Father’s Business
- Learn About the Prophet David and his leadership.
- Learn About Apostle Paul and his strategic leadership of Missions.
- Life Application of being compatible with other Josephs Incorporating the Scriptures.

Activities:

- Memory Exercises
- Training/Mentoring Skills
- Dramatic Plays
- Worship Music/Student Musicians
- Invite Speakers
- Finger Painting
- Software depicting the Bible Characters of Jesus, David and Apostle Paul
- Internet Social networking Using the Scriptures
- Invite Parents to the Play and Serve Refreshments
- Field Trips

Tools:

- Bible
- Textbooks
- Computer/Laptop
- Software With Bible Stories (i.e. Hebrew, Worship Music, Veggie Tales, etc.)
- Canon Camcorder for recording Dramatic Plays, Skits, Music, etc.
LESSON PLAN

Pauls: Ages 13-18 years of age

Scriptures: Rom.3:10-11, 3:23, 6:23, 10:9-10, 10:13; Eph. 2:8-9, 6:10-18; Ps. 1, 27, 91;
Phil. 3:13-14, 4:4-9; Prov. 3:7, 4:7; Lk. 5:4-10; 9:23; Isa. 58; Mk. 11:22-26; I Tim. 6:12;
Phil. 4:4-9.

Purpose: The Pauls will learn more computer skills and how to incorporate bible verses in their
understanding of salvation. Finding and introducing Jesus on the web/Internet. The students will
emerge and capture the internet by using the scriptures for Social Networking. The Pauls will use
Christian software, Christian Websites, etc. to educate the students on how to launch into the
depth. The Pauls will be taught how to capture other Pauls through prayer and Spiritual Warfare
Tactics. The students will bring them to Christ and introduce their new converts to E-Church.

Objectives: The Teen Pauls Will Accomplish:

• Advance Computer Skills
• Memorization of Scriptures and Interpret Hebrew language
• Bringing the unsaved to the E-Church
• Learning More About Jesus as a leader and His Disciples
• Spiritual Warfare on the Internet
• Learning About the Prophet David as a leader
• Learning About Apostle Paul and Strategic Planning in Missions
• Life Application of being compatible with other Pauls by Incorporating the Scrip-
tures into Social Networking/Media.

Activities:

• Internet Soul Winning and Spiritual Warfare
• Prayer Line
• Invite A Speaker
• Concerts with Comedy
• Trip to the Holy Land Orlando, Florida
• Recreation
• Open Mic
• Invite Speakers
• Movie Night
CHAPTER 4

CONCLUSION

“Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.”¹ What are the Lord's purposes for the church? What are we to be as a church? What are we to do as a church? How are we to do it? We cannot decide the purposes of the church—we discover them! Jesus summarized, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind’ . . . ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”² “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”³

There are numerous causes why myriad churches in the 21st century globally are not reaching the unsaved, making disciples for Christ, and becoming involved in implementing innovative methodologies such as church planting, satellite churches, the Internet and social networking or website ministries, and building great evangelical institutions. Methods can change, but the Word of God always remains the same. “Denominations that change their methods and cast off unproductive tradition will flourish and experience God’s power, while those who insist on the status quo will die a slow, unpleasant death.”⁴ This is the dispensation of grace, also referred to as the “last days” to the church or “perilous times” exclusively for senior

¹. Prov. 19:21 NIV.
pastors as well as those who are “the called” or the “chosen few” in the fivefold ministry.⁵

Numerous people have been preached and talked to, but how many have been told about the lack of responsibility of having a one-on-one or personal relationship with Christ? There ought to be an additional emphasis placed [by spiritual leaders] on people’s need to seek God’s face more and more and material possessions less.⁶ “No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other.”⁷ Spiritual leaders should incorporate in their sermons and on their Christian journey how imperative it is to have a personal relationship with Christ.

The prosperity message is very attractive to some people; it is an integral part of salvation, but does not complete it. Liberty University’s co-founder, Dr. Elmer Towns, pointed out,

Some pastors seem to have an “extra power,” so that the masses are moved by their sermons; their requests are unquestionably obeyed by followers, people seem to empty their pocketbooks into the offering plate, and sinners almost run down the aisle at their invitation. These few unique pastors go forth and preach the gospel, as most pastors, yet their results are startling. They turn communities upside-down, and some even capture whole cities for God. The term charisma does not refer to the Pentecostal manifestation of tongues, miracles or other phenomena surrounding the alleged “second blessing.” The term is used by sociologists to designate personal magnetism used by leaders to accomplish a predetermined goal in their organization or movement.

After completing the book The Ten Largest Sunday Schools and What Made Them Grow, the author sensed a type of leadership in the pastors of these churches never before personally experienced, even though this dynamic attraction is seen in historical literature. The term charisma kept poking its head into conversations. "Jack Hyles has charisma," said one observer. Webster defines "charisma" as, an extraordinary power (personal magic of leadership arousing special popular loyalty or enthusiasm) given a Christian by the Holy Spirit for the good of the church." What is charisma? How does a pastor develop charismatic leadership? Can a pastor use charisma to accomplish New Testament aims?

Charisma comes from the word charis, and it refers to "a gift of grace." The

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⁵ 2 Tim. 3:1.

⁶ Ps. 42:1-2; Matt. 6:33.

⁷ Matt. 6:24 KJV.
The word *charisma* usually refers to gifted individuals. A study of doctoral dissertations on the topic indicates that leadership charisma is usually found in political, military, and religious circles. Some refer to charisma as a cult of personality, while Freud referred to men who apparently had charisma as having a "messiah complex." A popular magazine article referred to the charisma of John Kennedy as "sex appeal." These generalizations attempting to reduce charismatic leadership to such simple formulas cannot be accepted. Max Weber, the German sociologist, was the first to define the term charisma as "a certain quality of an individual personality, by virtue of which he is set apart from ordinary men and treated with supernatural, superhuman, or at least specifically exceptional powers or qualities."¹⁸

Why are some people drawn to Christ while others are not being saved or are falling away? Are they falling away because of a lack of faith? Is it because some followers are sowing money seed with a flesh mentality, or is it due to a necessity for some material desire(s)? Are they sowing money seed and expecting a harvest not always prioritizing the spirit of building up the kingdom to support the winning of souls to Christ? Is selfishness the motive or is the love of God? The spiritual leadership and the congregation of believers’ focus ought to be foremost on worship because of how much God loves us and to bring glory to His name. The attention should not directly be on what is in God’s hand or their heavenly bank account or good treasury. "God is a Spirit (a spiritual Being) and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth (reality)."²⁹

Some people are avidly trusting in their own methodologies instead of what God has already said or promised in His Word and what He will or can do and has already done. They are putting their whole trust in the world’s way of gaining material possessions. "The love of money is the root of all evil."³⁰ Money will help people gain lots of friends and worldly possessions.

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10. 1 Tim. 6:10 KJV.
“For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?”\textsuperscript{11} There is a short poem called “God’s Love:” “Wealth and fame comes man’s acclaim; by these the world defines success, but God takes note of those lives to save, use and bless.”\textsuperscript{12} “Trusting in God’s Word or His promises will always, always come to fruition or come to pass.”\textsuperscript{13} Christians on their journey should always have enough hope and trust in God for victory!

Some people are placing a lot of weight on what they can get out of others through practices of manipulation instead of trusting in God! The soul winning approach to incorporate masses into the body of Christ can be more effective when motives are first pleasing to God, or are in alignment with the Word of God. Nevertheless, today there are still some pastors, spiritual leaders, and their congregations who are saved but have not been formally or informally trained how to effectively witness to the unsaved. There are not enough words to express how imperative it is to be trained effectively to evangelize.

Some Christians have professed to having accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior with their mouths; however, their hearts are far away from their profession because they are only going through the motions. Some people are tenaciously going in and out of the church doors Sunday after Sunday, yet they have never been involved in witnessing to the unsaved. There is a group of people who attend church services only to appease their souls and to impress others of what good Christians do.

The authentic message of salvation brings tidings of good news. When the Word of God is practiced, it is conducive to a Godly life of transformation and sanctification. This process of

\textsuperscript{11} Mark 8:36 KJV.

\textsuperscript{12} "God’s Love,” \textit{Our Daily Bread}, May 2003.

\textsuperscript{13} Gwendolyn West Hill, “Bridging The Gap” (Sermon, Our Point Of Contact Ministry, Fayetteville, GA., April 14, 2009).
transformation begins from inside out. The metaphor of transformation of the mind, sanctification, and spiritual growth is similar to metamorphosis. The life cycle of a butterfly begins with an egg, then becomes a larva, then a caterpillar, then a pupa, then a chrysalis, and then it develops into a beautiful monarch butterfly.

God desires for His children to be more like the image or likeness of His only Son, Jesus Christ. This process of maturation from babyhood to adulthood is time consuming, but the result is God’s trophy [disciples] and the sons of God. In order for babies to be healthy, they need the right nourishment, physical exercise, and nurturing from their Godly parents to help them grow suitably. New converts especially need mentoring and nurturing holistically in their spiritual developmental growth, too. The children of the “Light” are supernatural beings that the Holy Spirit molds into the image of Christ or a pattern of God with His nature and character.14

Jesus taught and made His disciples by example in proximity. The New Testament church in the book of Acts taught the new disciples for one year, the Apostles anointed them, laid hands on them, and sent the disciples out to change the world. John’s Gospel chapters 14-16 have instructions for the quality life for His disciples pertaining to the promise, person, work, and power of the Holy Spirit after the rebirth. This is a road map as Christians travel on their journey and the biblical mandate for followers of Christ that Jesus taught His disciples, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”15

When Jesus is Lord in the lives of true believers, and He is truly embraced, then His Disciples are committed to being “salt and light” in our immediate world as well as in the sphere


15. John 14:6 KJV.
outside the familiar parameters for Christ’s sake. Christ’s Disciples are world changers, and they are impacting the world one soul at a time. How many Christians truly practice what the Gospel of John has implied? “If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

Are Christians truly listening to the leading and prompting of the Holy Spirit? Some Christians are busybodies participating in all the church programs, listening to the preaching and teaching of the Bible because some think that performance is most pleasing to God. Are they truly devoted to Christ and spending quality time with their families? “Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.”

Church congregations are divided into two ratios of 80% and 20%? Twenty percent of the congregation is not doing any evangelizing, and 80% of reaching the unsaved is through the pastor only. “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.”

There has also been a misconception of what the Bible is saying on how people are using Scriptures without exegesis and hermeneutics. The Bible, (as the Holy Spirit directs) helps believers find out the true origin of its context. Some spiritual leaders are not asking questions such as the following: Why was this Scripture used during this time in the Bible? What is the original intent of the passage during their dispensation of time? Why was it stated in the New Testament that women should be quiet or not be allowed to speak in church during their

17. John 8:31 KJV.
18. Matt. 6:1 KJV.
19. John 14:23 NIV.
dispensation or era? Some spiritual leaders are enforcing these same Scriptures today without understanding explicitly their true meaning for why these infallible and inerrant words were written from Genesis to Revelation.

When a good prayer life is developed in disciples, the Holy Spirit will give utterance and understanding on how to contextualize a message when studying, preaching, and teaching people the Word of God in the present dispensation of grace. People can be easily misled and disheartened, and they can grieve the Holy Spirit by the wrong interpretation and misuse of the Word of God. “And in all your getting, get understanding.” ²⁰ The very elect will be deceived. God’s disciples ought to having a personal relationship with God, a true and deeper understanding of the Bible.

Today, there are two types of Christians: (1) non-believing Christians and (2) believing Christians. Believing Christians in the 21ˢᵗ century that are truly rooted and grounded in the Word of God have found the seed or Word on good ground and also have a personal, intimate relationship with God. This type is fruitful and is the fruit that will remain. The unbelieving Christians never had a relationship with God, nor do they interpret and use the Scriptures correctly. They have the Word of God, yet they do not believe. “Therefore I say unto you, what things so ever you desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.” ²¹

Some people feel that the Word of God does not work for them, or they do not see a change in their lives inwardly, upwardly, and outwardly in regards to relationships. They go through the motions of attending church every Sunday; however, they do not receive any results from their prayers. Because of their unbelief, faithlessness, and frustration from not receiving

²⁰. Prov. 4:7 NKJV.
²¹. Mark 11:24 KJV.
results for what they have prayed for, some unbelievers are falling away.22 There are several reasons why some unbelievers are falling away in these last days.

People in the Old Testament dispensation were immediately convicted and punished by stoning them to death for whatever sin they committed. Some sinners experienced plagues, turned into stone, and fell into the ground. In the dispensation of the “here and now,” punishment will eventually come for wrongdoing. Some people think they have escaped punishment for the evil that they have committed and continue in wrong doing or habitually sinning. Some unbelievers know what the Word of God says but do not want to be obedient. They do not put their whole trust in God. Some unbelieving Christians are putting their trust in the world’s system instead of the Kingdom of God.

Globally, people are spiritually famished as well as losing their youth in great numbers or “big time!” The reason why is because churches are not meeting their youth where they need to be taught the correct way to live. Some ministers and worship leaders are using Hip Hop music. This particular genre does not attract all youth. Some gospel artists perform Hip Hop music to attract teenagers to bring them to Christ, and they are successful! Most teens do not like the traditional style and prefer the contemporary style of worship. Putting an End to the Worship Wars is a very interesting masterpiece because of its contemporary approach toward the problem of people’s reasons and methodologies for worship. Dr. Elmer Towns’ inclusion of these concepts in his book has a modern approach to how this situation should be resolved in an excellent manner! He provides sound doctrine to help people to understand the validity for the true cause of the tension between contemporary worship of young people versus that of the elderly or their parents. Dr. Towns bridged the gap between the two by having them meet in the middle on Holy ground with the infallible Word of God as the authority. “Worship is recognizing

who God is and giving God His worth-ship.”

How do we compel our youth to walk in Christ or in the love of God? We can assist by building walls and erecting hedges to protect them from experiencing life prematurely. This need is definitely one that is considered of urgency. Some youth think that they are wiser than their saved parents, but they are killing and fooling themselves because they are experiencing the worldly things in life too soon. Some young people grow wiser about the things of the world but weaker about the things that are eternal. When lost youths have been saved, they will be under the protection of the blood of Jesus and also trained for Godly service.

The book of Exodus mentioned that all of the first-born males were to be killed by Pharaoh’s army. Every first-born male that was not under the blood was killed. Revelation states, “They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.” God will take away the memory of terrible and painful events of the past (by His blood). The power of the Holy Spirit will protect and empower. The world knows that the Spirit testifies concerning Christ: “If I had not done among them the works no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. As it is, they have seen, and yet they have hated both me and my Father. But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: ‘They hated me without reason. When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father--the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father--he will testify about me. And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.”

24. Rev. 12:11 NKJV.
The unconverted can be witnessed to through spreading and sharing the Gospel by television, radio, the Internet, social networking, and cell phones. The world can be reached simultaneously just by one touch of the hand. The Holy Spirit will give His disciples wisdom on what to say. Because of the work of the Holy Spirit, there is a faith response, which is required. The Spirit always confirms the truth of the Gospel, which produces conviction and testimony. Paul spoke to the Corinth people of his own testimony to the church: “When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.”

Jesus told his disciples that he had to leave in order for them to understand fully the Counselor because Jesus was their first Counselor. The Paraclete was identified as the Holy Spirit. “Once Jesus had been glorified, the Holy Spirit, “the Paraclete,” continued many functions Jesus performed in the days of His flesh.”

“Does the Holy Spirit still fill men and women today so that their lives are characterized by “love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance?” Does the Holy Spirit still direct believers today?”

God allowed His only begotten Son to die on the cross so that His disciples may “enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, until it overflows).” The Holy Spirit directs every born-again believer explicitly in how to walk on a journey from their wilderness experience to a Spirit-filled life.

26. Ibid.
29. Gal. 5:22-23 KJV.
life or the Zoē (quality) kind of life. Disciples of Christ have to stay connected to the True Vine because Jesus is our only true source and everything

When people experienced the rebirth, their foundations ought to be engrafted with the Word of God. “For in him we live, and move, and have our being.”32 The Apostle Paul stated, “Then we will no longer be infants tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.”33 “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”34 The Holy Spirit will manifest what needs to be changed within us. He will help wean us from milk to meat. Most of the time it is our inert, old behavior or mindset toward change, which slows the process of transformation and sanctification. Our mindset (flesh) toward sin and Christ are areas that ought to be renewed because the Spirit of God comes into the heart of every new convert.35

Jesus exhorted that as true believers we are promised and empowered to do greater works. Jesus’ exaltation at the cross and His return to the Father stated, “The gift of the Holy Spirit could only be given after Jesus’ prophecy had been fulfilled.”36 The disciples were empowered by the Spirit before Christ’s ascension to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandment. The new converts ought to know Jesus through His Spirit.37 D.A. Carson

32. Acts 17:28 KJV.
33. Eph. 4:14-15 NIV.
34. 2 Cor. 5:17 KJV.
36. Andreas J. Kostenberger, Encountering John. (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academics, 1999), 158.
mentioned in his book *The Gospel According to John*, “Jesus’ stance toward the world remains salvific (having the power to save or redeem); He has more sheep to bring into perfect oneness, people will believe through His witness of the Holy Spirit.”

The Holy Spirit is the power of the new birth for every believer. “If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Helper, that he may abide with you forever--the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him.” The third Person of the Trinity comforts, helps, strengthens, enables, exhibits power, and empowers us:

He intercedes for us in perfect prayer (Romans 8:26-27). He teaches all things (John 14:26), and shows us all things to come (John 16:13). He receives of God and reveals it unto us (John16:14-15). He tells us of the things that are freely given to us of God (1 Corinthians 2:9-12); He brings to our remembrance whatever God has said unto us (John 14:26). He enables us to speak in tongues and to manifest the other gifts of the Spirit (Acts 2:4; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11). He transforms those who truly belong to Christ into the image of Christ (Romans 8:28-29).

The person of the Holy Spirit has been misinterpreted by some pastors, spiritual leaders, and followers of Christ. “The way we live our lives every day is referred to as ‘popular religion.’ The norm of the elements of the church is truth that lies in the Scriptures and the un-normal are those elements that are not biblical. Therefore, we are living in an upside down kingdom. In the Old Testament the spirit of the Lord (ruah yhwh; LXX, *to pneuma kyriou*) is generally an

38. Carson, 363.
39. John 14:15-17 NKJV.
expression of Himself whereby He carries out many of His mighty deeds.”43 The children of
Israel knew God’s deeds, but the prophet Moses knew His ways.

The complete understanding of the Word of God, who is HE, the Holy Spirit, or the third
Person of the Trinity is not fully comprehended by some theologians as well as some Christians.
“Christians need to avoid discouragement as they gladly embrace the goal of knowing and
experiencing the Holy Spirit more fully every day.”44 The cultivation of our personal relationship
with the Holy Spirit daily is the key in knowing Him intimately. The Scriptures affirm and
educate disciples in how to depend on the Holy Spirit’s illumination to receive insights and
revelation knowledge into the meaning and application of Scripture.45

The natural man’s mind has been darkened because of sin and has prevented sinners from
properly understanding the Word of God, which is necessary for Scripture and illumination.46
Satan, the enemy, desires to turn sinners away from salvation. He will use sin and condemnation
or guilt. One of the aspects of the Holy Spirit is that He ministers within the province of man’s
rational capacity, which God gave man.47 In the last days, God says, “I will pour out my Spirit
on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your
young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my
Spirit in those days.”48

45. John 16:12-15; 1 Cor. 2:9-11.
47. Gen. 2-3.
48. Joel 2:28-30 NIV.
The Apostle Paul stated in Galatians 3:28, “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.⁴⁹ “God is no respecter of persons,” as it is written in Acts chapter ten and verse thirty-four.” The whole world belongs to Him and is in His hands. “The earth is the Lord’s, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.”⁵⁰ He blesses His disciples who reverentially fear, love, and obey Him. Jesus was mistreated, persecuted, and died on the cross for the Gentiles and Jews’ sake.⁵¹

The Holy Spirit (fire and water) is for “whosoever will.”⁵² He wants all to be cleansed or sanctified through His blood and the work of the Holy Spirit. What is meant by the Holy Spirit and sanctification in Christendom? It simply means being purged from sin, which is developmental. “Sanctification with the help of the Holy Spirit is the work of God’s free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin and live unto righteousness.”⁵³ This can only happen by first surrendering everything over into the hands of Christ:

Salvation means peace, direction, protection, deliverance, victory, strength, freedom, good health, abundant life, and divine provision (Psalms 37:39-40). Timothy P. Jenny and his writing pertaining to the Holy Spirit and Sanctification, referred to as the task of the Holy Spirit at this present stage in the history of salvation is fourfold: (1) to convict the world (2) to cleanse the believer through the blood of Christ at the new birth, (3) to make real in the believer’s life the legal pronouncement of righteousness that God has made, and (4) to empower the believer to assist in the sanctification process of others by (a) the proclamation of the gospel to the unbeliever and (b) the building up of the

⁴⁹. KJV.

⁵⁰. Ps. 24:1 KJV.

⁵¹. Isa. 53.

⁵². Matt. 16:25 KJV.

believer.⁵⁴

The Holy Spirit’s nature is to indwell in every believer to beget the nature and character of God when we were baptized and sealed in Jesus’ name by the Holy Spirit at the time of Salvation. The Holy Spirit desires to fill and control all Christians for His service. “Salvation is when you let Jesus into your heart (house). The filling of the Holy Spirit is when you give the Holy Spirit all the keys to all the doors in your house. “The Apostle Paul wrote in Ephesians 5:18, ’And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit.’ That verse is a command, not a suggestion. As a hand fills a glove, so the Holy Spirit wants to fill and control.”⁵⁵

The new convert will struggle with the old man and its bad habits or sinful acts. During this fight, the new believer will be blessed with spiritual gifts and may be assigned to a particular ministry in a church. As they minister to others, it is vital they collaborate with a mentor to pray with them, counsel them, and fellowship with them through all their struggles. The Apostle John (the disciple that Jesus loved) witnessed the anointed leadership of our Lord in proximity with all of the disciples as He trained them for the ministry. “The farewell discourse presents Jesus’ mission to the world, based, as it were, on his cross-death, and carried out in the power of the Spirit through His followers in chapters 14-16.”⁵⁶

The spiritual leaders of the church are accountable for the spiritual growth of new converts. Leaders are to set boundaries and assist new Christians as issues arise that need to be addressed. Encouragement empowers new converts to grow as the ministry grows spiritually

⁵⁴. Horton, 399.


⁵⁶. Kostenberger, 144.
and numerically. Gordon Fee, an evangelical author, stated, “The Spirit gathers the newly constituted people of God in worship for corporate praise of God and sharing of gifts to build up the community of Faith.” The new converts ought to feel welcomed, and no one in the body of Christ should feel intimidated because of the new disciples’ gifts, talents and abilities.

It is very explicit that Christ desires for every believer to be led by the Spirit and not to walk in the flesh. Walking in obedience and love and being aware of the unction of the Holy Spirit is definitely a matter of daily training. This is a day-by-day battle and challenge on their journey for even the most devout Christians. The Apostle Paul had an inner conflict or struggle with his flesh: “For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.” Jesus spent time on the Mount Olives at night praying and in the Upper room to prepare His disciples for His departure. He also made provisions for them through encouragement and the reassurance of His second coming. “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.”

Judas Iscariot’s betrayal, Peter’s denial, and the plots of rulers did not hinder Jesus from fulfilling His divine destiny during His three-and-a-half years of earthly ministry. The sinful nature of Judas caused him to fail to see and experience with the fullness of the Comforter or the Holy Spirit a more intimate relationship with Jesus Christ and how much the Son of God truly loved him. “For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is

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58. Rom. 8:1-2; Gal. 5:16.

59. Rom. 7:19 KJV.

60. John 14:1 NIV.
contrary to the sinful nature." In spite of temptation and distractions, which Jesus faced, His Disciples had to choose to stay focused and be led by the Holy Spirit in the midst of a perverse generation. “We take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”

Spiritual leaders diligently seek intimacy with the Holy Spirit so that they can teach Christ’s disciples how to be more Christ-like, where to go, what to say, and what to do. Leaders are to have an eagle-eyed vision to see into the future. A leader ought to have insight into where he is to lead his disciples. He knows what is next! Christ’s disciples ought to have a quiet place daily to meditate on God’s greatness and presence and depend on His power that will help deliver true believers from all selfish, fleshy desires (Judas) and inclinations of the worldly devices of the wicked one.

Disciples ought to make a daily decision to walk earnestly in the Spirit of the love of God. “Bless those who persecute” us and “do not repay [anyone] evil with evil” but repay evil with good.” Jesus knew about the plot of Judas to betray him, but He forgave Judas and still loved him as much as He did His other disciples. If Christ’s disciples love like Jesus, live like Jesus, and forgive like Him, the world would be full of agape or unconditional love instead of haters and unforgiveness.

61. Gal. 5:17 NIV.
62. 2 Tim. 3.
63. 2 Cor. 10:5 NIV.
64. Ps. 42:1-2; Isa. 26:9.
67. Rom. 12:14, 17 NIV.
Our Lord did not commit His teaching to writing, but on several occasions during His three-and-a-half years of earthly ministry, He promised that the apostles would be directed by the Holy Spirit in the utterance and propagation of His teaching. Before Jesus’ ascension as a powerful example of humility and love, He washed the feet of His disciples.69 True Disciples are not to have pride (rebellion against the Word of God) and ought to exemplify lives of service to God the Father and others. Jesus demonstrated what servanthood and good stewardship are comprised of in all that He said and did. “A servant is not greater than his Master.”70 “The New Testament teaching of the Holy Spirit, Jesus, and righteous living is rooted in the idea of both the spirit of God as the manifestation of God’s power and the spirit of prophecy.”71 “This promise was fulfilled during the life of Christ and extended as well into the post-resurrection and post-Pentecostal ministries of the apostles.”72 The Apostles were led by the Holy Spirit when they preached about Jesus. When the twelve were first commissioned to preach “the Kingdom of heaven” in Matthew 10:7; Jesus promised them, saying, “When they deliver you up, do not become anxious about how or what you are to speak; for what you are to say will be given you in that very hour and moment. For it is not you who are speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.”73

When the Word of God is preached, the whole world of sinners (unconverted) becomes convicted through the Holy Spirit. Because of the coming of the Day of our Lord, it is feasible for righteousness to overflow in their unconverted lives. The Spirit is conducive to signs and

70. John 13:16 NKJV.
71. Elwell, 569.
73. Matt. 10:19-20 Amp.
wonders after the Word of God has been preached. Conviction, shame, and guilt are some of the feelings that they experience when the Word of God is spoken to the unconverted. The main reason the Holy Spirit works in each individual is to bring them to Salvation. “It is the Spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.”\footnote{John 6:63 KJV.} Jesus declared himself as the “Light of the World.”\footnote{John 1.} He demonstrated this love by being a servant, giving sight to the blind, causing deaf ears to hear, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, raising the dead, healing the broken hearted, and setting the captives free.\footnote{Luke 4:18.} He obeyed His Father who sent Him while others enjoyed sin.

Obedience is the key to transformation. The founder of Liberty University and visionary, the late Dr. Jerry Falwell, Sr. of Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, Virginia, exhorted, “Let God use you as a channel of water that God can pour His life through.”\footnote{Jerry Falwell, Sr., (Sermon, Thomas Road Baptist Church, Lynchburg, Virginia, 1995).} Minister Michael Orion Carter of Successful Living Ministries and World Changers Church International in Atlanta, Georgia, stated, “Total life success is not determined by your money, social status, or possessions, but it is determined by your consistency to hear, believe and obey what the Holy Spirit speaks to you.”\footnote{Michael Orion Carter, (Sermon, Ministry of Successful Living. Fayetteville, Georgia, 2012).}

Jesus had to leave in order for his disciples to understand fully the Counselor because Jesus was their first Counselor.\footnote{John 14:16.} The Holy Spirit had to be manifested to them according to the Scriptures. “Once Jesus had been glorified, the Holy Spirit, ‘the Paraclete,’ continued many

\begin{itemize}
\item \footnote{John 6:63 KJV.}
\item \footnote{John 1.}
\item \footnote{Luke 4:18.}
\item \footnote{Jerry Falwell, Sr., (Sermon, Thomas Road Baptist Church, Lynchburg, Virginia, 1995).}
\item \footnote{Michael Orion Carter, (Sermon, Ministry of Successful Living. Fayetteville, Georgia, 2012).}
\item \footnote{John 14:16.}
\end{itemize}
functions Jesus performed in the days of His flesh.”

The Holy Spirit still seals men and women today so that their lives are considered to be fruitful by the fruit of the spirit--“love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.”

Christians are to be fruit inspectors because you ought to know folks by their fruit. “Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.”

The Holy Spirit is a compass for believers today.

Focus on the glorification of God is the reason why every believer should embark on the journey of missions. True worshippers are the backbone to the auspicious hymns and songs that uplift the name of Christ. The zeal for the glory of God is the motivating force of global missions. Christ was the living paradigm who left His high place in heaven and humbled Himself as a servant on earth. He was the shining light that revealed that God and His Word are truly real. The nations may know God’s mercy and acknowledge this, but who is giving Him all the glory?

Christ came to earth so that His heavenly Father may be the One who receives all the credit and not man. His primary reason for missions and making disciples is that all nations will come to know Him. The unreached must hear the Gospel. Jesus’ sole purpose for all nations is that they may know that he is a promise keeper. This zeal is to glorify God in the motivation of global missions as it is written in Rom 15:8-9. The heart that is full of the spirit of servanthood and God’s mercy are the unique qualities that are conducive to an ardent desire for motivation of making disciples and performing global missions. Jesus as a servant of God carried the torch for

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80. Carson, 363.
81. Gal. 5:22-23 NKJV.
82. John 15:16 KJV.
world missions. He had compassion for the unreached and fulfilled His destiny by being obedient to the Great Commission. He had the right motives because His heart was full of mercy for all nations that God may be glorified! When motives are not in line with the Word of God, they are man-centered instead of for the glory of God. It is not about what man can accomplish for selfish gain, but it is all about compassion and mercy toward the lost. A true heart is more than sacrificial and a zealous spirit for God, but a true worshipper sacrifices because he knows what is pleasing to God. “Let every kindred and let every tribe crown him Lord of all.” 83

The word *power* in Greek is *dumas*, and power has been given to man since the beginning of time. The narrative in the book of Genesis depicts the story of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. They had seed, power or dominion (resources) over the Earth, and a personal relationship with God. He gave Adam the authority to name every animal and living creature. What happened to this *dumas* power and the close relationship that Adam had with God?

The angel in heaven, Lucifer, was a powerful worship leader, and he had to be cast out of heaven because of his pride. What made him think he could be more powerful than God almighty? Alexander the Great wanted to be ruler over the whole world, and his life was shortened. Some men seek prestige and power in politics, religion, sports, entertainment, and business (Wall Street) arenas only to find out that without God there is no lasting success.

Wealth and prosperity is a sought after goal in some churches in the present society. The book of Matthew 6:33 cautions to “seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” There is a spirit of narcissism, greed, and power among some of the brethren in the faith. Christians are not supposed to have the “keep up with the Joneses” mentality. This is only a mindset of mediocrity, and its destination points in the

opposite direction of what Christ was teaching and preaching in correlation to walking in the
Spirit.\textsuperscript{84} God the Father desires so much more than what some Christians desire. He wants His
children to have steak, yet some desire only pork chops.

The true and real source of power (\textit{dumas}) is the Creator of power, who births joy and
peace. The worldly lust for materialism is only for the moment. It cannot bring fulfillment in the
spiritual realm that is conducive to the power of Salvation and the right destination. “All power
is given unto me in heaven and in earth. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is
come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in
Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”\textsuperscript{85} The Great Commission exhorts man to use
this same power to make disciples, go to the ends of the earth, and baptize in the name of the
Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost.\textsuperscript{86}

“The church is simply the body of Jesus through which He acts today. We are to share
Jesus Christ, observe lives changed, develop His bride, and fulfill His kingdom. The Bible says
God will judge whatever we build on the basis of whether it will last: ‘The fire will test the
quality of each man’s work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward’.”\textsuperscript{87}

A former Liberty University Theological Seminary professor and evangelical author
Danny Lovett emphasized in his book the \textit{Rod of the Spirit} that one of the key components in
disciples of Christ’s daily compass is to know where and whom to minister to.\textsuperscript{88} It is very

\textsuperscript{84} Rom. 7-8; Gal. 5:15-17.
\textsuperscript{85} Acts 1:8, KJV.
\textsuperscript{86} Matt. 28:19.
\textsuperscript{87} Win Arn and Charles Arn, \textit{The Master’s Plan for Making Disciples} (Pasadena, CA: Church Growth
Press, 1982), 156.
\textsuperscript{88} Mark 1: 35.
imperative that Christ’s disciples exercise one of the principles as well as spiritual disciplines referred to as quiet time or sitting at Jesus’ feet daily. The Holy Spirit abides in every born-again believer when Jesus is accepted as Lord and Savior. He ought to be in every facet of every believer’s life because He is our guide, rod and staff, comforter, protector, bread of life, and living water. The human body consists of 98% water and yet we must drink water daily in order to maintain healthy bodies for Christ. We must stay connected spiritually to the vine and prayerfully so that we can be used by God, as well as maintain healthy, Godly lives as we surrender our all and all to the King of Glory!

Pneumatology, or the study of the Holy Spirit, is a very vital tenet in the implications and perception of church growth for spiritual leaders’ visions, dreams, direction, decisions, and implementation of innovative tools. How can there be numerical and spiritual church growth in and new methods utilized without the guiding and prompting of the Holy Spirit? How can dreams and visions be fulfilled? He is the Alpha (Beginning) and the Omega (End). The insights pertaining to the ministry of the Holy Spirit and how the Holy Spirit dwells in carnal Christians is the basis of why the harvest is still white yet the laborers are few. In this present dispensation, there are only 15 percent of disciples of Christ who are seeking the unsaved daily. The Holy Spirit is the one who leads people to others for salvation. When, the congregation is eighty-five percent carnal, how can the congregation effectively be soul winners in the 21st century? How can the world be reached and trained to make disciples for Christ in a dying world? How can people led by fleshy or sense mechanism leave a mark that will never be erased in the world?

The carnal man has been born again, but he is complacent spiritually and has been in the babyhood stage all of his life. How does he stop conforming into the image of the world and embrace the image of Christ? He is underdeveloped and maintains spiritual darkness. Whenever

there is spiritual darkness, there is an entrance way and a place for demonic spirits to flourish. The carnal man is governed by his physical senses. The carnal man who has been saved consistently walks in his flesh, but he has the Holy Spirit. However, he sometimes operates in the residue of the flesh.

The Apostle Paul said to the church of Corinth, “However, Brethren, I could not talk to you as to spiritual [men], but as to non-spiritual [men of the flesh, in whom the carnal nature predominates], as to mere infants [in the new life] in Christ [unable to talk yet!]. I fed you milk, not solid food, for you were not strong enough [to be ready for it].” 90 The carnal man can become a spiritual man by walking in the Spirit and not fulfilling fleshy desires. The flesh is hostile to God. The natural world is the law of sin, which is “adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like.” 91 The carnal man can have victory over the dictates of the flesh only when he truly believes in and meditates on the Word of God as well as trusts and obeys Him in every area of life.

What did Jesus mean when he said, “I will build my church?” Doctrine of the church is neither dull nor boring. It is dynamic! It is not the business of the church to adapt Christ to men, but to adapt men to Christ. Dr. John Foster tells how an inquirer from Hinduism came to an Indian Bishop. Unaided by anyone, he had read the New Testament and the story had fascinated him and Christ had laid a spell on him. Then he read on...and felt he had entered into a new world. In the gospels, it was Jesus, His works and suffering. In Acts...what the Disciples did and thought and taught had taken the place Christ had occupied. The church continued where Christ had left off at His death. 'Therefore, said the man to me, I must belong to the church that carries on the life of Christ.' 92

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90. I Cor. 3:1-2 Amp.
91. Gal. 5:19-21 KJV.
The statistics of many of the mega churches growth stemmed from single–cell churches where everyone knows everyone to a stretched cell, multi-cell, and multi-congregational. Today technology has stretched evangelizing worldwide and helped disciples to tap uncountable ways from the Internet, social networking, websites, online ministries, and E-Church that direct people who are ushering the unsaved to a local church. People within the congregation utilize all avenues of evangelism to invite their relatives, friends, co-workers, and associates to their church of worship from the door-to-door, grassroots, television, radio broadcast, and E-Church. The message taught from the Bible touches lives through the Holy Spirit from the disciples and convicts the sinners by the Word of God. The battleground begins in the mind. When the Word of God is heard, it is feasible for the light of the Gospel to come in. This is the ministry of the Holy Spirit to lead and guide. He also has the ministry of the indwelling of those who believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The mission of the disciples of the church is to instruct and train disciples to fulfill the purpose and life of Christ.

The mobilizing of Christ’s disciples to the unsaved souls or the unconverted with the aid of technology from the Internet and E-Church to be saved in a local church is a wonderful tool or gift to the body of Christ. This is a vehicle to assist the new converts. They can be instructed in regards to their spiritual gifts usage in godly service as well as collaborate with the leadership capacity within the body of Christ to work harmoniously together in proximity for the up building of the kingdom. Through Christ souls are won. This can also be accomplished via the Internet and the E-Church where the multitude of fish exist for the assembling of the new converts who can be enrolled in new-member classes and walk with the Disciples over the threshold after baptism into a local church. This is not only for understanding the Bible but for new membership training, empowering the new converts for being good stewards of their gifts,
talents, and abilities as well as liturgy, worship, corporate prayer, singing hymns, tithes and offering, observing the ordinances of baptism (public profession), and the sacrament of Communion or the Lord’s Supper, and fellowship with the new converts. “The purposes are described in Acts 2:1-47: they taught each other, they fellowshipped together, they worshiped, ministered and evangelized. How much do we wish to emulate what happened in the New Testament church? Who will help, model and lead us to become the church where we live?”

“If the church's agenda is not the Kingdom agenda, it's the wrong agenda, no matter how good it looks or how successful it appears. Christ said He would build His church, but He told us to seek and advance his kingdom. We focus on the Kingdom, and He'll take care of his church.” Sometimes church leaders and believers who are divinely endowed with spiritual gifts do not classify themselves as mature Christians. Leaders cannot lead unless they have the gift of the anointing that destroys yokes and removes burdens. He must thirst for God and be a God chaser. Thirst is the exchange for the anointing. King David stated in Psalm 42:1-2, “As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?” “Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.”

Leaders are gifts to their congregations, and there can be an impartation of spiritual gifts from pastors to his disciples of Christ if the pastor is in right standing with God. The more quiet time spent seeking God for solutions and not dwelling on problems, the more effective are spiritual leaders and disciples in their operation of their spiritual gifts and implementation of


94. Arn and Arn, 156.

95. KJV.

96. Matt. 5:6 KJV.
innovative tools for soul winning. The more knowledge leaders have concerning the use of spiritual gifts as well as growth to grow and grow-up the church the more effective the life body will be in evangelism.\(^97\)

The E-Church is passing the baton from one generation to the next generation so that people of all ethnos will have an opportunity to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ. The unsaved are able to understand the Word of God at anytime, anywhere, and simultaneously with the saved world. Christian social networking is saving lives mentally, physically, and spiritually, one soul at a time. Many youth globally during their chatting time with their peers will also have the accessibility to the Internet E-Church to ask questions, to receive love, counseling, prayer, and understanding of the scriptures as well as receive Christ as their Lord and Savior. There will always be trained and anointed counselors and mentors available to talk on the chat line or telephone to walk the unsaved through any circumstance regardless of age, gender, ethnos, or religious preference. The sole purpose of the Internet E-Church is to connect lost souls to Christ and to help them to find their way. “The Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”\(^98\)

Many of our youth are being swayed and taken from their computers and the Internet into the world of sinners. Sex trafficking, pornography, homosexuality, drugs, alcohol, and witchcraft are invading their lives and leaving them lost, faithless, unloved, and spiritually sick. Some do not want to be offended by the liturgy of traditional church but rather remain anonymous through seeking counsel through the Internet E-Church. There have been some people who have been hurt so badly by some people in the traditional church that they have fallen away into the world of the unsaved. They sometimes seek refuge in their peers or

\(^{97}\) 1 Cor. 12:7; 14:26.\(^{98}\) Luke 19:10 KJV.
someone who will lend a listening ear to their open wounds. The Internet E-Church with the
guidance of the Holy Spirit loves them through all their hurt and pain and will help win their
trust in God again and place them under the tender loving care of an anointed pastor of a local
church.

The best way to help a hurting soul is through the Word of God and loving, believing
Christians who know how to love unconditionally and understand how to reach them
providentially with lots of compassion, nurturing, and patience. They will experience one-on-
one mentoring until they are strong enough to carry the baton to the next soul or disciple. Jesus
was always in transition. He loved people so much, and sometimes we go to help people in their
homes, churches, synagogues, caves, crowds, wilderness, rivers, valleys, and mountaintops. It
did not matter to Jesus where he had to go to help a lost soul. He did not condemn anyone
because of their sin nature, but he helped them to rise above their circumstance.

The Great Commission commands all believers to go and win lost souls to Christ in
Matthew 28:16-20:

Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had
appointed them. And when they saw him, worshipped him: but some doubted. And
Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in
earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I
have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.99

This mandate was given not only to the disciples to carry out what Jesus had command but to all
believers and church planters, too.

The Great Commission was for church numerical growth because it is God’s will for
discipleship and evangelization to be the next step after conversion. Baptism is a means of
belonging to a body of Christ for the sole purpose of the advancement of the Kingdom. The

99. KJV.
command to teach doctrine is imperative and conducive to church growth and fellowship. It is imperative that the body of Christ on one accord must target a particular people group or ethnos as executed in the New Testament church. After reaching an ethnos they are to be baptized and taught the infallible Word of God. Because of the overflow of new converts this brings the implications of numerical growth and the necessity for planting new churches that are pleasing to God.

Malphurs pointed out in his book that leaders ought to embrace the biblical principles of the Great Commission and Christ’s Commandments in order to take the existing church through transformation. This can only be done by preaching the Word of God, having a theology of change, and understanding how the local church functions. Ministers ought to target areas effectively that are essential for spiritual growth, and leadership must be employed in people groups, ethnic groups, and cultures by understanding the culture for disciple-making within the faith community. There are four reasons the evangelical author Aubrey Malphurs stated that are the reasons for churches declining in the twentieth first century in his book *A New Kind of Church:* “1. They are too slow in amending their methods. 2. They failed to take advantages of opportunities. 3. They do not value evangelism. 4. They do not employ gifted leaders. These principles are in alignment with the engrafted Word of God, and they come from the nature of God. There cannot be a meaning of any church growth principle without the activation of these four divine principles.”

The first prescriptive principle reminds everyone of how God loves the world and has a unique purposeful design and plan for every living soul on the face of this earth. “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not

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perish, but have everlasting life.”101 God also loves people so much that He said in John 10:10, “I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”102 He has a universal plan that is unique for their peace, protection, joy, and prosperity. It is always welcome news to people everywhere that in the plans of God, their existence has a meaning, and there is a reason why the church does what it does and why they do what they do. If the unsaved do not hear from His disciples about God’s promises, how will they know how to do better?

Secondly, Jesus does not want His people to die and experience eternal damnation because of sin. Romans 3:23 states, “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”103 It is imperative that every person must be reached with the gospel so that they may be saved from the flames of hell fire. “Yet we are mindful that our Lord in response to the Apostle Peter’s affirmation of faith prophesied, ‘You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hell shall not power it’.104 God will not allow Satan and his army to prevail over the work of His saints because Jesus is the good Shepherd over His sheep: “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep.”105

The Apostle Paul faithfully followed the guidelines of Christ in winning souls and planting churches. He used a responsible team of men to fulfill his missionary plans. He never tried to work alone, and Paul did not try to cover the whole population of any region. The Apostle Paul served in important strategic centers on the great trade routes, established schools where he trained the native men and women, and encouraged them to develop their own

101. John 3:16 KJV.
102. KJV.
103. KJV.
105. John 10:11 NKJV.
leadership and to evangelize their own people. Once the local church was established, he moved on to the next center.


These are the Apostle Paul’s strands of pearls or blueprint to help guide some church planters.

The third principle is that Jesus commanded all to go and “preach” to every person the good news, “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” This is a second command, which is strategic to reach the lost. The word teach in the Greek translation means to make disciples. “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.” This is where they were first called Christians and met intensely with the church and taught them systematically for one whole year. The quality and length of teaching for one year are very important factors in planting churches, and it is feasible to keep people interested in church.

The reason why churches are changing is because sometimes they are not following the

107. Mark 16:15 KJV.
108. Matt. 28:19-20 KJV.
biblical principles essential to church planting in that people must be encouraged to attend the local church. Dr. Jerry Falwell, a Champion for Christ stated, ‘The super-aggressive local church, another phrase I coined in the 1960s, should fill or saturate its ‘Jerusalem’ with its teaching.’

After the disciples were baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit, they followed Him. Baptism is more than being immersed in water, but it is being identified with Jesus Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection. Believers must get training and seek new methods to evangelize and “know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings.”

America is a democracy and advocates the freedom to worship, but people are not following traditional Christian Sunday worship. Some countries insist that it is imperative that everybody worship one way. An example of this is Muslim countries. Americans are free to attend any place of worship or follow any religion. People do not attend church in the twenty-first century because they think differently in the typical church. “How are we different now? The typical pre-World War II person lived in a mono-cultural world. America was largely white, Anglo-Saxon, and Protestant or Catholic.”

Secondly, the reason people no longer attend church is because people no longer feel obligated to be faithful to their leadership and church. “Early in 1990 Gallup discovered that an overwhelming number of church attenders as well as the unchurched believed that people ‘should arrive at their beliefs independent of any church or synagogue. Further, one should be a


110. Phil. 3:10 KJV.

111. Malphurs, 30.
good Christian or Jew without being a part of any Christian or Jewish faith community.”

It is great strategy to teach people the Word of God and get them on fire and move out of their way. When people are walking in the authority of God’s Word, anointing, knowing God, and sold out to Him, His biblical principles become more prevalent in their lives; they have a passion for Him.

When every opportunity presents itself to share their faith with unbelievers, they will do it with zeal. The results are to have an explicit or crystal clear understanding of what is most pleasing to God. It is difficult for zealots to not release to unbelievers the love of God and their testimonies of how God blessed them with a brand new life. The book of Luke in the fourteenth chapter and the twentieth-sixth verse said, “If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.”

A third reason people no longer attend church is that Sunday morning is no longer sacred. The church reached its most noticeable highest attendance levels between 1954 and 1962 according to Gallup’s statistics.

The precise solution for how a new kind of church can providentially meet the needs of the people of the times for the twentieth-first century church leaders globally is through the Internet and contextualization. These prescriptive principles are based on the Word of God. It is essential that spiritual leaders see far ahead and know exactly where they are going and what is wrong so the people can have a purpose-driven church even if they have to use a Godly Consultant for strategic planning.

Christ has the blueprint and model for church ministry for all ages. It is the leaders’ responsibility to tap into the vision Christ has for his ministry. Jesus spent most of His public

112. Ibid.

113. KJV.
ministry recruiting disciples and teaching them to reproduce disciples. He also gave key lessons and taught parables so that they might understand how to apply these principles. Jesus taught the disciples in proximity by setting the example through teaching, exhorting, modeling, and encouraging. The Great Commission is primarily about discipleship and not evangelism only.

The Apostle Paul is also the great biblical model for how a church should function because of his love for Christ, strategic planning, and methodology. The foundation of Christians’ faith should mirror that of Jesus Christ and the Apostle Paul as he followed Christ. Paul was obedient to the Word of God and spent many hours in prayer in preparation for his missionary journeys. After he prayed, God gave him instructions, strategy, and methods. Strategy is also used in the military and for large-scale planning. Paul always allowed the Holy Spirit to lead him in his strategic planning and missionary journeys. Pauline strategy is applicable in the twenty-first century because his model is used in postmodern churches in America and foreign countries. The first-century church, even though it was not as sophisticated as modern-day churches, it was the blueprint for a new kind of church and is still utilized. There was also in Paul’s first-century church a language barrier and difference in cultures. He understood how to communicate with the people to help churches.

It is vital for leaders to get involved in a new methodology to keep people coming to church. There are some very thought-provoking reasons for being about their Father’s business and allowing God to compel leaders to save a dying world. Leaders without the correct training can cause many to waste time, money, and resources. There is some risk for a novice especially to have a new kind of church but take a risk even though the task may not be easy. The Apostle Paul exhorted and compelled all laymen to plant churches with a mindset that is theological, missiological, and practical to solve the problems of this emerging culture and postmodern
world. “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.” 114

There are in the 21st century better tools and technology available, and the Holy Spirit will help to assist believing Christians to reach and teach more people. God’s power is more penetrating and transforming because of the great harvest. There ought to be more and more people giving their lives to Christ, being more involved, and touching the hearts of all peoples. The closer to the day of the rapture, the intensity of this outpouring of the Holy Spirit is augmented. Today, God is doing a new thing by dispersing Himself in many different ways in His churches and the Internet or social media so that the message of the gospel will be understood with simplicity and versatility especially through charismatic leaders. The prescriptive principles mentioned ought to be used in churches that are truly declining. The leaders of churches should always have a group of ministers within the body to critique their church, and they should be balanced in every tenet of the Christian faith. Pastors and mentors can be great godly consultants and travel worldwide using this teaching method to improve the churches of Christ’s. There is a wealth of knowledge embedded in every page of this dissertation that has already been tested in declining churches and is very successful because of the method, five general functions, and the form as prescribed in the biblical principles. God is glorified and not man!

114. Phil. 4:13 KJV.
APPENDIX A
SURVEY QUESTIONS

1. Why is the Earth Covered with Sin?
   a. People’s Unbelief in God
   b. The lack of Spiritual Leadership in the Church and community
   c. The lack of Knowledge of the Bible
   d. People are weak in the Faith
   e. Some people are not interested in learning about the Word of God

2. Why Some Ministries Are Not Reaching the Lost?
   a. Some Pastors have weak spiritual leadership
   b. Church Worship times is not Christ Centered
   c. The Pastor has no plans or strategy to implement the Great Commission
   d. Pastor’s sermons are not compelling people to win the lost to Christ
   e. Some people are not interested in soul wining

3. How Does Your Ministry Equip and Mobilize Disciples to Make Disciples?
   a. Pastor teaches and leads by example how to implement the Great Commission tena-
      ciously
   b. The leadership trains the congregation how to win people to Christ and who are their
      target group(s)
   c. Leadership execute plans to go on Mission trips to evangelize
   d. Church have programs to invite people to worship at your ministry
   e. Pastor and congregation visit the lost in jails, prisons, homeless shelters, hospitals,
      nursing homes and people’s homes in their communities

4. What innovative tools are the leaders and congregation implementing for the Great
   Commission?
   a. Internet/Social Media/ Social Networking
   b. Online Books, I-Phone/Smart Phones, Websites, Email, Skype, and Television
   c. Airplanes/Jet Planes for Mission trips in the United States and abroad to evangelize
   d. Sermons and PowerPoint presentations to educate people on the Great Commission
   e. Leader and congregation invest money and time in launching of Church Planting and
      Satellite Churches

5. What are your Church’s evangelistic strategies?
   a. Evangelism Classes for training disciples to bring people to Christ on the Internet and
      door-to-door/Grassroots
b. Does your ministry have Discipleship training?
c. Leaders of your Church Train disciples for Social Networking/Social Media on the internet for the purpose of taking Christ to the unsaved
d. Does your Church have Corporate Prayer?
e. Have the leaders of the Church planted Satellite Churches in their Jerusalem (Community), Judea/Samaria (United States) and the Uttermost Part of the Earth (International) (Acts 1:8)?

6. Are you training your congregation where they belong in the Church?
   a. Helping to discover their passion (Philippians 2:13)
   b. Helping them to use their God-given abilities (Exodus 36:2)
   c. Helping them to use their personalities (Psalm 139:13-16)
   d. Helping them to use their life experiences (Romans 8:28)
   e. Helping them to use their spiritual gifts (I Corinthians 7:7)

7. Why Are Some Ministries Having Problems With People Not Coming to Church?
   a. Some people are not interested
   b. Some people in the congregation have been hurt or insulted by a Pastor
   c. Some people have been hurt or insulted by church members
   d. Some people have an illness that have caused them to be unable to attend Church
   e. Some people have to work on Sunday
   f. Hobbies
   g. Nobody to Connect/Friends
   h. Not Applicable to life Journey
   i. Style of Worship Music
   j. Have Cease from Attending Habitually
   k. Lack of Good Leadership/Direction
   l. Does Not like the Style of Preaching
   m. Leadership or Congregation Overlooks Some People’s Need
Dr. Elmer Towns, Co-Founder of Liberty University, Dean of the School of Religion, Author, and Professor teaches doctoral Student Gwendolyn W. Hill, a Champion for Christ.
Dr. Charlie N. Davidson, Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program, Director of the Master of Divinity and Training Champions for Christ at Liberty University the largest Christian University in the World.

Convocation at Liberty University’s Campus in the Vine Center. Training Champions for Christ. Campus Pastor Johnnie Moore spoke to over 17,000 students.
Future missionaries at the Vines Center, seeking prayer as they prepare for missions to the world as Champions for Christ from Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia.

Dr. Vernon Whaley, Director of the Center for Worship at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia.
Worship class, WRSP 997 with Dr. Vernon Whaley at Liberty University. Book cover design by artist Gwendolyn West-Hill.

A night of worship with gifted students of Liberty University at Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, Virginia.
A night of worship with Gwen Hill and Babbie Mason
Pastor/Disciple for Christ imparts the Word to his disciple to make a disciple and champion for Christ.
Veggie Tales wall mural “Save our Youths and be a Life Saver”

The late Dr. Jerry Falwell, Sr., the great visionary for Liberty University since 1971, and Co-Founder Dr. Elmer Towns planted one of the largest Evangelical private institutions in the world located on the Blue Ridge Mountains.


King, Jr., Martin Luther. *Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community? (King Legacy)*. Boston, MA: Beacon Press, 2010.


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November 20, 2012

Gwendolyn Hill  
IRB Approval 1418.112012: A Model for Reaching, Teaching, Feeding, and Loving  
People Providentially for the Kingdom

Dear Gwen,

We are pleased to inform you that your above study has been approved by the Liberty IRB. This approval is extended to you for one year. If data collection proceeds past one year, or if you make changes in the methodology as it pertains to human subjects, you must submit an appropriate update form to the IRB. The forms for these cases were attached to your approval email.

Thank you for your cooperation with the IRB and we wish you well with your research project.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

Fernando Garzon, Psy.D.  
Professor, IRB Chair  
Counseling

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