

DISCIPLES
— OF ALL —
NATIONS

CONTINUOUS MISSION UNTIL HE COMES

JOHN L. AMSTUTZ

ASSESSMENT WORKBOOK:
LOCAL AND REGIONAL/NATIONWIDE

Disciples of All Nations: Continuous Mission Until He Comes A Local and Regional/Nationwide Assessment

Welcome,

You are about to become involved in a practical assessment of your church or group of churches based on a four-stage strategy model. It is drawn from the Book of Acts which narrates how the witness to Christ by the early Church expanded from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth in response to His call and vision to make disciples of all nations.

The workbook is taken from *Disciples of All Nations: Continuous Mission Until He Comes* (see the back cover for further information) and is divided into three parts:

- Clarifying the Vision: Purpose, Mission and Strategy
- Explaining the Four-Stage Strategy: Initiate, Nurture, Expand, Send
- Applying the Four-Strategy: an Assessment

You will be asked to respond to 64 questions related to the four stages and plot the results on a “wheel” which will indicate which “stage” your church or group of churches is in. This will give you an idea of the areas of strength and those in need of development.

Please do not regard the results of this assessment as final. Further review may be needed. However, they are a starting point for prayer and investigation and possible consultation with other churches and regions to discover how they are seeking to implement this “full circle” strategy.

The purpose of the assessment is to help get the wheel “rolling” in seeking to develop healthy, maturing, reproducing churches, churches that make possible the continuous spread of the gospel...until He comes.

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Disciples of All Nations:

Continuous Mission Until He Comes – An Assessment

Introduction

From its beginning in the 1920s the Foursquare movement has been dedicated to the cause of inter-denominational, worldwide evangelism. Christ's universal commission to "make disciples of all nations" is the foundation of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel. The Foursquare Church is devoted to the development of strong, reproducing local, regional and national churches which make possible the continuous spread of the gospel to those yet unreached.

This workbook provides a practical tool in assessing the development and strength of a local church or a regional or national group of churches as they seek to fulfill the vision Christ has given of disciples of all nations.

Clarifying the Vision

The process of clarifying the vision of The Foursquare Church's biblical purpose, historic mission, and practical strategy took a major step in the 1990s. After a two-year study the Foursquare Cabinet agreed upon the following statement.

Purpose: our reason for existence

The International Church of the Foursquare Gospel exists to glorify God and advance His kingdom in obedience to Jesus Christ's mandate to preach the gospel and make disciples of all nations/peoples (Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:19). Therefore, we are "dedicated unto the cause of interdenominational and worldwide evangelism."

Mission: our assignment

In fulfillment of our biblical purpose we believe we are called to present Jesus Christ, God's Son, as "the Savior, the Healer, the Baptizer with the Holy Spirit and the coming King" and to establish healthy, mature, culturally appropriate, reproducing churches. Therefore, we are dedicated to the development of churches which are infinitely reproducible, making possible the continuous spread of the gospel to those yet unreached.

Strategy: our plan and goals

In order to fulfill its biblical purpose and historic mission the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel seeks to follow the pattern of Spirit-empowered church development found in the New Testament epistles and the book of Acts (Acts 1:8). Therefore, a four-stage developmental process is followed both in North America and throughout the world. Foursquare Missions focuses on such development internationally, seeking to foster a worldwide family of national churches related by loving servanthood.

An Infinitely Reproducible Pattern: A Life Cycle

Christ's call to "make disciples of all nations" requires an infinitely reproducible way of doing things. Both the history of the Early Church in the first century and the history of the Foursquare movement in the twentieth century confirms the need for developing strong national church planting movements within cultures and countries. Such movements are infinitely reproducible, much like a life cycle.

Each stage in the cycle has the goal of reproducing what is infinitely reproducible. The goal of Stage 1 is to develop responsible disciples who reproduce disciples, becoming a local congregation. The goal of Stage 2 is to develop responsible leaders who reproduce leaders, edifying and equipping the congregation. The goal of Stage 3 is to develop responsible congregations that reproduce congregations, becoming local, regional and national church movements. The goal of Stage 4 is to develop responsible church movements that send missionaries and reproduce other church movements. Such a pattern is infinitely reproducible and is somewhat like a wheel that continues to roll. More specifically, the process could be described in the following way:

Stage 1 - from sinner to saint, from saint to obedient disciple of Jesus Christ

Stage 2 - from obedient disciple to contributing member of the body of Christ,
from contributing member to equipping leader in the body of Christ

Stage 3 - from reproducing leader to church growth and expansion,
from church expansion to church multiplication into a church movement

Stage 4 - from a church movement to cross-culture involvement,
from cross-culture involvement to sending missionaries

...which initiates another church movement cycle, locally
regionally and nationally.

Full development of a national church movement is similar to a life cycle, which moves through the stages of life from childhood to adolescence to young adult to older adult.

Like a *child*, the church is birthed by the Spirit and grows in the way of the Lord.

Like a *youth*, the church is nurtured and matures in unity and love.

Like a *young adult*, the church is fruitful and multiplies and gives birth to other churches.

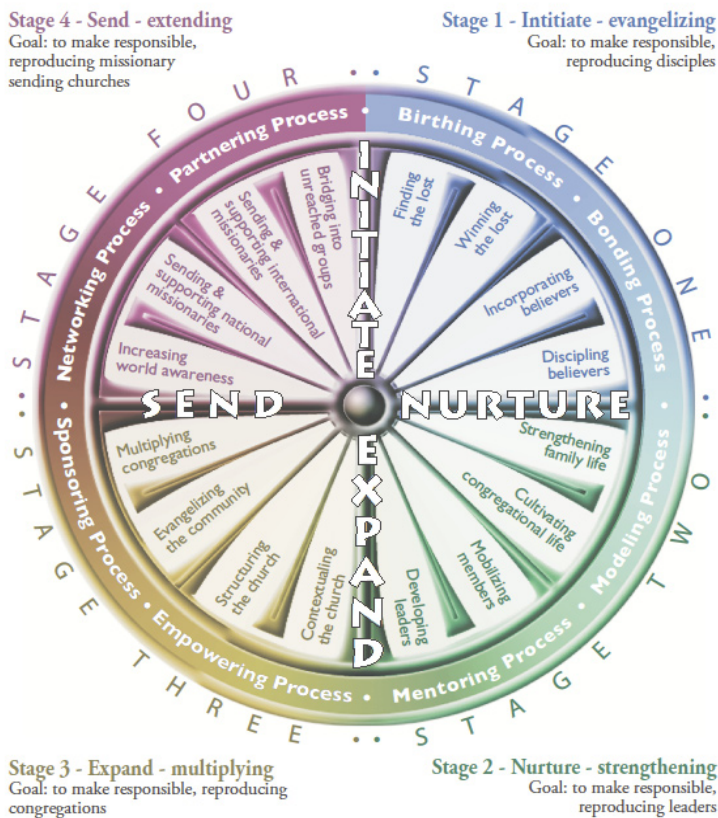
Like an *older adult*, the church is supportive and sends workers to take the gospel to regions yet untouched with the gospel.

The Foursquare cabinet has also approved the following amplification of the four-stage national church movement process, believing it explains and illustrates how the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel is to continue to fulfill its biblical purpose and historic mission both in North America and around the world.

Explaining the Four-Stage Strategy

A wheel helps explain the Four-Stage strategy which is continuous, repetitive and universal. Like a wheel it “rolls” in every culture and country.

National Church Development – Four Stages



Stage 1 - Initiate

We evangelize by winning the lost to Christ and by planting churches. The *goal* of Stage 1 is to make *responsible, reproducing disciples*. The task, therefore, is twofold. First, it requires communicating the gospel to people who are without Christ, the lost. Transferring believing church members from one church to another church is not evangelism. Rather, the lost must be sought, found, and won. Like Jesus' methods, the pattern is one of "go and tell" evangelism as well as "come and see" evangelism. Effective ways must be found to get the gospel *to* people. Then effective ways must be found to explain the gospel *for* people so that they can respond and make a meaningful decision concerning God's gracious offer of forgiveness of sin and eternal life based on the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The message is authenticated by both the lifestyle of believers showing the love of God and the presence of the miraculous that demonstrates the power of God. This gives the Holy Spirit the opportunity to convict of sin and give new birth, bringing about genuine conversion.

Second, the task of Stage 1 requires planting the church. As with a newborn child, the **birthing process** must be followed by the **bonding process**. Those who repent and believe the gospel must be openly identified with and warmly welcomed into the family of God. Therefore, in obedience to Christ's command, repentance and faith are to be followed by public confession in the waters of baptism and the receiving of the promised Holy Spirit as occurred on the Day of Pentecost. Beginning a local fellowship of believers is essential, for new converts need care and teaching. They need to be integrated into the family and taught to continue in obedience to all Christ commanded, thereby proving to be His disciples. Such responsible disciples will begin to reproduce themselves by winning their families and friends to the Savior. In the case of a pioneer situation, the sending or sponsoring church will seek to avoid incomplete strategies, namely, evangelizing without making disciples, making disciples without planting churches, or merely establishing a "token presence" in a region or country.

Stage 2 - Nurture

We strengthen the church by establishing sound doctrine and by training leaders. The *goal* of Stage 2 is to make *responsible, reproducing leaders*. Therefore, the task of this stage is also twofold. First, the developing of godly character is essential for a healthy church. The primary arena for shaping such Christ-like character is in the home, which is the church in its simplest and most original form. Here the soundness of doctrine can be put to the test. If the Christian faith is to become truly a part of the culture and the church, it must be modeled by the parents and owned by the children. It must become multi-generational. Thus, parents, especially fathers, need to be trained to lead their families in the ways of the Lord. Since the church is in reality an extended family, the strengthening of family life is foundational to the cultivating of healthy congregational life.

Second, the task of Stage 2 requires training leaders. As with a maturing adolescent, the **modeling process** must be supplemented by the **mentoring process**. Training in maturity must be complemented by training in ministry. Growing up must result in giving out. Transforming takers into givers is the challenge. Because each member of the body of Christ has something to give, believers must be helped to identify,

develop and use their divine giftedness for the good of others. Leaders, therefore, are gifted to serve, and they are gifted to equip others to do likewise. Such a releasing ministry is first seen in the home. Mobilizing people for the good of others is initially a family affair. Those who model servant-leadership and lead their families well are those who are to lead the body of Christ. Thus, emerging leaders are identified and developed so that the leadership base can be enlarged and the body of Christ edified and expanded. Making responsible, reproducing leaders is training leaders not only as leaders of followers but also as leaders of leaders. In Stage 2 leadership development and training are high priorities, aiding in increasing both the quantity and quality of leaders in anticipation of the type of expansion required for nationalization and church multiplication in Stage 3. In the case of a pioneer situation, the sending or sponsoring church will seek to avoid overuse of event-centered ministry, one-generational perspectives, edifice mentalities, rigid institutionalism, or excessive indebtedness.

Stage 3 - Expand

We multiply congregations within a region or nation by structuring for self-expression and self-government and by evangelizing through self-propagation and self-support. The *goal* of Stage 3 is to make *responsible, reproducing congregations* who multiply culturally appropriate churches that together become a regional or national church movement. Therefore, the task of Stage 3 is again twofold. First, it requires releasing the church in self-expression and self-government. A church must find a way to fit its environment so that it does not appear foreign and, thereby, erect unnecessary barriers to understanding and acceptance of the gospel. Its style of worship, fellowship, teaching, caring, and outreach must be appropriate to the culture in which it is ministering. Such contextualizing of ministry releases the church to serve its society more effectively and fruitfully. Further, the church must be structured in such a way as to release contextualized ministry. Form must follow and free function. Therefore, church government, organization, and administration should be kept simple, flexible, and practical, empowering the church to carry out its ministry in its community and culture.

Second, the task of Stage 3 requires multiplying into a regional or national movement through evangelizing its “Jerusalem” and multiplying churches in its “Judea.” As with a growing young adult, the **empowering process** to help them “stand on their own two feet” must be complemented with the **sponsoring process** to give them meaningful opportunities to “try their wings.” Expansion growth through winning the lost in its own culture requires a church to be involved in continual evangelism that is both sensitive and flexible. A combination of media, and mass and personal evangelistic methods will probably be necessary. Both programmed and spontaneous evangelism will be needed. This involves the witness of the corporate body of believers as well as the witness of individuals to family and friends within their sphere of influence. Extension growth through the starting of new churches within the larger region should follow. Like young adults, young congregations tend to be most reproductive within the first half of their life span. Church planting by local churches may need to be complemented by mobile apostolic type church planting teams that can pioneer churches at greater distances.

² The development of appropriate regional structures will be essential. Where a sending

or sponsoring church has been involved in pioneering another region or country, it will seek to provide affirming and freeing family-type relationships which avoid paternalism while retaining New Testament order. Further, it will seek to avoid politicizing or external ownership while the newly nationalized church will seek to avoid moving from Stage 1 to Stage 3 with inadequate focus on Stage 2.

Stage 4 - Send

We extend the church and advance the kingdom by sending and supporting missionaries and by bridging into other peoples, cultures and languages. The *goal* of Stage 4 is to make *responsible, reproducing missionary sending national churches* who make disciples of the nations in fulfillment of Christ's mandate. Therefore, the task of Stage 4 is twofold. First, it requires reaching nearby cultural groups. Many churches have a blind spot when it comes to developing home missions outreaches among "Samaritans" who are culturally different but geographically near. Increasing awareness of the diversity of the world around them and its need for the gospel is best done initially through intercession. As people develop hearts of compassion, they will hear and respond when the Lord of the harvest begins to call laborers into his harvest. The national church will catch a vision and begin sending and supporting missionaries to culturally diverse groups within its own region and country.

Second, the task of Stage 4 requires reaching distant cultural groups in other countries, and is similar to an older adult who anticipates becoming a grandparent. The **networking process** of linking together those with common vision must be complemented by the **partnering process** of actually sharing together in a common task. Sending and supporting missionaries in another nation is a great challenge, especially when working among unreached groups. It frequently requires the expert counsel and the prayer and financial support of another national church. In some cases it may also require coordination and cooperation with missionaries from another national church who are also working within the same country. Sending churches will seek to avoid exporting their culture and methodologies or jumping from Stage 2 to Stage 4 with insufficient attention to Stage 3.

Applying the Four-Stage Strategy

Since the four-stage strategy, like a wheel, is universally applicable, it is possible to assess a local, regional or national church in terms of each stage. What stage is the church in and how healthy is its development in each stage.

Two assessment tools are provided on the following pages: one for a local church, and one for a regional or national church. Although somewhat subjective, the consensus of local pastoral and church leadership or regional/national leadership through the averaging of each person's assessment can give a fairly accurate picture of the stage and state of development of a local church or a regional/national church. Therefore, it is recommended that at least three or more individuals fill out an assessment for a given situation.

A Local Church Assessment

Instructions:

Simply assign a numeral from 1 (not happening) to 10 (continually happening) to *each* statement as it applies to your church. Write the numeral in the space next to each statement. Add the four numerals in each category, and record the total. Divide this total by four, and record the average for the category. Do this with *each* of the sixteen categories.

Stage 1: Initiate - evangelizing. Goal: to make responsible, reproducing disciples

A. Birthing process (communicating the gospel)

Focus: How do we find and win the lost to Christ?

1. Finding the lost

- a. Evangelism is a high priority in our church.
- b. Our church is outward focused and involved in ministry in our community.
- c. Our people befriend and show love to unbelievers.
- d. Our church reaches out to the lost and seeks to share the gospel with them.

Total: _____ divide by 4 = _____ (average)

2. Winning the lost

- a. Our church is evangelistic and wins the lost to Christ.
- b. Each year we see a larger number of people coming to Christ.
- c. Personal relationships with believers is a major reason unbelievers come to Christ through our church.
- d. Our church tries to find and use evangelistic methods that work.

Total: _____ divide by 4 = _____ (average)

B. Bonding process (planting the church)

Focus: How do we incorporate into the church and disciple new believers?

3. Incorporating believers

- a. Our church follows up and builds relationships with new converts.
- b. Each year more of our new converts are being baptized in water.
- c. New converts are welcomed and made to feel at home in our church.
- d. New converts are becoming active members in our church.

Total: _____ divide by 4 = _____ (average)

4. Discipling believers

- a. New believers are taught and trained to continue to follow the Lord.
- b. People are baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit.
- c. People are taught to regularly spend time in prayer and God's word.
- d. People are taught to reach out with the gospel to their family and friends.

Total: _____ divide by 4 = _____ (average)

Stage 2: Nurture—strengthening. Goal: to make responsible, reproducing leaders

A. Modeling process (developing Godly character)

Focus: How do we strengthen family life and cultivate community and ministry in the church?

5. Strengthening family life

- a. The marriages of the people who attend our church are getting stronger.
- b. Families are taught to develop loving and caring relationships in the home.
- c. Parents are taught how to raise godly children.
- d. Children are being brought to Christ and follow the Lord.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ *(average)*

6. Cultivating congregational life

- a. There is a spirit of love and acceptance.
- b. People become friends and enjoy fellowship with one another.
- c. People worship freely and express their love for the Lord openly.
- d. There is a sense of the presence of the Lord in our church.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ *(average)*

B. Mentoring process (releasing ministry)

Focus: How do we mobilize our members and develop new leaders?

7. Mobilizing members

- a. Members are taught their place in the Body of Christ and equipped to use their divinely given abilities/gifts to serve others.
- b. People are taught to tithe and give faithfully.
- c. People volunteer to help when needs arise.
- d. There is a spirit of teamwork in our church.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ *(average)*

8. Developing leaders

- a. Training and releasing leaders are high priorities.
- b. Parents, especially fathers, are learning how to lead their families well.
- c. The pastors and leaders in our church train others to do what they do.
- d. Most leaders are raised up from within our congregation.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ *(average)*

Stage 3: Expand—multiplying. Goal: to make responsible, reproducing congregations

A. Empowering process (releasing the church)

Focus: How do we adapt the ministry to the culture and structure the church to continue to grow and multiply?

9. Contextualizing the church

- a. Our church develops ways of doing ministry that meet people’s needs.
- b. The worship, preaching, and teaching fit our culture and the gospel does not look “foreign.”
- c. Our church is self-supporting and not dependent on outside funds.
- d. People in our church live lives that make the gospel attractive and help draw unbelievers to Christ.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ *(average)*

10. Structuring the church

- a. Our church is organized in a way that promotes continuous spiritual growth and maturity in every age group.
- b. Our church is structured so that younger leaders can be developed and released into leadership.
- c. We find ways to facilitate and network with Bible institutes/schools for training those who are called into full-time Christian ministry.
- d. Our bylaws and structure ensure sound doctrine, while making room for numerical growth and multiplication.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ *(average)*

B. Sponsoring process (multiplying into a movement)

Focus: How do we evangelize in our community and start new churches?

11. Evangelizing the community

- a. Evangelism is more of a way of life in our church than a periodic emphasis.
- b. Members are encouraged to show the love of God in practical ways by meeting the needs of people in the community.
- c. Both new and older believers are learning how to win their families and friends to Christ.
- d. More people are coming into our church as a result of being won to Christ than as a result of transferring from other Christian churches.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ *(average)*

12. Multiplying new congregations

- a. Our church creates an atmosphere of faith and vision for starting new churches.
- b. Our church trains leaders to start new churches.
- c. We start churches that, in turn, start more new churches.
- d. Our church has a clear plan to plant, support, and nurture new churches throughout our area, especially where people are largely unevangelized.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ *(average)*

Stage 4: Send - extending. Goal: to make responsible, reproducing missionary-sending churches

A. Networking process (reaching nearby cultural groups)

Focus: How do we lead our church in praying for nations and sending missionaries out from our church into our region and country?

13. Increasing world awareness and intercession

- community.
- a. Our church is developing a vision for a world bigger than our own community.
 - b. Our church is learning how to pray and intercede for people of different cultures and countries.
 - c. Our church is reaching out and showing the love of God to people of different cultures in our community.
 - d. Our constituency includes people of different cultures that are found in our community.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ *(average)*

14. Sending and supporting missionaries within our nation

- a. Our church encourages a “home missions” vision for reaching out to immigrants and minority groups in our community or region.
- b. We have a clear plan to plant, support and nurture new churches in large urban areas to reach different cultural groups within them.
- c. Our church sends and supports teams that reach immigrants and minority groups in large urban areas.
- d. Our church sends and supports missionaries that reach different cultural groups within large urban areas.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ *(average)*

B. Partnering process (reaching distant cultural groups)

Focus: How do we prepare and send missionaries to other countries and to unreached groups who have not yet heard the gospel?

15. Sending and supporting missionaries beyond our nation

- a. Our church is developing a vision for “world missions.”
- b. Our church faithfully prays and gives to help advance of the gospel through Foursquare missionaries and churches in other countries.
- c. Our church encourages young people and releases experienced leaders to serve short term or long term in other countries.
- d. Our church partners with other Foursquare churches to open and develop new fields and raise up national churches in other countries.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ *(average)*

16. Bridging into unreached groups

- ___ a. Our church understands and has a vision for reaching groups of people who are currently beyond the reach of the gospel.
- ___ b. Our church prays for and supports efforts to reach unreached groups of people in our own country.
- ___ c. Our church prays for and supports efforts to reach unreached people groups in other countries, especially in the “10/40 window.”
- ___ d. Our church partners with Foursquare churches in other countries to reach unreached groups, continuing efforts until there is a strong national church planting movement in every unreached group.

Total: ___ *divide by 4* = ___ (*average*)

Summary and Analysis:

1) Place a dot on the appropriate “line” (“spoke”) within “the wheel” on page 15 based on the average score for each of the sixteen categories with the “hub” representing a score of 1 and the “rim” a score of 10. Now join the dots to see how strong each “spoke” is and how balanced the “wheel” is for your church. In what categories are you strongest? Weakest? Why?

2) Total the four averages in each of the four stages and record them here:

Stage 1 ___ Stage 2 ___ Stage 3 ___ Stage 4 ___

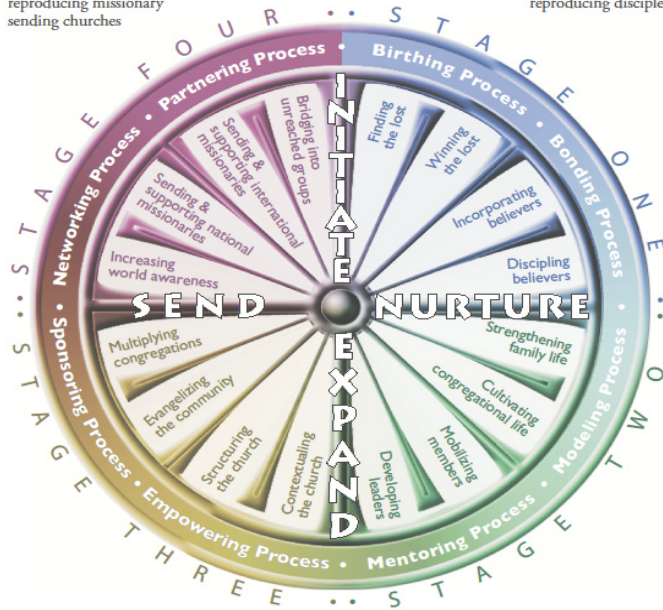
In what stages are you strongest? Weakest? Why?

NOTES

National Church Development – Four Stages

Stage 4 - Send - extending
Goal: to make responsible, reproducing missionary sending churches

Stage 1 - Intitiate - evangelizing
Goal: to make responsible, reproducing disciples



Stage 3 - Expand - multiplying
Goal: to make responsible, reproducing congregations

Stage 2 - Nurture - strengthening
Goal: to make responsible, reproducing leaders

- 3) Select the response below that best describes your present attitude as a church toward change:
- No change is needed. We are OK the way we are.
 - Change is needed. Who will do it for us?
 - Change is needed. What are other organizations like ours doing?
 - Change is needed. Help us; we want to learn.
 - We want to change and are willing to pay the price.

A Regional or Nationwide Assessment

Instructions:

Simply assign a numeral from 1 (not happening) to 10 (continually happening) to *each* statement as it applies to the churches in your country. Write the numeral in the space next to each statement. Add the four numerals in each category, and record the total. Divide this total by four, and record the average for the category. Do this with *each* of the sixteen categories.

Stage 1: Initiate - evangelizing. Goal: to make responsible, reproducing disciples

A. Birthing process (communicating the gospel)

Focus: How do our churches find and win the lost to Christ?

1. Finding the lost

- a. Evangelism is a high priority in our churches.
- b. Our churches are outward focused and involved in ministry in our communities.
- c. Our people befriend and show love to unbelievers.
- d. Our churches reach out to the lost and seek to share the gospel with them.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ (*average*)

2. Winning the lost

- a. Our churches are evangelistic and win the lost to Christ.
- b. Each year we see a larger number of people coming to Christ.
- c. Personal relationships with believers is a major reason unbelievers come to Christ through our churches.
- d. Our churches try to find and use evangelistic methods that work.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ (*average*)

B. Bonding process (planting the church)

Focus: How do our churches incorporate into their churches and disciple new believers?

3. Incorporating believers

- a. The churches do follow-up with new converts.
- b. Each year more of our new converts are being baptized in water.
- c. New converts are welcomed and made to feel at home in our churches.
- d. New converts are becoming active members in local churches.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ (*average*)

4. Discipling believers

- a. New believers are taught and trained to continue to follow the Lord.
- b. People are baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit.
- c. People are taught to regularly spend time in prayer and God's word.
- d. People are taught to reach out with the gospel to their family and friends.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ (*average*)

Stage 2: Nurture - strengthening. Goal: to make responsible, reproducing leaders

A. Modeling process (developing Godly character)

Focus: How do our churches strengthen family life and cultivate community and ministry in their churches?

5. Strengthening family life

- a. The marriages of the people who attend our churches are getting stronger.
- b. Families are taught to develop loving and caring relationships in the home.
- c. Parents are taught how to raise godly children.
- d. Children are being brought to Christ and follow the Lord.

Total: _____ divide by 4 = _____ (average)

6. Cultivating congregational life

- a. There is a spirit of love and acceptance in our churches.
- b. People become friends and enjoy fellowship with one another.
- c. People worship freely and express their love for the Lord openly.
- d. There is a sense of the presence of the Lord in our churches.

Total: _____ divide by 4 = _____ (average)

B. Mentoring process (releasing ministry)

Focus: How do our churches mobilize their members and develop new leaders?

7. Mobilizing members

- a. Members are taught their place in the Body of Christ and equipped to use their divinely given abilities/gifts to serve others.
- b. People are taught to tithe and give faithfully.
- c. People volunteer to help when needs arise.
- d. There is a spirit of teamwork in our churches.

Total: _____ divide by 4 = _____ (average)

8. Developing leaders

- a. Training and releasing leaders are high priorities.
- b. Parents, especially fathers, are learning how to lead their families well.
- c. The pastors and leaders in our churches train others to do what they do.
- d. Most leaders are raised up from within the local congregations.

Total: _____ divide by 4 = _____ (average)

Stage 3: Expand - multiplying. Goal: to make responsible, reproducing congregations

A. Empowering process (releasing the church)

Focus: How do our churches adapt their ministry to the culture and structure their churches to continue to grow and multiply?

9. Contextualizing the church

- a. Our churches develop ways of doing ministry that meet people's needs.
- b. The worship, preaching, and teaching fit our culture and the gospel does not look "foreign."
- c. Our churches are self-supporting and not dependent on outside funds.
- d. People in our churches live lives that make the gospel attractive and help draw unbelievers to Christ.

Total: ____ divide by 4 = ____ (average)

10. Structuring the church

- a. Our churches are organized in ways that promote continuous spiritual growth and maturity in every age group.
- b. Our churches are structured so that younger leaders can be developed and released into leadership.
- c. We find ways to facilitate and network with Bible institutes/schools for training those who are called into full-time Christian ministry.
- d. Our national and local bylaws and structures ensure sound doctrine, while making room for numerical growth and multiplication.

Total: ____ divide by 4 = ____ (average)

B. Sponsoring process (multiplying into a movement)

Focus: How do our churches evangelize in their communities and start new churches?

11. Evangelizing the community

- a. Evangelism is more of a way of life in our churches than a periodic emphasis.
- b. Members are encouraged to show the love of God in practical ways by meeting the needs of people in their communities.
- c. Both new and older believers are learning how to win their families and friends to Christ.
- d. More people are coming into our churches as a result of being won to Christ than as a result of transferring from other Christian churches.

Total: ____ divide by 4 = ____ (average)

12. Multiplying new congregations

- a. Our churches create an atmosphere of faith and vision for starting new churches.
- b. Our churches train leaders to start new churches.
- c. We start churches that, in turn, start more new churches.
- d. Our churches have a clear plan to plant, support, and nurture new churches throughout our country, especially where people are largely unevangelized.

Total: ____ divide by 4 = ____ (average)

Stage 4: Send - extending. Goal: to make responsible, reproducing missionary-sending churches

A. Networking process (reaching nearby cultural groups)

Focus: How do our churches lead their congregations in praying for nations and sending missionaries out from their congregations into our country?

13. Increasing world awareness and intercession

- country.
- a. Our churches are developing a vision for a world bigger than our own
 - b. Our churches are learning how to pray and intercede for people of different cultures and countries.
 - c. Our churches are reaching out and showing the love of God to people of different cultures in our community.
 - d. Our local church constituencies include people of different cultures that are found in their communities.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ *(average)*

14. Sending and supporting missionaries within our nation

- a. Our churches encourage a “home missions” vision for reaching out to immigrants and minority groups in their communities.
- b. Nationally, we have a clear plan to plant, support, and nurture new churches in large urban areas that can reach various cultural groups.
- c. Our urban churches develop teams to reach immigrants and minority groups in large urban areas.
- d. Our churches send and support missionaries that reach different cultural groups.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ *(average)*

B. Partnering process (reaching distant cultural groups)

Focus: How do our churches prepare and send missionaries to other countries and to unreached groups who have yet to hear the gospel?

15. Sending and supporting missionaries beyond our nation

- a. Our churches are developing a vision for “world missions.”
- b. Our churches faithfully pray and give to help advance of the gospel through Foursquare missionaries and churches in other countries.
- c. Our churches encourage young people and release experienced leaders to serve short term or long term in other countries.
- d. Our churches partner with other Foursquare churches to open and develop new fields and raise up national churches in other countries.

Total: ____ *divide by 4 =* ____ *(average)*

16. Bridging into unreached groups

- ___ a. Our churches understand and have a vision for reaching groups of people who are currently beyond the reach of the gospel.
- ___ b. Our churches pray for and support efforts to reach unreached groups of people in our own country.
- ___ c. Our churches pray for and support efforts to reach unreached people groups in other countries, especially in the “10/40 window.”
- ___ d. Our churches partner with Foursquare churches in other countries to reach unreached groups, continuing efforts until there is a strong national church planting movement in every unreached group.

Total: ___ *divide by 4* = ___ (*average*)

Summary and Analysis:

1) Place a dot on the appropriate “line” within “the wheel” on page 23 based on the average score for each of the sixteen categories with the “hub” representing a score of 1 and the “rim” a score of 10. Join the dots to see how balanced the “wheel” is for the churches in your country. In which categories are your churches strongest? Weakest? Why?

2) Total the four averages in each of the four stages and record them here:

Stage 1 ___ Stage 2 ___ Stage 3 ___ Stage 4 ___

In what stages are you strongest? Weakest? Why?

NOTES

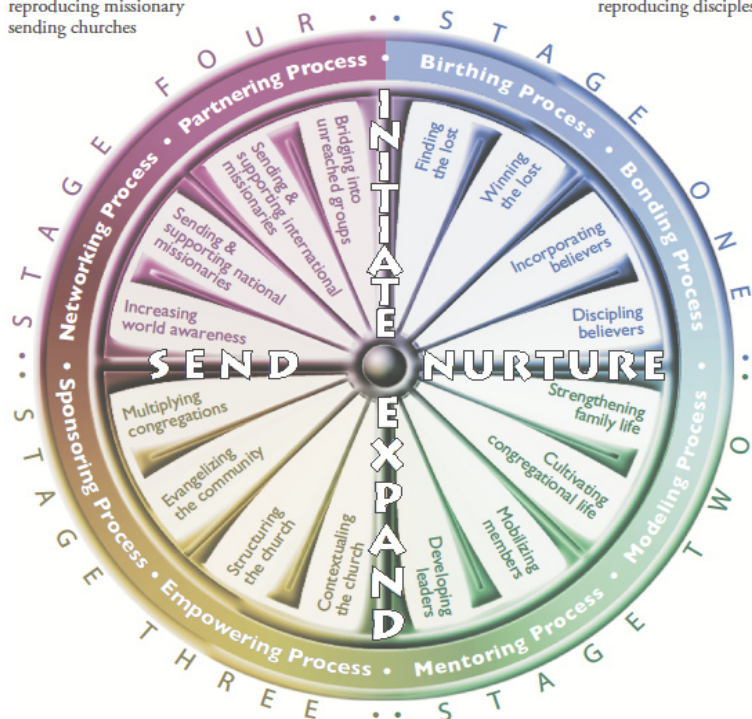
National Church Development – Four Stages

Stage 4 - Send - extending

Goal: to make responsible, reproducing missionary sending churches

Stage 1 - Intitiate - evangelizing

Goal: to make responsible, reproducing disciples



Stage 3 - Expand - multiplying
Goal: to make responsible, reproducing congregations

Stage 2 - Nurture - strengthening
Goal: to make responsible, reproducing leaders

- 3) Select the response below that best describes your present attitude as a regional or national church toward change:
- No change is needed. We are OK the way we are.
 - Change is needed. Who will do it for us?
 - Change is needed. What are other organizations like ours doing?
 - Change is needed. Help us; we w want to learn.
 - We want to change and are willing to pay the price.

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From Luke's story in the Book of Acts, *Disciples of All Nations* describes and gives contemporary examples of that which is "infinitely reproducible" in nurturing indigenous national church planting movements. An evaluative field questionnaire and practical study guide help assess and apply these "infinitely reproducible" which make possible the fulfilling of Christ's commission to "make disciples of all nations"...until He comes.



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