

**CHURCH  
PLANTING  
FOR  
EVANGELISM**

“The single most effective evangelistic methodology under heaven is planting new churches.”

C. Peter Wagner, *Church Planting for a Greater Harvest* (Ventura, Calif.: Regal Books, 1990), p. 11.

Today the clear emphasis of most church planting is on evangelism, which the fruit confirms... Among established Southern Baptist churches, for example, there are 3.4 baptisms per one hundred resident members, but their new churches average 11.7.

That's more than three times more! Other denominations offer similar numbers. It's not hard to conclude that the launching of more new churches will lead more people to Christ.

**Ed Stetzer and Warren Bird, *Viral Churches*  
March 2010, Jossey-Bass**

"In a newly planted church there are 14.4 baptisms per year for every 100 people in regular attendance in worship. When a church has been in existence sixteen years or more, the baptism rate is half that: Only 7.3 baptisms per year for every 100 people in attendance."

Ed Stetzer quoting

*Church Planting as an Effective Evangelistic Strategy*

(Alpharetta, Ga.: North American Mission Board, 2003), p.

23.

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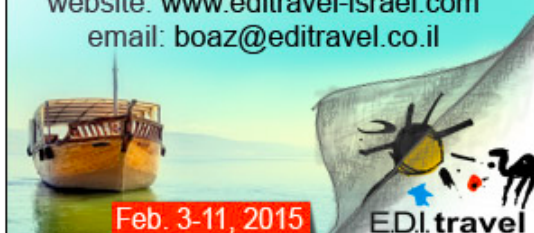
## 9 Reasons NOT to Plant a Church in 2012

Why church planting may no longer be the best vehicle for evangelism. / BY ANDREW JONES (@TALLSKINNYKIWI)

"Church planting is the most effective form of evangelism under heaven," said C. Peter Wagner. I know he said that. I was there. I was a young [and good looking] Seminary student sitting in his classroom when he said it.

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Feb. 3-11, 2015

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1. The typical church planting model, in which the solo-church planter starts a gathering that he/she invites potential members to join and commit to lacks satisfying precedent in the Scriptures where Jesus sent out people in teams...

2. . The measurement criteria of the church planting project, focusing on numbers of attenders and momentum of new church launch, is too narrow, too shallow, unholistic...

3. The people most likely to join a new church plant are usually those with some kind of church background - the de-churched, pre-churched, ex-churched...

4. The focus on people pre-disposed or pre-favored towards church culture can lead to competition among churches to gather people from a diminishing pool of potentials and, worse, to "sheep stealing"

5. The challenge for new members to commit to a church meeting rather than be involved in Kingdom mission activities in the world can often lead to a consumer mindset among new members.

6. The new church plant creates a higher institutional visibility in sensitive countries which places it in danger of either stifling regulations or physical threat to its members.

7. The traditional funding sources that used to fund church planter's salary and the first year of operation (often US\$100,000) has dried up in the midst of the global financial crisis...

8. Church planting normally thrives in wealthier areas or suburban areas but ignores the urban poor.

9. The church already has a bruised reputation for greed, immorality and unethical practices... starting another church, having people join it, and actually give money to support it is a hard sell...

**9 Reasons NOT to Plant a Church in 2012 *Why church planting may no longer be the best vehicle for evangelism.* ANDREW JONES (Christianity Today leadership Journal)**



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The Book of Acts (demonstrates) that everywhere the Apostles went they made disciples and formed new communities of faith. Read Acts again and look for evidence of church-planting activity. It is throughout the book. In fact, a careful study reveals chains of church-planting activity that can serve as models from which we can learn.

**Church Planting and Evangelism: A Prescription for Reaching America Five reasons why church planting is the best methodology of evangelism. By Steven M. Pike**

**“When an individual or existing congregation begins to intentionally target a geographic area with the message of the Gospel, they will have set in motion the same dynamic that was experienced by the first century church.**

People's lives will be transformed by the working of the Holy Spirit and there will be a need for ongoing Bible study, teaching and encouragement among the new believers. An organizational structure will need to come into being for the benefit of the new believers and the surrounding community.”

**Church Planting is the Result of Effective Evangelism . Teddy Levron**

“Is church planting the only way to engage in the great commission? Of course not. But if we look at the north American Christianity today, what was the normative expression of the Great commission in the New Testament has become abnormal in American Christianity today...”

**The Essential Strategy of Planting New Churches ([desiringgod.org](http://desiringgod.org))**

**Ed Stetzer**

“Without intervention, a sense of entitlement forms in the minds of members who have faithfully paid their tithes over many years. The building becomes their building. They worry about whether the youth pastor is providing good ministry for their kids. The collective heart of the church easily turns toward meeting the needs of regular attendees and away from the lost. When the lost do venture into a church whose primary focus are the needs of its members, they quickly experience the sensation of being an outsider.

But in a new church, everyone is new; there are no insiders or outsiders. New churches have fewer relational barriers to evangelism. When lost people begin to follow Christ, it is easier for them to find a place in a new church.

**Church Planting and Evangelism: A Prescription for Reaching America Five reasons why church planting is the best methodology of evangelism. By Steven M. Pike**

It is easier for new people to join a new organization than to join an existing one. The longer a church exists, the more likely it will become a closed relational system. Aging churches have significant momentum toward taking care of their members rather than reaching the lost (new people).

**Church Planting and Evangelism: A Prescription for Reaching America Five reasons why church planting is the best methodology of evangelism. By Steven M. Pike**

“The reason we don't more churches is because too many Christians want to be customers of religious goods and services... one of the greatest challenges in church planting is to get people to leave good churches to be part of a great commission...”

**Ed Stetzer.**

**The Essential Strategy of Planting New Churches  
([desiringgod.org](http://desiringgod.org))**



As recently as 20 years ago, the dominant reason to plant a church was to provide a specific denominational presence in a community... While this kind of planting still occurs, it is no longer the most common. The potential harvest is the motivating factor behind most church plants started in the last 10 years.

A planter does demographic research on a community and discovers a large percentage of lost people. The planter says, "We need to plant a church in this town because 10,000 lost people live there." When the harvest motivates the plant, God honors the faith of the new church and blesses the congregation with an evangelistic anointing."

**Church Planting and Evangelism: A Prescription for Reaching America**  
**Five reasons why church planting is the best methodology of evangelism. By Steven M. Pike**

In the New Testament, the focus and the dynamic growth is not the church but the gospel word. It is as the word is taught and explained that people are saved and the church grows both spiritually and numerically.

**Phillipjensen.com**

**Evangelism and church**

“.... you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel 6 that has come to you. **All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing,** just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God’s grace in all its truth.”

**Colossians 1:5–6**

Planting and growing more gospel preaching churches is a fundamental strategy of world evangelization. It is as the gospel is preached that churches come into existence. It is as the churches grow in Christ-likeness that the members will be outward looking to the salvation of others, open to new Christians joining and welcoming to non-Christians who come amongst them.

**Phillipjensen.com**

**Evangelism and church**



Evangelism for survival!  
When you have a little core group who are stepping out and planting a church with you, they just like you have a mentality of having a crack. Especially when that is part of the rationale and ethos of the core group from the beginning. The challenge is maintaining that culture beyond the plant. But early on there is the feeling of... unless we evangelise we won't survive.





23,300,000 people

13,000 churches

=

1779 people/ church



Most missiologists would say that in order to effectively penetrate an area with the gospel you need to have one church for every 1,000 people in the urban areas and one church for every 500 people in the rural areas...”

**Why Evangelistic Church Planting?**

**By Aaron Coe**

“This begs the question (and did from the beginning), why not simply join one of the other evangelical churches? My simple answer; the size of the task. Within 30 minutes drive of town centre there are 78,000 people. The harvest is plentiful, the evangelical churches are few.”

**Steve Covetz**

**The Point Community Church,  
Port Macquarie, NSW**



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BEYOND

# Megachurch Myths

WHAT WE CAN LEARN FROM  
AMERICA'S LARGEST CHURCHES

"Finally! I've waited for this book for a long time... In *Beyond Megachurch Myths*, Scott Thumma and Dave Travis finally blow away the myths about megachurches and present facts based on real data and research."

—**RICK WARREN**, PASTOR, SADDLEBACK CHURCH



SCOTT THUMMA & DAVE TRAVIS  
Foreword by RICK WARREN

A LEADERSHIP  NETWORK PUBLICATION

Hobart = 220, 000

10% = 22, 000

220 churches of 100\*

How many now?

\*Australian average = 65)



Church is built upon the Lord Jesus Christ and the apostolic ministry of the word of God. It is the gathering of those who are saved by the word of God. So it is neither a gathering of unbelievers nor a gathering for them.

The church is not 'a direct agent in evangelism'. The gathered people of God is the end towards which the entire gospel mission is directed.



