

# TEACHING CARDS FOR CHURCH PLANTERS

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## **THE CORE AGENDA**

These teaching cards are extensively used in training seminars for church planters by our Master Builders. It is not to be used sequentially but in the context of the existing competencies of the trainees. These topics are ideal for discussion in house churches. They have to be repeated several times before proper comprehension of the New Testament model of churches emerges. The topics are designed both for background knowledge and practical skills needed for bringing about a saturation church planting movement.

By the same author:

### **English Book's :**

1. Greet the Ekklesia: The Church In Your House
2. Prayer Warrior: Church Planters Daily Prayer Guide
3. Acts: The House Church
4. Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh 2001: Strategy

Co-ordinators and Church Planters Prayer Diary

### **हिन्दी किताबे :-**

1. प्रार्थना योद्धा एवं गृह कलीसिया रोपक की दैनिक पथ प्रदर्शिका
2. महान आदेश और घरेलू कलीसिया
3. आपके आत्मिक अधिकार
4. मोक्षदाता यीशु मसीह एवं सन्तों की अमृतवाणी
5. राजनीति और मसीही
6. वेद और मसीहा
7. कलीसिया रोपण प्रशिक्षण हेतु लघु पुस्तिका

## YOUR ETERNAL INHERITANCE

1. God the Father has chosen an inheritance for every single child of His, to go and fight a good fight, possess it and reign over it. (Psalm 47:3,4; 2 Tim. 4:7,8; Rev. 5:10)
2. God is not going to give it to you. He has already given it to you. Every where that you tread belongs to you. Treading implies crushing the head of the Devil under your feet through prayer walking.(Joshua 1:3; Rom. 16:20; 1 Tim 2:8)
3. There is no such thing as a Christian without an inheritance. Every one has to ask for his own inheritance and then go and possess it. Even Yeshua has to ask the Father for His inheritance. We are coinheritors with Christ. (Psalm 2:7,8; Rom. 8:17)
4. You have to ask God for specific nations (People Groups) and the land as your inheritance. He gave the land of Canaan extending from the river Euphrates in Iraq to river Nile in Egypt and ten tribes to Abraham. Peter was an apostle to Jews in Judea. Paul an apostle to Gentiles from Jerusalem to Illyricum. Lydia an apostle to Philippi and Titus of Crete. (Ps 2:8; Gen 15:8;18-21; Gal. 2:7; Rom. 15:16-19; Tit. 1:5)
5. Yeshua started His ministry by seeking and saving the lost, as His eternal inheritance. He connected the Samaritan woman with the Samaritans and the Gadarene with Decapolis as their eternal inheritance, immediately after their conversion without even waiting for baptism. (Matt. 5:18-20; John 4:39)
6. Just praying, reading the scriptures, going to Bible college, attending church meetings does not translate into inheritance. The Word of God is not just for the sake of knowledge but to build you up to give you an inheritance. Being obedient to the commandment of Yeshua to go and make disciples results in inheritance. (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 20:32)

7. Adam was given the Garden of Eden as his inheritance which he lost through disobedience. Blindness can afflict Jews, Gentiles and Christians alike. (Rom. 11:25; 2Cor. 4:4; Eph. 4:17,18)
8. The Father has given gifts and talents to every child of His to go and do business. Those who multiply their talents will be made rulers over many cities. (Luke 19:13-27)
9. Even women must have their own inheritance. Rebekah was blessed by her family to have tens of thousands of children who will possess the gates of the enemy. Similarly Christians, must appropriate Rebekah's blessing and produce millions of spiritual children who will dispossess the enemy and possess their own inheritance. (Genesis 24:57-60)
10. Yeshua asked to gather our treasure in heaven but we continue to labor till the last breath for earthly treasure which thieves steal and moth corrupt. (Luke 12:29-34)
11. God gave only Canaan to Israel but to us He has given the whole earth to inherit. The whole creation is waiting for the sons of God for its redemption. (Matt. 5:5; Rom. 8:19-21)
12. Jesus asked Paul to go and open the eyes of those in darkness, bring them from the kingdom of Satan into kingdom of God and connect them to their inheritance. (Acts 26:18)
13. One of the most important functions of the church is to connect every single Christian to his inheritance, incorruptible, undefiled that fadeeth not. (1 Peter 1:4)
14. Just like Joshua , the church needs to prepare a Master Plan based on the Master's vision, detailing implementation and monitoring mechanism, mobilization of resources, time schedule for systematic distribution of inheritances for the completion of the Great Commission project.

(Joshua 18:39)

## THE GREAT COMMISSION (TGC)

1. Lord Jesus said, “All power in heaven and earth has been given to Me, therefore as you go, baptize them ... and teach them to be obedient to all that I have commanded you and thus make disciples”.

(Original Greek version of Matt. 28: 18-19)

2. **THE SENDER:** Jesus is our sender, who has all power and authority in heaven above and the earth below, to help us to disciples all the nations of the earth. TGC is a covenant between the believer and Jesus, sealed with His blood, the sign of the new covenant.

3. **Go:** TGC is a ‘Go Commission’. Jesus said I must go today, tomorrow and the next day and cure diseases, cast out demons and preach the kingdom of God. The church of Jesus is a “Go church” and the TGC is her marching order, to the ends of the earth.

(Acts 1:8; 2Cor 6:16; Luk13: 31-33, Isa 6: 8)

4. **Disciple:** A disciple makes disciples. A spiritual child needs mentoring by spiritual parents. It is a process. A disciple is one who is willing to take his cross daily and follow Jesus.

(John 15:8; Luke 9:23; 1Cor. 4:15)

5. **Baptize:** In baptism, we die as sinners and resurrect as a saints. Those who believe and are baptized will be saved. Only believers’ baptism is valid. These signs shall follow believes: they will expel demons... pray for the sick and they will be healed. All believers are royal priests, hence all can baptize and fulfil TGC. (Mark16:15-18; 1Pet 2:9)

6. **Obey all that I have commanded:** Jesus commanded us to love each other and even our enemies. He has commanded us to pray to the Lord of harvest for laborers. He has commanded us to go to the ends of the earth and make disciples of all nations. Disobeying commands attracts judgement.

(John 13:34,35; Matt. 5:43-48; Acts 1:8; Jam 4:17)

7. **Equip & Send:** Teaching must be done in the believers native language and cultural context. Nonliterate have to be converted into “Oral Bibles” through sequential story telling in their own heart language. They must be equipped differently for Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist or other ministries. Finally, a mature church lays hands on them and sends them.

(Acts 2:11; 13:3; Luk 24:27)

8. **Fishers of men:** At the beginning of His ministry, Jesus clearly set His goal to convert His disciples into fishers of men. He eminently succeeded in doing so because they turned the world upside down. The aim of discipling is to prepare and send laborers into the harvest field.

(Matt. 4:19; 9:37,38; Acts 17:6)

9. **TGC** is the core of the core of the Scriptures. It is the mandate, the agenda and indeed the reason for the existence of the church. A church whose priority is not the fulfilling of TGC has lost the reproductive DNA and has become a barren Bride. Only through fulfilling TGC, the world can be evangelized and all nations, tribes & tongues can worship God before His throne. (Rev. 7: 9,10)

## WHAT IS CHURCH

- 1. JESUS IS THE BUILDER :** Lord Jesus said “I will build My church”. He handed over the keys of the kingdom to His church and set the agenda to demolish the gates of Hell, release the captives and establish His kingdom.

(Matt. 16:18-19; 1 John 3:8)

- 2. MINI BUT GIFTED CHURCH :** The Lord Jesus said that when two or three, called out (ecclesia) assemble in His name, there He is in their midst. Here all the charismata are in operation for by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body with diversities of gifts and operations.

(Matt. 18:19-20; 1 Cor. 12:4-13)

- 3. THE CHURCH IS THE BREAKING BODY OF CHRIST :** Just like the body of Jesus was broken on the cross, the church, which is His body, must keep breaking until all have an opportunity to become part of the body of Christ. This will result in rapid multiplication of the church.

(Eph1:22-23;1Cor 10:16-17)

- 4. THE CHURCH IS A GATHERING OF ROYAL PRIESTS:** A royal priest, like his master, goes and gathers the ‘other sheep’ in his/her God given domain, who are not in the fold. The church exists to declare His glory to the lost so that there will be one Shepherd and one fold.

(John 10:16; 1Pet 2:9; Acts 26:17-18)

- 5. THE CHURCH IS SEATED IN THE HEAVENS :** Although physically on earth, spiritually God has raised those who are saved by grace through faith and seated them with Christ in the heavenly realms. The church has been created for good works.

(Eph. 2:5-10)

- 6. ONLY THE CHURCH HAS THE POWER TO BREAK THE POWER OF THE PRINCE OF THE AIR (SATAN)** by declaring the manifold wisdom of God to the evil rulers and demonic authorities in the heavenly realms to remind them of His eternal victory.

(Eph. 2:2; 3:10)

- 7. THE MANDATE OF THE CHURCH IS TO MAKE GENTILES HEIRS OF THE KINGDOM :** Only the church of Jesus has been revealed the mystery that through the gospel the Gentiles can become heirs and partakers of the kingdom.

(Eph. 3:4-6; Col. 1:26,27)

- 8. THE CHURCH IS THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD :** We are not strangers or aliens but fellow citizens with the saints and the members of the household of God. It is built upon the foundation of apostles and prophets with Christ himself as the corner stone. People are the dwelling place of God. The Early church spread through households.

(1 Tim. 3:15; Eph. 2:19-22; Acts 16:15)

- 9. THE CHURCH IS AN ALTAR FOR OFFERING SACRIFICE :** God declared Jerusalem temple to be ‘a place of sacrifice’. Jesus said My house shall be a house of prayer for ‘all nations’. Paul as a priest offered Gentiles as a sacrifice, so that they may be sanctified and become acceptable to God.

(2 Chron. 7:12; Mark 11:17; Rom. 15:16; 1 Pet. 2:5)

- 10. THE CHURCH IS THE BRIDE OF CHRIST :** She must not remain barren but reproduce and fill the earth. Yet she must remain without spots and wrinkles.

(Rev. 21:2; Acts 1:8; Eph. 5:27 )

## GOD'S WILL AND PURPOSES

1. God is purpose oriented. There is nothing casual or haphazard about Him. He works according to plan, with eternal consequences. Hence, it is important to know His perfect will and act accordingly. (Isa 14:24; Rom 12:2)
2. God's will is that all should enjoy eternal fellowship with Him. He does not live in sacred buildings. We are His temple and His priests. He wants incense to be offered in every Gentile home. Incense signifies prayer. He is not interested in religion and rituals but in relationships.  
(Acts 7:49; Eph. 2:19-22; Mal. 1:11; Amos 5:21; Rev. 3:20; 8:3,4)
3. He gave Adam and Eve authority to subdue the earth and rule over it. The Devil usurped that authority due to disobedience and is now ruling as the 'god of this world'. He has subjugated the people by blinding their minds and is busy destroying God's creation.  
(Gen 1:26-28; 2 Cor. 4:4; 1 John 5:18,19)
4. However, God's purposes can never be defeated. "*Many are plans of man's heart but it is the Lord's purposes that stand*" (Prov. 19:21). Jesus came to redeem the humankind and reconcile the whole creation so that God's purposes can be fulfilled. (Col 1:16-20)
5. Jesus was totally oriented to the Father's will. He said, '*I have come to fulfill My Father's will*'. He said, '*My food is to do His will*'. He drank the bitter cup of death, to fulfill the Father's will. He is now interceding for us.  
(John 6:38;4:34;5:30;Mat 26:39;Heb 7:25)

6. He is building His church, which consists of the sons and daughters of God, kings, apostles, prophets and ambassadors but no reverends and no laymen. We are His temple and His priests. Men, women and children, together, we are a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.  
(Matt.16:18; Heb 2:10; Eph.4:11; 2:19-22; Exo.19:6; Joel 2:28,29)
6. Whether you know it or not, there is battle raging for the souls of men. Whether you feel like it or not, according to the scriptures, you are the sons and daughters of God with authority to wage war against the invisible demonic powers, break every yoke, lose those in bondage. You have this authority by His name, His blood, His word and your testimony. (2Cor.10:3-5; Jn1:12;Rev 12:11)
8. You have the authority to approach the Throne with boldness and ask for anything that will accomplish His purposes and glorify His name. When you intercede, then God will intervene in your domain and rebuke the 'the ruler of this world'. The sick will be healed, the demons cast out and the gospel will be preached with power and you begin to reign as a king. (Heb. 10:19; 1 John 5:14)
9. God's end vision is that every knee shall bow down and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord. His vision is that incense (worship) will be offered in every heathen and Gentile home in His name. God's vision is that the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.  
(Phil 2:11; Mal 1:11; Hab 2:14;Ps 141:2)

## GOD'S END VISION

1. God's end vision is that all nations, tribes, and tongues will be gathered before His throne and worship Him. There will be no church buildings, pastors or Sunday service in heaven but the New Jerusalem, the throne and the tabernacle of God will be here on earth, among men.  
(Rev. 7:9-10; 21:1-3; 22:3-5)
2. God created man and woman in His image and likeness and gave dominion. God has never abrogated that authority to subdue the earth and rule over it. (Gen. 1:26-28)
3. God changed Jacob's name to Israel meaning *'he will rule as God'*. He blessed Abraham, *'your descendents shall possess the gates of the enemy'*. Many Christians are hoping to go to heaven, but God did not create man to go to heaven but to possess the gates of the enemy and rule here on earth as the New Israel, for eternity.  
(Gen 35:10-12;22:17;Job 19:25,26)
4. *"God made man ruler over all the works of His hands and put every thing under his feet. The highest heavens belong to the LORD but the earth He has given to man."*  
(Psa 8:6; 115:16)
5. God's end vision is that, in the new creation, the entire earth will be restored as the garden of Eden, where the wolf and the lamb, the leopard and the kid; the calf and the lion shall dwell together and a little child shall play with the serpent. There will be plenty of food and honey. A cow will supply enough butter. Once again God will enjoy intimate fellowship with His children and all His creatures.  
(Gen. 3:8,9; Isa.11:6-8; 51:3;7:22;Amos 9:13,14; Act 3:21)

6. Only the 'sons of God' can have dominion, therefore, God has called us 'gods'. *"You are gods; you are the sons of the Most High"* (Ps 82:6). Moses was a 'god' to Pharaoh. The kingdom also requires rulers, therefore God has called us 'kings'. But it has to be righteous kingdom, so we are called prophets and priests of the God. Finally we are sent out to reconcile and restore relationship with the lost kingdoms and so we are now ambassadors of God.  
(2 Cor. 5:20; Exo 7:1)
7. However, we are not deities, not even 'reverends', worthy of reverence (Ps 111:9). But we are His 'sons' because the Word says so (John 1:12) and He has given each one of us a dominion (Act 17:26,27), to subdue and rule over it. God will not interfere with that authority, unless we ask Him in prayer to intervene (2 Chron 7:14). The lost creation is pleading with the 'sons' to reconcile with the Father.  
(Heb 2:10;Rom 8:14,19; 1John 3:2)
8. Prayer is not a shopping list but an intimate fellowship and communion with our Father, as it was in the Garden, until it broke down by disobedience of the first Adam. Praying according to His will, and intercession of the second Adam, restores relationship with the Father.  
(1Cor15:22,45;1Jn 5:14; Heb. 7:25)
9. God's vision is that none should perish but all may be saved, become saints and reign on earth forever. He will do anything and give everything, to bring all nations, tribes, peoples and languages, back to Him.  
(1 Tim. 2:4; 1 John 5:14,15; 2 Pet. 3:9; Rev. 5:10)

## JESUS NEEDS LABORERS

1. Lord Jesus Christ said that the harvest is plentiful. But the labourers are few. Pray for labourers.  
(Matt. 9:37-38; Luke 10:2; John 4:35)
2. There is no difference between Workers, Labourers, Servants, Disciples, Elders, Bishops, Sons of God, Shepherds and the Sheep, as all work for His Kingdom. Paul, James and Peter, referred to themselves as slaves of Jesus.  
(Rom. 1:1; James 1:1; 2 Peter 1:1)
3. God is also a labourer and we are co- labourers.  
(1 Cor 3:9; John 5:17; Mark 16:20)
4. There are two kinds of workers. Those who work for the filthy lucre and others who need not be ashamed.  
(1Pet. 5:2; 2 Tim. 2:15)
5. Profitable Servants are those who are faithful in small things and multiply the spiritual resources God has given them— They produce thirtyfold, sixtyfold and even hundredfold harvest.  
( Col 4:12; 1 Thes 2:9; 2 Thes 3:8)
6. Unprofitable Servants are selfish and greedy. They will be consigned to hell.  
(Matt 25:30; Prov 21:25; 1 Pet 5:2; 2 Cor 11:13; Ps. 5:5)
7. Labourers are hard working and are satisfied with daily bread.  
(Matt. 20:2)
8. Labourers do not serve two masters but faithfully seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness knowing that the Master will provide all their needs. (Matt 6:24,33; Phil 4:19)

## THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

1. The New Testament (NT) Christians practice churchless Christianity, with no temples, no priests and no Sunday worship. People are the church and meet almost daily as equals, with no race, gender or class bias. (Gal. 3:28)
2. It has plurality of leadership, led by fivefold ministry gifted elders. God will not do anything without first telling His prophets. Everyone has a Psalm, a teaching, a revelation or a prophecy, which includes (a) speaking edification (b) exhortation and (c) comfort.  
(Amos 3:7; 1 Cor. 14:3, 26-31; Eph. 4:11)
3. The basic difference is that the modern church is consumed with worship without any burden for the lost, while the NT church is busy persuading the “uninformed” to repent and to reconcile with Jesus. (1Cor.14:25;2Cor.5:9,11)
4. Believers leave behind their sandals, egos, logos and titles, to meet in the intimacy of a home. The church is interactive, dialogical and relational. Together they study the Scriptures, pray with one accord and have table fellowship.  
(Acts2:42-47;17:2-4;20:20)
5. The NT church brings forth abundant harvest because they worship by offering “lost souls” as sacrifice. Thus new souls are added to the church daily. They give generously to the poor and to the apostles, to go and plant multiplying churches that resonate with the will of God and sound forth the gospel in every place. (Acts 4:34; 16:5; 1Thes. 1:8)

## THE TRIPLET CHURCH

1. **THE MOST POWERFUL TRIPLET :** God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, form the most powerful triplet. They blessed Abraham, Isaac and Jacob to possess the gates of the enemy and be a blessing to all the nations of the earth.  
(Matt. 28:18-19; Gen. 12:2-3; 22:17)
2. **TRIPLET CHURCH IS SMALL BUT VERY POWERFUL :** Jesus promised that if 2 or 3 congregate in My name then whatever this congregation agrees to glorify God, that I will do. Triplet church is an authentic church because Jesus Himself is present, with all the power in heaven and earth.  
(Matt. 18:18-20; 16:19; 28: 18)
3. **THE TRIPLETS ARE EFFECTIVE INTERCESSORS :** The triplet of Moses, Hur and Aaron prayed on the mountain and Joshua was victorious in the battle field. The triplet church has the flexibility to meet any time, any where for waging intercessory war against the powers of darkness.  
(Exo. 17:11-13; 1 Tim. 2:1-4, 8; 2 Cor. 10:3-5)
4. **THE TRIPLETS CAN FACE ANY PERSECUTION :** The triplet of Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-nego defied the king's command to worship an idol and passed the test by fire. Consequently the king became a believer and transformed the whole nation by declaring it to honour the God of the Jews.  
(Daniel 3:12-30)
5. **THE TRIPLET CHURCH IS STRONG :** Scripturally a threefold cord cannot be easily broken. Similarly the gates of Hell cannot prevail against a church built on the foundation laid by the apostles and prophets with Jesus as the chief corner stone. (Eccl. 4:12, Amos 3:3; Matt. 16: 18; Eph. 2: 20)

6. **JESUS' OWN TRIPLET :** Jesus nurtured Peter, John and James as His inner circle triplet. They were with Him at His transfiguration and at Gethsemani.  
(Mark 14:33-41; Luke 9:27-32)
7. **THE TRIPLET CHURCH IS A COMPLETE CHURCH :** It is not just a prayer cell, a Bible study class or a "come church". The "whole church" goes out with all the authority of Jesus to disciple, baptise, break bread, do miracles and plant churches, even marry and bury.  
(Luke 10:2-9; Matt. 28:19; Acts 2:42; 5:6,10)
8. **THE GENTILE CHURCH SENDS MISSIONARY TRIPLET:** Paul, Barnabas and John Mark were the first missionary triplet sent by the church of Antioch who saturated the entire Mediterranean area with house churches in a very short time.  
(Acts 13:1-13; Rom. 15:19-23)
9. **THE TRIPLET CHURCH IS A GIFTED CHURCH :** It is led by the Holy Spirit, therefore all the charismata (gifts) are in operation with healing, signs and wonders, expelling demons, transforming communities through focused intercession, prayer walking and spiritual warfare.  
(1Cor 12:4-11; Mk.16:15-20; Acts 26:18)
10. **THE CHURCH MEANT FOR 'ONE-ANOTHER' MULTIPLIES RAPIDLY :** The scriptures have many 'one-anothers', like submit to each-other, confess your sins, pray for one-another, love each-other, so that the world will believe in Jesus etc. All this can be practised only in a small church, and multiply rapidly.  
(Eph. 5:2; Jam. 4:16; Rom. 16:16; John 13: 34-35; Acts 16: 5)

## TENFOLD FUNCTIONS OF THE CHURCH

### Based on ACTS 2: 41-47

1. **APOSTOLIC TEACHING** : (V.42) Fivefold ministry gifted teachers, equip the saints and unify the church, leading to edification of the church by discipling all nations.  
(Eph. 4:12-13)
2. **FELLOWSHIP** : (V.42) The bond of unity with all the believers of the city, is the secret of church growth. Submit to 'one another', love 'one another' and pray for 'each other'. 'One-another' comes over 50 times in the NT.  
(Eph. 4:3-6; 5:21; James 5:16)
3. **EAT TOGETHER** : (V.42) Jesus fed His disciples roast lamb, bitter herbs, bread and wine for the last supper. His followers ate Agape meals regularly without the help of professional priests, whenever and wherever they met.  
(1 Cor. 11:20; Acts 20:7)
4. **INTERCESSION** : (V.42) Pray strategic prayer with one accord. Prayer Walk, bind the 'strongman', set the captives free, bless all the families until you find the 'Person of peace'.  
(Matt. 12:29; Luke 10:5-6)
5. **SIGNS AND WONDERS** : (V.43) Jesus has sent you with power and authority to heal the sick, raise the dead, cast out demons, and then preach the Gospel that the kingdom is near.  
(Matt. 10:7-8)
6. **SHARE YOUR MATERIAL BLESSINGS** : (V. 44-45) with each other so that no one lacks anything among you, especially the apostles.  
(Acts 4:32-34)

7. **STRATEGY FOR DISCIPLING THE NATIONS** : (V. 46) With one accord, i.e. with well planned strategy they went out as fishers of men. Initially they brought seekers from the temple to their homes to disciple them and the Lord added to their numbers daily.  
(Acts 1:8; 26:17-18)
8. **BAPTIZE** : (V.41) All baptisms in the New Testament took place without delay. During the Pentecost 3000 people took baptism in the pools around the temple. No temple priests were required as every believer is a royal priest. Any two believers could act as witnesses. Christianity is a peoples' movement and believers can baptized each other.
9. **EQUIPPING** : (V.46) Discipling is a 'skill'. Lord Jesus trained His disciples daily in the harvest field and not in the Bible school or the Sunday worship. Apprenticeship is the best method and house church is the best place for equipping of the saints.  
(Acts 20:20)
10. **MULTIPLY** : (V.47) Discipling of the nations is the mandate of the mobile and militant church. Jesus said 'as the Father has sent me so I send you into the world'. The Bride of Christ must multiply daily from house to house and fill the earth. Christianity is like a moving river. If it stops flowing then it stagnates and becomes a dirty pond of mud, mosquitoes and other harmful creatures.  
(Matt. 28:19; John 17:18; Acts 1:8; 16:5)

## TRAINING WISE MASTERBUILDERS

1. Jesus said 'I will build My church'. Jesus is the rock of ages on which the church is being built. There can be no other foundation other than that, which is already laid, which is Jesus Christ. (Matt. 16:18; 1 Cor. 3:11; 1Pet 2:4)
2. Paul an apostle, was a wise masterbuilder. Any believer can build on that foundation with gold, silver, precious stones or just wood and hay. But in the end your work will be tested with fire. (1Cor.3:10-14; Luke 6:48,49)
3. A masterbuilder (architect) does not build according to his will but must know the will of the owner (God) and make a blueprint (plan) accordingly. Masterbuilders (apostle/prophets) have a complete picture of the finished edifice (church) before it is built. They do not build for themselves but for the owner. Others like the carpenters (evangelists) or masons (teachers) and shepherds, have limited understanding. (Eph 2:20-22; 3:5,6)
4. When there are no prophets and apostles in the church, then it builds brick and mortar buildings and sets up Roman administrative structure of CEO's, presidents, secretaries and other officers. Jesus is not looking for officers or theologians but for wise masterbuilders who have the knowledge, the skills and the passion to finish the task of building His church. (1Pet 2:5; Jer. 1:5,9,10)
5. Jesus, Peter and Paul gave hands on experience to their apprentices in the harvest field who turned the world upside down. (Heb. 11:10)

6. Curriculum and courses produce degree holders but not leaders. Leaders produce leaders. In the NT, all training was done in the context of the church. The local and regional churches acted as resource hubs. But today, the seminaries, which are disconnected with the church produce leaders who are misfits for the expansionist agenda of the church. (Luke 14:29)
7. Medical schools produce doctors for the sick. Seminaries produce pastors for the saved, dissociated with the sinners and the culture. Pastors from Africa and the other 'two thirds world', trained in American colleges, are as irrelevant as Indians trained, out of Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist, Dalit and Tribal context.
8. In a seminary, success indicators are time bound, knowledge based curriculum, and academic accreditation, while the benchmark of masterbuilder is a life long hands on learning experience of saving souls, making disciples and establishing multiplying churches.
9. The church lost its soul, when it replaced masterbuilders with officials and theologians. The seminaries need to replace professors with practitioners and shift from systematic theology to church-based, problem-solving approach, in the context of the harvest field.
10. In the NT church, the 'fivefold ministry gifted men' equip 'faithful men' who equip 'others', while they themselves continue to be actively involved in planting churches. The megashift requires a paradigm shift in the selection of both the teacher and the taught, the venue and the content. (Eph. 4:11,12; 2Tim.2:2)

## MULTIPLICATION

1. God blessed the human race, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth'. This blessing has never been abrogated by God. (Gen. 1:28)
2. Similarly God blessed Abraham, 'In blessing I will bless thee and I will multiply thy seed ...And they shall possess the gates of the enemy. And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed. (Gen 22:17,18)
3. A church that does not reproduce herself and multiply is barren because she is not in true union with Christ. (2 Pet.1:3-9; Isa 54:1)
4. A female elephant breeds only once in twenty years while the little rabbits breed every few weeks. Similarly big elephantine churches are not reproducible while the little New Testament model churches equip and release believers and rapidly multiply. (Acts 13:1-3)
5. **Prayer Multiplication:** All major revivals in the church have been preceded by major prayer movements. 120 people praying with 'one accord' precipitated the Pentecost with 3000 baptisms and a worldwide church planting movement. (Acts 1:14,15; 2:5)
6. **Gospel Multiplication:** Abundant sowing will multiply the seed of the gospel and increase the fruits of righteousness and the gospel will sound forth in every place. (2 Cor. 9:6,10; 1Thes. 1:8; Mat. 14:6)
7. **Believers' Multiplication:** Breaking bread from house to house with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. Bread is a product of

God and man working together. God provides the resources like the seed, the land, the sunshine, the minerals and the water, while the man provides the labour. When both the physical and the 'Bread of life' are shared from house to house then the Lord multiplies new believers to the church daily. (Act 2:46,47; Isa 55:10; 58:7)

8. **Multiplication of Disciples:** Focus on the ministries of Word and Prayer results in rapid multiplication and exponential growth of the disciples. (Act 6:1-7; John 15:8,16; Luk 10:2)
9. **Multiplication of Elders:** Tribulations lead to maturity of disciples. They are then appointed Elders who are key to the multiplication of churches. (Act 14:22,23; Titus 1:5)
10. **Multiplication of Gifts:** The Holy Spirit then imparts multiple charismata resulting in multiplication of the churches. (Eph. 4:11; 1Cor. 12:28; Rom. 12:6-8; Acts 2:17,18)
11. **Multiplication of Churches:** Aggressive approach by one man show can become an impediment (Acts 9:29-31). Whereas equipping indigenous leaders within the local cultural context, like circumcising Timothy, can lead to multiplication of both, quality and quantity of the church. (Acts 16:3-5)
12. **Multiplication of the Kingdom:** *'The kingdom of God is within you'. It cometh not with observation'* but when Kingdom people go to every heathen home and offer incense (worship), which results in thirty, sixty and even a hundredfold multiplication. (Luke17:20,21; Mal 1:11; Matt.13:8)

## WHO IS A DISCIPLE

1. **DISCIPLES ARE OBEDIENT AND FREE** : If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. You will know the truth and the truth will make you free, even from the bondage of church structure, to do His will. (Jn 8:31-32)
2. **DISCIPLES ARE EXPERT FISHERS OF MEN** : Jesus said to His disciples follow me and I will make you fishers of men. The disciples caught human fish by the thousands. (Matt. 4:19)
3. **DISCIPLES HAVE ABUNDANT LASTING FRUIT** : Jesus said, 'My Father is glorified when you bear much fruit; then you will be My disciples'. 'I have chosen you and ordained you that you may go and bring 'fruit that remains'. We will not be known by our righteousness but by our fruit. (John 15:8,16; Mat 7:16; Isa. 64:6)
4. **DISCIPLES HAVE THE POWER** and authority to 'bind and to lose' over all the power of the enemy. They plunder the strongholds of the strongman and gather the harvest. (Luke 10:19; Matt. 12:29,30; 18:18)
5. **DISCIPLES ARE TRADITION BREAKERS** : When the rituals, practices and the traditions of the church transgress the commandments of God, they do not hesitate to obey God. (Matt. 15:1-8; Acts 4:19-20; Jer. 1:5-10)
6. **DISCIPLES LOVE JESUS MORE THAN ANYBODY ELSE** : If you love your parents, wife, children, brothers, sisters, property and even your own life more than Me, you cannot be My disciple. (Luke 14:26; Mat. 6:33; 19:21)

7. **DISCIPLES ARE WILLING TO PAY THE PRICE** : Whoever does not bear his cross daily and come after Me, cannot be My disciple. Likewise, whoever does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple. (Luke 14:27, 33)
8. **DISCIPLES LOVE EACH OTHER** : Jesus commanded that you love one another, just as I have loved you. By this shall all people know that you are My disciples because you have love for one another. (John 13:34-35)
9. **DISCIPLES TAKE CARE OF THE ENVIRONMENT** : Jesus did not die just to save souls. Jesus shed His blood to reconcile the whole creation. The whole creation is travailing, eagerly waiting for the revelation of the sons of God. Disciples are the sons of God and take care of their Father's creation. (Col. 1:20; Rom. 8:14-23; 2 Cor. 5:17-19)
10. **DISCIPLES DO GREATER WORKS THAN JESUS** : Jesus healed the sick, cast out demons, raised the dead and preached the gospel. He left the greater task of planting churches and gathering the harvest to His disciples. (John 14:6)
11. **DISCIPLES RULE THE EARTH** : Jesus died to make His disciples kings and priests to reign on earth. Through intercession and acts of mercy they repair roads, rebuild shanty towns and comfort hurting people. (Rev. 5:9-10; Isa. 58:6-12; Matt. 25:31-46)
12. **DISCIPLES MAKE MORE DISCIPLES** : Jesus commissioned His disciples to go and make disciples, baptize them, equip them and send them to make more disciples. (Matt. 28:19)

## ELDERS

### QUALIFICATIONS AND FUNCTIONS

1. **ELDERS SHOULD BE OF GOOD REPUTATION :** There are 18 character traits in the NT, which qualify or disqualify from Eldership. Elders are role models; their integrity, character and life style should be exemplary.  
(Titus 1:5-7; 1 Timothy 3:2-7; 3 John : 9-12; 1 Cor. 11:1)
2. **THEY SHOULD BE HUMBLE AND HOSPITABLE :** Elders, bishops, deacons and pastors are all equal and not dignitaries or officers. Like their Master, they must humbly serve others. Providing hospitality to strangers in their homes is an essential qualification for both men and women. Without hospitality no house churches can be established.  
(Phil. 1:1, 2:7; Mark 10:42-45; Heb. 13:2; 1 Tim. 5:10)
3. **THEY SHOULD BE A GOOD TEACHERS OF THE WORD :** They should equip others for different ministries and convince, persuade, exhort and convict with sound doctrine those who contradict. For this service they should receive double honour meaning financial support from the flock.  
(Titus 1:9; 1 Timothy 5:17; 2 Tim. 2:2; 3 John : 5-8)
4. **THEY SHOULD BE A GOOD RULERS :** They must manage their own household well then only they can manage the household of God? They should be able to rebuke those who are sinning and admonish the unruly. Financially they should be blameless stewards of God.  
(1 Timothy 3:5; 5:17,20; 1 Thess. 5:12-14; 3 John :10; Titus 1:7)

5. **THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:** The Elders are spirit filled people with manifestation of many gifts. They should pray for the sick as the effective prayer of the righteous avails much.  
(Eph. 4:11-12; James 5:14-16)
6. **THEY ARE THE SHEPHERDS OF THE FLOCK :** Jesus commanded Peter to feed His sheep. Jesus is the Chief Shepherd and Elders must shepherd His flock by feeding the whole counsel of God from house to house.  
(John 21:15-17; Acts 20:27-28; 1 Peter 5:1-4)
7. **THEY PROTECT THE SHEEP :** from the savage wolves. The Devil has vast experience, resources and total commitment to steal, kill and destroy. However, the Elders are not hirelings. They are father figures so they protect their spiritual children at any cost.  
(Acts 20:27-30; John 10:10-15; 1 Cor. 4:15)
8. **THEY BRING THE LOST SHEEP** into the fold to hear His voice and soon there will be one flock and one Shepherd.  
(John 10:16; Rom. 15:16)
9. **THEY ARE ACCOUNTABLE TO GOD :** Preferably only local people should be Elders, not outsiders. They are appointed with fasting, prayer and laying on of hands. We must submit to their authority willingly as they are accountable to God for our souls.  
(Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5; Hebrew 13:17)
10. **IT IS A GOOD THING TO DESIRE ELDERSHIP :** Not all old men nor a novice can be Elders but only those who are mature in faith. Women and young people can also be Elders and even appoint Elders.  
(1 Tim 3:1, 6; Titus 1:5; 2:2-3; 2 John :1)

## YOU ARE A ROYAL PRIEST NOT JUST A LAYMEN

1. The Bible is the story of the KING, His Kingdom and His Kids. The KING died to make us **eternal kings and priests** here on earth. Every believer must function as a priest and reign like a king. (Rev 5:9,10;1:6; 22:5)
2. The church is a gathering of especially chosen people, a **Royal Priesthood**. Not just laymen but a holy nation. Holy means separated - to rule and to be priests to the Gentile nations living in darkness. (1 Pet 2:9)
3. *...and the government shall be upon His **shoulder**; and there will be no end of the increase of His government...He will establish it with justice forever (Isa 9:6,7).* Jesus is the head, the church is His Body and we are His hands, feet and **shoulders**. But the Ruler of darkness is now ruling unhindered through political parties by default because we, the legitimate government, who are seated with Him in heavenly places, have abandoned our thrones. (Eph1:21-23;2:6;Rom12:5;Rev3:21)
4. A small rock (the church) smote the huge idol of Nebuchadnezzar. It grew and filled the whole earth. God promised to set up a kingdom, which **shall not be left to other peoples**. It shall crush and destroy all other kingdoms...And the kingdom and rulership, and the greatness of the kingdom under all the heavens, shall be given to **the saints of the Most High**, which *is* an everlasting kingdom. And all kingdoms shall serve and obey Him. (Dan.2:44; 7:27; Rev. 22:5)

5. Worldly crowns are corruptible. Sinners saved by us, are our inheritance and **our crown of glory**. Jesus is coming soon for our coronation and forewarned us, '*hold fast what you have, that no one takes your **crown***'. You have to have a crown before you can lose it. (1Cor 9:25; 1Thes 2:19; Psa 2:8; Rev.3:11)
6. God says, '*My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you as My **priest**... and forget your sons*'. Ignorance of your spiritual authority can destroy your family, the city and the nation. (Hos 4:6; Lam 4:12,13)
7. Jesus is the LORD (owner) of the world (Ps 24:1). But He is not yet the KING (ruler) of the whole earth as the Devil is still ruling. Jesus has given us a city/nation/kingdom, to rule. When Christians start breaking every yoke, rebuild ruined cities, deliver good news to the poor, heal the hurting and set the captives free, then they begin to reign in their God given domain. Jesus will then become the KING of kings and the LORD of lords. (Isa. 58:6,12; 61:1-4; Rev. 19:16; Deut. 32:8)
8. The KING'S will is done in heaven. It is not a democratic government, which can be changed by popular vote. Its constitution is the word of the KING, which cannot be changed by public opinion. Christ, the KING has sent us, His Royal Priests as ambassadors with a mission to establish the government of God, so that His will be done on earth as it is in heaven. (Matt. 6:10; 2Cor. 5:17-20)

## YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

1. **YOU ARE A NEW CREATION :** You are no longer a sinner because you have confessed all your sins, repented, proclaimed Jesus as your Lord and Saviour. You have been baptized i.e. you have died with Him and raised again, washed in His blood and anointed with His Spirit, therefore now you are a completely new creation. (1 John 5:18; 1:7-9; Rom. 10:9-10,13; 6:3-4; 1 Cor. 6:11; 2 Cor. 5:17)
2. **YOU ARE CHILD OF GOD :** You are His son/daughter and 'god' to reflect His glory on earth.  
(John 1:12; Rom. 8:14,19; Ps. 82:6)
3. **YOU ARE A FRIEND OF JESUS :** You are now a friend of Jesus and if you really love Him then you will gladly obey all His commandments. As a faithful friend He has promised to give you whatever you ask provided it glorifies God.  
(John 15:13-15; 14:13-14, 23-24)
4. **YOU ARE A FELLOW WORKER WITH JESUS :** Some plant the seeds while others water it but it is God who gives the increase. If we sow sparingly we will reap sparingly but if we sow bountifully, we will reap a large harvest of souls. The Lord expects us to reap, thirtyfold, sixtyfold and even hundredfold harvest. (1Cor 3:9; 2Cor. 6:1; 9:6; Mark 4:8)
5. **YOU ARE A DISCIPLE OF JESUS :** You have been commanded to heal the sick, expel the demons, raise the dead and preach the kingdom of God. A disciple is one who makes disciples.  
(Math. 10:7-8; John 15:8; 14:12)
6. **YOU ARE AN AMBASSADOR :** An ambassador does not work in his own nation. You are made a new creation and sent to

represent the King among Gentile nations. Your mission is to reconcile those lost nations, to Christ the King. The King supplies all the needs of His ambassadors.

(2Cor 5:17-21; Mat 6:33)

7. **YOU ARE PROPHET OF JESUS :** All believers of Jesus are prophets and members of a prophetic church. They receive direct revelations (Rhema) from God and prophesy edification, exhortation and speaking comfort in the church.  
(1 Cor. 14:3, 26, 29-31)
8. **YOU ARE A PRIEST OF JESUS :** Therefore your lips should preserve knowledge (Logos) and people should seek instruction from you for you are the messenger of the Lord. As a priest you daily offer gentiles as living sacrifice so that from sunrise to sunset His name will be exalted.  
(Malachi 2:7; 1:11; Rom. 15:16)
9. **YOU ARE AN APOSTLE :** Christ in you is the only hope of the Gentiles because He has revealed the mystery to you that Gentiles must be delivered from darkness into His marvellous light and become members of His church.  
(Eph. 3:5; Col. 1:20, 27; Acts 26:18)
10. **YOU ARE A KING:** A king has a kingdom. God is the King in heaven. You are a king because the word of God says so. You begin to reign on earth when you demolish the strongholds of caste, class and gender divide and enforce the rule of justice, peace, equality, love and prosperity.  
(Rev 5:10; Amos 5:24; Act 15:14)

## FIVE STEPS OF MATURITY CYCLE

1. **A Person of Peace:** The apostolic teams of two or three find out the person of peace like Cornelius and Lydia. Stay in their house. Eat with them. Miracles take place and a believer's church is established. (Lk 10:1-9)
2. **A Believer:** Jesus said, 'he who believes and is baptized will be saved and these signs shall follow - they shall expel demons, pray for the sick and they will be healed. They will go and preach everywhere'. (Mark 16: 15-20)
3. **A Disciple:** is one who not only preaches and does miracles but also makes many disciples. Going to the church makes you no more a disciple than going to a repair shop makes you a mechanic. A disciple takes up his cross and is willing to suffer to make disciples of Christ. (John 15:8,16; Lk 9:23)
4. **An Elder:** An elder is a man or a woman of character, given to hospitality, well equipped to convict young people and those who oppose. Elders must feed the flock willingly and not for filthy lucre. Peter called himself a fellow elder. There will be elders even in heaven. (Tit 1:5-9; 2:3-6; 1Pet 5:1-3; Rev 4:4)
5. **Fivefold Gifted Ministers:** The NT Church is led by plurality of leadership of apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds and teachers. All are vitally important, like all the fingers of a hand to make the church functionally vibrant and reproductive.

Apostolic teams then go and find the 'persons of peace' and repeat the whole cycle. (Eph. 4:11-13; Matt. 10:11-13)

## FIVEFOLD MINISTRY GIFTS

**Eph 4:11-13** Jesus gave apostles; prophets; evangelists; shepherds and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the building up of the Body of Christ: till we all attain the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of Jesus.

1. **Apostle** means a messenger. It comes 300 times in the Scriptures. Apostles and prophets together lay the foundation of the church. The 12 were special. Modern day apostles are called missionaries or church planters. Today there are more apostles than ever and we need many more, as millions of churches are yet to be planted. (Eph.2:20)
2. **Prophets:** In the last days God is pouring out His spirit of **prophecy** on men, women and children. A church without **prophets** is groping in the dark because God will not do anything without first telling His prophets, as He has done in the past. (Acts 2:17,18; Amos 3:7)
3. **Evangelists:** Philip cleared the weeds by casting out demons and healing the sick and then sowed the seed of the gospel. He baptized people in Samaria but left without planting a church. Apostles Peter and John came and planted the church. (Acts 8:5-7)
4. **Shepherd and/or a Teacher:** Ultimately every believer must take care of the sheep both inside and outside the fold, who belong to Jesus, because He shed His blood for all. (Heb. 5:12; Acts 20:28; John 10:16)

## SACRIFICE IS TRUE WORSHIP

1. The first family on earth, worshipped God, even after expulsion from the garden of Eden by offering sacrifice.  
(Gen. 4:3,4)
2. The first time “worship” is mentioned in the Scriptures is when Abraham worshipped God by offering Isaac, the most precious possession of his life and became a friend of God forever.  
(Gen. 22: 5)
3. Even in heaven, the 24 elders worship God by casting their crowns before Him, their symbols of authority and dignity.  
(Rev. 4:10)
4. God did not call Jerusalem temple, “a place of worship” but told King Solomon that it is “a place of sacrifice”.  
(2 Chron. 7:12)
5. Jews were not allowed to enter the temple empty handed. They had to offer sacrifices at least three times a year. (Deut. 16:16)
6. Jews offered sacrifices, entered the temple and then prayed. The high priest offered animal blood to worship but Jesus offered Himself. True worship is to offer ourselves as living sacrifice.  
(Lev.1:4; Heb.9:7-12; Rom.12:1,2)
7. Samaritan woman did not worship Jesus with just words or singing but by bringing the whole village to His feet. This was a defining moment, as at this point, worship changed **1.** from the temple to ‘everywhere’ **2.** from sacrificing animals to offering Gentiles and **3.** from professional priesthood to priesthood of all believers. Lip worship is easy but offering lost souls is a challenge.  
(John 4:20-24; Rom.15,16; 2Chron. 29:30,31; Heb. 13:15)

8. Worship in truth and spirit can take place any time, any place. We can go anywhere and raise our holy hands and worship God. Jesus has promised that wherever two or three are gathered together in His name, He is present with all the power in heaven and earth. The two can then go as the authentic church, find the men of peace and plant new churches, which is the best way to worship and save our own souls by saving sinners.  
(1Tim 2:8; Mat18:18-20; Luke 10:1,2; 1Chron 16:29; Eze.33: 8,9; Dan.12:3)
9. Paul as a priest, offered Gentiles as sacrifice. The NT, enshrines “priesthood of all believers” to offer “lost souls” as spiritual sacrifice, to glorify God. We as priests, shall not be known by our righteousness, which is like filthy rags, but will be known by our fruit. Fruitless branches will be thrown in the fire. Saved Gentiles are our eternal inheritance and our crown of rejoicing.  
(Rom.16:20; 1Pet. 2:9; Isa. 60:7; 66:19-21; 64:6; John 15:6; Psalm 2:8; 1Thes. 2:19; Phil. 4:1)
10. God’s vision is that from the rising of the sun to its going down, incense (prayer, praise and worship) will be offered in His name, in every Gentile home. When we worship by offering, “lost souls”, in their own homes, then every family will become a house of prayer for their own tongue and tribe and they will become fellow heirs of the same Body and partakers of inheritance with the saints and the kingdoms of this world will become the kingdoms of Christ our Lord and we shall reign with Him forever.  
(Mal. 1:11; Rev. 8:3,4; 11:15; 22:5; Eph. 3:6; Isa. 56:7; 66:20)

## BAPTISM - A DEFINING MOMENT

1. Baptism is conducting *harakiri* or self immolation to the world and making a covenant with Jesus until we resonate with the will of God, that none should perish but come to the saving knowledge of truth.

(Rom. 6:3-5; 12:1,2; 1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9)

2. Hebrew word for covenant is *beryth*, which means to “cut”. Baptism signifies cutting umbilical connection with the world, being sealed with the Lamb’s blood. It is a defining moment for covenanting to live and die for Jesus.

(Gen 15:9-18; Luke 9:62; Phil. 1:29)

3. No clergy is needed, as anyone could take his/her baptism in the presence of two witnesses. Jews considered even eye contact with women as sinful, hence women baptized each other.

(Deut. 19:15; Matt. 5:28)

4. The Greek word *Baptizo* has a wide latitude of meaning like immersion, ablution, sprinkling, washing, and dipping etc. Baptism signifies ritual bonding and a lifelong relationship with Jesus.

(Heb. 9:10,13,19; Rom. 8:17)

5. John refused to baptize Jesus but Jesus said, “I must fulfil all righteousness.” Whenever possible we should get baptized. Baptism is obedience to the Father’s will.

(Matt. 3:15)

6. All believing men and women are “royal priests”, hence any believer can baptize. It is not the amount of water or the horizontal verses vertical position under water or even who baptizes, but the real issue is obedience and identification.

(1 Pet. 2:9; Matt. 28:19)

7. Everyone in the NT was baptized on the same day except for Paul. There is no justification for delay as baptism is a free gift and not to be earned after a long period of discipleship. 3000 were baptized on the Pentecost. Philip baptized the treasurer of Ethiopia within a few hours of discipling. Paul baptized the household of the Philippian Jailer in the middle of the night.

(Acts 9:9; 8:38; 16:33)

8. Babies cannot be baptized as the Scriptures enshrines believers’ baptism only, “*whoever believes and is baptized will be saved*”. Because everyone has sinned and come short of the glory of God, everyone has to confess his/her own sins, then the blood of the Lamb cleanses them from all sin. Babies and their godparents are incapable of confessing their sins.

(Rom. 6:23; Mark 16:16; 1John 1:7-9)

9. Some pastors wrongly compel women to remove their wedding and other cultural symbols before baptizing. These leaders spend millions on the marriage dowry of their daughters. This has left millions of believers, unbaptized. The NT forbids only four things: idolatry, sexual immorality, things strangled and blood.

(Acts 15: 19,20; 28,29)

10. Baptism should not mean joining a particular church but joining the Church Universal. It is sinful to get baptized just to get a certificate for a job or marriage. It is not even necessary to leave their religious or cultural background and be called “Christian”. They are “Hindu/Muslim/Buddhist believers”, who are joining the Body of Christ, just like the “Jews” become “Messianic Jews”.

(Rev. 5:10; 7:10)

## THE ROLE OF WOMEN

1. **Preaching:** The first thing Jesus did after His resurrection was to tell Mary Magdalene to “go and tell the brethren”. Even since then the women have gone all over the world and told the good news of Jesus. (Mat. 28:10)
2. **Speaking:** Paul only asked ‘wives’ (Greek-*gune*) to submit to their husbands (Grk-*aner*) and not to ‘teach’ them in public but he did not stop women from speaking in the church (1Tim. 2:11,12; Eph. 5:22,23; Titus 2:3). To avoid confusion, Paul put restriction on men, women and prophets. (1Cor 14:31,32)
3. **Teaching:** Priscilla is named 7 times in the NT. She taught Apollos, an expositor of the Bible. Phoebe went to Rome and taught from Book of Romans. (Act 18:24-26; Rom 16:1,2)
4. **Discipling:** Why did Jesus not choose a female disciple? Because Jesus was modelling “same sex discipling”. His disciples followed this model. We can avoid a lot of sex scandals in the church if we followed this model.
5. **Priests:** All men & women are equal before God, created in His image and likeness. He called both ‘Adam’ (Gen. 5:2; Gal 3:28). Jesus shed His blood and made every believer a ‘royal priest’ to worship, disciple, baptize, plant churches and rule the nation. (1Pet 2:9)
6. **Apostles:** Junia was a distinguished woman apostle (Rom 16:7). Her name was changed to Junias in the circa 13 AD by translators who could not tolerate a female apostle. According to the NT, apostles are ordained by God (Lk.

11:49; 1Cor.12:28; Eph 4:11), workers of miracles (II Cor 12:12; Acts 2:43), witnesses who proclaim the resurrection of Jesus (Acts 4:33), founders and leaders of churches (Acts 4:37; 15:4; 1 Cor. 12:28), preachers (1 Tim. 2:7; II Tim. 1:11), teachers (II Pet. 3:2; Jude:17; Acts 2:42), disciplers (Eph. 4:12,13), baptizing and imparting Holy Spirit (Acts 19:1-6). While not every apostle was involved in all these, there is no reason to believe that recognized apostles like Junia, Priscilla, Phoebe and many others were barred from any of these activities.

7. **Legalized dress code:** Temple prostitutes of Corinth, shaved their heads and spoke incoherently, influenced by evil spirits. Paul asked such women to cover their heads and not to ‘babble’ (Grk-*lalein*) in the church. He also told them not to dress with provocative clothes, hairstyle or gold but did not stop them from speaking and dressing up properly. (1Cor 11:5,6,16; 14:34,35; 1Tim 2:9,10)
8. **Church Planters:** All the early churches were established in the homes of women, like Mary the mother of Mark (Acts 12:5,12); Lydia (Acts 16:14,15,40); Apphia (Philemon 1:2); Nympha (Col. 4:15); Priscilla (1 Cor. 16:19). Romans’ chapter 16 has names of 9 women who were leaders of the churches.
9. **Giftings:** 80% of the emerging churches in the ‘two thirds world’ have been planted by women. Church ministry is gift-based and never gender-based. Gender benders have no place, if the **whole church** is serious about taking the whole gospel to the whole world.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

1. The Lord often went out alone to pray to a solitary place, very early in the morning, when it was still dark and like many of us, the disciples were still snoring. (Mark 1:35)
2. The disciples did not ask Him to teach them to do miracles like how to cast demons, cure diseases, raise the dead, how to feed the 5000 or stop the wind and the waves in the sea, but asked Him to teach them how to pray. Obviously they knew that He derived power and daily direction from His communion with the Father. (Luke 11:1)
3. We neglect prayer and have to work hard without achieving much, while Jesus prayed much and the miracles happened instantly. Martin Luther said, 'More work is done by prayer than by work itself'. We can reduce our workload by increasing our prayerload.
4. Many Christians think that God stopped working after the six day creation. But Jesus said, '*My Father has been working until now and I too am working*'. Jesus only did what the Father had revealed to Him that day during the prayer. He said, '*I only do what the Father has shown me*'. (John 5:16-20)
5. Prayer is not a one way monologue but communion and fellowship with the Father. Many people shout loudly with contorted faces like the heathen. Jesus did not pray like that. He forbade vain repetitions. Even the Lord's Prayer is only a model prayer and not to be repeated like a *mantra*. (Mat. 6:7)

6. Father or Abba means 'source and sustainer'. You do not have to ask for things because He not only knows your personal needs but also the needs of the whole creation, including feeding the birds. (Mat. 6:26)
7. Jesus clearly spelt out the primary focus, the objective and the reason for prayer, pleading God to usher His kingdom here on earth so that '*His will be done on earth*'. (Mat. 6:10)
8. It is corporate intercession, asking the whole world to hallow **our** Father's name, a sign of the Kingdom. To hallow means to worship. Prayer is praising God. (Mat 6:9; Phil 2:10,11)
9. Intercede for **all**, 'give **us** our daily bread'. Remember half the world goes to bed hungry. The first indicator of Kingdom is that every one has enough bread to eat because the Father has provided abundantly for everyone's need but not for wasteful greed.
10. '*Forgive us our sins as we forgive others*'. Christianity is all about relationships, with the family, coworker, community and the enemy. Praying without reconciling will never bring God's kingdom on earth. (Mat. 5:23,24)
11. '*Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil*'. God does not tempt us. Prayerlessness leads to temptation, bad decisions and compromises. (Mat. 26:40,41; James 1:13)
12. '*Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory*' This is acknowledging in faith, that the Kingdom is here on earth and thanking the Sovereign God for answering our prayers.

## PRAY, PROCLAIM & POSSESS

### THE NATION

1. **THE DOMINION MANDATE :** God commanded us to “*Subdue the earth and have dominion over it*”. He will not violate that creed unless we “*ask Him to give us nations for an inheritance and the ends of the earth for our possession*”. That is why He is looking for **interventional intercessors**. (Gen. 1:26-28; Psalm 2:8; Acts 1:8; Josh. 1:6; Eze. 22:30; Isa. 59:16; Jer. 5:1)
2. **THE SITUATION :** The land is cursed by disobedience to God resulting in murder, demon worship, sexual sins, dysfunctional families and other sins which are rampant in politics, culture and religion. Our cities and nations have become a dwelling place of demons. (Gen. 3:17, 4:10; Isa. 2:8,18,20; Lev. 18:25-28; Mal. 4:6; 1 Cor. 10:19-20; Rev. 18:2)
3. **THE PROBLEM :** The curses cannot be broken and land cannot be healed without the informed intercessors asking God to rebuke the invisible rulers and intervene in the affairs of men. (Isa.59:12-16;Eze. 22:24-30; Dan.4:17)
4. **FOCUSED INTERVENTIONAL PRAYER:** We often pray ‘Thy kingdom come...’ but rarely offer focused prayers, supplications, intercession and thanksgiving on local or national issues, nor do we pray specifically for our rulers. We need to prayer walk and possess the territory given to us by God. Focused interventional prayer has the power to transform lives, change circumstances, alter the course of history and win the world for Christ. (1 Tim 2:1-4; Jer. 29:7; Joshua 18:3)

5. **GOD’S SOLUTION :** If My people will fast and pray, seek My will and repent, then I will forgive their sins and heal their nation. The redemption of our nation depends entirely on our persistent prayers. (2 Chron. 7:14)
  6. **GOD’S PROVISION :** The righteous shall inherit the land and forever reign on earth as His priests and kings. (Isa. 60:21; Joshua 1:3; Rev. 5:10)
  7. **OUR AUTHORITY :** Bind the evil rulers and the ‘strongman’ with fetters and chains. The dominion cannot be possessed without demolishing the demons. (Psa.149:5-9; Matt. 12:28-29; Luke 10:17-19; Mk 16:17)
  8. **GOD COMMANDS complacent women** and their daughters to diligently pray until there is joy, peace, justice, prosperity and restoration of the creation through the outpouring of the Spirit. (Isa. 32:9-18)
  9. **GOD HAS APPOINTED YOU** a watchman and chosen your house to pray for the nations day and night without ceasing. You are not to give Him rest. (Isa. 62:6-7; Mk 11:17; 1 Thes. 5:17)
  10. **JESUS** has promised that if two believers will agree about anything, including changing the world into a righteous kingdom, then God will do it, according to the measure of their faith. Intercession can transform an ordinary follower into a world changer. (Matt 18:18-20; Rom. 12:3; John 14:13; 1 Cor. 15:24)
- TV, RADIO AND NEWSPAPERS ARE** ideal resources for daily interventional prayer points that the oppressed nation is crying out to be prayed for by the children of God.

(Romans 8:19)

## PRAYER WALKING : TEN STEPS

1. **SUBMIT TO GOD** : Put on the whole armour of God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.  
(James 4:7; Eph. 6:10-18; 1 John 3:8)
2. **PRAISE** : Lift up your holy hands and bless His Holy Name every where. Thank God for giving you the people as your inheritance and the land that you tread under your feet as your possession .  
(1Tim. 2:8; Deut.10:17; Ps. 2:8; 66:1-5; 141:2; Josh.1:3; Rom. 16:20)
3. **PREACH** : The whole creation is travailing for the revelation of the children of God. Preach the good news that Jesus shed His blood to reconcile all creation. Ask the heavenly hosts, the trees, the birds, the beasts, and everyone to clap their hands and sing praises to God.  
(Mark 16:15; Isa 55:12; Col 1:20; Rom 8:19)
4. **SPEAK TO THE CITY** by name, just like Jesus prayed for Jerusalem and bless those who serve us by providing food, water, healthcare, security, transportation, communication, sanitation, electricity, education, and other essentials for living.  
(Luke13:34-35; Prov. 11:11; Jer. 29:7)
5. **BE A BLESSING** : Pray for the redemption of neighbors. We have been blessed to be a blessing to all the families of the earth. Bring the kingdom of God and reign on earth by feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, adopting the orphans, wiping the tears of the hurting, visiting the prisoners for gospel's sake and showing the path to the lost.  
(Gen 12:3;Luk 10:5;Mat 25:31-46;Gal 2:10)

6. **REPENT** for all the atrocities, injustices, murders and other iniquities, both present and past. The blood of Jesus has made you priests and kings of the city and the nation. Identify with the sins of the people which have defiled the land. Pray until the city repents, curses are broken and the nation is healed.  
(Lam. 4:12-13; Lev. 18:24-28; Eze. 9:4-6; Neh. 1:5-7; Rev. 5:9-10; 2 Chron. 7:14)
7. **PROCLAIM** the manifold wisdom of God to the principalities, powers and the rulers of darkness. Break their power and expel territorial spirits because Jesus has defeated the Devil on the cross.  
(Eph 3:10; Col 2:15)
8. **TAKE POSSESSION** of the city by setting the captives free from all mental, social, cultural and religious, centers of iniquity with mighty spiritual weapons. Adorn your city as a Bride, to welcome the King of kings.  
(Matt 12:29; 2 Cor.10:3-5; 1Cor.15:24; Rev. 21:1)
9. **SEEK THE 'MAN OF PEACE'** : Heal the sick, cast out demons. Freely you have received freely give. Let your prayers be like the incense and the lifting of your holy hands be like the evening sacrifice. Offer Gentiles as sacrifice and plant a church in his house. Disciple, baptize, equip and send them as fishers of men.  
(Mat.10:8; Luke 10:5-9; Psalm 141:2; Isa. 66:20)
10. **REIGN ON EARTH** : Pray for rulers and usher the Kingdom, that all may lead a quiet, peaceful, honest and godly life. This is good and acceptable to God. Prayer walking must result in numerical growth and geographical expansion of the church.  
(1Tim2:1-4;Rev 8:3,4)

## KINGDOM PRAYERS

1. **ASK FOR NATIONS :** God said, *'Ask of Me and I will give you nations for an inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth for your possession'*. Find out all the castes and communities around you, visit their habitation and intercede for them. You are called to be a blessing to all the families of the earth. (Psalm 2: 8, Luke 10: 5-9; Gen. 22: 17-18)
2. **PRAY FOR THE CITY :** God has kept you in the city to pray on its behalf for your own welfare. Believers must stand and pray with lifted hands everywhere and saturate the city with prayers. Prayer is the best way to claim our inheritance. (Jer 29:7; 1Tim. 2: 8)
3. **PRAY FOR INTERCESSORS :** God is looking for people who will stand in the gap between God and the perishing so that they will not be destroyed because He does not want anyone to perish. (Eze. 22: 30; 2 Pet. 3: 9)
4. **PRAY FOR THE OUT POURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT :** God promised that in the last days He will pour out His Spirit on all flesh, men, women, sons, daughters and servants. Pray that His holy servants will speak His word boldly and that signs and wonders will be done in His name. (Acts 2: 17-18; 4: 29-30; Eph. 6: 19-20)
5. **PRAY AND PREPARE LABORERS :** Jesus said that the harvest is ready but the laborers are few, therefore pray to the Lord of harvest to send forth laborers to reap the harvest. Billions are ready but there are only a handful of church planters. (Matt. 9:37-38)

6. **EXPEL THE DEMONIC KINGDOM :** Identify, bind and expel the territorial principalities, powers, rulers of darkness and other spirits who blind the mind's eyes and rule through deception and lies. Expose all deception and break every yoke, destroy the works of the devil and set the people free. Pray that people will not pray to gods who cannot save them. (Dan.10:13,20; 2 Cor. 4:4; Isa.56:8; Rev 12: 9;1John 3: 8; Jer.10:11;Act 17:29,30)
7. **PRAY FOR MYSTERY OF THE KINGDOM TO BE REVEALED :** That Gentiles will become fellow inheritors of the kingdom. That from the rising of the sun to the going down of the same, His name shall be great among the Gentiles. (Acts 13:26; Eph.3: 5-10; Malachi 1: 11)
8. **PRAY FOR THE POLITICIANS :** Pray that apostolic/prophetic people will rule the nation through our intercession for our politicians and rulers and set them free from wickedness. Make a list and pray for them daily, by name. God loves it because it will bring the kingdom of peace, godliness and dignity. (1Tim 2: 1-4)
9. **PRAY FOR THE FAMILIES :** Husbands, love your wives otherwise your prayers will be hindered. Fathers love your children, or else God will smite the earth with a curse. The key to evangelization of the world begins with right relations at home. (1 Pet. 3: 7; Mal. 4: 6)
10. **PRAY FOR EACH OTHER :** Submit to each other and pray for each other, so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much. (James 4: 16)

## RESULT OF PRAYERLESSNESS

1. Why is there so much lack of peace, justice, equality and love in our nation? Why do the nations fight with each other? Because we do not pray for the nations.  
(Psa. 2:8; Mat. 24:7)
2. Why is there so much bribery, corruption, filth and lawlessness in the city? Again because we do not pray for the city even though we have been commanded to pray specifically for the peace of our city. Jesus prayed for Jerusalem by name. (Jer. 29:7; Mat. 23:37-39)
3. Why are there so many floods, famines, hurricanes, earthquakes and natural disasters? Every international homosexual rally and every time the US government pressurizes Israel to give some land to Palestinians, as peace process, is followed by natural disaster. (Mark 13:8)
4. Why is terrorism flourishing in the world with so much unnecessary death and destruction, all in the name of religion or an ideology? All because Christians do not pray to clear the blindness from minds of the terrorists.  
(Luke 21:11; 2 Cor 4:4; Acts 26:18)
5. Why is so much occult, idolatry, pornography, homosexuality, alcoholism and worship of Mammon, prevalent in the world? Jesus told us not to limit worship in the temple but Christians must go to every place and lift up their holy hands and plunder the houses of ill repute.  
(John 4:20-24; 1Tim 2:8; Mat12:29; Ps141:2; Ex 9:29,33)
6. Why is so much of the world still unevangelized? Jesus said the harvest is ready but there not enough skilled laborers.

Again this is because even though we have been specifically commanded, we are not praying to the Lord of harvest to send forth laborers into His vineyard. (John 4:35; Luke 10:2)

7. Why is it that the church is not growing as it did in the New Testament times even though they had few resources and why is there so little 'fruit that remains'? Again this is because even though we have been chosen to go and bring forth abundant fruit, we have not even prayed for fruitfulness.  
(Jn15:8,16; Mat.7:20)
8. Why is there so many disputes, dissensions, denominationalism, heresies, sexual and economic corruption in the church? This is because we have made 'houses of sermons' even though Jesus said that My house shall be called of 'house of prayer' where all nations can pray together and find salvation.  
(1Cor11:18,19; Gal 5:20; Mk11:17; Act 2:46)
9. Why adultery, divorce, single parenting, spouse and child abuse are rampant in Christian families? Family breakdown has cascading consequences on the world. We know that a family that prays together stays together.  
(Josh. 24:15; Eph.5:3-5; 21-33)
10. Why our politicians, judges, police and rulers so corrupt? Because we disobey the command to intercede for those who rule over us. God promised that if we Christians will humble themselves and repent, pray and seek Him then He will heal this nation. The destiny of our nation does not depend on the politicians but on the intercessors.  
(1Sam 12:23; 1Tim. 2:1-4; 2 Chron 7:14)

## THE MINISTRY OF FASTING

1. Moses fasted for forty days and nights and God gave him the Ten Commandments and the first five books of the Bible and became the greatest of all the prophets. (Exo. 34:28)
2. Jesus fasted for forty days before starting His earthly ministry. He rose up early in the mornings to pray. He admonished His disciples 'Could you not watch with me for one hour? Watch and pray that you do not fall into temptation.' He finished His earthly ministry with the most agonizing prayer at Gethsemane and triumphantly marched to the cross for the lost Adamic race. (Mat. 26:40,41)
3. Anna the prophetess, a widow for 84 years who had been fasting and praying, had the privilege of holding baby Jesus in her bosom and blessing Him. (Luke 2:36-38)
4. Elizabeth fasted and prayed and the barren woman became the mother of the greatest man (John) born of a woman. (Mat. 11:11)
5. Daniel fasted and defiantly opened his window for all the world to see and prayed. God made him the ruler of a foreign country, under four kings, shut the mouth of the lions and revealed to him the mysteries of the last days in dreams and visions. (Dan 9:3;10:1-3)
6. God said ' if my people will humble themselves and pray...then I will heal this nation'. Humbling to the Jews implied 'fasting'. David humbled himself with fastings. The secret of healing of nations lies entirely in the hands of those who fast & pray. (Ps 35:13; 2Chro 7:14; Jam 4:10)

7. Queen Esther fasted and prayed for three days, bravely took action and saved a whole nation of Jews from being killed. The king and the people of Nineveh fasted and saved the whole city. (Esther 4:16; Jonah 3:6-10)
8. Jesus says that certain kinds of devils can only be expelled through fasting and prayer. (Matt. 17:21; 12:45; Mark 2:20)
9. Through the ministry of fasting and prayer Paul and his colleagues turned the world upside down. (Acts 17:6; 2 Cor. 6:5; 11:27)
10. New Testament missionaries were sent and elders were appointed with fasting and prayer. The ministry of fasting is rapidly spreading today, which is making ministries effective, fruitful and dynamic. (Acts 14:23, 13:3)
11. The fast that God has chosen for us is very dynamic: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the bands of the yoke, and to let the oppressed go free, and that we break every yoke? To give our bread to the hungry, and bring the poor to our house? to cover the naked. Then shall our light break forth as the morning, and our healing shall spring forth speedily; and our righteousness shall go before us and the glory of Jehovah shall accompany us wherever we go. (Isa. 58:6-8)
12. Prophet Elijah was an ordinary man but he fasted and prayed and the Lord destroyed 400 prophets of Baal through him. While king Ahab feasted, Elijah prostrated and prayed an effectual fervent prayer and the rain poured out after 3.5 years and the earth sprouted.(James 5:16-18;1King 18:42)

## SPIRITUAL WARFARE

1. The whole world is infested with demons. But demons are not the problem. They are like rats who only come in where there is rubbish. We only need to clean up the rubbish and the rats will go away. Jesus started His ministry with spiritual warfare with fasting and prayer and the **word**. *“Man shall live by every word which proceeds from the mouth of God.”*  
(1 Jn 3:8; 5:19; Luke 4:1- 6; Jn 1:1)
2. Jesus won victory over death and disarmed principalities and powers of darkness and made a public spectacle of them.  
(Col. 2:15)
3. Jesus is building His church to demolish the Gates of Hell. He gave power and authority over all the power of the devil and commanded every believer to cast out demons and heal the sick. (Matt.16:18-19; 10:1; Luke 10: 19; 9:1; Mk 16:17; 1Jn 5:18; Gen. 22:17-18)
4. Jesus then raised us up and made us sit with Him in the heavenly places, far above all principalities, powers, might and dominion and authorized us to crush the devil under our feet.  
(Eph. 2:6; 1:21-23; Rom. 16:20)
5. The Church is the army of Jesus. The battle is not with the evil people but with the devil’s army. We must put on the whole battledress, including the belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, shoes of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation and sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. As His soldiers, we must always be ready to punish all disobedience.  
(Eph. 6:10-17; 2 Cor. 10:6)

6. A farmer destroys the weeds before he sows the seed, otherwise his farm will be run over with weeds. Jesus told us that we must first plunder the “strongman” (guardian spirits of the village/region) and destroy his strongholds only then we can establish God’s kingdom.  
(Matt.12:28-30; Dan.10:13,20)
7. The devil’s weapons are lies and deception. He makes legal entry through idolatry, occult, pornography etc. His real strongholds are in the minds of the people. Using the Name, the Word, the Blood of Jesus, and our own testimony, we can expel all evil thoughts and imaginations and set them free.  
(2Cor 4:4; 10:3-5; Jn 8:44;10:10; Rev12:9-11; Jer 23:29)
8. Declare the manifold wisdom of God to the “prince of the power of the air” and the commanders of his evil army. Through praise, worship and prayer walking, remind them that Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords.  
(Eph. 3:10; 2:2; 1 Tim.2: 8; Rev.19:16)
9. Through fasting, prayer, binding, losing and preaching the gospel, we must break all yokes and bondages of the unbelievers, to open their eyes and make them inheritors of the kingdom. (Matt.18:18; Eph. 3:5-10; Acts 26:18; Isa. 58:6-9)
10. Love is the most powerful weapon against our enemies. Love is not an option. It is the only new commandment Jesus gave. The best way to destroy the devil’s kingdom, is to love each other, even our enemies. Then the kingdoms of this world will belong to our Lord and we shall reign with Him forever.  
(John 13:34-35; Matt. 5:43-48; Dan.7:18,27; Rev. 11:15; 20:6)

## DIVINE HEALING

1. **All Healing Comes From God:** If you will diligently hear My voice, do right in My sight, hear my commandments, keep My statutes; I will put none of these diseases upon you...for I am the Lord that heals you. (Exo. 15:26)
2. **By His Stripes we are Healed:** He *was* wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities, the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with His stripes we are healed. (Isa 53:5)
3. **Without Faith, Healing is Not Possible:** Jesus said to the centurion about his servant, the blind man, the woman with issue of blood and many others, '*your faith has healed you*'. He said, '*if you have faith nothing will be impossible. You can even move mountains*'. (Matt. 6:8,13; 9:28-30; 17:20; Mark 5:34,36; 11:22,23; Heb. 11:6; James 1:6-8)
4. **Forgive Others:** Unforgiveness is the root cause of diseases like hypertension, insomnia, migraine and many other psychosomatic diseases. Anger is sin and provides legal entry for demons to come and torment. (Matt. 18:32-35; Mark 11:25,26; Eph. 4:26,27)
5. **Obedience:** The key to being healed and remain healed, is obedience. Naaman was furious but later he obeyed and took seven dips in the river Jordan and was healed of leprosy. If you are obedient then not only the fruit of your body but even the produce of your ground and your flock will be blessed. (2Kings 5; Exo 15:26; Deut. 28:1,2,4)
6. **The power of Agreement:** If two of you agree concerning anything, then it will be done by My Father in heaven. (Mat. 18:19)

7. **Prayer of Faith:** Is any sick among you? let him pray and call for the elders of the church; who will pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord, and the prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. **Confess your sins to each other and pray for another that you may be healed.** The effective prayer of a righteous man achieves much. (Jam 5: 14-16)
8. **Preaching and Healing:** Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease among the people. He authorized His disciples to do the same. (Mat. 4:23,24; 9:35; 10:7,8; Mark 3:14,15)
- 9: **Spiritual warfare:** Much of the illness is due to demonic oppression like the epileptic boy and the woman bent for 18 years. Casting them out leads to deliverance and healing. (Acts 10:38; Mat. 17:15,18; Luke 13:12,16)
- 10: **Be Persistent:** Like the Siro-Phoenician woman. Faith is not feeling but trusting the word of God. Many people cannot receive healing because they do not feel anything. Daniel fasted and prayed but it took three weeks for the angel to appear even though God had sent him on the first day. The ultimate aim of God, is the healing of the nations. (Mark 2:3,4; 5:27,29,34,7:25-30;10:48-50; 2 Chron. 7:14; Rev. 22:2)

## TITHE

1. God is all sufficient. He does not need our money. He wants our heart. Tithing is a love affair with God. We offer ourselves and every thing we own, to our beloved.  
(Rom.12:1,13)
2. Tithe means “tenth” but the Jews gave 20% every year and 30% in the third year. They offered grain, wine, oil, flocks, free will and special offerings. (Deut 26:10-13; 12:11,17)
3. Hunger, thirst and nakedness are curses for those who did not serve the Lord joyfully. The best way to break the curse of poverty is to give just like the widow of Zarephath did by feeding her last morsel to the prophet Elijah. Jews gave dutifully but Christians give cheerfully.  
(Deut. 28: 47,48; 2 Cor 9:7)
4. The modern church collects for “empire building”, while the NT church shares for “Kingdom building”. Jesus did not tell the rich young man to sell and give his wealth to the temple but to the poor.  
(Mk. 10:17-30)
5. Giving to the poor, the fatherless, widows and refugees is the highest form of tithing. The NT church needs little money as it has no staff or buildings to maintain.  
(Jam.1:27; 1Cor.16:15; 1Tim. 5:17)
6. God gives us strength to earn wealth to fulfil His covenant, made with our forefathers, to be a blessing to the Gentiles. Sacrificial fat was God’s portion, the lean meat was for devotees. Wealth is for our ‘daily bread’ while the excess is for redeeming our inheritance, the lost souls.  
(Gen12:3; Deut 8:17,18; Lev.3:16; Ps.2:8)

7. There is no provision in the NT for taking collection every Sunday. Paul collected for the famine stricken people in Jerusalem on the first day of the week, which was Saturday night. It was only once but he never started a tradition.  
(1 Cor. 16:1-4; Acts 20:7-12)
8. Christianity’s greatest sin is to preach to the preached and neglect the neglected and sinfully spend 99% of the budget on itself.
9. World evangelism was never “tithe driven”, with greedy leaders chasing filthy lucre. Apostles never chase mammon but all necessary resources come to their feet.  
(1Cor 1:26-31; Act 4:37; 1Pet 5:2; Mat 6:24)
10. Whoever leaves his loved ones and property for His sake, shall receive a hundredfold, inherit eternal life and judge in the regeneration. Providing for your family and hospitality to the itinerant missionaries, from your income, still has the best return on investment.  
(Matt. 19:27-30; 1Tim. 5:7; 1Cor.16:15)
11. In God’s economic system, He gives wisdom and joy to a man who is good in His sight but He makes the sinner sweat, which is sign of curse, to gather and give it to him who is good before God.  
(Ecc. 2:26; Gen. 3:17-19)
12. Jesus said, the harvest is not the problem. It is ready but the laborers are few. The church must inject the ‘Tithing DNA’ in every believer to mobilize those beautiful feet who take the gospel of peace to the lost. Generous sowing results in bountiful harvest. (Luke10:2; Rom.10:13-15; 2 Cor. 9:7-15)

## BREAKING CURSES

1. Our God is a jealous God. Worshipping other gods can result in being cursed up to third and fourth generation.  
(Exo.20:3-5)
2. Curses are mentioned 330 times in the Scriptures. Deut. 27-28 has only 13 vs. of blessing and 52 vs. of curses. Like Nehemiah and Daniel, we must confess and revoke the curses coming down from our forefathers, for full freedom.  
(Neh. 1:4-11; Dan. 9:3-20)
3. Reconciliation Through Repentance is the key principle of Christian faith. John the Baptist (Mat. 3:2), Jesus (Mat 4:17; Luke 24:47); Peter (Acts 2:38; 2Pet 3:9); Paul (Acts 17:29,30) all emphasize repentance. No one is exempt. Preaching diluted gospel is the curse of modern day Christianity. John called the religious Jews, a brood of vipers and told them to repent. (Mat. 3:7-9; 1Cor. 16:22)
4. If you or your ancestors have participated in idolatry, sorcery, astrology, palmistry, horoscopes, wearing amulets, chanting *mantras*, sacrifices, meditation, yoga, psychic healers, witchcraft, mediums, ancestor worship, offering babies to demons, offering food to idols, covenanting with evil spirits, reading Harry Potter, son of a warlock and a practising witch, however innocently, can bring a curse.  
(Deut 18:9-14; 20:1-5; 32: 17-35)
5. Dishonoring parents, discrimination against widows, orphans, lower castes and not giving proper wages, bring curses.  
(Deut.20:12; 27:19; Matt.15: 9; Prov.28: 27; Jam 2:2-8)

6. Adultery or abortion, which is murder, bring curses. (Deut. 27:20-23; Lev. 18:22). Criticizing a believer is murder and needs forgiveness. (1Jn 3:15;4:20; Mat 5:21-24)
7. Abstaining from giving tithes amounts to robbing God. (Zech. 5:3,4; Malachi 3:8-11). Cursed are those who teach extrabiblical traditions and rituals.(Gal 1:8; Rev22:18,19)
8. A house may have been built on a land cursed by shedding of blood, or practice of occult, or breaking of a land covenant or even a dispute between the father and the sons.  
(Num 35:33; Gen 4:10-12; Isa 24:5,6; Mal 4:6)
9. 'Familiar objects' like the idols, calendars, trinkets, rosaries, necklaces with symbols of abominations bring curses. Evil spirits can get attached to them. Visiting and venerating shrines can open doors for legal entry of evil spirits unless they are bound. (Deut. 7:25,26)
10. Avoid cursing yourself by complaining about your body or your family or calling menstrual periods, a monthly curse. Do not curse your children by calling them a devil, otherwise the Devil will eventually get into them.
11. We are called to be a blessing to all the families of the earth. Those who bless will be blessed and those who curse will be cursed. All the curses can be broken in the mighty name of Jesus and cleansed by the blood of the Lamb. All we have to do is to confess all our sins and repent because God will not despise a broken and a contrite heart.  
(Gen12:2,3;Num.22:6;1John1:7-9;Ps 51:17)

## UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS (UPGs)

1. Jesus commanded, “Go and make disciples of ‘*ta ethne*’ (Greek: for ‘all nations’). He shed His blood to save all nations, tribes and languages. (Mat. 28:19; Rev. 5:9-10)
2. God says “Ask me and I will give you ‘*goy*’ (Hebrew for Gentiles, heathen, foreign nations, people) for an inheritance. (Psa. 2:8)
3. God’s vision is that all nations, tribes and tongues will stand before His throne and worship Him. (Rev. 7:9-10)
4. There are 6.4 billion people living in 234 geopolitical nations on planet earth with over 16,000 ethne or People Groups (PGs). Of these, nearly 7,000 PGs are forgotten people, mostly in the 10/40 Window countries.
5. Unreached means, PGs lacking in indigenous community of believers having adequate resources to evangelize their own PGs.
6. Reasons for least reached are: **a.** Geographic barriers, like harsh climate or nomadic people. **b.** Linguistic barriers, like illiteracy or non-availability of the Bible in their own language. **c.** Political barriers, like restricted access or hostile environment. **d.** Cultural barriers, where Christianity being viewed as a foreign religion. **e.** Apathetic church, where the local church is simply unaware of her responsibility to the Great Commission.
7. Jesus said, ‘*This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world as a witness, then the end will come.*’ World evangelization of all the (PGs) is inevitable. (Mat. 14:6)

8. The church must first lift up her eyes and see the harvest (John 4:35), and then develop research and information based strategy. This includes, Harvest Field and Harvest Force data. Information about major Strongholds and other factors, which hinder expansion of the kingdom. Then develop indigenous apostolic/prophetic teams, including women and nonliterate to go and make disciples and plant sustainable, multiplying churches in the local cultural context. All this must be bathed in prayer.
9. **Prayer points:**
  - a. Pray in obedience to the Father to send forth laborers into His harvest. (Mat.9:36-38)
  - b. Ask for nations as your inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth as your possession. (Psalm 2:8; Act 26:17,18)
  - c. Ask for outpouring of the Holy Spirit. (Luke 11:13; Acts 2:17,18)
  - d. Ask the Father to reveal His plans to you. (Mk 4:11; Eph.3:4-6; Col. 1:26,27; Amos 3:7)
  - e. Pray for the effective doors to be opened. (Col.4:3; Act14:27; 1Cor. 16:9; Rev. 3:8,20)
  - f. Pray that abundant resources be made available. (Act 4:32-35; 2 Cor 9:6-12)
  - g. Pray for multiplication of indigenous disciples. (Act 2:47; 6:1,7; 2Tim.2:2; Jn 15:8)
  - h. Pray for grace, peace and love among the believers. (1Pet1:2; 2Pet1:2; Jude:2; 1Cor 3:9)
10. The whole church must take the whole gospel to the whole world. Only strategic harvest outreach focused on the unreached people groups (UPGs) can finish the task of world evangelization.

## ORALITY & STORY TELLING

1. Jesus was a master story teller. He never taught anything without parables. His disciples did not have the New Testament, yet Christianity spread throughout the heathen world through story telling. (Matt. 13:34)
2. Jews from every nation under heaven came to celebrate the Passover and the Pentecost. They saw crucifixion, resurrection and birthing of the church. They heard the 'wonderful works of God' in their own native language. They returned and shared the story of Jesus throughout the world. (Acts 2:5-12)
3. 75% of the world is illiterate or only functionally literate and belong to the oral tradition. The Western bookish culture can reach only a small fraction of the third world. Bible is God's story book. Only 10% is abstract theology, even that can be told in stories. Jesus knew Hebrew language, but He spoke in Aramaic, to communicate effectively with common people. (Matt.13:35; Ps.19:3)
4. *Godspell* or Gospel means "a good story". The Latin word *Evangelium* means "a story whose telling has power". Sermons are multipoint monologues and cannot be reproduced. While stories are interesting events, participatory and easily reproducible. Literate or nonliterate, everyone loves a good story, which multiplies rapidly by being repeated by others. (Ps. 45:1)
5. The aim of story telling is not entertainment. Rather, the stories should be so interlinked that they result in dialogue, discussion, baptisms and church planting. (Acts 8: 34-38)

6. All major religions like Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism and even Christianity have been transmitted through the ages, in songs, skits and stories. Anointed Peter skilfully intertwined prophecy and eschatology into Jesus' story, resulting in repentance, baptism of 3000 and saturation church planting of Jerusalem city. (Matt. 13:36; 51,52; Acts 2:14-47)
7. Parables being flexible can be contextualized but must not lose the essence, while historical events must be biblically accurate, otherwise, errors will multiply. Stories are self-explanatory and need expounding only when asked. Difficult words, like, redemption justification, sanctification, righteousness etc. should be avoided. (Luke 8:9; Jer. 6:16)
8. Story telling is an acquired skill and needs researching the local culture to contextualize. Stories must be repeated often to become part of the culture. Effective story telling is a very powerful tool for discipling the nations.
9. Today, 80% of the new harvest is being reaped by nonliterate grassroots oral communicators, mostly housewives, in the 10/40 Window countries. (Ps.126: 5-6)
10. Through hearing of sequential Bible stories, memorizing and repeating them, a non-literate becomes an 'Oral Bible'. All they need is a good chronological story teller to teach an ever-increasing number of stories, in their own dialect and cultural context. Oral Bible is authentic Scripture, which transforms unreached oral societies hence equipping such master story tellers in an urgent need. (Rom.10:8-17; Luke 24:13-35)

## FOUNDATIONAL TEACHINGS

### BASED ON HEBREWS 6: 1,2

The writer of Hebrews was disgusted with milk drinking Christians. He wanted them to be meat eating mature 'teachers'. Meat does not mean mutton, it means solid food, which needs chewing. We need to discuss and dialogue the Scriptures for better understanding and not just swallow it like milk. There are six foundational principles, which are launching pad for further maturity. Jesus Himself being the foundation.

(Heb. 5:12; Acts 17:11; 1Cor. 3:10-17; Eph. 2:20)

1. **Repentance from dead works:** Jews and Gentiles sought salvation by offering dead sacrificial animals and fulfilling other religious rituals. Both John and Jesus preached "*repent for the kingdom of God is nigh*". Idols are not just statues and images but every thing that takes precedence over God. Idols reside in our hearts. Being sorry and cutting all umbelical connection with our past sins is the first foundational principle of Christianity.  
(Mat 3:2; 4:17; Eze. 14:3-11; Luke 24:47; 1 John 1:7-9)
2. **Faith in the Living God:** Repentance must be followed by converting our hearts from the temple of the idols, to the temple of the living God. Our hearts and our mouths must resonate our faith to secure our salvation. Faith is believing in the promises of God. Professing and acting on them affirms our loyalty. (Act 20:21; Eph 2:5; Rom 10:9,10)
3. **Doctrine of Baptisms:** Jews and Gentiles practised many forms of purifications, ablutions, sprinkling and washings etc. The Hebrew word '*Tabal*' for baptism is neither total

immersion nor sprinkling but 'dipping', just as the priest dipped his finger in the bowl to sprinkle blood to sanctify others. Unlike the foundational principles of Repentance and Confession of Faith, Baptism is not obligatory as "*salvation is by grace through faith and not by any works and the just shall live by faith*". Like the first convert on the cross, millions of unbaptized believers will be in heaven, hence the church must not be legalistic and reduce it to a ritual. But whenever possible, like Jesus, we should be baptized to fulfill all righteousness. (Rom 1:17; Eph 2:8; Gal 2:16)

4. **Laying on of hands** began with the sinner laying hands on the sacrificial animal. It is transferring, **1.** Blessing (Mat.19:13); **2.** Healing (Mark 7:32); **3.** Impartation (Acts 8:16,17; 19:6); **4.** Ordination (Acts 6:6; 1 Tim 4:14); **5.** Sending apostolic ministers (Acts 13:3) **6.** Stirring up gifts (2Tim. 1:6)
5. **Resurrection:** The assurance of life after death separated the Christians from the heathen, who had no hope and no future. The Sadducees and the Athenian intellectuals rejected it. Christian foundational doctrine clearly teaches that those in Christ will rise up to eternal life, while the sinners will go to eternal damnation. (Acts 24:15; John 5:29)
6. **Eternal Judgement:** We will judge others based on our faithfulness and fruitfulness. Unprofitable Christians will also be condemned. The consequences are eternal.  
(Mat25:29,30; Dan7:22; 1Cor6:2,3; Rev24:4)

## ATTRITION TO ACCRETION

1. Research shows that emerging churches suffer high attrition rate. **Event oriented** ministries like crusades, film, radio/TV and literature distribution, have dismal track record due to poor mentoring. Inflated figures are not attrition but pure dishonesty.
2. **Church planting movements** are led by Type I & II grassroots level leaders. Type III are Master trainers. Type IV are regional leaders and Type V are national & international leaders.
3. Church planting movement (CPM) depends mainly on the **leadership qualities** of the Type I who leads a house church and the Type II who is a cluster leader. (Acts 4:13)
4. There is **poor communication** linkage between the top leaders who acquire 'book culture' in the comfort of classrooms while non/semi-literate belong to the oral tradition who get practical experience in the school of hard knocks. Ill-equipped arrogant leaders especially at the top cause severe attrition. (1Tim. 3:6)
5. The church commits **violence to the local culture** by asking new believers to discard cultural symbols of marriage, clothes, food, and even names and does not utilize all the noble things of their religions. This is a major cause of attrition. (Acts 21:25; Phil. 4:8)
6. Jews heard the Pentecostal message in their native language. Communicating in 'market language' and not in 'heart language', causes attrition. Non-literates need to be converted into 'Oral Bibles' in their dialect. (Acts 2:11)

7. Jesus did not teach anything without parables. Instead of **reproducing interesting stories** from the Bible, we expound theology through non-reproducible sermons. (Matt 13:34,35)
8. **Process orientation:** Processing disciples through focused intercession, spiritual warfare, abundant gospel sowing, baptizing, equipping, sending, continued monitoring and mentoring have better accretion of churches than event oriented ministries. (1Cor 9:24)
9. While the modern church is busy milking the old goats, the NT church is busy **feeding the new lambs**, until they are mature and ready to multiply. Conversions result in persecution, unless churches go under the radar screen to avoid attrition. (1Cor14:23-25)
10. **Non-participatory** churches with dominant male leadership, hinder maturing of sheep to reproduce. Flocking new sheep into old wineskins causes attrition. (Mat 9:17)
11. Attrition is a self-inflicted disease. Lack of research leads to ignorance of attrition rate. **Course correction** includes capacity building of all game players in the CPM. (Acts 20:20)
12. When all believers, including the newcomers come together and participate in apostolic teaching, koinonia or fellowship and pray together with one accord, then signs and wonders take place. They give joyfully to the needy and support the apostles and break bread from house to house. Then the Lord adds to their numbers daily, resulting in the church **transiting** from attrition into daily addition. (Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-35; 16:5)

## PERSECUTION

1. **Martyrs go to Heaven:** John saw a huge crowd from every tribe and tongue in front of the throne, worshipping God who were killed in the tribulations. They did not belong to any denominational church structure and many were not even baptized. (Rev. 7:14)
2. **Jesus was the most persecuted** - He was a man of sorrows, rejected and acquainted with grief. He was bruised and afflicted so badly that people could not bear to His face. He suffered all this for our transgressions. We are healed by His stripes. (Isa. 53:2-5)
3. **Persecution guaranteed:** Jesus said if they persecuted Me, they will persecute you also. Peter says that the very appellation of a Christian should attract persecution. Paul said - all who serve Christ will suffer persecution. (John 15:20; 2Tim. 3:12; 1Pet.4:1,2; 12-19)
4. **Persecution leads to multiplication:** Killing of Stephen, the first Christian martyr and persecution in Jerusalem resulted in the believers fleeing and planting hundreds of churches in many cities. (Acts 8:1; 11:19,20)
5. **All Apostles died martyrs' death:** Philip was hanged in Phrygia. Mathew was killed in Ethiopia. James was thrown down from the pinnacle of the temple. Mathias was beheaded. Andrew was crucified in Asia. Paul was killed in Rome and Peter was crucified upside down. John died in Prison in the Island of Patmos, aged 92 years old. Millions of saints have become martyrs since then and still dying at the rate 160,000 every year.

6. **There are many kinds of persecution:** **The first** is - by hostile governments and fundamentalists. **The second** is - where Christians persecute Christians because they think their doctrines & traditions are superior to others and “*make the commandments of God of no effect*” (Mark 7:8). **The third** is, “self-inflicted” - caused by open air crusades, noisy worship and publicizing exaggerated reports leading to violence. **The fourth** is -no persecution, because the compromised church has lost its salt and light and the Devil does not think it worth his while to bother it.
7. **Persecution precipitates prayer:** When disciples were tortured by the temple authorities, they prayed for boldness, power, signs and wonders. (Acts 4:29-31)
8. **Advocacy:** Paul and Silas were brutally beaten and unlawfully imprisoned. Their prayer resulted in the conversion of the jailor. They also claimed their citizen rights. Our advocacy, includes prayer and help for the persecuted but we should also use our constitutional rights to get justice. (Act 16:23-40; 2Tim.2:12)
9. **Persecution proofing:** Sporadic violence is steadily increasing but real persecution is yet to come. Persecution proofing should be part of training of every Christian. (Mat.24:2-30)
10. **Lack of persecution stagnates the church:** The Devil is not going to give away on a platter, the kingdom he has usurped by deception, however, the Gates of Hell cannot stop the advance of the Kingdom. Rather it launches her. (Mat 16:18; Dan. 2:25-27)

## PAUL'S FIVEFOLD STRATEGY FOR WORLD EVANGELISM

1. **Research:** (Acts 17:16-34) Paul acted on **strategic information** resulting in systematic, and rapid expansion of the church. In Athens he collected **1. Harvest field data** (v.18) about the demographic structure of Jews, Greeks, Stoics and Epicureans. He collected the **2. Harvest force data** (v.17) about Messianic Jews and the proselytes. He visited heathen temples and conducted **3. Spiritual mapping** (v.23) of the idolatrous city. He studied their **4. Worldview** (v.22,28), culture, scriptures and also **5. Redemptive history** (v.23) and found out about the Unknown God. His talk at the Mars Hill was a masterpiece of research-based contextualized preaching. He left Athens only after planting a church (v.34).
2. **Spiritual Warfare:** Wherever Paul went he was confronted with the strongholds, which he assaulted. He invaded the synagogues and released Jews to build his harvest force. In Cyprus he blinded Elymas the sorcerer. In Ephesus it was the spirit of Diana. In Philippi it was the Python spirit and so on. Plundering the house of the strongman, helped in finding the 'persons of peace' and churches being planted in their homes. (Acts 13: 6-12, 43; 19: 24-41; 16:16-34; Matt. 12: 29,30)
3. **Prayer Saturation:** Paul prayed in spirit but also 'informed prayer' with his mind, relentlessly night and day, often with tears, for his disciples and the Gentiles. He solicited prayers for effective doors to be opened.  
(1 Cor. 14:14,15; Col.1:9;4:3; 1Thes.5:17)

4. **Discipleship Chain:** This was a passion with Paul, a seminary trained pastor. He set a discipleship chain and asked Timothy '*The things which thou hast heard from me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also*' (2Tim 2:2). Here Paul set up a four level discipleship chain - Paul being the first, Timothy second, 'faithful men' being the third and 'others' being the fourth. Through this formula of small group dynamics and free flowing interaction with the leaders, Paul turned the world upside down. (Acts 17:6)
5. **Saturation Church Planting:** Chain discipling resulted in rapid penetration of the gospel. His disciples became instant preachers who could preach in and out of season, exhort, rebuke and willing to endure persecution. He himself made it his aim to preach where the gospel had not been preached before, thus reaching three continents, from Jerusalem in Asia to Illyricum in Europe and to Melita in the vicinity of Africa. (2 Tim. 4:2; Acts 15:19; 28:1-10) He and his disciples went from house to house and shared the whole wisdom of God resulting in the whole Mediterranean area being saturated with house churches. He along with his disciples appointed elders, bishops and deacons in the church. His ministry resulted in the churches being strengthened in faith and grew in numbers daily i.e. there was both qualitative and quantitative growth of the churches daily.  
(Tit 1:5; 1Thes.1:8; Acts 16:5; 20:20,27,28)

## JESUS WAS A PROCESS PERSON AND NOT JUST EVENT ORIENTED

1. **The Mission:** Jesus had a specific agenda to fulfil, which was to demolish the gates of Hell and establish the kingdom of God, here on earth. He created the church to fulfil this agenda. (Mat. 16:18,19; John 10:10)
2. **Strategic Recruitment:** is the key for success in any enterprise. Jesus needed people willing to work hard under harsh and hostile situations. He rejected the soft, scholarly, Temple generation and instead chose the hard working, risk taking, non-iterate fishermen. (Mat. 4:18-22; Mk 3:13-19)
3. **Catching Fish is a Skill:** Jesus promised to make His disciples fishers of men and not cognitive, systematic, analytical theologians, who suffer from a huge skills deficit, when it comes to converting a sinner into a saint. He taught them practical skills directly in the harvest field, in the school of hard knocks rather than in the comforts of a class room. Jesus sent His disciples 2 by 2 to find the persons of peace and start a church planting movement through miracles. (Luke 10:1-9)
4. **Effective Discipling:** Discipling is not a set of lectures. It is mentoring and modelling. It is life driven and relational. Jesus went with His disciples and shared a common lifestyle with them. He called His disciples His brothers and sisters. Paul says, you may have many teachers but I am your spiritual father. Discipling is imitating a mentor who imitates Jesus. (1Cor.4:15; 11:1; Mat12:49,50)

5. **Instant Baptism:** The pharisees accused Jesus of baptizing more than John the baptist (John 4:1). All baptisms in the NT took place on the same day. The only conditions required are that they repent of their sins and proclaim Jesus as Lord. Not baptizing immediately can lead to a huge loss of harvest. (Acts 2:37-41; Rom. 10:9,10; 1 John 1:7-9)
6. **Mandatory Flocking:** Jesus clearly defined that church planting is a process. Preaching, teaching, baptizing, equipping and sending, appointing elders and reporting, must be done sequentially, otherwise there will be arrested growth and even attrition. He said that, he who gathers is with me and he who scatters is against me. Finally, Jesus will send forth His angels, to gather His elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth. (Luke 10:1-9; John 10:16; Matt. 12:28-30; Acts 14:23,26; Mark 13:27)
7. **Evaluation:** Any enterprise established to accomplish a specific purpose must periodically undergo a process of evaluation, to see its effectiveness and the quality of its product. A fisherman who is not catching any fish will lose his livelihood and a sheep that is not reproducing, will be sold to the butcher. Jesus was evaluated by John on the basis of His mission statement in the Nazarine manifesto. (Luke 4:18,19; Matt. 11:1-6)
8. Church planting is not a series of haphazard events, but a well planned process, requiring multitasking skills. Effective discipling should lead to numerical growth of the church and geographical expansion of the kingdom.

**WHAT DID JESUS SAY AND  
WHAT HE DID NOT SAY**

1. **SUNDAY WORSHIP** : Jesus did not say that you worship only on Sundays. Everyday His disciples went two by two, planted churches, broke bread and shared the whole wisdom of God, from house to house and the Lord added to the church **daily** those being saved. (Acts 2:46-47;20:20; Heb. 3:13)
2. **PROFESSIONAL PRIEST** : Jesus did not ask you appoint qualified professional pastors. He ordained priesthood of all believers. He gave apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds and teachers to equip His church.  
(John 10:12,13; 1Pet 2:5,9; Eph. 4:11-12)
3. **HOLY COMMUNION** : Jesus never said that only the pastors can serve bread and wine. He served roast lamb, bread, bitter herbs and wine for the last supper. His disciples shared community meals whenever they met in His remembrance.  
(Exo.12:8;1Cor 11:20-26)
4. **TITHING** : Jesus did not say that you should tithe. His disciples opened their homes and brought their possessions to the feet of apostles so that no one lacked anything.  
(Mat. 23:23; Acts 4:32-34; Deut. 8:17-18)
5. **BUILDINGS** : Jesus did not say that you should build churches. He said God does not live in houses made with human hands because the heaven is His throne and the earth is His foot stool. Jesus said you are the temple of the living God.  
(Acts 7:48-49; 2 Cor. 6:16)

6. **BAPTISM** : Jesus did not say that only Pastors can baptize. Jesus said you go and make disciples and baptize them.  
(Matt. 28:19)
7. **MARRY AND BURY** : Jesus did not say that the pastor should marry and bury. He said let the dead bury the dead, you go and raise the dead. (Luke 9:60; Matt. 10:8; Eph.5:25)
9. **CHURCH PROGRAM** : Jesus did not say follow your church program and become a member. Jesus said follow me and I will make you fishers of men. (Matt. 4:19; 1 Cor. 11:1)
10. **REVIVAL MEETINGS** : Jesus did not ask you to organize crusades and conventions. He will not judge you on the basis of large crowds or the wonderful worship and beautiful music. You will be judged on your fruitfulness and what you did for the least of the world.  
(Matt. 25:31-46,18:3-6; Isa. 58:6-9)
11. **WOMEN** : Jesus did not say that only men can talk in the church and the women should cover their head and keep quiet. He discussed the theology of worship with the Samaritan woman, let Martha interrupt His teaching, the bent woman to stand in front in the synagogue and the Syrophoenician woman to argue with Him in public.  
(1 Cor. 14:29-31; Luke 10:40; Mark 7:24-30)
12. **ORDINATION** : Jesus did not say that you are just a layperson. He bought you with His blood and 'ordained' you priest and king. As a royal priest, you are to make disciples, baptize, equip fishers of men and reign on earth.  
(John 15:16; Rev. 5:9-10; 1 Pet 2:9)

**FROM A MODERN CHURCH  
TO THE NEW TESTAMENT MODEL  
FIFTEEN ESSENTIAL PARADIGMS**

1. Replace professional clergy with **Priesthood of all Believers** with authority to baptize, break bread and equip fishers of men. (1Pet 2:9)
2. Replace Church buildings with **sharing the whole counsel of God from house to house.**  
(Acts 7:48-49; 20:20,27; Mark 11:17)
3. Replace Sunday program with **daily** informal gatherings. The Bride must have **intimacy** with her Lord daily and not once a week lest she become unfaithful.  
(Acts 2:46-47; Heb. 3:13)
4. Replace tithing with sharing the enormous financial resources and talents available in **Christian homes.**  
(Deut. 8:17-18; Acts 5:32-34)
5. Replace the “Crumb and Sip” Holy Communion with simple **“Agape meals”** eaten together with gladness of heart from house to house. (Acts 2:46; 1 Cor 11:20-23)
6. Replace loud temple music and professional musicians with speaking to each other in psalms and spiritual songs, making **melody in your heart.** (Eph 5:19; Col 3:16)
7. Replace the sermon oriented, spectator church to interactive church where everyone participates.  
(1 Cor 14: 26-31; Acts 17:11)
8. Replace organizational and denominational Head Quarters, which administer through remote control with citywide **network** of house churches. (Rom. 16:3-15)

9. Replace barren churches with **disciple making, multiplying house churches** . The Bride must not remain barren, but reproduce and fill the earth. (Acts 1:8; 1 Cor 9:19-30)
10. Replace clergy domination-by **submitting to one another.** Encourage, comfort, exhort, admonish, edify, serve, pray and love one another. (Gal 5:13;Eph. 4:2, 15;Jn 13:34-35)
11. Replace purposeless haphazard church with one which has well planned goal-driven strategy, resulting in **saturation church planting movement.** (Rom.15: 20; Acts 16:5)
12. Replace seminary training and accreditation by theologians and start church-based, hands on **training**, by practitioners in the harvest field like Paul and Timothy model.  
(2Tim 2:2)
13. Replace all presidents, reverends, CEOs, secretaries and other non-biblical titles with ‘masterbuilders’ like apostles, prophets, elders etc. Change from a dead organization to a **living organism.** (1Cor 3:10; Eph 4:11;Titus 1:5-9)
14. Replace all prayer cells, brothers & sisters’ meetings, Sunday schools etc. with **house-churches.** They must disciple, baptize, break bread & equip missionaries.  
(1 Cor 16:19; Col 4:15)
15. Transform all selfish **goats**, who are members for hatching, matching and dispatching, into **sheep** who take care of the poor and the least of this world (Matt. 25:31-46). Throw out the pulpit and turn powerless pew potatoes into **spiritual power houses**, who heal the sick, raise the dead and plunder the strongholds. (Matt. 11:12,12:29; 1John 4:4; Rev. 21:8)

## TWO THINGS TO KNOW AND TWO THINGS TO DO

- 1. I HAVE SINNED AGAINST GOD** in thought, word and deed (action).

**Illustration :** When I stand before Holy God and He shows me the long list of wrong things I have done, what will He say? Guilty! And the punishment? Hell Fire, forever.

(Romans 3:23, 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)

**But there is Good News for me:**

- 2. THE LORD JESUS LOVES ME SO MUCH THAT HE DIED FOR ME.**  
(Galatians 2:20; John 3:16)

**Now there are just Two Things to Do**

- 1. BE SORRY FOR THE WRONG THINGS YOU HAVE DONE** that with God's help you will not do them again. Instead of living your own life, doing what you want to do, God now wants you to live a life that pleases Him. It involves a change of mind, heart, will and lifestyle.

**God commands** all men everywhere to repent. He has promised that if you confess all your sins and repent, then he is able to wash all your sins with His own blood and make you a new creation. (1 John 1:7-9; 2 Cor. 5:17)

***You have a choice: To obey or disobey God?*** Are you ready **now** to obey? (Acts 17:30)

- 2. RECEIVE JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR LORD AND SAVIOUR.** Jesus is at the door of your life. If you will open your heart, He will come in, to live within you. Are you ready **now** to receive Jesus into your life? (John 1:12; Rev 3:20)

**IN PRAYER,** thank God and promise Him, to love Him, live for Him, obey Him and serve Him all the days of your life in the fellowship of His Church. You must turn to God from idols to serve the Living and True God.

(1 Thessalonians 1:9,10; Romans 10: 9, 10)

### **Five Things to Help you Grow in the Lord**

- 1. READ MY BIBLE EVERY DAY.** Just as a baby needs milk, so I need to feed on God's Word, each day, asking the Lord to help me to understand it and do what it says. Simple obedience to the Lord and His Word. (1 Peter 2:2)
- 2. PRAY EVERY DAY.** Jesus prayed all the time and teaches us to do the same. The prayer He taught His disciples is a good model. (Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4)
- 3. Have Fellowship** with others who know and love the Lord Jesus. It is best to do it in your own home with your family. Read the Bible together, each one pray and help each other to grow in the Lord. (Heb. 10:24,25)
- 4. TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS.** Start praying for your relatives, friends and neighbours. Ask the Lord to help you to tell them what He has done for you. Share with them Two Things to Know, Two Things to do. Pray with them and help them to receive the Lord. (Matt. 4:19, 20; 28:19,20 ; 2 Tim 2:2)
- 5. KEEP A PURE HEART.** By guarding it according to Your Word. I have hidden Your Word in my heart that I might not sin against you. (Psalm 119:9,11)

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## STEPS TO CHURCH PLANTING BASED ON LUKE 10

**GOAL :** To reap the harvest

**THE PROBLEM :** Laborers are few

**JOB DESCRIPTION :** Search and destroy the strongman; find the man of peace; plant a church; equip laborers and send.

1. **GO TWO BY TWO :** Do not take excess baggage. You are going as lambs among the wolves. Go quietly and spy the land. Prayerwalk, waste no time greeting others. (Lk 10:1-4)
2. **BIND THE STRONGMAN :** Plunder all the strongholds, the centers of demonic activity and release those in bondage to the Devil's agent, called the strongman. (Matt 12:28-30)
3. **FIND THE HOUSE OF PEACE :** Finding the "Shalom Bayit," or the "House of peace", is central to the strategy of church planting. This house will become the "house of prayer" for all nations. (Mark 11:17)
4. **EATING NOT MEETING :** Bless every family (Genesis 12:3) until the "person of peace" welcomes you. Eat and stay there. Do not go from house to house of non-believers but share the whole wisdom of God in Christian homes. (Matt 10:5; Luk 10:5-8; Acts 20:20)
5. **SPIRITUAL WARFARE :** Like Cornelius and Lydia, the "persons of peace" will gather their 'oikos' (friends and relations). First, expel demons and pray for the sick and then preach. (Matt 10:8; Mark 16:17; Luk 10:17)
6. **NOW MAKE DISCIPLES :** Jesus modelled life-style discipling by living with his disciples. Jesus taught his disciples by

casting out demons, healing the sick, helping the needy and laying down one's life for the sinner.

7. **BRING THEM TO REPENTANCE :** The sacrifices of God are a broken and contrite heart, which He will not despise. All generational curses must be broken. (Psalm 51:17)
8. **Baptize without delay :** In the New Testament times, they took "bath of purification" anywhere - like the Ethiopian in a pond, Lydia in a river, and Cornelius at his home. No clergy is needed for this.
9. **TEACH OBEDIENCE :** Hebrew 6:1-2 gives the syllabus of six essential topics for foundational teaching, which includes, repentance from dead works, faith towards God, doctrine of baptisms, laying on of hands, resurrection from the dead and eternal judgement. Teaching must lead to "Apostolic Conversion" challenging people to make disciples and plant churches. (Luk 24:47; Psa 51:17; Acts 1:8)
10. **SHARE MATERIAL BLESSINGS :** New Believers must learn to share their material blessings from day one. Ask them to open their homes to be a blessing to others. Offerings should be brought at the feet of the apostles for distribution to the poor. (Acts 4:32-35; 5: 2)
11. **START A HOUSE CHURCH** with an open format based on 1Corinthians 14: 26-31. Start a Church planting movement. (Matt 18:18-20)
12. **EQUIP AND SEND:** Equipping and sending the saints should result in strengthening, numerical growth and geographical expansion of the church. (John 17:18; 2Tim.2:2)

## FATHERHOOD

1. God is holy, omniscient and omnipotent but Jesus introduced Him to us as a loving and caring Father who loves His children.
2. A Biblical father **a.** Loves his children, **b.** Teaches them the laws and the statutes of God, **c.** Rules over them, **d.** Provides for them and **e.** Nurtures them to maturity. God does not encourage rulership of women.  
(1Tim 3:4,5; 5:8; Prov 17:6; Isa. 3:12)
3. God does not talk about motherless but only about fatherless children. There is a very special relationship between the father and his descendents. Jesus taught us to pray corporately to “*Our Father*”. (James 1:27)
4. Paul says that you may have ten thousand teachers but I am like your spiritual father. John addressed the believers as children, sons and fathers. (1 Cor. 4:15; 1John 2:12-14)
5. The Scripture says, ‘*unto us a child is born, a son is given who is our everlasting Father*’. Jesus was born a helpless baby. Lived a secular life of a son, providing for his family as a carpenter and fathered twelve apostles. (Isa 9:6)
6. Jesus patterned His church on the family. The NT churches were ‘*oikos*’ or extended household churches that met in homes. Although the modern church is obsessed with ‘leaders’, the word does not exist in the NT, but fathers, mothers, sons, daughters and brethren. Compelling overchurched believers to go to church, can make them religious but not necessarily spiritual. (Rom. Chap.16)

7. The seminaries produce leaders but no fathers. Fathers must teach their children all the Scriptures, while they are sitting down, walking or lying down. (2 Kings 2:12; Deut. 6:4)
8. Children imitate their fathers. Jesus said, ‘I am about my Father’s business. As I see the Father, so I do’. Fathers are role models. (Luke 2:49; John 8:28,38; 10:30; 1 Cor.11:1)
9. Family is the prime target of the enemy. Single parenting, absentee father, busy at his job, hobby, even in ministry, results in dysfunctional families and rebellious children.  
(Heb. 12:15)
10. God commands fathers to honor their own parents, love their wives, not to provoke their children and have a right relationship with their servants and masters. God takes relationships very seriously and has threatened to smite the earth with a curse for breaking relationships in our extended family. (Eph 5:28; 6:2,4; Mal 4:6)
11. Church leaders keep believers in perpetual bondage but apostolic fathers release their children to multiply as soon as they reach maturity. Jesus said, ‘*As the Father has sent me, so I send you*’. (2 Tim.2:2; John 17:18)
12. Preachers/teachers, like uncles / aunties bring good news but apostolic fathers come with authority to restructure communities and transform nations.  
(Eph 2:19,20; 1Cor 4:15-21)
13. Father heart of God yearns for the return of the prodigal fathers but first they must confess, repent and reconcile with their prodigal sons. The healing of the nations depends on the healing of the families. (Jer. 29:11; 2Chron 7:14)

## THE CHURCH MUST PASTOR

### THE WHOLE CITY

1. During Diaspora the Jews prayed for Jerusalem but God asked them to pray for the redemption of Babylon the sinful city where He had brought them. (Jer. 29:7)
2. Jesus cried and sighed for the sins of Jerusalem until the city would say; “Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord ...” Soon the temple was destroyed but the city was saturated with house churches and became true Jerusalem, the city of shalom. (Luke 13:31-35; Acts 5:28)
3. God commanded His angels of death to go and slay all the people of the Jerusalem city starting at the sanctuary and spare only those who cry and sigh for their city. (Eze. 9:3-6)
4. God said that a city is blessed by the blessings of the righteous and destroyed by those who criticize and curse her. (Prov. 11:11)
5. Abraham pleaded with God for the sin polluted cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and God assured him that if there are ten righteous people in the city, then He will not destroy it. (Gen 18:24-33)
6. Paul wants everyone to go every where and raise holy hands and pray for those who have rule and authority. Jonah brought the king and the people to repentance and saved Nineveh, a Gentile city, by prayer walking throughout the city. (1 Tim. 2:1-4, 8; Jonah 3:1-10)

7. Every day Jesus went to villages and towns, healed the sick, cast out demons and preached the gospel. He wants us to go two by two, bind the strongman, release the captives, find the “person of shalom” and plant a church in his house. (Heb 3:13; Luke 4:18, 8:1; 9:49,50; 10:1-9; Mat. 12:29)
8. Jesus came to go and commissioned us to go to the ends of the earth. He came to destroy the works of the devil and to seek and to save that which was lost. He said that there is more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner that repents than ninety nine righteous people worshipping in the church on Sundays. (Mark 1:38, Luke 4:43;19:10; 15:7,10; 1John 3: 8; Math.18:12,13; 28:19)
9. No one has the right to hear the gospel twice when ninety nine percent of the people of the city have not heard the gospel even once. The church must shoulder the responsibility of converting their sin polluted, idolatrous and dirty city into Garden of Eden. (Rom. 15:20; Heb. 5:12-14; Isa. 9:6,7; 32:13-18)
10. Christians must get out of their spiritual islands. The Church must stop sermonizing theological platitudes from the pulpits but unequivocally promote the idea of a Christian nation with kingdom values. She must not be myopic and keep fire fighting for political space but work unabashedly for a Christo-centric nation glorifying Jesus because God does not like heathen to rule over us. Your city is the best place to commence wielding state power. (Rev. 5:10, 1:6; Daniel 7:18,27; 1Peter 2:9; Joel 2:17)

## PARTNERSHIP

1. Christianity is all about relationship and partnership. Church is a community of Royal Priests, chosen not for private empire building but corporately committed to usher in the kingdom of God and reign here on earth.  
(1Pet.2:9; 1John 4:7; Daniel 7:18,27)
2. Father, Son and the Holy Spirit are our models of true partnership. (John14:10; Math.12:28)
3. Partnership of Jesus, Peter and John resulted in great catch of multitude of fishes. Being of *one accord*, the disciples saturated Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and beyond with house churches.  
(Luke 5:7; Acts 5:28; 5:12; 16:5)
4. The corporate demonic kingdom of the prince of the air, principalities, powers, rulers of darkness and host of demons, cannot be demolished by celebrity preachers, lone rangers & loose cannons but by the corporate church.  
(Math.16:18,19; 12:25; Eph. 2:2; 3:10; 6:12)
5. The church is the Body of Christ. It has many organs and all of them must work in harmony with each other so that the Body can be healthy and fully functional. Malfunctioning of any organ can lead to multi-organ failure and eventual death.  
(Rom.12:4,5;1Cor.12:12-27)
6. Partnership of Paul, Timothy, Titus and others transformed the Gentile world, saturating the region with churches.  
(2Cor.8:23; Acts 17:6)
7. Only with corporate repentance, intercession, supplication and thanksgiving, the nations can be healed.  
(2 Chron. 7:14; 1Tim. 1:1-4)

8. First Jesus broke the wall of separation between Jews and Gentiles in Samaria. Then Philip preached, cast out demons, healed the sick and baptized. Later Peter and John planted the church.  
(Eph.2:14; John4:9; Acts8:5-8; 14-16)
9. Partnership prevents arrogance. It creates, interdependence, humility to submit to each other, transparency, accountability and to honour and encourage those who are involved in kingdom building. (1Cor. 16:16; Eph. 5:21; Rom. 12:10,16; 13:8; 14:19 )
10. There are many kinds of partnerships e.g. financial, mentoring, nurturing and prayer partnerships etc. It helps us to share our resources with each other to finish the task of discipling the nations and to be supportive during persecution, sickness and other crises.  
(Acts 2:44,45; 4:34,35; 1Cor. 16:15,16)
11. Single leadership can lead to lopsided development and eventually to attrition. Multiple leadership consisting of Fivefold Ministry Equippers are a free gift of the Lord to His church for the equipping of the saints so that His Body is edified.  
(Eph. 4:11,12)
12. To be worthy of our calling as Christians we must endeavour to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, as we have one Body, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism and one God the Father. Each one has been given a task to accomplish and together we must finish the task of discipling the nations so that the Gentiles will also have an inheritance with the saints to stand before His throne one day and sing His praises.  
(Eph 4:1-7; Acts 26:17,18; Rev. 7:9,10)

## VISION

1. Vision is a broad statement of purpose for which God has created you, long before you were born. You were born to accomplish His purposes.

(Jer1:4,5;Isa 49:1,5;46:10;Rom. 8:29)

2. Mission statement is the methodology to achieve that purpose. It is like the task of the Great Commission, which says, “go and make disciples of all nations, baptise, equip and send”. (Matt. 28:19;10:1-14; Acts 1:8; 2Tim.2:2)

3. Goals are actual numerical objectives, which are to be achieved in a given period of time. SMART goals are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Reproducible and Time bound. Jesus told us to have the blue print and the resources needed for the building before starting construction. To achieve those goals, an information based strategic action plan has to be made. (Luke 14:28-30; Exo. 33:12,17)

4. It is important to write down the Vision/ mission/goal statements and run with it, so that others will also know and partner with you. No ship sails without a plan, otherwise it will be lost in the ocean. Written plan is like a compass and rudder to a captain. (Hab. 2:1-3)

5. Do not try to copy other people’s vision. God gives unique vision to every individual. Noah, Moses, Joshua, Nehemiah, Esther, Peter, Paul and others had a completely different vision/ task assigned to them. It may need a spiritual father to ignite that vision but it must be uniquely yours.

(1 Tim. 4:14; Acts 26:17,18)

6. The whole vision and the methodology may not be clear to you immediately. It is like sowing the seed, which brings forth the stalk, then the head and finally the full corn, before it is ready for harvest or in the case of a tiny mustard seed, growing into a tree and then the birds coming to nest on it.

(Mk 4:26-34)

7. Regardless of the wealth, education or influence, the poorest man in the world is the one who has no vision. Without vision people perish. Churches are the graveyard of visionaries because they keep the vision buried.

(Prov. 29:18;Judges 21:25; Heb. 6:17)

8. God’s gifts are irrevocable. He speaks through dreams, thoughts, ideas and revelations and rarely through audible voice. God writes His thoughts in your heart. If you are having trouble with your vision then like Jonah, you are in the wrong ship.

(Rom. 11:29;Acts 16:9,10; Prov. 16:9; Jer. 31:33; Psalm 33:10)

9. Vision is not about personal ambitions or maximizing profits but about God and His purposes. Vision without strategic action plan, persistence and passion is hallucination.

(Eph. 1:11; Luke 12:15; 1 John 4:4; 1Cor. 9:24-27)

10. Stay focused. Nehemiah’s vision came out of fasting and prayer for rebuilding the city, which he accomplished, in spite of many challenges. William Carey was advised by a senior pastor in England to give up his God given vision for India. Fortunately he persisted and changed the destiny of this nation. He said, “Expect great things from God and attempt great things for God”.

(Neh. 2:5; Prov. 19:21; Isa. 14:24; Phil. 4:13)

## KINGDOM OF GOD

1. Adam was created and commissioned a king to rule over God given dominion. He lost his kingdom and his kingship when he committed high treason by disobeying the King who had sent him as His ambassador on earth.
2. God then chose the descendents of Abraham to be a kingdom of priests, a holy nation to go and possess the gates of the enemy and be a blessing to all the nations of the earth. They miserably failed to do so. (Gen. 22:17,18)
3. Jesus shed His blood to make us kings and priests and restored that relationship. Each Christian is commissioned a king and given a dominion to reign until planet earth is restored like the garden of Eden. The church is the Kingdom of priestly kings, each with his own dominion under the King of kings. (Rev. 5:10)
4. Jesus came to destroy the kingdom of the Devil and replace it with the Kingdom of God. The church exists to subdue the demonic kingdom and re-establish the Kingdom of God by empowering others to be kings to possess new domains. (Matt. 16:18,19; Mark 16:17)
5. The greatest threat to the earth is not atom bomb, AIDS or terrorism but religion. Passionate peddling of packaged religion has killed more people than all the wars. The pulpit is the greatest heresy and a major obstacle to the expansion of the Kingdom (king + domain), robbing the kings of their right to rule over their God given domains and shrinks them into mere pew potatoes.
6. God is the owner but He has given each one of us absolute rulership as vice-regents when He said, "*let them have*

*dominion*". He will not interfere in our domain unless we specifically ask in prayer just like He did not interfere when Eve talked to the Devil. Lack of prayer will result in our city and the nation becoming a habitation of demons and loss of our kingship.

(Ps 115:14-16; Gen.1:26-28; 2 Chron 7:14)

7. In Christ, we are all heirs. He has bestowed a kingdom to each one of us, prepared before the foundation of the earth. We need to quit pastoring one church, adopt nations and expand the Kingdom. Dominion does not include dominating people but only the earth and the demons. (Rom 8:14;Mat 25:34;Luk 10:19;12:32)
8. God is not interested in religion but kings, ambassadors and rulers, who will pray, proclaim and possess the land and install the government of heaven on earth. We are not just Sunday worshippers. (Jn 8:31-36;Eph 2:19)
9. We are born to rule and not to be ruled. Unfortunately most Christians are kings without a dominion, ambassadors without a country and losers instead of conquerors. The first thing we need to make is a paradigm shift or change of mentality from being a layman to His Majesty's royal priests. (1Pet.2:9; Rom. 6:37)
10. Remember the master punished the man whose only sin was keeping the talent buried but rewarded the others who multiplied their talents. Your domain may be your work place, neighborhood, a city or a nation, which you need to transform into the garden of Eden.

## CULTURE CLASH

1. Jesus went to the Samaria and made His disciples to buy Gentile bread and drink their water and stay in their homes. He did not impose Jewish culture but taught His disciples to merge with the local culture. Then He chose a local woman as the 'man of peace'.
2. Barnabas was a Jewish missionary to the Gentile church at Antioch. He brought Paul who knew Gentile culture. Some Judaizers followed them and tried to impose Jewish culture, even though it was not approved by the Jerusalem council.  
(Acts 15:20)
3. Churches are planted in the context of the local worldview. Jewish church was planted in the context of the expected Messiah, which meant nothing to Romans who worshipped Caesar as Lord. Indians are 'Guru' oriented and Jesus must be projected as 'Sat (true) Guru' who can satisfy their quest for truth.
4. The indigenous tribals and 80% of Hindus are animists who believe in spirits who exert 'power' on their lives. To them salvation by grace through faith, means little. All the NT churches and 95% of emerging churches in India and many other countries resulted after 'power encounter', such as miraculous healing or deliverance from demons. To them, Jesus needs to be projected as 'Super Power'.
5. Hindus worship 'Ishta Devta' or "Favorite god", in midst of many gods, just like the Jews worshipped the "Most High God" or "Mahadeva" who is above all gods.

6. The Great Commission tells us that we should make disciples of all ethnic or cultural groups. Every cultural group has its own marriage, family, government and social mores. No group has the right to impose its culture on others. Syncretism means violating the Gospel. Paul accused the Jews of syncretizing their culture on the Gentiles, just like the modern church imposes its church culture on others.
7. Many people, especially women and youth cannot be baptized for sociological/economic reasons. Compelling such people can cause serious problems. The word 'baptism' needs changing to a more culturally acceptable term like 'bath of purification'. Western 'Church culture' is a major obstacle to conversion, resulting in millions of non-baptized believers in the world. It is not the lack of baptism but the contempt of baptism that condemns.
8. The word 'Christian', which was a derogatory word, should be substituted with local word like 'Jesu Bhakta' (Worshipper of Jesus) or followers of Baliraja (King who was sacrificed) etc. and follow indigenous forms of worship. Originally Christians were known as the 'People of the Way'.  
(Acts 9:2; 18:25)
9. Even the word 'church' has negative Western connotation. Local terms like 'Satasang' (Gathering) etc. are better substitutes.
10. We are not here to destroy their world view but project the 'gospel' in their context, just like Paul told Athenians, that he had come to tell them about their own 'Unknown God'.

## HISTORY OF THE HOUSE CHURCH

1. For the first 300 years, the church met in the spontaneity, flexibility and intimacy of homes of believers. There were no church buildings, pastors, Sunday worship, crusades, seminaries or tithing. During this period the church grew in faith and in numbers daily. (Acts 16:5)
2. Paul shared the whole wisdom of God from house to house . Training of leaders was church based. The H/Chs were banned by law in AD 380. The church lost its soul and entered into darkness for a millennium.(Acts 20:20; 27-29)
3. Nicolaitans who believed in ‘Conquering the Laity’, claiming a higher status, divided the church into speakers and listeners. Jesus hated this division and equated it with loss of first love, idolatry and immorality. Yet the modern church continues to perpetuate this division.  
(Acts 6:5;Rev.2:4,6,14,15;Mat 12:25)
4. H/Chs suffered severely under Romans. Constantine saw the vision of the solar cross, invaded and became the Roman emperor. He built the first cathedral, appointed paid clergy and started the Catholic Church. (AD 312-325).
5. The church saw a phenomenal growth of nominal Christianity. Heathen priests were ordained along with their pagan rituals, still prevalent in the church, such as cloaks, pulpit, sermons, sacraments, and the altar, etc. Our churches are built on the Greek Gothic pagan architecture; the church government of clergy and officials is based on Roman administration; while our worship is based on Babylonian cult.
6. In 321 AD, Constantine decreed under the penalty of death, to venerate Sun-Day for Sol Invictus-the unconquerable Sun. Spires and steeples were added to catch the first light of the sun and celebrated with ringing of bells. The Bishop of Rome became Pontifex Maximus (Pope), the bridge between God and man.
7. The NT church was led by the Holy Spirit, who gave psalms, revelations, teachings and prophecy and new believers were added daily. Gregory (AD 500) permanently perverted worship by programming sequential ‘Order of Worship’ with hymns, scriptures, sermon and sacrament, prevalent today; killing the Spirit of open participatory Church. (1 Cor. 14:26)
8. Pope Leo (AD 440), introduced celibacy, ending biblical eldership of one wife. Infant baptism made obligatory in AD 416. Crusaders (1096 AD) committed genocide of Jews and Muslims. 600 years of Inquisition resulted in 83 million believers declared heretics and tortured to death. Meanwhile, the monks methodically monkeyed the Scriptures.
9. In 1517 Martin Luther ignited Reformation by writing 95 Theses against the Catholic church. After affirming the house churches in 1526, he capitulated and declared death penalty for house church leaders in 1530.
10. The true church survived through the ages not in the structured church but in the homes of martyrs. Luther’s was only a theological reformation , “ *salvation through grace by faith*”. God is now restructuring the church with new wineskins (House/Chs.) for a global harvest.

## GOD'S VISION

- ^ God's vision is that all nations, tribes and tongues will stand before his throne and worship Him. (Revelation 7:9,10)
- ^ God's vision is that believers from every tongue and tribe will function as priests and kings and reign on earth. (Rev. 5:9,10)
- ^ God's vision is that all the earthly kingdoms will be given to the saints, who will reign on earth eternally. (Dan. 2:44; 7:27; Rev. 22:5)
- ^ God's vision is that the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. (Hab. 2:14)
- ^ God's vision is that the gospel will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations of the earth. (Matt 24:14)
- ^ God's vision is that the believers will go and make disciples of all nations, baptize them, equip them and send them to make more disciples. (Matt 28:18-20; 1Tim.2:2)
- ^ God's vision is that every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus is Lord. (Rom. 14:11; Phil. 2:10,11)
- ^ God's vision is that from the rising of the sun to its going down, incense (prayer, praise and worship) and pure offering (lost souls) will be offered in His name in heathen homes. (Mal. 1:11; Rom. 15:16)

## CHURCH GROWTH DRIVERS FOR HYPERACCELERATION

1. Vision for completion of discipling of nations with measurable goals. Connect every believer with his inheritance. (Acts 26:17,18)
2. Apostolic teaching, passionate prayer, miracles, material sharing and breaking of bread from house to house. (Acts 2:42-47)
3. Going two by two, catching big fish, planting interactive, replicating church in the house of peace. (Luke 10:1-9; 1 Cor. 14:26)
4. Prayer walking, spiritual warfare, binding the strongman and plundering his possessions (people). (1Tim. 2:8; Matt. 12:29)
5. Plurality of leadership with obedience rather than knowledge based discipleship. Identify and remove growth inhibitors.
6. Empower priesthood of all believers including women till there be no more laymen left in the church. (Acts 2:17,18; 1Pet. 2:9)
7. Culture of research, innovation and finding breakthrough strategies. Reward those who mobilize for multiplication.
8. Daily bringing people to repentance and offering them as living sacrifice. (Heb. 3:13; Rom. 12:1; 15:16; 1Cor. 14:24,25)
9. Ethno-linguistic enculturation with accountability to multiple generations of disciples. (Acts 16:3-5; 2Tim.2:2; Col. 2:1)
10. Evaluation based on fruit: disciples made, churches planted and community transformation. (John 15:8,16; Acts 2:47; 6:1; 16:5)
11. Stop "Going" to a come, sit, soak and stagnate church and start "Being" a church by equipping the saints to edify of the Body. (Eph. 4:11-13)
12. Mentor and monitor multiple generations of disciples. Paul mentored, Timothy, who mentored Epaphras, who trained Archippus, who in turn mentored Nympha who pastored a church in Colossae. Paul sent greetings to all of them. (2Tim. 2:2; Col. 1:6; 4:12-16)