

Annotated Church Planting Bibliography

Compiled by James Watson

Browning, D. (2006). *Deliberate Simplicity: A New Equation for Church Development: Less is More, More is Better*. Lincoln, NE, iUniverse.

Advocates a high touch/minimal complexity approach to sustainable multiplication of churches based on a personal case study from the US suburban and semi-rural contexts.

Garrison, V. D. (2004). *Church Planting Movements: How God is Redeeming a Lost World*. Midlothian, VA, WIGTake Resources.

Based on focus group sessions held by the International Mission Board (IMB) of the Southern Baptist Convention. The focus group was composed of IMB missionaries who had catalytic leadership responsibilities with church planting movements around the world. Besides the case studies of these movements, the book contains a summary of primary issues that the focus group recommended.

Hesselgrave, D. J. (2000). *Planting Churches Cross-Culturally: North America and Beyond*. Grand Rapids, MI, Baker Books.

Presents a phase of development model (based on an exegetical/thematic summary of the ministry of Paul) for church planters in cross-cultural situations that illustrates the cyclical nature of church planting.

Hiebert, P. G. and E. Hiebert Meneses (1995). *Incarnational Ministry: Planting Churches in Band, Tribal, Peasant and Urban Societies*. Grand Rapids, MI, Baker Publishing House.

Provides an anthropological summary for band, tribal, peasant and urban societies while arguing for an incarnational approach to planting. The definition of incarnational ministry focuses on mission being the work of God ("first and foremost") with an appropriate appreciation and understanding of the social contexts and worldviews of people in order to facilitate the transformational process.

Logan, R. E., N. Cole, et al. (2005). *Beyond Church Planting: Pathways for Emerging Churches*. St. Charles, IL, ChurchSmart Resources.

A manual in a binder with worksheets and CDs of the authors (key US trainers) teaching church planting classes.

Malphurs, A. (2004). *Planting Growing Churches for the 21st Century: A Comprehensive Guide for New Churches and Those Desiring Renewal*. Grand Rapids, MI, Baker Books.

Provides the general developmental process following the metaphor of the human reproduction/development cycle.

Moerman, M., Ed. (2005). *Discipling Our Nation*. Delta, BC, Church Leadership Library. A collection of chapters based on the tracks of the previous National Evangelism Partnerships through the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada. Covers issues such as: church planting, city transformation, newcomer impact on Canada, evangelism, and global mission.

Murray, S. (2001). *Church Planting: Laying Foundations*. Scottdale, PA, Herald Press. Provides some theological reflection on the mission theology that can be foundational for church planting. Written from British context.

Murray, S. (2010). *Planting Churches in the 21st Century: A Guide for Those Who Want Fresh Perspectives and New Ideas for Creating Congregations*. Scottdale, PA, Herald Press.

A good comprehensive review of options, possibilities and issues in church planting. Integrates missiological/theological reflection with decades of experience in England.

Roberts, B. (2006). *Transformation: How Glocal Churches Transform Lives and the World*. Grand Rapids, MI, Zondervan.

Presents a church planting approach based largely on a community development approach with a global perspective.

Robinson, M. (2006). *Planting Mission-Shaped Churches Today*. Grand Rapids, MI, Monarch.

Instead of providing a process for starting a new church, this book provides concepts and stories in roughly the progression of typical church planting process and is written from a British perspective.

Romo, O. I. (1993). *American Mosaic: Church Planting in Ethnic America*. Nashville, TN, Broadman Press.

Based on years of experience facilitating church planting among minority cultural/language groups in the US, it provides some helpful advice in cross-cultural church planting that can be translated to the Canadian context.

Shenk, D. W. and E. R. Stutzman (1988). *Creating Communities of the Kingdom: New Testament Models of Church Planting*. Scottdale, PA, Herald Press.

A study of Acts that links biblical reflection to modern theories of leadership and planting (based on US and international observations). Provides a somewhat unique chapter on wrestling with the "powers" as part of church planting experience.

Sjogren, S. and R. Lewin (2003). *Community of Kindness*. Ventura, CA, Regal Books.

Literally a collection of ideas on church planting (each one is numbered) intentionally listed without an attempt to avoid overlap or gaps in the ideas presented. A sort of "contrarians guide to church planting" from leaders with US and European experience.

Stetzer, Ed. (2006). *Planting Missional Churches*. Nashville, TN, Broadman & Holman. Emphasizes "missional church" (defined as biblically grounded and culturally relevant) as the main theme. It covers a wide range of contemporary issues from an American perspective. His previous text (Stetzer, E. (2003). *Planting New Churches in a Postmodern Age*. Nashville, TN, Broadman and Holman Publishers.) had a number of Canadian references.