

Session 11



Church Planting Models

Instructor



STEPHEN BECK PhD

Stephen is a career church planter and church planting instructor. He has served with the Redeemer Church Planting network in Canada, more recently with Greater Europe Mission in Germany. He is considered one of the "cutting edge" Greater Europe Missionaries in this regard. He is Professor of Practical Theology at Freie Theologische Hochschule in Giessen, Germany. He has also been guest lecturer at a number of institutions on the European continent. He is married to Susan, and they have four children. In 2011 Stephen and Susan embarked on yet another journey: together with twenty-five college students they planted a multi-everything church for the Frankfurt metro region. Through the refugee wave that came over Germany, this church multiplied to fifteen congregations in 6 years.

Goals

This 13 session course about contextualization and models for intercultural church planting is one of the most overlooked subjects in the area of congregation multiplication. The course begins with the definition of contextualization and finds in the Bible the guidelines for practicing it in the work of the Kingdom of God. You will learn the theory of contextualizing and you will be given practical tools. You will understand how the Gospel is designed to be contextualized and how you can adapt it to your own church planting situation.

Sessions Overview

1. Introduction
2. Errors in Contextualization
3. The Gospel, Culture and Shaping your Church's Culture
4. Faithful Contextualization
5. Bridging the Gospel into Culture - Step 1
6. Bridging the Gospel into Culture - Step 2
7. Active and Practical Bridging
8. Networking!
9. More Networking!
10. Research and SWOT
- 11. Church Planting Models**
12. Church Plant Birthed out of Existing Churches, & out of nothing - part I
13. Church Plants Birthed out of Nothing Part II

Session Summary

Now we look at various models of church planting. Stephen Beck throws several basic cautions at the church planter for using any given model. We learn eternal principles for church planting as we study various models, but we do not plant a church according to which model we like most but on the basis of the hard work of contextualization this course is about. Beck takes the student into first two models in the category of church plants out of existing churches.

Fill in the Blanks

1. What is the danger of looking for the model for church plant?

2. Name some “do’s” and “don’ts” in this sense.

3. Why copying one church model/style to another area would probably not work?

4. How does a “Mother-Daughter” church plant model looks like?

5. What are the first steps the “Mother” church should take to plant its “shoot”?