


Session 12



Church Plants
Birthed out of
Existing Churches
+
Out of nothing
Part I

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

The lecture continues on models by looking at multi-site church planting then looks at the first two models of planting out of nothing: the pioneer approach to planting a classical congregation and the organic approach to starting a multiplying house church.

Recommended Books

1. Comiskey J 2016. *Planting Churches that Reproduce. Starting a network of simple churches*. CCS publishing. ISBN: 978-0979067969

Fill in the Blanks

1. A “Multi-site” church plant model looks like....

2. A multi-site church plant allows you to bring an existing church

3. For those to whom this may be relevant; think about places which are remote, or in some other way inaccessible for the people to travel to your congregation. Write them down and consider to plant a multi-site church there. Who or where can that be?

4. Describe in a few short words what is a pioneer church plant model.

5. In pioneer church planting approach, you need to go through many preparations. Dr. Beck repeats some of them. Please write them down again. It is important to go through them again if you begin a church plant in this way. “Particularly in this way of planting a church you really need to” : _____,
_____,
_____,
_____,
_____,
_____,
_____.
6. For what kind of people this kind of church planting is fitting the most?

7. Why should a home group not begin by collecting Christians into one new gathering place?
