

Global Ministries Initiatives

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Global Engagement

Lessons I've learned from working in the public sector in the world:

1. *Everything is public, not private.* When you write on your blog: "I want to reach Muslims for Christ," they read that. We have to learn to talk about God in a global way.
2. *Everything is connected, integrated.* Picture the world not as the US in a circle and the gospel spreading out from there, but instead the world is all connected dots. We need to be faithful in our context and connect with the church globally. Conversations about faith are integrated with a political and global vantage point. It cannot be separated.
3. *Everything is open.* Everyone is constantly contributing. Models are a thing of the past. *Focus on the context—the Kingdom of God.*
4. *Everyone has a voice.* I wrote an article on Faith, Secularism, and Religion for the largest Muslim magazine in the world. They want to understand my views.
5. *The world is ready and waiting for legitimate conversations about Christ.* World leaders want to meet more evangelicals. But most Evangelicals don't understand the world.

Discipleship is not the curriculum; it's the *culture* that you create. What is the culture you're creating?

We discovered 3 things:

- Interactive worship of God, both public & private.
- Transparent connections: small groups, Bible studies, accountability groups
- Global impact: using your job to impact the world.

Church planting is going to become global, not tribal.

My premise: Discipleship takes place in the context of society. This is where churches emerge.

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To become effective in missions, our church had to clear the deck and start completely over.

Five criteria for how we would engage a country:

1. Is there a healthy, visionary and reproducing church that we can connect with in that country?
2. Is it globally strategic in terms of being a gateway to global impact? Will it open doors?
3. Does it fulfill our mission of helping people on a life-changing journey to follow Jesus Christ?
4. Can we clearly engage the domains of society?
5. Is this God directed? Is God clearly leading us to go there?

Pray and wait for God to open up a door.

Learn the language: When you can walk into a country where you can speak some of their language, it opens doors. It endears you to the people.

You don't act the same way with world leaders; it's about respect. Ask questions, talk about his family.

How do you engage your church?

1. Send a scout team.
2. Cast a compelling vision that will ignite all different people. (Businesspeople micro financing)
3. Get total buy-in (high school group adopted a village)
4. Create a sense of ownership. (Visit Compassion International kids you've adopted.)
5. Show your people a clear path of engagement. (Every person in the church fills out a passport)
6. Leverage your influence.