

Foundations of the Multi-Site Church Revolution

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Larry Osborne, North Coast Church, San Diego, CA (www.northcoastchurch.com)

North Coast is a multi-site church with 5 locations. We can only fit 500+ people into our worship center, but last weekend we had 8,000 worshipers in 24 different services and video venues.

Why did we start it? We were out of space, time slots, energy and options.

- Decided to have an overflow room that would be a reward instead of a punishment.
- Teaching plays well on a screen because you can see the facial expressions better.
- Added a live worship experience, a host, and a focused worship style.
- People experienced it and loved it.
- We were adding something instead of taking it away.

Using videos can allow you to reach people who speak a different cultural or worship language than you do, with an authentic message.

Dave Ferguson, Community Christian Church, Chicago, IL (www.communitychristian.org)

Two key competencies to develop infrastructure for new sites:

1. Develop more and better leaders.
2. Develop more and better harvests.

Apprenticeship is at the heart of new leadership development. Leadership can only be developed through practice in the real world. It can't take place in the classroom. (2 Tim. 2:2)

Use apprenticeship to development both leaders and artists. It provides immediate feedback.

The five steps are:

1. I do it, you watch, then we talk.
2. I do it, you help me, then we talk about it.
3. You do it, I help, then we talk about it.
4. You do it, I watch, then we talk about it.
5. You do it, somebody else watches, then you two talk about it.

By using this process you can be reproducing at every level.

Mark Driscoll, Mars Hill Church, Seattle, WA (www.marshillchurch.org)

There are three kinds of people:

- Prophets – Bible preaching, teaching, doctrine, theology, apologetics
- Priests – Shepherding, care, spiritual formation, hospital visits, premarital, mercy ministry
- Kings – Systems, policies, procedures, real estate, performance matrix, growth

When you go to sell the multi-site vision to your people, you've got to sell it 3 ways.

Kings: We're going to multiply, we're going to grow, it's going to be great. (effective)

Priests: We're going to be able to take better care of our people. (loving)

Prophets: We have some verses for you. (biblical)

You're not just multiplying your church, you're reinventing it. You need to clearly define what your church is so you have a paradigm when you multiply.

Why Multi-Site?

1. Theological: the Great Commission. Biblical precedent in the early church.
2. Missiological: 1 Cor. 9 --all things to all men so that by *all means* I can win some
3. Historical: the apostles had great reach without being physically present.
4. Technological: technology opens new opportunities, forms of communication.

Practical: allows you to be big & small at the same time to do the best of both worlds.