

I. Three Fold Goal

Sufficient prayer, monetary support and long term commitment should be given to accomplish the following:

- A. Provide a church planting missionary(ies)
- B. Address the Scripture need
- C. Train nationals to reproduce churches among their own people

II. Preliminary Meetings

- A. First Meeting with Pastor(s) and Staff
 1. Daytime meeting
 2. No moderator and no agenda
 3. Goal: to locate, through open discussion, where the Staff is in their missions philosophy.
- B. Second Meeting with Pastor, Staff & Lay Leadership
 1. Friday Evening Supper & Meeting
 2. Have both a moderator and agenda
 3. Goal: to create awareness of the need and lead them to faith in bringing the Great Commission to completion
- C. Third Meeting with the Church Membership
 1. Sunday Services AM and PM with a *FirstBible* Representative assisting
 2. Goal: to cast vision and bring the church members into ownership of the unreached people group burden at the same level as the pastor and leadership

III. Missionary and Field Relationship

- A. Win people to Christ and plant a church
- B. Work on existing Scriptures or translate with the help of a national and Trinitarian Bible Society of England
- C. Disciple national converts with a vision of planting indigenous churches that are *self-supporting, self-governing & self-propagating*

**Entry Level Thoughts on Goals for Nationalizing of
Church Planting Ministries:****A. Goal #1: Self-Supporting**

The missionary is the accountability agent for all American/foreign funds. All support from America should go to the missionary who will prayerfully dispense the funds. The national is accountable to the missionary until such time as a church is organized.

Differentiation should be made between a national church *planter* and a national *pastor*. The national church planter should be the biggest recipient of regular support in the fact he has no other human support base. When the church plant becomes an organized church and is turned over to national leadership, it should become the main source of human support for its pastor. It may be a small support base and may need some assistance. The church planter and the national pastor may or may not be one in the same person.

When the building becomes a necessity, the majority of funding should come from the people in the church, though a gift from America within reason and without frequency may be advantageous. Neither the size nor the frequency of the gift should be such to cause foreign dependence.

B. Goal #2: Self-Governing

This is done through the training of the national converts following Jesus' own model: to **teach** them what to do, **demonstrate** to them how to do it and **send** them out to the field to do it. Through Bible Institute training and practical church planting experience alongside the missionary, the national becomes trained and trustworthy to be released and committed to the Holy Spirit. The missionary then becomes a mentor and resource person, stepping out of the temporary/interim pastoral role he was assuming. At this point the missionary's authority is rooted in influence and not position.

The training of nationals is not limited to pastors but also embraces other leadership roles in church life, such as deacons, teachers, soul winners, etc.

It should be noted that the national church should reflect the native culture in any area where culture doesn't violate Scripture.

C. Goal #3: Self-Propagating

Keep in mind the end result of our missions effort is not soul winning or Bible publishing but church planting. Obviously the new church plant will win souls but it can't stop there. It must go on and organize those who are won into a body of baptized believers. Where there was one church through church planting now there are two with each having a goal of winning, baptizing and organizing another church with a goal of each reproducing themselves again and again, etc.

We believe at the national church planting level that this is the point where the emphasis should shift to both every *nation* and to every *creature*. The foreign missionary force should have a goal to reach every people group (nation). The national church planted and its reproducing movement should have a goal of reaching every "creature" within their people group. In addition, the national church should also have a worldview. In other words, we teach them whatsoever we have been commanded and taught (Matthew 28:20). Part of what we were commanded is to go into all the world. Along with giving them an "*every creature*" view, we must give them a "*go ye into all the world*" view.

We do not believe it is the missionary's assignment to embrace what missiologists call the holistic approach toward evangelism. The end result of holistic approach reduces our effort down to solving their cultural problems. They may need to be solved, but that is probably an effort best left until later and may be done by the national church and not the foreign missionary. We must guard against getting bogged down, expending our funds and draining our human resources in social work. This can stagnate our progress of going into all the world.