

An aerial photograph of a river valley, showing a winding river and a small church building in the distance. The image is overlaid with a dark purple gradient.

*WE BUILD CHURCHES THAT TRANSFORM LIVES*

JUNE TWENTY NINE 2014  
GREG HASWELL



1 Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? 2 The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the Lord and against his anointed, saying, 3 “Let us break their chains and throw off their shackles.” 4 The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them. 5 He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying, 6 “I have installed my king on Zion, my holy mountain.” 7 I will proclaim the Lord’s decree: He said to me, “You are my son; today I have become your father. 8 **Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your**

**possession.** 9 You will break them with a rod of iron; you will dash them to pieces like pottery.” 10 Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth. 11 Serve the Lord with fear and celebrate his rule with trembling. 12 Kiss his son, or he will be angry and your way will lead to your destruction, for his wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

Psalm 2

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, **“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”**

Matthew 28:18-19



**In 2001, more than 29.4 million Americans said they had no religion, more than double the 1990 number. This is more than Methodists, Lutherans and Episcopalians combined, according to the American Religious Identification Survey 2000.**


**People with no religion now account for 14% of the nation, up from 8% in a 1990 survey. Fifty percent of Americans call themselves religious, down from 54% in December 1999. An additional 33% call themselves “spiritual but not religious,” up from 30%, and about 1 in 10 say they are neither.**

**only 1% of the churches in America are growing by conversion. I have read that half of all churches did not add one new member through conversion growth. According to the Uniform Church Letter, in 2000 about 50% of SBC churches report no evangelistic activity and around 6,700 SBC churches did not baptize even one person. The vast majority of baptisms are either children of present members or are adults who are not being baptized for their initial commitments to Christ, but because of membership requirements. By most any measure, Christians are not**

**connecting with pagans in a way that leads them to respond to Christ.**

**Aubrey Malphurs, Planting Growing Churches for the 21st Century (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1992)**



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**“The single most effective  
evangelistic methodology under  
heaven is planting new churches.”**

**C. Peter Wagner**



**“New churches are the most effective at reaching unchurched pre-Christians.**

Robert E. Logan and Steven L. Ogne, “Church Planter’s Toolkit,” Church Smart Resources, 1991, 1-3.

**“If you are interested in reaching new people, by far the most effective way to do this is through church planting.”**

“Schaller Says SBC Must Decide about New Church Starts,” Biblical Recorder, June 15, 1991, 8.

**In any given geographical area, the Christian community will grow or decline according to the degree of effort given to planting new churches.”**

Wagner, Church Planting for a Greater Harvest, 11

The cities are the greatest mission field in America. Eighty percent of the US population lives in cities with over 50,000 residents.

**Seventy-five percent of Americans who live in the city are un-evangelized.** Towns noted the following reasons: “there are so many people there, representing so many needs, while at the same time, it is difficult to reach them because they come from so many backgrounds

Towns, “Church Planting in the Urban Setting: The Key to Reaching America,” 45.



**40 percent of the Christian churches in Manhattan, New York have been planted since the year 2000. Research done by The Values Research Institute found that the evangelical population there has grown from less than 1 percent to now more than 3 percent since 1990!**

### **Why we build churches**

- 1. Its Biblical -in orthodoxy and ortho -praxis**
- 2. It enforces Jesus dominion (inheritance)**
- 3. It engages people, demands growth from them and calls for sacrifice**
- 4. New church plants are the most effective way to reach new converts, new residents, and to impact new people groups**
- 5. We have a God-given clarity on the gospel message and a mature response to the Holy Spirit**

- Dionne and Bridget Van Zyl**
- Stephen and Beth Templeton**
- Richard and Karlen Bartolo**
- Anthony and Liesl Crane**
- Greg and Michelle Johnson**
- Scott and Jenni Means**
- David and Sheila Todd**



# 1. Pray

10 He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us again. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us, 11 as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favor granted us in answer to the prayers of many.

2 Corinthians 1:10-12



## 2. Pay

17 Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. 18 I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. 19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:17-19



# 3. Partner

4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, 6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1:4-6

As for Titus, he is my partner and co-worker among you; as for our brothers, they are representatives of the churches and an honor to Christ.

2 Corinthians 8:23



# 4. Preach / Preside

Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it.

Mark 16:20


The mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand and of the seven golden lampstands is this: The seven stars are the angels (messenger) of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Revelation 1:20

“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: . . . “in Smyrna write: . . . in Pergamum write: . . . in Thyatira write: . . . in Sardis write: . . . in Philadelphia write: . . . in Laodicea write:

Revelation 2:1 - 3:14



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