

World Café Summarization (Green)



In what ways will the Kingdom of God transform Canada through either heavy, little, or no reliance on buildings, salaries, and programs?

What were the key questions/issues raised?

- What would happen if our building disappeared? Would the community notice?
- Identifying with the poor?
- Can we live with the tensions?
- Should we have buildings because the culture expects us to have buildings for weddings and funerals?
- Is the question valid or is it more about the kind people who are leading in these contexts
- What are the metrics used to measure transformation?
- What could we do if we didn't have the building?
- Does it follow that more money, buildings and programs equate to transformation?
- What would mission look like if any one of these things was taken out of our toolbox?
- Would the kingdom flourish if there were no buildings, salaries or programs?
- What will it take? People obedient to God.
- Reliance on God (it's both/and)
- Does not have to be either/or (true Canadian answer)
- God uses different models / sets of resources
- Building as a tool; how do we 'strip down' the bureaucracy to not be too distracted by it?

Insights?

- Our first foot forward cannot be about money.
- Buildings can be idols
- We are the temple of the living God
- Church can happen without buildings but there are things that work better in third spaces or in church buildings.
- Programs, buildings and salaries do not make a church.
- Pastors can be hirelings who work only for a salary.
- Relationship is the alternative to program.
- A heavy reliance upon a building is often a great benefit to the kingdom; Centre Street Church has given this building to the congress for free.
- Grieving in a holy space; people like to have funerals in buildings.
- Underground Christians working in school systems.
- 80% of our churches do all of their ministry in a church.
- Ownership is not the issue – access is most important
- Place is important – rootedness is necessary to establish credibility/relationship/familiarity
- Need a nimble strategy to provide more congregations and communities of faith
- Context is key – some audiences (eg. Muslims) expect a building, some despise it
- Challenged resources create a need for leaders to be teachers, equippers and coaches
- No building forces congregations to integrate into existing programs in the community and act as salt and light
- Asking the questions: "in what ways can the Kingdom of God... with or without?"
- "What do you want?"
- We need to rely on God and our teams
- Building ok as long as being well-used
- Having or not having a building is not the same: the issue is whether are missional
- What works and what is needed depends on context
- Established churches need to be very hospitable to ethnic churches looking for space

- How we handle resources is not the key issue, it is whether we have a missional heart and are connecting with the hearts of others
- God can use “owned” physical space creatively used as a blessing in a community

Challenges that surfaced?

- God can use our buildings but we are a little “stuck on buildings”
- Canadian climate usually demands a building!
- Real estate costs
- Programs usually depend on buildings or some location
- Low dependency on salary creates a need for volunteer resourcing
- They are part of the system
- Radicals – lack of unity – need unity
- Caution needed
- Tentmaking is challenging – perhaps need to be more strategic in helping young people to get good, flexible, mobile, high paying “secular” jobs
- Tension: tentmaking “push” needs to be balanced by “workman is worthy of support”
- Problem when we use language like “going to church”

Any resource or networking ideas?

- We need each other (Unity: as a church, around the gospel, work together)
- Concerted prayer
- Living the church

Any solutions or next steps?

- Our buildings can be used for community events.
- What about churches sharing volunteers to supply a third space.
- The Kingdom of God will transform Canada in many and various ways.
- We must evaluate the reasons why we use buildings, salaries, and programs.
- Buildings, programs and salaries must be missionally focussed or else they are expendable.
- Are our programs, salaries and buildings sent, missional, apostolic? They must bear fruit.
- Buildings must be multi-use, and meet the needs of the community. The community must be involved in designing the building.
- It makes it easier if we rename buildings, salaries, and programs and call them tools or gifts.
- Each tool depends on context. We must use the right tool for the right job.
- Strong values and accountabilities are necessary to keep proper perspective on these things
- Work together

World Café Summarization (Red)

How could an urban missionary to Canada train, be sent, put food on her/his table, and multiply themselves?

What were the key questions/issues raised?

- Defining terms - why is it urban missionary, not missionaries, all missionaries etc
- Whose sending them and what is their responsibility?
- Cost
- Resources
- Barriers to multiplication (structures, expectations)
- Need of leaders to take risk and do it
- Need to call Christians to cities
- What role does our (church, planters, congregants) affluence play
- What's the deal?? Isn't this bi-vocationality?
- Training modes
- Inter-provincial migration included in 'sent'. Aren't we all sent?
- When did we get so trapped into 1 congregation for a leader/pastor/mission? Multiple charge forces greater equipping and wider ownership.
- The question is too individualistic – where's the team? Where's the body?
 - Need for community, discipleship, modelling

Insights?

- Live life more together
- Everyone has an apprentice or team they are working with
- Need to change nomenclature from volunteers to partners
- Bi vocational- that is in many cases a great way to engage the community
- Urban flight can be for cost being high or decline in neighborhood quality
- The Lord will lead if we are sent by Him.
- Being 'sent' has to have with it that right fit, confirmed and affirmed (aka "seemed good to the Holy Spirit and us")
- Training a **team** is more effective than simply training a professional leader/single leader.
- TENSION – paid pastor vs. bi-vocational minister
- I'm going to be more intentional to partner with people and model it so that in 3, 4, 5 years, I can say you are now equipped, I am now free to move onto something else.
- There are no answers that work for everyone – there's no model that we can export to everyone. But we need CORE VALUES.
- Relationships where there's life-on-life transfer – this is key.

Challenges that surfaced?

- Training away (i.e., at Seminary) can be detrimental to family, mission, etc...
- Money is tight - where can we turn for more solid funding to sustain the work.
- Many people only trained academically, and need more show-how modelling. (Doing life together).
- Who's willing to model? Who's willing to take someone into their world and intentionally teach them to follow them?
- Who's willing to move into their world?

Any resource or networking ideas?

- Network group learning, as-you-serve leadership training, online training
- Coaching and mentoring 1:1
- Spend more time with optimistic creative “can-do” people. New ministry needs to look very different from former models.
- Networking & resourcing – comes through multiplication (mentoring)

Any solutions or next steps?

- Change from an institutional to organic approach can change the questions
- Do everything as team
- Get involved in show-how modelling right where I am.
- If you’re going to do it on your own, you will be more likely to fail. Address who is with you (team)!
- Just do it.
- Find a way to bridge a gap between seminary and the street. (ie: shaine claiborn) – set up forums in our churches?
- How do I bring people along in what I do?
- God, amidst my zeal, let me not crush someone else’s interpretation of what you are teaching me.
- Humility & keep asking questions

World Café Summarization (Yellow)

What does it take to add to our number daily those who are being saved?

What were the key questions/issues raised?

- It takes divine intervention...
- Verses 42-46, lead into v 47... this healthy church will lead to evangelism
 - Prayer is essential to this
- We need the conviction that this could happen... its part of this story but we have not seen it (at a local church level)
- This followed the movement of Pentecost, following a movement of prayer and expectation
 - Praying, waiting and the spirit moving
 - Shut up, listen, wait
- No doubt that Jesus is the answer... what is the question
 - Its possible that the issue has moved from guilt to brokenness
- Are we walking in faith?
- What was actually happening in Acts?
- Do we really love God and love our neighbour?
- Where does this picture from the book of Acts 'land' today? The neighbourhood, church individually...
- Is what we're currently doing working?
- How do we get beyond our result orientation?
- What's our communal witness?
- Who is my neighbour?
- There are two extremes in evangelism: live and preach
- What does "our" mean? Small "c" or big "C" church?
- Being intentional in our witness!
- Do we really have the passion for the lost? Do we believe it's possible to add to our number daily?

Insights?

- We need perseverance
- Its not us that makes it happen... "the Lord" added daily
- The issue is not so much about numbers...
- When we count... do they count attendance or how many are saved... we need to honor the process of getting people saved
- The verse says those who are "being saved" not those who "are saved."
 - In this sense it may not be countable
- They had a compelling community that typified missional and incarnational
- We don't have the cultural pressure to live in this way... so... what has he gifted us to do...
- Some have slipped from a holistic gospel (proclamation) to gimmicks
- People were attracted to Christ through his people
- All the people coming to faith today are doing so via friendship
- Sharing the gospel does not have to be a duty... can be fun
- The original church still maintained their prayer rituals
- We can get sucked into the sexiness of church planting/missional church that we forget we are to live it out...
- While we do and are called to sacrifice, God gives back generously as we do live sacrificially
- God and people have our back when we go out on a limb
- Everyone seemed to be involved in the process
- Salvation is a process.

- LOVE! Listen
- There's urgency
- Be passionate about our God's story
- We make it complicated...
- Being Spirit-led: trusting and obeying
- It's Christ not us who do the saving
- Everyone does evangelism
- We need a sense of urgency
- God does the saving or adding to our number
- Everyone needs to be engaged in the community
- Need to share our stories
- Needs to be motivated by love

Challenges that surfaced?

- We don't create space for the moving of the spirit we want processes and principles... we need to create this space
- We are so busy that we don't have time to live out the Acts 2. 42-46 experience
- Does this push us back to the old score card
- The question seems to imply that there is a program that can achieve this...
- We need to learn how to discover the places where God is at work
- Can (or will) we live out vs. 42-46
- Adding can be an issue because the existing people don't let those saved in... we need to include them
- How do we live our lives in such a way that people will ask... be ready to give an answer
- Do we need a sense of urgency to communicate the gospel clearly everyday
- Our life in the church keeps us out of the community
- The church work keeps us from the work of the church... or at least our failure to prioritize it, or our unwillingness to take the grief for living our right priorities
- To actually do it...
- We make it complicated
- Being Spirit-led
- We don't have urgency. We're not being serious about our faith.
- That we're so focused on being in a safe place
- Time / scheduling
- Courage and boldness

Any resource or networking ideas?

- Allow our missiology to shape the inclusion of ecclesiology
- Networking: intentionally groups where 5-6 people meet, then disperse and then reconvene to debrief
- Networking in homes like the Acts 2 church was
- Networking with our denom leaders with other pastors to keep each other accountable for this type of living
 - As Al Roxburgh talks about with *communitas* ... including accountability
- Accountability towards the practices of the community
- Utilize our webs of friendship
- If I'm going to get into community with my neighbour need to be in community with 'fellow believers'
- Asking each other tough questions- accountability
- If we're not willing to listen, how/why do we expect others to listen to our/the story
- Praying for each other and our neighbours
- We're asking a lot- be patient, show grace.
- Have good relationships in church to help you disciple

- Listen to the Spirit
- Be intentional
- Know how to articulate what you believe

Any solutions or next steps?

- Lets invite our neighbors in to our homes... and stick with it...
- Serve our neighbors... we don't always need to do it in Jesus name
- Alpha in our homes/neighborhoods could be a similar experience?
- Principles of relationships are critical
- Intentionality in all we do... a sense of urgency around living and proclaiming the gospel
- We need to re-evaluate priorities... if our day is so full, where is our heart, in busyness or in Christ and those who need him
- We could/should order our priorities accordingly
- We should or could see our neighbors daily in the "being saved" process
- We need to be willing to live sacrificially and in dependence on God, like the early church did
- Sacrificing comfort... do we really love our neighbor, do we really love God?
- It starts with us simply living it out... if we want our people to do this we need to model it
- Define who are neighbor is
- Make space for interruptions
- Have neighbours over by household
- Get involved with people
- Everyone needs to be engaged
- Support groups for faith sharing
- Believe that it is possible and then live it out
- Make space in your life for kingdom encounters
- #1 PRAY, PRAY, PRAY

World Café Summarization (Blue)



**Are there any questions that the "missional" movement is leaving unanswered?
What (if any) are the positives of an externally-focused approach, or of an internally-focused approach?**

What were the key questions/issues raised?

- What is the Gospel?
- What is the balance between the internal focus and the external focus?
- We are ok with "who is my neighbour" however we struggle with "what is my Neighbourhood"
- What do you mean by internally focuses?
- What are the non-negotiable items of the internally focused church that we need to maintain?
- What are the signs that this movement is missing something? When will we know that we are loosing our core values?
- How do we keep this going through generations?
- Can Denominations help us keep focused on the non-negotiable items?
- Can we learn anything from previous movements?
- Are we addressing the question of how do we cross cultural boundaries? Relational vs geography?
- Do we embrace what is working well?
- Are we trying to create Culturally focused churches or are we asking people to come to our white churches?
- How is missional interpreted in a multicultural society?
- Who is going to give leadership if things start to go off the rails? Who is going to bring it back on track?
- What are the non-negotiables? As we look at ways of being missional and incarnational are we at risk of losing the gospel that we are trying to share.
- How do we motivate traditional/established churches into missional activity?
- Why are we still asking this question? Who wants to be "internally-focused?"
- Will we be asking these questions 25 or 50 years from now? How do we maintain the missional focus across generations?

Insights?

- The internal/external dichotomy is a false dichotomy – it is a both/and.
- External focus does not mean we don't do internal development.
- If we unhook from denominations in the Missional focus, then we are unhooked to follow personalities as opposed to orthodoxy.
- The dynamic of the mission is often shaped around the personality (as in worship leaders) of the leader as opposed to the lectionary/tradition. Good thing? Bad thing?
- Our default position is internal/ selfish.
- Look at the YMCA: They had non-negotiable items "Preach Jesus" and now look at them now.
- We are called to love our neighbour. We have spent much of our time loving those we like.
- Churches that are focused on cultural, give identity, however
- The best movements do not have a head.
- There is a possible need to be both internally and externally focused but in tension. May need to utilize both aspects of going out and inviting in to fully meet the needs of a community.
- There are some non-negotiables (Christ, Trinity, Scripture, etc.) that must be kept and are the driving force behind the missional church.

Challenges that surfaced?

- What does a neighbourhood church and what does that mean? 'Who is my neighbour?'

- Are we talking about relational neighbours or geographic neighbours?
- Almost nothing is wrong in the Christian church any more.
- A new term to learn how to use.
- How are we going to measure success.
- More and more neighbourhoods are becoming culturally diverse, how do we minister to those of multiple ethnic, religious and cultural backgrounds at the same time?
- How do we have, maintain and encourage a deep passion for Christ.

Any resource or networking ideas?

- Canon of scripture is a non-negotiable
- Have regional gatherings with all denominations to work together.
- Communication within regions!
- Denominations can share resources
- Christian Direction Website: How to exegete your community?
- Church Planting Canada and congresses.

Any solutions or next steps?

- We need to develop a new metric to measure the healthy tension between the two foci of internal/external i.e. community care/other care.
- Every generation has to figure out how to 'do this church thing' in their generation.
- Keep thinking on it.
- Lets make and take time to research and think about church. We don't have to know it all.
- Dialogue like these must continue to foster the networks and discussions that will continue to encourage vision and risk.

World Café Summarization (Pink)



What question, if answered, could make the biggest difference to the future of church planting in Canada?

What were the key questions/issues raised?

- Not all immigrants are welcomed by the church (putting too much on immigrants coming to us)
- Building problem “can we love them the way they are”
- Would you be comfortable bringing your neighbour to church ... would they feel welcomed. WWJD
- The Gospel is a “verb”- what we do.
- How do I best represent Christ – how do I overcome the fear of being vulnerable.
- Diversity inclusion
- Day to day – What is church planting
- What racial – historical barriers are we in need of tearing down?
- How do I live it? How do we live it collectively?
- Healing between the native and white cultural - great relationship until grade 6 and then something flips in the relationship - Schools would switch over to highschool in grade 6
- It’s under the surface a deep wound
- Abandonment issues and a similarity perception of Quebec & Native Community
- Tolerance is not Reconciliation - this is the key
- Persecution has awakened the churches but here in Canada it’s immigration - we need to pay attention to this.
- Missional evangelism in Quebec - holding the gospel up and living it out and the tension around this - we need to be doing both
- How do we evangelism in a post modern society?
- Jesus needs to be defined outside of the church - Jesus and the church are not the same thing.
- Where are our leaders coming from - the need for great leaders and raising them up
- What really is the Gospel
- We have lost the Star of the Show - Jesus drives it all - Who is Jesus
- Gospel - starts with preaching the Gospel to myself before I can preach it elsewhere
- Traditionally we have heard it about being a ‘me’ focused - values disconnect
- The Gospel deals with the cultural differences
- We have done such a poor job of preaching the Gospel we have given people baggage - We have limited people and their understanding of the Gospel
- Enter into the Grace of the Cross everyday - The Gospel is Messy - How do we get lots of us to rethink what the Gospel is?
- What is the gospel and how do we keep it central?
- Are we experiencing the little gospel only..... how do we expand
- How do we change the structures and theological “bounds” that keep us from new missional churches?
- What is the kingdom and how do we begin to bring a foretaste in our communities?
- How do we empower the body of Christ to live missionally... loving neighbours... listening to our friends....
- How can the church become a family... dealing with rampant individualism in the church?
- How do we move past our culture: How do we share power and have power in the diversity of the ministry. How do we welcome accept and live amongst other cultures in our church and in our neighborhood.
- How do we equip people to encounter other cultures and work together?
- How do we overcome barriers of language?
- What is the gospel? The answer will affect the kind of disciples we make and the kind of churches we plant.
- How do we show love?
- How can we have unity in diversity?

- What should the Kingdom of God look like in my neighbourhood?
- How do we listen to God's direction? Lord, what do you want us to do there in this community? Are we prepared to listen until God answers?
- How do we move from "little gospel" (focused just on personal salvation) to "big gospel" transforming the whole of our community... Missio Dei
- What price are we willing to pay in obedience?
- How do we move away from consumerist "Christianity" to missional Christianity?
- Are we willing to love people (the hard to love people in our communities) just the way they are?

Insights?

- If 'I' know my best contribution then I can contribute the best to the development of kingdom building.
- Equality in leadership among cultures in the church.
- What does it mean to be Christ (physically & emotionally) in practice?
- Jesus is defined within the church as Jesus is the incarnation – Re-evangelization of the church to the 1st century church - Younger people within the church are asking this question not people outside of the church
- In real life we need to interact with all kinds of different people and our churches are not addressing this - we bring white culture with us rather than Jesus
- Brokenness - home, relationships, life - the need to bring Christ into this and the reality of different cultural differences in their brokenness - need to understand the culture
- Brokenness of the whole body without all the parts - we are an amputated church - intentionality needs to be brought in - Are we the Face of Christ today - it's about the whole Body of Christ needed to be in the society
- Culture and how it can be paralyzing - nothing is neutral in way we start engaging
- Repentance in Church - We did not hear it here
- If this was done right in this first generation it would solve it.
- Leadership to address the issues.
- The mix of the people need to be in the leadership of the church.
- This addresses all our root issues: Native Canadians and Quebec
- Listening is critical to learning from each other.
- We are getting closer to asking the right questions.
- Loving our neighbours is complex.
- Rethinking... what is the gospel here in this community?
- The importance on unity in Christ across ethnic and cultural lines as opposed to cultural "ghettoism" in the church

Challenges that surfaced?

- How do we think act outside our comfort zone.... Break common culture
- Break out of church into community
- What cup of coffee would most number of people connect with?
- Need of Repentance - we've constructed our own cultural image of Jesus – not inclusive of other cultures.
- Breaking our Idolatry and possessiveness of Christ – need for Christian humility
- Money, culture, language barriers, power structures
- What makes church planting? How much does the church need to be "formally organized"?
- How do we deal with threats?
- Does the church force people to be like them in the church?
- Culture of late, culture of long, culture of food
- We need to learn humility as cultures.
- We don't know how to deal with the language barrier.
- Do I know my neighbours, and do I know their needs?
- We aren't in a monoculture anymore. The Corinthian church shows us how challenging this is!

- How do I contextualize scripture and the gospel.
- Why is Christ not at the centre – we are tempted to minimize Christ.
- Gospel has been seen as a mental process, but what about gospel as action process, how do we balance?
- Exercising the discipline of listening and hearing from God before doing
- An unwillingness to pay the price it may take
- Consumerist mentalities

Any resource or networking ideas?

- *The Forgotten Ways* by Alan Hirsch
- Does the gospel reconcile? This is a theological question.
- Ephesians 2 breaks down the walls and we try to live as one.
- We don't think we are the great helpers of people but we come as servants to learn from each other.
- *The Secret Message of Jesus* – Brian McLaren for a larger Kingdom View

Any solutions or next steps?

- Relationships are key - Friendships as bridges.
- Use Jesus (Christ) in phrasing rather than church
- Learning opportunities are key
- How do we love people as they are?
- What is each individual's role in the mission?
- How can we as Christ's empower our people in personal mission for the greater vocation?
- How do we communicate the idea that we are all can be involved in church planting?
- Everyone is missional.
- Multicultural voice – regardless of all these differences – Christ Identity Leaders need to understand this.
- We need to repent and Hear the Good News! - from consumerism & idolatry of society and other wrongs of the church
- The willingness to be dislocated to a place that is different from my comfort zone
- Our diversity is our strength.
- There should be places that are safe and comfortable.
- Willing to talk and listen to people different than me.
- Invite people into our places.
- Leadership and speakers should reflect the ethnicity of the church/community
- *"We all have to take turns to being uncomfortable."*
- Keep talking. Engage people, go to more conferences.
- Being willing to pray and pray more and expect God to lead us