

STEWARDING NETWORKS & RELATIONSHIPS MODULE 2

## ARE YOU READY FOR MODULE 2?

- Module 2 is for those who have a growing network of Groups that have reached the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> generation.
- If you only have a couple of groups, you do not need this module yet.

## LISTENING TO...AND HEARING GOD'S VOICE

PRACTICE: Divide the group into partners and have them introduce their partner to the group after they get to know each other.

**PRACTICE:** Have people listen to God and ask Him how He would introduce their partner. Share what God tells you with the group.

Look up these verses on listening to God and hearing His voice:

• John 5:19

41—Ib

- John 8:47
- John 10:27
- John 16:13-14

## ACTS 29: THE STORY OF HOW GOD IS USING YOU!

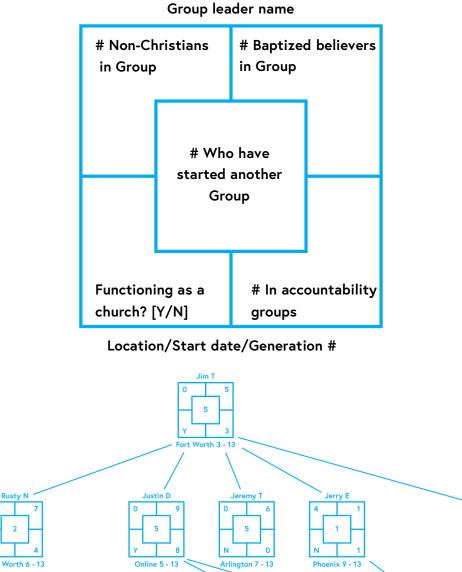
PRACTICE: Tell your story of how God is using you in a discipleship movement!

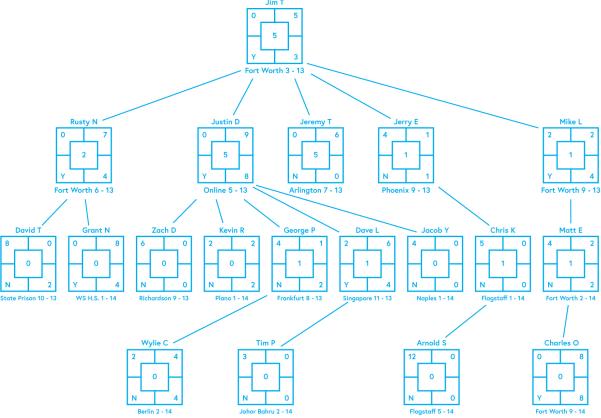
WHAT IS GOD TELLING YOU ABOUT HOW THIS IS SPREADING?

## EYES TO SEE WHERE THE KINGDOM IS NOT

- Where around you is the Kingdom of God missing? How will you start work in these new areas? We always need to be looking for places the Kingdom is not in.
- Jesus loves the least, the last and the lost. Intentionally look for these people.

## **GROUP REPORTING AND TRACKING FORM**



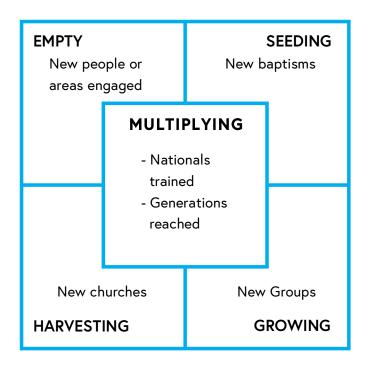


**PRACTICE:** Draw out your generational map now.

41-10

ONLINE GENERATIONAL MAPPING TOOL: https://dvopalecky.github.io/gen-mapper/

## **4 FIELDS MENTORING GUIDE**



## LOOKING BACK:

Did you accomplish your goals from last month?

What have been your greatest challenges? [Groups, disciples, training, etc]

How did you work to address these challenges?

What do you believe is working well? [Groups, disciples, training, etc]

## LOOKING UP:

What has God shown you this month?

How can I pray for you?

#### LOOKING FORWARD:

What are your highest priorities for this month?

What are your plans for new areas or unreached people groups?

How can I serve you this month?

**PRACTICE:** Find a partner and practice doing the 4 Fields mentoring guide.

# **COACHING CHECKLIST**

	MODEL	ASSIST	WATCH	LEAVE
	D1	D2	D3	D4
	Mentor gives direction and information	Mentor gives direction and support	Mentor gives support and encouragement	Mentor receives updates
	You don't understand it or do it	You're doing it, but need help	You understand and do it; may have questions	You have Mastered it; No help needed
Tell your story				
Tell God's story				
Relational Network [List of 20 or 100]				
Duckling discipleship				
3/3 Group format [obey, train, share]				
Church [love God, Others, Make Disciples]				
Being part of two churches				
Do MAWL with other people				
Accountability group				
Self-feeding:				
*Reading the Word daily				
*Prayer - talk/listen				
*Body life – fellowship, one anothers				
*Persecution and suffering				
Eyes to see where the Kingdom isn't				
Looking for the person of peace				
Prayer walking				
Being a church:				
*Fellowship				
*Praise and worship				
*Bible				
*Baptism				
*Communion				
*Giving [time, money]				

PRACTICE: Fill in the coaching checklist now.

# CITY/REGIONAL CELEBRATION SERVICE/TRAINING

Once you start multiple Groups, you can bring them together at times for a city/regional gathering or training if you desire. You can choose to meet once per month, once per quarter or only for special events. If you are meeting as a city church, 5-12 groups meeting together is the most you will want to have together. Then start more city churches as needed. During this celebration service or training, the Groups will be able to interact with the larger body of Christ and be encouraged at the movement that is taking place as new Groups are formed and the movement grows larger. Below is a format that you can follow for your celebration service:

## LOOK BACK

**Testimonies**. Spend time having people share testimonies of how they have been able to start Groups, lead people to faith in Christ, or other testimonies of how God is working in their lives, to encourage others to live a Biglife. This time can also be used to share what is happening on the national and international level with Biglife by sharing testimonies or stories from Biglife disciples from around the world.

**Worship**. Spend time worshiping the Lord through prayer, singing, dancing, dramas, communion, or by using other spiritual gifts to encourage the Body of Christ that has gathered together. Praise God for what he is doing in people's lives from the testimonies you have just shared.

## **1** LOOK UP

**Teaching**. This time is geared toward more advanced teaching topics related to leadership. This is where the apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds and teachers can equip people in ministry skills beyond the basics. The teaching could also be used to rebuke or correct a problem that has started in the Groups [2 Timothy 3:16-17] or to cast vision for what the discipleship movement can become as people obey what God is revealing to them.

### ➡ LOOK FORWARD

**Obey. Train. Share. Give.** Take time to have people pray about how they need to obey the teaching lesson if there needs to be any obedience to it. Have leaders of the movement share with the people upcoming events or service opportunities that Groups can partake in, such as outreach events. If there are any needs within the body of Christ, those can be shared and you can pray for them or collect money or resources to help resolve those needs. Encourage those attending to be praying about who they can share their story and God's story with. Share about opportunities for any upcoming trainings in the area.

# TIPS FOR DISCIPLEMAKERS [TRAINERS]



The below points are helpful tips from experienced disciplemakers on how to get a discipleship movement going and some of the things to expect:

- Successful discipleship movement initiators cast vision to many people to find the few that will both say and do "yes".
- Trainers need to invest time in the "doers". They are the ones who will start a movement. These doers rarely exceed 10-20% of the attendees. Don't give the non-fruitful people much of your time. There are 4 types of people who will come:
  - Attenders [those who don't do anything]
  - Witnesses [those who lead people to faith, but don't start a Group]
  - **Starters** [those who witness and start new Groups, but don't teach their Groups how to multiply]
  - **Trainers** [those who witness, start new Groups with their converts, and teach those Groups to witness and start new Groups]
- Fill up your schedule with trainings and starting Launch Groups to find the "10 to 20% of disciplemakers [trainers]".
- Encourage trainers to start at least two Groups, as the power of multiplication is much greater.
- You can potentially have the Groups meet every other week, so the trainers can meet with their trainees on the off weeks [only do this once the DNA is set and the Groups are going. At first you will meet every week]
- Make sure you understand and practice the three-thirds process!
- Accountability questions to ask: Don't ask Yes/No questions. Ask open-ended questions like:
  - Witness: Who are you witnessing to? Who has believed?
  - Starter: When are you training them in the same process?
  - Trainer: How are these new believers doing witnessing to and winning others?
  - Trainer of trainers: When are they training their Groups?
  - **Trainer of trainers who trains trainers**: How are the trainers, that you are training, doing in training their new Groups?
- Never give an assignment or goal unless you plan to ask about it at the next meeting...otherwise you will kill the obedience based discipleship!
- Once a movement gets going, you will need to stay with groups for a while [in the "watch phase], usually for 12-18 months, sometimes longer. Ultimately you need to stay until the goal is accomplished: 4th generation believers [trainers of trainers are raised up] and solid leaders emerge who understand what to do.
- If you do the 3/3rd's process well, leadership development will naturally occur. Accountability will bring up leadership issues, which you can then address.
- Every believer is being trained to become a disciplemaker [trainer], so you can always have emerging leaders [trainers], if people obey what they are supposed to do.

## **BIGLIFE DISTINCTIVES**

## SPEED BUMPS THAT SLOW DOWN A MOVEMENT:

- Building Church Buildings
  - Buildings use up the time and money of people and are not easy to reproduce.
  - $\circ$  Therefore, we encourage meeting in homes, offices, or anywhere that is free.

#### • Church Programs

- People make disciples, not programs. Programs also use time and money. They are also not as easy to reproduce and pass on to other believers.
- $\circ$  Therefore, we encourage relational, life on life discipleship, to make disciples.

#### • Foreign Missionaries

- Foreign missionaries need to learn a new language, culture, and build relationship with the locals. This will take years to accomplish.
- Therefore, Biglife empowers locals who already know the language, culture and have relationships and family in their home country. They also have access to places foreign missionaries can't get into and they don't get homesick. It is also less expensive to equip them versus having a western missionary on the field.

#### Bible School

- Formal training at a seminary is not a necessity to be a leader.
- If someone needs to leave their village for 1 to 4 years to attend a Bible school, they will lose connections with people. They will also think that if others are to be leaders of a church, then those people also have to leave to go attend a Bible school...which is not an easily reproducible model.
- Therefore, we encourage life on life discipleship. As a believer matures, he/she can also become an "apprentice" of an experienced discipler to learn from them. All of this can be done in the context of the believer's normal, daily life.

### CATALYSTS FOR GROWTH: THINGS THAT SPEED UP A MOVEMENT

- Materials and concepts need to be simple, reproducible, and easy to pass on from believer to believer. They should be in the heart language of the people also.
- Empowering local believers to disciple their own people.
- Lay led house churches [our ideal, but not always followed].
- Obedience based discipleship with accountability to follow up on the obedience.
- All believers are trained to share the gospel and disciple people.
- Life on life discipleship.
- Baptism performed by the person who shared the gospel.
- Prayer, faith and obedience to what God is telling you to do.
- All believers using their spiritual gifts and involved in evangelism and discipleship.
- The 2 Timothy 2:2 principal.
- Believers who are empowered and are taught the crucial elements of being self-sustaining.
- Inductive, participative Bible studies.
- Vision for multiplication.

# THE TRAINING CYCLE - MAWL

- Model Show them how to do it [2-3 weeks]
- Assist Help them do it [2-3 weeks]
- Watch Watch them as they do it [2-3 years or more]
- Leave Entrust them with the work.



#### PART OF TWO GROUPS AT A TIME:

- You will have your Group as your primary spiritual family.
  - 6-12 adults in a Group.
  - Try not to bring new Christians into your Group. Instead, help them to start their own Group from their relational network. Model how to do that for them and then assist them in doing it.
- You will always be trying to help others start a new Group to be their primary spiritual family.
  - This is what we call "the model and assist". Therefore, you will sometimes be in two or more Groups at the same time while you model and assist for the new Groups.
  - DO NOT START TOO MANY GROUPS AT ONE TIME, OTHERWISE YOU CAN'T PROPERLY MODEL AND ASSIST FOR THEM AS THEY START THEIR OWN GROUPS.

# **APEST – THE STEWARDS OF GOD'S MOVEMENT**

"But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it ... So Christ himself gave the APOSTLES, the PROPHETS, the EVANGELISTS, the PASTORS and TEACHERS, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

- Eph. 4.7-13

### TAKE-AWAYS:

- Jesus had all the gifts
- Each of us is gifted uniquely
- The church needs all the gifts to be functioning
- Our gifts build up the church:
  - o Unity in the faith
  - Knowledge of Jesus
  - o Maturity

## APOSTLE:

- "Sent ones"
- Extend the gospel
- They transmit faith to other contexts and generations
- Always thinking about the future, bridging barriers, establishing the church in new contexts, developing leaders, networking

## **PROPHET:**

- Know and discern God's will
- Attuned to God and his truth for today
- Bring correction and challenge the dominant assumptions we inherit from the culture
- Insist obedience to what God has commanded
- Question the status quo

### **EVANGELIST:**

- Recruit
- Communicate the gospel message and draw others to the cause
- They call for a personal response to God's redemption in Christ
- Draw believers to engage the wider mission, growing the church

### SHEPHERD:

- Nurture and protect; caregivers
- Protect and mature God's flock
- Cultivate a loving and mature network of relationships
- Make and develop disciples

### **TEACHER:**

- Understand and explain
- Communicate God's truth and wisdom
- Help others remain biblically grounded to better discern God's will
- Guide others toward wisdom and faithfulness to Christ
- Build sound doctrine

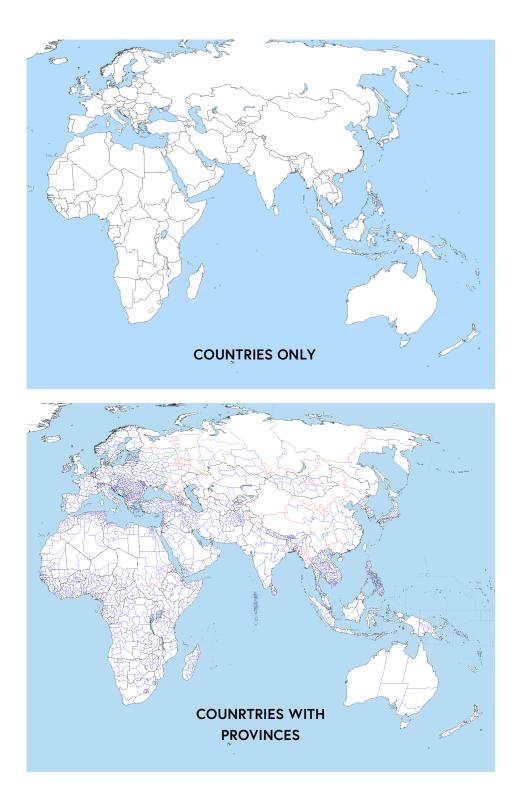
GIFT ASSESMENT: <u>www.fivefoldsurvey.com</u>





## MAPPING

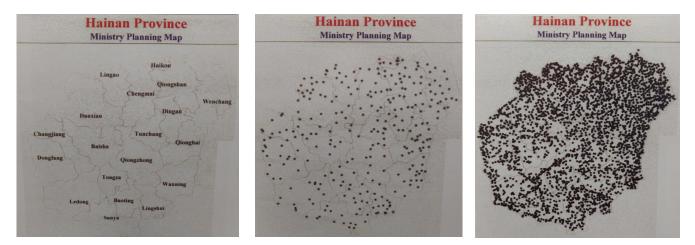
- Have you begun to think about where the Kingdom isn't in your area?
- Map out your area with units of measurement [for example: state/province, county, city, etc...]



# CASE STUDY

## HAINAN ISLAND, CHINA

**The goal:** to plant a church in the assigned district seat town, which will reproduce within the district and beyond.



#### The three main activities:

- Proclaiming the gospel to the unsaved
- Discipling those who respond to the gospel
- Mentoring qualified disciples to serve as leaders

#### The task outline:

- Scout and report
- Plan accordingly
- Build relationships
- Jesus film or other means for evangelism
- Baptism Identify leaders and begin shadow pastoring
- Arrange for ongoing leadership training
- filter/pre-evangelism
- Evangelistic Bible study
- Discipleship Bible study
- Follow the training cycle: model, assist, watch and leave.

#### Modeling considerations:

- Church based teams of lay people for Church planting and leadership training.
- Culturally and linguistically close to target.
- Reproducible people, approaches, tools. [Consider education, technology, society].
- Default = new believers become part of new churches rather than becoming part of existing churches.

#### Long distance planting:

- Travel and food expenses for team covered by local offerings.
- Farms and/or families of team members cared for by those who remain at home.
- Same methods and approaches used with making disciples a long distance away, including one person staying on as a shadow pastor for 2-3 months.

### Rural training:

- 1st of each lunar month leaders meet at the county level. Fast all day. Half day of prayer and half day of training.
- 15th of each lunar month leaders meet at the provincial level. Same pattern.
- Quarterly provincial leaders meetings of several days for intensive training with outside training teams.

### How to shorten the reproductive cycle:

- Filtering.
- Immediate turning of leadership over to locals.
- Multiple leaders [constant mentoring].
- Bible studies done daily, not weekly (for a short time with new believers).
- Emphasis on responsibility of sharing the gospel due to its inherent nature.
- Emphasis on gospel following existing lines of relationship.

### Benefits of networks of churches:

- Know where to plant new churches
- Accountability and encouragement
- Ongoing training
- Maintain focus and enables fulfillment of larger vision
- Hymn/song development

### Why this happened

- Rapid societal change
- Persecution of believers that led to true commitment commitment
- Boldness among believers
- Love and selflessness were different and attractive
- "Early" baptism
- Local leadership from start; Multiple leadership forms
- No clergy/laity divide
- Targeted "typical" education; ordinary believers
- Culturally close messengers (not foreign missionaries)
- High expectations from new believers
- Security concerns led to small, home-based groups instead of larger groups or church buildings
- Local hymn writing
- Form and content reproducible
- Accountability for obedience
- Vision for Great Commission
- Training cycle utilized (Model, Assist, Watch, leave)
- Focused, informed prayer...and it was God's time!

## **CASE STUDY**

## TAMPA BAY, USA

This case study is about a network of house churches in Tampa, FL functioning as a model of a city Church, as well as, a regional and global model.

#### 2013

- Elwood [former drug-addict and ordinary man] attended a Disciple-making training [Module 1] led by Curtis Sergeant.
- Elwood immediately launches numerous groups, some reaching the 4<sup>th</sup> generation.
- As Elwood was obedient to Jesus, Curtis was also pouring deeply into him:
  - o 1<sup>st</sup> month: Coached Elwood weekly
  - o 2<sup>nd</sup> month: Coached Elwood 2x/month
  - o 3<sup>rd</sup> month: Coached Elwood monthly
  - $\circ~$  After the  $3^{rd}$  month, Curtis gave Elwood the open door to call anytime he wants for coaching
- There were 63 simple churches functioning in just 6 months.
- An elder, Jose Martinez gets trained and simplifies training even further [also in Spanish].

### 2014

- First person of peace is found near the University Mall area.
- After one year they rapidly started 130 simple churches and saw growth to the 4<sup>th</sup> generation.
- Elwood realizes he has spread his time and groups to thin, Curtis reminds him to pour deeply into a few and to obey and train others to do the same.
- Elwood goes back to each group and begins to simplify and pour deeply into the leaders.
- Curtis comes to Tampa to train, check on, and encourage the simple churches.

### 2015

- House church leaders trained in how to coach others and how to steward a movement [Module 2].
- 300+ simple churches have been started.
- First group of kids meet near a community field and come to faith using Jose's simplified training.
- Started seeing leaders launched to other countries [Mozambique, China, Cambodia, Thailand, Australia, and more].

### 2016

- 3<sup>rd</sup> generation leader, Darren Thurber, buys a house near the field, turning it into a "Tyrannus-like" training center for leaders.
- US Leaders from various ministries visit Tampa to immerse themselves in the movement to take back to their city.

#### 2017

- More than a thousand groups are active and making disciples today—down to the 8<sup>th</sup> generation.
- House Church network buys the community field for community transformation and events.

# **نې**:

## **OBSTACLES LEADERS FACED:**

- Feeling unqualified and not being good enough
- Repetitive Failure
- Consumer mindsets and self-satisfaction
- Spiritual Opposition
- Complex Training
- Temptation to think of this as production instead of relational

## EFFECTIVE METHODS USED TO OVERCOME:

- Consistent coaching
- Simplified training
- Coaching tools [Model, Assist, Watch, Leave principles]
- Intimate, abiding, and simultaneous prayer
- Accountability within the groups [checking-in]
- Prayerwalking for people of peace and for the least, last, and the lost Simple church model [3/3rds group]

## CASE STUDY

## NORTHERN GHANA, AFRICA

This case study is about a group of believers whom God has used to start a discipleship movement in Northern Ghana among the Gonja people who are Folk Muslims (meaning they have mixed Islam with spiritist/animist beliefs). Over the past 3 years, they have started over 500 groups with about 5,000 people, over 2,000 of which are baptisms from the harvest.

#### 2008

- Terry and Amy, an American missionary couple, moved to Northern Ghana to study language and begin using an oral approach to church planting among the unreached tribes.
- During this time, they met Isaac, a local Gonja tribal believer, who had a passion to reach his own people. They decided to partner with Isaac to reach the tribes around them.
- The methods they use where similar to a western church building model though, as they gathered together in larger groups of 20 50 people under a tree to sing songs, pray, share testimonies, and listen to a Bible story. There was no accountability (check up) to see if the believers were obeying. The believers were also not taught to share their story or God's story with the people they knew or to reproduce the group. Not much fruit was born out of this approach.

#### 2014

- In July of 2014, they started using a different method called TRT (Training for Rural Trainers), which resulted in more baptisms (114) and groups started (30).
- This approach introduced them to the 3/3 Discipleship Group approach and the Creation to Christ story set, as well as a long gospel presentation for believers to share. This helped equip all of the believers to start sharing the gospel, as well as start a discipleship group using the 3/3 approach.
- The manual was quite long though, and was still a little too complicated for oral learners.

#### 2015

- In February of 2015, Terry and his two key leaders, Isaac and Moses, attended a training led by Curtis in Burkina Faso on multiplying disciples and simple churches.
- The training gave them some simpler tools to use, in addition to what they already had, as it was very similar to the TRT training method.
- The training also included a lot of real life modeling and assisting. Isaac was able to start a group with some people in the city that week, and then that group started another group.
- They immediately came back to the Gonja tribe and implemented what they had learned.
- They came up with a goal of 25,000 groups in 5 years, which was a lofty goal, as it would mean 1 group for every 10 houses in the Gonja tribe.
- By the end of 2015 they had 321 new baptisms and 130 new groups had been started.

### 2016

- By the end of 2016, they had 422 new baptisms and an additional 81 groups were started.
- Leaders were meeting together often to pray, learn new skills and talk about how the work was going and give reports.
- Terry was also meeting with Isaac and Moses once a month.

- By the end of 2017, the work exploded and increased by 4 times the size it had been. 380 new groups were added and 1650 new baptism were preformed.
- There were multiple streams of disciples with 10+ generations, including one stream that was 26 generations deep. This stream of disciples also had 17 new generations created in 2017 alone!
- At least 37 tribes had been impacted by the gospel by the end of 2017.
- Work was also begun in the country of Ivory Coast in the middle of 2017. Within 7 months, 60 groups were started and a few streams of disciples were down to the 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> generation. Four tribal groups were also being impacted by the gospel. This work was also being sustained by the local believers from the moment it arrived, without financial assistance from outside.

## EFFECTIVE METHODS USED TO START THE DISCIPLESHIP MOVEMENT:

- Simple, easily reproducible and sustainable methods were used.
- The introduction of the 3/3 discipleship group process played a big part in the reproduction of simple, easy to lead discipleship groups.
- Every person was expected to make disciples and share the Gospel. The simple tools they used equipped every believer to do this.
- The oral component was also critical to seeing success. They partnered with Bible translation organizations to put the Bible story sets on memory chips for phones so believers could listen to the story sets in their mother tongue, since they couldn't read or write.
- Most of the translations were done by reading the English Bible and then having a person translate what they read in English verbally into their mother tongue.
- Already existing social groups played an important role in the fast reproduction of groups. Many of the Gonja people like to drink Chinese Green Tea in groups of 5 or 6 at night. Once the gospel was introduced to a group and some or all of them accepted it, they were then taught to share it with others, and they brought it to other tea groups in other villages.
- Contextualization by wearing tribal clothes instead of a suite and tie; celebrating the culture instead of trying to make it a western "Christian" culture.
- Writing songs in the local language. One set of 50 stories had a song to go with each story.
- Financial aid was only given for key projects to expedite the expansion of the movement by buying a few motorcycles and helping to pay for some of the key leader's travel expenses.
- The movement is led by ordinary farmers and workers who are not helped financially.
- There is an emphasis on obeying what you learn and passing it on right away.
- If God opens the door, they walk through it.
- Short-term missionaries are key. They learned not to send people to other areas as long-term missionaries. Thus money is saved and families don't need to relocate to different cultures.
- They learned to redefine partnership so that it is nationally led instead of being led by a western missionary.
- They received good trainings and advice from practitioners of disciple making movements.
- Pouring into key, fruitful leaders and meeting them often.
- Contextualizing worship to reflect cultural styles that are not western.
- Focusing on lost people, not on trying to only train people in church buildings.
- They didn't focus on building church buildings and didn't introduce western church models.
- There were no white/western people going into the villages to reach people, so as to make the movement appear to be locally led and not tied to westerners.
- No centralized trainings (they didn't pay for people to come to them and be trained). They went to people in the villages and modeled and assisted in real life with no 2-3 day trainings.



## **OBSTACLES LEADERS FACED:**

- Heavy persecution and spiritual attacks (robberies, health problems, deaths, etc...)
- National leaders falling into sin or other difficulties, and needing to restore them once they repented and showed they wanted to disciple people again.
- They learned not to target or try to motivate western-minded national church leaders. Over the past few years, they have trained over 100 pastors in a missions perspectives course, and then in how to make disciples using the 3/3 groups and by sharing their story and God's story... but none of the pastors have done any thing with it. Note: This is why one should only focus on pastors or churches of peace, who are discontent with what they currently are doing and want to try a new way.
- Ghanaian culture that does not save money, because if you have money, your family expects you to help pay for other family members bills or houses. Thus believers have constant money problems, and it is also difficult for them to fund the movement.

## WIVES IN MINISTRY

• How are women looked at in your culture? In Christianity?

• Are your wives discipling people too? If they are not, how can you empower them to start?

## D4 – PEER TO PEER

- Peer to peer is sharing what we have and serving other leaders of movements.
- We need to get this concept. As we work together as a team, God can use us in greater ways than if we work alone or to build our own kingdom!
- PRACTICE: Get with someone you do not know and share your generational maps and do the 4 fields coaching practice as a peer, not as a coach. Encourage one another on!

## SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS IN DISCIPLEMAKING

- Take care of the depth of your ministry; God will take care of the breadth.
- Pour deeply into the few
- Keep doing what your doing... you will get better at it.
- Obey and train others. Key question: When does the Group in your home meet?
- Simple things grow, simple things multiply

