

AFRICA AREA LEADERS CONSULTATION MOVING TOWARD MATURITY IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

Ephesians 4:11-16

FRIDAY AM, SEPTEMBER 8, 2017

Moderator: Rev. Joe Ocran

8:00 – 8:30 Devotional – Dr. Dennis Jackson

8:30 – 10:00 Measuring Maturity – Dr. Bob Bagley

10:00 – 10:30 BREAK

10:30 – 11:00 Effective Evangelism for Contemporary Africa – Rev. Gloria Azikiwe

11:00 – 11:30 Questions & Open Discussion - Evangelism

11:30 – 12:30 Maturity Markers - Evangelism

FRIDAY PM, SEPTEMBER 8, 2017

Moderator: Rev. Thabsile Thwala

2:00 – 2:30 Effective Discipleship Strategies for Africa – Rev. John Baminhoma

2:30 – 3:00 Questions & Open Discussion - Discipleship

3:00 – 4:00 Maturity Markers - Discipleship

SATURDAY AM, SEPTEMBER 9, 2017

Moderator: Rev. Doctor Galela

8:00 – 8:30 Devotional – Dr. Dennis Jackson

8:30 – 9:00 Developing Leaders for the Church in Africa – Dr. Alfred Kalembo

9:00 – 9:30 Questions & Open Discussion

9:30 – 10:30 Maturity Markers – Leadership Development

10:30 – 11:00 BREAK

11:00 – 11:30 Building a Generous Church in Africa – Dr. Jacques Kasweshi

11:00 – 11:30 Questions & Open Discussion - Sustainability

11:30 – 12:30 Maturity Markers – Sustainability

SATURDAY PM, SEPTEMBER 9, 2017

Moderator: Rev. Andrew Bondo

2:00 – 2:30 Mobilizing the African Church for Missions – Rev. Mohammed Said

2:30 – 3:00 Questions & Open Discussion - Missions

3:00 – 4:00 Maturity Markers – Missions

4:00 – 5:30 Consultation Action Steps

SUNDAY AM, SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

Corporate Worship

Measuring Maturity—Dr. Bob Bagley

Ephesians 4:11-16—

How do we recognize it?
How do we measure it??

Christ expects us to be mature as a Body to take His place

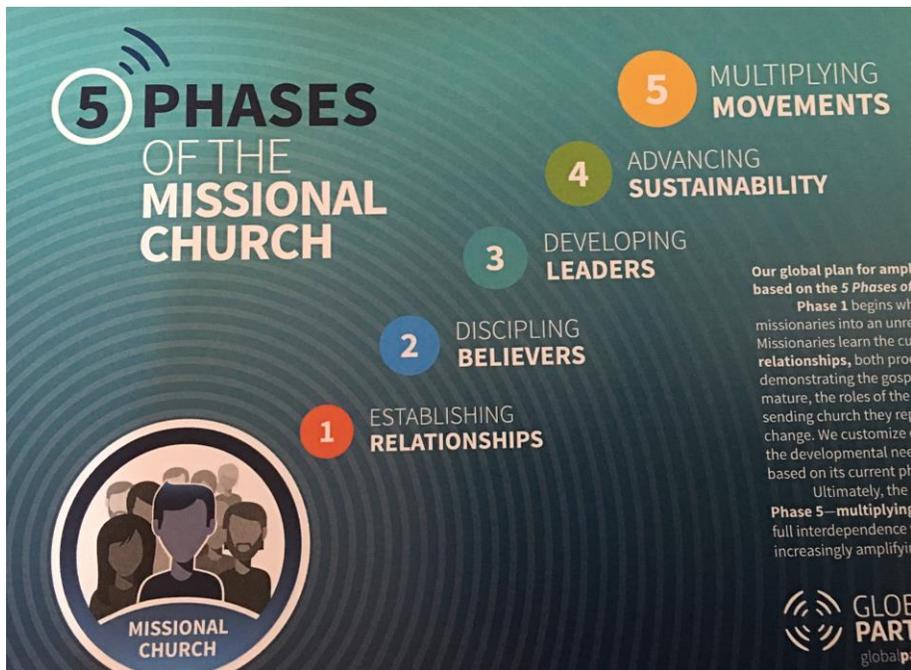
Global Partners vision is to see churches multiplied and mature and to multiply churches that Multiply and mature.

Celebrating every time a Disciple makes a disciple and a church multiplies itself until there is a Wesleyan Church presence in every province

Walk Through 5 Phases (old and new)

Missionaries come with these 5 Phases with the goal of maturing and releasing the growing church. The day comes when the missionary is not present to lead the work but to empower the church to take on all of these ministries.

Current Version



Past Version



The goal of the maturing church is that they are always functioning in all 5 areas:

5 Walls of Maturity

1. Evangelism
2. Discipleship
3. Leadership Development
4. Self-Sustainability
5. Missionary Vision and Action—actively working beyond the Here to the Near, Far and Hard. Reaching across language, cultural and people group barriers to multiply movements.

The walls need work—which wall do we work on first?

Nehemiah and the rebuilding of the walls . . .

- Made an assessment of the problems, needs, what was standing & broken down
- Identified leaders
- Shared the vision
- Made assignments to the areas of the walls that were more broken down

How do we assess and define the areas most weak. Our tendency is to go to the area that we are most gifted and work there (a very natural thing to do). We must focus on the weakest area and give it priority of focus and action.

Illustration of Issa working in Burkina Faso and his bent to evangelism.

We are called to leadership. We must have a vision and passion and assessment of the whole.

Illustration of Dr. Wayne Schmidt—Call to Discipleship wall and Church Multiplication.

Illustration of Dennis Jackson in his assessment of the wall of leadership development—creation of global leaders.

Probable next focus on Mission wall—Everywhere to Everywhere

Effective Evangelism for Contemporary Africa—Rev. Gloria Azikiwe

Group Activities

Group 1—Definition of Evangelism

Group 2—What is the Content of the Gospel that we are to share?

Group 3—Is there a difference between witnessing and evangelism?

Population in Africa—Huge youth bulge (partly because of life expectation around 50)

- 1.2 Billion in Africa
- 25% are over 30 years old—300 million
- 75% are 30 years and below—900 million In this group, 41% of the total population are under 15 years old—492 million
- 400 million are Protestant
- 400 million are Catholic

In Kenya . . .

Illustration of Kenya Presidential Candidate—analyzed that young people don't watch TV, but listen to the radio on their phones—winning candidate (election nullified) targeted the youth on radio.

Evangelism in Africa—working well. Churches are being planted. However . . . not reaching the youth.

What is the profile of those under 30 . . . what are they like? Trends of this group impacting their life-styles.

Age 16-30 Characteristics

- Most are unchurched
- They are connected deeply and spend large amounts of time on social media
- Heavy mobile use for all things—entertainment/connection/
- Tech savvy
- Family breakdown is significant
- Risk-takers
- Big on Entertainment—rap music & comedy

- Focus on sports activities
- Independence
- Busy with careers—at any cost
- Starting families with no foundation
- Global aware—few boundaries exist
- Love partying
- Higher level of education than parents
- Serious authority issues
- Cult and occult are significant
- Live on digital technology
- They have no memory of colonization
- Large unemployment issues
- Seeking hope—and will follow anyone who passes hope
- Into the creative arts
- Heavy use of drugs, alcohol
- Tend to be very promiscuous
- Breakdown of traditional norms, values and social structures
- Individualistic and independent
- Despise tradition
- Highly open, reject judging
- Setting the trends and parents are following them
- Very mobile to move and explore and engage in new ventures and opportunities—they are not “settlers”
- Truth is relative—everything is relative
- Relative

Under 15 Characteristics

- Much of the above is accentuated
- Fixed on movies, cartoons
- Little parenting occurring—growing without maturity / left alone to find their way
- Instant generation
- Don’t read books
- Already have mobile phones

So How Do We Reach Them? *What is our church doing to reach them? Do we need to do something about our methods?*

Mark 2:15-17

Matthew 9:10-13—Jesus welcomed sinners and ate with them

- Establish sports evangelism
- Create social media presence—e.g. family devotions on What’s App
- Let them lead (probably together or in groups)
- Peer forum
- Parenting classes
- Musical concerts and musical ministry—tap into the creative arts
- Comedy nights drama music

- Include fun when sharing the good news
- Involve them. Let them participate together
- Include fun activities
- Create an atmosphere for growth in leadership
- Be accepting of non-traditional—e.g. dress / activities / [Hold to modesty but still allow fashionable choices]
- Listen and be with them
- Allow the Word and the Holy Spirit bring the conviction and transformation
- Preserve Biblical perspectives
- Relevant topics of sharing
- Recruit and train great leaders to reach out to them
- Teach on topics of relationships, pre and marital, finances (stewards), etc.
- Matthew Parties
- Have authentic and vulnerable messages
- Excellence
- Encouragement of parents and grandparents to seasonally engage
- Celebrate testimonies of transformation
- Befriend them
- Believe in them
- Invest in them
- Give them time and interest
- Take them with you (perhaps several of them)
- Send them out
-

Church Maturity—Evangelism Markers

- New Church Plants
- Budget for evangelism
- Intentional and significant (numbers) prayer for the lost
- Often/always new believers present
- Membership growth
- Increased need for trained workers and leaders
- Encouragement of intentional building of relationships with lost people
- Time spent in sharing
- Specific plan/strategy
- High laity involvement
- Missionaries sent
- Leaders are involved and model evangelism
- Training materials and tools are maximized
- Story Telling and testimony of transformation
- Daughter churches
- Social needs are met in order evangelize
- Strong follow-up structures
- Vision casting
- Using the full gifting of people
- Evangelism is clearly stated and lived out as the Mission of the Church

Effective Discipleship Strategies for Africa—Rev. John Baminhoma

You cannot speak of discipleship without the discussion relating to the Church.

People who have committed themselves to Christ for the rest of their lives

Discipleship is the process of making people full followers of Christ. It involves transformation of every part of a person—culture, worldview, etc.

Evaluating Our Effectiveness—*Have churches been effective?*

- Many are nominal Christians
- The influence of charismatic teachings—prosperity, tongues, etc. Poverty is still a ruling force
- Political & social instability
- Non Spiritual or lack of Spirit-filled leadership
- Secularism

What shall we do?

Questions

1. Did the missionaries model work well for discipleship for the long term?
2. How far has autonomy worked well for a discipleship Strategy?
3. Quantity or quality for the African Church?
4. The urban versus the rural church—is there any difference?
5. How far has the social gospel been to be effective?
6. Can discipleship be taught in a curriculum?
7. How can we avoid stereotypes?
8. Can we compare some existing Discipleship programs in terms of biblical faithfulness, contextual relevance and general effectiveness?

Strategies

What strategy can we apply for this contemporary African church?

1. Bringing transformed leadership
2. Early age engagements

DEFINITIONS OF DISCIPLESHIP

- Teaching that results in the obedience and observing commandments of Christ.
- It is a life-long process of the transformation of the soul, heart, mind and culture towards becoming like Christ.
- A process by which the mature Christian works with a convert to develop them into a mature Christian.
- The training of the disciple to follow His Master, Jesus. Action to bring a new member to maturity to accomplish Jesus'

When does discipleship begin?

Interesting dialog . . .

Church Maturity—Discipleship Markers

- Engagement with Great commission
- Passion to reach the world
- Systematic plan for teaching the Word
- Continued transformation
- Self-reproducing
- Faithful to doctrine
- High number of financial supporters of the church
- Strong fellowship and love for the Body of Christ
- Evidence of the Fruit of the Spirit
- Eagerness to overcome old, non-Christian practices
- Strong mentoring and training
- Trained workers
- Growth in membership courses and numbers
- Self-supporting
- Passion to share Christ
- Impact on persons around them
- Christ-like lifestyle
- Life-style consistent with testimony
- Discipleship begins with discipling children
- Healthy, God-honoring conflict resolution

Developing Leaders for the Church in Africa—Dr. Alfred Kalembo

Biblical Mentors

- Moses to Joshua
- Paul to Timothy
- Jesus to the 12 / 3 / 1
- Barnabas to John Mark
- Barnabas to Paul
- Joshua to . . . _____ *everyone did what was right in their own eyes*

Mentoring leaders never happens apart from Intentionality

Characteristics of Effective Mentors:

1. **You must believe that your successor will be better and achieve more than you**—*that causes issues for us. No one should beat my record!* John 14:12—If you believe in Me, you will do what I have done and even greater things than I have done.
2. **The gifts, knowledge and experience that I have is for the good of others**—the next generation. When you begin to think like this, mentoring becomes easier—*what I have is mine—walkman illustration—dance and jig but no one else can hear the music.*
3. **A conviction that I am not here forever—I must build successors**—Jesus—I’m going to prepare a place for you, but you must learn from me while I am here. One day, we will not be here. One of our greatest roles is to raise up other leaders—I pass this on so that the work will continue.
4. **Mentors are patient with the mistakes of the mentee**—they are young, unlearned, will make mistakes. Mentors are patient because they see what they will become. We are tempted to give up way too early on persons. Most of those called denied the call.
 - God to Moses—lead my people to freedom—you don’t know who I am!
 - God to Gideon—Defeat the Midianites—I am the least tribe, least family, least.
 - God to Abraham—Father of many nations—my humanity does not agree
 - Jesus to Peter—Fisher of men—I am a sinful man.

Mentors transfer knowledge, experience, platforms and possibilities.

Levels of Mentoring

1. **Intensive & Intentional**—regular meetings to share. No assumptions (illustration of Morris Davis who spoke into Alfred’s life as a secondary student—*I won’t be here forever*)
2. **Occasional**—spontaneous but still focused
3. **Passive**—never met and probably won’t but they mentor you through their teaching, writings and overall influence—e.g. John Wesley impact on us all.

No one person can meet all of your needs for mentoring. You need multiple mentors.

Illustration of growing up without management training (contrast to missionaries who grew up with financial training)

Apart from mentors, we will have little growth and impact as a leader.

What do we do with the election process when there is freedom to elect anyone?

Invest widely and prepare persons for the elective process. Also recognize that it is not just about position.

Church Maturity—Leadership Development Markers

- A team spirit
- Vision clarity
- All ages engaged in leadership development
- Care for others
- Intentional training/mentoring
- Willingness to serve
- Character / competence balance
- Evangelism
- Self-supporting
- Training of leaders to be mentors
- Multiple leaders—strong pool
- Strong evidence of unity in accomplishing the work
- High capacity among leaders
- Young leaders have provision for Bible College training
- Missions oriented
- Clear Strategy
- Intentional mentoring that builds trust
- Ministry and structures that provide platforms for young leaders to serve
- Long-term investment
- Monitoring of impact
- Top leader is growing/developing
- Clear criteria for leaders

Kenya newhope—One-Year Leadership Development Plan— Gloria Azikiwe

Four Areas of Growth

1. Character—Grow in your integrity and godliness
2. Chemistry--Grow in your ability to connect deeply with people
3. Competence—grow in your ability to get the job done
4. Comprehension—Grow in your knowledge and a next step of training/education (bit of a screening process to see if they might be ready for Bible School)

Follow-up Plan—2 Years

- Ministerial Training
- Managing others
- Potential for Bible School

Building a Generous Church in Africa—Dr. Jacques Kasweshi

What is our motive?—Not Wesley or Calvin or Zwingli but Jesus Christ

Illustration—Moon landing—The President of the USA said, “This changes the course of history!” Neil Armstrong—It is not man walking on the moon that is the great story that changed the world, but that God, Himself, sent His Son to walk on the earth.

Luke 2:52—Jesus increased in wisdom, stature and in favor with God and man. God came to this earth. He has a target to build His church.

- Wisdom—mind and intellect
- Stature—physical
- Favor with God—spiritually connected with God
- Favor with man—relationally, connection, community morality and integrity and etiquette

I will build My Church!

Thesis

Antithesis

Synthesis

Thesis—All African leaders and churches to be generous. Not about us. Not about being known. Not about our glory. It is all for the glory of God that the church is built. We must share this vision with all.

Build / construct with stones, metal, wood not leaves or straw.

We build with a clear plan, strong materials and hard work.

So who builds the church? Many are built by men. In their own strength and for their own glory.

Jesus said, I will build **My** church!

Too many sign boards with pictures of a man on it, but where is Jesus? For the glory of self and not the glory of God. Let us make a god in our own image. Good / powerful / monument for/to ourselves Let us touch heaven and be great. God was not impressed. Lead to confusion and destruction and failure.

Contrast of Babel with the Ark. Noah built according to God’s plan and according to his strength.

John 15:5—Apart from Me you can do nothing . . . Our God has never failed. Build with courage.

What church do we want to build for Africa? Generous

Generosity Defined—

- “naturally elevated.” Elevated by nature
- “something of nobility” Above everything else
- “giving willingly” Freedom to give

Evaluation of our generosity . . . cannot ignore
Even hell cannot stop it!
Don't lose sight of the vision. Don't surrender your place.

Antithesis—obstacles / barriers

- interruptions
- no vision
- people
- hard work
- high price
- Satan

Synthesis

- Perseverance
- Focus
- All needed to reach someone
- Sent

What kind of church do we want?

- Growing
- Multiplying
- God Dependent
- Multiplication of disciples and churches
- No room for inconsistencies and unholy living

Summary . . .

Africa has much to give.
Unfortunately, we have allowed it to become poor. We have allowed and pursued corruption and become beggars.

It is not only Islam that attacks. It is also the prosperity gospel—surrounded by false teaching. New false gospel. Paul says, if I teach you a new gospel then may I be accursed.

Hebrews 12:3—Fixing our eyes on Jesus

If you want to build a generous church then be reminded that it is

1. The Church of Jesus Christ—He defeated the enemy by rising from the dead. He can build His Church! Jesus is Lord of the Church
2. The Gospel of Jesus Christ—It is not about prestige but about the transformation of the Gospel
3. We have the victory not defeat—We have deep, deep hope. We can trust our God. We must experience a radically different mentality and outlook. A conversion of our mind through training, instruction and vision. Keep the vision clear and engaged.
4. _____
5. _____
6. We are dependent on God—Independence is not the goal. We must be dependent on God.

7. For Eternity—This mission matters forever. We need solidarity in Africa. Need to come together. “It is sinful to be happy alone.” (French proverb) Also sinful to be unhappy alone. We need to break through language and culture barriers to be one.

Church Maturity—Sustainability Markers

- Self-supporting
- Self-governing
- Self-propagating
- Missionary sending and supporting
- Local Churches raising up pastors
- Supports pastors adequately
- Mutual respect pastors and people
- Healthy partnerships
- Church investments—short and long-term
- Sufficient membership
- Strong youth and children’s ministry—multi-generational
- 90% of the income from within the local church
- Effective and accountable structures
- Financial and other records
- Budgeting
- Church growth in all areas
- Preparation and training of competent leaders
- Clear Vision
- Actively planting churches
- Evangelism, discipleship, sending
- Compassion ministries within the community
- Strategic planning
- United
- Prayerful

Mobilizing the African Church for Missions – Rev. Mohammed Said

ADD Mohammed's Power Point Notes here if desired

Presentation Overview

1. Introduction
2. Mobilizing the African Church for missions through reasons
3. Mobilizing the African Church for missions through leadership
4. Mobilizing the African Church for mission through local Church
 - a. Individual (Personalization)
 - b. Church members (collectively)
 - c. Local Church structures (departments)
5. Mobilizing the African Church for missions through synergetic partnerships for GLOBAL MISSIONS

Church Maturity—Missions Markers

- Mission oriented
- Mobilizes kids/youth for mission
- Budgeting for mission
- Leadership actively involved in missions
- Seminars for youth, women, men
- Awareness of unreached people
- Members support missions
- Intentional relationship building with unreached persons
- Organized structure—e.g. missions committee
- Intentional persevering prayer
- Planned promotion of missions on the calendar
- Sending structure for long-term missionaries
- Investments to support missions
- Strategies of church planting
- Pastor leads the way in missions
- Develop missions leaders
- Invest in missionary training
- Annual visit by missionaries
- Pastor regularly preaches on missions
- Preaching on the call to missions
- Encouragement to use professional skills as a platform for missions

Consultation Action Steps

1. Appoint an African Coordinator and regional coordinators to form an Executive Committee to work with Area Director
2. Create and communicate a vision for Africa Area sustainability
3. Give \$10/month/country for the African Area Office
4. African Wesleyan strategic plan for the evangelization and discipleship of Muslims in Africa
5. Regional blocks to form a team for evangelism