



GOSPEL

Saturation

ACCELERATOR

Introduction

God is on relentless mission to save sinners and fix the world. His Church, following in the pattern set by the *missio Dei*, is sent to see to it that every man, woman, and child has repeated opportunities to see, hear and re-pond to the good news of Jesus Christ in the places they live, learn, work, and play. In short, the church's mission is nothing short of Gospel Saturation—that everyone, everywhere would have a chance to respond to the life-transforming grace of God.

The *Gospel Saturation Primer*, a forerunner to this *Accelerator*, established the priorities and principles that are necessary for Gospel Saturation to take place. There we demonstrated that God must reshape the core convictions of the church's leaders if this Gospel Saturation goal is going to move from an aspirational vision to an actual reality. Our prayer has been that God's Spirit would root these priorities and principles in the hearts of leaders throughout the ever-changing missionary landscape of North America and compel them to seek a next step.

The *Gospel Saturation Accelerator* is meant to be just that—a next step for those that want to put these priorities and principles on the road and see them come to fruition in their cities. The *Accelerator* is practical in orientation and is designed to be discussed, debated, and deployed among missionary practitioners and church leaders in the diverse churches needed to reach every man, woman, and child in our day. Through activating the vision of Gospel Saturation we can, together, live and lead worthy of the call of our great missionary God.

Conversation Topics

4

Conversation 1
Movement

14

Conversation 2
Mobilization

28

Conversation 3
Transformation

40

Conversation 4
Multiplication

54

Conversation 5
Collaboration

69

Conversation 6
Plan

MOVEMENT

Conversation 1



CONVERSATION 1

M OVEMENT

Round Table Introductions

Begin by introducing yourself and sharing any key updates since you were together last. Many of the group members have likely journeyed through the *Primer* together, so hopefully you know one another and can reconnect quickly. Allow newcomers some additional time to introduce themselves, share about their church, and discuss their connection to the group. Conclude this time by getting into small groups of three to pray together about any of the updates or needs that were shared.

Read and Reflect

Take 10 minutes to read the following conversation starter. As you read, place a star (*) beside the main ideas, an exclamation mark (!) beside points that stand out, and a question mark (?) beside ideas that prompt questions or with which you disagreed.



They [the Apps] can help the church accomplish all sorts of laudable goals, but they fail to achieve their maximum potential if they run on an OS that doesn't fulfill the original intent of the creator and founder of the Church, Jesus Christ.

Primer, pg. 12

Movement.

Days start with movement. However slow, we get out of bed, sleep-walk to the coffee pot, and try to rouse our minds for the day ahead. Shower. Get dressed. Brush teeth. Now it's time to jump in the car and speed to the office. The metronome of the clock on the wall reminds you that the day is moving forward. Clock out, and it's time to rush back home in time for dinner. Wash dishes. Bathe the kids. Read a chapter. Bed. Soon you'll be up to do it all over again.

We're trained to move. Maybe that's why stagnation in the church drives most of us crazy. We're impatient because we anticipate movement and, when it's not happening, we assume there are problems. Perhaps there are. Or, maybe a lack of movement is God's way of getting our attention and forcing us to consider God's vision for His church. We're forced to assess whether our vision for the church accurately represents God's purpose for His people and, if not, what needs to change.

The *Gospel Saturation Primer* established that God's vision is Gospel Saturation—for every man, woman, and child to have repeated opportunities to see, hear, and respond to the good news of Jesus Christ in the places where they live, learn, work, and play. This mission has not, and will not, change. This is the normative Operating System (OS) on which the church is meant to run. For this to become a reality, four defining principles must characterize the life of a pastor, and in turn, the church: movement, kingdom, harvest, and disciple. The conversations in the *Primer* attempted to develop these principles, establish their biblical precedent, and argue for their centrality in the life of the church.



Our sermons are filled with words like gospel, glory, discipleship, and mission. But why? If our 'why' is to reach people to grow our own individual church, we've shortchanged the entire vision that God has for His people. God's 'why' is His glory filling His creation through His people, or what we could call, Gospel Saturation.

Primer, pg. 16

Before we move forward, attempt to define these four principles in groups of 3 people with particular attention to how each promotes the mission of Gospel Saturation. Make sure to consider those who may have not participated in the *Primer* conversations by helping them connect a few of the dots of the main themes discussed there.

Movement: _____

Kingdom: _____

Harvest: _____

Disciple: _____

The following video is designed to reengage the group around the broader conversation of Gospel Saturation. Watch and reflect on the outworking of these ideas in your life, your church, and your city: <https://vimeo.com/110919236>.

Developing the Conversation

Continue reading, using the same star, exclamation mark, and question mark system, to label your thoughts.



Vision shapes your understanding of your current reality and your hope for what is to come.

Primer, pg. 26

Those who read the *Primer* were cautioned to avoid running immediately to pull levers, push buttons, and make changes. That's the impulse of those who long for movement. They see issues and want to quickly implement change. But, we argued that such rapid adjustments will often produce only temporary change. Priorities must settle to your core and get in your bones first. They have to keep you up at night. They have to be unshakable. They have to move from niceties to necessities. Once they do, it's time to get moving.

Four priorities define the movement of Gospel Saturation: mobilization, transformation, collaboration, and multiplication. These four priorities are active in nature—each compel you to pull levers and press buttons. Hovering behind these driving priorities, in fact, the foundation on which the whole movement is built, is a Gospel Saturation OS.

Hopefully, you've gathered a sense of the definition of these four priorities from the *Primer* and your prior understanding of the missionary mandate of the church. Evaluate the health of your church in each area. How are you doing at producing transformation in your people's lives? How about in collaborating with other like-minded, gospel-driven churches in your city? These observations will help frame the work you do over the next six months through the *Accelerator*.

The *Gospel Saturation Accelerator* is designed with movement in mind. We want to present you with a plan and a process for Gospel Saturation in your church and city. It's important to note that this is **a** plan and **a** process. It is not **the** plan and process. The nature and scope of God's redemptive mission and the complexity of the modern missional context defies any attempt to provide a universally applicable framework for accomplishing Gospel Saturation.

We can, however, provide the scaffolding for you to innovate on this plan and process in your locale. Not only might this be necessary, it is preferable. The more you own the process, the more likely you'll be to take the steps necessary to embody Gospel Saturation in your own life and lead your church to do the same.

We will tackle one priority at a time over the coming months. In contrast to the *Primer*, our aim will be less descriptive and more active. We will spend less time establishing the priorities, supporting them with biblical observations, and arguing for their validity. Our assumption is that you have, and will continue to wrestle with these truths. The *Accelerator* is meant to show you the implications, or outworking, of these concepts in the life of your church and city. We want to hold up each priority and ask: How? How do we mobilize all of God's people to live on mission where they live, learn, work, and play? How can we collaborate with other churches in our city to see to it that every man, woman, and child has repeated opportunities to respond to the gospel? How can we create systems that promote multiplication in our city and around the world?

These 'how' questions will necessitate active participation. In an evangelical age when much time is spent articulating vague, theological



None of us will do this work unless we are convinced, at the core of our being, that it's worth it. If you long to make the transition to a new OS, to one that is about Gospel Saturation, then you'll need to do some foundational, DNA-type of thinking that will be essential to process.

Primer, pg. 22

jargon, it's vital that we do the arduous work of constructing actual plans that put these missiological principles on the road. That's the goal of the *Accelerator*. In each session, we'll spend much time on the whiteboard, dreaming about concrete steps we can take to embody the priorities we've come to embrace. Our aim is to equip you with a few concrete steps you can experiment with in your context.



**We want to create a
shared language for a
shared culture sent on
a shared mission.**

Primer, pg. 3

You'll find that the best-laid plans, even with the proper OS, principles, and priorities, will still require ongoing refinement. For many who have never attempted to build these priorities into a local church, it will take time to learn how best to articulate and lead from a new posture. Often, the leader has been considering these ideas for some time—working out the implications in their head—long before they bring them before the people they actually lead. It will take time for the church to catch up. You'll need help learning when to push and provoke, and when to pull back and try an alternate route.

You'll also need others to continue pushing you to a Gospel Saturation mindset and keeping you accountable for fostering the development of these principles and priorities. The truth is, this work will not be easy. Those whose church experience has run on an old, errant OS for decades will not readily adopt a Gospel Saturation OS. The work required to change structures and systems will involve toil—and sometimes a fight along the way. There will be times when you'll wonder whether or not it's worth it. That's why we've loaded the *Accelerator* with coaching questions throughout.

In order to make these coaching times successful, there are a few things you're going to need. First is at least one other person from your local church with you for each month's conversation. The implications of the priorities considered in the pages that follow are simply too vast for one individual alone. You will find it hard to gain traction in implementation if you are the only one in the room from your church to engage these ideas from the outset. You'll also want a partner for encouragement. The outworking of these ideas—particularly in churches running a faulty OS—will be challenging. Another person can serve to encourage you when you are down, comfort you when you get wounded, and call you to

persevere when it gets hard. Make sure you have someone else with you who has a voice and a vote in the overall direction of the church in our next conversation.

Second, our aim is that you would form triad coaching relationships with two other members of your Gospel Saturation group. Since you will attend with one other member of your church, and this person needs to be in the same coaching relationship, these groups should be triads of churches composed of at least six people (two from each church). You'll be encouraged to meet outside of the monthly gatherings for a formal time of coaching and engage with one another in regular rhythms throughout the months simply to check in, hear how your brothers are doing, and press Gospel Saturation deeper into one another's heart. These coaching questions will be an invaluable aid to ensure that you stay true to Gospel Saturation in your own life, your church, and your city.

The process will not be easy, but it will be worth it. Our missionary God equips us with His power and encourages us with His presence as we strive to lean into our Great Commission task.

Pre-Game Questions

As a disciple-maker and leader of God's church, you likely have a series of questions regarding the four priorities necessary for Gospel Saturation. Mobilization, transformation, collaboration, and multiplication are concepts that spark all kinds of "but what about" questions in our minds. You know the kind...But what about the passive church attendees that profess faith but have no desire to be mobilized for mission? But what about the churches with differing doctrinal foundations than my church? Can I collaborate with them?

It's good that you are asking these questions. In fact, processing these questions at the outset of the *Accelerator* will facilitate more active engagement in the arduous process of embodying these priorities over time. Take some time to list at least three questions you have about each priority.



The mission is not an arbitrary add-on to the life of discipleship, but the fundamental mission of God's people and, in turn, the driving impetus that creates the local church.

Primer, pg. 15

These may be challenges you anticipate, obstacles you've encountered in the past, or even theological or philosophical push-back you have about these ideas. Once you've brainstormed your three questions in each area, get in a group of 3 people and share your questions with one another. These first groups would be an ideal basis for ongoing triads throughout the months ahead. It's important that you get in groups with people from churches other than your own. This will allow a broad perspective on the discussions at hand, and make it possible for more honest reflection throughout the process. What questions did you have in common? What do your questions reveal about your heart or the state of your churches?

Mobilization

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Transformation

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Collaboration

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Multiplication

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Taking it Further

There's one final step you need to take before ending Conversation 1. Everyone is busy, and the outworking of the priorities of Gospel Saturation are easy to neglect when the demands of daily ministry begin to pile up. Go ahead and block out time for the next five conversations so everyone in the group knows what to expect.

You will be well-served to get out your calendars and select the date, time, and location for each meeting. Plan to allocate at least 2 hours per conversation and work to protect this time to prioritize the ongoing work God is doing in your city.

Also, make sure that you know who is in your triad group and that you have a clear plan to meet for coaching before next month's conversation. Use the triad coaching questions to guide these discussions. ■

Triad Coaching Questions



1. Soul: Which of these soul desires feels distant right now: joy, love, peace, or hope? What do you need to believe about Christ and His gospel to restore your soul in this area right now?

2. Conviction: What is the biggest distraction that you will face over the next six learning communities that will attempt to distract you from staying at the table?

3. Practice: As you develop a plan for gospel saturation for your personal life, your local ministry, and your city, which one feels like it will be the most difficult to implement?

4 Wisdom: What issues are you dealing with personally or corporately for which you need wisdom or counsel right now?

Conversation 2



MOBILIZATION

Conversation 2



CONVERSATION 2

M

OBILIZATION



When God's people own the lostness of their place, God moves.

-Missiologist, Dr. Jim Slack

Read and Reflect

Take 10 minutes to read the following conversation starter. As you read, place a star (*) beside the main ideas, an exclamation mark (!) beside points that stand out, and a question mark (?) beside ideas that prompt questions or with which you disagreed.

What is the primary access point most people in your city have to the gospel? If the people of your place are going to see and hear the gospel, where are they most likely to do so? Whether you live and lead in a large, bustling urban context or a quaint, rural town, the answer to this question is likely the same: the Sunday morning worship service in a church building.



**In God's intended OS,
every believer is a
missionary, mobilized
where they live, learn,
work, and play.**

Primer, pg. 13

**The new OS pushes the
church outward as a
mobilizing community,
beyond any singular local
church and towards the
Kingdom of God.**

Primer, pg. 47

**If God's people, gathered
in local churches, were to
own the lostness where
they live, learn, work,
and play, we could see
a Kingdom movement in
our day.**

Primer, pg. 52

This answer has to change if we want to see every man, woman, and child given a repeated opportunity to hear, see, and respond to the good news of Jesus Christ. Imagine what could happen if, instead of the gospel being proclaimed through dozens of sermons on a single day of the week, this same message was proclaimed by thousands of Christians numerous times each weeks in the places they live, learn, work, and play.

This goal drives the priority of mobilization as we strive to see our places saturated with the gospel. Mobilization occurs when **God's people own the lostness of a defined people in a defined place**. Notice the language here. We are talking about a defined people (God's church) in a defined place (your Circle of Accountability). And, for this group of people to reach this specific place, they must take responsibility for ensuring that the gospel gets to every man, woman, and child there.

As we talk about taking ownership and responsibility for lostness, we understand that we cannot change anyone's heart or produce a movement of God based on our activity. We believe that when God's people are broken over the lost state of their neighbors, they are postured and prepared to be used when God decides to move.

Which leads us to a reflection of the three foundational convictions that drive Gospel Saturation in our cities.

Since we all have a tendency to drift from these convictions, let's take a minute to review them now:

- **Conviction 1:** *When God moves in the world, He moves through all His people*
- **Conviction 2:** *When God moves in the world, He moves through disciples and churches that multiply.*
- **Conviction 3:** *When God moves in the world, He moves through leaders who equip others as their main priority.*

These convictions are descriptive in nature. They indicate the factors that are true of God's movement in the world throughout history and, should God move in our day in North America, these factors will be true here as well. Watch this video for a perspective on the priority of mobilization: <https://vimeo.com/110920212>.

Prayer Huddles

At the end of the day, the hope of Gospel Saturation doesn't rest on our ingenuity or wisdom. If it did, then we would be sure to fail. Gospel Saturation depends on the movement of God and, as we saw in the *Primer*, it is an apt description of



At the end of the day, a movement is something only God can do. Kingdom movement depends on the Holy Spirit using ordinary people to multiply the gospel in and from the harvest. We can't manipulate a movement, but we can pray for a movement. We can't manufacture a movement, but we can prepare for one.

Primer, pg. 36

the overall mission of God seen throughout the Bible. We know that God wants Gospel Saturation far more than we do. This reality should drive us to pray before, during, and after we make plans and begin to pull levers and push buttons. Reflect on the following four questions in groups of 3.

Allow your answers to these questions to frame and inform your prayers about this month's conversation. Pray in light of the truth of God's word.

- What has God already promised about mobilization?
- What effect do Satan and sin have on the mission of mobilizing God's people?
- How does the gospel shape our efforts in mobilization?
- How does the Spirit empower mobilization?

Identifying your Circles of Accountability

The first step in the process of mobilizing all of God's people in all of the churches throughout a city is to develop a clear understanding of your Circle of Accountability (COA).

Giving definition to a COA clarifies where we begin our missional efforts. You can define a COA in a few different ways: you can choose to draw a certain measured radius from a distinct point on a map (such as a church building), you can choose a zip code or city limits, or you might use certain natural boundaries, such as rivers or railroad tracks. We are going to draw three COA's: a personal circle (for you), a corporate circle (for your church), and a city circle (for The Church).

Personal COA

Gospel Saturation intentionality must be modeled personally before you can lead God's people to own the lostness of a particular location. Pastors and kingdom leaders lead best when they have personal stories of missional engagement



This geographical intentionality is not only descriptive of the first church, but a model for how the church takes responsibility for the lostness of a geography. The church should understand its mission in terms of a Circle of Accountability (COA). Until we take responsibility for a defined place, it is difficult to truly see and own the lostness in that area. Here we are using 'circle' as a generic term to denote a certain defined place and people for whom God has asked His church to take responsibility.

Primer, pg. 56

on a continual basis. Sadly, many church leaders are quarantined off from the missionary context of their COA by virtue of their varied roles within the church itself. This must change for leaders to establish the relational authority to mobilize God's people.



God invites all of His people to join Him in whatever He is doing in the world.

Primer, pg. 46

Write down the names of three people, who are close to you yet far from God, whom you've met where you live, learn, work, or play. These names mark the starting point for Gospel Saturation and the epicenter for your work in the days ahead—they are your personal COA.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Corporate COA

The second COA is represented by your local church membership. You want this circle to encompass the location where the majority of your people live, work, learn, and play. This circle will often be defined by the location of your church facility, but don't worry if members or regular attenders come to your church from outside of these limits. Drawing this COA will help you determine how to engage the lostness immediately surrounding your corporate body.

Those in smaller cities or towns may be able to define their corporate COA based on a zip code or the city limits. Others, particularly those in larger cities, will need to define a much smaller radius or boundary. Remember that the goal is to give every man, woman, and child a repeated opportunity to see, hear, and respond to the gospel. If you define these boundaries too broadly, for example, asking your church of 150 people to take responsibility for a city of 500,000 people, then you are setting yourself and your people up for discouragement.



**God works in the world
through scattered
disciples and churches
who give gospel access
to every man, woman, and
child.**

Primer, pg. 54

Far better to limit the boundaries on your corporate COA and empower your people to reach the 5,000 people who live within one mile of your church facility.

Imagine that the dot below represents the center of your COA. Outline the borders of your COA based on your sense of a viable radius for your people to reach. Include roads, rivers, railroad tracks, or any other natural landmarks that may outline the borders of your corporate COA. Don't worry about being overly precise at this point, simply sketch the rough outline of your corporate COA.



City COA

Your final COA is defined by the broader region in which your personal COA and your church's corporate COA fit within. In smaller towns, the corporate COA and the city COA may be the same. Or you may see fit to broaden the city COA to a region that includes a number of smaller towns. For those in larger cities, the overall city COA will likely include dozens of smaller corporate COAs. Make sure that the city COA includes all of the churches who are represented in the room and who are gathering around the mission of Gospel Saturation.

Write down the zip code, regional boundary, or mile radius for your city COA.



Coaching Questions

Why is modeling Mobilization for the people we lead so important to the overall goal of Gospel Saturation?

How will identifying a corporate COA change the way you plan and strategize with your leadership team?

Defining your City COA

Mobilization happens when God's people own the lostness of a defined people in a defined place. In our last exercise, we defined our personal, corporate, and city COA. Now we are going to spend some time discovering the make up of people in our defined city COA.

You may be tempted to push back at the outset and desire to define the corporate COA first since it's likely the circle with which you are most familiar. But, it's important for us to prioritize the overall goal of Gospel Saturation in our cities. This will force us to think beyond the boundaries of our local church and engage in collaborative conversation with other churches to reach a population that far exceeds our capacity alone.

First, we must know the needs and opportunities presented in our shared COA if we are going to mobilize all of God's people in all the local churches



It will take all kinds of churches made up of all kinds of people using all kinds of differing methodologies to saturate every geography with the gospel. Far from necessitating every church looking like a carbon-copy of one another, we'd desire to see an eclectic mix of churches dotting every circle and working in harmony to reach their circle.

Primer, pg. 60-61

of our city to be the primary access point for gospel conversations to those far from God. It's incredibly valuable to find concrete data that can help your group gain clarity on those in your COA and what needs are represented there.

We suggest that you use the following three websites to find out the information:

- www.thearda.com
- www.city-data.com
- www.ala.org/rt/magirt/publicationsab/demdata

First, make sure the overall group has clarity on their shared COA. Then, break into smaller groups of 3 people and assign each 1 or 2 sections of data below. Ask them to use the above sites to research the city COA and collect the data for the group.

1. Overview

- a. Population _____
- b. Race/Ethnicity _____
- c. Gender _____
- d. Age _____
- e. Income _____
- f. Employment _____

1. Education

- a. Schools (public and private) _____
- b. Number of students at each school _____
- c. Percentage of students on free or reduced lunch _____
- d. Special services _____
- e. Literacy rate _____

3. Family

- a. Marital Status _____
- b. Divorce Rate _____
- c. Singles _____
- d. Widows _____
- e. Foster Care _____

4. Health

- a. Hospitals/Health Clinics _____
- b. Primary care physicians per capita _____
- c. STDs _____
- d. Mental healthcare providers per capita _____
- e. Common Diseases _____
- f. Other _____

5. Crime

- a. Misdemeanor _____
- b. Felony _____
- c. Drug activity _____
- d. Sex offenders _____

6. State of the Church

- a. Denominations _____
- b. Existing churches _____
- c. Church plants _____
- d. What percentage of population attends church? _____
- e. What is the seating capacity of all the churches combined? (multiply 200-250/church) _____
- f. How many churches teach a theologically-sound gospel? _____

7. Community

- a. Major community developments _____
- b. Key third-places where people hang out _____
- c. Recreation / Entertainment Centers _____
- d. Critical Shopping areas (stores, restaurants, etc.) _____
- e. Other _____

8. Uniqueness

- a. What qualities make your COA unique?

- b. What factors make it challenging?

- c. What unique opportunities do you think it presents?

Once each group has developed answers to their portion, call them back together and allow someone from each group to present their findings. Each individual should record the answers to all eight sections in their *Accelerator*, and it would be wise to ask someone to record the group's findings and email them to all the participants after this month's conversation.

Finally, go through each of the 8 sections and draw an "up arrow" or a "down arrow" next to the data point which you believe represents an increasing or decreasing trend. For example, in the Education section, if you believe literacy is going to get worse over the next 5 years place a down arrow next to it.



Coaching Questions

Based on what we've just worked through, what are the three to five areas that are the most concerning to you?

How could the church mobilize to make a difference in those areas?

Taking It Further

Re-form groups of 3 people and discuss the following questions after a short time of personal reflection.

Based on what I've discovered today, the one thing I will personally do is...

Based on what I've discovered today, the one thing that I will lead my church to do is...

Based on what we've discovered today, the one thing that we are going to do together is...

Harvest Impact Quotient

The following exercise is meant to be a homework assignment to complete with the leadership team of your church. We can't use the scorecards that we've inherited from the church growth Operating System to help us evaluate how well we are accomplishing the task of mobilizing God's people in a COA.

We need to develop a new scorecard that measures your church's harvest impact. Most pastors are frequently asked how many people attend their church. As long as that number is increasing, then all seems to be going well for that church and that pastor. But there could be little harvest impact in a city, even if a church experiences numerical growth. For example, a pastor's church could have grown from 200 to 450 members in 3 years, but if 90% of that growth came from Christians moving to a new church, then the overall harvest has experienced little change.

Here's how a church could figure out their harvest impact:

1. The total number of adults connected to your church is your denominator. So, for a church with a membership of 200, the starting point would be:

$$x/200$$

2. Organize your list of 200 people into the following categories and assign each a value based on the scale below:

0 - Those who came to your church from another healthy church in your city

.25 - Those who were previously Christians and moved into your area looking for a healthy church

3. **.50** - Those who were previously Christians but were completely disconnected from the local church and then reconnected to your church

1 - Those who were saved and integrated into your church from the harvest in your city

So, the fictitious church above might envision the following:

- 100 of their people came from other churches in the city = 0
- 50 of their people moved to the area = 12.5
- 30 of their people were disconnected believers = 15
- 20 of their people were saved through the church = 20

3. Add those numbers together and that number is your numerator. The church above would have a score of 47.5
4. Divide the denominator into the numerator and that becomes your HIQ score.

$$47.5/200 = .24$$



More often the majority of the church's growth doesn't come from new converts, but from those who have been out of church for a while and decide to reengage, or those who attend an unhealthy church in the city and decide to leave, or those who have been part of a healthy church in another part of the country and move to your city looking for the DNA that your church embodies. If we factors these individuals out of our scorecard, then the average growing church may see just a few people come to faith in Jesus and be disciple effectively. That kind of progress doesn't even register against the vast lostness of our cities.

Primer, pg. 29

The higher the score the more impact your church has had on lostness in your city. This new metric creates an accurate scorecard that churches can use to see how much of an impact they are making on lostness in a city. It's vital to shift the conversation from church growth OS scorecards to Gospel Saturation OS scorecards if we want to create a new disciple-making culture in our city.

What does your church's score tell you about your impact in your COA?

For further study and personal reflection, consider the following:

1. Explore God City Initiative (www.explorethegodcity.com)
2. Percept Report (www.gospelsaturation.church/accelerator)
3. Identifying and Defining your COA (www.gospelsaturation.church/accelerator)

Coaching Triad Questions



Soul: How has your role as a pastor/leader within a church impacted your identity as an ambassador for Christ?

Conviction: What has the Holy Spirit been doing in your heart to grow your burden to take ownership of the lostness around you?

Practice: What is one area of lostness that your local church is ready to engage with?

Wisdom: Are there any issues where you need counsel, wisdom, or advice in your life or ministry right now?

Personal Plan: What tangible steps have you taken in implementing your personal action plan for mobilization?

Conversation 3



TRANSFORMATION

Conversation 3



CONVERSATION 3

T RANSFORMATION



Whatever the King touches, the King changes.

-Missiologist, Neal McGlahon

Read and Reflect

Take 10 minutes to read the following conversation starter. As you read, place a star (*) beside the main ideas, an exclamation mark (!) beside points that stand out, and a question mark (?) beside ideas that prompt questions or with which you disagreed.



In both cases, Old and New Testament alike, the key to gospel movement was the individually transformed person.

Primer, pg. 69

We all want to see lives changed and transformed by the power of the gospel. It's one of the main reasons we got into ministry in the first place. We plan and we preach with this goal in mind. It hovers behind all our work in strategy and organization. We meet people early in the mornings and we stay up late counseling others in the hopes that transformation will result. We long for God to grant salvation and bring new life.

Many times, however, we invest much effort and see little fruit. Often it seems that the people we care so much about don't even want to change. Or, they may give us reasons to hope for a season only to flame out when life gets hard or sin entangles their lives. What do we do when we don't see transformation?

We may be prone to shift our expectations by lowering the standard of transformed lives and settling for perfunctory attendance in local churches and engagement in religious activities. Rather than pressing people into the holistic, life-reshaping call of discipleship, we settle for mediocre, apathetic church attendees. At least this metric gives us something to point to when we question whether or not our work actually matters at all.

Unfortunately, we will never get after the greater mission of Gospel Saturation if we lose sight of the necessity of discipleship bringing about transformation. And, the scope of this discipleship work is even greater than our individual churches



If God's people, who profess to be saved by His grace, are captivated by His love, and live intent on pleasing Him, merely reflect the godless ways of culture at large then it's unlikely that anyone is going to be compelled to believe the message they speak. The same is true in every aspect of life. No one is going to believe an obese person who professes the benefits of a healthy diet and exercise. They're certainly not apt to join their gym anyway. The same is true for God's church. There must be a qualitatively different life reflected by those who profess faith in Jesus.

Primer, pg. 70

alone. If we are after every man, woman, and child, then we must move from asking "How do we disciple the people who attend our church?" to "How do we disciple our city?" This expanded question will help us develop a new scorecard rooted in Gospel Saturation.

Transformation happens when ***God's people are conformed into the image of Christ—resulting in the gospel renewal of lives, communities, and cultures.***

It makes sense to believe that if people are being transformed to embody the character and competencies of Christ, tangible change will result in the communities these transformed believers inhabit. As transformed disciples from various local churches live together on mission for Gospel Saturation, their partnership bears witness to God's power, love, and glory.

One of the ways we hope to make the convictions of Gospel Saturation stay with you is to review them every time we gather. Let's look again at the 3 convictions of Gospel Saturation:

- **Conviction 1:** *When God moves in the world, He moves through all His people.*
- **Conviction 2:** *When God moves in the world, He moves through disciples and churches that multiply.*
- **Conviction 3:** *When God moves in the world, He moves through leaders who equip others as their main priority.*

How have you seen these convictions at work in your life, your church, or your city this week?

Now, watch the following video for a reflection on the need for transformation among God's people: <https://vimeo.com/130791065>.

Prayer Huddles

Form groups of 3 and share your answer to the question above. Where have you seen evidence of the movement of God this week? Take time to pray, thanking God for His work in your life and your world. Ask Him to continue to grow your personal intentionality in this Gospel Saturation mission and invite His Spirit to instruct you as to how you can best lead your churches to do the same.

Common Culture Exercise

Culture always trumps strategy. Culture is **whatever is normal for the majority**. By this we mean that a church isn't producing transformed disciples if they merely have a few anecdotal stories. For transformation to become a cultural mark, the majority of the people in a singular church must be in process of ongoing transformation by Jesus, working to help others become transformed disciples as well.



A disciple will BE and DO, and others will SEE!

Primer, pg. 71

Then, in order to get after discipling a city, a group intent on Gospel Saturation must be praying for and creating a culture of disciple-making among all of the believers in that place. This vast goal will not happen overnight. In order to help nurture a disciple-making culture in a city, the group of churches intent on Gospel Saturation must have:

- 1) **Common Table:** A shared point of contact where leaders of churches are working together toward a common mission, such as these monthly conversations;
- 2) **Common Language:** A shared definition of the key terms necessary for disciple-making to take place;
- 3) **Common Beliefs:** A shared understanding of the key gospel truths necessary for transformation;
- 4) **Common Behaviors:** A shared list of outcomes disciples are expected to produce;
- 5) **Common Opportunities:** A shared understanding of the shaping effect of sin in your city and the places where gospel transformation is most needed.

Let's work on each of these throughout this conversation in the *Accelerator*. First, we'll endeavor to shape common



Coaching Questions

Based on your experience, which of the four culture shaping components (common table, common language, common beliefs, common behaviors) will be the greatest struggle for our COA? Why?

What are you doing to shape the culture in your local ministry?

Why do we spend more time on strategies than culture?

language so that we have a baseline understanding for some important terms that most of us use on a regular basis. Four of the most commonly used words by kingdom leaders are: gospel, disciple, mission, and church.



Having a clear target for disciple-making is vital for a local church. It helps create shared language and culture within a church. When church members have clarity about who a disciple is and what a disciple does...no one can bring their own traditional understanding or cultural biases to the table. Everyone can be on the same page with a clear definition that you and the other leaders have developed.

Primer, pg. 68-69

Split the room into four groups, assigning one word to each group, and spend about five minutes creating a simple and memorable definition to share. Remember, we're not looking for **the** definition, just **a** definition. The best definitions are simple enough for a 10 year-old to remember and range between 4-7 words.

After each group has time to brainstorm and formulate a definition, call the group back together and allow each group to share their conclusions. Do more than simply share the final definition—also explain the biblical rationale for the language you choose. Fill in the definitions below after each group shares.

Gospel: _____

Mission: _____

Church: _____

Disciple: _____

Radical Minimums of Transformation

The last definition—that of a disciple—is likely the most difficult to formulate, but it's essential that we arrive at a shared definition if we have any hope of discipling a city together. Let's attempt to reduce the notion of disciple-making down to its radical minimum, which is the core principle or expression of gospel transformation your COA needs to see most through God's people. These outcomes should be clearly derived from Scripture and demonstrate the most essential facets of a life genuinely transformed by the gospel.

Based off of our common definition of a disciple, let's identify characteristics of a disciple's belief and behavior. These values would be generally agreed upon by the Church collective in your city.

Write down five common beliefs and behaviors that all disciples of Jesus will share in your COA (example: intimacy with God). These radical minimums will allow us to collaborate around the creation of a disciple-making culture that, in turn, can disciple a city.

Common Beliefs and Behaviors

- 1) _____
- 2) _____



The church's mission is to make disciples. As a leader of the church you are a disciple of Jesus whose mission is to make disciples who fulfill their mission to make disciples.

Primer, pg. 73

3)

4)

5)

Once you have agreed upon your five common beliefs and behaviors, write down five specific tools your group would need to partner together in the work of transformation. For example, if your group said that a radical minimum for disciple-making would be "intimacy with God," then a helpful tool might be a shared Bible reading plan for believers or a shared resource that would allow you to train new believers to read the Bible effectively. As kingdom leaders, we must agree upon common outcomes that will put disciple-making on the road in our COA.



It's our mission to make disciples, so someone shouldn't have to work hard to find a few disciples who call your place home. They should be everywhere. All the staff, greeting teams, facilities, and budgets in the world are meaningless if we're not making disciples. And, if we're not making disciples then, more than likely the problem lies in our system. We're getting what our system is designed to produce. If our system is designed to produce religious consumers, then you'll likely find them in abundance. If we are getting nominal church attendees, then we should look no further than our systems. We aren't producing these types of people by accident. We are getting them because that's what our entire system is designed to make. You are always making disciples.

Primer, pg. 76

Specific Tools or Applications

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

Spend some time reflecting on these exercises personally, and then get back in your groups of 3 to compare your answers and see what points of overlap you might already share.

Common Opportunities for Discipleship

If we want to bring the light of the gospel to every man, woman, and child, we need to understand the shared cultural idols and spiritual strongholds of our community. The gospel of Jesus is greater and stronger than any force of darkness we will face. Let's work together to identify what disciples of Jesus will need to confront where they live, learn, work, and play. Break into groups of 2-3 people and answer the questions below.



Slow progress shouldn't cause us to give up too quickly. God is sovereign and He can and will use whatever means He desires to move people through this process. He will "continue the good work He has begun" (Phil 1:6). But, He often sees fit to use our plans to accomplish these good purposes.

Primer, pg. 79

- 1) List three cultural and acceptable idols that most people in your context worship (example: materialism).
- 2) List the addiction issues affecting your community the most (example: meth addiction).
- 3) List the issues of sin and brokenness families deal with the most (example: pornography).
- 4) List the religious strongholds keeping church-going people in your COA from the gospel (example: church consumerism).
- 5) List the people groups who are the most marginalized and have the least gospel accessibility in your city (example: single-parent households).

Gather everyone together and have every group share their answers. Collaborate to determine the top answer for each of your categories and circle them. These are the greatest opportunities for the Church collectively in your COA to demonstrate the power of the gospel in your context. They are the places where transformed disciples are most needed.

Coaching Questions



What issue identified in this exercise burdens you the most? Why?

How have you and/or your church attempted to address some of these issues?

Why is it important to collaborate on these issues?

How is the gospel giving you hope right now when you think about engaging these strongholds and idols with the gospel?

Taking It Further

Re-form your small groups and discuss the following questions after a short time of personal reflection.

Based on what I've discovered today, the one thing I will personally do is...

Based on what I've discovered today, the one thing that I will lead my church to do is...

Based on what we've discovered today, the one thing that we are going to do together is...

Missional Behavior Survey

The following exercise is meant to be a homework assignment to do with the leadership team of your church. We encourage you to take advantage of a resource called the Missional Behavior Survey (MBS), which will help you take the pulse of your church in regards to the priority of transformation. The MBS addresses the orthodox beliefs, spiritual disciplines, and missionary actions of the individuals within your local church.

The survey is best done on a Sunday morning and should take 15-20 minutes to complete. For information concerning the Missional Behavior Survey and how to walk your church through the process, please visit the Gospel Saturation website at www.gospelsaturation.church/accelerator.

For further study and personal reflection, consider Mission Columbia for an example of how one group is attempting to disciple a city:
<https://www.missioncolumbia.org>.

Coaching Triad Questions



Soul: What has your own journey of Spirit transformation looked like over the last couple of months?

Conviction: Which of the radical minimums are you most passionate to see lived out in our COA? Why is that?

Practice: How are you attempting to change the culture of the church or group that you lead?

Wisdom: Are there any issues where you need counsel, wisdom or advice in your life or ministry right now?

Personal Plan: What tangible steps have you taken in implementing your personal action plan for transformation?

Conversation 4



MULTIPLICATION

Conversation 4



CONVERSATION 4



MULTIPLICATION



And the Word of God continued to increase, and the number of disciples multiplied greatly....

-Luke the Physician, Acts 6:7

Read and Reflect

Take 10 minutes to read the following conversation starter. As you read, place a star (*) beside the main ideas, an exclamation mark (!) beside points that stand out, and a question mark (?) beside ideas that prompt questions or with which you disagreed.

Over the last few years, this word "multiply" or "multiplication" has become vogue within the evangelical world. This concept is the subject of numerous books and the theme of national conferences. With all of the talk about multiplication, we have yet to see the Church do much in the way of multiplication in the North American context.



God wants a movement of multiplication. There is no doubt that God has hardwired multiplication into everything that He created. Humans, animals, and plants all multiply by nature. His church is no different. If a movement is going to happen it will not happen through adding a few more members to our church roles; it will happen by multiplying missionary disciples who multiply gospel conversations with the lost and trust God to bring in an overwhelming harvest. The result of multiplying disciples are churches that multiply as well.

Primer, pg. 36

Most of us have been familiar with the concept of multiplication since 3rd grade math class, but when it comes to the kingdom, what do we mean by multiplication? Multiplication is ***God's people continually reproducing disciples, leaders, and churches for the Gospel Saturation of a place.***

Dissect that definition and notice the three streams where multiplication needs to take place: disciple, leader, and church. We tend to emphasize the multiplication of churches when talking about this priority, but this broader definition hinges on multiplication at the personal level. Unless each cell of the body learns to multiply, we will never see a movement of multiplication in our cities.

Understanding the concept of multiplication is one thing, but creating a system and process where multiplication takes place is far more important. There is a great tension to allow the organic-ness of multiplication to develop, yet we also need simple, sustainable systems that will help every church and every disciple multiply. And, this multiplication must move beyond first generation leaders of the church. For true multiplication to take place, Bob cannot simply develop José and Frank, but Bob must multiply himself in José and Frank and then see them lead by multiplying themselves in other relationships. Everything cannot depend on Bob, or else the entire foundation for multiplication will be too weak to sustain the needs that exponential multiplication will bring about.



We are often prone to believe that the movement of God pictured in the book of Acts was like a giant snowball careening down a hill, picking up speed and momentum as it went. But, now the snowball sits on level ground. Occasionally it might seem to creep forward just a bit, but in general we have given up on the notion of movement and have settled for simply hoping that the snowball doesn't melt completely.

Primer, pg. 32

It's time to review our shared convictions. As we read them again, think about finding a way to keep these three convictions in front of you every day for the next 30 days.

- *Conviction 1:* When God moves in the world, He moves through all His people.
- *Conviction 2:* When God moves in the world, He moves through leaders who equip others as their main priority.
- *Conviction 3:* When God moves in the world, He moves through disciples and churches that multiply.

Where do you see the theme of multiplication in these convictions? How does the outworking of these convictions depend on healthy, active, shared multiplication?

Watch this video to wrestle with the implications of the priority of multiplication:
<https://vimeo.com/130108893>.

Prayer Huddles

What's the most vivid example you've personally witnessed of gospel-driven multiplication? When have you seen God do something that astounded you? What did you learn from this experience? Share your answers to these questions in a group of 3 and spend some time praying that God would do even greater things in the days ahead.

Equipping and Empowering

One of the most surprising and radical statements Jesus ever made was in the upper room the evening before His death. He had spent 3 years pouring himself into the lives of 12 men. The disciples didn't know how the next three days would radically alter their lives, and the world, but Jesus was going to transform the narrative of creation forever through His death and resurrection. As much as His resurrection was a mystery to them, the implications of this one statement probably blew their minds: "Whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do..." (Jn 14:12).



Kingdom movement depends on the Holy Spirit using ordinary people to multiply the gospel in and from the harvest.

Primer, pg. 36

It's hard to imagine what Peter, John, and the others were thinking when Jesus made this claim, but His words set a cultural norm for the first three centuries of the early church. The spread of the gospel message and the explosive multiplication of the church across the civilized world would not have taken place if leaders of this early movement were merely concerned about their own personal platforms, influence, and accomplishments. They truly believed that God would use them to do greater works than Jesus Himself had done on this earth.

This reality also shaped how the first disciples viewed future generations. The early church was built upon a foundation where every disciple and leader had the responsibility to equip and empower the next generation of leaders coming behind them. They believed that the next generation would do more and greater works than the previous one. We must recover this fundamental conviction if we are going to see a multiplication movement of Christ's Kingdom in our cities and communities.



My story, my salvation, my personal growth, my suffering is all rooted in the glory of God and His mission in the world. I can't merely seek spiritual maturity for my sake, but so that I can give my life away to the work God is already doing all around me. Not only do I have to believe this, but as a pastor or church leader, I must lead others to believe this as well.

Primer, pg. 33

Take some time to write three areas of responsibility that you could begin handing over to new leadership within the next 12-18 months. (example: Men's ministry)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Next, write the names of three individuals you are going to invest in, equip, and empower to do "greater works" than you.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Finally, determine three tangible steps in the next three weeks that you will commit to now, in order to make progress to equip and empower next generation leadership.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Before you move on to the next section, reassemble as a large group and ask a few select individuals to share one example of a next step they plan to take.

Coaching Questions



What keeps us from thinking the people that we lead are capable of doing "greater works" than us?

Why did Jesus have this mindset?

What achievement idols do you have to put to death in order to make progress on this?

First Generation Leadership

As kingdom leaders, we want to help create a culture of decentralized ownership, which occurs when individual disciples of Jesus understand their unique calling as ambassadors of Christ, but don't need prescriptive orders from church leadership to live out the mission of God where they live, learn, work, or play. Decentralized ownership will never become the norm as long as the various ministries and processes of a church are dependent on first generation leadership.

For example, Springfield Community Church has a discipleship program with Pastor Joe Smith leading. Every year, between 15-20 adults go through their discipleship process, and they meet every Wednesday night for an hour at the church building. This isn't bad, but the process is bottlenecked by leadership and location. Pastor Smith is the first generation leader who dispenses



We must believe that the church's greatest asset to seeing a movement of God rests not in the gifts and abilities of our current leaders, but the seed of the gospel that lies within every transformed follower of Jesus.

Primer, pg. 34-35



God invites all of His people to join Him in whatever He is doing in the world.

Primer, pg. 46

the content, but what happens to the process if Pastor Smith leaves the church? Most churches have processes and systems that are built to create dependency on first generation leadership and a centralized location.

In order to see a true movement of multiplication, Pastor Smith would need to create a discipleship process that isn't dependent on him or the church building. Thinking about multiplication in this way isn't easy for many of us. We've been trained to do everything and often fail to delegate effectively. But, if we are ever going to see a movement of transformed disciples then we must think about how we can multiply ourselves and our ministries.

Take some time for personal reflection about your church context. Write down the top five ministries in your church dependent on 1st generation leadership:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Label the answers above 1-5 (1 being the easiest to transition to a multiplication process). Finally, list 1 strategic action step below that you can take in each area to move this ministry beyond 1st generation leadership toward true multiplication.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Coaching Questions



Why is it easier to create dependency on first generation leadership for our church programs than to create decentralized ownership?

How would your church staff's job descriptions change if they were required to create decentralized ownership in the ministry they oversee?

Who are three leaders who will be key in helping you move your church to become less dependent on first generation leadership?

Church Planting Opportunities

One of the cold, hard facts discovered during the second learning collective (mobilization) is that your COA needs more churches—more gospel-centered, kingdom-minded churches. Too many times, we are trained to see the number of churches in our city and not the lostness of our city. If we are going to reach our cities, then church planting must be more than a nicety—it must become a necessity. Multiplication must be inherent in the very DNA of the local church so that its work naturally results in the development of transformed disciples who start new churches.

Spend some time right now identifying possible opportunities for collaboration on a church planting initiative within your community. Form groups of 3 and reflect on the following questions. Once each group has sufficient time to brainstorm, call the groups back together and ask a representative from each to share their thoughts with the larger group.

- 1) **Population group** - Where is a population center within your COA with a larger percentage of lostness or fewer churches? (example: west side of downtown)
- 2) **People group** - Is there a people group within your city that hasn't seen the gospel contextualized among them yet? (example: Hispanic immigrants)

- 3) **Current plants** - Are there any church planters or church plants in the formation stage that need the training, resources, and support your group can get behind?
- 4) **Church rebirth/replant** - Are there any dying or dwindling churches that are open and available to re-plant? (example: churches with less than 40 attenders)
- 5) **Potential opportunities** - Do any of your churches have individuals thinking about and interested in church planting? What resources, manpower, or gifts could we collectively bring to the table that would be difficult for any of our churches to accomplish if they were working in isolation?



The normative 'why' answers are derived from the OS of church growth. We plant churches so that they grow, develop structures and systems, integrate new members, and undertake the wide array of ministries thought to be necessary for healthy church function. An OS driven by Gospel Saturation focused on seeing a movement of God and manifesting His Kingdom within circles of accountability would fundamentally change the way we are prone to answer the 'why' question. Ironically, those who grasp the nature of Gospel Saturation would argue that the purpose of church planting isn't actually church planting. Church planting simply exists as a means to ensure that every man, woman, and child has a repeated opportunity to see, hear, and respond to Jesus Christ. Church planting can be both a vehicle to making the gospel accessible to a people and a result of reaching a people in a place.

Primer, pg. 60

We need to spend a season seeking the Holy Spirit as we pray over these opportunities. As a group, decide how and when you will pray about the church planting needs in your COA. One of the items we must all pray about is how much "skin in the game" we are willing to put into our collective church planting initiative. Be willing to answer these questions, which we will discuss during our sixth learning collective:

- 1) How much money are we willing to invest?
- 2) How many people are we willing to send?
- 3) How many resources are we willing to give away?
- 4) How much time will we give?

Taking it Further

Re-form your groups of 3 people and discuss the following questions after a short time of personal reflection.

Based on what I've discovered today, the one thing I will personally do is...

Based on what I've discovered today, the one thing that I will lead my church to do is...

Based on what we've discovered today, the one thing that we are going to do together is...

Church Planting Continuum

The following exercise is meant to be homework that can be done with the leadership team of your church. Even though church planting has been on the rise for the last 15 years, the results of evangelization and discipleship outcomes have not really changed. Often, the problem is that these new churches are simply collecting existing attenders from other churches.

We need churches planted from people within the harvest. We need the kind of churches that impact lostness. We need the kind of churches that make disciples who are committed to reaching every man, woman, and child. It's quite simple—every church on the planet participating in church planting with the vision of the evangelization of their COA's.

Now, we want to evaluate our church's current involvement, recognizing that God is looking for steps forward in the kingdom. No church has planting and multiplication completely figured out.

On the next page, take time to consider your church's current level of participation for **local** (not global) church planting. Evaluate your church on the scale (0 being the least involved to 7 being the most) and circle which value best correlates to your level of participation.



The temptation occurs when we excuse ourselves out of involvement. When our church is bigger, has more resources, or has our house in order, then we will get in the game. But we all know this day never comes. If we do not take steps to increase our level of intentionality, then it is unlikely that the new OS of Gospel Saturation has really gotten in our bones in the first place.

Primer, pg. 61

Our Church's Current Level of Participation

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

- 0 - Not on Radar
- 1 - Financial support through network/denomination
- 2 - Financial support to a specific plant/planter relationship
- 3 - Intentional prayer for church planters in worship services
- 4 - Publicly celebrating church-planting wins
- 5 - Coaching planter(s) and financial support
- 6 - Sending people from the local body to plant
- 7 - Collaborating with other churches to train and plant in a shared COA.

Next, circle the level of participation you hope your church is at in 12 months. Remember, we aren't looking for a giant leap, just small, faithful steps in the right direction.

Our Church's Level of Participation in 12 Months

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

- 0 - Not on Radar
- 1 - Financial support through network/denomination
- 2 - Financial support to a specific plant/planter relationship
- 3 - Intentional prayer for church planters in worship services
- 4 - Publicly celebrating church-planting wins
- 5 - Coaching planter(s) and financial support
- 6 - Sending people from the local body to plant
- 7 - Collaborating with other churches to train and plant in a shared COA.

What would be necessary to move you from where you are to where you want to be?



Coaching Triad Questions

Soul: What will it take in order for you to believe that the people that you lead in your church and/or ministry are able to do greater works than you?

Conviction: How do you think your commitment to give away and send out will be tested as we seek to multiply disciples and churches in our COA?

Practice: How are you introducing the conviction of multiplication to the key leaders within your church?
Wisdom: Are there any issues where you need counsel, wisdom, or advice in your life or ministry right now?

Personal Plan: What tangible steps have you taken in implementing your personal action plan for multiplication?

For further study and personal reflection, consider the following:

1. Houston Church Planting Network, <http://www.hcpn.org/>
2. The Cypress Project, <http://cypressproject.org/>
3. Multiply, <http://multiplygroup.org/>

Conversation 5



COLLABORATION

Conversation 5



CONVERSATION 5



COLLABORATION



I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

-Jesus

Read and Reflect

Take 10 minutes to read the following conversation starter. As you read, place a star (*) beside the main ideas, an exclamation mark (!) beside points that stand out, and a question mark (?) beside ideas that prompt questions or with which you disagreed.

Collaboration, as a concept, is something we are all familiar with. We certainly know what it means to work with others to accomplish some objective. Even the notion of collaboration with other churches is often seen as a worthy goal.

Wouldn't it be great if like-minded churches could come together to accomplish more than they might otherwise be able to do alone? It's one thing to aspire to this goal, yet another thing to see collaboration between diverse churches actually come to fruition.



No one church, denomination, or network can do it alone. Wanting what God wants should compel all of God's people to come to a common table to pray, think, strategize, and walk together to accomplish the mission of filling the whole earth with His glory.

Primer, pg. 35

There is good news, however. Since many leaders affirm the idea of collaboration, and most understand that they are incapable of reaching their entire COA alone, this can be an easy area to get some immediate traction toward Gospel Saturation. Collaboration occurs when ***God's people partner with all the expressions of His Church for the Gospel Saturation of a place.***

There are some initial questions that always arise when we discuss collaboration and it usually centers around that word "partnering". How much or how little should we partner with other churches? What if we have theological or philosophical differences with other churches? This month's conversation is designed to help you navigate these waters so that you can make wise decisions in the area of collaboration.



When God's people are going after the mission together as one, the byproduct is unity. Unity doesn't exist for unity's sake. It exists for the sake of mission. God unites us in the mission and for the mission.

Primer, pg. 49

Whenever a conversation about collaboration takes place within a COA, the first priority of the group must be to answer this question: "What's at the center of our collective mission?" Any attempt to collaborate which puts something other than Gospel Saturation at the center will inevitably falter. For example, many will place "unity" at the center of the mission of collaboration. They want to see all of God's people come together and break down walls of division. This is a good, and God-honoring goal. But it's not enough. It's insufficient to sustain lasting collaboration. Once the thrill of a shared service or community project wears off, the churches will often return to their individual missions.

The only power great enough to sustain lasting collaboration is found in a shared commitment to Gospel Saturation. This cannot be emphasized enough: a vision to give every man, woman, and child repeated opportunities to see, hear, and respond to the gospel without having to go anywhere is the only vision big enough to sustain a regular gathering of kingdom leaders in a community.

By being here today, we are taking a tangible step to answer the prayer of Jesus in John 17. We always begin our time together by reminding each other of our three core convictions. Think about how to put these in front of you every day. Let's have three volunteers who will each take one conviction and write it out on the white board:

- *Conviction 1: When God moves in the world, He moves through all His people.*



No single church, regardless of how large, represents the sole outpost of God's Church in a city. It's hard to imagine any church, regardless of its size, thinking they can bring holistic influence to the various domains of society without the health of other churches. God is gathering people into His Church through the ministry of local churches other than the one you attend. U.S. cities, are blessed by God with a diversity of local churches which, when combined, represent God's Church in the city. This blessing is squandered when churches exist in isolation or worse, are known for disunity and divisiveness.

- *Conviction 2: When God moves in the world, He moves through disciples and churches that multiply.*
- *Conviction 3: When God moves in the world, He moves through leaders who equip others as their main priority.*

How do these convictions necessitate collaboration? Take time to share your observations. In addition, ask various members of the group to reflect on their homework assignment from last month where they were instructed to rate their church's engagement in church planting and dream about where they would like to be in 12 months. What conclusions can your group draw from this exercise? After some discussion, watch this video for a helpful perspective on collaboration: <https://vimeo.com/131106143>.



This means you should celebrate when the church down the street succeeds, even if the other church's success results in no impact on your church. We should beg God to redeem and restore every aspect of society and use all of us, gathered in many local churches, to do just that.

Primer, pg. 41

Prayer Huddles

We long for God to move, particularly to create a passion in our church for multiplication. But, at the end of the day, we can become quick to plan and strategize and forget that church planting is a work of God. He's the only One capable of inciting a passion for planting among our people, and He alone can bring saving faith to every man, woman, and child. Spend a few minutes in your groups praying that God would do just that. Ask that He would work through you and your church's frustrations and failures in the area of church planting to produce a harvest that can only be attributable to His grace and glory.



The same is true in our day. God's Church faces overwhelming odds, but we serve a God who loves to work against all odds. If we see a movement of God in our day, we can rest assured it's not because we built the Kingdom, extended the Kingdom, grew the Kingdom, or any other description that maximizes our role in the process and minimizes God's. He allows His Kingdom to come as an act of His grace, so that He gets all the glory.

Primer, pg. 42

Establishing Trust and Boundaries

How much or how little should we collaborate? With whom should we collaborate? These are the questions that come up the most when we talk about collaboration. It's impossible to be prescriptive in this area and give definitive answers to those questions due to the diverse nature of local churches and the myriad of factors that could shape the answers we might propose. Every pastor and kingdom leader must decide in their own conscience and with their own convictions how and with whom they will partner.

Use the following exercise to personally identify some of the core doctrines, convictions, and preferences that will shape your church's ability to collaborate. Core doctrines are first degree beliefs that distinguish between those who are Christians and those who are not. Convictions are second degree beliefs on which genuine Christians may differ. These beliefs drive with whom we will covenant together as a local church body. Finally, preferences are those things that Christians may differ on, while still covenanting together in the same local church.

It's important to identify these issues personally because this will define who we are willing to trust and align with for Gospel Saturation.

It's also important to determine these convictions ahead of time and be honest about the challenges you might have in collaboration. It's tremendously deflating, both for you and for the churches you work with, to labor in partnership for some time only to discover a hindrance to partnership, which should have been addressed at the outset, leading ultimately to derailing the collaborative work. Let's take some time and list at least five core ideas in each of the three categories below that you believe are true about you and the church in which you serve.



We pray that we would see God's people partnering with all expressions of the Church for the Gospel Saturation of specific places on the map.

Primer, pg. 48

Doctrines

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Convictions

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Preferences

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Below is a list of activities and initiatives which churches have collaborated on in the past. Place a 1 (core doctrines); 2 (convictions); or 3 (preferences) by the initiative according to the base level of alignment you would need to agree upon in order to collaborate. For example, you might say that you would only need alignment around core doctrines to participate in a shared initiative to provide a Thanksgiving meal to an impoverished community in your COA, while you would need alignment all the way down to the preference level to plant a new church together.



To propel the church outward, the church's leaders focus on releasing assets, building disciples, and collaborating with other churches.

Primer, pg. 47

- _____ Back to school event (free backpacks to kids in need)
- _____ City wide youth outreach event
- _____ Crisis Pregnancy Center support
- _____ Acts of service/mercy
- _____ Night of Worship and Prayer
- _____ Community-wide Bible reading initiative
- _____ Church Planting/Revitalization support (financial)
- _____ Church Planting/Revitalization support (people)
- _____ City-wide Evangelism campaign
- _____ School mentorship program
- _____ Pulpit swap/Combined sermon series
- _____ Create a city-wide church member database for an Art of Neighboring project

Coaching Questions



What did you discover about yourself and your convictions as you worked through this exercise?

How do we maintain respect and grace for each other through this process?

How can you lean into collaboration instead of pulling back from those who don't share the same doctrines, convictions, and preferences?

Now, form groups of 3 people and share your ideas. Walk through each of the three categories on one another's list and share how you each scored the various events and activities above.

Before we begin, it's vital that we all show grace to one another through this process. No two pastors or leaders are alike. There may be some people that have a conviction about something that another pastor holds as preference. It's fine to push into the rationale behind someone's ranking, but it hinders our collaborative efforts to devalue one another in the process.

Also, we should remember that churches will not all collaborate all of the time. We should respect one another enough to allow churches to opt-in and out of any event or initiative based on their convictions. Most people think that collaboration is an all or nothing proposal, but it is much more nuanced than that. We will see enhanced effectiveness in promoting collaboration if we allow



Sure, you could easily pull a few churches together to participant in a shared mission day in order to give back-packs stocked with school supplies to single-moms. These kinds of efforts are noble and will likely appease your conscience for a while, but it will do little to revamp the OS of your church unless it is matched by a fundamental restructuring of the nature and mission of your church along Kingdom lines. Infused by such Kingdom-intentionality, the church can be released into the world to declare and demonstrate the good news of Jesus to every man, woman, and child.

Primer, pg. 49

one another the freedom to take steps into partnership over time rather than pressing people beyond the point of their convictions.

Discovering Potential Hurdles

It's not only our theological and convictional differences that can keep us from collaborating. Many times personal issues between church leaders have created divisions amongst God's people that derail collaboration in a city. There are three main hurdles that every church and leader will have to continually overcome: pride, pain, or plans.

Break into groups of 3 and write down one potential or actual issue in each category that you are working through right now. How are you seeing pride, pain, or plans hinder collaborative work? If you are just moving toward collaboration, then your examples may come from past attempts at collaborative work. Or they may come from efforts at collaboration around missionary objectives among staff members or leaders of the same local church.

After mentioning an area where pride, pain, or plans have hindered collaboration, attempt to define one concrete, biblical step that you could take to address this challenge.

Pride - The attitude and posture of some groups and leaders who believe they don't need help from others and that collaboration is a waste of time.

Action step: _____



Notice that Paul says to 'maintain the unity.' This language demonstrates that unity is not something we strive towards but it is something that we, as God's people, are given by virtue of our shared adoption into God's family.

Primer, pg. 49

Pain - A history of intentional or unintentional hurt between leaders and churches that have driven a wedge between God's people in a COA.

Action step: _____

Plans - The busyness of life and ministry that keeps leaders from partnering with one another.

Action step: _____

Coaching Questions



In your opinion, is pride, pain, or plans the biggest problem in our COA? Why?

Which one of these hurdles is tripping you up personally from collaboration?

What is God saying to you to address this?

Modeling Reconciliation

That last exercise is a great way for us to transition to our next conversation. Here's the harsh reality: There are pastors and kingdom leaders who should be in this room but are not. As we look at Scripture, we can see that division is the natural human condition, not reconciliation and harmony.

- There's cultural and racial division (Acts 6:1; Gal 2:11-14);
- There's leader/follower division (1 Cor 1:10-12);
- There's personality and personal division (Phil 4:2-3).



**I do not ask for these only,
but also for those who
will believe in Me through
their word, that they may
all be one, just as You,
Father, are in Me, and I in
you, that they also may
be in Us, so that the world
may believe that You
have sent Me.**

(Jn 17:20-21)

If we are not intentional about being agents of reconciliation (2 Cor 5:18-19), then division will be a natural outflow of life. We need to model reconciliation and unity and demonstrate that the gospel of Christ can heal and mend the wounds that have divided Christ's church.

Jesus prayed in John 17 for His people to be one as He and the Father are one. Why? So that the world would know that Jesus is the Savior of the world. When we model reconciliation to the world, it's one of the strongest apologetics to an unbelieving world. Collaboration may be the most foreign of the four priorities of Gospel Saturation, which is why we need to depend on the Holy Spirit to help us understand how we take simple and small steps forward.

Break into three different groups assigning each to take one of the divisions mentioned above. Spend 15 minutes developing a plan for how we can model reconciliation so we are intentional about "tearing down the dividing wall of hostility" (Eph 2:14-16).

1. Cultural/racial Division

2. Leader/follower Division

3. Personality Division

Each group should take 5 minutes to explain their plan to the group as a whole before you spend time reflecting on the outcomes of this month's conversation.

Taking it Further

In groups of 3 people discuss the following questions after a short time of personal reflection.

Based on what I've discovered today, the one thing I will personally do is...

Based on what I've discovered today, the one thing that I will lead my church to do is...

Based on what we've discovered today, the one thing that we are going to do together is...

Coaching Triad Questions

Soul: How can you grow in trust with the other Kingdom leaders in your community? What are you actively doing to build and pursue trust?



Conviction: Why do you think most church and Kingdom leaders don't believe that collaboration is a necessity? What would have to shift in your heart for you to say that collaboration is a necessity for you?

Practice: Who do you need to seek reconciliation with? How are you doing that?

Wisdom: Are there any issues where you need counsel, wisdom or advice in your life or ministry right now?

Personal Plan: What tangible steps have you taken in implementing your personal action plan for multiplication?

Who needs to be here?

The following exercise is meant to be homework that can be done with the leadership team of your church. Spending time completing these exercises can't help but draw our attention to leaders who need to be in this room, but are not. Take some time to write down the names of four Kingdom leaders you believe need to be in this room each month. Spend some personal time praying for opportunities to engage these leaders in conversation about Gospel Saturation.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

For further study and personal reflection, consider the following:

1. The Art of Neighboring, <http://www.artofneighboring.com/>
2. The Go Project, <http://thegoproject.org/newelcome>
3. Explore God, <http://www.exploregod.com/>
4. Walls Campaign, <https://faithbreakthroughs.com/>

Conversation 6



PLAN

Conversation 6



CONVERSATION 6

P LAN

Read and Reflect

Take 10 minutes to read the following conversation starter. As you read, place a star (*) beside the main ideas, an exclamation mark (!) beside points that stand out, and a question mark (?) beside ideas that prompt questions or with which you disagreed.

The conclusion of the *Accelerator* is merely a beginning of the work toward Gospel Saturation. The priorities of Gospel Saturation—Mobilization, Transformation, Multiplication, and Collaboration—are not quickly applied and implemented into a church and city.

We have all grown deeper in our understanding of the meaning of Gospel Saturation, but it will take



**Ideas shape actions.
Principles develop
priorities.**

Primer, pg. 82

a lifetime to know how to apply what we've learned. I think it's important to remember a few simple truths to help us move forward faithfully as we labor towards giving every man, woman, and child repeated opportunities to see, hear, and respond to the gospel of Jesus Christ.



There's certainly two ways to guarantee that we won't change, at least not for long. The first is to do nothing—continue the OS of church growth in hopes that somehow our results will be different than they have proven to be up to this time. The second is to address the symptoms with new Apps.

Primer, pg. 84

Principles naturally produce priorities. They go hand in hand. Honestly you don't need to stress too much about the priorities and changes that are to come. Yes, they will be hard, you'll likely face opposition, and you may even question if it's worth it. But, you'll soon discover that these priorities are a natural overflow of shared principles. You cannot help but prioritize these things if the principles are really lodged in your heart.

Primer, pg. 85

First, we need to remember to have patience with the process. There's a lot of truth to apply, and this work may seem overwhelming at times. Instead of crushing yourself with activity and frustrating others with frantic efforts at change, it's wise to take a long view, listen to the Spirit's guidance, and take small steps in the right direction. Take the pulse of your church. Look for simple opportunities to implement change. Bring your people and leaders along slowly. Most of them, like you, were raised in churches with an Operating System vastly different from Gospel Saturation. We must lead our people with patience and demonstrate that we love the people we are leading more than some arbitrary outcome we've predetermined in our minds. We want all God's people to grasp the priorities of mobilization, transformation, multiplication, and collaboration, but that takes time. Contemplate how God has been patient with you through this process of reshaping your beliefs about the mission of the church. Show the people you lead the same kind of patience.

Second, we must discipline ourselves to avoid drifting from our operating convictions. Don't allow the content and principles that you've learned to become a fad. If you've been a leader for any period of time,

you may have been through various fads that have consumed the evangelical church in North America. Gospel Saturation can't become another in a long list of Apps you've tried and given up on after six months. Gospel Saturation is a new Operating System, and we must *discipline* ourselves to make decisions in light of these new priorities and trust that change will result. Our hope is that every church in every city would be awakened to the convictions of Gospel Saturation, but that doesn't happen in a year—or even a decade. So don't give up on these priorities. Consistent and regular evaluation and reflection on these priorities will help you make the necessary changes for the church at the right time.



What if you could build the church you've dreamed about—the church you believe God wants?

Primer, pg. 85

Finally, remember that God loves you. God loves His church. In fact, He loves the people you lead more than you do. He wants to see every man, woman, and child have access to the gospel more than you do. He cares more about the lost than you do. He desires to produce multiplication more than you do. When we keep our hearts close to His, we begin to want what He wants. As our passion for His glory grows we're positioned to persevere in the long, enjoyable process of seeing Gospel Saturation embraced in our churches and cities.

Coaching Questions



How do you think your patience will be tested as you attempt to apply the priorities of Gospel Saturation in your local church?

What will be the biggest hurdle to keeping you disciplined and motivated to apply the priorities of Gospel Saturation?

How has your love for the people of God grown over the last few months since we've gone through the *Accelerator*?

How has your love for the city grown over the last few months?

You know that we always want to begin our time together by reminding ourselves of these convictions. One of the ways we can continue to deepen our grasp of these convictions is to begin teaching them to others in your ministry context. Let's read all three of them one more time:

- *Conviction 1: When God moves in the world, He moves through all His people.*
- *Conviction 2: When God moves in the world, He moves through disciples and churches that multiply.*
- *Conviction 3: When God moves in the world, He moves through leaders who equip others as their main priority.*

Our prayer is that the time you've spent with the other kingdom leaders in this resource will encourage a gospel movement in your heart, your church, and your community. First, let's take some time to review our coaching triads and the preparation for our conversations. What have you learned about yourself through the peer-to-peer coaching times together? Form groups of 3 to share your observations with the group and spend some time praying in light of what you've been processing. Then, watch the following video to see three city leaders discuss the process of pursuing Gospel Saturation together:
<https://vimeo.com/119372851>.

Prayer Huddles

Spend time praying through the four priorities of Gospel Saturation. As we've been discussing and discovering the priorities and practices of Gospel Saturation, it will be tempting to let what we've learned become stale truths in our minds. One of the ways we can deepen Gospel Saturation in our hearts is to pray specifically for the tangible manifestation of mobilization, transformation, multiplication, and collaboration in our churches and in our city. Break into groups of 3 and pray through each of the four priorities.

- **Mobilization** - Pray for the churches in your COA to be sending communities and not just collecting communities. Pray for every disciple of Jesus to be the primary access point for the gospel in the places they live, learn, work, and play. Pray that God's people would see the harvest the way that Jesus saw the harvest and have compassion on them.
- **Transformation** - Ask God to do the mighty work of transforming hearts and lives through the power of the gospel by His Spirit. Pray that pastors and churches would not become complacent in the Great Commission. Pray the strongholds of sin and idolatry in your COA would be destroyed and for the people of God to display the light of the gospel in tangible ways.

- **Multiplication** - Pray for God to raise up disciples who will plant the gospel in your community. Pray for churches by name who need a movement of revitalization and renewal. Pray new churches would be planted that would impact the harvest by seeing new men, women, and children come to saving faith.
 - **Collaboration** - Ask God to tear down every wall of hostility that exists between pastors and churches in your city. Pray that Jesus' desire in John 17 would be answered in your city. Pray for a spirit of oneness and desire for God's glory so that no one gets credit for what He is going to do.
-



So, rather than focusing all the effort and attention on the gathered church, our new OS demands a focus on scattering—an emphasis on mobilizing the Church to be the Church in the world. It's this goal that should inform the questions leaders ask, the way they conduct meetings, the structure of their budgets, the alignment of their staff, the nature of their teaching, and every other aspect of the day to day life of the church.

Primer, pg. 89

After your time of prayer, come back together and reflect: What does the content of these prayers show you about what you've been wrestling with throughout the *Accelerator*?

Putting A Plan in Place

We've spent the last four sessions diving into the four priorities of Gospel Saturation. Let's review them together right now:

- **Mobilization** happens when God's people own the lostness of a defined people in a defined place.
- **Transformation** is God's people transformed into the image of Christ, resulting in the gospel renewal of lives, communities, and cultures.
- **Multiplication** is God's people continually reproducing disciples, leaders, and churches for the Gospel Saturation of a place.
- And finally, **Collaboration** occurs when God's people partner with all the expressions of His Church for the Gospel Saturation of a place.



Prioritizing transformation creates an agile church culture that is able to move, change, and adapt quickly in order to pursue God's intended design for His people.

Primer, pg. 90.

Each of these priorities are vital to the overall vision to see every man, woman, and child have repeated opportunities to see, hear, and respond to the gospel of Jesus Christ. We can't simply focus on one and neglect the others if we want to see our vision become a reality. It's important to recognize that we may be more passionate and burdened for one of these priorities over others. We may also find that our church is more receptive to one of the priorities over the other three. We must be diligent to consistently apply all of them and to work towards the implementation of all four in our lives, churches, and community.

Look back at your notes from the first conversation in the *Accelerator* when you were asked to list questions you had about each priority. Since that time, which of these questions still remain? What new questions have emerged?

Now, take about 10 minutes and think about one way that you are going to implement each of the four priorities in your church over the next 12 months.

1. Mobilization: _____

2. Transformation: _____

3. Multiplication: _____

4. Collaboration: _____

Coaching Questions



Did you find this exercise encouraging, convicting, or frustrating? What does this tell you about yourself? Your church? Your city COA?

Did you stall out on ideas in any one priority? Why?

Which of these ideas brings you to the edge of your seat with excitement? Why?

Next, form groups of 3-4 and take another 5 minutes to share a few of your ideas with one another. Don't be afraid to invite suggestions and ideas from each other to help you know what first steps would be beneficial as you apply this to your church.

Another important reminder as we work to develop a strategic plan of implementation, is to remember that we should look for small, achievable wins before attempting an initiative that you and your collaborative partners are not ready for. We've all heard the saying, "You've got to crawl before you can walk, and you've got to walk before you can run." Avoid being the pastors and kingdom leaders who are too aggressive in their ambitions as they work towards Gospel Saturation in their cities, leading to disillusionment and discouragement for everyone involved.



When the world sees the Church collaborating for the glory of Christ alone, they see something that they cannot find anywhere else in this world.

Primer, pg. 90



Coaching Questions

What ideas or initiatives did you discuss that you'd like to share with the larger group?

What do you need from our group as you attempt to lead your church through the process of Gospel Saturation?

What We Can Do Together

Even though we started with a discussion of our individual local churches, this is not the endgame for Gospel Saturation. We are after every man, woman, and child in our collective COA. This means we must consider how to embody these priorities as a group. Now, take about 10 minutes in groups of 3 and think about one idea you will implement for each of the four priorities together over the next 12 months. How can the pastors, leaders, and churches work together to see these priorities embraced in your shared COA?

1. Mobilization: _____

2. Transformation: _____

3. Multiplication: _____

4. Collaboration: _____

After each group has been given time to brainstorm, call the room back together and give each group a chance to share their ideas. Once groups have shared, talk together about what themes you heard. Where were areas of overlap? What ideas sound like something you can implement? What would it take to get one of these ideas off the ground in the next couple of months? Decide on one initiative for each priority in which your group can partner in the coming year.

1. Mobilization: _____

2. Transformation: _____

3. Multiplication: _____

4. Collaboration: _____

As we look over the projects we will attempt over the next 12 months, it's vital that all of us take ownership to drive one of the initiatives. Put the names of at least two people from the group beside each objective and ask these individuals to lead the charge in seeing these initiatives launched.

Where Do We Go from Here

There are three primary ways we are going to continue to drive the vision and mission of Gospel Saturation in our COA. It's our recommendation that you take a strategic group (elders, staff, deacons, etc.) through the *Accelerator* on your own. Everything we have done, including all the notes for each session are available for download at no cost at www.gospelsaturation.church.

The second is to schedule and commit to a regular/monthly meeting where we can deepen our convictions and develop the plans we initiated during our time in the *Accelerator*. Look over your calendars right now and commit to a day and time each month for the next 6 months where we will meet together to continue this process. You may find it wise to



On earth, such changes might seem counterintuitive, but one day we will all see clearly that a shift in priorities, like those we're discussing, will be the means God uses to bring many sons and daughters to glory to the praise of His name (Heb 2:10).

Primer, pg. 91

take a break before you begin to meet again, particularly if you are heading into the Christmas season or the summer when many will already be gone. But, even if that is the case, go ahead and plan the dates and times to hold yourself and your group accountable to continue the conversation.

Gathering date:

Time _____

Place _____

Gathering date:

Time _____

Place _____

Gathering date:

Time _____

Place _____

Gathering date:

Time _____

Place _____

Gathering date:

Time _____

Place _____

Gathering date:

Time _____

Place _____

The final way in which we can drive the vision and mission for Gospel Saturation is to continue to invite kingdom leaders in our COA to our gatherings. Take some time to write down the name of the person you will invite to be part of our next meeting.

We must be conscious of not leaving behind the other pastors and leaders in our city. There should always be an open on-ramp to join us in our vision for every man, woman, and child.

I will invite: _____



It is our hope that you have begun to rethink the answers to all the 'why' questions you've held up to this point in Christian ministry and church leadership. We understand that the process of owning certain convictions takes time. When we are presented with a new paradigm, we go through an evolution in our mind, heart, and soul while trying to grasp the magnitude of the truth presented to us.

Primer, pg. 92

Taking it Further

In groups of 3 people discuss the following questions after a short time of personal reflection.



Can you go back to doing church the way you always have after being exposed to this new conviction of an OS that seeks to saturate every man, woman, and child with the gospel and God's glory?

Primer, pg. 93

Based on what I've discovered today, the one thing I will personally do is...

Based on what I've discovered today, the one thing that I will lead my church to do is...

Based on what we've discovered today, the one thing that we are going to do together is...

Coaching Triad Questions

Soul: How has this learning collective impacted your journey as you're being conformed to the image of Christ?

Conviction: How different will you be if everything goes according to the plan you have for yourself and your church? How different will you be if nothing goes according to the plan you have for yourself and your church?



Practice: What role does wisdom play for you as you begin to implement your plan? What role does patience play for you as you begin to implement your plan? What role does prayer play for you as you begin to implement your plan?

Wisdom: What do you need most from your friends and this coaching triad over the next 6 weeks?

Personal Plan: What are the three biggest hurdles you foresee slowing you down or distracting you from completing this plan? What are you going to do about them right now?

Now that you've concluded the *Primer* and *Accelerator*, our challenge is that you move from learner to leader to multiplier. The reality is that we will never reach our city COA with the people who are currently in the room. We need more. Many more.

How will you multiply this Gospel Saturation vision into other regions in the city?

Would you be willing to lead as a networker or coordinator to see this multiplied in other places for a national vision of Gospel Saturation so that the gospel is declared to every man, woman, and child in North America?

If so, we invite you to let us know by registering or contacting us online at www.ChristTogether.org.

CHRIST **TOGETHER** 

ChristTogether.org