

Mt. 28:16-20

# A NEW *Beginning*



LOOK TO THE CROSS FOR ETERNAL HOPE

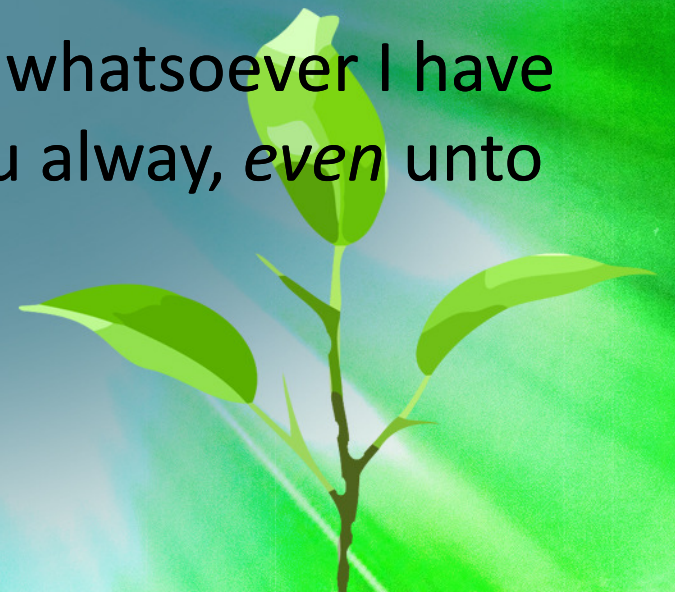
Mt. 28:16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them.

17 And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted.

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.



## *The great need and work of church planting*

1 Tim. 3:15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is **the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.**

[http://apostles-raleigh.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/Why\\_Plant\\_Churches-Keller.pdf](http://apostles-raleigh.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/Why_Plant_Churches-Keller.pdf)

(See Lyle Schaller, *44 Questions for Church Planters* (Nashville: Abingdon, 1991), p.12.)

Roughly 80 to 85 percent of established churches in America are either plateaued or declining. And sadly, 3,000 to 4,000 churches are closing every year.

<http://www.sbts.edu/resources/magazines/restoring-the-churchs-first-love-a-case-study-from-the-church-at-ephesus/>

<https://www.barna.org/barna-update/culture/698-10-facts-about-america-s-churchless#.VKhdCVqtx94>

## *Where to begin*

To properly understand *church planting*, one must have a proper, Scriptural understanding of Ecclesiology. Simply put, the Lord Jesus Christ stated that He had authority (Mt. 28:18) and gave it to the first church to carry out the *Great Commission*.

A simple summary for church planting – CHURCHES START CHURCHES.



## PRAYER

Before the Lord Jesus officially began His first church, He spent the night before in prayer:

Lu. 6:12-13 (see 1 Cor. 12:28)

Mk. 9:29 (Mt. 17:21)

Before starting the Apostle Paul's great missionary ministry, the church at Antioch fasted and prayed:

Acts 13:3 And **when they had fasted and prayed**, and laid *their* hands on them, **they sent *them* away.**

Acts 1:13-14, 4:24, 29-31, 12:5, 12, 16:16, 25, 20:35-36, 21:5

# COMMITMENT TO PRAY – A commitment to pray every day!

A  
C  
T  
S

Adoration

Confession

Thanksgiving

Supplication

Presently, we have 30 members committed to praying over 51 hours, or **2 DAYS**, per week, every week, asking the Lord to enable us to start churches via our church.

## PARTNERING WITH A MAN CALLED OF GOD

- THE EXISTENCE OF THE MOTHER CHURCH
- The first church in Jerusalem was the center of missionary activity.
- The church in Jerusalem had the authority, and concern, to start a church in Antioch.
- The church chose a faithful man to go to Antioch.
- Barnabas had connection to the men in Antioch, from Cyprus.

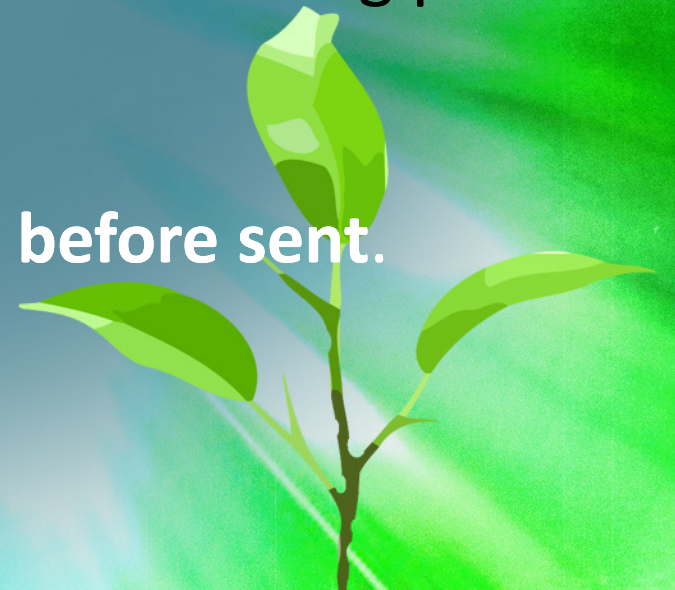
- Barnabas goes to Antioch to evaluate the situation (“survey trip”)
- Barnabas saw God’s work of grace in that place.
- Barnabas encouragement to the believers
- Barnabas sought Saul (Paul)
  - INVEST & INVITE!
- Barnabas was laying the foundation to change the world as he was used in planting a “baby” church.





- THE EXAMPLE OF THE NEW MOTHER CHURCH

- The church at Antioch was active BEFORE they were planting churches – names and ministries!
- The church’s routine was interrupted – God’s timing was right to start a new ministry – birthing new churches!
- Two of the best workers, including the “founding pastor” were chosen to leave.
- **The chosen men were first “called” before sent.**



- The church prayed – “And when they had fasted and prayed...”
- The church authorized – “...and laid *their* hands on them...”
- The church commissioned – “...**they sent *them* away.**”
- The church continued – Acts 14:26-28

What is the next step?



What does the Bible show us about church planting?

BE PREPARED TO FACE OPPOSITION

*“Then came Amalek”* – Ex. 17:8

- The first church, which Jesus founded, faced opposition



Acts 4:1 And as they spake unto the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them,

2 Being grieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead.

3 And they laid hands on them, and put *them* in hold unto the next day: for it was now eventide. ...

18 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. ...

21 So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might punish them, because of the people: for all *men* glorified God for that which was done.

Acts 5:17 Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, (which is the sect of the Sadducees,) and were filled with indignation,

18 And laid their hands on the apostles, and **put them in the common prison.** ...

40 And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and **beaten them**, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

Acts 7:57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,

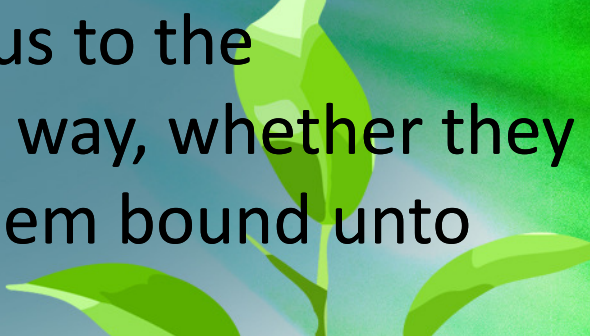
58 And cast *him* out of the city, and stoned *him*: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon *God*, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

Acts 8:1 And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.

Acts 9:1 And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

2 And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.



Acts 9:31 Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

- The Apostle Paul faced opposition

Acts 13:4 So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.

5 And when they were at Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and **they had also John to *their* minister.**

6 And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, **they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew,** whose name *was* Barjesus:

7 Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God.

8 But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.

9 Then Saul, (who also *is called* Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him,

10 And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, *thou* child of the devil, *thou* enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?

- The spiritual opposition, Acts 13:6, 8, 10



1 Thess. 2:1 For yourselves, brethren, know our entrance in unto you, that it was not in vain:

2 But even after that we had suffered before, and were shamefully entreated, as ye know, at Philippi, we were bold in our God to speak unto you the gospel of God with much contention.

- The political opposition, Acts 13:7



1 Cor. 16:7 For I will not see you now by the way; but I trust to tarry a while with you, if the Lord permit.

8 But I will tarry at Ephesus until Pentecost.

9 For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and *there are many adversaries.*

- The religious opposition, Acts 13:6, 10

2 Tim. 3:8 Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.



2 Tim. 4:14 Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil:  
the Lord reward him according to his works:  
15 Of whom be thou ware also; for he hath greatly  
withstood our words.

- The personal opposition, Acts 13:5

Acts 13:13 Now when Paul and his company loosed from  
Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: and **John**  
**departing from them returned to Jerusalem.**

Col. 4:14 Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas, greet  
you.

Phlm. 1:24 Marcus, Aristarchus, **Demas**, Lucas, **my**  
**fellowlabourers.**

2 Tim. 4:10 For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.

2 Tim. 4:16 At my first answer no man stood with me, **but all *men* forsook me: I pray God** that it may not be laid to their charge.

Acts 15:36 And some days after Paul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, *and see* how they do.

37 And Barnabas determined to take with them John, whose surname was Mark.

38 But Paul thought not good to take him with them, who departed from them from Pamphylia, and went not with them to the work.

39 And **the contention was so sharp between them**, that they departed asunder one from the other: and so Barnabas took Mark, and sailed unto Cyprus;

40 And **Paul chose Silas, and departed, being recommended by the brethren unto the grace of God.**

41 And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.



Jas. 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

- Put on the whole armor of God:



Eph. 6:10 Finally, my brethren, **be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.**

11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

13 Wherefore take unto you **the whole armour of God**, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

14 **Stand therefore**, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

**16 Above all, taking the shield of faith,** wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

**17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:**

**18 Praying always** with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;



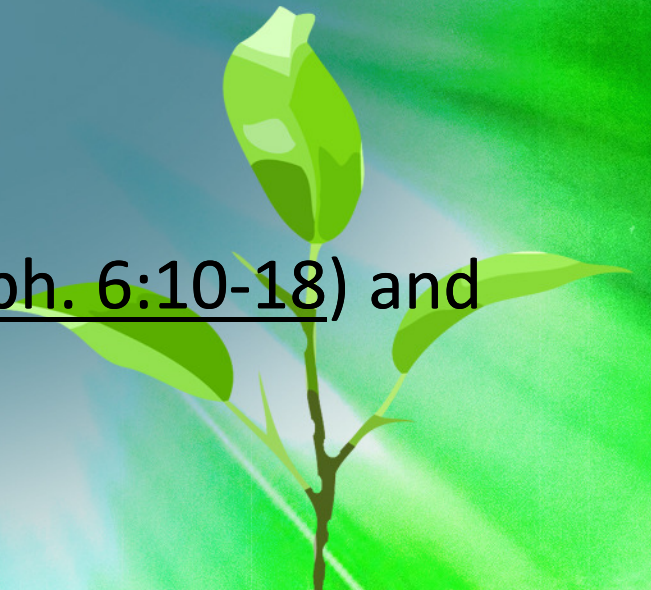


## Summary

- The church of the living God, is the pillar and ground of the truth.
- The need for more churches is very great!
- To properly understand *church planting*, one must have a proper, Scriptural understanding of Ecclesiology.
- Simply put, the Lord Jesus Christ stated that He had authority (Mt. 28:18) and gave it to the first church to carry out the *Great Commission*.

- In Mt. 16:18, Christ Jesus stated that the first church was established by Him, upon Himself, and Col. 1:18 states that He has all the preeminence for it.
- In 1 Cor. 12:28, the Scriptures states the role of Apostles, (see Lu. 6:13 for the timing) as well as Eph. 2:20. Eph. 4:11-16 indicates the simple program and purpose of a church.
- A simple summary for church planting – CHURCHES START CHURCHES.
- Before starting a church the first action required is **PRAYER!**

- Partner, as the “mother church” with a man called of God.
- Be prepared to face opposition that will be encountered when starting a church:
  - Spiritual opposition
  - Political opposition
  - Religious opposition
  - Personal opposition
- Put on the “whole armor of God” ([Eph. 6:10-18](#)) and walk by faith!



## Conclusion

Phil. 4:3 And I intreat thee also, **true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and *with* other my fellowlabourers, whose names *are* in the book of life.**

1 Thess. 3:2 And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and **our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ,** to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith:

Phlm. 1:1 Paul, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy *our* brother, unto Philemon **our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer,**

1 Cor. 16:13 Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

14 Let all your things be done with charity.

15 I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and *that* they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,)

16 That ye submit yourselves unto such, and to every one that helpeth with *us*, and laboureth.

1 Cor. 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.