

I. Your grades:

A. Text reading (2 textbooks) 35%

1. Wednesday Morning I will ask you to fill out a paper stating you've read the books.
2. You cannot pass the class without reading them. It is an all or nothing matter.

B. Tests (four equally weighted) 15%

1. tested each day from Tuesday
2. graded in class
3. 10-15 questions

C. Paper 35%

1. Meet the writing guidelines of the school.
2. 3000 words.
3. You will select your topic today.
 - a) A Biblical View of an Indigenous Church
 - b) An Indigenous Church Identified
 - c) The Model of an Indigenous Church
 - d) Antioch: A Model Indigenous Church
 - e) Student Chosen: You may submit a relevant subject for approval
4. You will submit the file by email. Word document. Not accepted unless I reply by email.

D. Class participation 15%

1. I am looking for 3-5 times a day of meaningful input into discussion and group assignments.
2. Your silence is not acceptable.
 - a) Questions welcome.
 - b) Ignorance is accepted. Willful ignorance is not
 - c) Stupid doesn't work.

The Class Material:

When you walk out of here on Friday I want you to have three things:

1. the elements of a New Testament Church.
2. the principles of raising an indigenous church.
3. the cultural markers that are traps in the process of raising indigenous churches.

Hand out sheet of paper on it write:

What are the essential elements of a church?

What are its characteristics?

What are its priorities?

What is its purpose?

What distinguishes it from any religious gathering?

A study of an Indigenous church requires stipulating to the following about His Church:

I. Its origin:

- A. Christ started His Church - during his earthly ministry. (Matt. 16:18)

II. Its power:

- A. Not human but divine
- B. Matt 28:19-20

III. Its purpose:

- A. Teach all nations
- B. Baptize them
- C. Teach them to Observe
- D. Matt 28:19-20
 - 1. Matt 28:19-20 The Emphasis on the Purpose of Missions.
 - a. Win them. Wet them. Work them.
 - b. Evangelize, Baptize, Exercise.
- E. Mark 16:15 The emphasis on the Preaching of Missions.
 - 1. The focal point of our effort is preaching.
 - 2. It is our command, commission and consolation.
- F. Luke 24:47 The emphasis is on the Proclamation of Missions.
 - 1. Repentance.
 - 2. Remission.
- G. John 20:21 The Emphasis is on the Power of Missions.
 - 1. The model of the Father Sending the Son.
 - 2. The model of the Son sending us.

H. Acts 1:8 The emphasis is on the Places of Missions.

1. The Home Place. Jerusalem.
2. The Hardened Place. Judea
3. The Hopeless Place. Samaria
4. The Hard to reach place. Uttermost part.

IV. **Its mission:**

- A. Witnesses to Christ
- B. Acts 1:8

V. **Its boundaries**

- A. Jerusalem
- B. Judea
- C. Samaria
- D. Uttermost
- E. Acts 1:8

VI. **Its placement**

- A. The location: a place that church is planted is divine in its selection. 8:26
- B. Human placement vs. Divine Placement

VII. **Its workers**

- A. The call of God.
- B. A must. 13:2 a setting apart.

Daily Schedule:**Lectures and Group Discussion****Group Project**

Students will display a model of church planting for a specific place.

Corinth, Galatia, Philippi, Colossians, Ephesians

You will build an Scripture Index for dealing with Human and Cultural influences on a church.

Students will discuss and debate the models used in modern missions in light of Scripture from Hodge and Allen books

The work will be due with your paper.

Test (Four of them) on Hodge's Book

Book Discussion: *Your final exam will be on the Allen's book. You will need to answer the questions in the introduction.*

Class Discussion:

Divide the class into even research groups

Assign them chapters in *Corinthians, Galatia, Philippi, Colossians, Ephesians*

Criteria:

Search for how culture and opinions affect a church

Search for how the Holy Spirit corrects the culture or opinion

Search for the elements of an unadulterated church

Discussion:

The challenge group:

Method: *your job is to challenge the teams ideas with your own, to refute with Scripture their opinions.*

Goal: *To reason and synthesize down to what is an indigenous church.*

COURSE OUTLINE:

- **An Indigenous Church: Explained**
- **An Indigenous Church: Its Elements**
- **An Indigenous Church: Its Examples**
- **An Indigenous Church: Its Resistance**
- **An Indigenous Church: Its implementation**

If we view our churches from our own context we would believe that everything we see must be what the NT church really was.

Are our churches really a replication of the NT churches? Have we convinced ourselves that they are when they really are not? Has our view of what a church is become so diluted that we can not even recognize it if we saw it?

In our pursuit to contextualize ourselves as messengers, and our message for the multitudes we must understand what a church looks like unwrapped. That is to say, if the context or culture in which a church lives is wrapping paper, what should the church look like in its raw form?

Our work in this contextualization process is to take the pure seed plant it anywhere and produce a church that looks like it grew there natively. We call this an indigenous church. The production of an indigenous church is not an accidental process. We must chart a course and follow it if we are to produce an indigenous church. The course we chart will follow certain markers. What are the markers by which we will chart our course? We will find them when we answer these questions:

What comprises a Church? *The Description of an Indigenous church*

What is an indigenous church? *The Definition of an Indigenous church*

How do we get to have indigenous churches? *The Deployment of an Indigenous Church*

How do we plant it? *The Duplication an Indigenous church*

I. What comprises a Church? The Description of an Indigenous church. Acts 2:41-47

A. You will know it by its Activities:

1. A Church has People being Saved and Baptized

a) *41 "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls."*

2. A Church has People being Discipled in their walk with God

a) *42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.*

3. A Church has People that are involved in Ministry

a) *43 And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.*

4. A Church has All the people that are saved, giving.

a) *44 And all that believed were together, and had all things common; 45 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.*

5. A Church has its membership in unity.

a) *46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,*

6. A Church has its members Rejoicing and being gracious with all the people 47a

a) *47a Praising God, and having favour with all the people.*

7. A Church has the Lord responsible for adding to its membership. 47b

a) *47b And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."*

B. You will know it by its attributes:

1. The Look of its Pastor

a) he meets the requirements of Titus and Timothy without equivocation

(1) *“A bishop then must be **blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach**; Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.”* (1Timothy 3:2-7 KJVS)

b) We must seek an indigenous leader.

(1) he is from them,

(2) among them,

(3) he is them.

2. The Look of its Partners

a) The deacons - **when they have them** - measure up to the Bible

b) The church at Jerusalem existed without deacons until there was a need.

c) *“Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.”*(1Timothy 3:8-13 KJVS)

- d) These are not to be lofty ideals. These are inflexible.
3. The Look of its People -
- a) Their men are holy husbands
 - b) Their women are modest and meek
 - c) Their children are disciplined and disciplined
4. The Look of its Progress - Evangelizing
- a) You will see them reaching their own with the Gospel
 - b) You will see them reaching beyond their borders with the Gospel
 - (1) It is from here where He will call out Givers.
 - (2) It is from here where He will call out Goers.
 - (3) It is from here where He will call out Gatherers to Pray.
 - (4) It is from here where He Commissions.
 - (5) It is from here where He Carries out His work.
 - (6) It is from here where He will provide for His Missionaries.
5. The look of its Praise - Worship
- a) Music -
 - (1) Geography does not change Psalms hymns and spiritual songs
 - (2) Culture does not dictate music
 - (3) We must be distinctly Christian
 - (a) Psalms - a sacred ode
 - (b) Hymns - a religious ode
 - (c) Spiritual Songs - not carnal
 - b) Message - Our identification is with His Word
 - c) Methods - Defined by Word not the World or whims of man

6. The Look of its Priorities:
 - a) The church is where spiritual Matters are heard and determined.
 - b) The church is home to holiness.
 - c) The church has one male Pastor who needs no female assistance, advice, nor admonition.
 - d) The church, if needed, has deacons who serve the tables of the church so the Pastor can handle the prayer and ministry.
 - e) The church is where discipline for erring members is meted out and where restoration is offered after repentance is made.

C. You will know it by its Authority. *It is important to remember a church is a body of saved, scripturally baptized, believers observing the two ordinances, meeting regularly together for the evangelization of sinners, and for the edification, educating and equipping of the saints.*

1. It is where prayer is made and praises are sung.
2. It is where tithes are paid and offerings are given.
3. It is where His ordinances are carried out.
 - a) The Lord's table. To remember his death
 - b) Baptism by immersion in water. To remember his resurrection.
4. It is where His Commission is carried forth.
5. It is not an organization but an organism.
6. It is the place for where His word was written.
7. It is where His Word is to be read.
8. It is where His Word is to be taught.
9. It is where His Word is to be preached.
10. It is where His Word is to be proclaimed.
11. It is where His Word is to be upheld.

12. It is where His Word is to be obeyed.

II. What is an indigenous church? The Definition of an Indigenous church

- A. Indigenous Missions: To produce something that is native; not exotic.
1. INDIG'ENOUS, a. [L. indigena, supra.]
 - a) Native; born in a country; applied to persons.
 - b) Native; produced naturally in a country or climate; not exotic; applied to vegetables.
- B. The average missionary today believes an indigenous mission is merely starting a church that gets a local leader when he walks away. While this has the appearance of being indigenous, is it really?
- C. What makes an indigenous work indigenous? A work is indigenous
1. when the work is viewed by those who are local as being their own.
 2. when a missionary is seen as one who gathered and trained instead of gave and sustained.
 3. when the people have been trusted, trained, and loved to a place of dependence on God instead of America.

III. **The Indigenous Church Discovered** - *Every soil is different; we must be wise to see what kind of soil we are working with when we arrive to the field of God's calling. The seed is always the same. Note what happened when God sent spies into the land where He was sending His people to take possession.*

- A. The church planter must discover the soil.

Consider God's Goals for the 12 Spies that into Canaan. (Numbers 13:18-20) "*And see the land, what it is; and the people that dwelleth therein, whether they be strong or weak, few or many; {19} And what the land is that they dwell in, whether it be good or bad; and what cities they be that they dwell in, whether in tents, or in strong*

holds; {20} And what the land is, whether it be fat or lean, whether there be wood therein, or not. And be ye of good courage, and bring of the fruit of the land. Now the time was the time of the firstripe grapes."

1. See the Land.
 2. See what the layout of the land is.
 3. See who lives in the Land.
 - a) Determine their Strengths
 - b) Determine their weaknesses.
 - c) Determine how many are there.
 4. Determine the Layout of the Land.
 5. Determine the value of the Land.
 6. Determine how they live.
 7. Determine the economics of the land.
 - a) Fat or lean
 - b) Wood or No Wood
 8. Bring Back the fruit of the Land.
- B. What should be your Goals for a Survey Trip?
1. God wanted them to go to a land and possess it for Him.
 2. He would give them the land and they would battle for it.
 3. He wanted them to see what it was for themselves.
 4. He called them and then commanded them to look it over.
 - a) The Hebrew word is our word is our word "reconnoiter". (See Definition box)
 - b) Simply put reconnaissance mission.

IV. How do we get to have indigenous works?

- A. The answer depends on our thinking;
1. Our national pride and political placement in the superpowers of the world affects us.
 - a) We believe that we are superior to all in education, culture and background and we must go and train the poor nationals in heathen lands.
 - b) Our culture of self-reliance, independence and organization naturally gets imposed upon the people to whom we serve.
 2. We must begin with the thinking
 - a) these are my brethren, not my slaves.
 - b) I am here to bring them the gospel like someone brought it to me.
 3. We must avoid:
 - a) Planting works that are dependent on outside help.
 - b) Our typical racial and religious pride. We believe we are superior.
 - (1) We have approached missions from the point of the wealthy man who pitches a dime in the cup of the poor.
 - (2) We should have approached it from the husbandman who casts seed for the dependence of his family.
- B. The answer depends on my listening to God for a location to serve:
1. Consider the places Paul went:
 - a) The Holy Spirit led. Acts 16:6,7
 - b) Paul spoke of regions more than cities.
 - c) By reaching 2-3 centers of influence Paul had stated he had reached a province. Romans 15:19,23

- d) It seems that the places Paul went were centers of
 - (1) Roman administration,
 - (2) Greek civilization,
 - (3) Jewish influence and
 - (4) Commercial importance.
- e) Summary: He was led as God opened the door. Wherever he was led he found a center of influence.

C. The answer depends on my **leadership**:

- 1. Doing everything for them and do everything with them.
 - a) We have taught, baptized, and shepherded them.
 - b) We have managed their funds,
 - c) We have ordered their services,
 - d) We have built their churches,
 - e) We have provided their teachers.
 - f) We have trained and ordained.
 - g) We have done everything but offer them equality.
 - h) We have done everything for them but not with them.
- 2. If indigenous churches are our goal, then we ought not to use slavery to be the training for liberty and autonomy.

D. The answer depends on my **outlook**:

- 1. The way I see my calling: Romans 10:1
 - a) He had an undeniable priority.
 - b) He had an undying passion.
 - c) He had an undiminishing prayer life.
 - d) He had an understanding of people.
 - e) He had an underlying purpose.

2. The way I see others: (those in my commission)

- a) We have treated them as children and not the brethren.
- b) We have made ourselves indispensable.
- c) We have taught our converts to turn to us, and not Christ for guidance and finances.
- d) We have become the Holy Spirit to them. Does he only speak to us and then us to them?
- e) We shelter them from disaster or ruin and think we are doing the best thing for them.
- f) We have become enablers in missions instead of emancipators.
- g) Paul's terminology:
 - (1) Fellowhelpers
 - (2) Fellowlaborers
 - (3) Beloved
 - (4) Brother
 - (5) Saints

3. The way I see my commission:

- a) Make all your teaching simple so those who are your learners can grasp it, practice it and pass it on.
- b) When you organize keep it such manner that it can be understood and maintained. The test of any organizing is naturalness and permanence.
- c) In matters of finance, the church must control and maintain their business.
- d) Instill a sense of mutual responsibility. The church is responsible for itself.
- e) Believe in your people, allow them to make mistakes and learn from them.

E. The answer depends on my **treatment of others.** (*amongst my colleagues - nationals or otherwise*)

1. Scriptural guidelines for the treatment of others. We follow several scriptural guidelines.
 - a) The "LOVE" guideline of Christian Fellowship is: *John 13:35 "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."*
 - b) The "PEACE" guideline of Christian Fellowship *Romans 12:18 "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."*
 - c) The "COMMUNICATION" Guideline of Christian Fellowship. *Ephesians 4:29 "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers."*
 - d) The "FORGIVENESS" Guideline of Christian Fellowship. *Ephesians 4:32 "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."*
2. The importance of getting along and fellow-shiping with other missionaries.
 - a) Christian Fellowship is when we strive to:
 - (1) Exhibit the Love of Christ to all Believers.
 - (2) Encourage believers in their walk with the Lord
 - b) There are various levels of fellowship as we seek to answer "How do we get to have indigenous churches"
 - (1) Christian Fellowship is a base level of fellowship that permits me to have friends among all believers.
 - (a) It is the first level of getting along with others.
 - (b) It is above associations with the world. *Ephesians 5:11 "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them."*
 - (c) I would interpret this fellowship as Christian Civility.
 - (d) Polite and courteous.

- (e) Galatians 6:10 "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."
 - (f) This Fellowship ends outside of the door of your church.
 - (g) This fellowship occurs solely based on the doctrine of salvation.
- (2) Ecclesiastical Fellowship is a fellowship based strictly along the lines of Bible Doctrine.
- (a) Ecclesiastical Fellowship affects Churches and Church Leaders
 - (b) The standard for Ecclesiastical Fellowship is MUCH higher than Christian Fellowship.
 - (c) Instead of ALL believers, it is all that believe the book as we do.
 - (d) It is not a fellowship of just nomenclature. (I.e. only Independent Baptists with Independent Baptists.) It is more of like faith and order with like faith and order.
 - (e) It is a fellowship of doctrinal assents and practices.
 - (f) Ecclesiastical Fellowship does not permit the tidal wave of popular teachers and fad movements to determine the need and strength of the walls protecting this fellowship.
 - (g) When I have Ecclesiastical Fellowship with someone it comes based on whether they believe as I believe. Then on that basis we can work together for the cause.
 - (h) Do not confuse Ecclesiastical Fellowship with Methodical or Philosophical Fellowship. Many times, we may have Ecclesiastical Fellowship with those who maintain a different philosophy or method of ministry than I.
 - i) I have a Bus Route and we give out candy.
 - ii) I have a bus route and we do not give out candy.

- (i) These areas are my inflexible guidelines for Ecclesiastical Fellowship.
 - i) The Tri-Unity of God.
 - ii) The Divinity of Christ.
 - iii) The Holy Spirit's power and working.
 - iv) The Place of Angels
 - v) The depravity of Man.
 - vi) The Infallibility and Inerrancy of Scriptures.
 - (1) In the Textus Receptus equivalent for Non English speaking people.
 - (2) In the King James Bible for English Speaking People.
 - vii) Salvation by grace through faith alone.
 - viii) The Virgin Birth of Christ
 - ix) The Finished work of Calvary
 - x) The Bodily Resurrection of Christ.
 - xi) The Eminence of Christ's return.
 - xii) The Autonomy of the Local Church.
3. You may have many missionaries of varied stripes on your field.
- a) You may have Christian Fellowship with them but you may have to end it there.
 - b) You may have to draw lines of exclusion.
 - c) Do not become confused, nor allow your eyes to blur, about Christian Fellowship and Ecclesiastical Fellowship.
 - d) The tide today is shifting to allow the rules for Christian fellowship to take the place of the rules for ecclesiastical fellowship.
 - (1) Never be swayed by Friends on the other side.
 - (2) Never be swayed by Popular trends

- e) Potentially you may harm your ministry but dropping your guard in one of these areas.
 - f) This position is not designed to be divisive but pure in His eyes.
4. Discerning when I should get along; and when should I get a long way off.
- a) When Should I get along?
 - (1) In Christian Fellowship:
 - (a) With all who believe in the Death burial and Resurrection of Christ.
 - (b) With those who are of the household of Faith.
 - (2) In Ecclesiastical Fellowship: Romans 16:17-18
 - (a) When there are NO divisions in Doctrine.
 - (b) Division -- disunion, i.e. (fig.) dissension: division, sedition.
 - (c) When there are NO offences in Doctrine.
 - (d) A trap-stick (bent sapling), i.e. snare (fig. Cause of displeasure or sin):--occasion to fall (of stumbling), offence, thing that offends, stumbling block.
 - (e) (Romans 16:17-18) "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. {18} For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple."
 - b) When should I get a LONG way off?
 - (1) In Christian Fellowship –
 - (a) When the unrepentant believer is under discipline of his church.
 - (b) When the believer turns away with only a form of godliness.
 - (c) When the Believer becomes the enemy of the cross.

- (d) (Philippians 3:17-19) "*Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. {18} (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: {19} Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.)*"
- (2) In Ecclesiastical Fellowship.
- (a) When there is NO obedience to the Doctrine in the Word.
 - (b) Note them.
 - (c) Have no Company with him.
 - (d) Admonish him
 - (e) Do not hate him
 - (f) (2 Thessalonians 3:14-15) "And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. {15} Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother."
 - (g) When you find there is a Brother walking out of order with the Word.
 - (h) Withdraw – until he comes back
 - (i) Separation is NOT your goal. Harmony is the goal.
 - (j) (2 Thessalonians 3:6) "Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us."

V. How do we plant it? *The Duplication an Indigenous church*

A. You must know the general principles of raising an indigenous church.

1. You must understand the Mandate.

a) It is Divine. (His words)

b) It is Declared. - Go

c) It is defined - ye

d) It is detailed -

(1) All the world

(2) All nations

(3) Every Creature

e) It is definite:

(1) We are obligated by command

(2) We are obliged by commission

2. You must have a Man.

a) There is no hearing of the Gospel without a preacher.

(1) A Man that is called to a People.

(2) A Man that is called to a Place.

(3) A Man that is called to a Purpose.

b) There is no Preacher unless there is sending.

(1) By His Churches.

3. You must gather the materials.

a) The Preacher

b) The People

c) The Place

4. You must implement the proper methods

a) The method of distribution is evangelizing

b) The method of identification is Baptism.

- c) The method of indoctrination is teaching and preaching.
- 5. You must deliver the Message
 - a) The Word of God is our Message no matter the culture
 - b) The Word of God is our Message no matter the conditions.
 - c) The Word of God is our Message no matter the political climate.
- 6. You must have the right Motivation.
 - a) We are told to occupy until He comes.
 - b) We are told He is not willing to allow any to perish.
 - c) We should desire to please Him.
 - (1) Well Done thou good and faithful servant.
 - (2) The Love of Christ constraineth me
- 7. You must have a proper membership.
 - a) Saved
 - b) Baptized
 - c) Separated
- B. You must know the The Purity of the Biblical Message.
 - 1. Details our parameters for World Wide Evangelization.
 - a) All attempts to reach people are useless without Him.
 - b) All Attempts to change a people are useless without Him.
 - 2. Declares to man the plan of God for World Evangelization.
 - a) "Missions" begins with God not man.
 - b) "Missions" is a Divine Effort not a Human Exercise.
 - 3. Displays for all that Scripture is trans-cultural.
 - a) It is not an American Bible for poor heathen Masses,
 - b) It is rather God's Divine Message to all nations, cultures and peoples.
 - c) It is God's Message to Mankind and it is relevant.
 - d) God's word has reached men from every corner of the globe.

- e) God's word has changed men from every corner of the globe.
- f) God's word has called men from every corner of the globe.
- 4. Declares the standard for righteousness.
 - a) When we enter a culture it is our standard, banner and flag.
 - b) We hold men in all cultures to the Word of God ONLY.
 - c) We handle men in all cultures with the Word of God Exclusively.
 - d) We help men with the Word of God lovingly.
- 5. Details the Guidelines we use today when we enter a culture not our own.
 - a) We discover in the Word of God that Gentiles did not have to become Jews to be believers.
 - b) We discover the Word of God is not limited to the culture to which it comes.
 - c) Christ's
- C. You must know the the Principles of the beliefs of man in a society. (*Culture*)
 - 1. Culture is the integrated system of ideas feelings and values in a society that establishes the accepted behavior.
 - 2. Culture are the lenses we view all others out of our culture through.
 - 3. Consider how culture affects a Society.
 - a) Culture Molds Physical Characteristics.
 - (1) An African Culture may teach that it is normal to drill holes in a body for ornamentation and devotion.
 - (2) A Western culture may teach that drill holes may be done in the ears. The element that teaches drill many in your ear, navel, nose and eyebrow for rebellion is a SUB culture.
 - (3) A western woman pursues slim body.
 - (4) A woman from Tonga the fuller she is the more desired she is.

b) Culture Molds Ideas:

- (1) Westerners have no problem accepting Atoms Electrons and Gravity and change our behavior as a result.
- (2) Easterners have no problem accepting the presence of Evil spirits and change their behavior as a result.
- (3) It shapes the ways we do things.
 - (a) Whether to arrive on time by the clock or by social standings.
 - (b) The way we fish.
 - (c) The way we build houses.
 - (d) The ways we cook.
 - (e) The ways we govern.

c) Culture Molds Values:

- (1) Teachers are esteemed in one culture and not in another.
- (2) It determines what is true and what is false.
 - (a) Malaria – Comes from Evil Spirits.
 - (b) Malaria – Comes from Protozoan Parasite.
- (3) It determines what is lovely or unlovely.
 - (a) Singing in Mellow tones.
 - (b) Singing in Shrill tones.
- (4) It determines Right and Wrong.
 - (a) Whether Lying is acceptable or not.

D. You must know the Differences between the Cultural and the Spiritual.

1. Learning the Dimensions of Culture.

- a) A man's culture is what shapes his ideas. What he holds to be true.
- b) A man's culture is what shapes his feelings. How he feels in a situation.
- c) A man's culture is what shapes his values. What he will believe to be facts.

2. Learning the Dimensions of the Spiritual.
 - a) The spiritual dimension is delineated by The Word of God –
 - (1) What we know of God by what He wrote
 - (2) What He wants us to tell others about Him
 - b) The spiritual dimension is delineated by The Spirit of God –
 - (1) Our Comforter
 - (2) Our Teacher
3. Learning to determine when it is cultural or spiritual.
 - a) You must have Clear Discernment of when an Encountered Situation is to be interpreted as Spiritual or Cultural. Consider Acts 16
 - b) An Example of when it was Spiritual.
 - (1) The Church at Philippi was started after the Macedonian call. Acts 16:12-14
 - (2) Lydia, a new Christian, and a Businesswoman, took in the Missionaries and gave them a place to live. 16:15
 - (3) This would be the first interaction with their culture.
 - (4) She is learning more about them and they her.
 - (5) Then comes the first cultural hurdle in Philippi. 16:16-19
 - (6) There is a woman who is possessed with an evil spirit.
 - (7) She is being used to bring income to other businessmen.
 - (8) Do they upset an anthropological and economic situation with the Word of God?
 - (9) They handled the situation by discerning what was cultural and what was sinful.
 - (10) They then faced the human consequences for the spiritual deed, but not without divine notice and purpose.
 - (11) They were accused of cultural assassination. 20-21
 - (12) They were stripped, beaten, and jailed.

(13) They found the joy that can only come when you have done what was right. 22-28

- (a) They Prayed in Prison.
- (b) They Praised in Prison.
- (c) They Proclaimed in Prison.

(14) It is spiritual when people in a land have behavior in contradiction to God's Word.

c) An Example of when it is Cultural. -- *A key to remember is that YOUR culture is just as peculiar to the ones you are reaching, as theirs is to yours. Furthermore just because your way is "American" does not make it right.*

- (1) Paul faced a situation with the Corinthian Church. (1 Corinthians 8) They were absorbed with whether or not to eat meat offered to idols.
- (2) He considered that an idol was nothing therefore the issue was moot. V4
- (3) He considered that the meat was not going to make him closer to God. Neither was the meat going to make him further from God. V8
- (4) Understand the essence of Liberty. A freedom to behave in a situation that is not sin.
- (5) Is their Culture a Spiritual Liberty that offends you as a weaker brother?
- (6) Occasionally some things will become stumbling blocks to a weaker brother.
- (7) Determine who is the weaker Brother. 12
- (8) Determine if this is wounding a weaker conscience.
- (9) Keep in mind that, Psalms 119:165 teaches "Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them."
- (10) Do not allow their Liberty to be your Stumbling Block. V13

d) Understanding what is NOT Cultural.

- (1) Of Sexual

- (2) Bigamy
 - (3) Adultery
 - (4) Fornication
 - (5) Of Social
 - (6) Nudity
 - (7) Alcohol consumption
- e) Understanding what may be cultural.
- (1) Speech
 - (2) Specific Words
 - (3) Phrases
 - (4) Music –
 - (5) Drums
 - (6) Guitars
 - (7) Tambourines
 - (8) Dress
 - (9) Men in skirts
 - (10) Women breast-feeding in worship services.
4. Administration
- a) Frequency of Service
 - b) Times of Services
5. Understanding the James' Mission's Principle.
- a) James 1:5 *"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."*
 - b) Many times it will be a *"Judgment Call"* Rely on Him to make the best decision you can. You may later need to adjust, but do the best you can.
6. Understand the need of living by Romans 14

7. You must have an understanding of when it is “Biblical” or “American.” (We are most familiar with the American Culture and we believe the way we do things is right. In our country this may be found acceptable. However when you arrive on the field things must be analyzed for why we do them.) We are there to deliver the Gospel not to Disrupt the Operation of the Norm.
 - a) It is Biblical if:
 - (1) You have Biblical Text, taken in context, to relate it.
 - (2) You have a foundational truth from scripture that directly speaks to this issue.
 - (3) You have a Doctrine to substantiate you issue.
 - b) It is American if:
 - (1) When you have no Doctrine, Reference, or Foundational Truth to base it on.
 - (2) When you find that when asked by a national, your only honest response is “Because that is the way we do it at home.”
 - (3) The American way may be good, right and proper. However, the Moldavian way may also be good, right and proper.
8. Learn to distinguish the difference:
 - a) There are precepts:
 - (1) Matters immutable
 - (2) A passage that delineates the truth.
 - (3) an explicit command
 - (4) a thou shalt not

- b) There are principles:
 - (1) While not stated in Scripture
 - (2) These are the "I must not."
 - (a) Would Jesus do it?
 - (b) Would it offend others?
 - (c) Will I lose my Testimony?
 - (d) Will I glorify my Father?
 - (e) Will it look evil?
 - (3) If I violate a precept: It is sin.
 - (4) If I violate a principle: it may lead to sin.
- c) There are preferences:
 - (1) This comes from experience
 - (2) it is a matter of I should not
 - (3) 2 Cor. 6:14

9. Deliver the Gospel, Not Disrupt the Order of things.

- a) Their way may be slower, sillier, and strange, but it is their way and you are in their country.
- b) Learn to pick your battles.
- c) Fighting over whether they want a 4-hour service Sunday Afternoon and you want a 9:45, 11:00, and 7:30 service schedule may not accomplish your desired results.
- d) Fighting over whether the men wear skirts to church on Sunday because you are not used to it may upset the scheme of things even more.
- e) Souls lost over your rejection of their culture are in fact, Souls lost.
- f) Consider Proverbs 18:19 "A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle."

10. Learn from the people.

11. Let God build His church

E. You must know Paul's ministry:

1. From AD 47 – 57 Paul begins churches in the four provinces of the Roman Empire.

- a) Galatia
- b) Macedonia
- c) Achaia
- d) Asia

2. After 10 years without planes, large financial resources, or the large baby bottle placed in the mouths of young ministries to rely on man. Paul headed west and the churches were not going to perish in his absence. Romans 15:24,28

- a) Consider this these churches were really established.
- b) The very thought that they could be left standing on their own stands in opposition to our current day thinking.
- c) To think that churches could so rapidly and securely be planted seems to us today without credibility.

3. What has happened?

- a) Missionaries have sailed overseas and had a burden for souls, a call from the Savior but a used a strategy from man.
- b) There now appears to the honest soul a chasm that exists between Paul's methods and ours is wide.
 - (1) Are we right and he wrong?
 - (2) Was he right and we wrong?
 - (3) What happened to our thinking?
 - (a) The history of missions in the last 150 years may have reshaped the thinking of missionaries to the extent that we no longer follow a biblical pattern.

- (b) The trend of imitation and oral history and the perception of missionaries have all played a part in the erosion of the Bible method of church planting.
- (c) At best what we do in missions today is take fragments of Paul's methods and apply them, but is that enough? Is that what we are supposed to do?
- c) Yet the truth remains, Paul was not the only one who used these methods as others went out and did the same.
- d) Was it Exceptional times and exceptional men?
 - (1) Did they have greater advantages in birth, education, call?
 - (2) Or was it taking the model Jesus gave them and really applying it.
 - (3) They had no printed word.
 - (4) They had no super infrastructure of many churches just the leadership of the Holy Spirit coupled with an unadulterated passion for souls of men.
- F. Does the distance from Paul's time erode the necessity to copy what they did? No!
- G. Did Paul gather congregations or did he plant churches? I say he planted churches!
- H. Our western culture /society stands in opposition to the methods of Paul.
 - 1. We believe that we are superior to all in education, culture and background and we must go and train the poor nationals in heathen lands.
 - 2. Our culture of self-reliance, independence and organization naturally gets imposed upon the people to whom we serve.
 - 3. We expect them to be an indigenous church but have our organizational structure.
 - 4. Paul chose to grasp fundamental principles with an unhesitating faith in the power of the Holy Ghost to apply them to his hearers and to work out their appropriate external expressions of them.
- I. Clearly he succeeded in doing what we have so far only tried to do.

J. Questions to consider of Paul's methods.

1. Did he deliberately select strategic points to establish churches?
 - a) The Holy Spirit led. Acts 16:6,7
 - b) Paul spoke of regions more than cities.
 - c) By reaching 2-3 centers of influence Paul had stated he had reached a province.
Romans 15:19,23
 - d) It seems that the places Paul went were centers of
 - (1) Roman administration,
 - (2) Greek civilization,
 - (3) Jewish influence and
 - (4) Commercial importance.
 - e) Summary: He was led as God opened the door. Wherever he was led he found a center of influence.
2. Was his success due to an extraordinary people who received his appeal?
 - a) Certainly not.
 - b) The Jews rejected and caused the gospel to be focused on us. Paul preached against the Jews.
 - c) First he would speak at the synagogue and then at the home of a citizen of good reputation.
 - (1) Philippi - Lydia
 - (2) Thessalonica – Jason
3. Were the social, moral and religious conditions so different from modern times that we are excused?
 - a) Certainly not.
 - b) The men believed in demons.
 - c) Superstition abounded.
 - d) The men were idolatrous.

- e) The men practiced slavery.
 - f) They also were a barbarous people.
 - g) They watched people eaten alive in theaters.
4. Was there a specific benefit Paul had that we do not have to exempt us from his level of success?
- a) Miracles - In 5 towns
 - (1) Lystra-healed the cripple;
 - (2) Philippi-expelled a demon;
 - (3) Ephesus- handkerchiefs brought diseases and evils spirits to depart.
 - (4) Troas- Eutychus)
 - (5) Yes they were part of his ministry but not to gain further converts.
 - b) Preaching.
 - (1) All he spoke of was the gospel.
 - (2) He did not have the eloquence of others.
 - (3) He knew what God did for him!
 - c) Finances.
 - (1) Certainly he did not seek financial help for himself.
 - (2) He took no financial help from those to whom he preached.
 - (3) He did not administer local funds.
 - (4) The difference today is astounding.
5. Nothing is OVERWHELMINGLY different from his day to ours.
- K. What can we learn from this?
- 1. We still are bringing the gospel of salvation to heathen lands it has not become indigenous. (Webster – Native, Produced Naturally)
 - 2. We plant works that are dependent on outside help.
 - 3. We have approached the dark heathen lands with our typical racial and religious pride. We believe we are superior.

4. We have approached missions from the point of the wealthy man who pitches a dime in the cup of the poor.
5. We should have approached it from the husbandman who casts seed for the dependence of his family.
 - a) We have done everything for them.
 - b) We have taught, baptized, and shepherded them.
 - c) We have managed their funds,
 - d) We have ordered their services,
 - e) We have built their churches,
 - f) We have provided their teachers.
 - g) We have trained and ordained.
 - h) We have done everything but offer them equality.
 - i) We have done everything for them but not with them.
 - j) We have treated them as dear children and not the brethren.
 - k) We have made ourselves indispensable.
 - l) We have taught our converts to turn to us, and not Christ for guidance.
 - m) We have taught our converts to turn to us, and not Christ for finances.
 - n) We have become the Holy Spirit to them. Does he only speak to us and then us to them?
 - o) We shelter them from disaster or ruin and think we are doing the best thing for them.
 - p) We have become enablers in missions instead of emancipators.
 - q) We bring them our law and order in service, which we know are not perfect. We do not allow them to come to their own order.
 - r) If indigenous churches are our goal, then we ought not to use slavery to be the training for liberty and autonomy.

6. What were his methods?
 - a) He was a preacher of the gospel.
 - b) Consider the Portrait of his heart:
 - (1) He had an undeniable priority.
 - (2) He had an undying passion.
 - (3) He had an undiminishing prayer life.
 - (4) He had an understanding of people.
 - (5) He had an underlying purpose.
 - (6) *Romans 9:3 For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:*
 - (7) *Romans 10:1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.*
 - c) He sought to give up the work to them immediately and willingly.
 - d) Summary.
 - (1) Make all your teaching simple so those who are your learners can grasp it, practice it and pass it on.
 - (2) When you organize keep it such manner that it can be understood and maintained. The test of any organizing is naturalness and permanence.
 - (3) In matters of finance, the church must control and maintain their business.
 - (4) Instill a sense of mutual responsibility. The church is responsible for itself.
 - (5) Believe in your people, allow them to make mistakes and learn from them.

VI. An analysis of Antioch and their indigenous reduplication efforts.

A. We learn of the Responsibility of the Church. 13:1-3

1. *They recognized their Place.* 3 times "They" It is "they" work not "I" work.

a) They were the agency God would use.

(1) They had the ability to handle the task he assigned.

(a) We are his bride.

(b) We are his church.

(c) We are his people.

b) They had the authority from God to work. Matthew 28:18

(1) They had the area from God to Work.

(a) The Home Place. Jerusalem

(b) The Hardened Place. Judea

(c) The Hopeless Place. Samaria

(d) The Hard to reach Place. Uttermost.

2. *They Recognized their Purpose.*

a) They were a church that Labored for God. 13:2 Ministered

b) They were a church that Looked toward God. 13:2 Fasted.

c) They were a church that Listened for God. 13:2 "The HG said"

3. *They Recognized their Partnership.*

a) A Partnership of Sacrifice. Fasting.

b) A Partnership of Supplicating. Prayed

c) A Partnership of Standing. Laid Hands

(1) Beside

(2) Behind.

(3) Before.

- d) A Partnership of Supporting. Sent them Away.
 - (1) Relieve and Release them of their obligations locally for Global.
 - (2) Released them with financial backing they would need.

B. What is the Responsibility of the Missionary?

1. Be a Missionary that Follows the leading of the Holy Spirit. 13:4
 - a) The Holy Spirit.
 - (1) He was their Selector.
 - (2) He was their sender
 - (3) He gives missionaries:
 - b) Their Direction. Where
 - c) Their Duties. What.
 - d) Their Details. When.
2. Be a Missionary that Preaches the Word of God. 13:5
 - a) Preach the Word, it is the only thing that will Convict Men.
 - b) Preach the Word, it is the only thing that will Convert Men.
 - c) Preach the Word, it is the only thing that will Convince Men.
 - d) Preach the Word, it is the only thing that will Change Men.
 - e) Preach the Word, it is the only thing that will Counsel Men.
 - f) Preach the Word, it is the only thing that will Comfort Men.
3. Be a Missionary that can work with others. 13:5b
 - a) Live peaceably with all men.
 - b) Complement don't compete the other workers that are there.
4. Be a Missionary that evangelizes thoroughly. 13:6
 - a) "Through the isle" Get out of the compound and into the country.
 - b) "Through the isle" Leave no soul untouched.

5. Be a Missionary Prepared for Satanic Attacks. 13:8
 - a) He Withstood them.
 - b) We wrestle not against flesh and Blood:
 - c) Ephesians 6:12 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*.
6. Be a Missionary that doesn't quit when other quit. 13:13
7. Be A Missionary that comes home to rest and report.