



Planting Missional Churches

Ed Stetzer

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Planting Missional Churches is an instruction book for planting biblically faithful and culturally relevant churches. It addresses the “how-to” and “why” issues of church planting by providing practical guidance through all the phases of a church plant while taking a missional look at existing and emerging cultures.

Planting Missional Churches Details

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From Reader Review Planting Missional Churches for online ebook

Harlindo de Souza says

muito bom e prático! às vezes um pouco fora do contexto brasileiro, mas com muito coisa aproveitável.

Rachel says

a lot of good stuff in here, really lays it out well. I found it a little dry but then I'm part of the microwave generation and like a little creative flair to keep my interest.

Still its apparently (according to my proff...and the back cover of this book) 'the' book on church planting. So if that is an area of interest to you pick this up and read. It's a complicated subject and fascinating in it's own way.

Matt Moran says

"Establishing a missional church means planting a church that's Biblically sounds and reaching people in culture." - Ed Stetzer.

Stetzer nails it on the priority of the missio Dei. He has a good practical mindset and pushes a consistent, constant church planting agenda. The early chapters about missional churches and ch. 7 on Planter/Pastor issues are particularly solid.

The book progresses into more nuts and bolts methodology. Some methods that Stetzer recommends seemed hokey or outdated, or techniques that would not work outside of the Bible Belt. Overall, this is a great reference for church planters even if some chapters are tedious to read.

Note: MANY typos in my hardcover copy. I noticed 10-15 spelling and gramatical errors.

William Horne says

Good Book for Understanding all Factor

Good book for understanding the various needs and preparation for church planting - love the Gospel focus. I am however concerned with the way "ethnic" is used in the book and what seems to be an abiding by the Homogeneous Unit Principle as opposed to multicultural barrier breaking churches. This is a serious issue for me as I believe HUP isn't biblical. This isn't explicit in the writing but can see back drop of it. However, overall a helpful book.

Aaron Carpenter says

Rarely have I read a book that presents so many contrasting opinions with such grace and broad-based acceptance, and yet unashamedly retains a firm conviction on the non-negotiables. In the world of church planting there seem to be as many different approaches as there are cultures, churches, and planters, and Stetzer lets them all speak while constantly affirming Scriptural authority. This book offers a refreshing balance of doctrine and preference, clearly labeling each. That it could also be considered a thorough manual, addressing more questions than a first-time church planter could think to ask, is a huge bonus.

Luke Williams says

An oldie but a goodie. Despite the fact that it is now a little dated this little handbook is a must for those looking to plant a Church. Stetzer is a great researcher and always has practical insights for those in ministry.

Heather Hampton says

This book is a very through book about church planting. Not always super interesting but a ton of great information. Everything from various examples, to Biblical references to how to do various things within a church plant. A lot of good information. I would recommend this to someone planting a church.

Tim says

This is a great "must read" for any church planter or anyone desiring to revitalize a church. I use it as a textbook and as a reference tool.

Jeff Robinson says

A decent church planting manual. Covers a variety of models and methods, citing research and personal experiences. References to advertising and internet show the book's age. There's probably something more recent that would be more helpful; Stetzer and others keep publishing updated stuff.

Nancy Graham says

Extremely helpful guide for launching passionate, responsive, faithful, well-imagined communities of faith. Includes many how-tos and approaches while avoiding monolithic, one-size-fits-all solutions -- and ultimately identifying a vital connection to God as the source for fruitfulness.

Sean Post says

It would be a challenge to find a more comprehensive textbook on how to plant churches. Stetzer discusses new cultural dynamics, theology behind planting, and then spends the last ten or so chapters moving through the finer "how to's" of planting such as incorporation, children's ministry, and building a core team.

As sad as it is to say, the book is a bit dated. The author himself would probably agree. I believe this version is from twelve years ago. The main reason I offer this is because I'm not sure - at least at the point of this publication - that Stetzer has worked out the ecclesiological implications of all his study. It is as if he gently body slams attractional churches and says "do missional". But then all his strategies and structures are attractional. He's a brilliant guy and I'm sure he has learned more and has much more to say on the topic today.

On a personal level, I walked away saying, "I'd like to lead an attractive missional church". There are churches with attractive, well-done ministry but that keep the missional heartbeat. That's something to aspire to.

Rod White says

This is a good text book on how to plant a church these days. It is chock-full of resources, just in case you never get to go to a class. It is a text, so don't expect to be entertained. But since we intend to plant a few more churches, it would be nice if about 25 people read it.

Cory Shumate says

This is a book all about the principles and practicals of church planting, specifically for North America, which he says repeatedly is now a mission field (contrary to history), and an invaluable instrument in God's Kingdom. Yet this book still only scratches the surface (which Stetzer acknowledges). He provides a list of suggested materials for further reading at the end of each chapter, which is great. He opens up the book quite appropriately with a chapter on why church planting is necessary and good and relevant in today's world, while immediately dealing with common objections. He then systematically steps through the practical stages of church planting, while, at each stage, surveying all possible (biblically founded) proposals/methods, and then often including his own preference. The dude has two Ph. Ds and two Masters, has himself planted dozens of churches and has been somehow involved in the planting of hundreds. He knows his stuff, and this book really whets your appetite for more. It is a great introductory book for those looking at options for church planting and who want to explore their call to plant.

Kelvin says

This was not a book that I would like to give our church members. It was misogynistic in the sense of almost totally not acknowledging the roles of women in church-planting. It was also very ethnocentric, I had to filter through chapters of material that either simply did not apply or the numbers had to be drastically scaled to fit our non-USA/Canadian location.

There were things in the book that I did find useful and by the end I started to like the author.

Duncan Robinson says

Ed Stetzer and his crew at Lifeway have provided an incredibly well researched and structure book on foundational principles for planting missional churches. This book is strategic, insightful and Gospel minded. It is a well crafted book that will help and encourage any would-be planter. It like many of Ed's other books is easy to read and contains excellent data and examination of data. It is a must for any would be planter.
