

## ARE YOU A CHURCH PLANTER?

Most potential church planters struggle with the question, "Could I really be an effective church planter?" This question should receive strong consideration. You may have abilities that you are not aware of, gifts that are especially suited to effectively starting a new church. While this short self-assessment will not conclusively identify you as a church planter, it will provide you with some initial guidance. Mark your answers and follow the instructions at the conclusion.

1. This past year I have pursued learning about church planting by
  - a. Reading books, participating in seminars or classes (online or otherwise) and meeting with a mentor.
  - b. Reading books or listening to tapes and meeting with a mentor.
  - c. Participating in a seminar or class either online or in person.
  - d. Reading books.
2. When someone attempts to prevent me from implementing an idea, I
  - a. Attempt to persuade them to join me in accomplishing it.
  - b. Remain focused and ignore the negative influence.
  - c. Refrain from implementing the idea until others agree with me.
  - d. Often get angry and give up on my idea.
3. I am can effectively share my ideas with others and encourage them to participate in actualizing my ideas
  - a. Most of the time
  - b. Some of the time
  - c. Rarely
  - d. I most effective when I am assisting someone with their ideas.
4. I generally
  - a. Complete all projects I start.
  - b. Complete most of the projects I start.
  - c. Complete a few projects I start.
  - d. Am not good at initiating projects. I prefer working under someone else.
5. I work best when I
  - a. Am able to work from ideas that I generate.
  - b. Am able to generate a good idea and receive help in planning its development.
  - c. Am able to develop the ideas generated by another person.
  - d. Am assigned a task that is part of a larger plan.
6. I usually complete tasks
  - a. Without having to be reminded.
  - b. Just prior to the deadline.
  - c. With a reminder from an associate or supervisor.

- d. After the deadline.
7. When I am overwhelmed with tasks I
- a. Delegate the jobs to others.
  - b. Eliminate some of the less important jobs.
  - c. Ask people to assist me only when the job would fail to be completed otherwise.
  - d. Get frustrated and fulfill the minimum.
8. If I were allowed to start a new church, I would prefer
- a. To invest most of my time reaching unchurched people.
  - b. To spend 80% of my time with church people and about 20% of my time with unchurched people.
  - c. To recruit someone on my team who could communicate well with unchurched people so that I could devote my time discipling Christians.
  - d. To focus on the needs of the people in the church.
9. I am currently pursuing
- a. Multiple relationships with unchurched people for the purpose of loving them and leading them to the Lord.
  - b. A relationship with an unchurched person in order to love him/her and lead him/her to the Lord.
  - c. Plans to develop relationships with unchurched people for the purpose of loving them and leading them to the Lord.
  - d. No relationship with an unchurched person for the purpose of loving them and leading them to Christ.
10. I function best
- a. When I can fellowship with people who do not yet know Jesus.
  - b. When I am relating to new Christians.
  - c. when I can spend much of my time developing relationships with Christians.
  - d. when I am relating to mature Christians.
11. My spouse (if applicable, otherwise, move to #12)
- a. takes an active part in the ministry of the church whether in a visible way or behind the scenes.
  - b. prefers to support my involvement by filling a supportive background role.
  - c. considers ministry as my responsibility, not hers/his.
  - d. is concerned that ministry in the church is a detriment to our family life.
12. I make it a priority to
- a. schedule at least one time a week for relaxation and/or family activities. Only an emergency can interfere with this time.
  - b. regularly schedule a time of relaxation/refreshment with my spouse or for me personally (if not married).

- c. have a date with my spouse or a personal time of relaxation (if single), when I can schedule it.
  - d. have a full calendar of work-related activities with little time for recreation, relaxation or family activities because my position/work requires that of me.
13. When new people start coming to my church,
- a. I encourage others to invite them to a small group gathering.
  - b. I personally visit them.
  - c. I wait until they have visited a few times before inviting them to my home.
  - d. I allow them to build relationships on their own.
14. The primary role of the pastor/leader is to
- a. train and equip people to serve and lead.
  - b. lead and administer the work of the church.
  - c. preach the good news of Jesus at my church.
  - d. care for the needs of the people.
15. I believe the style of worship for a church should be
- a. flexible to changing culture and people.
  - b. established when the church starts and changed only when the leadership changes.
  - c. traditional and correspond to time-honored values.
  - d. as the pastor prefers.
16. I prefer to learn about the needs of my community
- a. by becoming personally acquainted with people in the community.
  - b. through the U.S. Census.
  - c. by conducting a survey of the community.
  - d. through trial and error.
17. I believe the best way to confirm my ministry competencies is to
- a. Participate in an assessment interview.
  - b. Serve in various capacities and determine those in which I am most productive.
  - c. Participate in ministry programs I enjoy most.
  - d. wait to be asked by leaders to serve in some manner.
18. On a scale of 1-4, with 1 being the lowest and 4 the highest, I would describe my capacity for multiple assignments to be:
- a. 4
  - b. 3
  - c. 2
  - d. 1
19. When I am in a group of Christians that are divided over an issue, I
- a. help them focus on what we are called to do.

- b. serve as referee to facilitate peace.
  - c. use the Bible to illustrate the faults of their actions.
  - d. find myself choosing sides.
20. In times of hardship and disappointment I
- a. usually strengthen my resolve to continue to follow the direction the Lord has given me for my life.
  - b. may get discouraged for a while, but I go to the Lord and renew my pursuit of His direction for me.
  - c. usually struggle with strong feelings of defeat and resign myself to the circumstances I am facing.
  - d. feel isolated from other Christians and begin to ignore God.
21. On a scale of one to four how convinced are you that God has called you to plant a church? (1 being not convinced and 4 being thoroughly convinced)
- a. 4
  - b. 3
  - c. 2
  - d. 1

To score your quiz, give yourself:

- 4 points for every “a” answer
- 3 points for every “b” answer
- 2 points for every “c” answer
- 1 point for every “d” answer

Add up your total score and determine your next steps toward church planting.

If you scored:

- 60-84      Talk to your senior pastor or district official about church planting.
- 45-59      You should learn more about church planting. You could be an excellent team member for a planting team.
- 30-44      You may be able to fulfill a specific assignment in a church plant as an assistant to the launch team. Talk to your senior pastor or district official to learn about the needs of church planters near you.
- 20-29      You will probably thrive in areas of ministry other than church planting. You should continue to investigate ministry options with other ministry leaders in your life.