

**102 – GSE Establish**

**Established Church Gatherer Training**

The point of our time is to explore how to take the gathering concept and apply it to an established, already functioning local church.

**Let us examine biblical gathering**

Overview of our time together:

\*What do you hope to see accomplished today?

\*What are we doing today?

***Using Gatherers to build our own local church*!**

\*Sodalic and Modalic: (See the article by Ralph Winter)

**What is church?**

**3/5 Focus of Church - (Threshold Definition of Church)**

3/5 Focus of church

Who church is:

* 1. Focus on Jesus’s Mission – Matthew 28:16-20. (Jesus Christ focus)
  2. Communing with God. (God the Father focus)
  3. In Spiritual Community Together. (Holy Spirit focus)

What church does:

1. Worship – the simplest process of God becoming clearer to me (*leitourgia* word family).

2. Fellowship– the simple process of God’s people becoming relationally closer - (*koinonia* word family)

3.Teaching – (*didake/didasko* word family):

4. Preaching – (*kerugma/kerusso* word family):

5. Serving – (*diakonia/diakoneo* word family):

**Biblical Foundations to Biblical Gathering**

Examples of biblical gathering:

1. Jesus – John 1
2. Leper – Mark 1:40-45
3. Gadarene Demoniac – Mark 5:19-20 (Mark 7:31 - on to 8:1 and the feeding of the 4,000 - how did they all get there? Did this Gadarene Demonica gather them?)
4. Matthew – Luke 5:27-32
5. Lydia – Acts 16:14-16
6. Paul – Acts 13:15-52; 17:1-9; 10-12; 16-34; 18:1ff
7. Woman at well – Jn 4

8) Exegetical examples –17 Greek words translate the idea of ‘gathering to a mission.’ 101x referring to ‘gathering to Jesus’ mission.’

Summary thought:

Matthew 12:30

2 Kinds of gathering:

1. Simple gathering – what we have explored here thus far.

2. Incarnational gathering - when I recognize a gatherer and I allow them to gather me into their network!

Let us talk about a gatherer vs. an evangelist (even a person of peace):

-What is an evangelist like, in your experience?

-What is a gatherer like, in your experience?

-How might a gatherer differ?

How are the gatherer and evangelist similar?

1) Gifted people given to church

2) Bring people to Jesus Christ

3) Connect with Jesus’ mission

How are the gatherer and evangelist different?

1) Evangelists do not as readily ‘self-identify’ into their work . . .; Gatherers do. . .

2) Evangelists keep moving . . .

3) Evangelist tend to not hang around local churches . . .

***Group Conversation:***

\*What is the value in using a gatherer over an evangelist for what we are focusing on?

**Practical gathering today**

What do I do with all this?

\*I need to see them:

1. Group Exercise on identifying gatherers (see other handout)

Please write down the first names that come to mind when you look at/read the statement/question:

Names either “pop” into your mind or they do not; if they “pop” write them down, if they do not then the process is to identify people you see transformation in and “making” them into a gatherer:

2. Check out: on line gatherer assessment: [www.gsecoach.org](http://www.gsecoach.org)

\*Why are Gatherers, Gatherers? Why are they not listed on the spiritual gift lists?

1. Gathering is a birthright gift - a part of God’s creative genius; part of being made in His image

2. Gathering is also a behavior, this is why it can be improved

3. When Jesus Christ enters, things can move in extreme focus and impact

\*I need to train them:

You need to know well, when working with a gatherer:

1. The G concept so as to share it;

2) How to cast the vision for a gatherer.

\*What do I expect from one?

\*What do they need to know and be trained on?

1. I must help them understand who they are in Jesus Christ – who a gatherer is and what they do as given by Jesus Christ.

2. Create list of 25 families they wish to invite to the church.

3. Vision exercise: What the vision is and the two things they are planning to say to the families they invite.

4. Working with the Shepherd/Pastor

\*I need to build culture to keep them near:

Gatherers are ones who create movement toward a vision and healthy culture formation.

Definition of culture: ‘Culture is values observed in words and behaviors.” (Bill Woolsey via Coachnet)

Summary: Programs - Systems - Culture

Summary: Values - Language - Key Behaviors - Culture

\*I need a new score card:

-We measure what we value; we celebrate what we value = we need a new score card to do this.

Group Exercise:

\*What does our new scorecard look like?

\*What does the standard one look like?

\*I need to know the key to effective gathering:

1. Jesus’ mission:
2. Regular transformation (2 Cor 3)

Let us look at ways to impact current church culture and add a gathering culture:

Group Exercise:

\*What is the current culture of your church?

\*Why are not Gatherers gathering for my established church? What is interfering? (Matters to discuss related to “culture:”)

1. Gatherers are suppressed, in general, by our current ‘systems’ in local church environments.

Mainly expressed:

\*Issues of ‘control;'

\*In the West we build church systems on an ‘evangelistic’ model - be an evangelist or do work of an evangelist - this idea typically crushes Gatherers

2. Spiritual passivity vs. Active engagement on mission and thus dominate discipleship approach:

3. Multi voice v. one voice processing:

4. Incomplete visionizing – inappropriate use of resources:

Ill: Acts 16:6ff – viewing regions (Rev 19:15; Ps 2; Luke 4:43)

Ill: 1 Thessalonians 1:6-8 – the role Jesus’ DNA plays in each local church

5. Lack of recognizing this gathering person/gift:

6. GSE as team measuring:

7. Our pastor and leaders are exhausted - so we need to be careful to recognize this and perhaps see where we can leverage this toward a coaching relationship.

8. Make sure we leave old practices and old tools to answer and solve the questions/dilemmas our people are facing. New season, new day.

9. Programs - Gatherers need to hear where and how they belong; they need to have already heard why they belong, thus GSE is not a program but clearly a Process - conversation continues to go on.

10. Success: When 30% of church demonstrates gathering:

Group Coaching

\*Next Steps:

Potential Scorecard options - goals or desired/measurable outcomes:

1. Jesus’ mission ‘more’ engaged and intentionally pursued - measured by conversations, Gs identified and released, their conversations
2. Change occurring in overall ‘feel’ of church - measured by relational dynamics and asking questions of congregants
3. Chaos occurring via events and relationships - messy people things happening, unexpected things happening
4. Gospel going out more than ever - measured by known conversations, relationships engaged, conversions, baptisms, new members, new churches
5. Excitement growing related to local mission and outreach - measured by listening to people talk; by asking key questions about the local church’s mission and outreach

Reggie McNeal:

1. prayer
2. people
3. time
4. finances
5. facilities
6. technology

**\*Other Regional Scorecard:**

-how much are praying? all starts there - how measure prayer quotient?

-how many open or active conversations with leaders on this - put parameters on it in time

-how many engagement into training are there

-how many engagements into coaching on the regional focus

-how many licensed trainers in region to do training

-how many coaches

-new surveys taken each month - gatherer assessment

-measuring seasons - or phases to be clear on encouragement matters

-storytelling - having stories to tell about Jesus and his mission

-paradigm paralysis issues: paradigm shift process - how do we measure that - when light bulb comes on

-how we move from church addition to church multiplication?

-how do we empower the church family to start churches?