



Church Planting Today

what it takes

It used to be we equipped and trained missionaries to go out into the world and work across cultures. Now, we need to be equipped with the same principles here at home. The situation is now exacerbated by COVID-19 and the move to online church, as each church now has to rethink what it means to be church and how to be the church in this context. We are all now adopting church planting methodology as the norm.

In order to equip you for this present reality, consider the graph below and see whether you have made the adjustment across cultures.

The following classification was created by the missiologist Ralph Winter. He outlines four different classifications of evangelism:

E0

•(evangelism) church planting is reaching the existing church members or nominal Christians

E1

•(evangelism) church planting is reaching "our kind" of non-Christians, or reaching people who are culturally or linguistically our non-Christian counter parts.

E2

•(evangelism) church planting is reaching non-Christians of another culture or socio-economic level but speaking the same language

E3

•(evangelism) church planting is reaching non-Christians at a great linguistic and cultural distance from the witness.

If you are only reaching E0 and E1, then it is likely you are only connecting with 5% of people, and churches that this applies to most likely need revitalization. Our aim, therefore, is to also connect with E2 and E3.

What priority have you given to reaching E2 and E3?