

CHURCH PLANTING

DO'S AND DON'T'S FOR SPONSORING CHURCHES

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DON'T

1. Don't expect an effective church planter to fit in well in your church setting.
He may be a "maverick" who colors outside the lines of traditional church.
2. Don't begin a partnership with any church planter until you are very sure that he is the one God wants your church to partner with. (*Assessment interview, read his church planting proposal, hear his heart, etc.*)
A wrong leader is worse than no leader.
3. Don't expect the church planter to be at your church office as much as one of your staff members.
His work is outside your church.
4. Don't see your church planter as someone you need to "ride herd on" to keep him from doing something stupid. If this really is the case, you have the wrong church planter.
5. Don't use funding as a "whip" to keep the planter in line.
6. Don't wait until the church planter is in trouble to communicate with him.
7. Don't call the new church a "mission."
Most people today associate this term with a struggling entity that is not a real church.
8. Don't impose your experience and biases on the planter.
For example, church name, church structure, etc.

DO

1. Do treat the church planter as a "real" pastor.
2. Call the new congregation a "church" from the beginning.
This will give it credibility.
3. Give the church planter the right to fail.
He will try many things that will not work.
4. Show respect for the church planter.
Be obvious about this in front of your staff and congregation.
They will catch your attitude.
5. Celebrate victories with the planter.
6. Be available to the church planter.
7. Talk with the planter regularly without doing a "checkup" on his progress.
This will create the environment for teamwork/encouragement/accountability.
8. Keep prayer needs of the church planter and his congregation before your congregation.
You need to pray regularly for him.

