

## Points to Ponder for Potential North American Church Planters

As you begin our church planter equipping and assessing process, the following points to ponder have been developed to assist you and your family in discerning your calling to such Kingdom work. These points have been written based on some of the necessary characteristics and skills of church planters. They are here to help you think about your own life and family in view of serving unreached people groups in North America. After thinking through these for yourself, spend some time talking through these with your spouse (if applicable) to get another perspective on being a church planting family.

- 1. Give three examples of how you and your family (if applicable) have been open to trying new things that may have been intimidating at first?
- 2. Give three examples of when you were flexible and adapted well to change.
- 3. Church planting is about seeing a church birthed from the harvest field. Describe your comfort level of serving in an area where there is little structure and organization in place.
- 4. Is your household supportive and enthusiastic about serving in such a role to reach the nations? Give some specific examples of such attitudes or behaviors that would cause you to believe this way?
- 5. Think about the last three times you shared the gospel with someone. How long ago did these conversations take place? How did they occur? Would you say that you are intentional and regular in practice when it comes to sharing your faith? Why would you describe yourself this way?
- 6. What evidence in your life can you provide that reflects a desire to make disciples and see them grow in Christ-likeness?
- 7. How does it make you feel knowing that as a church planter you would be required to spend large amounts of time with unbelievers?
- 8. Many church planting activities require working with small groups. What are some examples in your life that would reveal a personal delight to work with small groups?

## THE CHURCH

- 9. Describe your vision for seeing people come to faith, gather in new churches, and taught to follow the Scriptures among the people group to whom you are called to serve? Describe what this vision, Lord willing, could look like after having served with the people for 2 years. What would this vision look like after 3 years? 5 years?
- 10. Can you think of a few personal examples that would reveal that you are someone who works well with a team to accomplish a task?
- 11. Are you able to connect socially with strangers? Can you give some personal examples of such positive interactions? What about connecting with strangers that may not speak English as their first language? Any examples of this in your life?
- 12. Church planters need to be hard workers, wise with their time, disciplined, and not lazy. How would you personally evaluate yourself in these areas? Why would you come to those conclusions about yourself?
- 13. What has your small group been saying to you about moving forward as a church planter? Are they encouraging you, discouraging you, telling you to wait a while?
- 14. Has the Lord called you to go and serve with a church planting team at this time? How do you know this to be the truth?
- 15. How comfortable are you with saying to new believers, "Imitate me as I imitate Christ" (1 Cor 4:16)? Is your walk with Christ something to imitate? If not, why not?
- 16. Can you give evidence of living a life that is both Spirit-filled and Spirit-led?
- 17. Do you know for certain that you are a follower of Jesus and can share your personal story of how you came to follow Him?
- 18. Though we all sin, can you provide examples in your life (and family) of being a person who is "above reproach" (1 Tim 3:2)?
- 19. Give some examples that would reveal that you are responsible with handling money.