

Church Multiplication Associates

Neil Cole

Network Summary

CMA is an umbrella movement of organic church planting that incorporates about 9 different networks of churches. We have been involved with church planting and developing resources for over ten years, but the last four years have been our most prolific explosion especially as in regards to organic church planting. In 2001 we saw 52 churches started which is an average of a church a week. We are now located in seven states and two countries.

Values and Activities

1. Bad people make good soil, there's lots of fertilizer in their lives.
2. The church must be conceived in heaven before it is born on earth. It must first be a glimmer in our Father's eye.
3. Two kinds of lost people: moths and cockroaches. The way to tell the difference is to turn the light on - the moths will be drawn to the light and the cockroaches will flee.
4. We must lower the bar of how we do church, raise the bar of what it means to be a disciple of Christ and thus we will raise the standard of what church truly is.
5. Don't organize "it" until you have an "it" to organize.
6. You cannot lead where you do not go.
7. Personal transformation precedes community transformation.
8. Worship has an audience of One.
9. To move others you must first be moved.
10. We must raise leaders for the harvest from the harvest.
11. All the resources for an abundant harvest are in the harvest.
12. Where you go the king goes!
13. Re Giving them the Bible when offering books and resources to growing Christians: "We must plant the seed, not a seed substitute."
14. Re Mentoring: "First things first, one thing at a time, always one more thing."
15. In creating ministry tools/systems: "Less is more. Simple is not simplistic. Simplicity is a step beyond complexity."
16. Re Mentoring agenda: "Bifocal leadership vision: Start and at the beginning and begin with the end in mind."
17. Anyone can do this... but not just anyone can do this.
18. Raise the bar of what it means to be a disciple and lower the bar of what it means to do church.
19. Church planting skills are Christian life skills.
20. We've got to get out of the barns and into the harvest!

Formative Resources

- Cultivating a Life for God by Neil Cole
- Houses That Change the World by Wolfgang Simson
- Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours by Roland Allen
- All the works of Howard Snyder
- Teachings of George Patterson, Thom Wolf and Carol Davis
- A Theology of Church Leadership by Larry Richards
- Raising Leaders for the Harvest by Cole and Logan
- Paul's Idea of Community by Robert Banks
- Against the Tide: the story of Watchman Nee by Kinnear
- John Wesley

Family

Neil and Dana live in California with their three children.

Contact Information

Neil Cole - neilcole@aol.com

