

BOOKS:

Church Planting Solutions considers the following "must read" books for church planters:

- **Acts (Luke)**
- **[Planting Missional Churches](#) (Ed Stetzer)**
Planting Missional Churches is an instruction book for planting biblically faithful and culturally relevant churches. It addresses the "how-to" and "why" issues of church planting by providing practical guidance through all the phases of a church plant while taking a missional look at existing and emerging cultures.

- **[The Church Planter's Toolkit](#) (Bob Logan)**
The premier resource for church planters! Combining the wisdom and expertise of Bob Logan and Steve Ogne, The Church Planter's Toolkit offers clear objectives that all church planters need to consider.

The Church Planter's Toolkit includes 12 audio cassette tapes as well as detailed checklists and action planning worksheets to form a comprehensive package for church planters and their supervisors.

Beginning with spiritual foundations, you will learn how to develop effective strategies for starting healthy churches that are applicable in any context.

Logan and Ogne use an easy to understand life-cycle model to describe the phase of new church development (conception, prenatal, birth, growth and reproduction). All the key issues within one phase must be addressed before moving on to the next phase of development, otherwise, significant problems can arise in the new church. (from ChurchSmart)

- **[Church Planting From The Ground Up](#) (Tom Jones)**
Church Planting from the Ground Up is a visionary guide for the critical task of new church multiplication. Share in the wisdom of these field-tested veterans as you gain insight from their stories, practical ideas, and real-world experiences.

"Hearing experts on church planting who have never planted a church seems strange. I prefer to learn about carpentry from carpenters. {This} is just that – a wealth of wisdom from a diversity of practitioners. Tom Jones has provided a great service to the church – practical insights from people who have been there and speak from experience."(from the cover)

- **[Planting Growing Churches for the 21st Century, Third Edition](#) (Aubrey Malphurs)**
Planting Growing Churches for the 21st Century is not about how many people you can get through the church doors on Sunday morning, but about planting and growing spiritually healthy churches that are equipped to reach today's unchurched generation. With vision, purpose, and practical advice, Aubrey Malphurs carefully leads you through the six stages of a new church, including funding, creating a strong servant leadership, and establishing values.

The church planters workbook will help you implement the book's contents into your own unique ministry situation, showing you how to develop a focus group, recruit a leadership team, and implement small groups. This third edition of a popular and practical hands-on guide will inspire, encourage, and equip ministry leaders. (from christianbook.com)

- **[The Purpose-Driven Church](#) (Rick Warren)**
Every church is driven by something. Tradition, finances, programs, personalities, events, seekers, and even buildings can each be the controlling force in a church. But Rick Warren believes that in order for a church to be healthy it must become a purpose-driven church by Jesus. Now the founding pastor of Saddleback Church shares a proven five-part strategy that will enable your church to grow...Warner

through fellowship - Deeper through discipleship - Stronger through worship - Broader through ministry - Larger through evangelism. Discover the same practical insights and principles for growing a healthy church that Rick has taught in seminars to over 22,000 pastors and church leaders from sixty denominations and forty-two countries. The Purpose-Driven Church shifts the focus away from church building programs to emphasizing a people-building process. Warren says, "If you will concentrate on building people, God will build the church." (from christianbook.com)

The following books are also excellent resources which may assist the church planter in developing a healthy growing church culture from the start:

- [The Nomadic Church](#) (Bill Easum & Pete Theodore)
- [When God Builds a Church](#) (Bob Russell)
- [7 Practices of Effective Ministry](#) (Andy Stanley)
- [Built to Last: Successful Habits of Visionary Companies](#) (Jim Collins)
- [Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap... and Others Don't](#) (Jim Collins)
- [Church Planting for a Greater Harvest: A Comprehensive Guide](#) (Peter Wagner)
- [44 Questions for Church Planters](#) (Lyle Schaller)
- [Surprising Insights from the Unchurched and Proven Ways to Reach Them](#) (Thom Rainer)
- [The Coming Church Revolution: Empowering Leaders for the Future](#) (Carl George)
- [Prepare Your Church for the Future](#) (Carl George)
- [The Coming Church Revolution: Empowering Leaders for the Future](#) (Carl George)
- [The E-Myth Manager: Why Management Doesn't Work-And What to Do About It](#) (Michael E. Gerber)
- [The Wisdom of Teams: Creating the High-Performance Organization](#) (Jon R. Katzenbach).
- [Traveling Mercies : Some Thoughts on Faith](#) (Anna Lamott) Chapter 1 provides a great perspective on the process by which people come to faith.

ONLINE ARTICLES:

- [The 10 Most Common Mistakes Made by Church Plants](#) by Jim Griffith
 - <http://easumbandy.com/resources/index.php?action=details&record=681>
- [Does the Vision really come first?](#) by Dave Ferguson
 - <http://www.next-wave.org/aug03/vision.htm>
- [Church Planting](#) by Bill Easum
 - <http://easumbandy.com/resources/index.php?action=details&record=1062>
- [Strong Churches Have A Strong Team Spirit](#) by Rick Warren
 - <http://www.pastors.com/RWMT/default.asp?id=185&artid=7770&expand=1>
- [Team Based Ministry](#) by Dave Ferguson
 - <http://easumbandy.com/resources/index.php?action=details&record=1121>

WEBSITES:

Google “church planting”, 319,000 total hits, 17 sponsored links

- <http://church-planting.net/>

Some great freebies like:

- Church Planting Search Engine
 - Find website about the church planting topic you need help with
 - Church Planting Checklist
 - A list of all the things you should consider doing to launch your church
 - Church Equipment Checklist
 - A list of all the equipment you should consider buying
 - Demographic Information
 - Request a free demographic report for your target area
 - Marketing and Outreach Consultation
 - Talk to a church marketing specialist about how you can best market your church to your community
 - Point Papers on church marketing, church planning, and more...
 - Papers to walk you through some basic church planting tasks
 - Church Planter assessment tool
 - Find out how you or team members are suited to be part of a church planting team
 - Staffing Resources
 - Resources to help you hire an effective and qualified staff
 - Facility Resources
 - Resources to help you choose the right facility for your church
 - Church Planting bibliography
 - A comprehensive listing of books relating to church planting
- <http://leadingedgeministries.org/>

Leading Edge ministries exists to connect new church leaders/entrepreneurs with leading service providers who are committed to new church work. Alliance partners are proven leaders in their field of expertise and are committed to championing new church work and church planting. We are not an online yellow page directory for service providers. Instead, we intentionally limit the number of participating organizations to those providing innovative, leading edge solutions for new church work.
 - <http://coachnet.org/>

CoachNet's website is an online tool for Christian leaders. One of the most unique web-based training and communication tools of its kind, CoachNet has a built-in reference library with hundreds of valuable resources, discussion forums on a wide variety of ministry topics, online study courses, and powerful, interactive online coaching tools.

- <http://www.newchurches.com/>
Church planters can use all of the help and experience from others that they can find. Here is a collection of resources that you will find invaluable in your preparation to start a new church.
- <http://churchplantingresources.com/>
This site was created to help people who are planting churches share resources to build systems, implement their vision, administrate and use technology for their churches. This site is a collection of free resources that is being built organically by actual church planters.
- <http://easumbandy.com/>
To prepare congregations and faith-based organizations for mission in the 21st century by training innovative leaders with a passion to grow disciples of Christ, and by providing resources, services, and networks to equip faithful and effective Christian ministries.
- <http://newthing.org/>
The Newthing Network's mission is to be a catalyst for a movement of reproducing churches relentlessly dedicated to helping people find their way back to God.

Even more... <http://churchstart.com>, <http://churchcreation.net>, <http://churchplants.com>

ORGANIZATIONS:

- **Stadia: New Church Strategies** - <http://stadia.cc/>
Stadia: New Church Strategies exists to find, train, deploy, and support church multiplication leaders. These leaders will build regional networks of planters, multiplying churches, and support personnel who will build a church multiplication movement that is sustainable and reproducible.
- **Orchard Group** - <http://orchardgroup.org/>
The Orchard Group exists to plant growing and reproducing churches. The Orchard Group, Inc. plants English and non-English-speaking churches, often using multiple-person staffs and mass mailing start-ups. This has allowed recent church plants to grow quickly, and to stay on schedule for reaching self-support status.
- **ACTS 29** - <http://a29.org/>
Acts 29 is a network of pastors from around the nation and world whose dream is to help qualified leaders called by God to plant new churches and replant declining churches.
- **Church Multiplication Training Center** - <http://www.cmtcmultiply.org/>
The Church Multiplication Training Center exists to multiply reproducing churches through equipping and empowering planters, pastors, spouses and leaders of sponsoring agencies.
- **Natural Church Development** - <http://ncd-international.org/>
Natural Church Development is all about releasing the potential that God has already implanted in our lives. Based on research in more than 26,000 churches on all size continents, NCD describes universal principles that are applicable regardless of culture or spiritual style. Their 8 quality characteristics are: empowering leadership, gift-oriented ministry, passionate spirituality, functional structures, inspiring worship services, holistic small groups, need-oriented evangelism, loving relationships.
- **ChurchSmart Resources** - <http://www.churchsmart.com/>
ChurchSmart Resources is an independent Christian publishing company and training organization. Our focus is on church planting, church health and leadership development.
- **Leadership Network** - <http://leadnet.org/>
Leadership Network's mission is to identify, connect and help high-capacity Christian leaders multiply their impact.
- **Church Planting Assessment Center** - <http://churchplanting4me.org/>
A Church Planting Assessment Center is an intensive multi-day experience which combines interviews, interactive exercises, individual and group presentations, and written evaluations by peers, assessors, and the candidates themselves. Feedback from both assessors and other candidates becomes very helpful over the course of CPAC. By combining the observations of many, each individual is able to develop a "snapshot" of how s/he is perceived by peers and others. These insights are invaluable in predicting future outcomes for the church planter and the church planting team.

BOOT CAMPS / CONFERENCES:

Stadia, Acts 29, CMTC, and others

National New Church Conference: April 25-27, 2006, Journey Christian Church, Orlando, FL

A “Short List” of Books for Missional Church Planters
Acts 29 Network
Steve Tompkins, director

Books on Mission/Gospel

Lesslie Newbign: The Gospel in a Pluralist Society and/or The Open Secret
Darrell Guder: Missional Church
Frost and Hirsch: The Shaping of Things to Come
George Hunsburger: The Church Between Gospel and Culture
George Hunter: The Celtic Way of Evangelism
Mark Driscoll: The Radical Reformation

Church Planting Basics

Ed Stetzer: Planting New Churches in a Postmodern Age
Aubrey Malphurs: Planting Growing Churches for the 21st Century (Third Edition)
Ralph Moore: Starting a New Church

Theology

Wayne Grudem: Systematic Theology
Alister McGrath: Historical Theology

Church Government

Alexander Strauch: Biblical Eldership
Gene Getz: Elders and Leaders

Preaching

Bruce Bickel: Light and Heat: The Puritan View of the Pulpit
Bryan Chapell: Christ Centered Preaching