

WHY MULTIPLY?

Missional Multiplication





Introduction

Multiplication matters.

We do it in our daily lives: we orient a new person at work, we train up our kids, we coach someone in a skill or sport. We know missional multiplication in a church (and in the Church) matters as well. However, multiplication in the church and in ministry can be elusive. We know what to do and how to do it (sometimes/mostly), so why doesn't it happen?

Let's talk about it.



Missional multiplication is:

- The process of building up to send out
- Building up believers with a missional and global mindset
- An expansive process/mindset, rather than a “stockpiling” process/mindset
- A big “C” global Church mindset, not just a local church mindset

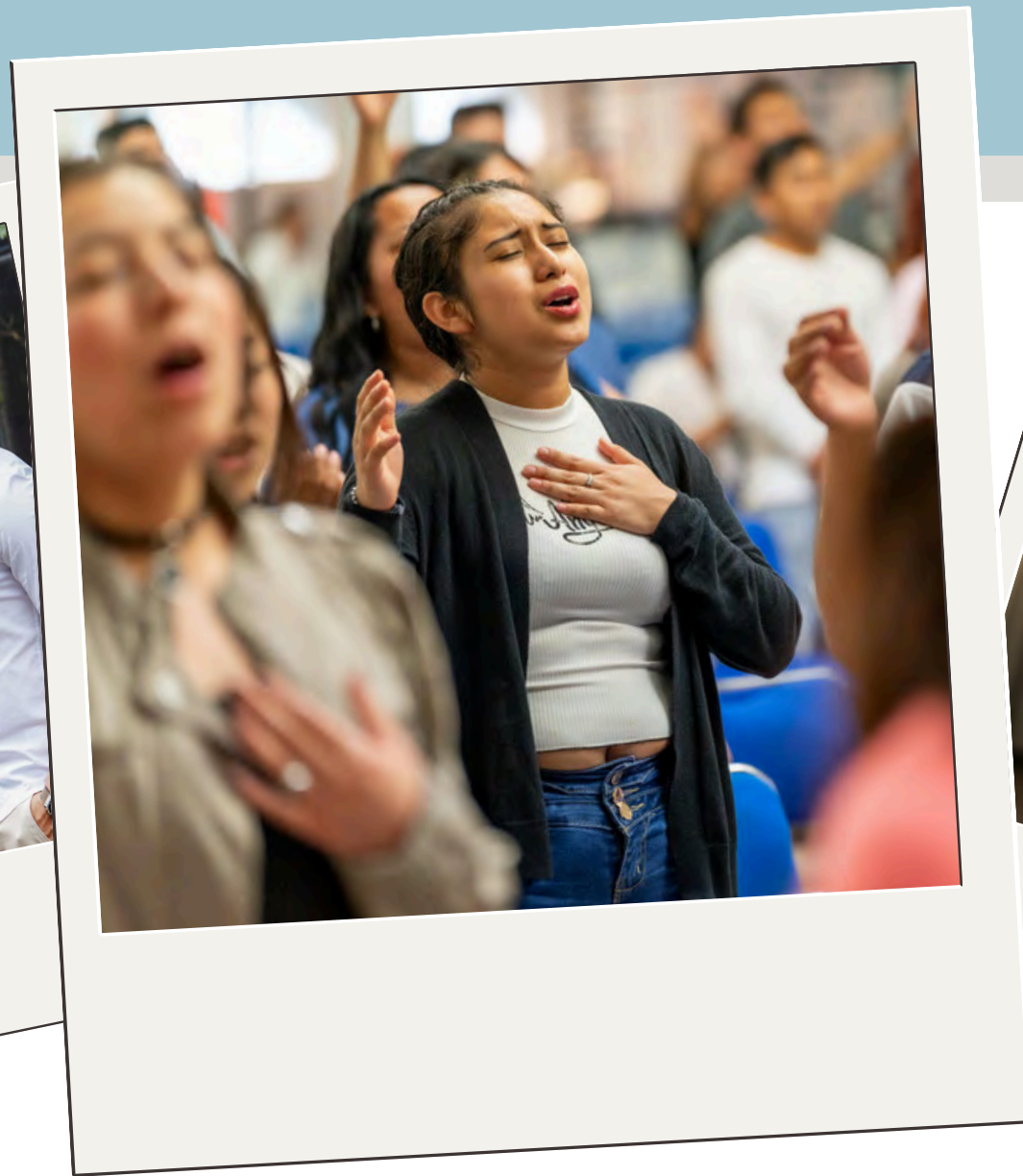


Missional multiplication is elusive because:

- Depth is hard to divide and re-develop.
- What if we plant a church and no one is willing to attend? The “success” of a church plant is not guaranteed and also a huge investment.
- The local church also needs strong disciples and leaders, sending them out can feel like a loss to your own church and leadership pipeline.
- Relationships are hard to let go/transition—when you’ve invested in someone deeply over a period of time, there is often a desire to continue. Sometimes multiplication just isn’t fun.

Because of these reasons (and many more), missional multiplication is not just a sacrifice on the part of an individual, but a church as well.

However, this comes from a scarcity mindset, rather than a vision of God’s global work and abundant resources and love for his church and the lost.



Multiplication is necessary because:

- It's participating in God's plan to reach and save the nations
- It's trusting God with your church/local ministry's next steps
- It's affirming an individual's calling and their obedience to the Spirit's prompting
- It's discipleship - equipping one who goes on to equip many
- It's modeled Biblically - Jesus invested in his disciples and then sent them out (plus, many more examples)

Multiplication is also an encouragement of God using **your leadership** and your church. Though multiplication comes with its difficulties, **it is a sign of obedience and health in your calling.**



If multiplication is missing, a key aspect of discipleship is missing. Which might it be?

- Ability: Knowledge of Scripture and ability to train up others?
- Desire: A genuine heart for the lost and desire to see them saved?
- Obedience: Willingness to follow Christ wherever/however he calls them?

Vision Cast



What:

Multiplication is a characteristic of a mature disciple and church.

Why:

Multiplication (or replication) is the outflowing of ability, desire, and obedience in a disciple's life.

Why It's So Important:

Multiplication is vital to God's mission and desire for all to be saved and his Kingdom advanced.

MYTHS & MECHANICS

Myth

1

We can't multiply or send until our local context is reached; there are so many "lost" people in our own neighborhood.

Reality:

This fear, again, comes from a scarcity mindset rather than an abundance mindset. Abundance is the heart of multiplication—when your church is habitually developing leaders, there are always more people being raised up who then go out and bring more in.



Myth

2

We need solid leaders in our local church; not all of our leaders can “go.”

Reality:

“Going” does not exclusively mean overseas, or even necessarily leaving your local church. “Going” is seeking the lost in any context they are in. How are the leaders God keeps in your church spreading the Gospel to those who don’t know it? What is their vision for reaching the nations by reaching your community (ex: refugees and immigrants)?



Myth

3

We can do enough mission without multiplying.

Reality:

This mindset puts a human limitation on the work of the Holy Spirit. When our “mission” becomes more important than obedience and sensitivity to the Spirit, we can expect Him to shake things up. God wants to use the whole church to bring the whole Gospel to the whole world. This can only happen if we are multiplying!



INTEGRATION IDEAS



Develop a Leadership Pipeline

Develop a plan for building up new leaders in your church and help foster a mindset of “build up to send out.” If you are constantly in the process of building up more leaders, you will not run out when “veterans” are sent out. Consider tapping into “expert developers” already in your church: people who are already replicating themselves and even those who develop leaders in their secular workplace. Partner with them where they provide guidance on the development process and you input the discipleship components.

Challenge Those Already Leading

Approach those already in leadership in your church and help them evaluate if they are in the habit of multiplying themselves. Help equip them with a vision and the tools for missional multiplication and see what God does! This can also guard leadership against a “boardroom” mentality that makes decisions but is disengaged as a practitioner.

Unreached People Groups (UPGs)

You cannot argue that there are not places for the Kingdom to expand and multiply to—there are over 10,000 unreached people groups (that’s 3.4 billion) in the world! Help your congregation understand what UPGs are and how they can get involved.

[Joshua Project - Reaching the Unreached | Joshua Project](#)

HOW TEAM CAN HELP

TEAM works with you.

We believe God wants to use the whole church to bring the whole Gospel to the whole world. We desire to partner with you, the local church, to help reach the global Church. Through resources, points of contact, and staff experts, we can help your church and members multiply however God is calling you!

Reach us at Mobilization@team.org.

