

A NEW DAY: MISSION CONCEPTS THAT ARE WORKING

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[The following sets of four were developed from notes jotted down during a presentation by Jay Jarboe of Mission Resource Network]

Four basic steps define the mission process—

- Missionary focused: the primary “missionary mission” is making disciples and church planting (evangelism)
- Missionary focused: the new churches must be strengthened and edified while the primary work continues (evangelism coupled with church development)
- Locally focused: local indigenous national church leaders and teachers are developed and are allowed to learn by doing (developing indigenous national churches)
- Locally focused: growing, spiritually mature congregations select and support their own leaders and evangelists as the local church assumes the primary task, missionaries “work themselves out of a job” so they can go do the same thing in other places

Four missionary principles support the four steps above—

- The local indigenous church must as soon as possible assume primary financial responsibility
- “Every-member” evangelism is facilitated
- Non-Christians interact primarily with unpaid indigenous church leaders, workers, and members
- Missionary churches are developed and multiply in extraordinary places as national churches assume the responsibility for evangelizing their own countries and plant more churches in their countries

Four general observations guide the mission process—

- Mission must be localized, move focus *from sponsoring church to local church*
- Mission must be site specific, move *from sending mentality to empowering mentality*
- Global missions must be holistic, integrate effective *evangelism and developing strong healthy churches*
- Global missions Is God’s mission, move from thinking about *our work to thinking in terms of God’s work*

Four critical shifts are required—

- From thinking of missionaries as the primary doers to thinking of missionaries as equippers of nationals
- From missionaries being in charge to missionaries being partners
- From US missionaries owning and controlling the mission effort to owning nothing, controlling nothing, and counting nothing as ours
- From western missionaries to global missionaries

Four needs as mission work develops national churches—

- From dependency to self sufficiency
- From addition to multiplication
- From competition to cooperation
- From mission organizations to local churches