

# THREE LEVELS OF MULTIPLICATION

## Pastor's Facilitation Notes



It is our desire that every Lead Pastor in the Great Lakes Region would lead his/her leadership team (i.e. Staff, Board, Advisory Council, etc.) in a discussion of Ed Stetzer's video on the *Three Levels of Multiplication*. We've developed a Leader's Guide to assist with this. Please understand that we dream and pray that your conversation will become a call to action!

There's a lot in the Leader's Guide. That's intentional. The guide is designed to take church leaders deep in their thinking, praying and planning for multiplying disciples in obedience to Jesus' Great Commission. Use as much, or as little, of it as it's helpful.

We've given you enough material, so you – as the Pastor – can guide this conversation in a 60-minute session. Perhaps, that's too much and/or too long for one session. There are ways to segment the material into smaller bites. Pray and seek God's direction for the best way to approach this discussion with your leadership team. Here are some ideas ...

- ❑ **Option 1:** One 60-minute Session
- ❑ **Option 2:** One 30-minutes Session
  - ◆ Intro the video and watch it
  - ◆ Talk through the Getting Started questions
  - ◆ Cover the Three Levels and the Big Picture Perspective
  - ◆ Assess: Where are we strong? What needs attention?
  - ◆ Next Steps: Apply it and Pray!
- ❑ **Option 3:** Multiple 30-minute Sessions (each ending in prayer)
  - 1) Intro the video; talk through the Getting Started questions and Motive
  - 2) Review video; discuss the *Three Levels* and Big Picture Perspective
  - 3) *Individual Call and Mandate* with application and next steps
  - 4) *Congregational Call and Mandate* with application and next steps
  - 5) *Cooperative Call and Mandate* with application and next steps
  - 6) Special prayer session, as a leadership team, around multiplication

At the end of the day, **here's what we want to accomplish.** We want every Pastor to lead a discussion with his/her leaders about multiplication. We want every leadership team to pray and seek God about what He wants them to do to multiply. We want every church to implement their ministry action plan, as directed by Holy Spirit.

You know yourself and your team. Use this material as it is helpful and make the necessary adjustments to best fit your style. When it comes to the Mission – we believe you can do it and we're here to help. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to ask. We're praying for you!

## THREE LEVELS OF MULTIPLICATION

*Leader's Guide Accompanying Ed Stetzer's Video*



Jesus' Four Commissioning Statements to His Disciples (in chronological order) ...

*Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." John 20:21 (NIV)*

*Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)*

*He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. Luke 24:46-48. (NIV)*

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8. (NIV)*

Video [Time 6:35]: *Three Levels of Multiplication* (Dr. Ed Stetzer, Exec. Director of the Billy Graham Center at Wheaton College)

Getting Started: After watching the video ...

- ♦ What strikes you most about what you just heard Ed say?
- ♦ Briefly explain/expound on this statement ... Disciple: It's who we are; it's what we do!
- ♦ What do you find most challenging about Jesus' call for his disciples to multiply?
- ♦ What stirs in your heart when you realize we have 22 Million people in the Great Lakes Region who do not know God through a personal faith in Jesus Christ?

**OUR MOTIVE FOR MULTIPLICATION ... "All authority - has been given to me"**

*"All organizations start with WHY, but only the great ones keep their WHY clear year after year." (Simon Sinek, Start with Why)*

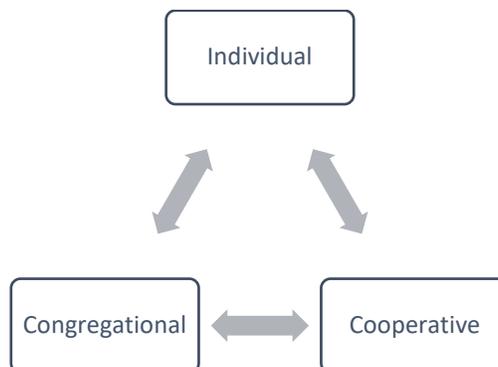
Our WHY ... Why are we committed to the mission of God's Kingdom?



- ♦ *Love ...* Our love for God and our desire to glorify Him! Our love for others and our desire to "share and show the love of Jesus" so they come to know and experience the power of Jesus' love as we do!
- ♦ *Obedience ...* Jesus is Lord - it's His Kingdom and we are His people; Jesus is the Head of the Church and we are His body. There are only two responses to His command to "make disciples" - obedience or disobedience. As a church, we are choosing to obey, and we will teach other disciples to obey!
- ♦ *Transformation ...* We believe the Gospel has the power to transform lives and communities! God has chosen to reach people through people - including us - and the church of Jesus Christ is the greatest redemptive force on the planet.

**OUR MANDATE FOR MULTIPLICATION ... "Make disciples of all nations"**

THE THREE LEVELS OF MULTIPLICATION



Big Picture Perspective:

- ♦ Ed applied the Great Commission at three levels. How are the three levels inter-related? What impact does each level have on the others?

- ♦ Do we believe that Jesus actually expects us, and our church, to engage the Great Commission at every level? What are the implications of a “yes” and a “no” answer to that question? [Be bold: What are our behaviors saying about what we *actually* believe?]

Getting Up Close & Personal:

### 1) *Individual Call & Mandate*

*Every Christian should read the Great Commission and see that it applies to them and say, “I am going to show and share the love of Jesus to my neighbor.” The individual calling and mandate are primarily seen in conversion – through individuals sharing the Gospel with their neighbors. (Ed Stetzer – video excerpt)*

- ♦ What if “every Christian” in our church saw the Great Commission this way?
- ♦ How are we, as church leaders, equipping our congregation of disciples to think and act this way? How can we improve our effectiveness in this area?
- ♦ What would it take for you, as a leader committed to leading by example, to step up to the next level of obedience in your Individual Call and Mandate?
- ♦ Idea: As a board, develop a list of your “neighbors” who you know need Jesus and commit to praying for each person by name each time you meet.

### 2) *Congregational Call & Mandate*

*Certainly, there was an intentional congregational element to the Great Commission when Jesus said, “Go, therefore, and make disciples, baptizing them ... teaching them to obey all I have commanded you.” Baptizing and teaching are key functions and practices of the church. (Ed Stetzer – video excerpt)*

- ♦ Using the early church in Acts, along with its map, as our example, Stetzer boldly asserted, “The congregational calling is most readily seen in church planting.” Do you agree or disagree with his assertion? Please share why.
- ♦ Take some time to pray and listen. What do we hear Jesus saying to us about our response to the Congregational Call and Mandate? If Jesus Christ really had his way with this church, what would He do with our multiplication map?
- ♦ As we see the congregational application of the Great Commission in our church, where do we see God leading us to “disciple into existence new disciple-making churches”?
- ♦ What is the one thing we can do this year, to most directly and positively impact our church’s forward movement in its Congregational Call and Mandate?

### 3) *Cooperative Call & Mandate*

*“Of all nations” – that’s a big command. An individual can’t get there ... a congregation can’t get there ... we can’t get to all the nations by my local church. If we’re going to go to the nations, we’re going to cooperate to get there. (Ed Stetzer – video excerpt)*

- ♦ How is the “all nations” mandate reflected in our church’s vision, strategy and prayer focus?
- ♦ With whom are we currently cooperating, as a vital partner, to make disciples of all nations? How will we strengthen our partnerships for global mission?
- ♦ What is the one thing we can do this year, to most directly and positively impact our church’s forward movement in its Cooperative Call and Mandate?

***OUR MIGHT FOR MULTIPLICATION ... “I am with you always!”***

We are not alone in our disciple-making mission. Jesus Christ did not commission us and then leave us to fend for ourselves. We live and lead on mission, knowing that we are authorized in His power and joining Him in the work of His Kingdom.

Be careful! We dare not become so self-reliant and self-sufficient, that our church’s disciple-making and multiplication efforts do not require Jesus’ help!

- ♦ What does it mean for us personally, and for our congregation, that Jesus is with us and empowering us by His Spirit?

***Prayer ...*** How do we need to pray, based on the challenge presented in this video and our study of the Great Commission? What do we want God to do for us; in us; and through us – individually, congregationally, and cooperatively – to multiply disciples and churches?

**PRAY TOGETHER!**



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Talk-sheet Accompanying Ed Stetzer's Video



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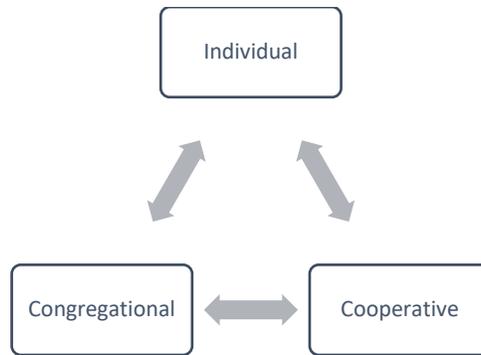
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Let’s Talk About It – Let’s Apply It

### 2) *Congregational Call & Mandate*

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**LET'S PRAY!**