

## **Planting a Country Church RIGHT!**

Charles Higgs/Country Church Strategist Texas Baptists

### **The RIGHT PRAYING!**

Proactive prayer. For most churches, we pray more in response to problems than in preparation for what God might do. God brings new vigor, however, to those who seek him with gut-wrenching longing and proactive praying. You are engaged in spiritual warfare when you plant a church. Prayer is the most important thing a church planter can will do.

### **THE RIGHT PEOPLE**

Texas has over 27 million people. On any given Sunday only 6 million attend church. Texas is growing by over 500,000 a year. Thirty Plus percent of Texans embrace the Culture Focus Strategy that we are talking about.

This unchurched group includes people who have been “burned out “on church; hurt from bad church experiences; Many have no church background. Many are troubled and have a wild streak and have been in trouble. Many of them are from broken homes and broken marriages. They are folks that have been drifters, pilgrims, outlaws and doubters.

In Texas there are those who are from the country, those who live in the country and those who wish they lived in the country. A Country Church is focused on the country and western culture. It seeks to show farmers, ranchers, sportsmen and all types of country folk, even those who are country-at-heart, the accepting, transparent and authentic love of God. It also seeks to see lives restored and enriched by a personal relationship with Jesus Christ through evangelism, discipleship, serving and sending.

Gathering them up through evangelism

Raising them up through discipleship

Putting them to work through ministry and outreach

Sending them out by equipping and planting

Existing Churches are reaching unchurched folks but not at the pace of the Cultural Focus Churches such as the Country Churches. The Robertson Effect Country is cool. Identifying You Target. Who are YOU called to reach with the gospel? Making the Shift How can your church become a community for the lost instead of programs.

### **THE RIGHT PLANTER**

The Church Planting Pastor has to in some way relate to the Culture.

The Church Planter Pastor needs to be seasoned in the word and in his Christian Walk, He needs to be visionary; motivated within; have his wife on board; show that he can lead people; flexible and adaptable; resilient; risk taker and a vision caster; a person that builds relationships; knows how to relate to the lost and unchurched. He needs to be a student of God's word and committed to be a good communicator.

### **Two Must:**

1. He must be called by God. He needs not only to be a pastor but to be a church planting pastor. Not all pastors can plant a church.
2. Fit the task. God calls but He also equips. The pastor must center on relating to the Culture.

### **THE RIGHT PLACE:**

The meeting place for Church needs to be Culturally Relevant.

### **THE RIGHT PARTNERS:**

- The New Church Start
- The Sponsor (Churches start churches not conventions or associations or fellowships)
- Local Baptist Association
- Texas Baptists/Baptist General Convention of Texas

### **THE RIGHT PLAN:**

- Mission Statement) (Keep it simple and brief)
- Value Statement (These are the core values. Such as: Biblical; Simplicity; Non-Judgmental ( Cultural Relevant; Building Unity and Relationships; Prayer; Team Oriented; Accountability)
- Goals ( Attendance; Budget; Baptisms; Building and land and a Place for Events)
- What is your personal mission and vision statement as a believer?

Budget:

Ministry Expenses: 40%

Pastor's Salary & Expenses: 30%

Building Expenses: 20%

Savings for Land & Building and new Church Start: 10%

### **THE RIGHT PROCESS:**

Church Planting Pastors+ Leadership Summit for Country Churches+ Sponsoring Church+ BGCT; Local Baptist Association+ Signed Covenant; MFG Approved; Interest Level Meetings+ Core Group Development+ Bible studies + Interest Level Events  
=Church Launch

## **THE RIGHT EVENTS:**

### **Outreach and Ministry Events for a Country Church by Charles Higgs of Texas Baptists:**

- Archery Tournaments
- Skeet Shooting
- Gun Safety
- Fishing Tournaments
- Wildlife Banquets
- Hunting and Fishing Instructions
- Cook-offs
- Calf Scrambling
- Country Gospel Concert
- Craft Fair
- Hog Hunt
- Flea Market
- Tractor Pulls
- Riding Lawnmower Races
- Horseshoe Tournaments
- Country Church Olympics
- Barn Raising
- Children's Fishing Instruction and Tournament
- Hosting a Car Care event for helping Single Mothers
- Hiking Event
- Community Gospel Singing
- Pie and Cake Auctions
- Play Day in a Round Pen
- Dove Tournament
- 42 Tournaments
- Divorce Care and Divorce Car for Children
- Classic Car and Truck Shows