

Praying According to the 5 Levels of Leadership

***thanks to Nathan S for his original work on the 5 Levels, and
for Mark S for sharing the document which was the foundation for this one!***

5 levels of leadership are generally recognized in movement work: Gospel Sower, Church Planter, Church Plant Multiplier, Movement Trainer, & Multi-Regional Trainer. In our various ministries and contexts we will likely be interacting mainly with level 1 and 2 leaders initially, but the long-term goal is develop leaders into levels 3+ in order to get to multiplication and generational reproduction. Toward that end, you may find it helpful to (1) pray for leaders with whom you are interacting, according to the needs of their “level”, but also to (2) pray in faith for God to raise up or develop leaders at the next level in order to expand the boundaries of the movement work God has entrusted to you. Hopefully this document will help with both of those things!

Level 1: Gospel Sower

Lord God, would You show us how to pray for new disciples as they stretch and grow in sharing their new faith... help them to grow in a hunger to share the good news out of a place of love for their people - be it with family, friends, or strangers. Grow them in faith to trust Your leadership, and help them to seek You for wisdom, words of knowledge, miracles of healing or whatever else would confirm the Word that they are sharing with the lost. Help them to call new believers to quick obedience in baptism and quick obedience to gathering their oikos to encounter You in Your Word.

Father, what are the obstacles for new disciples sharing their faith directly or through discovery Bible studies? What is hindering their motivation to share? What are the roots of fear or anxiety they may feel and how can we combat those things in the spiritual realm? Lord, how can we pray for new believers to grow in sharing the good news? What new understanding do we need to know how to support and encourage them?

Father, we ask also that You would stir a God-sized vision in the heart of every new believer - that they would be filled with a hunger to see every one of their people (and beyond!) hear the good news and encounter Your faithful love for themselves. Father, increase their faith and their love for the lost! Call them deeper and deeper into prayer - asking, listening, waiting, obeying. Help every one of these new believers see that they are called to obey every command of Christ, and help leaders know how to equip and empower them to do so. Open their eyes to see the lost all around them - and make inroads for them as they reach out to their own oikos. Help them to answer objections in love and patience, not returning evil for evil, but responding in love and forbearance.

Lord, how can we help new disciples fall more in love with You? What are the keys You want to give us to unlock a hunger for greater obedience and faithfulness to Your commands, both in our own lives and in the lives of new disciples? Father, how can we model deeper prayer for them? How we can grow in relationship with them through prayer? What else are we missing? What else do You want to speak to us about leaders at this level?

Level 2: Church Planter

Father, thank you for your faithfulness and grace in the lives of leaders at this level. Thank you for the churches You've started through the ministry of these precious people. Lord God, we ask first that You would protect them from pride - show them the danger of giving place to that spiritual cancer and help to rejoice in humility and they give all glory to You. Would you work in such a way that they cannot help but give glory to You - that circumstances would show them clearly that it is You who is working through them.

Father, what are the pitfalls we need to be watching out for in the lives of developing leaders? Where are the traps the enemy has laid out to cause them to fall, and how can we combat those things in prayer? Father, what do we need to be fasting about in this stage of the work? How can we most effectively model and train fasting in emerging leaders?

Lord God, we ask for an outpouring not just of fruitfulness in the lives of these leaders, but fruitfulness based on and rooted in the fruit of the Spirit. Fill these disciples up with Your Spirit call out to them moment by moment and give them a hunger for You that drives out all other distractions. Fill their hearts and minds with Your perfect and unfailing hope, built on Your already accomplished victory, such that they would grow exponentially in perseverance, regardless of what pressure or persecution may come. Train them to recognize the moving of your Spirit, and to rightly discern when the enemy is at work. Train them to pray in all times in the Spirit, and to recognize the spiritual battle in which they are engaged. Help them to grow in trusting You and your Word.

Lord, what is hindering the deep work of your Spirit in the lives of these leaders? Is there any hidden sin that needs to be rooted out? How can we model walking in the Spirit for these leaders? Father, how can we really help these disciples understand that Your Kingdom is worth more than everything else? How can we help them to grow in perseverance in the face of persecution? Of what do we need to be aware as we train them in spiritual warfare?

Father, help these precious ones grow as disciple-makers. Help them to not just accumulate followers, but to grow actual disciples that love You and want to walk in Your ways. Show them how to develop leaders, how to recognize giftings and develop them for Your glory and for the blessing of Your Body.

Father, what are the local cultural roadblocks to developing leaders after the pattern of the Kingdom, and not the world? What are we missing in our discipleship process? What are our cultural blinders of which we are unaware? Of what do we need to be aware as we continue to think about and develop our leadership development process?

Level 3: Church Plant Multiplier

Father, all glory to You for what you have done. Thank you for the generational growth that You have brought about. Help us, and these leaders, to continually give You glory, knowing that this is all the work of Your hands, and we are blessed just to bear witness to it. Father, please continue to grow all of us, expat and local alike, in Your image. Train us to be servants, utterly dependent on You, humble because we know our weakness, but faith-filled because we know Your greatness. Help us to be focused on the needs of others, and stir us to prayer when confronted with the needs of the lost and the needs of the churches You've entrusted to these leaders. Father, please show the leaders in this work how to establish prayer covering for themselves, and how to be prayer covering for each other.

Lord, are there any hidden places of pride in us or the leaders that we're praying for? Anything that is hindering the moving of Your Spirit? Lord, in what ways are we failing to trust You? How can we grow in dependence on You? Where are we trusting ourselves instead? What are the obstacles to all of us growing in faith?

Lord God, would You show us clearly on what things we need to focus. Show us where we're distracted on lesser things, and what needs to shift. Help us to see what's most important for this season. Help us, and the leaders with whom we're connecting, to say "no" to distractions (even or especially good ones!) and remain focused on the work You have for us. Please grow in us, and these leaders, hearts that want to work hard to see the expanse of Your Kingdom, hearts that are impatient to see the expanse of Your Kingdom! Help these leaders to understand how their role will shift as they continue to move from an addition mindset to a multiplication mindset - help them to grow in generational vision, in grace to release and delegate authority to emerging leaders, to remain humble and teachable. Grant them grace to grow in understanding of how to train others to do what they do - to be able to not just use the tools we've developed together, but to train others how to use them even more effectively.

Lord, what are the distractions in this season? What do we need to set aside to make room for the most important things? Where do we need to focus in this season? What is most important? What is limiting leadership development? And how can we address it? Lord, what is coming soon that we need to prepare for now?

Father we're also asking for these leaders to grow in grace to lead multiple other leaders. Help them to understand the things that make a church healthy or not - how to disciple deeply and strengthen the center while not losing the apostolic vision to push out the edges of the work. Grant them grace to be intentional about leadership development - to be able to rightly identify emerging leaders, to call out giftings, to train, mentor, coach, encourage, and release new leaders into the work of ministry. Grow in them the diagnostic mind of a strategist - help them to see things from a higher level - the potential consequences, good or bad, of each decision they make. Help them grow in understanding of how to develop strategic gifts in the lives of other leaders around them.

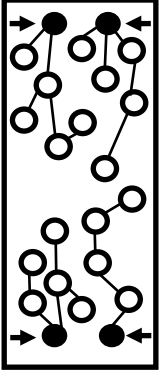
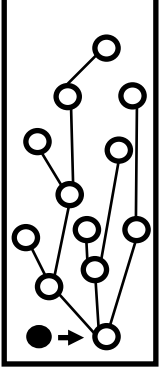
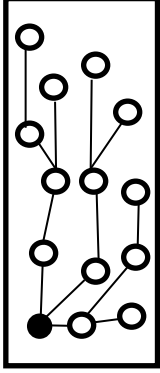
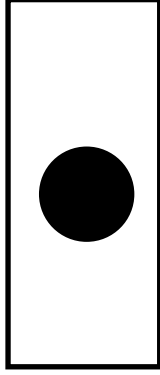
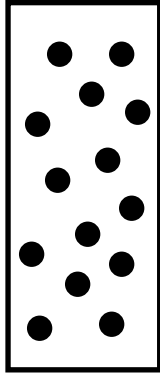
Lord, what is hindering the multiplication of leaders? What is hindering depth in leadership development? Lord, how can we maintain focus on pushing out while also strengthening the center? What are the missing keys to striking that balance? How can we help leaders grow in the ability to rightly recognize emerging leaders - not just the impressive ones, but the ones who are genuinely called and gifted? How can we better develop strategic thinking in these leaders? Where do we need to grow in strategic thinking? What are the obstacles to big-picture, strategic thinking in this culture and in this work?

Level 4: Movement Trainer

Level 5: Multi-Regional Trainer

STAGES OF CHURCH PLANTING

Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5
GOSPEL SOWER	CHURCH PLANTER	CHUCH PL MULTIPLIER	MOVEMENT TRAINER	MULTI-REGIONAL TRAINER
Goal: Consistently sharing the Gospel & target people are consistently coming to faith and being baptized. Development Areas: • Abide in Christ/Live by Spirit (Lordship/Dependence on God) • FAITH in God & LOVE for the lost • Prayer • Share the Gospel A LOT • Vision & DNA—All believers do Great Commission * Motivation * OIKOS list * Simple initial EV tool * Simple EV tool if open/group * Answering frequent objections • Initial Discipleship Tool * Simple process/pattern including baptism & EV * How to disciple Development Areas for Workers: • Priorities • Mobilizing Partners — vision casting tool • Broad Gospel Sowing (if needed) • Language/Culture (Far-culture) • Identity/Access (Far-culture) (if needed) • Bible Translation (if needed)	Goal: First church(es) started and set up for health. Development Areas: • Full of the Holy Spirit • Hope that produces perseverance • Spiritual Warfare • Authority of Scripture • Indigeneity (including 3 Self's) • On-Going Discipleship Tool * Vision for making disciples * Content—all of Christ's commands and an overview of all of Scripture * Simple Pattern—that includes Truth (Grace) and Obedience • Healthy Church * Church Formation process—to get to group * A Simple church pattern that includes a Bible teaching tool * Church Functions & Ordinances * Spiritual Gifts * Dealing with sin * Church Leadership * Church Multiplication initial Development Areas for Workers: • Mobilizing existing churches	Goal: A stream of generational churches with many healthy churches. Leadership Development in place. Development Areas: • Servant Leadership * Dependency on God * Humility * Focus on the needs of others • Wrestling in Prayer * Prayer Groups/networks • Getting Rid of ignoble things * What to say 'no' to • Work Hard • Multiplication—multiple gen. * The required role change * Generational vision & growth * Releasing leadership & authority (Priesthood of believers) • Mastery of & ability to train the simple CP tool • Church health/Discipleship Depth * Leadership Development * Process/Pattern * Comprehensive material * Delivery method * Identifying leaders • Network Wide events—we are not alone [Heart language songs] • Solving problems * Finding root issues (diagnose) * But always celebrating	Goal: A church in all major segments with sufficient saturation for all to hear the Gospel. Lots of healthy churches. Leaders being developed locally. Development Areas: • Full Dependency on God, not on my experience/expertise • Significant prayer and fasting • Dealing with pride & identity in work • Dealing with burnout • Integrity • Tenacity • Whole area vision & burden * Segmentation • Good communication skills • Developing Stage 3 & 4 leaders * Coaching / training trainers * Assessment & diagnosis * Being available * Ensuring good leadership dev in each stream (not centralized) * Role change—saying no, hard dec • Start new streams in unengaged or weak segment * Hot coals strategy * Mobilizing existing churches (vision casting for multiplication to unhealthy churches) * Broad EV methods • Getting everything indigenous (4 self's & subsidies turned local) • The Network—help needs/problems • Troubleshooting using Scripture • Teaming (involving other giftings) WORKERS: Prepare for Exit	Goal: Multiplication movements in multiple areas/regions among the unreached. Development Areas: • Courage to make the hard decisions • Prioritizing time and use of resources • Coaching & Developing movement trainers & Local area leaders * Assess where leaders are & how to move forward * Stay connected to local areas—deal with doctrinal and multiplication issues * Catalytic coalitions / events * Pioneer missions mobilization * Research * UPG/UUPG research * Metrics to measure teams & areas * Councils UNTIL THERE IS NO PLACE LEFT!



Original idea from Nathan Shank's
5 Levels of Leadership