

Seeking A God-Sized Vision

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While many efforts to reach the unreached have occurred throughout Christian history, global efforts to identify and reach *all* remaining Unreached People Groups were launched in the late 1980s. As the Great Commission was re-examined, it became more clear that Jesus' command was to disciple every *ethnos* (ethnolinguistic people groups)¹. The key question became: "How do we disciple an entire *ethnos*?" This God-sized question forced movement catalysts to embrace a God-sized vision and a God-driven approach. Given the overwhelming task of discipling people groups that were often comprised of millions of people, these early catalytic teams and their prayer partners went to God in desperate prayer. These teams became willing learners as God led them to put aside human tradition and search the New Testament for strategies of discipling and church planting. God began to use the dependence and humility of these servants to start "book of Acts-like movements" (Church Planting Movements) reproducing this faith and obedience in others.

In a meeting of 38 CPM catalysts in 2010, who represented many of the first 100+ CPMs, the question was asked: "What are the key contributions of outside catalysts?" The top answer that emerged was "vision": These outside catalysts bring a God-sized vision and find inside catalysts who either have this vision or catch it.

What is God's vision in Revelation 7:9-10? *Worship* is the end - not *just* people from all nations, tribes, languages, nations before the throne – but people from every group worshipping.

God has been orchestrating all of history to accomplish *His* end vision, and we can be certain that one day every tribe, nation, and tongue will stand before His throne. This is ultimately where everything is heading. Revelation 22, the last chapter of the Bible, shows in verses one through five a complete picture of what God has accomplished.

As you pray, ask God what His vision is for your people group? We know Revelation expresses that vision generally, but how can you best express this in a way that will guide you and those that pray and work alongside you? Here are some sample "end vision" statements that God has given teams that served to see movements started.

¹ Winter, Ralph D. 1981. "The Task Remaining: All Humanity in Mission Perspective." In *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement: A Reader*, edited by Ralph D. Winter and Steve Hawthorne, B176-B190. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library.

Sample End Visions

a. Churches in every village!

To facilitate church planting movements so that all 300,000 N people are within walking distance of a reproducing house church that is taking the Gospel to the N, Asia, and the world. There will need to be at least one church in every village (16,000).

b. A church in every Muslim neighborhood!

To glorify God through multiple church planting movements among the two million Muslims of S Town so that there is a reproducing house church in every Muslim neighborhood so that every Muslim can understand the Gospel and participate in a house church. There will need to be 20,000 house churches proportionately distributed through every Muslim sect and ethnic group in the city.

c. Giving everyone the chance to hear!

Our vision is for XF district is to have an indigenous CPM that is led by lay, unpaid, local Christians, thus allowing all in XF district to hear the gospel and have a chance to receive Christ. The DNA of this movement should be evangelism resulting in new churches from the beginning. Our end vision is to have 200,000 new believers worshipping together and training in 13,000 new house churches by 2015.

d. Radical transformation of Y state!

Every Y in every village (~45,000 villages) in every dialect in Y State coming to know or at least hear about Jesus Christ. Radical Transformation of Y State (is the most corrupt, poorest state in the country) from a place of darkness to a place of light. The Y are the key to this transformation. The Y people would cross people group lines and ultimately spread the Gospel to all Y State, then to all of North India, and then to the East to Thailand, China, Japan, etc and to the West to Pakistan and the Middle East.