




Establishing relationships: five contributions a pastor will welcome.

Workshop Assumptions:

1. That the local church & the global church have a responsibility to make Christ known in this world, along with every member of those churches.
2. That mission by definition includes the planned and prayed for communication of the gospel by some means, divine or human.
3. That cross cultural mission is an extension of the ministry of the sending church, in which the church ministers through its missionary and not just to its missionary.
4. That the separation of the world on the basis of geographic proximity is a factor of implementation and not inherent in our view of the world.

Some preliminary thinking:

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|  <p>(1) This is you – a Missions Agency Person – an MAP! Smart, happy, keen to talk! As an MAP, you have or are given the role of contacting pastors. When you think of pastors with whom you have had no prior contact, what thoughts come to mind? How do you view them?</p> |  <p>(3) When you are in conversation with a pastor, how would you summarise your role? What would you hope the outcome might be? What is your contribution to the conversation? What resources do you have to leave with the pastor?</p> |  <p>(2) This is the pastor! When you call or drop in . . . – how do you think he perceives you – how does he see an MAP – what do you think he is expecting?</p> |
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CONNECTIONS 2016

Having been on both sides of the fence, as an MAP and as a pastor, plus as a neutral mission lecturer who listens to both groups, permit me to suggest five areas where I believe an MAP has something to offer that meshes with the desires of a pastor. Global mission (GM) can be presented as:

An agent of local church growth

GM deals with the biblical nature of the church - word/worship/witness
GM makes people confront the impact of the shared gospel
GM gives local mission a place in the big picture of Rev 7:9

A means of growth in godliness

See the need of the world the way God sees it - biblical theology of mission
Getting our heart in tune with God's heart and love for the world - Jn 3:16
By learning how godliness is expressed in other cultures

Equipping people for gospel witness

Mission education - how gospel is being shared in other cultures - contextualisation
Teaches how to share Christ by a third party context, by story - not 'in your face'
Using short term as a training tool in gospel witness - similar to SUFM

A program for discipleship

You have become a Christian and therefore part of God's global body
The nature of the gospel is that it is to be shared in diverse contexts
Learn how to share Christ with someone of another cultural background

A renewal agent for pastoral ministry

GM can give a renewed vision of God at work in people's lives
GM can put a pastor's ministry on to a global canvass and enlarge his world
GM teaches the biblical value of prayer as ministry - Rom 15:30

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