

A Missional Growth/Revitalization Strategy from R.E.A.C.H. Worldwide Ministries

Reaching Every Available Community Household is a dynamic prayer and outreach based church growth and discipleship strategy for the twenty first century church. It is effective for both legacy church revitalization and new church growth. It addresses inward focus, fear of evangelism, lack of burden for the lost, and non-involvement in personal evangelism and prayer characterizing many of our congregations.

The R.E.A.C.H. Level 1 strategy leads your church family in an entry-level prayer, outreach and discipleship process through the open small group ministry of your church. It intentionally involves every active member of the church from the youngest child to the oldest adult. It provides an opportunity to grow for members who have never shared their faith as well as those who are experienced in personal evangelism. It mobilizes the entire church body in intentional discipleship through evangelistic prayer and outreach.

This powerful process also has the support of cutting edge research. Information based upon the study of thousands of churches across North America is revealed and utilized in this comprehensive plan.

When approached from a missiological perspective, an effective evangelistic process to reach America...

- 1. Must be biblically based
- 2. Must address the current active evangelistic labor force crisis
- 3. Must expect involvement from the entire church body
- 4. Must develop burden for the lost
- 5. Must become a part of the normal "DNA" of the weekly church life experience.
- 6. Must address both prospective and inactive members
- 7. Must utilize the power of and the openness to prayer
- 8. Must expose both believers and unbelievers to the Word of God
- 9. Must acknowledge the power of relationships and community.
- 10. Must lead to the ongoing study and practice of personal evangelism

R.E.A.C.H. fulfills each of these needs!

The strategy has been developed and practiced for decades in the real ministry world of local churches in a variety of cultural contexts. The author, a former pastor, now serves as a seminary administrator, professor, and church consultant. He is seeing this strategy

being used to produce a harvest. He developed this strategy while serving as the pastor of local congregations. This is no ivory tower church growth theory. It is a working model that has transformed the lives of people and churches.

How does R.E.A.C.H. work?

The strategy includes comprehensive missional pursuit (outreach) and outwardly focused intercessory prayer components.

The R.E.A.C.H. process delegates church-wide prayer and outreach responsibilities to the open small group ministry fifty two weeks a year. It leads every active member of the congregation to be involved and guides them into deeper discipleship.

The outreach component places every active member on an outreach team. It allows them to make contacts according to a flexible schedule and method. It coordinates outreach to entire families with teams from various age groups working together. It encourages family discipleship experiences as parents and children serve with one another to reach other families. It also includes all-church outreach and prospect discovery events to impact your entire community.

The comprehensive R.E.A.C.H. prayer strategy empowers and works in a synergistic relationship with the outreach component. It includes intensive intercession for prospects, inactive members, and active members on a weekly basis through the small group structure as well as through special prayer ministries. The strategy brings new life to church prayer ministries by discovering real needs from the church and community via phone calls, prayerwalking and prayer surveys.

One pastor in Georgia says, "What's amazing about R.E.A.C.H. is that it has helped every member of First Baptist to become involved in outreach and prayer. The results have been astonishing, an outwardly focused congregation, a stronger prayer ministry, and a continual influx of new prospects in Sunday school and Bible study. R.E.A.C.H. is making a great difference in the life of First Baptist."

How can your church implement R.E.A.C.H.?

The first step is to experience a Level 1 Basic R.E.A.C.H. Training Conference.

This can be conducted on a single or multi-church basis. The conference requires six hours of total training. The first four hours will include all staff, general small group ministry leadership and small group workers and potential workers. The last two hours will be for the staff and general leadership overseeing the implementation of the strategy as a whole.

The six hour conference can be expanded to an entire R.E.A.C.H. Weekend with a R.E.A.C.H. Conference Leader preaching in the Sunday morning services and/or meeting with small groups as well.

Other levels of training can be experienced after the Level 1 training is complete. See the summary outlines to follow:

□ Level 1 - Building the Platform: Basic R.E.A.C.H. Conference

- ♦ Experience 6 hours of training.
- ♦ Understand the theological and practical foundation of R.E.A.C.H.
- ♦ Hear the latest church growth research.
- ♦ Learn why open small group ministries are leading growth methodologies
- ♦ Learn the details of the prayer and entry level outreach components.
- ♦ Includes complete implementation instructions, job descriptions, and reproducible materials.

□ Level 2 - Being Evangelistic vs Doing Evangelism : Advanced Training

- ♦ For churches with level 1 training only 5 hours of training
- ♦ Learn how to engage in intentional relationship with God, the church and the lost
- ♦ Learn how to develop an evangelistic prayer life.
- ♦ Learn how to build relationships and lead a conversation to Christ.
- ♦ Engage in a personal testimony workshop.
- ♦ Experience a gospel tools training workshop.

<u>Level 3 – Strategic Assimilation, Discipleship and Leadership</u> <u>Conference: Advanced Training</u>

- ♦ For churches with level 1 training only.
- ♦ Experience 5 hours of training.
- ♦ Learn assimilation, accountability and discipleship strategies.
- ♦ Understand the need for an intentional cycle of discipleship.
- ♦ Learn the importance of closed small groups.
- Understand the importance of building bridges of leadership to your congregation and community.

□ **Level 4 – Church Consultation**

- Exegete your culture and congregation
- Comprehensive analysis of your community and church
- ⋄ Strategic plan development
- ♦ Ministry ideas
- Face to face onsite or at a distance services available

□ Level 5 – R.E.A.C.H. for New Church Starts!

♦ Learn how to develop prayer and outreach strategies in a new congregation. A powerful tool for the church planter!

For scheduling and cost information, contact R.E.A.C.H. Worldwide Ministries at: www.reachworldwide.com or at:

R.E.A.C.H. Worldwide Ministries Dr. John H. Ewart P.O. Box 1889 Wake Forest, NC 27588-1889 919-761-2216 jewart@sebts.edu

Bio: Dr. John H. Ewart

- Native of Oklahoma
- Graduate of Baylor University, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.
- Serves as the Associate Vice President of Project Development, the Director of Doctor of Ministry Studies and as Fletcher Professor of Missions at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina.
- Formerly served as the Associate Vice President of Distance Education and Innovative Learning and Associate Professor of Evangelism and Church Growth at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.
- President of R.E.A.C.H. Worldwide Ministries and the author/creator of *R.E.A.C.H.* (*Reaching Every Available Community Household*), a prayer, outreach, and discipleship strategy implemented through the open small group ministry in local churches.
- Served as the Senior Vice President and a senior church growth consultant for The Rainer Group and continues to serve as a church consultant through R.E.A.C.H. Worldwide Ministries and as a Board Member and instructor for church consultant training conferences for the Society of Church Consulting.
- Served in pastoral ministry for over twenty years in local churches in Texas, the Philippines, Oklahoma, Arizona, and Kentucky.
- Served with the International Mission Board as a Missionary Journeyman to the Philippines. Has now traveled and conducted mission projects in over 30 nations around the world and participated in over a dozen church starts.
- Writes for national church growth publications and journals, written chapters for various textbooks and is completing two book projects in the areas of church revitalization, missional prayer and evangelism.
- Most importantly, though John was not raised in church, Jesus used a friend to draw him to salvation and then blessed him graciously by allowing him to marry Tresa. They have three incredible children: Joshua, Rachel, and Josiah, a beautiful daughter-in-law, Stephanie, one granddaughter, Elizabeth Grace and one grandson, Jonathan Vincent.