

Church Planting: Words of Wisdom

Introduction: In ministry, and especially in church planting, there are many intangibles. These are issues and judgements that come up sometimes that are either undefined or cannot predict. It is the little things that can make or break a church plant team or a young church. Every church planter wants to succeed. In our focus of planting missional churches, that would mean that we are effectively evangelizing people, making disciples, and establishing faith communities that continue to multiply that vision. This means that we all want to finish well and complete the task God gives us. So in this session will deal with those intangibles that can make or break a young church plant church. Our heart is to see the seed grow into a blooming tree.

“ Many start well, but few finish well.”

Dr. Bobby Clinton, Fuller Seminary

I. The Church Planter

- A. Ignoring personal health and growth
- B. Failure in developing leaders
- C. Failure to confront secret faults
- D. Preaching and leading like you have arrived
- E. Living “ above” not “ among” the people
- F. Failure to adjust to change
- G. A wrong relationship with money
- H. Missing it on hiring
- I. Underestimating the enemy
- J. Lack of intercession
- K. Loss of the mission personally or corporately
- L. Failure to resolve conflicts
- M. Handling criticism and judgment
- N. Focusing on production not obedience
- O. Failure to resist utilitarianism
- P. Failure in guarding “ The Faith” and good doctrine

II. The Church Plant Team Member

- A. Failure to count the cost
- B. Possessing carnal expectations
- C. Developing a sense of entitlement
- D. Living by a wrong identity
- E. Poor skills in relational conflict
- F. Failure to resolve unhealthy emotions or moods
- G. Failure to produce personal boundaries to prevent burnout
- H. Unresolved bitterness
- I. Becoming dysfunctional in team relationships
- J. Focusing more on your “ role” than what you are “ a part of”
- K. Loss of personal mission to reach others
- L. Failure to develop and grow
- M. Failure to assess soberly your gifts and grace

“Timothy, my son, I am giving you this command in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by recalling them you may fight the battle well, holding on to faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and so have suffered shipwreck with regard to the faith. Among them are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan to be taught not to blaspheme.” 1 Timothy 1:18-20 NIV

“But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.”

1 Timothy 6:11-12 NIV

“Tell Archippus: “See to it that you complete the ministry you have received in the Lord.”” Colossians 4:17 NIV

“Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize.”1 Corinthians 9:24 NIV

“For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.” 2 Timothy 4:6-7 NIV