

INTRODUCTION

Many different models; most churches a combination of models

One size does not fit all (three perspectives)

Not pushing or condoning any particular model...just describing what's out there.

I. Video-Venue Model

A. Example: North Coast Church, Vista, CA

1. Attempted to create environment where it wouldn't be an overflow room that functioned as punishment for those who came late.
2. In just a few weeks, didn't have enough room. Two-thirds of people choose video over live. Eventually, had to recruit to live venues.

B. Description: Live Worship, Sermon Presented by Videocast

1. Video can be live, or it can be recorded at initial service and then distributed.
2. Observation: feels very natural. Many churches have video of speaker enlarged off to side, and people spend most of time watching the projection anyway.
3. Larry Osborne: early marketing surveys showed no interest in minivans, microwave ovens or fax machines. Don't like what you don't know.

C. Benefits

1. Allows churches to offer a variety of worship styles--Praise Band (Live), Acoustic (Video Cafe), Traditions, Country Gospel, Edge.
2. Reduces need to add preachers to your staff. North Coast: 16 services each weekend in four on-campus venues and two off-campus venues (schools); preaching load carried 50 weeks a year by two preachers.
3. Allows for Quality Control of messages. John Piper doing video in Minneapolis.

D. Challenges

1. Technological Costs--can be as much as \$150,000
2. Technological Expertise--your \$150,000 system is only as good as the person who operates it
3. Importance of Venue Leader/Pastor.

II. Regional Campus Model

A. Example: Redeemer Presbyterian Church, New York

B. Description

1. Church replicates experience of original campus at additional campuses
2. Usually the same speaker who speaks live at all services. Circuit-rider.
3. Some models use team-teaching approach.

C. Benefits

1. Taking the church to new communities where it can be Incarnational.
2. Ability to offer different styles of worship.

D. Challenges

1. If only one pastor, limited to 2-4 sites.
2. Need infrastructure at each site to take ownership of site.

III. Extended Multi-Site

A. Example: Seacoast Church, Charleston (7 in SC, 2 in NC, 1 in GA, 1 Online)

B. Description

1. Local churches basically become "franchise"
2. Need infrastructure people, then use prerecorded sermons from other pastors.

C. Benefits

1. Very cost-effective
2. Ability to provide level of preaching expertise that would otherwise be impossible.

D. Challenges

1. Difficulty of applying God's Word to your particular context
2. Need a committed core for infrastructure who are willing to minister in non-traditional way.

IV. Multi-Congregational Model

A. Example: Perimeter Church, Atlanta

B. Description

1. Group of distinct congregations under one session
2. Usually have separate preachers for each congregation.

C. Benefits

1. Ability to leverage resources for larger impact in greater community.
2. Team approach; ongoing coaching/mentoring
3. Can do big-church ministry with small-church feel.

D. Challenges

1. Maintaining commitment to vision and values movement-wide
2. The natural pull of congregations toward particularization and self-governance.

V. Multi-Site & Multi-Congregational Model

A. Example: Harbor Presbyterian, San Diego

B. Description

1. Multiple church planters, each of whom has more than one site.
2. Central services take care of major administrative issues.

C. Benefits

1. Team ministry; can learn from the experiences of those who have gone before.
2. Can provide internships and training at all levels of church growth.
3. Central services allow church planters to focus on the main things.
4. Ministry to church planter wives.
5. Ability to fuel movement with financial resources that would otherwise be missing.

D. Challenges

1. Developing and maintaining trust among the leadership.
2. Finding creative ways to leverage breadth of movement.
3. The natural pull of congregations toward particularization and self-governance.

CONCLUSION

Many models, many combinations of models

Go around room and multi-site pastors share either 1) what model you are using, 2) greatest benefit, 3) greatest challenge.

When we go to breakouts, there will be two general groups: pure multi-site and Harbor model.