

Thinking about Starting a New Church?

From Dream to Launch Sunday

Dave Hazel – Lead Pastor – Village Community Church

The Dream

Holy discontent – Popeye Principle “That’s all I can stand and I can’t stand it no more.”

What is God stirring within you?

Three aspects must be present

Audacity – Is a Spirit, not a set of actions. It’s a part of your character. A leader is the one who hears from God, speaks into to nothing and keeps speaking it until it becomes reality.

Proverbs 29:18

1 Samuel 14:6

“God doesn’t step in until you step out.”

God wants us to celebrate your uniqueness – “The thing that makes you unique is what makes you powerful.”

Honor - God will honor those who are honorable. You need to determine to finish well. It’s real easy to talk about honoring the lead pastor when you are the lead pastor. It has to start early. How do you talk about your senior leaders?

Generosity – Having a spirit of generosity begins with the leader. If you want your church to take audacious steps you need to lead the way and take audacious steps yourself. (Giving, time, sacrifice, etc...) Fast!! Pray!!

Measure the cost

Emotional Cost – Revelation brings isolation. Get ready for loneliness.

Gethsemane means: Olive Press. The most oil comes out of your life when you are pressed the most. Many times, God has to press it out of me to do what He wants

Physical Cost – We speak for God – 1 hour of speaking = 8 hours of manual labor. You must stay healthy. Work out, eat right, sleep!! Embrace accountability.

Relational Cost – Abandonment, God will never tie your destiny to someone who walks away. TD Jakes “I’ve got the gift of goodbye.” If (and when) someone leaves it usually means a divine upgrade.

The Building of the Team

Throw out a big net

Be clear with your vision – Simple – Concise. This will attract a team.

People will follow a leader who has a clear direction and vision. They may initially follow a leader with an unclear vision, but it never lasts.

Stay with your vision. Don’t allow it to leak. It always will. The leader is responsible for communicating the vision over and over and over and over again!!

Pre-Launch

There are several pre-launch models. Decide on one and stay with it.

The W

Marketing

Connection Events

Launch Team

I challenged our team to lock arms with me and help me launch a church. This is a team, not just me wondering alone.

Principles to Remember

From Steven Furtick – Elevation Church

1. We're Ruth's Chris, not Golden Corral – Determine what you do well and do it.
2. Dress for the wedding not the gas station – Structure for where you want to go not for where you are. You never get to the next size until you act that size
3. Stress participation not membership – I want people to belong before they believe
4. Eat the fish, leave the bones. Learn from everyone!!
5. Create a culture of intensity – It's the highest calling, it's hard work. Don't be lazy!!
6. It's all about the numbers!! The lives of people changed.
7. Think inside the box – Based on what you are able to do with what you got. Inspiration without implementation leads to frustration. What are you going to do with your box. Stop wishing for a new box. Matthew 14 – Feeding the 5000, Exodus 4 – What is in your hand?

Determine in your heart and mind that you will not be a person who "has a form of godliness yet denies its power."

Don't be scared or intimidated – Go for it!!

It's a marathon, not a sprint.

God wants to change you as much as He wants to use you. "The difference between where God wants you to be and where you are is the pain you are willing to endure."

To leave you with...

1. Receive God's activity in your heart and life
2. Remember how God worked in the past
3. Respond to God's new direction

Books / Writers / Pastors that have shaped my church:

Ron Sylvia

Reggie Joyner

Andy Stanley

Steven Furtick

Strength Finder

Ed Young

Simple Church

Bill Hybels

Thom Rainer

Rick Warren

Dan Kimball