AROUND THE WORLD:
WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS NOW
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We need churches to send out *teams* to plant *clusters of indigenous churches* among *receptive people groups and cities* of the world, churches with enough *resources* to evangelize to the fringes of their group or city and beyond.
A. TEAMS

1. Why teams? Because they are practical and biblical.

2. But are they worth the expense and potential problems?
B. CHURCHES

1. As opposed to a focus on individual converts.
2. In clusters, formed through web and people movements.
B. CHURCHES

3. Indigenous, i.e. locally owned and operated, so that converts are not unnecessarily alienated from their own culture.
“Don’t bring us the gospel as a potted plant, but bring it as a seed and plant it in our soil.”

(an anonymous Indian Christian)
Indigenous = nationalized?

Indigenous = traditional?

Indigenous = ownership!
The four selves:
Self-supporting
Self-propagating
Self-governing
Self-theologizing
C. RECEPTIVE

1. Because we’re looking for fields where God has prepared a harvest.
Acts 16:9-10

“Macedonian Call”
Acts 17:16
Acts 18:9-10

“I have many people in this city.”
C. RECEPTIVE

1. Because we’re looking for fields where God has prepared a harvest.

2. Because Jesus gives priority to those who are seeking Him.
3. Yes, but…

a. “Receptivity is relative.”
   True. How responsive must people be to justify staying? How long do we wait?

b. “We shouldn’t emphasize numbers.”
   Neither should we glorify lack of growth.
3. Yes, but…

c. “We should respect the ‘call of God’ in the lives of His servants.” Amen!
3. Yes, but...

d. “We should blanket the earth with missionaries according to population.”

But we have a limited number of workers, therefore, we will be selective, but based on what criteria?
D. PEOPLE GROUPS and CITIES

1. As opposed to targeting countries simply according to political boundaries.
2. Targeting people groups: practically?

Such “cultural specificity” leads to more long-term productivity because

a. Communication takes place in the heart language

b. Indigenous leaders are raised up
3. On the other hand...

a. People group focus can lead to ungodly segregation if it continues too long.

b. People group approach is less suited to cities
D. PEOPLE GROUPS and CITIES

4. Appreciating the difference between rural and urban missions.
E. RESOURCES

1. Evangelize to the fringes of their people group and beyond with little or no outside funding.

2. Balancing the crippling effects of dependency with the need to share our wealth.