Principles of Multiplication of Disciples

- Guided by God the Holy Spirit through prayer for God's glory alone (Acts 13:2,3)
 - Practical applications:
 - Prayer in many ways, individually and in groups
 - Listening for God's guidance
- Grounded in the Bible (2 Tim. 3:14-17);
 - Practical applications:
 - Bible as the teacher in Discovery Bible Studies.
 - People as self-feeders reading a lot of the Bible each week
 - No other traditions have any authority over those who become Christians. New churches
 must submit to the Lord Jesus Christ and obey His commands, but no other traditions can be
 imposed on them from without. They are free to serve God in their own way, as long as they
 follow the Bible's teaching.
 - Self-replicating at all levels individuals, groups, and leaders of all types. (1 Thes. 1:6-8; 2 Tim. 2:2)
 - Practical applications:
 - Modelling everything in practice; then assisting as trainees carry out the function; watching; then leaving them to carry on.
 - Training leaders of groups, who then, in turn, train others, in a never-ending chain.
 - Making the meetings and everything else simple enough so that they can be easily imitated.
 - On-the-job is the ideal method of training, being exemplified by the Lord Jesus Christ, and followed by the apostle Paul.
- Vision and practice of reaching the lost at all costs (1 Cor.9:16) so that the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea (Hab. 2:14; Mat.24:14). If anyone is not a Christian, we evangelise them. If they profess to be a follower of Jesus Christ, we encourage them to gather in the lost with us.
 - Practical applications:
 - Being able to tell one's testimony simply
 - Being able to lead someone to Christ using a tract or orally
 - Using Discovery Bible Studies to go through Mark's Gospel or other Gospel passages
 - Asking "With whom can you share this story, your testimony and the Gospel and what new group can we begin?" at every meeting.
 - Making goals and plans both with people known to us and beyond the least, last and lost.
 - Working with 24:14 to reach the unreached peoples of the world.
- Obedience to the Lord in His Word as the way to change our lifestyle and society (Mat. 28:20; John 15:14; James 1:22)
 - Practical applications:
 - Make sure that we ourselves and everyone are obeying the commands of Christ.
 - Always asking, "How will we put this into practice?" and following up in the next meeting to see how we managed it – so there is accountability.
- Expressing the plenipotency of the Body of Christ that the Gospel, like a seed with its germ, has all the power, through the Spirit of God, to produce all the functions and activities of a congregation in a group of believers (Col.2:9,10).
 - Practical application:
 - Every group can begin other groups, baptize and have the Lord's Supper. Although we all benefit from the ministry of other people, there is nothing holding people back from obeying the Lord. From the beginning, new groups of Christians have all spiritual authority to obey all the Lord's commands, and grow and multiply themselves without any necessary reference to a missionary team.

- The essence of all Gospel ministry is the same, but its expression in every culture will be different. (1 Cor. 9:19-23)
 - Practical application:
 - As long as people are obeying all the commands of the Lord Jesus Christ, the expression of this can be varied according to the culture – e.g. posture in prayer, where to meet, etc.
- Expect persecution and suffering as we obey the Lord (Mark 8:34-38; 2 Tim.2:3)
 - Practical application: Prepare all believers for suffering and persecution.
- The Church is one Body (Eph. 4:1).
 - Practical application:
 - All activities are carried out in harmony and cooperation with other members of the Body, without rivalry, and without any part dominating the others. We must work in cooperation with other congregations and missionary agencies.

2024.07.13 Principles of Multiplication.docx