

My Top 10 Favorite Church Planting Websites

By Dave Earley

"I believe I am called to plant a church. I am eager to get started. Where do I begin?" That is the essence of emails I regularly receive as the Director of Church Planting at Liberty University. I usually refer to four resources that help the would-be church planter get started. I send them a list of the most helpful websites to search, books to read, and conferences to attend. Then I also tell them about the new MA in Evangelism and Church Planting from Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary. www.liberty.edu/seminary In future articles, I'll discuss some of my favorite books, and training options. In this article I want to give a quick survey of what I think are ten of the most helpful or interesting websites on church planting.

1. www.churchplantingvillage.net

This is the site presented by the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. It is absolutely loaded with information. There is information on everything you can imagine including multi-site church planting, bi-vocational church planting, indigenous church planting, church planter wives. If you go to the Discover Church Planting section, you can take several free online assessments to determine whether or not you are suited to be a church planter.

2. www.newchurches.com/

"New Churches" is Ed Stetzer's updated site. Ed is an author, pastor, and church planter who currently serves as the Missiologist and Director of the Center for Missional Research at the North American Mission Board of the SBC. This site is laid out very nicely. It has lots of great tools, resources, information on events, blogs, podcasts, links, and info on vendors.

3. www.nextinitiative.net/

NEXT is a network of purpose-driven churches dedicated to launching 1000 churches in the next five years. NEXT is directed by Ron Sylvia who has been teaching the Purpose Driven Church planting seminar for many years. Ron Sylvia is the founding and lead pastor of Church at the Springs in Ocala, Florida and has a passion for training and coaching church planters. This website has some good downloads and materials. Most importantly, it is the door to getting involved in Ron's monthly church planter coaching network.

4. www.churchplantingresources.com/

This is very professional organization that has a ton of highly practical stuff including setting up a 501c3, to writing a church constitution, info on how to set up blogs and pod casts, creating email campaigns, and more.

5. www.churchplanting.com/

This is Steve Sjogren's new site. Sjogren is an effective church planter, author, and the leading spokesman for servant evangelism. He has some good resources and articles available. I like it because I like servant evangelism.

6. www.acts29network.org/

Acts29 is on the forefront of the Resurgence Movement attempting to combine reformed theology and a contextualization of the Gospel. The Acts29 Network came out of Mark Driscoll's Mars Hill church in Seattle, Washington. This site is very well done with plenty of media downloads, information on upcoming church planter training boot camps hosted by Acts29, and other resources.

7. www.organicchurchplanting.org/

This is Neil Cole's site. It is dedicated to planting movements and organic house churches. There are many articles on house churches.

8. www.mislinks.org/church/chplant.htm

A collection of a hundred websites, articles, and organizations all related to church planting.

9. www.church-planting.net/

Passion for Planting is a not-for-profit church planting support ministry started in 2002 by a group of church planters from New Life Christian Church in Centreville, Virginia. They have a good looking site with a few nice free resources.

10. www.churchplants.com/

This is an extension of Outreach Marketing. They do have some good free articles. But most importantly, this site connects you to stuff you can use to market the new church.

Dr. Dave Earley is an experienced church planter and coach. He serves as the Director of the Liberty Center for Church Planting at Liberty Theological Seminary

He is also Chairman of the Department of Pastoral Leadership and Church Planting for Liberty Theological Seminary. He has authored ten books on subjects such as small groups, leadership, prayer, and the Christian life. www.daveearley.com