

COLORADO BAPTISTS ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

# MOMENTUM

ISSUE #14 • OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF COLORADO BAPTISTS

COLORADOBAPTISTS.ORG

IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE PANDEMIC,

# RISE & REBUILD

CHURCHES FIND STRENGTH IN THE GOSPEL

+  
DISASTER RELIEF:  
A YEAR IN REVIEW

+  
THE BI-VOCATIONAL  
CHURCH PLANTER



# WHATEVER YOU DO ...

**I**N COLOSSIANS 3 there are a couple of verses that have been favorites of mine for years.

*17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

*23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, 24 since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.*

When you begin to read verse 17 and then in verse 23 you see these words, “whatever you do.” These are all encompassing words! And Paul even defines these words for us in verse 17, he says, “In word or deed”. He further defines this in the next phrase of the verse when he says, “do everything.” Whoa, this really is all consuming! Everything! What we say, what we do, everything. How are we to do everything?!

Let’s read on. In verse 17 it says, “in the name of the Lord” and in verse 23 it says, “Work heartily, as for the Lord.” Now



**Paul says to do everything in word or deed, heartily in the name of the Lord.**

in between these verses there are encouragements to wives, husbands, children, fathers, and bondservants. Paul is encouraging the Colossians and us as well to do everything we do heartily, as for the Lord. This means that when we are dealing with our families we are to be doing everything heartily. When we are at work, we are to be doing everything heartily. When we are preparing our sermons, we are to be doing this with our entire heart. When we are listening to a sermon or reading God’s Word we are to do this heartily. Well, let’s be honest, Paul says to do everything in word or deed, heartily in the name of the Lord.

Paul goes on and tells us why we are doing this, “as for the Lord and not for men.”

We are doing everything for the Lord and in verse 24 it says, from the Lord “you will receive the inheritance.” When my parents went to heaven I received my inheritance; this was really special. My parents blessed me tremendously, but it will be utterly amazing when I receive my inheritance from my Lord and Savior. What an amazing day that will be!

My fellow Colorado Baptists, may I encourage you to do everything, do everything heartily, do everything heartily for the Lord, and do everything heartily for the Lord for your inheritance will come from Him. Praise God!

It was great to see you all, or a lot of you, at our Annual Meeting in Fort Collins. As always, if I can be of service to you, or if the Convention or Foundation can serve you please do not hesitate to call us! Our goal is to do everything heartily—especially as we serve you and our churches.

Doug Lohrey  
Interim Executive Director





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# GIVING TO CHANGE LIVES

BY CLAUDEAN BOATMAN

Colorado WMU Executive Director

**G**IVING SEEMS MORE  
NATURAL IN DECEMBER.

We seek ways for our charitable giving to help individuals with physical needs. Gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions (LMCO) does more than meet physical needs. They are investments in eternity. This annual Christmas offering has its roots in a woman who gave her life to those without Jesus.

Just over a hundred years ago, the annual Christmas offering for international missions was named for Lottie Moon. Lottie Moon is legendary inside and outside Southern Baptist circles. Truth is, she was a normal person—a normal person completely convinced of the power of the Gospel to transform lives.

Lottie, born in 1840, grew up in Virginia, a member of a wealthy family. She rebelled against God in her early years. In 1858 when she was 18 and attending college, God drew Lottie to Himself. She never looked back. Three years later, she became one of the first women in the South to earn a master's degree.

Lottie's faith grew during the Civil War and with her eventual

IN 1918, WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION (WMU) NAMED  
THE ANNUAL OFFERING FOR OVERSEAS MISSION AFTER

**LOTTIE MOON**

WHO GAVE HERSELF TOTALLY TO GOD  
AND THE PEOPLE TO WHOM SHE HAD BEEN CALLED.

moves to Kentucky and Georgia to teach. In 1873, it was unusual for women to travel alone or to serve as missionaries. But Lottie was an unusual woman. God called Lottie, a single, female educator who had opportunity money afforded at the time, to follow Him to China. Lottie answered yes and turned down a marriage proposal in favor of missionary service. She set sail for China when she was 32. This 4'3" tall woman was the first single female appointed by the Foreign Mission Board, the precursor to the International Mission Board.

Lottie served Jesus in China for 39 years. Despite initial rejection and suspicion, Lottie firmly planted herself among the Chinese. She baked simple sugar cookies to open gateways to relationships with children and families. She adopted traditional Chinese clothing. She learned to speak Chinese. She honored Chinese customs. Many Chinese followed Jesus because of Lottie Moon's example of Christian love.

Lottie didn't stop with her own call to witness in China. She trained Chinese women through Bible study. She wrote letters begging women in the United States to raise money to send more missionaries to China—which they did. Her letters and articles encouraged women to work together to support missions. Women took Lottie's words to heart, and the Woman's Missionary Union was born in 1888. Lottie encouraged women to begin an offering dedicated to helping missionaries who were serving overseas.

During wartime, Lottie saw her precious Chinese friends struggling to find enough food for their families. She began giving her food to prevent their starvation. Her fellow missionaries noticed her malnutrition too late to save her. They arranged ship passage to the United States for her in the waning days of 1912. The ship docked in Kobe, Japan, on Christmas Eve. It was there Lottie Moon passed away, her hands folded in a traditional Chinese greeting.

In 1918, Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) named the annual offering for overseas mission after this woman who gave herself totally to God and the people to whom she had been called. Now, more than 100 years later, the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions provides financial resources for missionaries across the world. 100% of each offering, whether a dollar or hundreds of dollars, goes directly to fund and support missionaries on the field. Let's advance God's Kingdom together!



# Together,

WE REACH THE NATIONS

2021 GOAL

**\$185**  
million

**imb**

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## Aspen Grove Church in Parker provide care bags to meet needs of community

Aspen Grove Church in Parker is identifying ways to reach their community by taking care of the immediate needs of others. What began as a service project from Kids Camp over the summer has turned into an ongoing outreach that will impact children within foster care as well as the homeless population. Care Bags filled with items such as blankets, clothing, hygiene items, school supplies, etc. are given to the Department of Human Services and other ministries. These bags help them provide needed items that ease challenging transitions of life. Over 50 bags have been provided so far, lives are being touched, and community relationships are being built. We are thankful for churches being the hands and feet of Jesus!



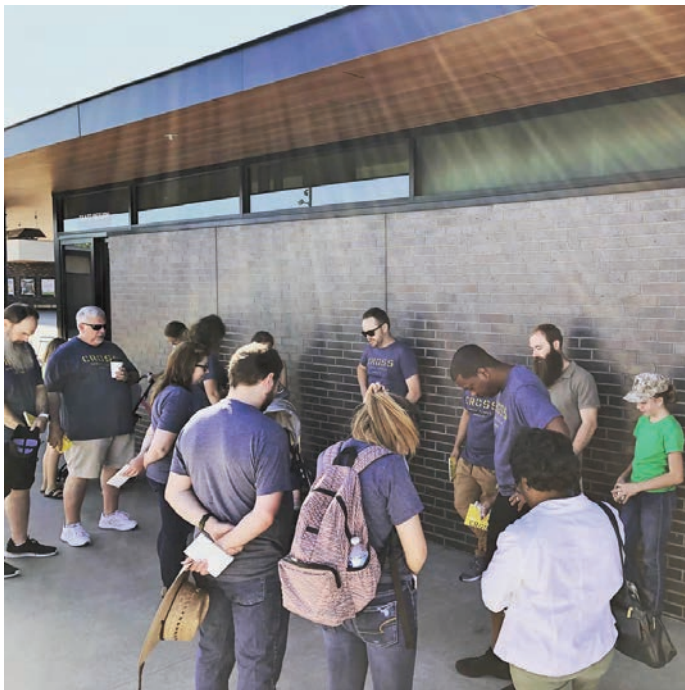
## Orchard Mesa Baptist Church is blessed with more baptisms than expected

While Orchard Mesa Baptist Church planned a baptism service for 3 people, God had a much bigger and better plan in mind for a chilly June day in Grand Junction! Reverend Bob Babcox and his Associate Pastors began their baptism celebration in the river and as each person was baptized, more individuals came forward with a desire to take the next step in their faith, for a total of 7 baptisms that day. Local kayakers even joined in on the celebration applauding and cheering for each person making the decision. It was truly a public declaration of a personal decision! We celebrate new life in Christ!



## Cross Family Church in Parker aim for 1,500 gospel conversations by 2022

Pastor Tim Wheelless and Cross Family Church in Parker have a lot to celebrate in this season! They are on mission to reach their community with their 'Light the Way' initiative with a goal to have 1,500 gospel conversations by Easter 2022. They are well on their way with over 1,000 conversations as well as multiple baptisms. They also just celebrated 2 years and have purchased land to build their permanent location. God is on the move!



Is God doing something exciting in your church?  
Do you have something worth celebrating?  
**Let us know!**  
**We'd love to hear about it so we can celebrate together.**



# RISE+ REBUILD

*COLORADO BAPTISTS ANNUAL MEETING RECAP*



The messengers voted and we are excited to announce Mike Proud as the new Executive Director of Colorado Baptists! God has amazing things in store for our state and our convention and we look forward to Mike's leadership and vision for Colorado Baptists!

Welcome back to Colorado, Mike and Sally!



D. Ray Taylor was recognized for 70 years of ministry as a pastor and leader working to further the Gospel of Jesus Christ! What an incredible testimony!

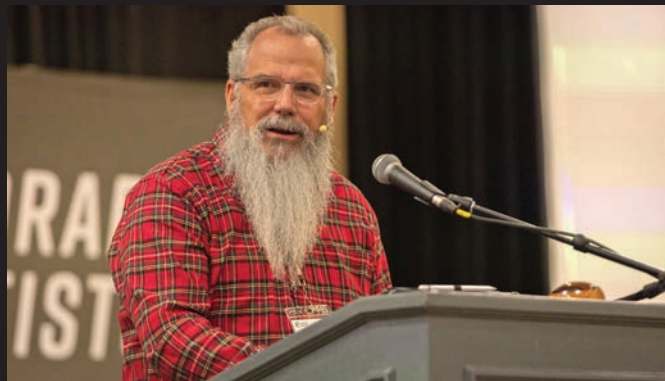




The Pastors Conference kicked off our Annual Meeting with a theme of “Strength for the Journey.” Messages from Wendell Lang, Director of Ministry Relations at Waters Edge and Mike Routt, Pastor of Redemption Church in Colorado Springs were encouraging and inspiring to pastors and church leaders.



Paul Trimble, Pastor of Bent Tree Church in Loveland delivering a powerful message during our Tuesday Morning Session.



Brandon Washington, Pastor of Embassy Church in Denver spoke with passion and conviction while addressing CO Baptists.



Shane Pruitt, Next Gen National Director at NAMB ended our Annual Meeting with an uplifting message followed by a corporate time of prayer.



First Vice President, Greg Teel;  
President, Mark Spence;  
Second Vice President, Patrick Hall



Marcus and Terri Rawls were recognized for their 14 years of faithful service to Ponderosa. We are so thankful for them!





Worship Pastor Travis Hastings and his team from Cross Fellowship led us in genuine praise and worship throughout Annual Meeting.





The Women's Gathering was a wonderful event that included worship, a message from National WMU President Connie Dixson, and time spent partnering with Send Relief packing 200 emergency backpacks for high school students.







Dennis Belz, on behalf of CBDR, presented three churches with awards during Annual Meeting; Community of Grace in Aurora for their help with COVID-19 Mass Feeding, City Park Church in Fort Collins for hosting CBDR during the Cameron Peak Fire, and Majestic Baptist in Pueblo for hosting CBDR during the Fenix Fire.



# WALK IN THEM

BY MATT FUNK

Aspen Grove Church • Parker, CO

FOR MORE  
THAN A YEAR  
AND A HALF,  
THE ALREADY  
DIFFICULT AND  
TAXING JOB  
OF PASTORAL  
MINISTRY HAS  
BEEN MADE  
ALL THE MORE  
CHALLENGING.

**L**OCKDOWNS, MASKS, SOCIAL  
DISTANCING, LOSING OR  
ALTERING FACILITIES,

figuring out online streaming, constantly pivoting to meet needs, and ultimately losing members, or at least attenders, has made pastoral ministry more draining than it was before. You have likely felt as if greater effort has yielded lesser results. While there have hopefully been moments of success and great joy, every small victory has been hard-fought. If you are like me, you have more often found yourself to be weary and burdened than serving the Lord with gladness. While we know the command to take joy in our sufferings, it doesn't change the fact that it still feels like suffering. This is not what you signed up for. This is not how you expected ministry to go. This is not what you envisioned that God would do.

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You're likely familiar with Ephesians 2:10 which says,

*"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."*

This encouraging reminder comes right at the end of Paul's famous explanation of the work of God in our salvation. It is by grace we have been saved, not by our own works. We know this. We preach this. And yet, so often, in the midst of the work set before us, we may forget Paul's next idea. We are the workmanship of God. We are being transformed day by day. Our hearts, minds, and spirits are being renewed and restored by Him! While we, as ministry professionals, can so easily get caught up and even obsessed with God's work in the church, we must be careful not to lose sight of God's work inside of each of us. The transformation comes first, then come the good works.

And the encouragement that we see here goes even further. We are God's workmanship, His custom-made creations. And He has made us for particular purposes. He has prepared particular works beforehand for us. He has transformed us and is transforming us to walk in the custom-designed path of His good and perfect will.

It is no accident that you find yourself in this situation. God is not surprised by this pandemic.

**"IF THE WORK  
OF GOD JUST  
FEELS SLOW;  
BE REMINDED  
TODAY THAT  
GOD HAS NOT  
FAILED. HIS  
WORKMANSHIP  
IN YOU IS GOOD  
AND EFFECTIVE.  
AND HE HAS  
BEEN SHAPING  
YOU AND  
DEVELOPING  
YOU FOR  
EXACTLY WHAT  
YOU ARE FACING  
RIGHT NOW."**

He is not deterred by the state of His church or the direction of our country. He is not fearful. None of it is beyond His sovereign control. No matter how out-of-control it all feels to us, it is not. God placed you right where you are for good works that He prepared beforehand for you. Not anyone else. You. He prepared the work for you and you for the work. He has

transformed you and equipped you for this, and that transformation is ongoing.

Did your church shrink during the pandemic? Take heart. You are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to pastor the church and the people that you have. You are uniquely being transformed and equipped to do so, to further the Kingdom in unique and unexpected ways.

The person you reach out to while they are suffering during this time matters. It is a work prepared in advance for you. The people that you have helped to grow in the faith and knowledge of the Word, even if it is only a handful or a fraction, are being transformed because of your ministry, according to the will of God. Don't let the nagging burden in your mind about who is not there distract you from those that are there. God has prepared you to pastor them. And He has prepared them to be pastored by you.

If your livestream failed yet again; if the only feedback you receive feels like criticism; if your best efforts to serve your community have been shot down; if you are frustrated at the lack of volunteers; if offerings are low and expenses are high; if the work of God just feels slow; be reminded today that God has not failed. His workmanship in you is good and effective. And He has been shaping you and developing you for exactly what you are facing right now. There are good works prepared for you in advance by God. Walk in them.

# A busy year in DR

BY DENNIS BELZ

CBDR State Director



**T**HROUGHOUT THIS YEAR, OUR CBDR VOLUNTEERS along with SBDR states from SC, AZ, UT, MO, TX, and KS were able to complete the assigned work that was left from when we had to cease our efforts last year due to the winter snows and cold temperatures.

From January through May, I met several times with the Emergency Manager, County Commissioners, and other local officials to get everything set up for us to be prepared to return to complete the clean-up effort from last fall's E. Troublesome Fires. These meetings were very beneficial and resulted in most of our expenses being covered by the county and funding from the Grand Foundation. Our teams were housed at the YMCA Snow Mountain Ranch, which was plush compared to our usual housing on cots in local churches. Stillwater Community Chapel in Grand Lake allowed us to use their property to set up our mobile command unit and use their facilities. This was a great location as it was central between the two main areas in which we worked.

On June 7, a tornado hit in Platteville, CO, causing severe damage to a relative's home of our Semi Feeding unit truck driver. Within two days, CBDR had volunteers on the ground assisting this family in cleanup, and collecting and packing their remaining belongings for storage.

At the time of this writing, CBDR has deployed two of our volunteers to work with the Incident Management Team (IMT) in Alexandria, Louisiana. We also have been asked to be stand-by for setting up our CBDR Mobile Laundry Unit in Baton Rouge to help with laundry for 200 plus volunteers. More storms are in the Atlantic and we are keeping an eye on those as many people are still digging out from Hurricane Ida. Thank you for your prayers and support for your Colorado Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers as we deploy and minister to those in need not only in Colorado, but also in other states.

During this last deployment in Colorado, it was discovered that two of our vehicles and trailers will need to be replaced as they are not strong enough for the work we do in the mountainous regions of our state. Please pray for provision as we begin to search for replacement vehicles and equipment.

## E. Troublesome Fire Report (May - August 2021)

- On Monday, August 23 we completed the final ash-out job that was on our list of request
- 142 Southern Baptist Volunteers deployed during the E. Troublesome Deployment
- States included: CO, SC, MO, TX, UT, AZ, KS and HA
- 83 Jobs were completed (some of these had 3 to 8 buildings on property)
- 136 properties were assessed from May 20-25 - each property was considered as:
  - + Work to be done
  - + Done By Others (DBO)
  - + Number of Volunteers: 142 from 8 states listed above
  - + Number of Assessments: 136
  - + Number of Jobs completed: 83
  - + Number of Jobs (DBO): 53
  - + Total Volunteer Hours: 6,519
  - + Number of Volunteer Days: 1,025
  - + Heavy Equipment Hours: 928
  - + Several rings, wedding bands, jewelry, coins, guns and other personal items recovered and given to property owners.
  - + Bibles presented: 25



CBDR was greatly supported by the County Emergency Manager, County Commissioners, and the Grand Foundation. It was a pleasure serving and ministering to the areas of Granby and Grand Lake as we received much support and encouragement from the communities and local businesses.

We had a surprise visit while working on a property in Grand Lake. A couple stopped by to speak with us and thanked us for the ministry we were doing. None of us recognized them until they introduced themselves. It was our new SBC President Ed Litton and his wife! We had a great time of fellowship as they encouraged us and prayed for all our volunteers and for those who lost homes in the fire. You never know who you're going to meet!

Though we don't know what the rest of 2021 will bring, CBDR will be ready to deploy and do our best to serve the needs that arise. Would you or your church like to join one of the most active ministries in the SBC? We are always looking to add volunteers to our team as we work hard Bringing: Help, Hope and Healing!



We always need prayer and volunteers. Check the CBDR website [www.ColoradoDR.org](http://www.ColoradoDR.org) for upcoming needs, training, and deployments.

# The Family Ministry Generalist

BY FRANK TRIMBLE

Director of Training and Consulting  
[www.famtime.com](http://www.famtime.com)

**R**ECENTLY, I MET WITH A MEMBER OF OUR COLORADO CONVENTION with experience in church planting, and I learned so much from our time together. We talked about church planting, Southern Baptists in Colorado, family ministry, and so much more. It was helpful to hear his heart for

pastors and to learn more about the culture of the Western part of our nation. He helped me to understand that in order to be a Colorado church planter, a pastor must function as a generalist.

In larger state conventions, the ability to specialize ministry efforts becomes more of a likelihood. Where resources abound, programs tailor-fit to the specialized needs of congregations typically arise. So much good is done through so

many of these efforts. However, many existing churches, and most church plants, do not have the personnel or finances to carry out specialized programming or staffing structures. While this might be a discouragement to some, the church planter acquainted with the idea of serving his church as a generalist, welcomes the idea as if it were a familiar friend. While specialized children and youth ministry programming can be amaz-





ing, the generalist pastor and his leadership team are given the blessing of spending time working on the family ministry culture of their church before the need for specialized staff arises.

However, before we launch into the idea of family ministry from a generalist perspective, let's define family ministry:

One of my favorite definitions comes from Dr. Timothy Paul Jones of Southern Seminary:

Family ministry is "the process of coordinating the practices of a church so that members develop diverse discipling relationships and so that parents are acknowledged, equipped, and held accountable as primary disciple-makers in their children's lives."

I want to encourage Colorado pastors by saying that you can acknowledge, equip, and hold accountable the parents in your current or future church in the discipling mission they have been given by God. You don't need a budget or multiple staff members to get this ball rolling. Here are some tips on how to do that:

**1) Emphasize the importance of what happens on Sunday mornings.**

Sometimes, Sunday morning worship services can feel like large Sunday school classes for adults. Make strides to ensure that the whole family feels welcome in the main service. Children will benefit from regularly interacting with multiple generations on Sunday mornings.

**2) Be sure to talk about home discipleship from the stage.** It is so im-

**Parents  
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kids within the  
home is more  
likely to happen  
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pastor leads  
out in a family  
ministry culture  
change.**

portant to have lead pastors take their place as the lead vision caster for family ministry. If the lead pastor gets it, the congregation is more likely to get it. This is perfect for the family ministry generalist because, frankly, it's often one man! Parents discipling their kids within the home is more likely to happen when the senior pastor leads out in a family ministry culture change. This change can begin with publicly acknowledging that the church cannot do the job of the parent.

**3) Give attention to discipling and training the fathers, mothers, grandfathers, and grandmothers in your congregation.** These saints need help as they seek to obey Deut. 6:4-9, Psalm 78:1-8, Ephesians 6:4, and many more. These leaders need to be encouraged and equipped in their role at home and at church. Also, as you disciple them, equip them to always be looking out for

those in the church that do not have Christian parents. Remember, while the task of discipleship is urgent, it does not happen right away. Protect yourself from the temptation of relying on large events and evaluating success numerically. As you already know, real discipleship takes time. We want a culture change, not just programmatic success.

**4) Provide opportunities for parents to be lovingly held accountable.**

This could be accomplished through community group structures, discipleship groups, family worship training and follow-up, or other structures that probably already exist in your church's culture. Think about ways to redeem what is already there to accomplish the function of accountability. Be cautious when considering adding another program to your weekly schedule. Families are already too busy. Without intentionally baking accountability into the family ministry pie, nothing lasting will happen.

This list is not exhaustive. I guarantee that if you and I were to sit down at a coffee shop, we could come up with many other ideas. However, these give you an idea of how approachable, conceptually, these ideas can be. Plus, none of these require money. You can spend quite a bit to work through strategies like these if you choose, but you certainly don't have to. Here's the great part, making these simple adjustments will help you establish a healthy family ministry culture within your church when the need for specialized staff comes!

# THE BI-VOCATIONAL CHURCH PLANTER

BY RICARDO CARDENAS  
Calvary Commerce City

Commerce City, Colorado is not known for its scenic views. We do have the mountains to look at in the west, but our views are impeded by a monstrous oil refinery and the smog of our heavily industrial community.

Recently, however, I've been praising God for the gift of a special vista that's become a part of my life as a church planter here. Every Sunday when I stand

up to preach, I have the pleasure of looking not just at the faces in our congregation, but through one of the sanctuary windows I can also see across the street to the place where I spend 40 hours every week at work: our local public library.

At Calvary Commerce City, our planting model has been intentionally bi-vocational, but I'd be lying if I told you that this was the vision I had for ministry years ago as I pursued the call to plant a church. Back then, in fact, being bi-vocational, in my view, was more like second-tier ministry;

the "JV squad" of pastoring. An unfortunate necessity for some, but really just a starting place until one could jump up into "real ministry."

I now realize that I was completely mistaken in this view. I am aware, however, that there are many who perhaps have the same reservations about this type of ministry. And even though this is a path that we stumbled onto, I think more planters could benefit by considering this model for church planting. Though many more could be provided, here are just a few reasons why.



## Working in the neighborhood that you are planting in provides connections in the community that are difficult to build otherwise.

### It's Biblical

Before jumping into the practical considerations, I think it's important to consider biblical evidence. Many would agree with the assertion that the apostle Paul was the greatest church planter in church history. And yet, interestingly, when it comes to our common practices and strategies for planting today, we can often overlook what was a key piece of his planting strategy: being bi-vocational. Paul intentionally chose to work and provide for himself as a tent maker, in order to not be a burden to many of the churches and communities to which he was ministering (1 Thess. 2:9, Acts 18:3). If the greatest church planter in history saw this as a valuable way to do ministry, perhaps it is worth considering in our contexts today.

### Connections to Community and Non-Christians

Working in the neighborhood that you are planting in provides connections in the community that are difficult to build otherwise. In fact, one of the unexpected joys of being bi-vocational has been the opportunity to build friendships with coworkers and others who do not identify as Christians. Over time, this has forced me to sharpen and refine my beliefs, and also to grow in my ability to communicate my faith in a way that is winsome and appealing to others. While I'm not perfect at this, it's provided an opportunity that every planter prays for, daily interaction with non-Christians to share my faith with. This is a difficult experience to replicate for even the most intentional full-time planter.

### Resources for Long-Term Stability

One challenge for many new churches is to figure out how they will fund their ministry as well as pay a pastor's full-time salary. This is intensified when planting in urban, low-income communities like ours.

The blessing of bi-vocational ministry is that my family's financial well-being is not tied to the financial life of our church. Ultimately, this means that both my family and our church are more financially secure. Since our young church does not have to worry about how to pay my salary, we are able to put the vast majority of the money we do have toward ministry in our community.

Not only is this a blessing to free up these resources, but it also provides a level of long-term stability as we plant, since we do not have to worry about the pressure of becoming financially self-sustaining within a certain window of time. This is a pressure that many planters face early on, but when avoided, we are free to serve faithfully, while trusting God to give the increase in his timing.

### Conclusion:

Bi-vocational church planting isn't a silver bullet for "successful" church planting. In fact, many would argue that it complicates the planting process more than it helps. But even if it may not be the right path for every planter, I believe that it is a strategy that far more planters would benefit from considering as we seek to make Jesus non-ignorable in Colorado and to the ends of the earth.

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## TAKING THE GOSPEL



Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father  
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

—MATTHEW 28:19