

24:14 Goal



Movement engagements in every unreached people and place by 2025 (78 months)

What is a CPM?

A Church Planting Movement (CPM) can be defined as the multiplication of disciples making disciples and leaders developing leaders. This results in indigenous churches planting churches. These churches begin to spread quickly through a people group or population segment. These new disciples and churches begin to transform their communities as the new body of Christ lives out kingdom values.

« God's Spirit is launching CPMs around the world, as He has done at various times in history. »

When churches reproduce consistently to four generations in multiple streams, the process becomes a sustaining movement. It may take years to begin. But once the first churches start, we usually see a movement reach four generations within three to five years. In addition, these movements themselves often reproduce new movements. More and more, CPMs are starting new CPMs within other people groups and population segments.

God's Spirit is launching CPMs around the world, as He has done at various times in history. After a few of these modern movements began in the early 1990s, a small group of the initial movement catalysts gathered to discuss these amazing works of God. They coined the term "Church Planting Movements" to describe what God was doing. It was beyond what they had imagined.

As these modern movements have emerged, God's Spirit is using a variety of models or strategies to start CPMs. Terms used to describe these models include Training for Trainers (T4T), Discovery Bible Study (DBS), Disciple Making Movements (DMM), Four Fields, Rapidly Advancing Discipleship (RAD), and Zume. Many movements are hybrids of these various approaches. Many movements have also developed indigenously outside of these training models.

The global leaders who formed the 24:14 Coalition chose CPM as the most helpful and broadly inclusive term. "24:14 is a network of the world's CPMs and CPM organizations collaborating with urgency, and calling the global church to join in similar efforts."¹

Sometimes the term "Kingdom Movement" is used, meaning essentially the same thing as CPM: "We aim to engage every unreached people and place with an effective Kingdom Movement (CPM) strategy by December 31, 2025."²

These Kingdom Movements resemble what we see in the New Testament.

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

"All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.... Utterly

¹ Parks, Stan and Steve Smith, in "24:14 - The War That Finally Ends," *Mission Frontiers*, Jan-Feb 2018, pp. 7-12.

² Ibid.

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amazed, they asked: ‘Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!’” Acts 2:4,7-11

“But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand.” Acts 4:4

“So the word of God *spread*. *The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.*” Acts 6:7

“So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.” Acts 9:31

“But the word of God *continued to spread and flourish.*” Acts 12:24

“The word of the Lord spread through the whole region. But the Jewish leaders incited the God-fearing women of high standing and the leading men of the city. They stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their region. So they shook the dust off their feet as a warning to them and went to Iconium. And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.” Acts 13:49-52

« In these modern movements we see similar dynamics to what God did in the early church. »

“When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.” Acts 14:21-22

“And some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not

a few of the leading women.... Many of them therefore believed, with not a few Greek women of high standing as well as men...” Acts 17:4, 12

“Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians hearing Paul believed and were baptized. And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, ‘Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people.’...” Acts 18:8-11a

“This continued for two years, so that all the residents of Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.” Acts 19:10

« God’s work is not restricted to trained professionals. Instead we see ordinary people being used by the Holy Spirit to share the gospel, cast out demons, heal the sick, and multiply disciples and churches. »

In these modern movements we see similar dynamics to what God did in the early church:

- **The Holy Spirit empowering and sending.** One of the striking aspects of modern CPMs is the role of the “ordinary person.” God’s work is not restricted to trained professionals. Instead we see ordinary people being used by the Holy Spirit to share the gospel, cast out demons, heal the sick, and multiply disciples and churches. Non-literate people are planting many, many churches in these movements. Brand new believers are powerfully bringing the gospel to new places. They are ordinary people filled with the Spirit of an extraordinary God.
- **The believers praying constantly and showing great faith.** Someone has said a CPM is always preceded by a prayer movement. CPMs are also *marked* by prayer, being “prayer movements” in and of themselves. This is because when we pray God works, and CPMs are an act of God, not a human

work. Also, praying is one of Jesus' basic commands. So every disciple realizes the need to pray and to multiply prayer for himself/herself and for the movement of which he/she is a part.

« Thus people and churches in these movements feed the hungry, care for widows and orphans, and fight injustice. »

- **A powerful witness through the way these disciples treat other people.** Many Christians and churches around the world have separated the physical from the spiritual. Some Christian groups seem concerned only about spiritual matters, while they neglect the physical needs of people around them. However, disciples in these movements focus on obedience to Scripture. As a result they eagerly *show* God's love to people. Obeying Scripture leads them to love their neighbor. Thus people and churches in these movements feed the hungry, care for widows and orphans, and fight injustice. A biblical worldview does not separate sacred and secular. God wants all of our lives and societies holistically transformed by the good news.
- **The number of disciples increasing rapidly.** Just like the early church in Acts, these modern CPMs multiply rapidly. This speed comes partly from a powerful move of the Spirit. It also comes from biblical principles being followed. For instance, those in movements believe that "every believer is a disciple-maker." (Matt 28:19) This avoids leaving only a few paid professionals to make disciples. In these movements, disciples, churches and leaders learn that one of their main functions is to bear fruit. And they do this as soon and as often as possible.
- **These disciples becoming obedient to God.** Disciples in CPMs take Scripture very seriously. Everyone is expected to truly be a disciple of the Word. All have freedom to challenge one another with the question: "Where do you see that in the text?" Believers give careful attention to hearing or reading the Word, both privately and in groups. God is the foremost teacher, through His Word and they know they are accountable for obeying the Word.

- **Households being saved.** Just like in the book of Acts where we see households, multiple households and even some communities turn to the Lord, we are seeing the same thing in these movements. Most of these movements are happening among unreached groups, which tend to be much more communal than Western culture. In these cultures, decisions are made by the families and/or clans. In these modern CPMs we see the same type of group decision making.
- **Opposition and persecution.** These movements are often happening in the hardest places and as a result there tends to be significant persecution. Unfortunately sometimes that persecution comes in the form of established churches reporting activities of these new movements, to avoid negative impact on themselves from religious fundamentalists or governments. Often the persecution comes from religious and/or government forces seeking to stop these movements of God. But the movements overcome this persecution by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony. There is a price to be paid and many people in these movements are paying that price.

« Despite the opposition and persecution we see toward movements, the believers have tremendous joy, as they have come from the depths of darkness to the light. »

- **Disciples being filled with the Holy Spirit and joy.** Despite the opposition and persecution we see toward movements, the believers have tremendous joy, as they have come from the depths of darkness to the light. As a result they are very motivated to share the good news with those around them. In many instances those suffering persecution saying they are rejoicing that God has counted them worthy to suffer for his Name.
- **The Word spreading through the whole region.** We see in Acts 19 that the gospel spread throughout the Roman province of Asia in just two years. That seems incredible! We see the same dynamic in these movements. Literally thousands and even millions

of people in different regions are hearing the gospel for the first time in a few short years because of the tremendous rate of multiplication of disciples.

- **The gospel spreading to new languages and nations.** Unless a movement fits its social and cultural context, it will fail. This begins with the first contact into a people group. The outsider looks for a man or woman of peace who then becomes the church planter. If the outsider is the church planter, they will introduce a foreign pattern of faith. If insiders are the church planters, the gospel seeds planted from the outside can grow freely. The good news will bear fruit in ways natural to that culture yet rooted in Scripture. Thus the gospel can spread more rapidly. Note, these movements normally happen *within* a people group or population segment. Crossing over into another group normally requires more teaching and people with cross-cultural giftings. Most CPMs today are happening among unreached people groups. This is partly because indigenous movements arise better in places that have not been (as) exposed to a pre-packaged westernized gospel.

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A CPM has certain characteristics.

1. Awareness that **only God can start a movement.** At the same time, disciples can follow biblical principles to pray, plant, and water the seeds that can lead to a “book of Acts” type movement.
2. **Every follower of Christ is encouraged to be a reproducing disciple,** not merely a convert.
3. Patterns of **frequent and regular accountability for obeying what the Lord speaks to each person. Also for passing on God’s truth** to others in loving relationship. This happens through active involvement in a small group.

« We are now seeing the gospel spread in many places as it did in the book of Acts. We long to see this happen in every people and place in our generation! »

- **Each disciple is equipped for spiritual maturity.** This includes equipping to interpret and apply Scripture, a well-rounded prayer life, living as a part of the larger Body of Christ, and responding well to persecution/suffering. This enables believers to function not merely as consumers, but as active agents of kingdom advance.
- **Each disciple is given a vision for reaching their relational network and extending God’s kingdom to the ends of the earth.** Priority is given to the darkest places, with a commitment to see that everyone in the world has access to the gospel. Believers learn to minister and partner with others in the body of Christ in every context.
- **Reproducing churches form as part of the process of multiplying disciples.** A CPM aims for **1) disciples, 2) churches, 3) leaders and 4) movements to multiply** endlessly by the power of the Spirit.
- CPMs focus on starting movements of **multiplying generations** of churches. (The first churches started among a group are generation one churches, which start generation two churches, which start generation three churches, which in turn start generation four churches, and so on.)
- Leaders **evaluate and make radical changes as needed** to grow. They make sure that **each element of character, knowledge, disciple-making skills and relational skills is 1) biblical and 2) can be followed by other generations of disciples.** This requires keeping all things very simple.

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