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**MISSION TO**  
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## CHANGE AND RENEWAL: WITH THE END IN MIND: A TRANSITION PILGRIMIGE

### End Vision Thinking:

We then focused on God's vision of all "ethnê" being discipled. We rejected an organizational-centric "What can we do?" *small horizon* approach. We avoided worrying about the price that change would cost us organizationally and individually.

Instead, we asked "What needs to be done to change this negative growth curve?" We asked God to give us His vision for our role in His plan. We listened to those who have helped stimulate some of almost one hundred deep, transformational "Gospel Planting/Church Planting Movements," which are ongoing. These movements are making "obeying disciples" of whole clans and groups of peoples. They are documented. They are transformational. They defy typical missiological wisdom to the point that many are skeptical. And yet, these movements closely follow the examples set by Paul and his teams who left reproducing groups of disciples all over the Mediterranean world.

As a result of this visioning and analysis, we accepted an audacious call to be a part of raising up similar teams by the hundreds. We will equip teams to focus on whole unserved populations by incorporating all these proven best practices (not just some) which will potentially result in transformational movements to Christ.

### Consensus Building:

Following principles of "scale free networking" where vision must be

invested into teams so they function with initiative and connectivity but not through central control, we spent extensive time processing vision with our four concentric circles of leadership (board, executive field leadership, all field directors, most local team leaders).

Consensus building is not defined as unanimity nor as veto power of the least common denominator. Rather, it is working through the vision until all can indicate a willingness to support the vision even if there is not complete agreement on every point.

In the end, we came up with the following vision:

### Our Vision

*Thousands of church planting movements and the resultant mission movements until the gospel has penetrated and begun to transform every tribe, people, city and language.*

### Our Mission

*Help stimulate a global collaboration to raise thousands of Church Planting Movement Strategy teams by:*

- *Raising up 430 effective Church Planting Movement Strategy Teams within 10 years beginning in 2010 (1A)*
- *Help raise up thousands more CPM strategy teams by sharing Vision and Resources with the global body of Christ (1B)*

### Ekklesia – Called Out to Prove Kingdom:

In a day with much (ecclesio-centric?) rhetoric about "returning mission to the (local, institutional?) church," our call to focus on sending long-term teams

*How does a twenty-six year old mission organization move from little strategic focus and structure to clear strategic focus and a "scale free network" structure?*

Frankly, we are not sure yet! But after two years of meetings, retreats, electronic discussions and travel, our now twenty-eight year old organization has a new vision and mission strongly supported by most our board and field leaders, a ten-year strategic plan in "beta" version, and a new leadership and staff configuration.

### Facing the Reality of Spiritual Injustice:

We began by facing facts:

1. In spite of current and projected global sending of missionaries, research shows that by 2025, the least evangelized 27.9% of the world would shrink slightly percentage-wise, but the actual number of people in this "segment" of the world would be greater.
2. Only 2-4% of missionaries (barely up from 1% over twenty years ago) live among these populations.
3. Christians give only 1% of their incomes to ministries of the church (and another 1% to secular ministries). Of the 1% given to church ministries, only 1% is given to global missions, and only 0.5% of the 1% given to global missions goes to this one-fourth of the world.

seems counter-intuitive at best. In an age prioritizing “missions by sight and involvement” rather than by long term commitment, we admit to tremble at the challenge we face.

We are committed to the Church—but believe that to define the church narrowly in its local, institutional expression that “possesses” the mission may border on heresy. While we strongly agree the *ekklesia* is God’s main instrument for living out and speaking out the news of the Kingdom, we also consider the sodality team (defined by Ralph Winter) as the legitimate frontier expression of the *ekklesia*.

We would go as far as to suggest one interpret fully the biblical precedence

in Acts 13. The Antioch church did not just send or keep its missionaries. The Antioch church, along with its five leaders, fasted and prayed and then sent/released **40% of its top leaders** (best theologian and best businessman?) to go long term.

Thus, as an organization, we are looking for those teams and those supporting congregations not interested in what is convenient or attractive for the church, nor interested in “discipleship by mission trip.” We are joining in the call to the commitment to sacrifice the Pauls and Priscillas and Barnabases and Marks for the sake of serving the least served.

Our expertise will lie in helping equip and launch innovative frontline strategy

teams. We will connect closely with those local churches who want to remain a strong part of the sending team for their individuals. We will move beyond our classic model of functioning mainly off of percentages from donations supporting the individual. We are adding the model of seeking major donors who respond well to strategic, professional plans.

We will be trans-national and trans-denominational, not by creating local branches of our North American entity in other countries, but by stimulating shared visioning and best practices through strategic alliances, much like the airlines use (e.g. Star Alliance). We want to be a part of a global effort to send thousands of strategic teams ●