**MULTIPLYING HEALTHY LIFE GROUPS**

*From “Life-Giving Groups” by Jeremy Linneman*

1. **Discover a Biblical Vision for Multiplication**

•Consider the pattern of mission in the Bible. God is always sending his servants.

* Genesis 12:1-9, Exodus 3:10, Acts 13:2

•Consider the pattern of hospitality in the Bible. We must make space for outsiders.

* Romans 12:9-13

•Consider the Great Commission. Christ sends us and goes with us.

* Matthew 28:19-20

1. **Setting Expectations for Healthy Multiplication**

•Prioritize the spiritual and relational healthy of members.

* The goal is spiritual maturity. Don’t lose sight of this in the process.

•Remember that multiplication furthers our member’s spiritual and relational health.

* Go through the biblical vision for multiplication with your group.

•Set a multiplication expectation at the first gathering.

* It is much easier when you establish it from the very beginning.

•Keep the mission before the people.

* Talk and pray about this regularly as your group grows.

•Identify, select, and equip apprentices to train for group leadership.

* New groups don’t happen without new leaders.

•Multiply when leaders are ready, not when you have too many people.

1. **Preparing for Healthy Multiplication**

•Determine the best way to multiply for your group.

* Do you multiply the group, or send one or two couples with a trained leader?

•Keep the mission central.

* You are multiplying to reach new people. Let this guide your strategy.

•Determine who will go where.

* Let members choose which group they will go to. Outline the process.

•Set a balanced, realistic multiplication timeline.

* General rule: it should seem too slow for leaders, and a bit too quick for members.

1. **Practicing Healthy Multiplication**

•Celebrate the multiplication.

* Throw a party – this is more of a graduation than a funeral.

•Commission the new leaders.

* Pray over the new leaders of the new group and voice your support.

•Both groups (sending & planting) should set a new vision.

* Spend the first few weeks remembering the goals of the LG ministry.

1. **Maintaining Healthy After Multiplication**

•Gather two or three more times with both groups.

* Before you multiply, plan a few times to get together at a large gathering space.

•Give space to process

* Make sure to take time to process the struggles and celebrate the victories.