

IGNITING MOVEMENTS IN CITIES

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Talk to Vineyard Leaders, August 23, 2022



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DAVID BROODRYK

My wife and I have been in ministry for 35 years. We planted five churches in Bophuthatswana. Then we moved in between Johannesburg and Pretoria, the two largest cities in South Africa.

I then started experimenting with house church, trying this and that, but then I was mentored by David Watson for 15 years.

We began to see movements emerge in Southern Africa and Central Asia, and my focus shifted to cities somewhere along the line. Today I am helping leaders in 52 large cities make and multiply disciples. I lead a ministry called Twofoureight, a name that emphasizes multiplication.

The key to this is multiplying leaders. 2 Timothy 2:2 is the crucial verse. It shows us four generations of leaders.

Leadership multiplication is where we start if we are working with pastors. "Tell me about how you multiply leaders. Tell me about whom you are mentoring and tell me about them and their families."

It is also pivotal that leaders are in the harvest fields.

These two things—multiplying leaders and entering the harvest—are central and they must be united.

If there is one key, it is leadership development.

How do you find the right people? Where do you begin in city settings?

We start with the principle of affinity. Every city is very diverse, made up of many, many affinity groups. Something unites each unique affinity group.

Let's take a group, like young people between 18-35, and we want to see a movement start among them. We must then find where God is at work and join with him.

How do we do that? How do we find where God is at work?

In Scripture, you see that something big always begins with a person. We need to find that person, the person God is already at work in.

If you land on the wrong person, move on as Jesus said, to find the right person.

It is the same principle if you go into a village or a nation or an affinity group.

Know the affinity that you are after. You must move toward brokenness to get to people's lostness. Lostness is the same but brokenness is unique in each group.

We must minister to brokenness and at the same time be spiritually obvious.

Here in Durban, we are doing this. We left our team in Johannesburg 16 months ago. Here we felt drawn to 18 to 35-year-old young adults. We asked, where is their brokenness? It takes a while to figure this out. We just talked to people and we found the biggest need was a lack of purpose.

So we developed a curriculum called Quest to help people find purpose. It has scripture and key principles in it and people are drawn to it.

What is Church?

This is the big question, the elephant in the room. What do we call "church?" It is a tricky question. It is loaded and people have strong opinions.

We have a simple definition that says it's the people of God on mission for God.

When we say "church," people have different pictures in their minds. People also have pictures of what discipleship and groups mean. Those pictures are not as far off as people's images of "church." But these two smaller settings do not meet all the needs that people have. So for true community people need larger group settings as well. We call these "gatherings."

Then we need to think about what kind of leadership is needed. We have found that team leadership is crucial.

We have then three types of settings:

1. Groups
2. Gatherings (perhaps 20 to 120 people). The challenge in cities is complexities, so gatherings look different in different settings.
3. Teams. The leaders that guide the movement in that affinity.

What differences do you see in an urban setting?

One difference is there is more one-on-one.

In the cities, people connect differently than in rural settings. Affinity is not geographic, it is around interests. Ethnic ties are not typically as strong in cities. Instead, you look for common interests, common needs, common causes, or common struggles.

Movements move through natural social networks.

In your ministry to young adults helping them find their purpose, do they meet as a group or one-on-one like a mentoring relationship?

Both. For example, many people work in restaurants and have varied hours. So we have trouble forming larger groups, so maybe we just have people just bring a friend.

In other settings, we can do groups.

Do you move people from your curriculum to Discovery Group?

We always base things on discovery and we weave discovery from Scripture into the curriculum. Also, an emphasis on multiplication is crucial.

I work in a legacy church and I have trouble bringing the whole church along.

Stop trying to change the whole church. It will not work. I have never seen it work.

1. Get into the harvest yourself.
2. Train everyone, but don't make it about DMM. Emphasize scripture and biblical principles.
3. Find the few in the church that will move fast and move forward. Go for it with those three or so people. Movement always comes from the edges.
4. Then, share the stories of what God is doing with the smaller group with the whole church.

You can expect God to do a lot but don't worry about the whole church.

How do we connect with you?

Go to my website: www.davidbroodryk.org

It is a lot easier to be creative than to be obedient!

Find out where God is doing and join him there! It's tempting to go with our own great ideas, but that does not work.