

**EVALUATING CHURCH PLANTING PRINCIPLES AS  
APPLIED TO CHRIST BAPTIST CHURCH, ELEWI  
AREA ARAROMI LAYOUT OF OYO TOWN**

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**BY**

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## ABSTRACT

This project is designed to examine the basic church planting principles, applicable or applied in the planting of Christ Baptist Church Elewi Area of Araromi Layout in Oyo town.

In an effort at finding the solution, references were made in the review of relevant literatures on the subject of church planting and growth.

A brief historical write -up on the planting of the church was made. In the same view so as to ascertain which principles were in use.

In attempting this, questionnaire was drawn up and served on fifty randomly selected members of Christ Baptist Church Elewi Area of Araromi Layout in Oyo town.

Apart from the questionnaires, personal interviews of key people involved during the pre – planting and the planting stages of the church under research were conducted.

The main statistics used for data analysis were simple percentages.

The major conclusion of the study showed that the principle used in the planting of Christ Baptist Church Elewi Area Araromi layout in Oyo town was the principle of multiplication in church planting.

## **A. Conclusion:**

From the findings deduced from the planting of Christ Baptist Church, Elewi Area, Araromi, Oyo, it is very clear that churches can conveniently plant daughter churches by depending on the Holy Spirit wholly. Looking critically at the various authorities sited on church planting all quite agree that it is the Holy Spirit that does the work of the expansion of the kingdom of God on earth through conversion of souls which evidently results in the gathering of the saved in fellowship and the resultant thing is the planting of churches. The church planter is just an instrument used by God to bring to fruition his plan for the salvation of mankind. For if Paul plants and Apollos waters without the wish of God they all do in vain.

It is also quite clear every department of the church should take evangelism seriously. With the example of the planting of Christ Church every department and groups could be used by God for the planting of churches and they should see themselves as potential church planters. With the example of Christ Baptist Church under research it is also clear that conventional church planting principles are not there to be followed rigidly but they are a guide, a reference instrument in the art of church planting.

It is very profitable for big churches to use the method adopted by Calvary Baptist Church in the planting of Christ Baptist Church instead of having enormous population of worshippers in a single church without the resources for effective management and follow up of the members. When smaller churches are planted from existing big churches it gives room for evangelisation, self development and spiritual upliftment of members through involvement in church activities.

Through the method for the planting of churches the great commission of the Lord Jesus Christ to us is easily enhanced, and the number of churches especially Baptist Churches grows rapidly. Through this growth and expansion of Baptist work our aspiration as Baptists is achieved.

It is also to be noted that it is not how large an auditorium is that makes working acceptable but it is the content of our worship that is important. The Baptist has a good plan and sound doctrine but in the area of church planting not all are participating vigorously and adequately. Majority of our churches still believe in auditorium expansion. The counting of thousands of members in our churches does not auger well for the spirit of evangelism as contained in the great commission. We have to disperse into smaller group and start to expand and then break up again with that, expansion of the Baptist Church in Nigeria is guaranteed.

In conclusion just like Charles Brock said.

*"There will be struggles, pain and hardship in the birth of Churches, but victory is possible because the concept was born in the mind of God. In spite of the barnacles of tradition, fresh New Testament Churches continue to be born. In a time when many denominations are substituting Social service for Christian expansion ...."*<sup>48</sup>

Churches should not look and fear the struggles or the pains and the hardship that is entailed in the planting of churches we should all rise to the clarion call of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as contained in Matthew 28:19-20 that we should go and make disciples of all nations. These we can effectively do by planting churches where there are none and through that make disciples of people in the neighbourhood through our fellowship and teachings.

## **B. Recommendation**

Based on all the findings on the principles of church planting used in the planting of Christ Baptist Church Edeji Area of Araromi Layout of Oyo Town. The following recommendations are made for implementation by interested and future church planters.

- (1) That to rapidly implement the charge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as in Matthew 28:19-20 which is termed the great commission, every

Baptist Church should endeavour to plant more new churches.

- (2) That instead of building big cathedrals we should diffuse this emphasis and instead go all out to multiply through the principle of multiplication as used by Calvary Baptist Church in the planting of Christ Baptist Church.
- (3) It is recommended that the Nigeria Baptist Convention makes it mandatory for churches to plant new ones.
- (4) The various church organizations and societies should de-emphasise socials but should see themselves more as potential church planters as did the MMU of Calvary Baptist Church Araromi Oyo.
- (5) More discipleship training centres be introduced in our various Baptist Churches.
- (6) There should be a re-training programme for our church leaders in the area of evangelism that leads to church planting.