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Be the Village: The Implementation and Evaluation of the Compacare Foster Care Model at Enid First Assembly

Project Adviser: Dr. Johan Mostert
Biblical Adviser: Dr. Roger Cotton

The current foster care system in the United States remains overloaded and overwhelmed. This has led to a foster system that suffers from a lack of capacity, stability, and quality. The Church, however, holds the answer to addressing the crises facing the foster care system because foster care aligns with the heart of God, who mandates the Church to care for the orphaned. When churches view foster children and foster families in the way that God views and cares for them, churches will take responsibility by loving, encouraging, and supporting them.

In response to God's mandate to care for foster families, this project launched Be the Village, a fully operational and highly effective ministry that recruits new foster parents and provides wraparound care for current foster families. To accomplish this, Enid First Assembly partnered with COMPACT, the Assemblies of God Family Services Agency, and developed its foster care ministry under the 4-phase, 17-step CompaCare Compassion Care System design.

This project also analyzed the effectiveness of the CompaCare model. A pre- and post-ministry online assessment ascertained foster families' reactions to the wraparound support provided by Be the Village. The evaluative measures indicate that the CompaCare plan is well-designed, easy to execute, and highly successful. Our foster families experienced a complete transformation in relation to feeling appreciated, encouraged, and supported.



GEORGE EDWIN CALLAHAN

Prophetic Small Group Leader, Prophetic Lab, Bethel Church; Redding, CA

Walking in Wisdom: A Workshop to Equip Bethel School of Supernatural Ministry Students to Operate in Discernment as They Engage in the Prophetic

Project Adviser: Dr. Carolyn Tennant

Biblical Adviser: Dr. Doug Oss

In Pentecostal and Charismatic circles, some do not understand and may even fear the revelatory gifts of the Spirit, especially the gift of prophecy. Many in the Church have seen abuses and aberrations in the exercise of this gift, which results in believers avoiding prophecy altogether or possibly taking a stand against its practice. These issues typically result from the mismanagement of prophecy and the lack of wisdom and discernment that contributes to the misapplication. Believers need to exercise discernment and wisdom while prophesying. When they walk in wisdom and discernment, believers will operate in a mature capacity in the gifts of the Spirit and contribute to a healthy Kingdom.

The purpose of this project is to provide a six-session workshop at Bethel School of Supernatural Ministry in Redding, California to equip students with discernment as they engage in the prophetic. Prophesying will be presented with students in a healthy and safe environment, which will enable them to practice discernment with wisdom. Students remain formable in mindset and leadership, and this workshop sets out to assist them in growing as more mature believers who prophesy in wisdom and discernment. As a result, these students will eventually be able to positively influence others to do likewise and advance God's Kingdom, furthering His purpose in this generation.



TIMOTHY PETER CARENTZ, SR.

Senior Pastor, The Kaiserslautern Military Resiliency Center; Landstuhl, Germany
European Director, The Warriors Journey; Landstuhl, Germany
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***A Biblical-Spiritual Approach to Alleviating Symptoms Associated
With Invisible Wounds of War via Peer Led Support Groups***

Project Adviser: Dr. Scott McChrystal
Biblical Adviser: Dr. Doug Oss

Invisible wounds related to battlefield encounters plague the military community. Despite high-caliber helping agencies provided on military installations, abhorrent symptoms flow like a tidal wave, ruining careers, families, and lives. Individuals often refuse to come forward for help, fearing helping agencies will brief their command who might then deny promotions, assignment preference, awards/decorations, or strong evaluations. Others resist services offered by individuals deemed to lack the personal experience of one who has “been there, done that.” This study eliminated those two overarching obstacles and integrated a heavy faith-based approach.

Rhema Café may appear as a community café on the outside, but within it holds the Kaiserslautern Military Resiliency Center (KMRC), which collaborates with over forty helping agencies and churches. The KMRC is an ecumenical parachurch ministry under the oversight of The Warriors Journey and the Assemblies of God’s German District. All helping services at this location are free, confidential, and separate from the military chain of command. At this location, many facilitators lead groups similar to this project. The premise of such projects includes identifying felt needs of the community, developing a faith-based approach which provides for prayer, worship, biblical discussion, and accountability, and offering groups facilitated by a peer who personally overcame and rebounded to their new norm.



JERALD LEE CASSELL

Lead Pastor, Northland Community Church; Monument, CO

From Death to Life: Applying Systems Thinking for the Long-Term Health of Northland Community Church Monument, Colorado

Project Adviser: Dr. Charlie Self

Biblical Adviser: Dr. David Clark

God designed His Church to be the agency of His Kingdom. Therefore, it remains imperative that church leaders do all possible to assure the health of the local church. One starting point for church health is to examine the metaphor used by the Apostle Paul in four of his epistles, the church as the body of Christ. This project brings contemporary thought to the concept of the body of Christ by applying systems thinking to a local church in order to establish long-term health for Northland Community Church in Monument, Colorado, a church that had previously closed its doors due to a leadership crisis. This project begins by examining Paul's metaphor of the body of Christ and then explores the current literature in the field of systems thinking. The results of the research gleaned from these two subjects then synthesizes into a field project.

The field project entails a three-fold process, beginning with the leadership team of Northland Community Church gathering in a retreat setting for the purpose of gaining an understanding of systems thinking. This is followed by a sermon series on the body of Christ to lay a foundation for systems thinking for the entire congregation. Finally, curriculum that explains the systems of Northland Community Church is developed for current and future congregants, which will be taught in annual membership classes. The results of this project provide a sustainable, long-term plan for the health of our local church.



FRAUN FUK ON CHUNG

Cantonese Congregation Pastor, International Christian Assembly; Hong Kong, China.

Emotionally Intelligent Leadership: A Workshop to Train AG Hong Kong Ministers for Relational and Ministry Effectiveness

Project Adviser: Dr. Stephen Lim

Biblical Adviser: Dr. Paul Lewis

Effective ministerial leadership requires more than outstanding preaching or excellent biblical exegesis. Pastors need to be aware of and manage their own emotions as well as possess relationship management skills. However, most pastors lack the training needed for developing emotionally intelligent leadership skills. These deficits can result in unresolved stress and blind spots that can easily provoke negative responses and actions in ministry. In addition, a lack of sensitivity to the emotions of others can also damage the ecclesiastical unity of the body of Christ.

A lack of emotional intelligence contributed to the development of long-standing divisions in the Hong Kong Assemblies of God. Since the 1990s, church leaders have lacked unity and healthy support systems. To address these problems, a restructuring process for the Fellowship began in 2014, with the goal of having a new network in place by 2021. To successfully build this new network, however, ministers needed training in developing emotional intelligence. This project provided a two-day workshop to train Assemblies of God Hong Kong Network's ministers to develop emotionally intelligent leadership skills. The workshop offered participants fundamental instruction in the principles of emotional intelligence. They also learned specific strategies for implementing EQ principles into their own ministry context, which will assist them in becoming more emotionally intelligent leaders who can foster emotionally intelligent ministry environments.



JOE SCOTT HOLMES

District Superintendent, Louisiana Assemblies of God; Alexandria, LA

Increasing Emotional Intelligence to Better Develop Relational Skills: A Seminar for Louisiana Ministry Leaders

Project Adviser: Dr. Don Detrick

Biblical Adviser: Dr. Doug Oss

Fruitful ministry is the result of a lifetime of learning and an intentional pursuit of wisdom. The opposite of fruitful is barren, which leads to frustration. Frustrations are caused by a multitude of reasons. Rarely is that level of frustration that leads to quitting due to a lack of doctrinal understanding, improper communicative abilities, or even weak administrative skills. That level of frustration is often linked to a lack of social skills, poor interpersonal communication, and an underdeveloped biblically disciplined system of conflict resolution. This project focused on dealing with the causes of that level of frustration and how healthier Emotional Intelligence can sharpen social skills and help create successful patterns of conflict resolution.

The Louisiana Assemblies of God is comprised of 570 credentialed ministers throughout our State, with some serving as missionaries around the globe. This project, survey involvement, and seminar invitation was directed toward these Louisiana leaders.

The research and writing material was developed into a two-day seminar, separated by thirty days. The seminar offered participants fundamental instruction in the principles of Emotional Intelligence, with an appraisal to score their EQ. The seminar focused on information and inspiration. Information to learn the basic element of EI and inspiration toward the topic to create a hunger for further study. The purpose was to expose each participant with EI information and how applied EI principles will better equip leaders for conflict resolution.



DARIN LOWELL KINDLE

Co-Head of School, United Christian Academy; Bloomington, MN

Christian School Collaborations: A Review of Sustainable Best Practices and Consolidated School Systems

Project Adviser: Dr. Randy Walls

Biblical Adviser: Dr. David Clark

Christian schools face both opportunity and challenge. The opportunity is to deliver a distinct, Christ-centered, educational experience in today's culture. The challenge is that after decades of tremendous growth, many evangelical Christian schools face decline and closure due to economic pressures and the associated costs of rising expectations. Though evangelical schools tend to operate independently, circumstances are motivating schools to forgo independence in exchange for innovative collaborative solutions that offer strengthened learning environments and sustainable models.

This study includes a biblical theological review of the principle of collaboration as demonstrated by biblical characters. Also incorporated is research on the relevant, available literature within the public and private school sectors. The project includes interviews of school leaders with personal experience or knowledgeable insights into collaborative solutions as well as a case study from the first-hand account of the author who helped to lead a three-way school merger during the writing of this project.

The field project is a guidebook of collaboration resources and best-practices. The guidebook shares the interviews and case study as practical application examples and draws on the research to provide historical overview, values, benefits, and liabilities of collaborations, as well as key factors, leadership principles, and decision-making areas to review when considering collaborations. The goal is to add research to the growing need for private Christian school collaborative solutions.



JANELLE CARA MAROCCO

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Lead Site Pastor, King's Springfield; Springfield, MO
District Secretary, Hawaii Assemblies of God; Honolulu, HI
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Healing and Wholeness Through Forgiveness: A Life Group Curriculum for King's Cathedral and Chapels

Project Adviser: Dr. Johan Mostert
Biblical Adviser: Dr. David Clark

When Christians do not forgive, ministry suffers as it hinders one's ability to love their family, neighbor, enemy, and people within their community. Not forgiving can also produce physical ramifications in one's body including high blood pressure, headaches, and other types of ailments, as well as having spiritual consequences such as hidden sin, bitterness, strongholds, and allowing demonic access into one's life. People need a way to understand and process forgiveness within a safe environment that promotes change within their personal lives, family relationships, marriages, and employment.

ARISE with Forgiveness Toward Healing and Wholeness was a seven-week interactive video course designed for life groups of King's Cathedral and Chapels (KC). The purpose was to bring emotional healing through the presentation of psychological and biblical truths about forgiveness. Together with practical application and activities, the power of the Holy Spirit established greater emotional health to individuals, families, and the body of Christ through relational care and creation of new godly relationships. Led by trained life group leaders, 214 participants among 50 small groups grew in their knowledge and ability to forgive. The small groups, though varied by size, age, and ethnicity, responded positively to the teaching process and most reported instances of emotional and psychological healing.



CHRIS LEN MCCORMICK

Associate Pastor, Calvary Church; Maumee, OH

Welcome to the Family: Establishing Sustainable Assimilation Through Small Groups at Calvary Church, Maumee, OH

Project Adviser: Dr. Rob Carlson

Biblical Adviser: Dr. David Clark

People in the twenty-first century search for authentic relationships and a place to belong. While the surrounding culture and social media provide options that seem to offer solutions to these challenges, often people find them ultimately lacking. However, the Church not only provides solutions to authentic relationships and belonging, it also offers the solution to a real relationship with God through Jesus Christ. The challenge remains for the Church to find a way to hospitably and effectively welcome strangers and outsiders whom God sends and offer them a chance to find relationship, belonging, spiritual growth, and everlasting life.

The ministry intervention step in this project, the Assimilation Training Seminar, offered the necessary foundation for leaders of Calvary Church to accept the challenge of welcoming the outsider into the family of God. These leaders now more fully understand the biblical mandate for reaching out to those searching for connection and possess a clear path forward for the implementation of sustainable assimilation.

The Assimilation Training Seminar was a two-day intensive seminar resulting from deep theological reflection and literature research that centers on utilizing specialized small groups as the focal point of Calvary Church's assimilation components. As a result of this seminar, Assimilation Leadership Team members can provide the church with a proactive, effective, and sustainable assimilation process that stewards well the newcomers God sends to Calvary Church.



ANGEL MANUEL PEREZ

Chaplain, Chaplaincy Ministries of the Assemblies of God U.S. Missions; Springfield, MO
Chaplain, U.S. Army Reserve Component, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst; Trenton, NJ
Correctional Chaplain, Adams County Adult Correctional Complex; Gettysburg, PA
Director of Christian Ministries, Adams Christian Prison Ministries; Gettysburg, PA

Emotional Self-Control: Providing Ministry Leaders a Component of Spiritual Development Toward Self-Leadership

Project Adviser: Dr. Don Detrick

Biblical Adviser: Dr. Malcolm Brubaker

Pastors and ministry leaders have a passion to serve God in their vocation. The call to ministry can be rewarding and fulfilling. Pastors and ministry leaders are called by God to exalt God before the people of God. Yet, ministry comes with a price that all ministry leaders must consider. Ministry is about helping people from different walks of life, social structures, and levels of spiritual maturity. The process of helping people brings ministry leaders face-to-face with various levels of emotional stressors. Emotional tensions test the heart, character, and maturity of leaders. Wise leaders will use the wisdom of God's holy Word and the discerning power of the Holy Spirit to manage those emotional stressors. Ministry leaders can live above reproach by practicing emotional self-control.

This project examines biblical-theological truths about emotional self-control that equips ministry leaders with the spiritual tools needed to navigate the challenges of ministry. It also examines practical skillsets provided in contemporary literature that pastors and ministry leaders can use in the face of emotional tension. The merging of both research areas culminates with a field project at Emerge Church for local pastors and ministry leaders that empowered them to grow in a component of spiritual development toward self-leadership.



ESTHER SANCHEZ COLON

Associate Pastor, New Birth Church; Kissimmee, FL

God's Servants: Restoration and Rehabilitation for Ministry Leaders Recovering from Moral Failure Involving Sexual Immorality

Project Adviser: Dr. Don Detrick

Biblical Adviser: Dr. Doug Oss

When ministers experience sexual moral failure, they need access to the appropriate resources that will facilitate their recovery. Moral failure rarely happens because of one bad choice by an individual or simply because of spiritual problems. Far more often, multiple factors contribute to errors in judgment and ungodly behaviors. Ministers, like any other individual, are shaped by numerous influences: childhood experiences, their environment, spiritual health, mental health, physical health, emotional state, and their relationships, both past and present. As a result, when ministers stand in need of restoration, they need a holistic plan that will address all the factors that contribute to their behaviors, choices, and health.

Without comprehensive support, ministers may experience incomplete restoration, which will hinder their recovery and limit their contribution to the Kingdom. Further, an incomplete restoration process may open doors for further incidents that may permanently damage one's spiritual health, relationships with others, ministries, and legacy in the Kingdom. Thus, it remains imperative that ministers and district leaders understand the need for a comprehensive, holistic approach to ministerial restoration. As a result, this project sought to improve the current ministerial restoration process in New Birth Church and assist leaders in recognizing ministers as holistic beings with spiritual, mental, physical, and relational needs that contribute to their behaviors and decision-making processes.



ELLE WISE

Marketplace Minister: Boone, NC

Integrating the Spirit, Soul, and Body into Wholeness: A Holistic Model for Wellness

Project Adviser: Dr. Carolyn Tennant

Biblical Adviser: Dr. Andrew Park

Why does one young woman make healthy, quality decisions while another makes decisions that bring about pain and heartache lasting a lifetime? This project focuses on the area of ministry of integrating the spirit, soul, and body into wholeness. Lasting transformation occurs when the spirit is aligned with the soul and the body in order to bring about a balanced, whole life.

While some women in their twenties have been brought up with godly wisdom from a parent, grandparent, or other relative, others struggle throughout life with the process of making proper choices in their personal relationships, career decisions, or lifestyle habits, all of which affect quality of life. The process of building self-confidence in their identity in Christ and in the God who created them will give them the right tools to make quality decisions. Consequently, it will lead them to a much more productive lifestyle and, in the process, will strengthen our churches and communities.

The context of this project included consisted of six female participants who live in or near the town of Boone, North Carolina, and came from a variety of denominations and backgrounds. These young women ranged from twenty to twenty-nine years of age. This study, taught once a week for six weeks, aimed to show that by shifting the mindset regarding the spirit, soul, and body, each person will be empowered to make the adjustments necessary to live a happier, more fulfilling life. Qualitative and quantitative research was used to measure the effectiveness of the research.



TERRY WONG

Senior Pastor, Calvary Assembly of God; Honolulu, HI
Presbyter, Hawaii District Assemblies of God; Honolulu, HI

The Place of Divine Healing in the Local Church: Implementing Healing as an Evangelistic Program in Hawaii

Project Adviser: Dr. David Lim
Biblical Adviser: Dr. David Clark

Many Pentecostal churches in the United States do not regularly practice divine healing. They either only teach about healing or do not even believe in healing. Pentecostal churches that do practice healing usually only do so for Christians. Only a few Pentecostal churches practice healing not just for Christians, but for non-Christians as well. Consequently, most churches are not enjoying the blessing of experiencing the sick getting healed or the subsequent joy of seeing the lost getting saved.

This project examines the healing model of Jesus and the first-century disciples as well as the healing practices of the Church from the second century to the present. This model and these practices demonstrate that physical healing accelerates the evangelistic process and leads non-Christians to spiritual salvation. The project also prepares leaders through a five-week Bible course to minister as healing teams and various support teams in an evangelistic healing service. Spending time with God through corporate prayer meetings further equips the leaders for this supernatural ministry. Sharing a healing message and praying for the sick during the healing service raise the awareness of a God who heals. Finally, the conducting of a salvation altar call results in the conversion of unbelievers. The results of leaders raised up to pray for the sick and executing an evangelistic healing service further prove that healing can be implemented as an evangelistic program in any church willing to practice divine healing for unbelievers.