

*Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association*

# Why We Need New Churches

## Objections to Church Planting

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VISION



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Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association

*“I have formed a great lot of little churches, and mean to form a great many more—not in villages, but in London because they grow.”*

*— C.H. Spurgeon*



### ***Why do we need new churches?***

According to recent Southern Baptist information, new churches (less than 5 years old) grow at a much faster rate than older churches. The following are a few reasons why new churches grow:

- They are entirely focused on the future with little or no regard for maintaining status quo.
- They expect greater days ahead. It is hard to imagine a new church that after its first service would believe its best days have past.
- Members understand and are committed to the singular focus of growing this new church by serving and reaching out to the community
- New converts within the new church often have friendship/kinship ties with more unconverted individuals than do church members who have been Christians for decades.
- Flexibility is often greater and decisions can be made quicker than in many older churches.
- The belief that God planted this church may be fresher in the consciousness of a new church than one where no one is left who was present at its beginning.
- A new church values change rather than fears it.
- The new church may be more “culturally relevant” due to the fact that it is contemporary with its community. Many older churches may have been contemporary with their community at one time, but as the community changes, the church did not. New churches can often adapt more readily than older churches to a rapidly changing community.



New churches don't grow simply because they are new, rather because they possess many of the traits that are needed for **any** church to grow.

We need all kinds/sizes and types of Biblical churches for all kinds of people.

*“It was really disgruntling that any brother should be frightened about another chapel coming within a mile of him in such a city as London. They might go and put up a whole street of them around the Tabernacle, if they like.”*  
C.H. Spurgeon

### ***There are too many churches.***

There are fewer churches in North America per capita in 2010 than there were in 1910. While it may seem like there are churches on every corner, the reality is population growth continues to outpace church planting. In our Association we are falling further and further behind the population growth with each passing year.

In addition, our two counties have drastically changed in the last several decades. Tens of thousands of new people from far away places now call this area home, yet the vast majority of our churches and ministry have little to no impact on these new people.

More importantly, it is not for us to decide the number of churches God will choose providentially to plant. It may appear to the human eye that there are a sufficient number of churches in a particular community, yet for His own purpose, God may choose to plant more. The numerical assessment of “enough churches” is best left to the Sovereign Lord.

### ***It will hinder our church’s growth.***

The belief that planting a church will hinder church growth is akin to the “lad’s” fear that sharing his five loaves and two fishes would leave less for him. It indicates a theology that would suggest church growth is a human endeavor and if someone is growing, someone else must be declining.

Our God is great enough to bring His Kingdom growth to all places at once.

The reality is that the more new churches that are planted in a region, the greater the spiritual impact on that region and the better spiritual environment for all churches in that region.

As new churches grow and impact the culture, they reach new people who become disciples of Christ and bring greater strength to all kingdom causes in our region.

Imagine a small group of Marines pinned down on the beach at Normandy. They are nearly beaten when someone notices a new landing craft unloading fresh troops. Could you ever imagine those desperate Marines resenting fresh troops?



### ***There are too many struggling churches.***

To put it plainly, if **not** planting new churches would assist the growth of struggling churches, then we should have no struggling churches. To the contrary, planting new churches is the single most effective way that “struggling “ churches can have a rapid and powerful impact in this region.

By using whatever resources they may have, they can greatly assist the planting of new work. In addition, their involvement in outward focused kingdom missions will serve to change their own attitude about their situation. In fact, new people will be attracted to them, in no small part because they will see the selfless, giving nature of the “struggling” church.

Giving ourselves away is always the best way to encourage new growth.

### ***It is too costly.***

While there is no doubt that some new plants require significant funds, not all plants/projects require funding. There is much that any church can do to assist new plants without a major financial commitment.

Your church can partner with a new work without adding to your budget, including them on your insurance or otherwise taking full responsibility for the project. While there may be times when this needs to be done, there is a level of involvement to suit every situation. Your Associational staff would be glad to custom make a church planting plan that fits your church.