The Dynamics of Local Church Leadership

Syllabus: MINISTRY 5413

Unification Theological Seminary (U.T.S.) Barrytown, New York

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By Pastor Mike Yakawich Advisors:

Dr. Andrew Wilson Dr. Tyler Hendricks

Acknowledgement and Dedicated:

To God Our Father who created, my Parents who loved, Jesus who saved, True Family who Blessed, my teachers who taught, my elders who trained, the members who supported, my wife and youth who stood with me and our ministry!

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The Fountain of Life

Based on words of Rev. Sun Myung Moon Rev. Zin Moon Kim editor

A. Leadership

Raise up your successor.

Listen carefully to the abnormal order of a good leader. As we, God Himself ordered Noah to build a boat on the top of a mountain.

We who deal with people's lives should be serious.

Main Points:

1. A pastor should:

- a. Long for people
- b. Like to give God's Word
- c. Love people
- d. Like to serve people
- e. Respect people

2. A pastor should be:

- a. A man of tears.
- b. A man who has much concern
- c. A man of zeal
- d. A man of tolerance

- f. Raise leaders who can lead the 21st century
- g. Be patient
- e. A man of parental heart
- f. A guide
- g. A tough advisor
- h. A good example

Man is always the problem. Neither money, nor political parties, nor the nation is the problem. Therefore, raising up good people is important.

If you have the attitude of "I'm here for you," people will follow you.

The man of responsibility (leader) should have financial power, diplomatic power, and the power of persuasion.

A leader is lonely and has a heavy feeling of responsibility.

You need to control your mission. Don't be controlled by your mission.

Listening carefully is the key to getting the victory.

Establish well and use well a good network of manpower.

Strategy must have purpose, goal, priority, plan and guideline.

3. A leader should:

a. Talk well

c. Have good faith

b. Have much knowledge

4. A leader should be:

a. Very charitable

c. Gentle and humble

b. Patient

B. Dynamics of Local Church Leadership

By Pastor Mike Yakawich, January 2007

1. Introduction: "Passion in the ministry and church growth; what Father Moon taught me!"

Main Points:

"Even though you are suffering, please bring result. Otherwise, you will be beaten."

- 1. Reflection on the words of Father Moon that inspires me from early leadership meetings
 - a. Enthusiasm and passion
 - b. Ownership: God is counting on you.
 - c. Be creative and dynamic
 - d. Don't give in or give up
- 2. My hope is that all can gain more passion for pastoring and a deeper understanding of what it means to be a pastor.
- 3. Together, we can gain insights into hands on work, planning and organizing.

- 4. Work in pastoring will "saturate" the community. For example Tumbleweed open house organizations and any affiliations that you initiate will adopt you and seek you out as a key player in the community.
- 5. Motto: "Consistency creates credibility."
- 6. Strategy for passion: unity, research, implement, report and evaluate
- 7. A theme: That through UTS education, our church leadership and in particular the "field pastor" will transform our movement, cities, state, nation and world.

Intro of myself, my family and my ministry Assignment: Survey and letter

2. Pastoring and church leadership: "What does this mean to you and me?"

- 1. What is pastoring to me? 2. The key aspects
 - a. A calling
 - b. A passion
 - c. A heart

- of pastoring:
- a. Fellowshipb. Worshipc. Education
- 3. Leadership in the church
- 4. Leadership in the community
- 5. Spearheading witnessing and outreach
- 6. Dealing with suicide, trauma, drugs, prison and hospital ministry and counseling
- Leading and conducting ceremonies as Blessings, Ascension Ceremony, funerals, Holy Salting, weddings, etc.
- 8. A liaison between the membership and the HQ such as conveying providential directions and information
- 9. Fulfilling providential goals
- 10. A PR front point between the local church/members and the community/state
- 11. Teaching at local schools and colleges
- 12. Listening, reporting, and communicating

3. Running a Church: "What are the nuts and bolts?"

- 1. Having a team and/or building a team, working together, overcoming personal differences
- 2. Having a facility or location
- 3. Forming a Board and delegation of responsibility
- 4. Financial Responsibility
- 5. Being a good steward of the facility
- 6. Understanding and following the legalities of running a church
- 7. Learning from HSA HQ
- 8. Developing Sunday Service may be only a starting point. The week indeed continues with, for example, Tuesday Women's Prayer, Wednesday Bible Study, youth programs, Sunday school, and additional educational programs.
- 9. Being a "player" in the community. Stay active with developing "outside" programs and working with other groups.
- 10. Good marriage
- 11. Keep connected to HQ

4. A Discussion: "Courage, Credibility, Consistency, Capability"

Main Points:

- 1. Courage and confidence
- 2. Credibility in proving yourself and your ministry in the community
- 3. Consistency in annual events, keeping the church doors open and being out there in the community
- 4. Capable of taking care of a ministry, good facility and your people
- 5. Taking care of yourself and your family
- 6. Salary? Is a pastor worth his or her weight in gold, silver or general currency? (Reading: Unification Theological Journal: Professionalism in the Unification Church)
- 7. What are some stumbling blocks for you to witness?
- 8. What are some things you found to be successful in witnessing?

Please write an evaluation of this course so far. What else do you wish to gain from this class before its completion?

5. Running a Congregation: "My extended family"

Main Points:

- 1. Unity with your Board
- 2. Connecting with the members
- 3. Counseling
- 4. Education
- 5. One on one
- 6. Listening, reporting to congregation, calling, writing, e-mail and visiting
- 7. Witnessing and outreach
- 8. Building a HDFC, establishing a home church area
- 9. Blessings, weddings, funerals, baptisms
- 10. Embracing home church membership and bringing them to True Family, Lord Jesus and Heavenly Father
- 11. Do things to keep them motivated and inspired. "You cannot send in an inspiring report unless you do something! Behind every great testimony there are tears!"
- 12. Your extended family is a vital part of your ministry. Connect to your parents, siblings and other relatives. Write to them, call them and keep in touch.

Assignment: write a letter to your parents or relative connecting in heart with them.

6. Witnessing: "Not another campaign"

- 1. Neighborhood outreach HDFC
- 2. Tuesday Women's Prayer
- 3. Wednesday Family Study
- 4. Saturday youth band practice
- 5. Home study program
- 6. Community outreach, knocking on doors, visiting neighbors
- 7. Make it part of your life and keep it simple
- 8. Passion, excitement and accomplishment
- 9. Excited by spiritual children
- 10. Excited by results and progress
- 11. Door to Door and visiting them at their home
- 12. Inviting people to the church or to your home for dinner, coffee or barbeque
- 13. Carrying church materials
- 14. Testifying in public and in person
- 15. At school, work, or grocery store
- 16. Using the media and other tools to share your message to the community
- 17. Developing uplifting, new and exciting programs to attract people
- 18. Newsletter, Writing letters, postcards, calling and e-mailing your contacts

7. Media, T.V., Print: "They are my friends not my enemies!"

Main Points:

"You cannot get into the news if you are not making any news!"

- 1. Understand the scene and make a list.
- 2. Make personal connections with the media. Find out the correct path of communication with that organization such as who to talk with about ads, letters to the editor, religious section or general community section.
- 3. Go visit them, write, call and e-mail to them
- 4. Be consistent and communicate.
- 5. Visit them when and when you do not need them.
- 6. Be honest and open. With wisdom, many can be your friends.
- 7. Seek out how to help them.
- 8. Do not be discouraged if they do not attend your program. Invite them again and again.
- 9. Be compassionate and humble to them.

- 10. Investigate TV programs available
 - a. Community #7 Family Church TV Program
 - b. Local TV interview slots in the morning and at noon
- 11. Seek out ways to write:
 - a. Letters to the Editor
 - b. Commentary Page
 - c. Guest column "Faith and Values"
- 12. The Radio is a great friend. Be prepared for the interview ahead of time, relax and do your best.
- 13. Optional: Maintain clippings of newspaper and print articles for display and observation.

8. Discussion: "One step at a time, models and role modeling, for outreach"

Main Points:

- 1. What issues come up when you think of outreach?
- 2. What are some of the limitations you face?
- 3. What are issues that seem to be road blocks to accomplishing what we have discussed so far?
- 4. Your input, ideas, inspirations and comments.
- 5. Church growth equals membership.
- 6. Church growth equals credibility and acceptance in a community.
- 7. A main point (and one, I always look at again and again) is results. There must be some indication of accomplishment, success, or achievement.

Please write an evaluation of this course so far. What else to you wish to gain from this class before its completion?

9. Politicians, city government and politics: "The reality of the community"

- 1. Seek to understand how your city runs.
- 2. Work closely with the AFC leadership.
- 3. Vote, ask questions, study!
- 4. Visit your city government, mayor, city council, and other elected officials.
- 5. Organize an event and invite them. They will be happy to come especially if it is a community wide event.
- 6. They need to see you in the community and see you as a "player."
- 7. Ask them for letters of support or send a representative or come personally.
- 8. See them when you do not need them.
- 9. Support their work when possible.
- 10. Write, call, e-mail and visit...keep in touch with them.
- 11. If they come to an event but are not on the agenda or do not speak, recognize them at the event.
- 12. Attend City Council meetings, volunteer for one of the City Boards or local city taskforces.

10. Marriage Counseling, Trauma, hospitals and jails: "Pastoring in the community"

- 1. There are many other needs for you other than the important daily needs such as Sunday Service, Bible Study, workshops.
- 2. Formulate needs for the membership and the broader community members.
- 3. Formulate a marriage study group.
- 4. You will have need to visit a member in the hospital or jail. Understand what it takes. It may be trial and error. Just do it.
- 5. You will encounter rape, drug, and suicide issues. So, prepare yourself.
- 6. Join some groups that deal in this area and learn from them. They can help. Use them as a resource. Indeed, that inspires them. That is what they are all about.
- 7. Understand that the people you witness to will have all types of needs.

11. Marriage Counseling Study Group

- 1. Couples—just as is the case for an individual—who are asking for help, willing to listen, wishing to attend, will ultimately be the most successful in such a course.
- 2. Be creative in your materials. There are a lot of sources out there especially at Bible Book Stores and our own church resources. I have found that the Bible Book Stores are much better sources than the "secular" stores. The latter stores tend to offer items that are more graphic and less spiritual in their approach. Often, such items are more of a distraction than a help.
- 3. Your relationship with your spouse must be intact: working with your spouse is not only very effective, it is important (never do one on one).
- 4. We found a commitment to eight sessions of 90 minutes each is important. Meet once a week for eight weeks; evaluate after having spent 12 quality hours in your endeavor.
- 5. Type of course we used: All begin with prayer and end with prayer. Later, ask the couple to pray. Teaching them about prayer often is an amazing step in itself. To pray for each other is sometimes very profound for them.

- i. First Meeting casual, going over the rules, reading from the Bible and touching base. What are their goals and hopes in taking this course? Some will be for you to marry them, to help them in their marriage or to renew their wedding vows.
- ii. Filling out reflection paper and reading some of Father's words on True Love. Introducing and preparing for next class. Write a letter to God, confess to Him and no one else will read it. We will burn the next meeting.
- iii. Burning ceremony day. Prepare couple with deeper explanation and some reading. Discussion. Then ceremony.
- iv. Class on Three Blessings. Discussion. You can introduce ideas such as fasting for each other and for God to guide them, prayer conditions and reading conditions. It will be received according to their level of heart and understanding. Introduce it if it feels right as not to give them too much at one time.
- v. Class on Fall of Man and deeper insights into the misuse of love and its consequences. Discussion. Explain about the consequences of premarital sex, spiritual dynamics and ramifications. It will make sense to them.
- vi. How are they doing? Discussion. Reading from Father on marriage. By this time, the couple is feeling comfortable and more open.

- If you have not already, encourage them to take turns reading. It is very helpful for them.
- vii. Introduce ideas of marriage renewal. Some couples may be seeking you out to do their wedding. It is a good time to discuss the ceremony, help them formulate an agenda and guide them with the use of the Holy Wine and other traditions as the Holy Water and Vows. They actually get excited by this.
- viii. Time for evaluation. How are they doing? Should you continue on with more classes? Ask them? Make plans for the wedding/Blessing or marriage renewal. Make plans to do eight more classes and then evaluate. It is up to them.

Note: Sometimes you may have couples who want to keep on meeting and that is a good thing. You may have more than one couple and that makes it fun as well. Always, meet with your spouse and with their spouse, never one on one. You may wish to help home church families set up a Holy Candle, Holy Salt their home, and teach more traditions as well. Inevitably, especially home church couples, will face a very powerful Satanic attack when they are doing this course. Be aware and prepare as much as you can. Seek advice from your spouse, use as much resources as you can and God will guide you.

- 6. Materials we used:
 - a. "Seven Steps to Happiness in a Marriage" HAS-UWC.
 - b. Dr. Laura Schlesinger's book "Proper Care and Feeding of Husbands" and many more books!
 - c. "Building a Principled Family Life" by Rev. Henri Schauffler.
 - d. "20 Surprisingly Simple Rules and Tools for a Great Marriage" by Dr. Steve Stephens.
 - e. "Complete Marriages" and "What Every Couple Needs to Know" by Peter J. Bruno.
 - f. Articles from the local paper, Parenting Magazine, Reader's Digest, AFC, HDH, HDFC and other sources.
 - g. Yes, very importantly, the <u>Divine Principle</u> especially on the Three Blessing.
 - h. The Blessed Family Department

12. Discussion: Role Modeling: "Relating to particular and peculiar situations"

Main Points:

- 1. Addressing stress and trauma in your own life
- 2. Talking to a community leader
- 3. Relating to a neighbor or member
- 4. Creating a relationship with a new contact
- 5. Relating to HQ and other parts of our church organization

What are issues that you would like to see covered before the end of this class?

13. Working with outside organizations: "An extra arm I never knew I had"

- 1. Look around for what is out there.
- 2. Visit some groups.
- 3. See how you can volunteer and help them.
- 4. Survey your neighborhood and area.
- 5. Work with your membership, ACLC contacts and others.
- 6. Organize an event to which all contacts can be invited.
- 7. Strive to find a key event you can do annually. (Parent's Day, 10th Annual March Against Drugs and Violence, 6th Annual 9-11 Community Celebration of Life, Annual Hearts and Hands Service Project).
- 8. Help them if and when you can: Tumble Weed, DUI Taskforce, Southside Neighborhood Taskforce, PTA, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, City Boards, United Way, Boys and Girls Club.
- 9. Invite them to work with you on your project or program.
- 10. We must strive to help them as much as we ask them to help us. They will watch us carefully.
- 11. Help them organize or staff their events, ASPS, Stand Down (security)...

14. Grassroots events: "Building credibility in the community"

Main Points:

Imagine, plan, implement, report, and follow-up

- 1. Organizing a grass roots event.
- 2. Seek out an issue that others can rally around and work with you (drugs, violence, race relations, 9-11, and community service).
- 3. Seek an issue that is of interest to the community.
- 4. Meet with your church Board and discuss with them.
- 5. Meet with others in the community for sponsorship and help. Form a committee of people to help you.
- 6. Determine a budget and where funding will come from.
- 7. Determine a place, time and date.

- 8. Secure location
 - a. Make a flier
 - b. Develop an agenda
 - c. Get more people on board
 - d. Have meetings to organize
 - e. Work on Media
 - f. Door to door with fliers
 - g. Organize food, tables, chairs, sound, music and other needs.
- 9. On the day of the event, set up early.
- 10. Have media packets ready and media person assigned.
- 11. Have people assigned from cooking to helping with the AV to taking care of the people.
- 12. Have help to clean up.
- 13. Report!
- 14. Have an evaluation meeting to follow-up on best successes of the completed event and to plan for the next time.

15. Community service and Service projects: "I cannot hear you for your actions are speaking louder than your words."

Main Points:

- 1. Rally the church membership to do service in the community
- 2. Get ACLC, AFC, AFP and others to join with you.
- 3. The sky is the limit.
- 4. Help other groups do a fundraiser to painting a home.
- 5. Clean up a local park; work with the Boy Scout Troop.
- 6. Help the LDS with their annual service project.
- 7. Tsunami, Katrina Red Cross Benefits
- 8. Optional: Video on 9th Annual March Against Drugs and Violence and or 5th Annual 9-11 Community Celebration of Life.

16. Discussion: "Doing An Event"

- 1. Seeing the Vision, networking and teambuilding
- 2. Organizing, delegating, reaching out and accomplishment
- 3. Evaluation, bridge building and reporting
- 4. Follow-up
- 5. This is witnessing in a different way. Don't be disappointed by the results. Think big!

17. Diplomacy, acceptability, contextualization: "Putting the puzzle all together"

- 1. Report to Abel and local members.
- 2. Stay connected to the providence and do your very best.
- 3. There are church politics and you must not take it personal.
- 4. Be a good point person for the church in your local community.
- 5. Develop your own sense of community with the members in your church.
- 6. Take ownership of what you have, create your place in the community and your church's role in it. The church to us is: a place for worship, fellowship and education.
- 7. Do not wait for others but initiate, take ownership and lead by example.
- 8. Take care of your family, your personal finances and other personal needs.

18. Business, Work and "Out Making a Living"

- 1. No matter what you are doing, you can share your faith with others.
- 2. <u>Be prepared</u> to share your faith through the word or print. Opportunity will come even without pushing your faith so be prepared.
- 3. My wife and I give the Tavern owners \$300 flower donation each year from my business. Offer donations for raffles and the like over the year. (In Seattle, I work with a brother who owns a fish business when I work on major events.)
- 4. They reply with awards, inviting me to pray at their convention, offering Holy Wine Blessings at their Annual Meetings, chaffering them and general counseling.
- 5. They see me in the media and are very positive.
- 6. We must seek normality.
- 7. My wife cooks over 24 jars of homemade jam each year. This is given as a gift to the owners and they look forward to it each year.
- 8. I have buried bar owners, counsel many customers, married customers and some have attended our church services.
- 9. One bar owner was a minister and later we brought him and his wife to NYC for the Blessing.
- 10. Write; send a post card, Christmas card or letter.

19. "Reflections: "Planning for the Future."

- Directions and evaluations
- > Strategy, ideas and implementation for church growth, community development and success.
- ➤ Please fill out an evaluation paper of this class.
- ➤ What did you gain from this class?
- What other ways can we help develop our pastoral work and general church outreach and growth?

20. Discussion and Conclusions

- Final Reflections and QA
- ➤ Write an 8-10 page essay on "Strategizing, planning and implementing a grassroots program in my community".
- ➤ The essay should include issues as: What project or program would best suit your community? How can your project or program benefit both your community and your ministry? What are some of the challenges and what are the assets that you bring to the task?
- ➤ How would you incorporate your ministry in this project?
- ➤ If the lecturer could visit you for one week, work side by side with you, be your assistant, what would be of interest for you to accomplish in your ministry?

MIN 5413

The Dynamics of Local Church Leadership

Unification Theological Seminary Course Syllabus Addendum

Instructor:

Rev. Mike Yakawich (406) 245-5319 (o) Pastor, The Montana Family Church (406) 254-2445 (h) 501 South 29th Street familychurchmt@aol.com Billings, Montana 59101

Course Description:

During this course, you will explore into the dynamics of pastoring a church in a local community. You will go into depth on issues such as your value in the community, outreach, counseling, working with ministers, public officials, forming a Board, working with the elders, developing outreach service and community projects, church politics and church maintenance. This is a 2-credit course.

Course Objective:

The objective is to prepare a student for work in the field and develop more confidence and understanding for those already out in the field. It is to offer practical situations, real examples and substantial insights that will help make our ministry out in the field more successful. We will address real issues that one will face out in the field. It is not intended to criticize leadership or church policy. Rather it is to evaluate the tools and skills needed for work in the field. In addition, it is to empower church leadership and those involved in the ministry or those interested in pursuing a career in the ministry. It will demonstrate that a career in the ministry is extremely important, inspirational and fulfilling.

Required Text:

You will be required to read Barna, George, Grow Your Church from the Outside In, Regal Books, Ventura, and CA. 2002 before the first class session.

Course Requirements:

You will be expected to attend all classes. You will be expected to participate in class and group discussions. You will be graded on one 8-10 page essay required at the end of the course. This paper is required for those taking this course for credit. The paper will be due Feb. 16th. The topic will be to strategize, design, plan and organize either a grassroots community project or a church event. The knowledge and ideas gained in this course should be included into this paper. There will be a few quizzes as well during the week of the course.

Method of Evaluation:

Class Participation, Class discussion, quizzes and a Final Essay

Daily Schedule of Topics:

- I. For this intensive, you will expect 6 hours for 5 days. We will divide our daily schedule into 80-minute blocks: 9:30-10:50, 11:00-12-20, 1:30-2:50 and 3:00-4:20.
- II. Each session will include time for discussion and Q & A.
- III. There will be particular times for open class room discussions, role modeling and class exercises.

Sessions:

- 1. Introduction: "Passion in the Ministry and Church Growth, What Father Moon taught me!"
- 2. Pastoring and church leadership: "What does this mean to you and me?"
- 3. Running a Church: "What are the nuts and bolts"
- 4. Discussion: "Courage, Credibility, Consistency and Capability"
- 5. Running a Congregation: "My extended family"
- 6. Witnessing: "Not another campaign"
- 7. Media, T.V., Print: "They are my friends not my enemies!"
- 8. Discussion: "Bringing Results and What it is?"
- 9. Politicians, city government and politics: "The reality of the community"
- 10.Marriage Counseling, Trauma, hospitals and jails: "Pastoring in the community"
- 11. Marriage Counseling Study Group
- 12. Discussion: "One step at a time, models and role modeling, for outreach"
- 13. Working with outside organizations: "An extra arm I never knew I had"
- 14. Grassroots events: "Building credibility in the community"
- 15. Community service and Service projects: "I cannot hear you for your actions are speaking louder than your words."
- 16. Discussion: "Doing an Event"
- 17. Diplomacy, acceptability, contextualization: "Putting the puzzle all together"
- 18. Business, work and out making a living.
- 19. Role models: "Planning for the Future"
- 20. Conclusions: "Reflections, directions and evaluations?"

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Yakawich, Michael, "A Case for a Professional Ministry in the Unification Church," <u>Journal of Unification Studies Vol. VII (2006)</u>

Instructor: Pastor Mike Yakawich:

Mike was born in Butte, Montana to a family of nine siblings. His father was born in Roundup, Montana and mother was born in Livingston, Montana. He was raised Roman Catholic and prepared himself for a vocation. However, the struggle to have a family was just as strong and which lead him to become a missionary and later a nondenominational minister. He joined the Family Church while in College at the age of 19. He graduated with a BA in Childhood Development from the University of Montana. He has had various positions of leadership in local church ministry from CARP, to fundraising to education. He attended the Unification Theological Seminary and received the Master of Divinity diploma. On August 10th, 2003, he was given an Honorary Doctorate by the Billings Hope Alive Bible Institute for his work in community service. He has been on the MT Governor's Board for suicide, Chairman of the Yellowstone County Suicide Prevention Coalition, Chairman of the Billings Southside Neighborhood Task Force, member of the Billings Clergy Association and the Downtown Clergy Association, The Black Heritage Association, ELKS and EAGLES Club. He is a frequent writer for the local Billings Gazette column on faith and values, has written a chapter for the college text Religions in Montana Volume II and other publications. He worked in missions throughout the US as well as serving one year as an assistant pastor in NYC and then assigned in 1987 to Montana as State Leader. His was married in 1982 to Yukiko and have five children (Joseph, Johnathan, Naomi, Luke and Jacob) which are all an active part of his ministry. The church community is govern by a Board of Elders and the membership consists of 40 families, a very active Youth Ministry, a strong outreach to the local rest homes and hospitals which includes the Family Church Youth Band (awarded locally for community service), the local Family Church TV program, plus sponsorship of three major city events The Annual March Against Drugs and Violence (awarded by the city) and the Annual September 11th Community Celebration of Life and the Hearts and Hands Community Service Project. He has also served in missions in the Alaskan Bush (81-83), Israel (90), Baltic States (91) and Korea (04).

"Family, Church, Community, Kingdom:

Building a Witnessing Church for Working Families" by Tyler Hendricks, P.H.D

Review by Michael Yakowich, (source: UTS *Cornerstone*, April 2006, page 6)

I purchased three in total to share with other elders on our Board. I am sure this book was advertised in a thousand ways. Yet, it only came to my attention recently. I took this book with me to the mountains to read. I have read it twice, so far.

Personally, I find this to be one of the best books for outreach for our church and also that it eloquently addresses vital issues for our church growth. It is written by a person who is trustworthy, dedicated and extremely familiar with our church and movement.

It is a book that is thought provoking, stimulating, insightful, challenging and filled with many possible solutions and suggestions. As I read this book, I found it like a jeweler's cloth that has helped polish and deepen my understanding of our own ministry here in Montana. Dr. Hendricks has keen insights on outreach, cell church development and church growth. I could truly relate and connect his insights to the grassroots of our ministry.

Now in my third reading of this book, I cannot help but strongly encourage all state leaders, all brothers and sisters, all members to read this book. Having purchased and read many books on church growth, this one is the premier book for this subject. It is a book that theologians, pastors and lay ministers of our church should delve into, digest, critique and research.

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