

**Proposal:** Resurrect the Evangelist Team for the purpose of spurring on ICOC Church health and growth.

**I. Details of the Proposal:**

- a. When ICOC 2.1 came into effect, the Evangelist Team was dissolved. This proposal aims to resurrect that team and empower them to spur our global fellowship towards spiritual and numerical growth. There are currently no permanent global service teams tasked with analyzing and evaluating our growth as a movement. The Evangelist Team would strive to fill that hole. This analysis would include baptisms, walk aways, restorations, etc.
- b. The team will have at least one Evangelist from each church-size band as listed on our global stat sheet.
- c. Four out of twelve on the team would be 'Next Generation' (under 40).
- d. Each Evangelist serves alongside their Women's Ministry Leader wife (making the team half women). There can be allowances made for single Evangelists or Women's Ministry Leaders.
- e. The term "Evangelist Team" will be maintained to tie the team to the Biblical standard of an evangelist (similar to the Elders Service Team or Teachers Service Team).
- f. They would serve in three year terms, with consecutive terms allowed.
- g. The team must be representative of the global movement (i.e. if 30% of the movement is in America, then only 30% of the team should reside in America).
- h. The Evangelist Team would serve alongside the Catalyst Team, Elders Service Team, and Teachers Service Team.

**II. Qualifications for those serving on the Evangelist Team:**

- a. An evangelist currently leading a Church (or region within a Church) that has a proven record of numerical growth over a 5-year period.
- b. Must be commended by their Regional Family Chair.
- c. Fluent (enough) in English and whatever language spoken in their geographic area so they can participate in the bi-annual meetings (which is the same standard as the current requirement for the Catalyst Team).
- d. Not currently serving on any other service team.

**III. Based on the principles in these Scriptures:**

2 Timothy 4:5 — "...do the work of an evangelist..."

Luke 16:10 — "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much" (See also Luke 19:17; Matthew 25:21, 23).

Colossians 1:6 — "In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world — just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace."

#### **IV. Team Selection:**

- a. Delegates will be asked to nominate candidates to the Catalyst Team that match the aforementioned qualifications (see section II) and include a brief (< 100 words) reason for the nomination.
- b. The Catalyst Team will then select by whatever means they choose the team of 12 as well as a Team Chair.
- c. The aim would be to select a team by November 2022, so that they could begin serving by January 2023 at the latest.

#### **V. Why this is needed:**

The ICOC shrunk for the first time in roughly fifteen years in 2021. For many years before that our global growth (1-3%) was barely keeping up with the population growth (~1.1%). Over the past seven years (2015-2021), the number of ICOC Churches has grown (from 667 to 731) but the number of global baptisms has declined each year (7,665 in 2015 to 5,261 in 2021).

This proposal aims to raise the expectation and conversation about the singular importance of the mission, and to empower proven Evangelists and Women's Ministry Leaders to spur on our fellowship in this task. The hope and intention of resurrecting this team would be to propel church health and church growth around the world.

#### **VI. How they will spur us on:**

Below are some suggestions for how they could spur us on, but the team can accomplish that aim however they see fit.

- a. Provide content (articles, good news, videos, etc.) to be published regularly online to equip and spur us on towards the Great Commission.
- b. Develop and implement global and local annual meetings online and in person to encourage and promote healthy Church growth.
- c. Provide content, analysis, and insight at the Delegate and Regional Family Chair Meetings in order to spur growth in our fellowship.
- d. Oversee a Church Growth Track at the International Leadership Conferences.

#### **VII. Proposed by:**

Cash McHargue (New England)

Dave Bliley (SPA)

Forest Versele (Pacific SW)

Javier Amaya (New England)

Jeff Henderson (Brazil)

Jeff Schachinger (New England)

Kevin Hoecke (Heartland)

Mark Kang (Midwest)

Michelle Cameron (SPA)

Mulligan Price (UKIN)

Nick Ziegler (Texas)

Sam Cameron (SPA)

Shane McDowell (UKIN)

Tony Singh (Canada)

William Thorne (SPA)