



***ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCES***  
*The Essentials for Starting a Missional Church*

**Worksheet #3: “How Does God Work?”**

This worksheet is designed to be used with Unit Three of our “Essentials” training for church planters. After printing this worksheet, complete the exercises and process it with your church planting coach.

**An Essential Experience**

Through research, identify 2 – 3 churches that have a strong emphasis on prayer. Try to find at least 1 new church (less than 5 years old) that incorporated a strong prayer strategy in their planting process. Interview the pastor or a leader in each church in order to discover new ideas and ways to incorporate prayer as a central part of your planting process. Record your ideas below.

*Ideas:*

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for recording ideas.

### **How to invite God to work...**

1. Prayerfully select 1 to 3 personal intercessors (I-1's) and begin engaging them in prayer weekly.
2. Begin building an intercessor data base. At least once a month communicate requests and praise reports.
3. Create a written strategy for prayer mobilization in your pre-launch process.
4. Create a one-year plan for developing intercessory prayer in the first year of your new church.

### **Reflection: Increasing your own spiritual vitality...**

Read over the "Personal Qualities of a Church Planter" listed below. Particularly reflect on the quality of "Spiritual Vitality." Identify 2 or 3 personal disciplines or action steps that you want to take to increase your own level of spiritual vitality. Process these with your coach and, if appropriate, share them with your I-1 Intercessors.

### **Personal Qualities of a Church Planter**

#### **1. Spiritual Vitality**

I have frequent times that I feel exceptionally close to God; I practice spiritual disciplines and find them meaningful; I experience answered prayer and have obvious evidence of God's power in ministry; I have Scripture deeply embedded in my thinking; I exercise faith and have great confidence in God.

#### **2. Personal Mastery**

I am highly aware of personal strengths and weaknesses; I am highly aware of how I am perceived by others; I demonstrate a high level of self-confidence without arrogance; I respond well to constructive criticism; I freely affirm others; others think of me as a positive person.

#### **3. Marriage and Family Readiness**

My spouse and I communicate openly and warmly with each other; I provide love and discipline to my children; I balance ministry and family well; my spouse and I have created a workable partnership where we agree on time priorities as well as each partner's role and involvement in ministry; I provide a good example for other families; I handle money very well; I have strong spousal support in ministry.

#### **4. Clarity of Calling**

I have had some personal and/or ministry experiences that have led me to believe that God is preparing me and/or calling me to start a church; I have a sense from my personal time with God that He is leading me in this direction; I have received confirmation from others that this could be God's direction for me.

To learn more about the Profile Qualities of a Church Planter see our website at [www.nciglobal.org](http://www.nciglobal.org) and select "The Church Planters' Notebook." There you will find several articles on these profile qualities.

For more information see our website at [www.nciglobal.org](http://www.nciglobal.org).

Contact us at [info@nciglobal.org](mailto:info@nciglobal.org). Phone us at 281-635-3086.

Write to us at NCI, 4771 Sweetwater Blvd. #334, Sugar Land, TX 77479, USA