



Colby & Theresa Weinhofer

Empowering National Leaders to plant Authentic National Churches

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PHILOSOPHY OF PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

As we seek to find the support that is needed for our ministry, we have chosen to embrace the concept of partnership development. Partnership development seeks to move beyond a relationship that is simply a one-way flow of resources into an interdependent and mutually beneficial relationship. As we seek to develop these partnership relationships, we have developed two emphases.

The Local Church

The first thing that we have chosen to emphasize is the importance of the local church. When we began this process, we approached our home church (Berean Bible Fellowship Church, Terre Hill, PA) Board of Elders and conveyed our desire to go into cross-cultural ministry. We said that if they were going to be our sending church, that we wanted that to be in more than name only. We wanted to see them involved to the point where they saw our ministry as an extension of the church. To that end, we formed a partnership council, a group of people from the church to help assist and advise us as we engage in ministry. As we and the council work together to connect with other partnering churches and individuals, they will form the nucleus of our partnership team. To that end, as we work to build a network of partners, we have specifically chosen to target local church. Our goal is to find churches that would be willing to partner with us and make connections between the life and outreach of the church and our ministry.

Opportunity for Involvement

Our second emphasis is connection with our partnering churches and individuals. We want to give these partners the opportunity (if they want) to be more than just financial supporters. We are striving to invest in their lives and growth the same way they are investing in our ministry. One of those ways being opportunities for greater involvement. We are currently working on developing more concrete ideas in this realm. As far as churches go, we are assuming that the

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individual churches' global ministries entities (i.e. missions committees) will set the tone for each church. Our desire is to empower and embrace that process to the best of our ability. All of that being said, we realize that there are those who won't have the ability or the interest in significant involvement, and that is fine, but we want to provide that opportunity wherever possible. Whenever we contact a church, we always ask what is the best way to connect with their people rather than simply wanting a time slot to come and make a presentation (which often times means "come and tell you what my needs are"). Certainly, giving and praying are important ways for churches and individuals to be involved in our ministry, but they are certainly not the only way.

We hope as you consider how you or your church might partner with us, you will think beyond the traditional realms. Our desire is to give people not just a vision for what God is doing around the world, but a part in it as well.