



ADVANCE CHURCH NETWORK NORTH CAROLINA

Cohort Conversations

Week of December 9th: Strategic Gospel Partnerships – New Plants & Revitalizations

Connect—Who is not here, and who will connect with them? What’s something significant that you’re asking God for right now?

Scripture Text—Acts 20:1-16 (Share reading the passage together)

Based upon this passage, pray together popcorn style, while being sensitive to how the Spirit leads. Here’s a way to break it down:

Reverence Praise God for the ways He sustains, comforts, and strengthens us in ministry.

Response Based on this passage, give thanks for specific ways god has led you on your journey and/or “stepped in” to difficult ministry situations.

Discussion Questions: (Read through the passage together again)

- In this passage, things seem to be going from one thing to the next at a pretty fast pace. What are some of the ways you’ve found helpful to “slow down” and stay connected with God as you face the challenges, pace, and busyness of ministry?
- What are some times/ways you have been greatly comforted by God?
- What are some things that cause people to be “disturbed” in your church family?
- In verses 2 (encouragement CSB) and 12 (comfort CSB), Luke uses parakaleo to describe what is happening. Are you finding it easier or harder to engage in offering “words of encouragement” as you pastor? How?
- What are you finding it takes for people to be “greatly comforted” as you shepherd?

Application: (Make sure you have an actionable plan to intentionally encourage a planter/revitalizer on some kind of regular basis in the coming months before you depart)

- Verse 13 describes a high level of intentionality on Paul’s part (intending, arranged, intending NASB): What was motivating Paul to be so intentional?
- How can Paul’s pattern of revisiting people/churches inform the way we can be an encouragement and blessing to church planters/revitalizers?

Now based on this passage, finish your time together praying specifically for planters/revitalizers:

Requests What are the things you can passionately petition God for on their behalf?

Readiness Based on this passage, what has God provided for the battle of starting new plants and revitalization work?