

## 1: How to Get People in Church To Work Together? - Like A Team

*Compassion Philippines church partners have learned the value of their churches working together to achieve a common goal: rescuing children from poverty.*

We learned recently, or realized recently, at a Campus Life meeting for the pastors of NW Chicago, that there is little sense of community spirit in the high schools here. This is in regard to a search for whatever we can capitalize on to reach the kids in the schools. Since many of the kids leave their own neighborhoods to go to a school outside their neighborhood, there is little sense of ownership there among them. The question was whether the schools were the best place to try and reach these youth. We decided to continue with the school concept since that is where the kids congregate. Even if there is little sense of school spirit, at least that is where the kids gather. And it appears that the city may be moving toward a return to a neighborhood high school concept. This is important because it gives an added sense of community accomplishment to go with whatever individual effort is involved toward achievement. In short, we help each other to achieve or accomplish. Just as there are many factors involved in establishing or building a community spirit in a school, so also in a church. As a school is a local body of learning, a church is a local body of Christ-centered worship. Remember the sense of school spirit when and where you grew up? There were cheers for the local basketball team, the pep band, the road trips, the competition, the drama club, the science club, the assembly halls. Team spirit is an effort many companies put forth for greater cooperation among employees and pride of mutual accomplishment also. They have a budget for company logos on jackets and company picnics, etc. You try to develop a sense of team spirit even in your own family when you work together on projects and take vacations. Even more than all of these is the potential impact of a team spirit among Christians because we have the gift of the Holy Spirit. He is the glue that holds us together in allegiance to the coach, Jesus Christ. So what are the signs of a vibrant and effective community spirit in the life of the church? During our sermon series in the Acts of the Apostles, we have been looking at a number of factors in the growth of the early church as it continues to excel in advancing the kingdom of Christ. Last week we talked about overcoming personal prejudice. But it focuses on yet another way that the church is to be the church. It involves a sense of community – a team spirit that enables those of us in the church to work effectively together. We are reminded of the words of Christ in the gospels where he tells us repeatedly that he has come to us regarding his desire to give us new wine, treasures, teaching, garments, commands, new life, and a new covenant. Christ is in the business of making all things new. Since his kingdom is the True Church, it will continue to be renewed until he comes - then it will be perfected. But this new beginning, or new thrust in the ministry of the Church, parallels what happened with the ministry of Philip and Peter in 8: Indeed, this is the rest of that continuing story. Some of those who were scattered in that persecution went as far as Phoenicia country on the coast north of Tyre, Cyprus large island in the eastern Mediterranean, and Antioch major city in northern Syria north of Phoenicia and just northeast of Cyprus. The first time we heard of Cyprus in Acts was in connection with Joseph Barnabas, a Levite who sold a piece of property he owned there to give the money to the apostles for the use of the church in Jerusalem 4: This was in contrast to the story about Ananias and Sapphira who were not honest with the Holy Spirit about their gift. But the focus on this passage is the city of Antioch, the birthplace of the church outside Jerusalem. We are told that these believers who were scattered far and wide spread the message wherever they went. However, they told the message of Christ only to Jews. I am reminded that the plan of God for the dispersion of the Jews fit perfectly into his program of providing a ready made staging area for the gospel beginning at the synagogues throughout the Roman empire. But we are also told about some, perhaps even just a few, who went to Antioch to proclaim the good news there also among the Greeks. We understand this to mean that they went there with the express purpose of bringing the gospel to the gentiles. They not only came from across the sea in Cyprus, but they also came from great distance in Libya or Cyrene west of Egypt. They obeyed and thrust the church into a new arena of outreach and success. We have seen the Christian movement shift from a predominantly rural setting in Galilee to an urban movement in Jerusalem and now to a cosmopolitan movement in Antioch. Why did they

choose Antioch? Or better yet, why did God send them to Antioch? Antioch was a major outpost of the Greek empire of Alexander the Great, named after the kings of the Seleucid dynasty that followed his death. It was now the third largest city in the Roman empire, having a population of up to 500,000, surpassed only by Alexandria and Rome itself. It was the seat of the Roman province of Syria with a large Jewish population of anywhere from 22,000 to 65,000, with a large number of proselytes living there — that is, gentile converts to the Jewish faith. It was an international commercial center and a quite cosmopolitan city where people were accustomed to many innovations. It was a place where staid tradition was less important, but also where lax morals ran rampant. In short, it was a place like Chicago, a melting pot for the world. It was a place in which the world could be reached. Implication The first sign of a vibrant and effective community spirit in the life of the church is grassroots involvement. Since we are told where they come from, we are aware of the sacrifices they must have made to go to Antioch. But since we are not told their names, we might assume that there was no famous leaders among them and no one who stood out among them as prominent. Even though Acts does not give us names, we continue to receive from Acts many inspiring examples we can follow. What we learn here from this unnamed group of pioneers in the first general attempt to carry the gospel to the Gentiles is that it was done by ordinary Christians who just went and shared the gospel. Since there are so many of us who cannot claim to be exceptional, we are encouraged that the phenomenal growth of the church through the centuries has been through people just like us. Jesus Christ came to establish a grass roots movement of truth and faith in the Living God. And it works exactly because we are not exceptional. There is no other way any of this could happen except by the grace and power of God. It is our Lord Jesus Christ who is exceptional. Certainly, any movement will have its great leaders — its famous and important people. But the fact that this significant work was done by non-prominent Christians reminds us that the famous are not the most significant or most important people in the church. Some of the most significant work for the kingdom has been done by unknown witnesses who are obedient to Christ right where they are and where they do not attract much attention. Our task is to be faithful to what God calls us to do. Be encouraged where you are and with who you are as long as you are following his call. You are part of an underground movement that is shaking the earth. They are famous because they are gifted. Barnabas was one of these. He had distinguished himself in the events surrounding Ananias and Sapphira, and he was the one who stood by Paul and his testimony about being called as the thirteenth apostle by direct revelation from Christ. These unknown Christians in Antioch may have lacked the credentials for others to give them the validity they deserved in order to gain a wider hearing, or perhaps they lacked some necessary leadership gifts. The Jerusalem church, hearing about the work in Antioch, decided to send help. They themselves were acting in a sense of positive leadership in sending them some positive leadership. What better person than Barnabas, the "Encourager", to send to this beginning work in order to encourage them. Note the qualities it mentions here: Moreover, he was a Jew from Cyprus himself, just like some of those who had come to bring the gospel to Antioch. He would have a broader perspective than many who had not been abroad, and he may even have volunteered for the assignment. Note his response when he arrived: He was the right man for the job. What do you suppose would have happened if he had come in and found all that they were doing wrong and called them to account for it — or at least made sure they knew how to do it right from now on? Surely he must have seen the weaknesses and excesses of their religious enthusiasm. He could have poisoned them from the inside out. But he took what was good and built on it. He had the larger perspective in mind: He found a "caring church with a message of hope" and encouraged their hope of continuing with the Lord in the purpose of their hearts. Certainly there were things that needed changing, but that would come in time. Barnabas was an encourager because of his outstanding character qualities that inspired loyalty and commitment. His integrity and wholesomeness comes to the front in his unhesitating acceptance of this new work. Note the statement about his effectiveness as a leader since "a great number of people were brought to the Lord. Now we see another wave of believers as Barnabas takes them the next step. But now it gets too big even for him as he goes to Tarsus to look for Saul to bring him into the ministry at Antioch. And they work together there with the church for a whole year, teaching great numbers of people. Tarsus was about miles from Antioch. He was not threatened by his need and the need of the church but took a long journey to seek him out. He needed help to pastor this flock. And

the fruit of his character was that the disciples were first called Christians at Antioch. They were used to calling themselves "disciples", "saints", and "brothers". This name change is significant because this was a name of derision assigned to them by the local unbelieving Gentile populace who had a reputation for such things. The name means "Christ people. You and I today are proud to be called Christians. Because of this man, Barnabas, who was so willing to let Christ be seen in him, the whole church followed.

### 2: Churches working together – Global Orphan Project

*Three of London's churches in the northwest are working together to create a shared community and to help in the area. Beginning in the spring of , churches there began coming together to establish an active relationship that is focused on working together and building unity.*

Just mentioning the word stirs up all sorts of emotions. Others practically live there – nearly obsessed. What would our coverage map look like? First off, check out this amazing video produced by Daniel Mosley in Douglasville, GA, as this post is really a response to his work: Yet the next question is inevitably, how? And moreover, I think God is behind it! So what keeps us back? And how do we move forward? Well, here are a few thoughts: Did you hear me? Sure, not always, but the large majority, by far. One would only assume that the small churches would love the handout, and the big churches would be fearful of losing what they have as they actually do have something! But therein lies the conundrum. The biggest worry of small churches is what keeps them from exploding: And specifically, fear of being swallowed. Which, ironically enough, is the last thing we are called to strive for in the Kingdom. So we small churches are staying small for a completely un-Biblical principle. And that, therefore, warrants co-laboring of epic proportions. Work With the Willing Not everyone is going to get along. The point here is that you might not be able to co-labor with everybody, but you might be able to co-labor with a few somebodies. Operate From Combined Strengths One of the things that stops co-laboring is the spotlight. Giving up power in light of a stronger member of the collective is often times the single most determining factor of whether or not the Body of Christ will work together. The idea here is to truly come to grips with what you are fantastic at. The one man who thinks he should be the lead pastor is actually a much better evangelist. Embracing such concepts will determine whether we recreate the blueprint of the book of Acts, or continue to dig a graveyard filled with missed opportunities. All three tips could be summarized in one even more powerful word: Sounds a lot like what Christ requires of us.

### 3: Should Churches Work Together? | Jack Wellman

*The Church. Just mentioning the word stirs up all sorts of emotions. Some people get angry-won't even talk to you. Others practically live there-nearly obsessed.*

Not only are we as individuals and congregations called to this, but also it seems clear that the message of Jesus will become real to a community when all the believers in that community work together in unity toward that goal. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are oneâ€” I in them and you in meâ€”so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. But is that a practical possibility in our church-separated and even church- competitive culture? I spent yesterday afternoon with a good friend who is in the middle of a great example of how indeed it can happen! Actually, without knowing about his call, I challenged him to pray about joining our church staff team because we needed exactly the skills and abilities he exhibited. Fast forward three years and Sam is engaged in his licensing and ordination study when the denominational office calls and tells him of a small struggling church in Ventura, CA. They want to give their building to the denomination if there is someone willing to be the pastor and carry on the ministry to the neighborhood. Six people still call this their church home and they are definitely not able to pay a full-time salary for a pastor. God provides a part-time, well paying consulting job for Sam and he launches into life as a solo pastor. With his business background, Sam immediately starts investigating the neighborhood and discovers that there are lots of homeless people in the vicinity. Then he realizes that God is calling this little church to make a difference in the lives of those people. The weekday ministry is now attracting 50 homeless people a day and has become a full service operation providing breakfast and lunch, laundry facilities, showers, job search help, assistance with finding housing, and of course evangelism and discipleship. Food and clothing start showing up daily from unlikely sources including several public elementary schools in a neighboring town. Someone told them about this little church and they decided to do a food drive and just drop off the donations unannounced. There are plenty of crazy interruptions of Sunday Services by homeless people with issues. Sam knows there is also a potential problem. That is a recipe for potential problems and the only saving grace is that the church is designed as a square building with an open-air courtyard in the middle of the square it is, after all, southern California. That makes it possible to contain the ministry within the church facility and not have homeless people hanging around the outside of the building. But they still need to travel to and from the church. So Sam decides to have an open house for city leaders so he can explain what the church is doing. He sends an invitation to the Mayor, the police and fire departments, the principal of the elementary school next door and others. To his amazement, 45 people respond to his invitation including the Mayor, the Chief of Police, the Fire Chief and the school principal. He explains the weekday ministry to the homeless and being the good business man that he is, he gives them an impressive list of statistics about the number of people served, housing found, jobs found, children who are back in school, etc. The Mayor tells him that the city has been trying for years to get the churches engaged with tackling the homeless problem and this is the first time it has ever happened. They pledge to do everything they can to help this ministry succeed. In the ensuing months, the Mayor personally brokered a meeting between Sam and three real estate developers who happened to be Christians! Of course the economy tanked right after that so the property just sat there becoming a significant problem for the city because it was being broken into and used as a crack house and for prostitution. There were a multitude of challenges to her vision becoming a reality not the least of which was the financial magnitude of the project. One night God woke Sam up with the idea that the churches of Ventura could work together to make this happen! The rest, as they say, is history. What used to be a deteriorating, sin-infested eyesore in the middle of Ventura has become a place where lives are literally being saved and hope-filled futures are being rebuilt. They help get them back on their feet and include the family in the life of their church. The story of the Kingdom Center in Ventura is at but one shining example that it is indeed

possible. For the full story of The Kingdom Center go to [www.](http://www.)

## 4: BIBLE VERSES ABOUT WORKING TOGETHER

*How to Work Together for the Sake of the Gospel. Most churches in the United States have less than 75 members. Many of these congregations barely have enough money to pay their pastor's salary, let alone launch a movement or host a conference.*

Getting churches, ministries, nonprofits and similar organizations to join together to launch a nationwide campaign "particularly in the media" is a challenge everywhere. The Bible charts the story of leaders like Moses, David, Paul, and even Jesus struggling to unite the people of their time. After all, one of the last prayers of Jesus was for believers to be united as one. They worry that joining together with other churches or ministries may cost them church members or donors. Because after all, their focus is on the family. They have large numbers of employees, programs and strategic plans already in motion. As a result, they are geared toward the goal of completing their mission, not yours. Without helping them find some kind of win, it will be difficult to get their interest. They create spec TV commercials, print ads, radio spots, websites, and more. They want to give the potential client a vision for what will happen if they partner with this agency. Make sure each partner organization will be used in the area of their strength. Every church and ministry has strengths and weaknesses. As you plan, know what each media platform does best, and when you decide the roles of the campaign, make sure each ministry partner is positioned to showcase their gifts and talents. For decades, Bible Societies raised millions of dollars to print Bibles. That experience with the issue will help get their attention. Pastors and ministry leaders are more likely to follow another leader they respect. Remember that God has done incredible things through a single person or team so keep trying. In spite of the uncooperative children of Israel, Moses still believed God and kept moving. Some of the greatest filmmakers, writers, musicians, thinkers, and leaders throughout history have been turned down, criticized, and rejected. But they never gave up, kept on listening to God, and amazing things happened. So this is an important discussion worth having. An internationally known writer and speaker, Phil Cooke has actually produced media programming in nearly 50 countries around the world.

## 5: The Baptist Union of Great Britain : Churches Working Together: Local and National

*Churches Working Together. 43 likes. Christian Community of Churches uniting to assist unsaved souls by showing them the love of Christ.*

## 6: "Churches Working Together: Four Keys in Serving One Community" by John Parks

*Getting churches, ministries, nonprofits and similar organizations to join together to launch a nationwide campaign - particularly in the media - is a challenge everywhere. But that challenge isn't new.*

## 7: Churches Working Together To Make A Difference | Cornerstone Pastors Network

*Malpas Road and Emmanuel Evangelical Churches in Newport have known a measure of inter-church fellowship through the work of EMW and AECW, but recent years have seen the commitment to that fellowship increase in a conscious way.*

## 8: Sermons about Work Together - [www.enganchecubano.com](http://www.enganchecubano.com)

*Churches can work together and help feed the hungry, make strangers feel welcome in church or on the streets, give drinks to the thirsty, and visit those who are sick and in prison. That's what.*

## 9: What Does the Bible Say About Working Together?

## CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER pdf

*Honnalora Hubbard of Terre Haute Ministries tells a remarkable story of how a number of churches in Terre Haute, Indiana used a simple tool to bring them together in strengthening the caring power.*

*Following the paper trail Gr. 1. Look and learn. Stoic philosophy of Seneca St. Paul Protestantism Red-lead and how to use it in paint The grounds of faith Yoga Beyond Belief Key facts in cardiology The Disney Treasures Israel and nuclear weapons Encyclopedic dictionary of magic Vital records of Knox, Maine, prior to 1892 Index of Bicentennial activities FireWire(R System Architecture Education loan interest subsidy application form Yahweh at war against sin (7:1-8:29) Advances in child development and behavior vol.21 Masters of Flux Anchor (Soul Rider, No 3) 1. El 2. 3. The 4. El 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. The 10. 11. Exemplary Romans in the early Republic International prescription drug prices Betty Crockers Facsimile Bundle Woodworking with power machines Vengeance of Mars by Robin Wasserman Oxyrhynchus Papyri XXIX (39), /2878-2891 (Graeco-Roman Memoirs #55) New developments in medical research: NIH and patient groups Advertising self-regulation Computer case histories Catalogue of engraved portraits Four Sisters of Hofei How to draw a Madagascar hissing cockroach CosmoGIRL! The Book of Happy Things! If there is no tomorrow jennifer armentrout Vegetarian Meals Good Housekeeping Favorite Recipes (Favorite Good Housekeeping Recipes) Remaining pieces of the Kermit program 10. Joe Camel is dead, but whassup with those Budweiser frogs? hooking kids on alcohol and tobacco Equestrian Vaulting War in Korea, its aftermath Learn to Draw Animated Cartoons (Collins Learn to Draw) The state, IT, and development*