

Hello. /We will begin the 9th lecture on missiology. This will be our last lecture on missiology.

<Approximately 5 pages deleted>

/Chapter 16, the Reality of Mission Strategy. /Coming face to face with a new era of missions, we need to come up with new mission strategies for today's time. /In other words, how will the church deal with its problems, and how will we expand our missions territory? These questions are important. /We will take a look at the reality of modern-day mission strategy.

/1. Mission Strategy for New Churches. /Churches planted in the field of missions have distinct characteristics as indigenous churches. /Because these churches are independent, motivated churches, they are able to grow.

/A "new church" refers to the church in a region that recently received missions. /Some people call this type of church the "young church." /We will take a look at the mission strategies that these churches should implement.

/(1) Strategies for Becoming a Mature Church. /The purpose of missions is to have the churches built by missionaries mature. /Then what kind of church is a mature church? /A mature church is self-reliant, autonomous, and self-operating. These three qualities make up a mature church.

/A mature church also looks after itself, helps its neighbors, and adapts to culture.

/First, the autonomous church. /In order to become a mature church, a church must set a mission strategy that makes it an autonomous church. This means the church becomes a mature church that can handle its own problems.

/A mature church is a well-coordinated church. /It can look after itself and solve its own problems. /Furthermore, it doesn't imitate its mother church, but it makes its own decisions.

/Sermons given in a mature church are appropriate for the cultural structure of the region and for different situations. /Spiritually, this church knows how to solve its own issues.

/Also, as the body of Christ, the church understands the gifts God has given to it and is faithful in applying these gifts. /The church does well in handling spiritual matters, /and it gives pastors sufficient biblical and theological training.

/A mature church is also autonomous in its administration. /Instead of receiving orders from the mother church, /the mature church searches for special measures in its relationship with the regional culture. /A mature church also manages its finances on its own.

/It doesn't rely on missionaries or support from its mother church, /but it covers its expenses on its own. /The church is able to make its own decisions when it comes down to setting a budget and spending money.

/Second, a mature church is a "church that cares for its neighbors." /This church isn't self-centered, but it overcomes its shortcomings to lend a helping hand to its neighbors.

/A mature church doesn't focus only on itself, but it cares and works for society. /Its actions are based on love for its neighbors.

/Mature churches start programs for their neighbors and plan accordingly. /They find ways to preach the gospel to unbelievers in their surroundings, creating programs to achieve this purpose.

/Third, a mature church is a "church that adapts to culture." /Churches must adapt to the cultural background of the region, /and they must work to find ways of delivering the gospel to the residents of the area.

/(2) The Relationship between New Churches and Mission Agencies. /When new churches grow more mature, mission agencies begin to lose their role.

/New churches must work for mission purposes. /As the Bible teaches us, the purpose of missions is to make disciples. /That is why it is important that the church proclaims the gospel of Christ and makes disciples.

/In order to meet these goals, churches and mission agencies must work together, not be in conflict with one another. /Agencies should help new churches mature into mission churches.

/New churches must "make the effort to become a missions church." /They must continue to mature to become a missions church. /This refers to the process of churches being born through missions and then participating in missions.

/We need to continue to do missions in today's time. /The reason is many places have not yet received the gospel. /The development of missions work can be divided into several stages.

/The first stage. /Missions is preaching the gospel to unbelievers and planting churches. /Then, those who believe after receiving the gospel are baptized, and the church is organized. /The missions group is in charge of this step.

/The second stage. Missions must improve the church so that it teaches and keeps all of the Lord's commands. /This is the first step of the organized church. At this stage, the missions group loosens its control and proposes measures for further improvement.

/Next, the third stage. /This is the stage where missions plays a supporting role. /The new church autonomously figures out its problems and freely exercises administrative control.

/During this stage, missions works alongside the church, and when it comes to doing business, missions works together with the church.

/The fourth stage. /In this stage, the new church begins its own missions. /This is the true purpose of missions, but oftentimes, it is neglected.

/We need to make it our mission strategy to have new churches send out missionaries. We need to reach the fourth stage.

/2. Mission Strategy for City Churches. /Cities have grown at a rapid pace in modern times. /Urbanization is a characteristic of modern society, and we must come up with mission strategies in response to this phenomenon.

/ (1) Mission Strategies for Cities. /Cities are characterized by a concentration of the population. /As many people gather in a certain area, missions finds its worth. /However, not all cities are receptive to the gospel.

/Cities are either receptive or resistant, /and this produces various side effects. /The Bible gives us examples of cities being receptive and cities being resistant. /Sodom was a city of resistance, while Nineveh was a city of reception.

/People of various classes live in a city. /They have different social, economic, and cultural backgrounds. /Their mindsets are different as well. /We need to search for ways by which we can preach the gospel to these people.

/We must also come up with the right strategy. /Each class requires an appropriate mission strategy. /We must come up with efficient methods for reaching them. /Mission strategies for cities should not be unchanging, typical strategies, /but they should be strategies that have color and can change depending on the people.

/ (2) The Types of City Churches. /City churches are diverse. /Each church has its own denomination, /regional characteristics, and operation procedures. /Let's take a look at the diversity of these churches.

/First, the "church at the heart of the city." /The church that lies at the heart of the city is usually a megachurch that typically has a long history and is comprised of mature believers. /This church is made up of people who live in the city, /but people who move from the countryside to the city also make up a large share.

/Second, we have the "Shopping Center Church." /This newly formed church is a result of society's economic changes. /Typically, lower class people attend this church, /but there is strong passion for growth, and the church is effective.

/Third, we have the “Suburban Church.” /One characteristic of this church is the church members are concentrated in the church’s vicinity. /The rate of growth isn’t that high, but there are exceptions.

/The church plays a central role in the area, and it influences society in many ways.

/Fourth, the “Family Church.” /This church does not have a set church building, /but the people of this church gather at a devoted believer’s house to worship.

/When this church grows, it finds a separate building /and begins to take shape and grow as a church.

/Fifth, the “Minority Church.” /The minority church is a church for people who come from different cultures. /There are many churches in Los Angeles for Koreans who immigrate to the United States.

/Minority churches have unique characteristics. /But these churches find it difficult to experience continued growth. /The reason is the church is for minority groups, which means it becomes weaker with the second generation, and with the third generation, the church faces a crisis.

/(3) The City Church’s Mass Evangelism. /The city church typically takes part in mass evangelism. /If used correctly, this method can bring about positive results. /However, it may also fail.

/In order to do mass evangelism, the city church must come up with different evangelism methods. /Furthermore, it must implement measures to “plant new churches” as a way of church expansion.

/(4) Growth Strategies of the City Church. /Let me explain this in six ways.

/First, “Selecting the Soil.” /Before planting a church, we must thoroughly do research and examinations. /We must not plant the seed carelessly. We must carefully study the conditions of the area in which the church is to be planted.

/We must carefully see if the residents are receptive or resistant to the gospel.

/Second, we must “Set Realistic Goals.” /Without a specific goal, we cannot head in any direction, and we will not have any results. /By setting realistic goals, we can proceed.

/Third, “Sacrifice for Growth.” /Successful evangelism does not happen automatically. /It requires much effort and sacrifice.

/It requires human resources, physical resources, and time. We must sacrifice and work hard for this sake.

/Fourth, “Principles of Church Growth.” /We need to apply the basic principles of church growth to the city church. /There may be various methods, but believers must first be united in prayer. /We must first evangelize our family members and our neighbors to bring them to salvation.

/Fifth, “Post-evangelism Management.” /It is very important that we follow-up on things after we evangelize. /The church must secure believers through evangelism, /and it must nurture these new believers. /Then, the new believers must evangelize other people.

/Sixth, “Maintaining Mobility and Flow.” /Every church program must move with mobility. /Through these programs, churches must come up with mission methods that are full of life.

/This concludes the 9th lecture on missiology. /You have done a great job studying this subject. /Thank you.