

Partner Profile Tool

PREPAREDNESS, PRIORITIES, AND PATHWAYS



RESOUND
NETWORK

The following tool serves both the strong church considering partnership by helping them to define their preparedness, priorities, and pathways for partnership and the network by enabling better connections with churches in need of partnership.

We recommend gathering your pastors and other key leaders/stakeholders to engage in a process of evaluation, prayer, and discernment in order to answer the following questions. Utilize the tools in the appendix to help develop your answers. As you work through this process together, we also recommend reading Pathways to Partnership by Bob Bickford & Mark Hallock.

Basic Info

- Church: _____
- Address: _____
- Website: _____
- Association: _____
- Contact Person: _____
- Number: _____
- Email: _____

Partnership Preparedness

- **What is the current health of your church?**
 - o With your leadership team, fill out the health assessment in the appendix and summarize your current strengths and weaknesses as a church below.
 - o Strengths: _____

 - o Weaknesses: _____

- **What gifts has God provided your church for the sake of partnership?**

- -----

- **What resources (funding/personnel) would you be willing to invest?**

- -----

- **What relationships has God provided that could develop partnerships?**

- -----

- **What steps have you already taken to prepare to partner?**

- -----

- **What do you need to develop to be prepared to partner?**

- -----

Partnership Priorities

- **What is your revitalization/replanting story? [i.e. what experiences led you and your church to be interested in revitalization/replanting?]**

- -----

-
- **Why do you want to partner?**

- -----

- **What is your vision for revitalization & replanting?**

- -----

- **What are your non-negotiables in partnership?**

- With your leadership team, fill out the discernment grid in the appendix and reflect on other potential non-negotiables.
 - Other Non-Negotiables: -----

Partnership Pathways

- **Do you want to partner locally, regionally, or beyond?**
 - -----

- **What partnership opportunities are you most interested in or open to?**
 - With your leadership team, review and discuss the partnership opportunities document in the appendix.
 - -----

- **What obstacles do you anticipate in pursuit of these pathways?**
 - -----

- **If you already have a developed partnership strategy, please describe.**
 - -----

What Questions Do You Have?

What Else Should We Know? Other Comments?

Appendix

Resound Network Church Health Assessment

	Strongly Disagree	Moderately Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Slightly Agree	Moderately Agree	Strongly Agree
Healthy Identities - Worshipers						
1. I am passionate about growing in holiness and love for Jesus.						
2. I anticipate and prepare for experiencing God in our weekly worship gatherings.						
3. I spend time throughout the week in personal Bible study, prayer, and devotion.						
4. Talking about Jesus is a normal part of my daily conversation.						
5. We see the weekly gathering as primarily for the building up of the church.						
6. We enjoy well-planned worship services that lead us to actively worship God through a variety of elements (confession, prayer, Scripture, song, etc.).						
7. We sing songs that are biblically sound and inspire us to joyfully adore God.						
8. Our worship services glorify God, acknowledge Jesus as Lord, and allow us to passionately express our love for him.						
Healthy Identities - Family						
1. I am convinced that I need the church and the church needs me.						
2. I pursue those within our church who are difficult to love.						
3. I address sin and conflict with one another personally in a way that is biblical, aiming for reconciliation and forgiveness.						
4. We enjoy spending time together inside and outside of the church building.						
5. We share our personal challenges with one another.						
6. We enjoy finding ways to serve, encourage, and build one another up.						
7. We have a plan for making sure new members become fully connected with the whole church.						
8. We cultivate an environment of belonging, demonstrating grace, acceptance, support, and mutual encouragement.						
Healthy Identities - Missionaries						
1. I strongly believe that every believer is called to make disciples.						
2. I intentionally develop relationships with lost people.						
3. We generously give in order to take the Gospel to the nations.						
4. We believe our church was planted in our current location to display God's glory and communicate the gospel to every person.						
5. We would love to partner with others in starting new churches.						
6. We regularly provide missions education for all age groups.						
7. We have a good relationship with our neighborhood and community leaders.						
8. We actively include people from our community, inviting them to come to our gatherings and connect at deeper levels with us.						

	Strongly Disagree	Moderately Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Slightly Agree	Moderately Agree	Strongly Agree
Healthy Foundations - Gospel						
1. I know how to explain the Gospel to a lost person.						
2. I am comfortable sharing my faith with unbelievers.						
3. I regularly share my faith with unbelievers.						
4. I build my life and work in the church on the gospel of Jesus Christ and relate to others based upon the Gospel.						
5. We gather to remember, rejoice in, and realign our lives with the truth of the Gospel.						
6. We find our hope for personal and church health in the Gospel rather than programs and traditions.						
7. We believe the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection is the only hope for humanity.						
8. We hear the gospel referenced and emphasized in the sermons preached in our church.						
Healthy Foundations - Scripture						
1. I meditate on, memorize, and apply God's word in my life regularly.						
2. I am willing to give up my personal desires or preferences to do what the Scripture teaches.						
3. We develop our beliefs and biblical convictions according to Scripture.						
4. We enjoy reading and studying God's Word individually, in groups, and corporately.						
5. We determine our church practices based upon Scripture, not tradition or effectiveness.						
6. We cherish the Bible as God's authoritative Word to us.						
7. We focus on the Bible in our teaching and preaching ministries because we believe it is foundational to the life of our congregation.						
8. We are taught how to study & interpret the Bible by our pastors and teachers.						
Healthy Foundations - Prayer						
1. I pray consistently and persistently for the salvation of lost people by name.						
2. We see people praying for one another when we gather.						
3. We long to pour out our hearts to God through prayer that He might accomplish His purposes for our church.						
4. We begin and saturate any planning with prayer.						
5. We specifically pray for lost people among the nations of the world.						
6. We have a system in place to quickly transmit prayer requests to our church.						
7. We often hear people talk about God's activity in their life related to prayer.						
8. We are taught how to effectively pray in our daily lives.						

	Strongly Disagree	Moderately Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Slightly Agree	Moderately Agree	Strongly Agree
Healthy Structure - Leadership						
1. We have leaders who remind us of Jesus.						
2. We have a clear, intentional pathway to develop future pastors, and lay leaders.						
3. We have deacons who care for the unity and physical needs of the church.						
4. We benefit from the sound preaching and soul care of our pastors.						
5. We empower our leaders to make decisions to accomplish the vision and mission of the church.						
6. We encourage and care for all our leaders serving in our church.						
7. We know and support the vision for our church, which has been clearly given by our leaders.						
8. We understand how our individual roles help accomplish the church's vision.						
Healthy Structure - Membership						
1. I joyfully submit to pastoral leadership that follows Jesus.						
2. I actively contribute my time, talent, and treasure (money and other material gifts) to the life and mission of the church.						
3. I know and use my spiritual gifts and natural talents for the good of the congregation, not my own benefit.						
4. We regularly see and know those on our member rolls.						
5. We believe in and practice biblical church discipline.						
6. We know and wholeheartedly practice our church covenant.						
7. We have a new members class to help educate and assimilate newcomers.						
8. We value and consider faithful attendance and service normal behavior for every church member.						
Healthy Structure - Discipleship						
1. I personally invest in those younger in the faith.						
2. We have a clear process to help a person grow from new believer to maturity.						
3. We effectively equip parents to disciple their children.						
4. We see people know, love, and obey Jesus more as a result of our discipleship strategy.						
5. We continually challenge and equip people to take the next step in the discipleship process.						
6. We have an established and effective outreach strategy built around the current demographics and needs of our local community.						
7. We strongly believe every member should be in a small group that focuses on discipleship and Christian living.						
8. We emphasize the practical application of the Scripture, teaching that faith and obedience to the commands of Jesus are marks of a disciple.						

Discernment Grid*

Below are several important categories to consider for alignment with a potential replant or partner church. Consider these categories and any others that would be important for you to have alignment. Then determine what would be negotiable concerning each issue and what would be non-negotiable for partnership.

	Negotiable	Non-Negotiable
SBC Alignment		
Growth Strategy		
Day-to-Day Operations		
Church Leadership		
Baptism		
Church Polity & Government		
Theology		
Philosophy of Mission		
Philosophy of Ministry		
Lord's Supper (frequency)		
Building		
Worship Style		
Existing Staff		
Existing Programs		

*Adapted from *Replant Roadmap* by Mark Hallock

Partnership Opportunities

In order to see a movement of revitalized and replanted churches resounding throughout Missouri and beyond, strong churches, associations, and parachurch ministries must be captivated by a vision to resound beyond their current area of influence by partnering with struggling churches to revitalize, replant, or repurpose. When struggling churches affirm a recommendation from the network, partnership is often not only helpful but also necessary to pursue God's path forward. Will you join us in this movement by considering how you and your church or ministry could resound in an even greater way?

1. **Supporting Partner** — Pray for, provide for, and/or participate in a revitalization or relaunch effort through:
 - Leadership Coaching
 - Establishment of a Temporary Leadership Team
 - Financial, Administrative, or Project Support
 - Intentional Prayer & Encouragement Plan

2. **Strategic Partner** — Pursue a unique opportunity to resound by partnering with a struggling congregation to replant or repurpose through:
 - Foster
 - Adoption
 - Campus
 - Merger
 - Ministry Center

3. **Sending Partner** - Prepare revitalizers, replanters, and teams to deploy through:
 - Casting Vision
 - Creating Residencies
 - Coordinating Cohorts

Suggested Resources:

[Pathways to Partnership by Bob Bickford & Mark Hallock](#)
[NAMB Replant Associational Guide \(see pgs. 22-29\)](#)

30 Day Partnership Challenge for Pastors

30 Day Partnership Challenge

- 1. Pray - Commit to pray for a future partnership over the next 30 days.
- 2. Promote - Assemble a team of key leaders in your church to share your vision for partnership and to consider next steps.
- 3. Pursue - Connect with at least one area church leader to encourage and to begin building a relationship.

Partnership SWOT

Strengths & Weaknesses:

1. What is the current health of your church?

1. Strengths: _____

2. Weaknesses: _____

2. How does your current health position you to partner well?

Opportunities:

1. What relationships has God provided that could develop into partnerships?

2. What people or physical resources has God provided that could be stewarded for partnership?

3. What partnership pathways are you most interested in pursuing? Why?

Threats:

1. What obstacles do you anticipate in pursuit of partnership?

Next Steps:

1. Will you commit to the 30 Day Partnership Challenge?

o Yes:

1. Pray: When will you regularly pray for partnership?

2. Promote: Who do you need to invite into this process?

3. Pursue: Who do you need to reach out to?

o No:

1. What next steps will you take toward partnership?



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