Training leaders for the majority world church in the 21st century

Michael David Sills

Abstract

The church in the majority world today is in desperate need of trained, biblical leadership. Explosive church growth in the majority world has left many churches without trained pastors. For instance, in some areas of Andean Ecuador, Highland Quichua pastors are pastoring ten and twelve churches. This growth has outstripped the ability of current programs to produce sufficient numbers of trained leaders. In the Ecuadorian context, the Highland Quichua believers have twenty-five hundred churches with only five hundred pastors to serve them (Sills 2001, 171).

Full Text: PDF DOC HTML

So what does leadership and management look like in the successful, growing and innovative 21st century organization? One easy correlation I can draw is from experiencing the leaner structures we had in the Navy SEAL teams. When you think military, most would picture an extremely bureaucratic command and control environment, which of course does still exist in today's armed forces. In some cases it's absolutely necessary. And frankly, leaders and managers with that mindset aren't good for any organization. During SEAL training, peer reviews are a weekly event. We have a process called "top five, bottom five." Every week you anonymously rank the top five performers in the class as well as the bottom five.