

Self Assessment Instrument©

Is Church Planting in the ARP a Good Fit for Me?

To assist you in assessing how well your present experience, training, and gifts equip you for planting a church in the ARP we have provided rating scales after each of 12 qualifying areas. Give yourself a numerical score for each category.

Don't Know	Weak	Marginal	Significant Strength	Exceptional
0	1	2	3	4

1. Prayer: Personal and Organizational.

I have a demonstrable record of:

- 1 Placing a high value on personal prayer.
- 2 Mobilizing and encouraging others in prayer.
- 3 Identifying and celebrating answers to prayer publicly.
- 4 Teaching and preaching on the importance of prayer.

Average Score

2. Worship.

I have a demonstrable record of:

- 1 Preaching and teaching about the importance of God-centered worship.
- 2 Preaching, teaching, and organizing relevant, biblical worship that transcends cultural barriers.
- 3 Being a worshiper of God myself.

Average Score

3. Preaching.

I have a demonstrable record of:

- 1 Preaching with exegetical and doctrinal accuracy.
- 2 Preaching that displays the centrality of Christ and the Grace of God.
- 3 Preaching with conviction and passion.
- 4 Preaching that exhibits a cultural fit in vocabulary and presentation.
- 5 Preaching sermons that are focused, structured (a recognizable beginning, middle and end), and applicable.
- 6 Preaching with an effective delivery that captures the attention, uses effective illustrations, and that has memorable content.
- 7 Preaching the Gospel with clarity.

Average Score

4. Leadership.

I have a demonstrable record of:

- 1 Discerning God's vision for his church at a particular place and time.
- 2 Projecting this God descerned vision as a workable vision in others.
- 3 Having an ability to create ownership of the vision in others.
- 4 Instilling motivation and enthusiastic commitment to achieve the vision.
- 5 Developing strategies and structures that empower people to achieve the vision.
- 6 Mobilizing people according to their giftedness, abilities, and spiritual maturity.
- 7 Honoring and recognizing people for their effort.
- 8 Honoring and recognizing people for their efforts.

Average Score

5. Evangelism.

I have a demonstrable record of:

- 1 Personally possessing a passion for the Gospel and for evangelism.
- 2 Understanding the content of the Gospel
- 3 Sharing the Gospel regularly and clearly.
- 4 Modeling/teaching others how to share the Good News.
- 5 Developing with my leaders, effective strategies to reach a community for Christ.
- 6 Preaching the Gospel clearly and contextually.

Average Score

6. Discipleship and Leadership Development.

I have a demonstrable record of:

- 1 Engaging in personal disciple making.
- 2 Implementing strategies for moving people through increasing stages of spiritual growth.
- 3 Organizing, implementing and replicating small groups.
- 4 Incorporating newcomers into a growing network of relationships.
- 5 Proactively identifying, developing, and equipping potential leaders.

Average Score

7. Administration.

I have a demonstrable record of:

- 1 Identifying and mobilizing Godly laypersons with organizational and administrative skills.
- 2 Insuring that ethical and honest practices are in place and followed.
- 3 Insuring that administration serves the vision.

- 4 Insuring good communication with supporting churches, presbytery and denominational agencies, and individual supporters.
- Average Score

8. Finance.

- I have a demonstrable record of:***
- 1 Conducting my own personal finances with integrity.
 - 2 Teaching and promoting biblical stewardship.
 - 3 Identifying and mobilizing Godly laypersons with skills in finance.
 - 4 Insuring that fiscally responsible practices are followed.
 - 5 Developing a budget consistent with a vision.
- Average Score

9. Service to the Community.

- I have a demonstrable record of:***
- 1 Discerning the unique culture of the community.
 - 2 Demonstrating a redemptive vision for the community.
 - 3 Articulating a vision of how the church can minister to the needs of the hurting both within and outside of the church.
 - 4 Mobilizing resources and people to appropriately meet community needs.
- Average Score

10. Call to Church Planting.

- I have a demonstrable record of:***
- 1 Affirming a strong belief and faith in the sovereign purposes of God.
 - 2 Articulating both an inner sense of call and a realistic motivation for church planting.
 - 3 Receiving several affirmations of my call to church planting from others.
 - 4 Projecting a realistic vision for reaching a community with the Gospel through a growing, spiritually vibrant church.
 - 5 Having a commitment to Kingdom advancement through church multiplication.
 - 6 Articulating a desire to see God glorified through the ARP vision for church multiplication.
 - 7 Demonstrating strong intrinsic motivation.
 - 8 Having resiliency and perseverance in trials.
- Average Score

11. Healthy and Supportive Family Life.

- Both partners in the church planting couple should have a demonstrable record of:***
- 1 Exhibiting a steadfast commitment to a growing marriage and healthy family life.
 - 2 Uniting as a couple and family in wholehearted agreement

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| 3 | regarding God's call to church planting.
Being informed about the challenges and rewards, and yet willing to make the sacrifices that come with the call to church planting. | <input style="width: 60px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> |
| 4 | Accepting the responsibility of serving as examples to the church and the community. | <input style="width: 60px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> |
| 5 | Demonstrating a reliance on Christ building His family and His church. | <input style="width: 60px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> |
| 6 | Exhibiting agreement regarding each partner's role and involvement in the family and in ministry. | <input style="width: 60px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> |
| Average Score | | <input style="width: 60px; height: 20px; border: 2px solid black;" type="text"/> |

12. Character and Growth.

I have a demonstrable record of:

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|---|--|---|
| 1 | Possessing a personal life that reflects grace, integrity, ethics, transparency, and servant leadership. | <input style="width: 60px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> |
| 2 | Being a listener and learner. | <input style="width: 60px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> |
| 3 | Engaging regularly in personal, spiritual, and professional development. | <input style="width: 60px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> |
| 4 | Taking difficult stands where others have been known to compromise. | <input style="width: 60px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> |
| 5 | Being biblically principled and guided. | <input style="width: 60px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> |
| 6 | Being compassionate, tender, and understanding, yet riveted to following the Lord's way exclusively. | <input style="width: 60px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> |
| 7 | Maintaining a good reputation in the community. Exhibiting | <input style="width: 60px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> |
| 8 | good stewardship of the gifts that God provides. | <input style="width: 60px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> |
| 9 | Fleeing temptation. | <input style="width: 60px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> |

Your total score from all of the 12 categories:

Evaluation Key

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Above 30 | You are a good candidate for church planting in the ARP. |
| 20 to 29 | More training or experience is probably needed before considering church planting in the ARP. |
| 10 to 19 | More training and/or experience are definitely in order before pursuing church planting further. |
| Below 10 | Your gifts probably lie in a ministry direction other than church planting. |

If you scored in the 10 - 29 range, here are some books that might prove helpful as you consider Church Planting.

1 *This is a totally new idea to me.*

Payne: Discovering Church Planting: An Introduction to the Whats, Whys, and Hows of Global Church Planting
Nebel: Big Dreams in Small Places: Church Planting in Smaller Communities.
Stetzer: Planting Missional Churches: Planting a Church That's Biblically Sound and Reaching People in Culture
Hunter: How to Reach Secular People.
McGavarn & Arn: Ten Steps to Church Growth.
Malphurs: Developing a Vision for Ministry in the 21st Century.
Barna: The Power of Vision.
Mannola: The Next Generation.
Keller and Thompson: Church Planting Manual.

2 *I've had some experience - a course or two - or worked in a church plant in a staff capacity.*

Eswine: Preaching to a Post-Everything World: Crafting Biblical Sermons That Connect with Our Culture
Chapell: Christ-Centered Preaching: Redeeming the Expository Sermon Mead: The Once and Future Church.
Eby: Power Preaching for Church Growth.
Miller: Outrowing the Ingrowing Church.
Bakke: The Urban Church.
Barna: Turning Vision into Action.

3 *I need to understand the finishing touches. How do you do church planting in the ARP and what assistance could I receive?*The ARP Church Planting Manual, obtainable from ONA.

You may also wish to contact ONA regarding our most recent annotated bibliography on church planting.