

Planter Self-Assessment Exercise

"Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else."

-- The Apostle Paul (Galatians 6:4)

Perhaps you've been wondering if you have the abilities and skill it takes to be a church planter. Or **maybe you are a superintendent or church planting director wanting to do an informal assessment.** This short self-assessment exercise will help you to become more familiar with the 13 key characteristics that research shows many church planters share. You may rate your response level of competence in each of the 13 Church Planter qualities (with 5 being the highest). Then have the candidate rate themselves as well. This makes for good conversation and a place to begin discussion.

1. Has a **"visionizing"** capacity. Are you one who: **1 2 3 4 5**
 - a. persuasively communicates the vision to people
 - b. believes in God's capacity to accomplish great things

2. Is intrinsically **motivated.** Are you one who: **1 2 3 4 5**
 - a. has stick-to-itiveness and is persistent
 - b. is a self starter and is willing to build from nothing

3. Ability to create **ownership of ministry.** Are you one who: **1 2 3 4 5**
 - a. helps others to feel responsible for the growth and success of the ministry
 - b. wins the commitment of people to the vision

4. Ability to **relate to** the **unchurched** people. Are you one who: **1 2 3 4 5**
 - a. communicates in a style easily understood by non-believers
 - b. understands the "psychology" or mentality of non-believers

5. Manages **family** well. Are you one who: **1 2 3 4 5**
 - a. has a spouse who is a partner in the ministry according to his/her gifts
 - b. models wholesome family life before the church and the community

6. Effectively **builds relationships.** Are you one who: **1 2 3 4 5**
 - a. makes others feel secure and comfortable in your presence
 - b. does not respond in a judgmental or prejudicial fashion to new people

7. Committed to **church growth**. Are you one who: **1 2 3 4 5**
- a. appreciates steady and consistent growth without looking for "quick success"
 - b. is committed to numerical growth within the context of spiritual and relational growth
8. **Responsive to the community**. Are you one who: **1 2 3 4 5**
- a. understands the culture of the community
 - b. adapts the philosophy of ministry to the character of the community
9. **Utilizes the giftedness** of others. Are you one who: **1 2 3 4 5**
- a. releases and equips people to do the task of ministry
 - b. matches people with ministry needs and opportunities according to giftedness
10. **Flexibility and adaptability**. Are you one who: **1 2 3 4 5**
- a. can cope effectively with ambiguity
 - b. copes effectively with constant and abrupt change
11. Building a **cohesive church body**. Are you one who: **1 2 3 4 5**
- a. quickly includes newcomers into a network of relationships or meaningful church activities
 - b. monitors the morale of the people
12. **Resilience and determination**. Are you one who: **1 2 3 4 5**
- a. can ride the ups and downs of challenges
 - b. can rebound from loss, disappointments and failures
13. Exercises **faith**. Are you one who: **1 2 3 4 5**
- a. believes in the power of God
 - b. his life is marked by expectation and hope

These 13 characteristics are the ones most superintendents look and assess for in selecting an effective Church Planting Leader. For more information about Assessment options or doing a formal assessment, contact the USA/Canada Region Office at (913) 577-2830.