

Missions/Evangelism/Intercultural Studies

-There is often an entitlement mentality in our culture. This is one of the reasons that missionaries from the West are in decline. It is hard to find Westerners who are willing to leave their comfort zone for several years at a time.

-Students in seminaries seem interested in entrepreneurship. This spills over from interest in business to interest in church planting. This is an area to explore further.

-For ethnic minority church leadership, many cannot afford the traditional bachelor/seminary level training. This is important since much church growth/church planting in the U.S. is among these groups. Other options for training need to be considered.

-Due to church decline, many churches cannot afford a full-time pastor. As a result, bi-vocational pastors are in more demand.

-One denominational leader noted that 1,000 churches closed last year and 950 churches were planted. The church plant survival rate is between 60-70 percent.