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vision for holistic transformation

1 message

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ConTara: Nov 2017 Newsflash

"Mentoring and disciple-making are one and the same. They require relationship and accountability on top of knowledge building."

Last month I attended the training of trainers part 1 on Community Health Education (CHE, pronounced "chay"). We had fun learning the 12 CHE principles, represented by the blocks above, through interacting with stories, skits, and role plays. They showed how CHE can be a model to promote community transformation. Now, I would like to share more with you about how I believe that CHE can be partnered with Disciple Making Movements (DMM) and used in India where I hope to serve next year...

Contagious Disciple
Making by David
Watson & Paul
Watson (2014)



I give thanks for:

- -you! Thanks for reading along and praying for me!
- -safe travels to India and Thailand over the last 2 months
- -my patients and coworkers at Esperanza Health Center that I have grown to love and appreciate over the last 4 years
- -my home fellowship the Hunting Park House Church and many other prayer partners who have walked with me in this process of

What does Community Health Education have to do with Disciple Making Movements?

What is DMM?

A method for church planting movements, DMM is an obedience based discipleship process in which disciples who make disciples grows into churches that plant other churches. It is focused on training, teaching, and mentoring. Here are the 7 practices that Watson & Watson describe in their book as essential elements:

1. Disciples who make disciples

How is it that 12 disciples who walked with Jesus could start a movement that has grown to 2 billion followers in 2000 years? The core of the great commission was that disciples are called to make other disciples. By **multiplication**, just as CHE trains trainers who train others, multiplying disciples who make disciples leads to **sustainability** in discipleship and church planting.

2. Prayer

We recognize it is not all about the strategy but how the **Spirit leads**. Prayer is key for movements to happen. After all it is God who is doing the moving! Including of us too!

3. Persons of Peace

Finding the "Luke 10:6" person is an important

preparing for transition to India next year

-my house on Franklin Street which has been a haven of rest for my housemate Janira and myself as well as our communities of faith

-my 2009 honda accord that will take me and my dog Sidney back home from Pennsylvania to Texas, weather permitting in December



-my family back in Texas that I will see for Christmas and spend more time with in the new year

-my God who never fails to surprise me with His faithfulness and friendship on this journey

-answer to prayer to have patience during all the transitions coming up, passionate patience to be precise!

a local "champion" within a community who catches the vision. They can help you raise awareness and meet with key leaders to find those who want to be trained in CHE. It's all about having an **invitation** into a community.

4. Engagement

Both CHE and DMM work require <u>relationship</u>

<u>building</u>, one-on-one and in groups. An

important CHE principle is <u>facilitating and not</u>

<u>doing the work</u> - yes, even the health education

work. It's about training the local people on how
they can train others to live healthy lives. You
have to engage with your trainers and community
health educators. This naturally leads to the next

DMM practice...

5. Leadership Development

In order to **develop mature Christian leaders**, you have to commit to letting them grow. Rather than allowing dependency, you have to help them find a way to **use local resources**. As their own lives become healthier and transformed then they are in a position to share that with others.

6. Discovery Groups

Okay, here is the part many of you were waiting for... what does health have to do with following Jesus or reading the Bible? And how does discovering what the Bible teaches help us to live healthier lives? Actually, the idea of **integration**

We continue to shout our praise even when we're hemmed in with troubles, because we know how troubles can develop passionate patience in us...

-Romans 5:3-5

What are you thankful for?

of our physical and spiritual lives may come easier for another worldview besides our western traditional one. The awareness that our spiritual, physical, emotional, and mental health influence our lives can be seen especially in the life and ministry of Jesus. The emphasis with CHE is on the preventative and not curative/treatment side of medicine, and discovering how to prevent illness.

7. Establishing Churches

The last 2 CHE principles of community ownership and development and not relief work help us think about how to approach church planting among people groups who don't have any churches. Rather than viewing an unreached group of people as in need of an outside savior (namely ourselves), we encourage the group (and ourselves) to see how Jesus is already present working among them. For those doing discovery groups, there is a natural opportunity for groups that respond to Jesus to continue to meet as a fellowship as they learn to follow and trust Him. As people are transformed from the inside out, they grow into the body of which Christ is the head. They "own" their church as well as the development of CHE work.

In the next edition of *ConTara*, you will hear more about upcoming transitions, starting with a silent auction next weekend!

Click the link for more info to attend...

Invitation to December 2nd Silent Auction

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