Divine sovereignty and human responsibility in CPM – from Keller

I like the way Tim Keller describes the dynamic between God’s sovereign work and our human methods. In *Center Church,* he compares it to a skillful farmer. Those who say that the fruit that results has nothing to do with the skill of the farmer are wrong; but those who say that it has everything to do with the skill of the farmer are also wrong. The fruit depends upon the skill of the farmer, but it also depends upon things outside the farmer’s control, like the weather, and the condition of the soil. He compares the condition of the soil to the condition of the people you are reaching (to the degree they are more or less “ready” and “ripe” for the gospel), and the weather he compares to the sovereign work of God. The skill is obviously related to the skill of the evangelists/church-planters.