



Vineyard USA Church Planting

12 Characteristics of Church Planters

1. Exercises a Sense of Call: Clear sense of calling and confirmation from overseers
 - a. Your leading/others confirmation
 - b. Your direction: city, location and/or type of target group
 - c. Why Vineyard?
 - d. Past history of initiative
 - e. Emotional response to risk (i.e. finances, family, emotional stress, etc.)
2. Possessing a Faith Driven Vision: Has a vision and clear philosophy of ministry
 - a. The church you envision
 - b. History of organizing a team
 - c. Ability to excite and organize others
 - d. "Why plant a church?"
 - e. Overcoming challenges through prayer, fasting, Bible study
3. Disciple Making Skills: Creates opportunities to develop leaders and give ministry away
 - a. Characteristics of a disciple
 - b. Small group leadership
 - c. Help others find and use gifts
 - d. Correct and confront others
 - e. Become a leader of leaders
4. People Gathering Skills" The ability to gather people and call them into action
 - a. Gathering to groups or projects
 - b. Plants to gather fro church plant
 - c. Assimilation plans
 - d. Knowing yours and your spouses temperament (extravert/introvert)
 - e. Ability to share transparently and help others do the same
5. Healthy Communication Skills: Applies scripture in a genuine and effective manner
 - a. Good Bible knowledge and teaching experience
 - b. Clear understanding of preaching style (that fits you)
 - c. Ability to hear God's leading
 - d. Ability to talk about thoughts and feelings
 - e. Articulated detailed vision for weekend gatherings



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6. Creative Evangelistic Skills: Showing significant evidence of gathering the unchurched
 - a. Recently led someone to Christ
 - b. Experience training others in evangelism
 - c. Strategies to reach target group
 - d. Ability to spend time with non-Christians
 - e. Eagerness and plan to grow in evangelism
7. Intentional Planning Skills: Demonstrating the self-confidence to be a lead pastor
 - a. Time management
 - b. Understanding of how to make decisions in a church plant
 - c. Clear understanding of complementary gifts needed on your team
 - d. Top priorities for the first two years
 - e. Ability to seek God or ask others for answers
8. Financial Management Skills: Debt free and self-disciplined use of money
 - a. Ability to budget
 - b. Financial trust in God
 - c. Freedom from personal debt
 - d. Faithful and consistent in tithing
 - e. Comfortable in teaching Biblical principles of finances
9. Vineyard Values and Methods: Understanding and familiarity with our values and methods
 - a. Exposure to Vineyard values, styles and methods
 - b. Kingdom theology
 - c. Affirmation of Vineyard's theological and philosophical statements
 - d. Experience with Vineyard and fits you well
 - e. Experience in ministry of the Holy Spirit and ability to train others in it
10. Solid Marriage and Family or Healthy Singleness: Family involvement and agreement in ministry roles
Married
 - a. Understanding the complementary and contrasting nature of your gifts
 - b. Ability to make personal friends (individually and together)
 - c. Spousal agreement and OK for children
 - d. Ability to pray together
 - e. Ability to resolve conflicts



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Single

- a. Good friendships and emotional support
 - b. Healthy boundaries with others
 - c. Family issues addresses
 - d. Comfortable as a single church planter
 - e. An idea of how dating may look in the future (if hoping to marry)
11. Emotional Maturity: Adjusts to changes, challenges and correction
- a. Ability to handle challenges to your integrity
 - b. Ability to deal with difficult people
 - c. Ability to receive correction and supervision
 - d. Ability to handle crisis well
 - e. Learned to overcome emotional pain or challenges
12. Vital Spiritual Life: Has a personal lifestyle of worship and intimacy with God
- a. Vibrant relationship with God
 - b. Perseveres through emotionally, physically and spiritually difficult seasons
 - c. No hidden area of sin or character issue
 - d. Understanding and personal history of spiritual disciplines
 - e. Ability to balance ministry and personal growth