

Becoming “Glocal” Church Planters: Getting Involved w/A29 International



Mission

We exist to join the kingdom mission of God, by establishing mentoring relationships with strategic church planters throughout the world in order to transform cities on every continent and influence the world through the planting of gospel-centered churches, with a healthy Christology, Missiology and Ecclesiology.

Scripture is clear (*Psalm 67, Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8, etc.*) that the glory of the Lord is not mono-cultural, and it is the task of the church, joining with the Spirit of God, to take the whole gospel into the whole world for the ultimate glory and praise of our Lord Jesus. Our desire is to plant more churches with a “Glocal” perspective.

ACTS 29
INTERNATIONAL

Glocalization at its heart is an engaging of the gospel with the world for the purpose of displaying God’s kingdom before the nations. Author of *“Glocalization: How Followers of Jesus Engage a Flat Earth,”* Bob Roberts defines it as, **“The seamless integration between the local and the global.”** Being glocal demands a missionary engagement with the local community so that the church can provide a stunted yet visual demonstration of the kingdom of God (The Gospel Jesus Preached; *Matthew 3:1-13; 6:10; 24:14; 25:34; Mark 1:14-15; John 18:36-37; Acts 1:3, 8*) without excluding it’s role to the nations.

Goal

We realize that a major shift is underway in North America and in the rest of the world, and that theological leading is shifting both east and south. Acts 29 International seeks to be on the front end of this movement of God. We believe that in order to be participants in Gods’ global plan for his church, we must win on a number of fronts by:

- Planting churches through recruiting, assessing, training, and coaching.
- Plant domestic churches that see the international mission opportunities in their own communities.
- Surface international, indigenous movement leaders.
- Gathering churches with like-minded vision to partner and effectively raise up missional churches.
- Working with existing organizations to bring renewal to denominations and others who are trying to retool for this new glocal context.
- Resourcing those who share our burden with tools to make them more effective for the Kingdom.
- Establish relationships with key leaders throughout our target countries, plant missional churches, train church leaders, build mentoring relationships with the church leaders, and promote equitable means of sustenance for the poor in their churches.
- Help identify and connect funding to church plants.
- Develop micro business (In the poorest countries) and begin to develop ways to assuage the suffering and oppression of the poorest of poor.

We pray that as Christ births this movement, thousands of new churches will be born, older churches will find their first love, and across the globe we will be witnessing participants in a great move of God in our lifetime.

The Scope

Although there are certainly opportunities everywhere for church planting, Acts 29i would direct its resources toward **first**, the most populated and unreached areas of the “10/40” window, and Latin America (Most of this area also houses most of the world’s poorest). **Second**, Acts 29i needs to target “World Cities” (Prague, London, Beijing, Johannesburg, Zurich, Tokyo, etc.) that are spheres of influence in the world. **Lastly**, we would align ourselves with strategic partnerships to plant many churches, and and/or to advance country development. Our established relationships already include the following countries:

- India
- Thailand
- Nepal
- Ecuador
- Brazil

- Uganda
- South Africa
- Singapore
- DR Congo
- Zambia
- England
- Romania
- Australia
- New Zealand
- Singapore
- Myanmar

The Need

- Training
- Coaching (Men need coaching in forming networks, ongoing theological training, fund-raising, metc.).
- Funding (Training, Aid and Church Plants)
- Relief of Oppression/Poverty

Benefits of Being a “Glocal” Church

- Help expand the gospel to the whole world.
- Help resource starving ministries with solid theology and biblically based structures.
- Help build a missional mindset outside of our own context, avoiding an “ingrown,” mono-cultural view of the world and the gospel (God’s mission in the world).
- Help create “Partners” in the gospel and mission of our Lord Jesus Christ (*Philippians 1:5*).
- Help instill vision and missional theology in our people.
- Be part of a relief solution for some of the poorest countries in the world.
- Magnify the view of the glory of the Lord in the world, avoiding a “Personal Kingdom” mentality.

Plan

- Visit targeted countries/areas to surface key leaders and planters, have them assessed by A29 affiliates, and use them to establish “Missional Outposts” to build the church planting ministry in that area.
- Encourage Acts 29 churches to begin to identify and partner with established “outposts” or other ministries that they can train, resource and coach.
- Create vision trips for Acts 29 pastors and people to go on (Each trip would include teaching curriculum developed in Gospel and Culture, Missional living, Worldview, etc.).
- Teach a segment on global mission and social justice at Bootcamps and/or Acts 29 conferences. (Our goal is to create a full DVD training on Gospel and Culture, Worldview, Apologetics, Social Justice and the Gospel, etc.)
- Begin to develop strategies to help churches in 3rd world countries to create micro-businesses and independent financial structures

Church Planting Foundations (CPF) Distinctives

Our CPF’s are the front door of involvement for the international pastors. This is where we get to meet them, see them in their context, and express the philosophy distinctive to Acts 29. We will focus on trans-cultural, biblical truths that allow the churches to create their own expressions of the faith and ecclesiology. We will concentrate on theology, the gospel, contextualization, leadership structures, theology of mission, etc. We must first know who Christ is, what he did, and how we are sent, before we can ask what our churches should look like. We have developed a CPF Manual that will help guide anyone in the A29i distinctives and enable them to run an A29i CPF on their own. Our desire is that more A29 men would do that in order to expand their own worldview and then help coach and resource the world for the sake of healthy church planting.

Christology → Missiology → Ecclesiology

Christology

- What is the gospel? (Proclamation and Presence)
- Christ centered preaching (Christ vs. Moralism)
- Kingdom Centered
- Doctrine – Affections – Purity
- Historical Proclamation – Identity in Christ – Kingdom Values

Missiology

- What is culture?
- Exegeting the Culture
- Acts 17 and Contextualization
- 1 Corinthians 9 and engaging the culture “All things to all men”
- 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 (Ambassadors, not Kings)
- Covenant Communities formed by the Holy Spirit
- Spiritual gifts and usage

Ecclesiology

- What is the Church?
- Exegeting the Church
- How do we now live as a result of being sent by Christ?
- What is our values/mission?
- What should our churches look like?
- Kingdom Values and Leadership Qualifications
- The church as family
- Discipleship/Counseling Communities

How Can An Acts 29 USA Church be Involved?

- Adopt a country
- Accompany us and help on a CPF
- Begin mentoring/coaching one of our international pastors
- Help fund further trips and training with A29i
- Help fund church plants directly with the pastor you are working with
- Mobilize your people to help with country development through the creation of micro-business, vocational training, medical relief, etc.