

The 20/2020 Project



I. Introduction – Welcome to a Missionary’s Mini-Mission’s Conference

- A. Missionaries need fellowship meetings, we need preaching, encouragement, and times of refreshing!
- B. But there are times when we need to see how we can together help get more churches started.
- C. We HAVE to overcome the enemies we are facing as we try and fulfil God’s call
- D. And we need to remind ourselves to stay true to the Biblical methods that God has called us to stay true to!
- E. This is a First Century approach to Church Planting in the Twenty First century!

II. Purpose and Mission Statement - What is the purpose of this meeting?

- A. To better enable Bible believing Missionaries to start and *help start* more Bible believing Baptist churches in Europe!
 1. We Should All Want To Help Start More Churches
 2. This conference is a great way to get together for fellowship and encouragement as preachers and Gospel ministers, but its main focus is the equipping of men and their ministries to START new churches all over Europe! Missionary families come to Europe, and leave far too quickly, and way too often. Let’s work together to enable missionaries to STAY in Europe and succeed in Europe! Let’s dedicate ourselves to doing whatever it takes to encourage God’s men and their families to accomplish the burden of evangelizing Europe once again with the Gospel!
- B. We Want to Encourage and Help Build-Up Existing Churches
 1. We want to encourage ministries, by encouraging churches IN EUROPE going to visit other churches, on Mission Trips, and help them with Bible Clubs, Soul-Winning, and just anything else that might be needed! We ALL could use some encouragement from one another!
- C. To provide missionaries and church planters an opportunity to pool together their experiences and resources.
- D. To keep our burden for Europe fresh and heavy!
- E. To help us all bear much fruit that will remain!

III. Why More Churches?

- A. God is still calling men to preach and start churches – even in post-Christian Europe! It may not seem like it, but He never stops calling men to GO!
 1. God’s call has always been for men to GO, preach, baptize, disciple and assemble believers in every town and community into local, Bible believing churches

2. God hasn't changed His focus to using political means, or even the internet, to win this world
3. But through the foolishness of preachers, who have been sent out by churches to START churches! "How shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?" (Romans 10:14,15)

- B. The wrath of God is still coming!
- C. The world is getting more and more perilous just as the Bible said it would
- D. The Fastest growing "religions" in Europe are Islam and atheism
- E. Churches are closing down fast - it is the opposite of what it was like in the First Century
- F. Fewer and fewer missionaries are staying on their fields

IV. So, Where are WE in Church Planting?

- A. Many of us here have started our own churches - great! But how about *another one*? And then another one? Can we not better help those who are starting churches?
- B. We ALL know how to start a church don't we? Rent a building; Buy some chairs; Put up a big sign; set out some coffee and tea; prepare a great sermon; and they will come, right? No.

V. This is a call to fellow Bible believing Baptist missionaries to:

- A. Examine our goals, methods, and pride
 1. God is quite able to build His church, but we ought to be labouring together with Him, not on our own!
 2. We know we are not the only kind of churches winning souls - no delusion there!
 3. We are a small remnant of Bible believers - the question is, do we have to stay small???
- B. Keep our focus on the bigger task of starting more than just our one church in our lifetime
- C. Make sure that we are actually effective as Missionaries - winning souls, discipling them, and equipping them to do the work of the ministry
- D. Protect each other and link up our families together so that we don't self-destruct
- E. We need to avail of each other's talents and abilities better
 1. Soul-winning training
 2. Tract writing
 3. Bible Institutes
 4. Discipleship training
 5. Revival Preaching
 6. Missions Conferences
- F. Coordinate better the efforts of others starting churches in Europe (not just Ireland)
 1. American Bible Colleges cannot prepare men for the Europe of today
 2. Missionaries already IN Europe are the best source of preparation for new missionaries coming
- G. Develop *our men* to go and start a church, and even take the pastorate of churches
- H. Have a discussion meeting - brain-storming
- I. Pray for Europe as a whole

So, What Can We Bible Believing Baptists Do to Start More Churches?

The 20 in 2020 Project

This is an introduction to the 20 by 2020 Project with the specific goal that we as church planting missionaries and national pastors in Europe each start or help start 20 new churches in Europe by the year 2020. That means we have set a goal to invest our efforts in a special, coordinated way so that in 7 years, each church will have helped start or establish 20 new churches throughout Europe.

So, what can we do? What MUST we do so that more of Europe is Biblically evangelized?



J. Amongst Ourselves as Pastors/Missionaries

1. Encourage Fellowship amongst ourselves a whole lot more!
2. Crucify our pride!
3. Keep a personal burden for souls!
4. Let's focus our planning and efforts on the big picture of starting many churches, not just starting our one church.
5. Study more about world missions, especially in the European context. Most of us only think we know what we are doing, but should continuously challenge our thinking and passion for reaching European souls!
6. Allow ourselves to fail trying! We may not reach any targets set by these meetings, but we will determine to only fail after we have tried!
7. Be willing to go at our own expense to help train men in other countries for short periods of time in Bible preaching and doctrine.

B. In Each of Our Churches

1. Focus on Men's Spiritual Leadership Needs
 - a. To have a strong walk with God
 - b. Being seriously Discipled
 - c. Holiness and godliness amongst our men especially
2. Prepare men to be called.
 - a. Many men are called by accident, instead of by preparation. Not just by Bible Institute classes, but by a close relationships, and by transparent life example!
 - b. Enable the men to have opportunities to preach and be a greater part of the leadership in our churches
3. Keeping all forms of evangelism (and especially door-to-door soul-winning) a priority. NEVER LOSE YOUR FIRE FOR SOULS! Never stop being fools in soul-winning! Street preaching, handing out tracts just anywhere and everywhere, etc
4. Make European Church Planting a big part of every church's mission's programme.
 - a. It is something that needs to be beyond what most churches currently are doing for missions.
 - b. Encourage the church to see Europe from a Biblical view, so that they will not be lulled into sense that everything is ok "out there"
 - c. Challenge the people in our church to see the Biblical view of missions is more than giving money to OTHER missionaries, but to the preparing of men from our own churches to GO, and then support THEM as they go!

5. A strong emphasis that we (the local church) are responsible to start new churches. It is not just the responsibility of the pastor but the whole church.
6. Exposing our church folks to the fact that half of the Book of Acts was about starting churches in Europe!
7. Purchase and sell books on Missions and Missionaries, especially even European church planting missionaries
 - a. Operation World
 - b. Various missionary biographies that every Christian should know about

C. Towards Other Churches in Europe

1. Keep your church aware of the darkness and spiritual needs of Europe. They kind of already are, but maybe don't make it a matter of prayer for labourers to go and change things around!
2. Have a Church Planting Emphasis Meeting in your church, or even Church Planting Emphasis Month
 - a. Find out about other missionaries, and national pastors in Europe
 - b. Pray for European Missionaries - Missionaries you may never meet – highlight their needs to your people
 - c. Invite people FROM Europe to come and preach our Mission's Conferences with an emphasis ON European needs
 - d. The people must see that the training and sending of missionaries is their churches' responsibility.
 - e. Constantly remind people that the Great Commission is a command to all the church
3. Adopt a European Church
 - a. Become aware of new missionaries coming into Europe, and pray for them, and find a way to help them efficiently and effectively start their church.
 - b. Look for new churches that need encouragement but are off the beaten track, or are not well known.
 - c. Keep close contact with new missionary families who are coming into Europe – not just from your school or mission board
 - d. Especially churches with a national pastor
 - e. Take care of that pastor and his family
 - f. Set aside money to send to them so they can do special advertising and tract printing – even if your church does not already support them financially
4. Go and help a Church
 - a. Go Soul-winning around Ireland regularly helping other smaller, struggling churches to reach more areas with the Gospel. Take a group of people from your church to another church in Ireland, and help them go soul-winning for a whole day.
 - b. Help out with week-long Bible Clubs in a struggling church. It would mean some volunteers going and staying for the week, but helping do what the new church just can't yet do.
 - c. Take your people on many Mission Trips into Europe over the next few years to new church plants, not just the churches that you currently support, but ones that need some encouragement and stability.

- d. Give more opportunities to preach to our Irish men both in our own churches, and in other churches – revivals, etc. I am planning on holding a week-long tent meeting in 2013 and will need IRISH men to preach it with us!
 5. Allow for a lot of over-lapping efforts between churches: some new churches will get a lot of attention from many other churches wanting to help them
 6. Let's collate a booklet of all the salvation testimonies, calls to the ministry of as many Missionaries and Pastors in Europe as possible, and a report on where they are serving right now – starting with Ireland, and then expand it to include all of the missionaries in Europe!
- D. **Towards Churches in America** – Things we can do to get churches *in America* more burdened for new churches HERE in Europe
1. Constantly express our burden for Europe to them.
 - a. Tell them just how big and lost this continent is
 - b. Don't just write about your own country, but about the darkness of Europe
 2. Start talking about what WE are doing in Europe FOR the reaching of Europe! Get them jealous
 3. Tell them you are praying the Macedonian Call for men to come and co-labour here as well!

Conclusion