

# **AFRICA REGIONAL PRIORITIES**

## **PART 1 - INTRODUCTION**

### **PREFACE:**

Four years ago, in 2006, Dr. Eugenio Duarte initiated a process that got Africa talking about her future. These dialogues led us to review the ministry of the Church of the Nazarene in Africa, to seek God's will for the Church afresh, and to develop a new mission and vision statement.

The Africa Regional Priorities – “Multiplying Disciples Multiplying Churches” document is the end product of four years of several formal and informal consultation meetings, e.g. field leadership and holiness meetings, education meetings, Nazarene Compassionate Ministry conferences, Nazarene Education and Discipleship summits, regional leadership conference, and formal and informal conversations with clergy and laity.

The Africa Regional Priorities document attempts to capture the heart of the Church of the Nazarene in Africa, refocusing our roles and ministries. It is hoped that it will rekindle the passion of the Church to make Christlike disciples in Africa with a deep commitment to multiply disciples and multiply churches.

We acknowledge and rejoice in the fact that Africa is a very diverse continent. It is for this reason we do not present this document as a manual to do the ministry, but rather as a foundation on which each field or district can build according to the needs and differences of their context. We recognize that this is an ongoing process and we are looking forward to your feedback and contributions from the fields as we all work to implement these plans in our churches and in our homes.

We pray that we will all "strive to excel in gifts that build up the Church." (1 Corinthians 14:12)

### **ASSUMPTIONS:**

- 1) All strategic and tactical plans developed to accomplish our core objectives will flow naturally out of the personal and corporate Wesleyan holiness revival anticipated in our vision statement. For this reason continuous revival and spiritual renewal is not just one of multiple objectives but the starting point of all that we do to accomplish our mission and vision.
- 2) Children and youth will be prioritized at all levels of the Africa Region Strategy.
- 3) All fields, services, and ministries will develop a short and long term tactical plan appropriate to their assignments that will facilitate the accomplishment of the Africa Regional Priorities.

## **VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS:**

**Vision:** To realize personal and corporate Wesleyan holiness revival resulting in the growth and multiplication of churches where disciples are making disciples in Africa and throughout the world.

**Mission:** To make Christlike disciples in Africa.

## **PART 2 - FOUNDATIONAL OBJECTIVE**

### **HOLINESS REVIVALISM**

**A spiritual environment on the Africa Region will exist, where God is given freedom to bring ongoing, holiness revival to our churches and spiritual renewal to our leaders and members.**

- 1) **Awareness of Need** – We will rekindle interest in, passion for, and practice of biblical holiness (both heart and life) through living, preaching, and teaching.
  - a) Through the living and the proclamation of biblical Holiness.
    - i. Obedience to everything in the Word of God.
    - ii. Teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness.
  - b) Through every zone and/or district holding a minimum of one self-sustained Holiness Summit annually.
  - c) Through every church holding a revival service annually.
- 2) **Prayer** – We will develop a prayer focus throughout the Region that God will create an environment of Godly sorrow, leading to honest confession and real repentance, resulting in the renewal of His Church throughout the continent of Africa.
  - a) Through the fostering of an extraordinary prayer lifestyle in the leadership and membership of the CON in Africa.
  - b) Through corporate prayer with emphasis on family prayer, small group prayer, and congregational prayer.
  - c) Through a life of spiritual discipline with emphasis on prayer and fasting.
- 3) **Confession and Repentance** – We will provide a call to action by giving every leader and member the opportunity and challenge to respond to God’s conviction of sin.
  - a) Through the proclamation of biblical Holiness with the purpose of providing an opportunity and calling to confess and repent.
  - b) Through a return to the centrality of the altar.
- 4) **Covenantal Relationship** – We will challenge our leaders and members to commit themselves to spiritual renewal through an extended focus on the need for and challenge to a covenant relationship with God and His Church.

- 5) **Accountability** – We will hold every leader and member accountable for their covenant with God within their family, their church and other personal discipleship relationships.
  - a) Through the establishment of Wesleyan accountability groups.
  - b) Through mutual accountability within both the church and family structure.
  - c) Through the accountability structure as outlined in the Manual of the Church of the Nazarene.
  
- 6) **Organizational Activities** – We will complete all action required by organizational entities.
  - a) Through systems of accountability.
  - b) Through the revision of education and training strategies to prioritize the doctrine and practice of biblical heart and life holiness.
  - c) Through the commission of NED to resource all membership with holiness materials.

### **PART 3 - CORE OBJECTIVES**

#### **EVANGELISM**

**Nazarene members in Africa will be held accountable to have learned the concepts and developed the lifestyle of personal evangelism.**

**Nazarene churches will have planted and nurtured a minimum of one new church with a goal of 25% of our churches involved in church multiplication movements that produce a multitude of 4th generation churches.**

- 1) **Equipping** – We will develop and implement reproducible systems for training and mentoring leaders and members on personal evangelism and church multiplication principles.
  - a) Through the teaching and implementation of Africa Region Strategic Principles, especially those directly related to our evangelism objective:
    - i. Embedding into every believer the missional biblical core value in doctrine and in practice.
    - ii. Development of disciples with an extraordinary prayer life, who give the mission of Christ priority over their personal rights, comforts, and privileges.
    - iii. Development of a living, healthy church that operates in a manner that is appropriate for the culture or context in which it exists, avoiding an inward focus in its ministry activities, moving outward to its community of neighbors and friends.
    - iv. Expect and affirm a movement of God with systems of multiplication for expanding and equipping the Church, such as experienced by the New Testament Church in the Book of Acts.
  - b) Through the teaching and living of a compassionate lifestyle.

- i. Development of a church that is obedient to God’s call to minister God’s love to the whole person.
    - ii. “It is our mission to love and value people as they are loved and valued by God, who seeks to bring peace, justice and salvation from sin through Christ. It is our mission to have compassion upon and to care for those in need. It is our mission to oppose social systems and policies that devalue or disempower people.” (BGS, Core Values)
  - c) Through teaching the principles of personal and public evangelism, church multiplication, and the movement of new believers into a discipleship relationship.
- 2) **Mobilizing** – We will accomplish rapid reproduction of disciples and local churches through personal evangelism, saturation evangelism, and the intentional multiplication of churches that multiply churches using reproducible methodologies.
- a) Through Pre-Evangelism we will saturate our communities with the Gospel message through all forms of public evangelism (i.e. through the use of Gospel tracts, the Jesus film, public preaching events, and other mass evangelism methodologies) to develop an awareness of God and the need for Him.
  - b) Through Personal Evangelism.
    - i. Living a Christlike lifestyle, being salt to the world.
      - 1. Leaders and members to nurture the relationships of their everyday friends and acquaintances.
      - 2. Demonstrate compassionate attitude and lifestyle as lived by Christ and the early Christian Church.
      - 3. Pray with those who are lost and hurting, as we meet the need.
      - 4. Lifestyle of prayer interceding for the lost with a passion to move others toward Christ.
    - ii. Sharing the Good News, being light to the world.
    - iii. Calling the lost to commit to Christ.
    - iv. Introducing the newly converted to discipleship fundamentals.
  - c) Through Church Multiplication we will expect, affirm, and facilitate a movement of God with systems of multiplication for expanding and equipping the Church, such as experienced by the New Testament Church in the Book of Acts.
    - i. Through the development of Bible studies and fellowships in the homes and marketplace venues of leaders and members, where they have led their friends and acquaintances to a decision to become a disciple of Christ.
    - ii. Through the maturation of Bible studies and fellowships into fully functioning local churches where worship of Christ and involvement in His Mission is taking place.
    - iii. Through an expectation and commitment for every church to plant and mature a church that will be a part of this multiplication system.
  - d) Through Intentionality to Reach All we will evangelize all people with special attention given to unreached and Gospel-resistant people groups, assuring that all have maximum opportunity to respond to the call of full salvation.

- 3) **Incorporating** – We will facilitate the immediate movement of a newly converted believer into a discipleship relationship and into a community of believers, who are worshipping Christ and participating in His mission.
- 4) **Organizational Activities** – We will complete all action required by organizational entities.
  - a) Through systems of accountability
    - i. Develop a culture of accountability within all levels of leadership to actively participate in personal and corporate evangelism.
    - ii. Develop appropriate accountability tools for all levels of leadership for reporting on a regular basis on both personal and corporate evangelism activities.
      1. Mutual accountability between the RMT members and the RD.
      2. DSs reporting to Field Strategy Coordinators (FSCs) with mutual accountability.
      3. Pastors reporting to DSs with mutual accountability.
  - b) Through the commission of NED to resource all membership with evangelism materials.

## **DISCIPLESHIP**

**The identity of the Church of the Nazarene in Africa will be that every believer be a disciple and a disciple-maker, teaching and obeying everything in God’s word.**

- 1) **Equipping** – We will develop and implement reproducible systems for training and mentoring leaders and members in how to make a disciple.
  - a) Through the teaching and implementation of Africa Region Strategic Principles.
  - b) Through teaching the basic principles involved in making a disciple.
- 2) **Initial Discipleship** – We will urgently integrate new believers into the Christian faith and local church fellowship.
  - a) Through the natural relationship that exists between the new convert and the spiritual parent we will intentionally move the new convert closer to Christlikeness.
  - b) Through the intentional integration of the new convert, coming out of a mass evangelism effort, into an adoptive parent relationship which intentionally moves the new convert closer to Christlikeness.
  - c) Through church fellowship.
    - i. Achieve rapid incorporation of new believers.
    - ii. Public declaration of faith including water baptism and personal witness to friends.
    - iii. Personal and Corporate study and application of the Word of God.
    - iv. Corporate worship of Christ.
  - d) Through the integration of the new believer into an established Wesleyan accountability group within the community of believers.

- e) Through the integration of faith and family through the study and application of the Word of God.
  - i. Through the encouragement of all believers to incorporate personal and family devotions into their lifestyle and practice.
  - ii. Through the promotion of the vision that every Nazarene home is a nursery for holiness champions.

3) **Spiritual Formation** – We will mature the believer towards Christlikeness.

- a) Through the initiation of long-term relationships where everyone is being disciplined and is discipling another.
- b) Through the teaching and implementation of Africa Region Strategic Principles, especially those directly related to our discipleship objective:
  - i. Embedding into every believer the Christian, holiness, and missional biblical core values in doctrine and in practice.
  - ii. Development of disciples with an extraordinary prayer life, who give the mission of Christ priority over their personal rights, comforts, and privileges.
  - iii. Training of disciples to obey everything in God’s Word.
  - iv. Teaching disciples to be God-dependent and others-focused.
  - v. Development of disciples in a manner that is appropriate for the culture or context in which it exists.
- c) Through teaching and living out stewardship principles with a holistic understanding that God owns everything and requires an accounting of what has been given.
- d) Through the teaching and living of a compassionate lifestyle.
  - i. Development of a disciple that is obedient to God’s calling to minister God’s love to the whole person.
  - ii. “It is our mission to love and value people as they are loved and valued by God, who seeks to bring peace, justice and salvation from sin through Christ. It is our mission to have compassion upon them and to care for those in need. It is our mission to oppose social systems and policies that devalue or disempower people.” (BGS, Core Values)
  - iii. Leaders and members will move corporately into their community, identifying the needs and responding in a self-sustained effort to be Christ to the community in which they live. When members have demonstrated commitment toward a need, and have discovered inability to meet the need with available resources, then compassionate projects with outside funds may be considered.
- e) Through the integration of faith and family through the study and application of the Word of God.
  - i. Encouragement of all believers to incorporate personal and family devotions into their lifestyle and practice.
  - ii. Promotion of the vision that every Nazarene home is a nursery for holiness champions.
- f) Through the establishment and participation in Wesleyan accountability groups (of the approximate size of 3-12 members).
- g) Through church fellowship.
  - i. Personal and Corporate study and application of the Word of God.
  - ii. Corporate worship of Christ.

- h) Through dynamic, Christian, compassionate, missional fellowship of local churches within geographical proximity.
- 4) **Disciple Multiplication** – We will intentionally move the lost to saving faith and the new believer towards Christlikeness.
- a) Developing trusting relationships.
  - b) Bringing persons to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.
  - c) Teaching obedience to the Word of God, including discipling others.
- 5) **Organizational Activities** – We will complete all action required by organizational entities.
- a) Through systems of accountability.
    - i. Develop a culture of accountability within all levels of leadership to be a disciple and disciple-maker.
    - ii. Develop appropriate accountability tools for all levels of leadership for reporting on a regular basis on both personal and corporate discipleship activities.
      - 1. Mutual accountability between the RMT members and the RD.
      - 2. DSs reporting to FSC with mutual accountability.
      - 3. Pastors reporting to DSs with mutual accountability.
  - b) Through the commission of NED to resource all membership with discipleship materials.
  - c) Through the commissioning of African theologians and Bible scholars to research and educate the membership on issues of high Africa priority, i.e., reconciliation, corruption, polygamy, tribalism, and the like.

## **EDUCATION**

**We will have Holiness educational systems in place that facilitate the training and qualification of Nazarene leaders in all fields of service of which a minimum of 15,000 are actively enrolled in ministerial training.**

- 1) **Clergy Development** – We will make quality Christian holiness clergy education and development accessible to those newly called to ministry and to existing ministers to prepare them for a lifetime of effective ministry.
- a) Through the teaching and implementation of Africa Region Strategic Principles throughout all levels of the Africa Region educational systems, especially emphasizing the following:
    - i. Embedding into every believer the Christian, holiness, and missional biblical core values in doctrine and in practice.
    - ii. Developing disciples with an extraordinary prayer life, who give the mission of Christ priority over their personal rights, comforts, and privileges.
  - b) Through ministerial preparation of our laity with an intentional effort in developing women clergy.
  - c) Through life long learning.

- 2) **Leadership Development** – We will broaden the base of leadership through continued preparation, involvement, and empowerment of an increasing number of servant leaders.
- a) Through the teaching and implementation of Africa Region Strategic Principles throughout all levels of the Africa Region educational systems, especially emphasizing the following:
    - i. Embedding into every believer the Christian, holiness, and missional biblical core values in doctrine and in practice.
    - ii. Developing disciples with an extraordinary prayer life, who give the mission of Christ priority over their personal rights, comforts, and privileges.
  - b) Through the discipleship of believers.
  - c) Through providing preparation for and in ministry (lay and clergy) through formal and informal educational opportunities at all stages of development and maturity.
  - d) Through the mentoring of lay leaders.
    - i. Identify, develop, and mentor potential leaders through their testimony of a call to ministry and the gifting that they demonstrate through service in the local church.
    - ii. Provide internship opportunities.
  - e) Through specialized leadership training for organizational needs, such as:
    - i. Regional Mission Team Members
    - ii. District Superintendents
    - iii. Theologians
- 3) **Professional/Vocational Development** – We will provide quality and accessible Christ-centered education that would equip and empower the children of God to become that which He has called them to be.
- a) Through the introduction of the Christian, holiness, and missional biblical core values of the Church of the Nazarene.
  - b) Through intentional effort in developing disciples with an extraordinary prayer life, who give the mission of Christ priority over their personal rights, comforts, and privilege.
  - c) Through intentional emphasis on stewardship as a lifestyle that teaches that what you have and receive is the result of God’s confidence in you to use your earthly wealth for the expansion of His Kingdom.
- 4) **Organizational Activities** – We will complete all action required by organizational entities.
- a) Through systems of accountability that develop the appropriate accountability tools for all levels of leadership for reporting on a regular basis on all educational activities.
  - b) Through the review and revision of ANESA Comprehensive Plan to accomplish the educational core objective established in the Africa Region Strategy 2010.
  - c) Through the commissioning of African theologians and Bible scholars to research and educate clergy and leadership on issues of high Africa priority, i.e., reconciliation, corruption, polygamy, tribalism, and the like.



**Strategic Principles of the Africa Region**

- 1) Embed into every believer the Christian, holiness, and missional biblical core values in doctrine and in practice.
- 2) Develop disciples with an extraordinary prayer life, who give the mission of Christ priority over their personal rights, comforts, and privileges.
- 3) Train every believer to be a disciple maker, who obeys everything in God's Word, being God-dependent and others-focused.
- 4) Develop a living, contextualized church that moves to the people, utilizing a synchronous approach to mission.
- 5) Accomplish rapid reproduction of disciples and local churches through saturation evangelism and the intentional multiplication of churches that multiply churches using reproducible methodologies.
- 6) Achieve rapid incorporation of new believers through dynamic, Christian, compassionate, missional fellowship, training them to be mission-focused and strategy-centered in their ministry practices.
- 7) Expect and affirm a movement of God with systems of multiplication for expanding and equipping the Church, such as experienced by the New Testament Church in the Book of Acts.
- 8) Maintain a leadership focus, where every leader is mentoring leaders to be equipped and deployed into the mission of the Church.