



# CODE BLUE

TRAINING FOR LOCAL LEADERS

MODULE TWO

## CORPS PLANTING

Session 1- Planting Purpose  
Session 2- Planting Models  
Session 3- Planting Preparation



## PARTICIPANT'S MANUAL

The Salvation Army

Australia Territory



**CORPS PLANTING**  
**SESSION 3: PLANTING PREPARATION**

**AIM:**

This session is designed to help participants understand the need to pursue corps planting in The Salvation Army. It will examine the role of the parent church, how and where to begin a church plant and the implications for corps and individuals.

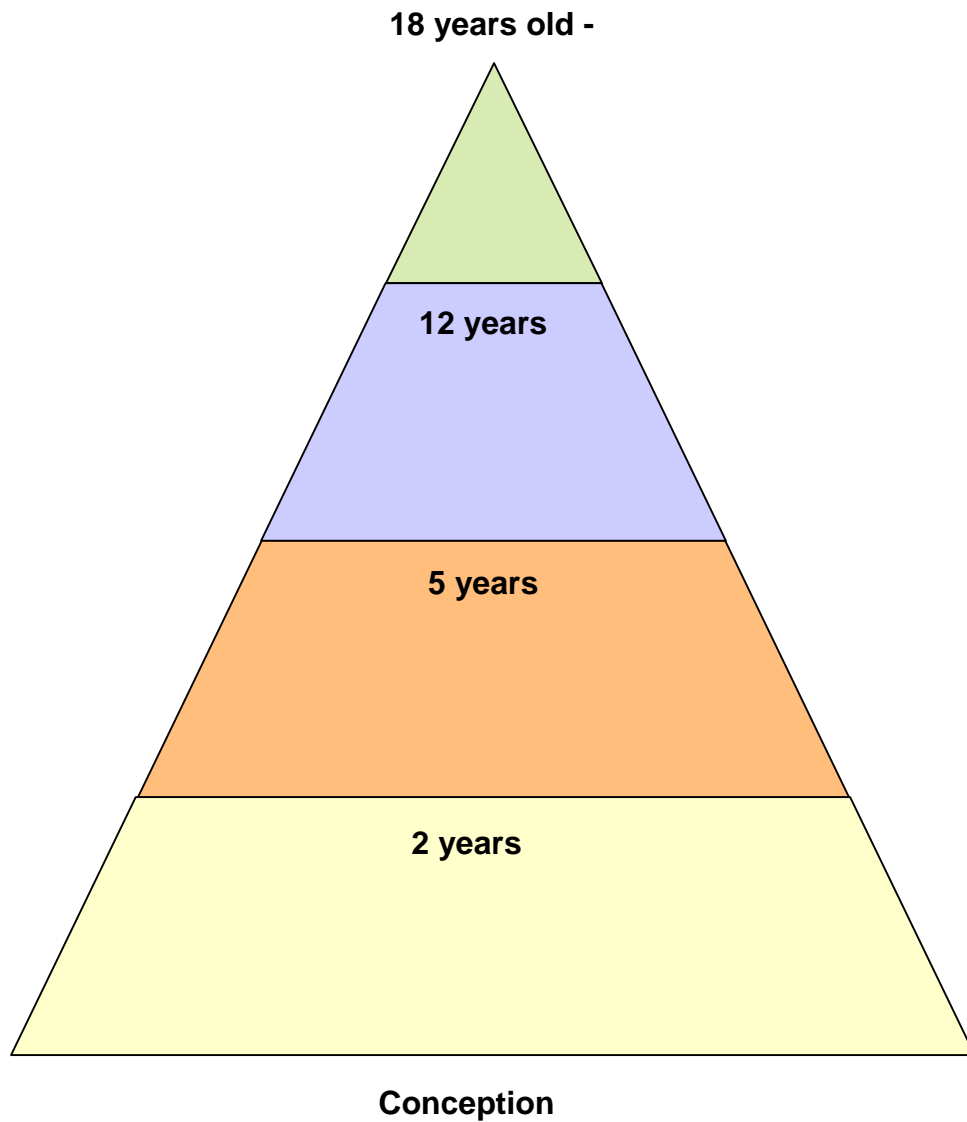
In Session 2, we examined various models of church planting focusing in particular, on the House Church model. We will now look closely at the role of the parent church.



### **WHAT IS A PARENT CHURCH?**

In groups of three, discuss:

What does a parent do? List the things that a parent does for their child at each stage.  
(Write your answers in the wedge)

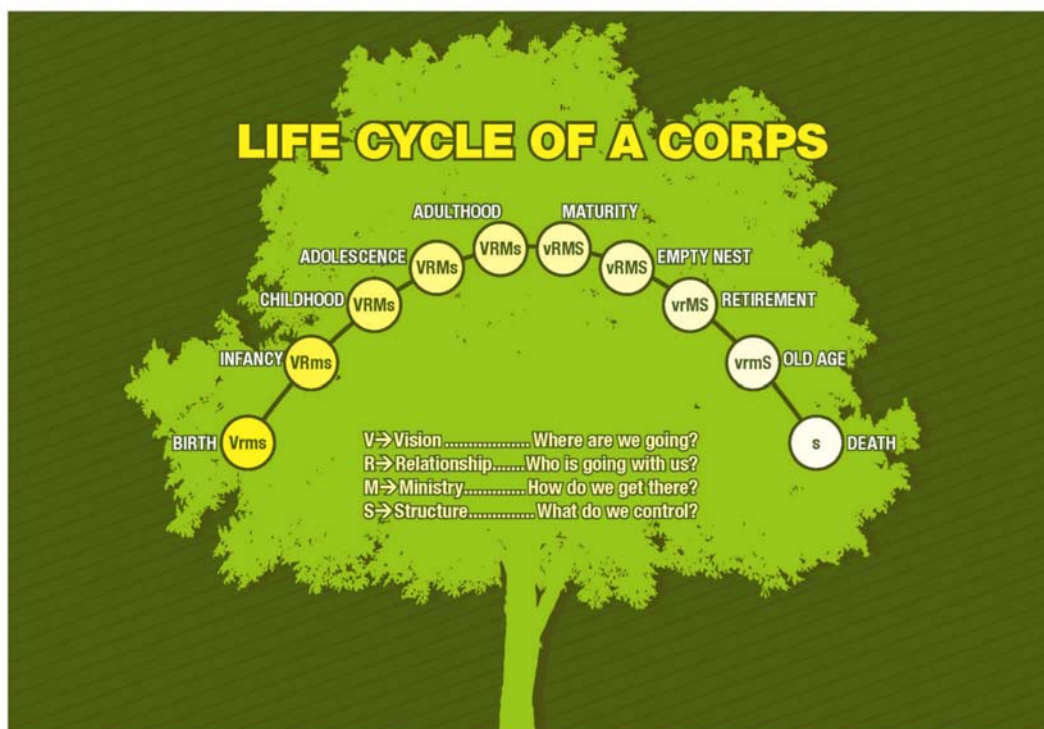


**Consider how the role of the parent changes over time:**

- How do you know when to allow the child to have more personal responsibility?
- How does the relationship change over time?



In order to discover the role of a parent church, we first need to look at what we call the life cycle of a church.



In *Bullard's Life Cycle* adapted by Paul Borden we are able to identify specific characteristics of a church's development evident at each stage. (See diagram opposite.)

**In your groups (of 2-3) discuss:**

1. Why should we start a new life cycle in the church?
2. What are the potential dangers of starting a new life cycle:
  - Too early (at say the child/adolescence stage)?
  - Too late (at the empty nest/retirement stage)?
3. What part of the life cycle is your corps presently at?
  - To answer this, use the Bullard Life Cycle adapted by Paul Borden to identify the key characteristics of your corps.
  - ☒ tick which box you fall into under each category. You may fall into a number of different stages. Wherever the majority of your ticks fall will indicate which stage you are in.
4. What does your corps need to do to maintain vitality (life)?



**BULLARD LIFE CYCLE – Adapted by Paul Borden & Greg Wiens**

Vision	Relationships	Ministry	Structure	Emotion	Behaviours	Issues	Needs
<b>Birth</b> VRms	Dominant	Happens Unintentionally	Only what's necessary	Informal	Passion	- Can founding pastor stay? - Will lay leadership style change?	- Make relationships intentional
<b>Infancy</b> VRms	Dominant	Begin strategic implementation	Only what's necessary	Informal	Passion	- Clear values - Worship style - Lay mobilization	- Quality Ministry
<b>Childhood</b> VRMs	Dominant	Happens though not the focus it was	High energy in implementation	Based on leaders' personalities	Excitement for the long run	- Future Staff - Focus – child under 18 - Facility needs	- Quality & Quantity needs - Establish Structure
<b>Adolescence</b> VRMs	Dominant	Refocus on meeting needs qualitatively & quantitatively	Refinement and further development	Lacks: - Preciseness - Order - Consistency	Excitement for quality & quantity	- Competition for future agenda - VR vs. PM - Leadership development	- Management systems - Leadership development
<b>Adulthood</b> VRMS	Dominant	Produces: - growth - commitment	- High quality & quantity - Community known	- Formal system in place - Functions well	- High morale - Sense of vision/mission	- Few realize at peak - As good as it gets - Change (new vision)	- Change (new vision)
<b>Maturity</b> VRMS	Assumed & Becoming lost	- Less new people - Disciple-making strong	- High quality & quantity - Community known	- In charge - Conserving the great tradition	- Feel good - But congregation passive	- Lack of Focus - Less new people - Congregation aging	- Re-envision - Diminish structure - Re-engineer
<b>Empty Nest</b> vRms	- Lost/missing - Loss affects most systems	Happening but not keeping up	- Begin disintegration - We try harder	- In charge - Focus of the organization	- Denial - Nostalgia - Turning to anger	- System functions - Severe conflict	- Re-envision - Develop new ministries - Diminish structure
<b>Retirement</b> vrms	Lost completely	Long-term members no longer invite people	Try new ones to fill the church	Overly managed	- Despair Disappointment	- Change may cause split - Change to create past - Want church to bury me	- New vision - Diminish mgmt - New relational form - New ministries
<b>Old Age</b> vrms	Gone	Dormant	Failed	Total control	- Fear - Perhaps bitterness	- Focus on member anniversary/funerals - Structure kills any creativity	- Diminish structure - Create new ministries - Re-envision
<b>Death</b> S	Gone	Lost	Failed	Orchestrate an orderly transition	- Numb - No positive emotions	- Congregation at rest - Complete closure - Resurrection in another form - Resource new ministry	- Transition for a new ministry

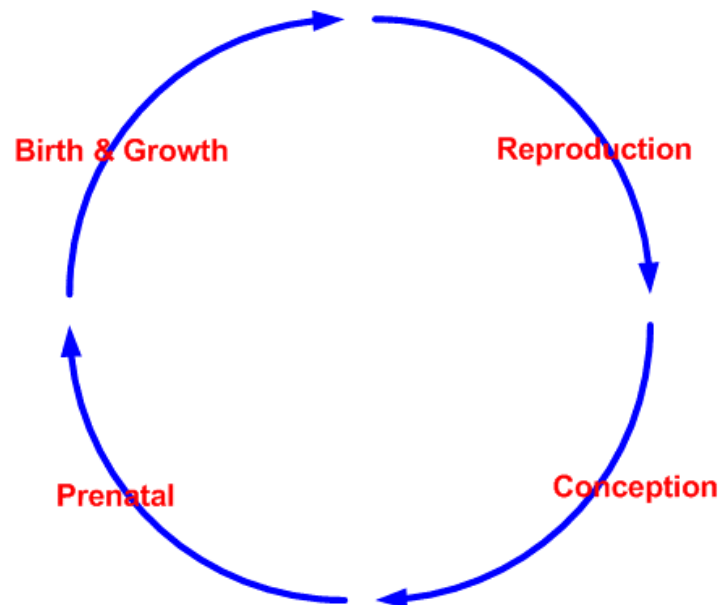




## **ROLE OF THE PARENT CHURCH**

The **LIFE CYCLE** of the parenting phase in the overall life cycle of the church.

Parenting does not start at conception but prior to it at the reproduction stage.  
Preparation is essential prior to conception.



### ***Quick overview:***

- \_\_\_\_\_
- Gain ownership of proposed planting with:
  - opinion leaders
  - congregation
- Mobilise the church planter
- Select appropriate target community
- Determine style of plant
- Prepare for the release of new church

***The role of the parent church in the reproduction phase is to cultivate vision and commitment***



**Reflect/Brainstorm:** (individually write answers to the following questions and then share them in groups of 3-4 people from your corps/area.)

<b>Hypothesis:</b>	You have been asked to initiate a corps plant in your community.
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- **WHO?** - are the opinion leaders/'movers and shakers'/possible church planters in your corps?
- **WHERE?** - potential location/community
- **HOW?** - potential style of new corps/congregation
- **WHAT?** - needs to be done?(refer to Reproduction phase.)

- \_\_\_\_\_

- 70% of fatal mistakes are made before the first public worship service

- Three things to do

- **Planter assessment**

- Objective evaluation
  - Reveals potential ability to plant
  - Reveals strengths and weaknesses to be aware of

- **Planter submission of planting proposal**

- A written response to the question:  
***"What is God saying to you about the shape of this church that is to be planted?"***  
\*Commencement of some strategic planning/thinking  
\*If one or more planters is to be considered, this response gives clarity for the selection of personnel.

- May articulate:

- Core values
- Strategy
- Budget
- Team

- **Prayer Strategy commences**

***The role of the parent church during the conception phase is to initiate planter selection and approval of planting proposal.***



- \_\_\_\_\_  
That which needs to be accomplished before the first public worship service.  
Role of Parent church in this phase is to
- **Guide** – hold planter accountable for evangelism and getting people together; keeping their focus on the main thing.
- **Give** – access to people and resources.

*The role of the parent church in the pre-natal phase is to guide and give.*

- \_\_\_\_\_
- Do not control new church
- The relationship changes between the parent church and the church which has just launched.
- Ensure planter is supported through outside coaching

*The role of the parent church during the birth and growth phase is to get out of the way!*

In summary, the role of the parent church is

**Reproduction phase**

- Cultivate vision and commitment from the congregation

**Conception phase**

- Planter assessment and proposal
- Pray, pray, pray

**Pre-natal phase**

- Accountability process for planter
- Give resources and people

**Birth phase**

- Celebrate
- Get out of the way





## What are the costs of parenting?

- Luke 14:28 "Is there anyone here who, planning to build a new house, doesn't first sit down and figure the cost so you'll know if you can complete it?"*

**Individually** (to members individually)

## SO WHERE DO WE BEGIN?

**PARTICIPANT'S MANUAL**  
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**1. It's about cultivating the values that exist in healthy churches:**

- Compassion for lost
  - i. See the harvest and cultivate compassion
  - ii. Do you see those who are going to a Christless eternity?
  - iii. Is your heart broken by the things that break God's heart?
- Confidence in God's ability
- Great commission orientation
- Developing and resourcing leaders
- A kingdom perspective
- Generosity
- Have a culturally relevant style

In what practical ways can we implement these values into our corps?

**2. Mobilise Intercession teams**

- You can never begin this too early.
- Prayerful listening to God for direction
- Releases spiritual power

**"Prayer is not preparation for the battle. It is the battle"**

When involved in church planting, you are overtly moving into the area of the unchurched – those whom the evil one sees as his territory, therefore, an engagement in a spiritual battle.

What are some ways intercessory prayer teams could be mobilised?

**3. Pray for workers to be raised up**



Matthew 9:37-38 (Leadership is the only limitation in planting churches)

Jesus' heart is broken with compassion for the lost. We ask for workers to the degree that our hearts break over the lost.

**4. Seek vision from God (See Appendix 4)**

**5. Bear fruit**

- Be convinced of the need to be obedient to John 15

The fruit of the apple tree is more than apples. It is more apple trees. A fruitful church is one which doesn't just produce disciples, but produces churches.

- Multiply disciples
- Multiply leaders

**Where to now?**

**ASCERTAIN THE NEED IN SPECIFICS (Appendix 5)**

- Demographic research
  - Number of people in target area
  - Age distribution
  - Ethnicity
  - Socio-economic status
  - Religious affiliation
- Know growth projections for geographic area
- Survey for unchurched population

**SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR ME?**

- Growing the church is Jesus' responsibility – Matthew 16:18

However, he calls us to be partners with him



Our responsibility:

- Obedience
- Prayer (pray as if it all depended on God)
- Work (work as if it all depended on you)
- Casting vision for planting
- Planning and strategising

Planting is hard work and some will misunderstand our motives and criticise us.

It will bring amazing joy when the fruit is harvested and you see people's lives transformed by a living encounter with Christ because you dared to believe and obey and step out in faith and commitment to evangelism by planting a new congregation.

**Personal Accountability: (to be done individually – optional)**

By \_\_\_\_date\_\_\_\_, I will :

**Corps Officers**

- ...'call a leadership meeting to discuss'... or ...'initiate intercessors group'...
- 

**Congregational Members**

- prayer
- 

**To end this session:** share a prayer together or in corps groups.