

Dear Friends,

This month I (Tim) want to share some things that have been very exciting and fun for me recently. Most of you know that we are using a program called the Disciple Making Movement or DMM to reach folks of the "M" faith here. I want to give you some of the background for this movement and tell you some exciting things for me personally that are related to it. The passage below is from an introduction to the Book "Contagious Disciple Making" by David and Paul Watson. It tells how DMM began.

"David Watson tells the story in this book of his call to work in India among the Bhojpuri people. Six men he'd been working with had been martyred and he was kicked out of the country. He begged God to release him from his call. The area that housed 80 million Bhojpuri was known as the "graveyard of missions and missionaries." There were fewer than a thousand believers at that time, and he was now 2,500 miles and an ocean away.

Since God refused to release him, Watson made a covenant with the Almighty, albeit reluctantly: "You have to teach me how to plant churches. I cannot believe that You would call someone to a task without telling him how to do it. Show me in Your Word how You want me to reach these people. If You show me, I will do it."

As he delved into the Scriptures, God began to show Watson new things. Eventually he asked God for 5 men to help develop these ideas in North India. After a secret meeting in India led to 4 men agreeing with his vision, Watson wondered where the 5th man would come from. One day he got a letter that read, "Brother David, you don't know me, but I feel God telling me that I should become your disciple. Tell me what to do and I will do it." To his surprise, his 5th "man" turned out to be a woman! He had his team.

The team worked for two years with no fruit to show. By this time his mission organization was ready to fire him "for not doing his job." He told them to have patience. Then suddenly they saw 8 churches planted in one year. The next year there were 48. The year after, 148, then 327, and then 500! By the fifth year they saw more than 1,000 new churches planted! When his mission organization questioned the numbers, he invited them to come see. On inspection they found they'd underreported! By 2008 a survey showed 80,000 churches planted and 2 million people baptized.

Sometime later a project was started in Africa. It grew from Sierra Leone to 33 African nations. As of 2014 when this book was written, the teams had started 26,911 churches and baptized 933,717 people. If you haven't read Miraculous Movements (Jerry Trousdale) I implore you to pick up a copy and read what God has done and is doing in Africa! The full title says it all: Miraculous Movements: How Hundreds of Thousands of Muslims Are Falling in Love with Jesus. And this is not just being done overseas. At the time of the book, 1,296 Discovery Groups had been started in 14 states of the USA. Latino families in the US are sharing it with family in Central and South America."

That is such an amazing story, isn't it?! Watson is definitely one of my heroes of the faith. He wrote the book with the help of his son, Paul, who grew up amidst all this stuff, and who has spent much of his life working with this concept of ministry."

As we mentioned last month, we have just started to reach into what we call the second generation. I realized that there were lots of instructions and helps on how to start a DMM in the books, but not as much as I would like to know about moving and coaching at the level of the second generation. I asked other people where I might get some info or help on this. I was given the addresses of several people that might have experience, but none of those answered my emails. But I was also given a website called "Contagious Disciple Making." On the site you could request a free half hour conference with their coaches, so I did that. Very quickly I got a response, and a Zoom meeting was set up for me with Paul Watson himself. Needless to say, I was thrilled. I was even more thrilled to find he was able to answer questions that had been giving me problems. He also corrected some of my mistakes.

2ND GENERATION



PAUL



One important thing he told me was that I had made a mistake when I ended the meetings of the group that had finished the initial Discovering God series and were now starting groups of their own. I told him that these guys had lives of their own and had a lot of trouble making time for one meeting a week. Now I would be asking them to conduct their own meetings, meet with me to evaluate those, and also continue to study as a group. I let him know that I didn't think they could handle that. "Well, this is what we are going to do," he said. "One week you meet as the old group, and the next week they will meet in their new groups."



It was a great solution. Some of our groups only meet every other week anyway. I also was feeling very pressured by the idea of trying to meet individually with each guy to evaluate and help him be ready for the coming meeting. This gave us more time to accomplish that. All the guys thought it was a great idea.

Now, after the free session, if you want continued coaching, you have to sign up for two half hour sessions a month at \$120 a month. I thought that was ridiculous and didn't intend to continue, but after the first session, I couldn't sign up fast enough. I still thought I would do just one more month and then quit when I had my questions answered, but those sessions went so well that I feel pretty committed for the foreseeable future. I hope I will get the chance to share more of the things I have already learned in future newsletters, but I want to share just one more thing that he shared with me in our last session.



He had me draw several lines across a page and label them to show how we would be trying to move the ministry forward. One line started with "Fragile". In the middle is said "Resilient". And it ended with "Anti-fragile". He said fragile is where we probably are now. If I were removed, the movement would fall apart. Resilient is when I can be removed, and things continue anyway. Anti-fragile happens when my being removed would cause the movement to explode. That is what happened when his father was kicked out of India. He then told a story that went something like this:

After the movement among the Bhojpuri really got going, they would have huge meetings every year with thousands of pastors and evangelists attending. During the meeting, at some point, the leaders of each region would rise and read the names of the pastors and evangelists who had been martyred in that region that year. After each name was read, they would ask, "Who will go to that area to take his place?" After each name was read, ten to fifteen people would raise their hands. Almost invariably, each of those regions would have growing churches by the next year.

He finished with this example: "Resilient" is like the phoenix. When it is killed, it rises from the ashes. "Anti-fragile" is like the hydra. If you cut off its head, ten grow in its place. I get chills every time I think of that illustration!

Anyway, this whole thing is very exciting and fun for me. If any of you have any interest in DMM or in possibly getting involved in it in some way, I would encourage you to go to the "Contagious Disciple Making" website and sign up for that free half hour meeting. A lot of that site is oriented to doing DMM in the USA.

Please continue to pray for the work here, and especially for John, Kwaku, Moriba, Bala, and Amadou as they take up the mantel and carry on the work. May God light this area aflame with His Holy Spirit!

To support our work:
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For the work of Tim and Beth Heiney

In Jesus,

Tim + Beth

Tim and beth ∞

RESILIENT:
PHOENIX

**ANTI-
FRAGILE:**
HYDRA

