

Kingdom Partnerships

Video Seminar

Phill Butler, visionSynergy

SESSION 4: Summary, Quotes, Questions

Video Playlist @ <http://goo.gl/aziFR6>

Summary:

Session 4 starts with the idea of using creativity to attract way more resources into the huge vision of bringing people into the Kingdom of God. Companies like Proctor and Gamble initiated what we now call “crowd sourcing,” divulging to the world their problems and needs and using the internet to solicit help from ANYWHERE to meet those needs. A stock broker turned gold mine operator did the same thing with the conservative, closed mining industry and revolutionized it. Partnerships and networks can help us to do much the same in the Kingdom.

Phill continues the exciting story of the first evangelism partnership for N. Africa, and the first meeting and how the Holy Spirit led. A group of 16 diverse and totally suspicious mission leaders came together to find a solution to the biggest obstacle to their effective evangelism, and the Spirit triumphed by knitting them together in prayer---not just prayer for their mission and their process, but as humans--- for one another. That model and emphasis on prayer has been the bedrock of all the successful partnerships since and opened the way for credibility and trust in these partnerships for all the intervening years.

But the process must be constantly bathed in respect for each player’s role, valuing the clearer of stones and the sower as much as the reaper. Phill tells rich true stories to reaffirm Jesus’ words about sowing and reaping and to remind us of the saints of Hebrews 11. Some SAW the fulfillment of the promise and some did not, but all will be rewarded.

When his listeners approach the cities where they will work, they will also find antagonists, indifferent, seekers and resisters and people at every stage of their journey—process--- toward the truth. He urges them to make sure their strategy allows for those who are desperate for a

solution, but don't KNOW that their solution is God.

Notable Quotes:

1. We have no idea the potential of the human spirit when challenged and given an opportunity to participate.
2. When people raise issues, always acknowledge the validity of their perspective. They may or may not be right. But you have to affirm them as people.
3. These people in Malaga or Stellenbosch or Seoul are looking for solutions. Does our IWT strategy make room for those people who are seeking solutions to their problems, but don't understand that God is the solution?
4. We learned that the specific outcomes had to be genuine, tangible, usable, specific.... but also that the process was as important as the purpose, because it's in the process that we demonstrate the power and the reality of the Gospel.
5. Over the next 12 months, word went out to these and fellow ministries that when these people talk about partnership, it is worth listening, not a waste of time. You can trust the people, the process, and the purpose.
6. Jesus says to be careful about taking the credit. Paul goes even further. Reaping has NO priority over sowing. Both are critical in the kingdom. What is called for is faithfulness and honoring each other's gifts and roles and calls.
7. I hope this idea haunts you for months. Don't even open the book. Just be able to look out the window and preach the Good News. That out there is the message of eternal God. God is revealing Himself to men everywhere.

Questions for Reflection:

1. Can you think of any OTHER innovative ways in which we need to open up our process of evangelism and sharing the Gospel to the world?
2. What did you learn here about creativity?
3. When it is up to you to lead a meeting or a group, and a big obstacle raises its head, what did you learn here about how to proceed?
4. Are there types of stone-clearing that you have been involved with or now see that you could do?
5. What do you think is the balance between God's general revelation and personal witness that is needed in your city?