

Multiplying the Movement with Multisite Churches

One Church, One Voice, Many Locations.

"When I look around the country I see how God is using multisites to make disciples, train leaders and reach neighborhoods with the love of Jesus. It's so exciting to be a part of this work!" -
Corey Garris, Multisite Specialist - Multiply Vineyard, Pastor at Mile High Vineyard Denver, CO

WHAT IS A MULTISITE CHURCH?

A multisite church is one church meeting in multiple locations. Each location shares a common vision and mission. This is different than church planting, in that a church plant is a brand new, autonomous church with its own vision and mission. Churches all over North America and the world are now engaged in the multisite model. Over 8,000 churches in the U.S. are currently using this model to reach more people for Christ.

SHOULD MY CHURCH BECOME A MULTI-SITE CHURCH?

If you are considering launching a site or becoming a multisite church consider the following questions:

- Is your church seeing people regularly get baptized?
- Does your church have a solid reputation of being involved in the community?
- Are you considering adding an additional service in the next 12-24 months?

If you answered "yes" to these questions your church might want to consider the multisite model.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

Multiply Vineyard is here to provide resources, training and care to multisite pastors and those exploring expanding their community using the multisite approach. We understand that multisite churches face unique situations and we would like to come alongside those pastors, supporting them as they support the overall goals and vision of the entire church while also pursuing the local needs and mission of their community.

On our website you will find lots of resources that Vineyard churches have found helpful from considering the multisite model through launching their second or third campus. These resources include training videos, recommended reading, helpful worksheets for planning your launch and much more!

In addition to these resources, we also offer:

Free Multisite Pre and Post Launch Coaching

Meet regularly with a coach throughout the discernment, planning, execution and evaluation of the process. During these meetings, your coach will spell out the tensions and roadblocks you may face as you launch your site, as well as provide resources to assist you along the way.

Free Care and Coaching for Campus Pastors

Being a campus pastor comes with its own sets of difficulties that can often be overcome with encouragement and accountability from an outside source. Our Multisite Team offers pastoral care and coaching specific to the concerns of a campus pastor.

Free On-site Visits

Our Multisite Team is available for on-site visits before, during or after the launch of your new site. Having an experienced leader attend your first launch service can be very helpful. Our team can often identify potential problems and suggest solutions on the spot during launch weekends.

If you would like to learn more about the model, or if you think this might be a path your church considers for the future, we'd love the chance to talk with you. Please contact Corey Garris at corey@milehighvineyard.org for more information.

One Church, One Voice, Many Locations.

5 THINGS EVERY PASTOR SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE MULTISITE CHURCH BY DAVE FERGUSON

- 1.** Multisite is about quality, not quantity. It's not about being a megachurch or getting huge. It's about taking who you are, reproducing the ethos or quality experience of your church, and bringing it to more people. The multisite church is really just one form of what I call the reproducing church – the idea that you are continuing to produce at all levels, whether it has to do with reproducing leaders and artists at a micro level, or reproducing congregations, campuses and even churches. Once you have established that quality, why not reproduce it? Why start from scratch?
- 2.** Any size church can consider going multisite. We often see examples of large mega (even giga) churches that are multisite. But fundamentally, any church that has one leader who is ready to go out and start a new thing can reproduce itself. You only need one leader. We need to keep it that simple. Remember that larger churches are much more complex organizations and less of an organism, so they are harder to reproduce than a small church. It's incumbent on local church leaderships to rise up and start new churches. The senior or lead pastor must bless that and not be afraid of it, or afraid of losing people— that's a scarcity mentality. If smaller churches have the right ethos and a missional kind of DNA, they will be able to reproduce. Even from the beginning, start thinking, "How can I do multiple locations?" Church planters are transitioning from thinking, "How can I plant a church, grow it, and make a big impact?" to the sharpest and the brightest planters thinking from day one, "How can I do this in multiple locations?"

6+ million people attend a multisite church in North America." -Leadership Network
- 3.** The multisite approach demonstrates good stewardship of our resources. Community Christian Church has eight locations in the Chicago area, and we've also started, in less than four years, six churches nationally. And now we're looking to plant churches internationally. We want to plant churches and start new sites, but right now we're focusing more on multisite for a good reason: stewardship. We've looked at retention rates.

So in basic stewardship, what's your return on your dollar? Within a certain geographical proximity, multisite allows you to reach more people for the same amount of money, or reach more people for less money. And while raising the funds to build new campuses is good, you can also grow into alternative venues such as digital church, extension sites, video-café congregations and satellite ministries.

One last thing: Multisite also demonstrates good stewardship of time and creativity. The leaders of CCC actually create a Big Idea together—what we want to do for our adult service and students' and kids' services—and then each of our eight locations does the exact same Big Idea in their own context. We believe that kind of collaboration really leverages creative power, and we get a better product in less amount of time. This synergy is one of the important advantages of multisite.

"Multisite campuses have a 90 percent success rate."

- Leadership Network

- 4.** Multisite is today's most powerful method of church expansion. Until now, we've had two options to accomplish the Jesus mission. Option #1 was to grow a church at a single site larger. Option #2 was church planting another church in another location. And multisite gives everybody a third option now—you can both grow larger and also start other locations. Quite frankly, I don't see multisite competing against or eliminating church planting—I see both of them as expressions of what it means to continue the legacy of the Church.

If you continually reproduce the church as Acts 1:8 describes, you can almost imagine expanding concentric circles—Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, all the way to the ends of the earth. But the church must reproduce. The only way we're going to reach the world is if the church continually reproduces.

- 5.** In the next 10 years, the multisite church will gain more influence than the large church. As I look to the future, this is what I see happening: More organizations like Leadership Network, the National New Church Conference, and the Willow Creek Association will give a platform of influence to churches that aren't large, but that are really reproducing. Once you get this reproducing DNA inside churches, it becomes a strong value. This value says, "It's great to grow large at one site, but the real Kingdom value is in reproducing sites and reproducing churches."

multiplyvineyard™

WEB: multiplyvineyard.org

FORUM: multiplyvineyard.org/forums

FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/MultiplyVineyardUSA](https://www.facebook.com/MultiplyVineyardUSA)

TWITTER: @multiplyvin

EMAIL: office@multiplyvineyard.org

PHONE: 218-525-3462

ADDRESS: 1533 W. Arrowhead Rd. Duluth, MN 55811

Experiencing God. Living the Kingdom. Multiplying Churches. Changing the World.