

# Book list for those churches interested in the Missional church movement

## Top 3 books on Missional Church Movement

*Church of Irresistible Influence*, by Robert Lewis - This is one of the very best books on the city-church, which tells the story of Little Rock's journey into the Missional church movement.

*To Transform a City*, by Eric Swanson - Eric has one of the best books on what a template for city transformation may look like. He is a great thinker for those interested in this Missional movement.

*Street Saints*, by Barbara Elliott – Barbara documents the Christian Community Development work around America and gives a historical as well as a present day view of God working to bring reformation to His Kingdom. This is one of the best overview books of the Missional movement in America.

## Other Books on Missional Church Movement

*(Listed in Alphabetical order)*

*A Guide to Charitable Choice* – This defines the legislation from the Welfare Reform Act and how the faith community has new freedoms to work with government on the social problems of our communities. For more information on this pamphlet go to:  
<http://www.cpjustice.org/cpjbookstore>

*A Revolution of Compassion* by Dave Donaldson & Carlson-Thies Stanley – This one gives an overview of what is happening from the Missional church movement based on the charitable choice legislation.

*A Theology as Big as the City* by Ray Bakke – Bakke is one of our great minds and theologians and develops his theology of the city from a biblical framework.

*Beyond Charity* by John M Perkins – Perkins is really the father of Christian Community Development and started the international organization, CCDA (Christian Community Development Association). This was the first book warning about relief work enabling rather than empowering those we minister to.

*The Big Shift* by Marc Freedman - This book is essential for pastors to read and understand because the Boomer population maybe one of the greatest resources in our community during this time. This is a book written on the last stage of life from a sociological point of view for our last stage of life.

*The Church Unleashed* by Frank R. Tillapaugh – Tillapaugh was one of the first to write about the churches call to go beyond “home base” and penetrate the community. He had a church in Denver called Bear Valley Baptist that did a great job of having both a healthy local church and a community Missional arm.

*City Reaching* by Jack Dennison – Dennison’s book is one of the early books on city transformation and the exhortation to go beyond the walls of the church.

*Cup of Water Bread of Life* by Ronald J. Sider – Great stories of Christian community development.

*The Dangerous Act of Worship* - *This book is really not about worship services or religious rituals but the substance of true worship in that the body of believers embodies the character and purposes of the God who they worship.*

*The Externally Focused Church* by Eric Swanson – Eric writes in a practical way that challenges the evangelical church on its inward focus and challenges us with practical and Biblical ways of becoming more Missional.

*Fast Living: How The Church Will End Extreme Poverty* by Scott Todd - This book has to do with the abolition of extreme poverty and the world-wide movement of the church on missional issues in third world countries.

*Generous Justice* by Tim Keller – Pastor Keller challenges the evangelical church with the need to understand the call of God to bring justice to the poor and marginalized of our cities. His strength is his clear thinking and Biblical perspectives.

*Godly Republic* by John J DiIulio Jr. – DiIulio was the academic faith czar for President Bush, who helped with the issue of Charitable Choice and the executive orders. His book is a good work on the partnership between the faith community and government both historically and presently.

*The Gospel in a Pluralist Society* by Lesslie Newbigin - Newbigin is a great theological thinker and does a cultural critique of how the gospel fits in a post modern era.

*Halftime: Moving from Success to Significance* by Bob P. Buford - This is a book that gives the Biblical reasons and process for going from career to mission.

*The Hole In the Gospel* by Richard Stearns – Stearns is the leader of World Vision and challenges the church with where we over look the biblical imperatives that are a part of our call as believers. His overview of the world and its demographics are gripping.

*Journey to the Center of the City* by Randy White – White tells the story of city transformation in Fresno, California.

*Missional Church* by Darrell L. Guder – Guder is another great thinker and helps us define the Missional church movement and its affects on the church.

*Missional Renaissance* by Reggie McNeal – McNeal writes to confront the evangelical church asking what is the scorecard for church success? Is it the ABCs, or is it defined by the teaching of the Kingdom? A challenging book on the Missional church.

*On the Verge* by Alan Hirsch and Dave Ferguson - This book is probably a little less biblical in its emphasis but is outstanding in terms of the dynamics of the missional church.

*Prayer Summits* by Joseph C. Aldrich - Aldrich started the pastoral prayer summits which have played significant roles in the Missional church or city church and bringing transformation to cities.

*Radical: Taking Back Your Faith from the American Dream*, by David Platt - *Radical* is written by a pastor from a large suburban church who is challenged to live much more like a disciple of Christ through his Missional experiences in third world countries

*Real Hope in Chicago* by Wayne Gordon – One of the early stories of city transformation written by Wayne Gordon who was president of CCDA for many years.

*Restoring the Good Society* by Don E. Eberly – Eberly casts a vision of how the commitment to the common good can transform our society.

*Street Signs* by Ray Bakke and Jon Sharpe – Bakke and Sharpe give a personal and historical framework for Christian Community Development.

*Taking the Gospel to the Point* by Mike J. Sider-Rose - This is the story of the Pittsburgh Leadership Foundation, which is one of the first Christian Community Development organizations in the last hundred years. It is also responsible for many city leadership foundations across America.

*Transforming Power* by Robert C. Linthicum – Linthicum is one of the great Christian thinkers on Christian Community Development. He has been a pastor and worked for World Vision internationally as well as a city transformer.

*Well Connected* by Phillip Butler - Butler's book is a great reference for collaboration in the Missional church movement because the city church is a collaborative effort.

*When Helping Hurts* by Brian Fikkert & Steve Corbett – Corbett and Fikkert are economic development thinkers that look at missions both locally and internationally.