

Movements That Change the World: Five Keys to Spreading the Gospel

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Patrick

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They revitalized European culture and possibly saved civilization following the fall of the Roman Empire.

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growing band of ordinary people emerges who have a heartfelt faith and missionary zeal that knows no bounds. Despite opposition from powerful forces within society and the existing church, the gospel spreads into unreached fields. The existing church is renewed, and society is transformed.

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Movements that change the world may eventually come to possess resources, learning and power, but they do not begin with these things. Missionary movements begin with men and women who encounter the living God and surrender in loving obedience to his call.

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They expected a high degree of commitment from themselves and from one another.

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A movement emerges when people commit to a cause. People who change the world live in alignment with their deeply held beliefs. A movement ceases to exist when no one cares anymore.

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His strategy was to reach whole clans with the gospel.

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removed unnecessary barriers to the spread of the gospel

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The Scriptures were supreme, yet the monks had a love for both classical literature and the pagan poets.

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When movements spread rapidly, they do so through preexisting networks of relationships. Networks of relationships are the means by which a movement expands. They also provide the building blocks that give a movement its strength.

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Patrick grew leaders from the people he reached. His missionaries did the same.

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None of this was centrally planned, funded or controlled.

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Missionary movements spread through the efforts of ordinary people.

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Patrick structured the Celtic church for the spread of the gospel. The missionary order was at the head of church life.

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Celtic monasticism was supremely adaptable, flexible and transferable.

Introduction

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In a general sense, movements are informal groupings of people and organizations pursuing a common cause. They are people with an agenda for change. Movements don't have members, but they do have participants. The goals of a movement can be furthered by organizations, but organizations are not the totality of a movement. A movement can have leading figures, but no one person or group controls a movement. Movements are made up of people committed to a common cause.

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Movements are characterized by discontent, vision and action. Discontent unfreezes people from their commitment to the way things are. Movements emerge when people feel something needs to change.

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Movements change people, and changed people change the world.

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church Jesus founded was a missionary church. Its existence and activities were an expression of its missionary calling.[

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fearlessly determined to win others to faith in Jesus

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Our English words mission, missionary and missional come from the Latin missio, meaning "the act of sending." Missio is the equivalent of the New Testament Greek word apostle from apostolos, meaning "one who is sent."

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There is no mission without the church,

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Christianity is a movement of movements—monasticism, evangelicalism and Pentecostalism, to name a few.

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The great church historian Kenneth Scott Latourette argued that one of the indications of the vitality of the Christian faith is the emergence of new movements. The periods of the greatest vigor and expansion of the Christian faith are the periods in which new movements arise.[

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In the renewal and expansion of the church, the breakthroughs always occur on the fringe of ecclesiastical power—never at the center.[

1 White-Hot Faith

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Church history is not made by well-financed, well-resourced individuals and institutions. History is made by men and women of faith who have met with the living God.

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The Moravians were the first Protestants to treat world missions as the responsibility of the whole church.[2] Under Zinzendorf, the Moravians became an intense and highly mobile missionary movement.

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No movement can be sustained on crisis experiences alone. Spiritual disciplines prepare the way for, and support, life-changing experiences.