

Multiplying Gospel-Hearted Workers

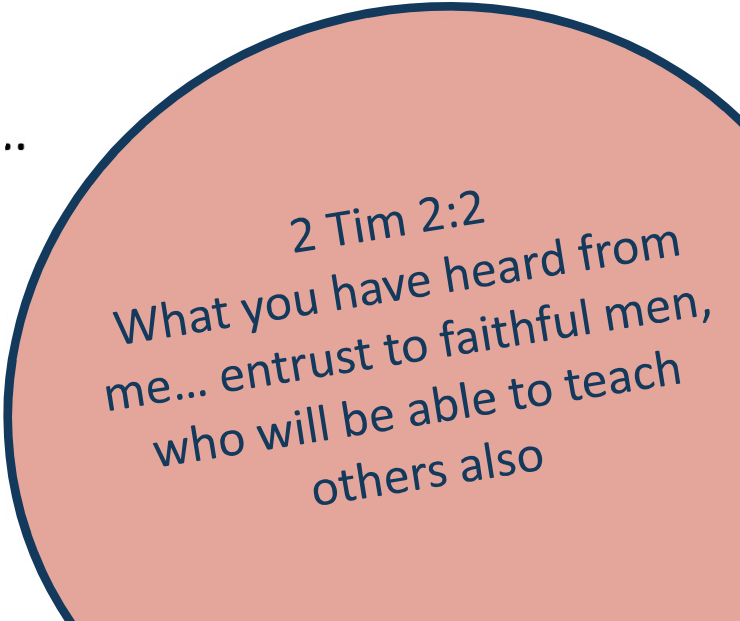


Recruitment

Getting the right people matters

Paul was almost never alone:

- 80+ co-workers
- Prominent workers: Timothy, Titus, Barnabas...
- But many others as well - see Romans 16
- Timothy is to raise up more



2 Tim 2:2
What you have heard from
me... entrust to faithful men,
who will be able to teach
others also

Recruitment

We need large numbers of gospel workers:

- men and women, old and young, teams
- pastors, elders, preachers, church planters
- carers, counsellors, women's workers
- youth leaders, SS teachers, Uni student workers...

Matt 9:37
The harvest is plentiful, but
the labourers are few...

Why multiply gospel workers?

Because God's global gospel plan is vast

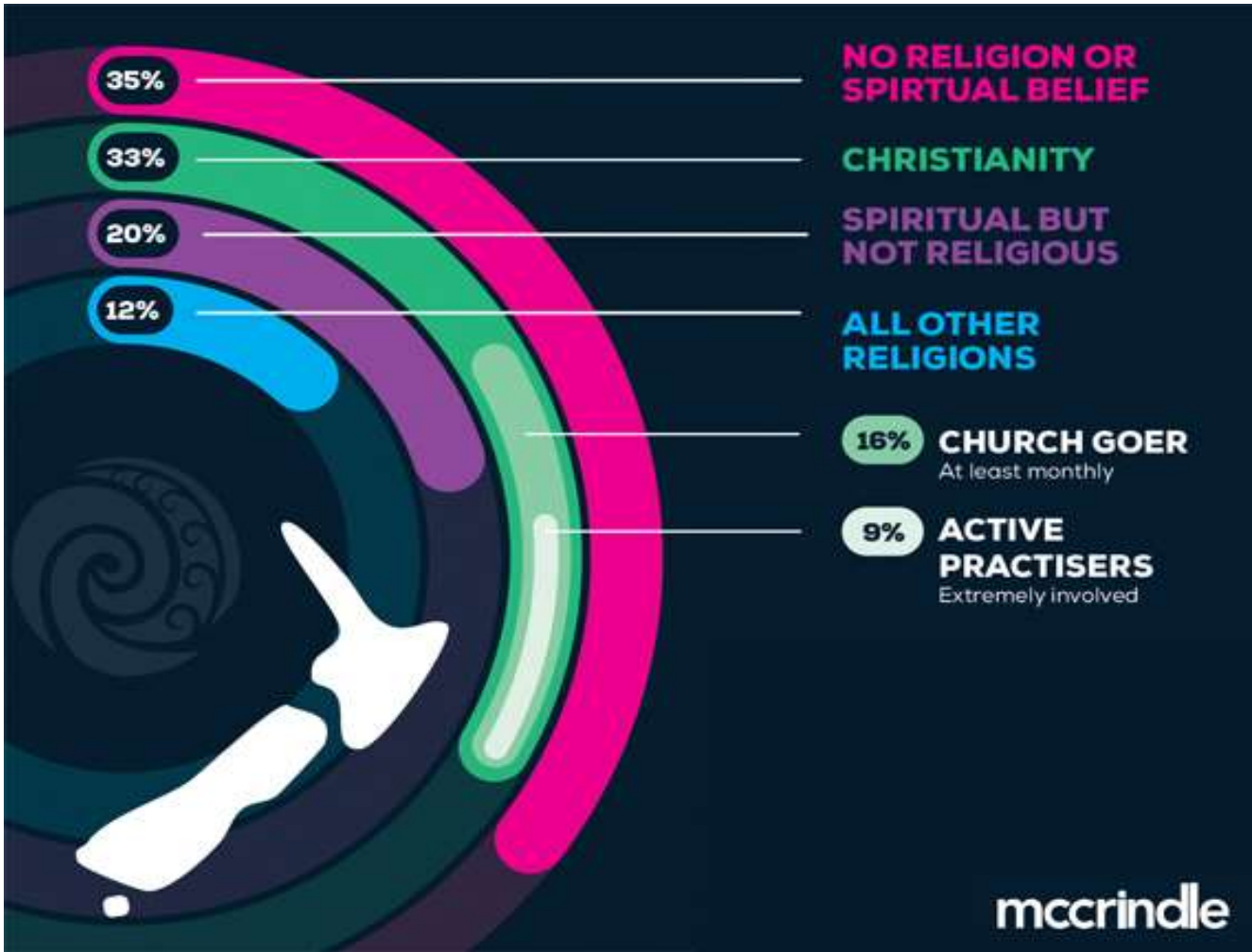
- Begins in Gen 12:2-3
- Israel and the OT trickle from the nations
- Jesus and the opening of the floodgates
- Pentecost
- Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles
- The end game – Rev 7:9

After this I looked,
and behold, a great multitude
that no one could number,
from every nation,
from all tribes and peoples
and languages...

Why multiply gospel workers?

The plan is wonderful but the task is huge

- This is “the ends of the earth”
- Secular and pluralist



Why multiply gospel workers?

Because the plan is wonderful and the task is huge

How do we multiply gospel workers?

Whose job is it?

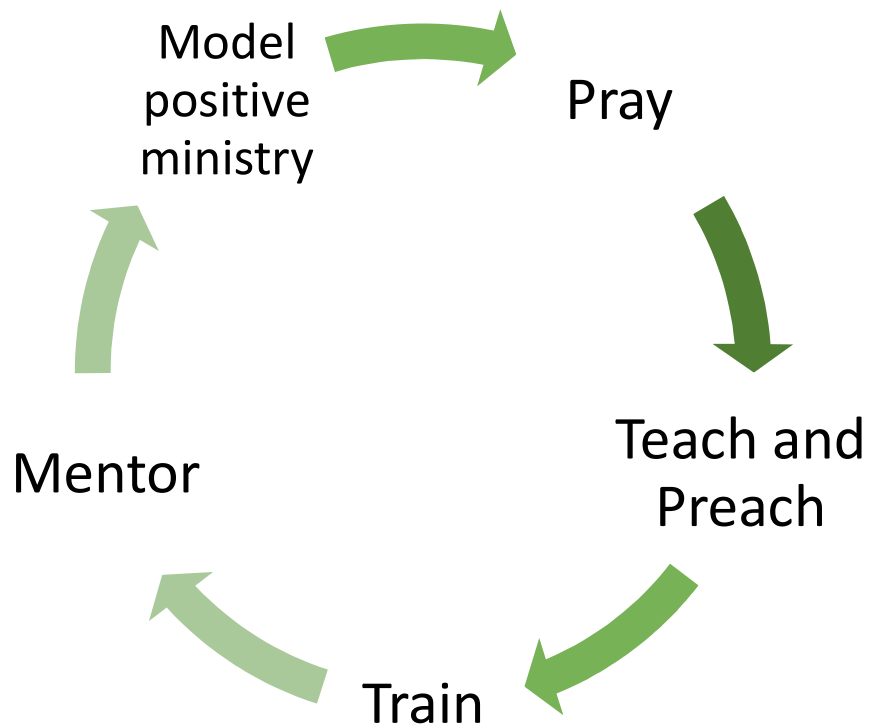
- yours and mine and every church

Don't only aim to raise pastors

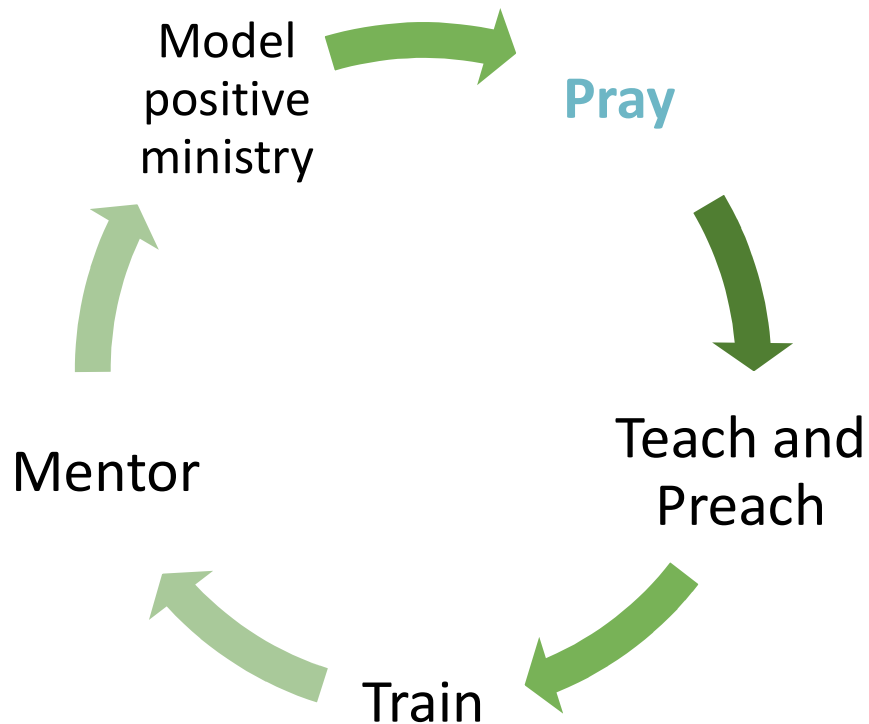
- raise dozens of gospel-hearted people
- raise lots of people to serve and lead
- raise all your people to engage in ministry
- raise committed followers of Jesus...

and out of them will come pastors as well

How do we multiply gospel workers?



How do we multiply gospel workers?

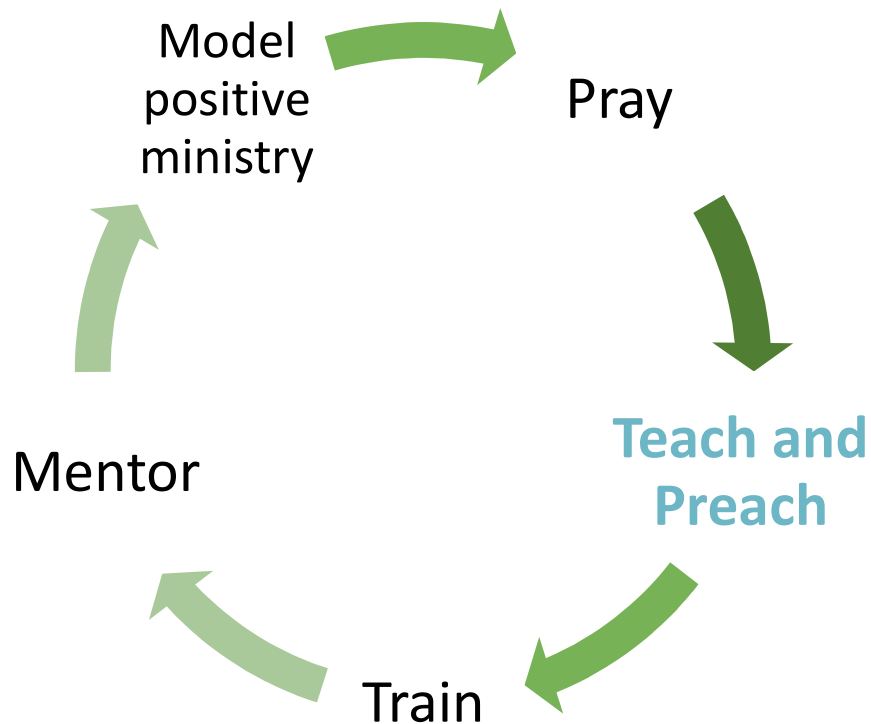


Pray

for workers, for harvest fields
and for the harvest

- personally
- in groups
- in meetings
- at church every week

How do we multiply gospel workers?

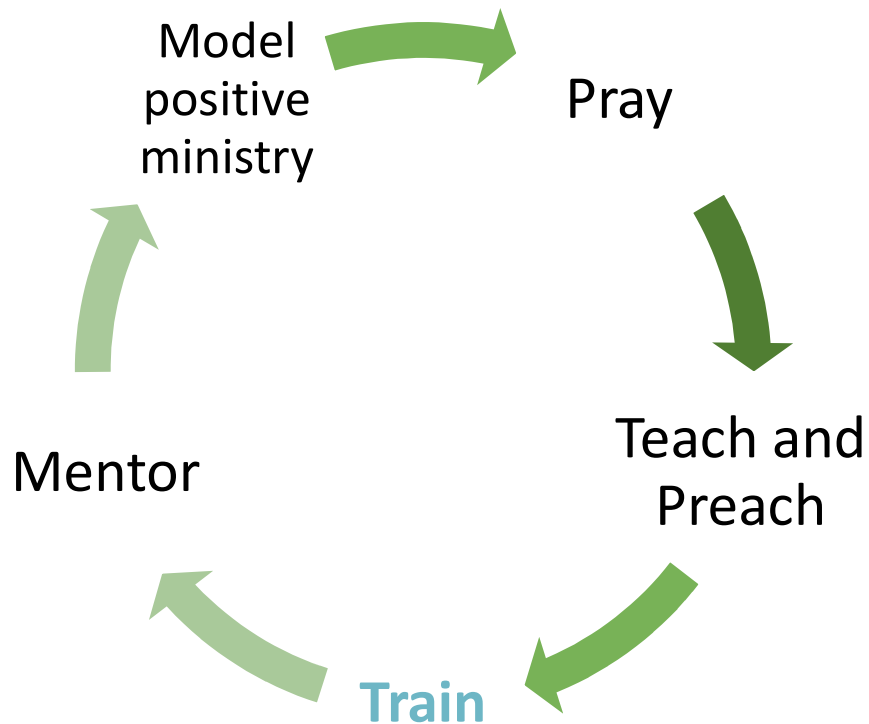


Teach and Preach

about importance of gospel ministry and God's global gospel plan

- cast a vision
- talk about what God is doing
- trust God's Word to work

How do we multiply gospel workers?

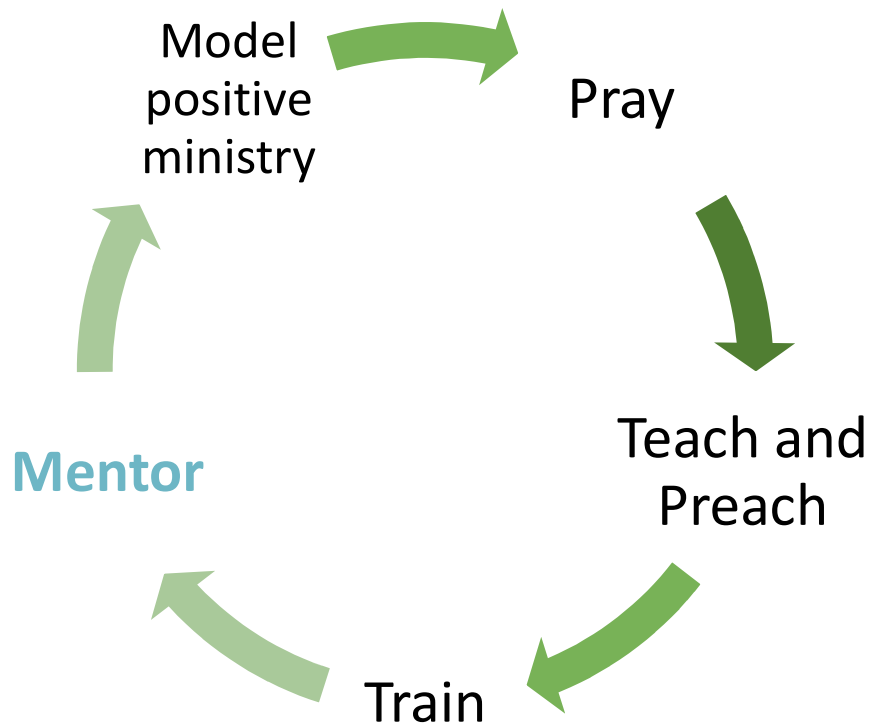


Train

for every ministry you engage people in

- equip for ministry
- practical and ongoing
- train them to train others

How do we multiply gospel workers?

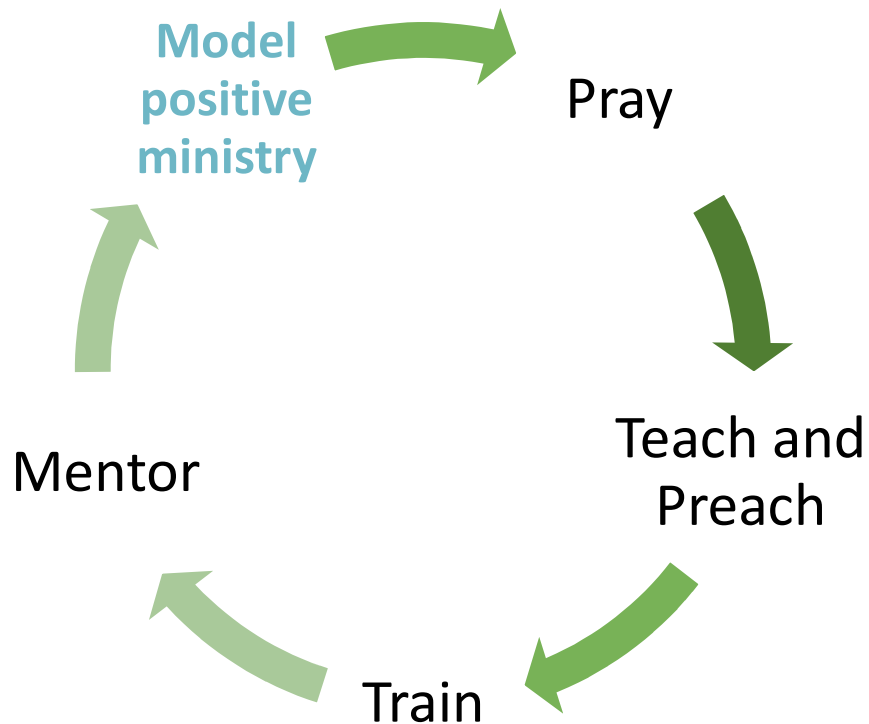


Mentor

key people, narrowing the investment to multiply ministry

- love, nurture and encourage
- fuel their fire
- do ministry together

How do we multiply gospel workers?

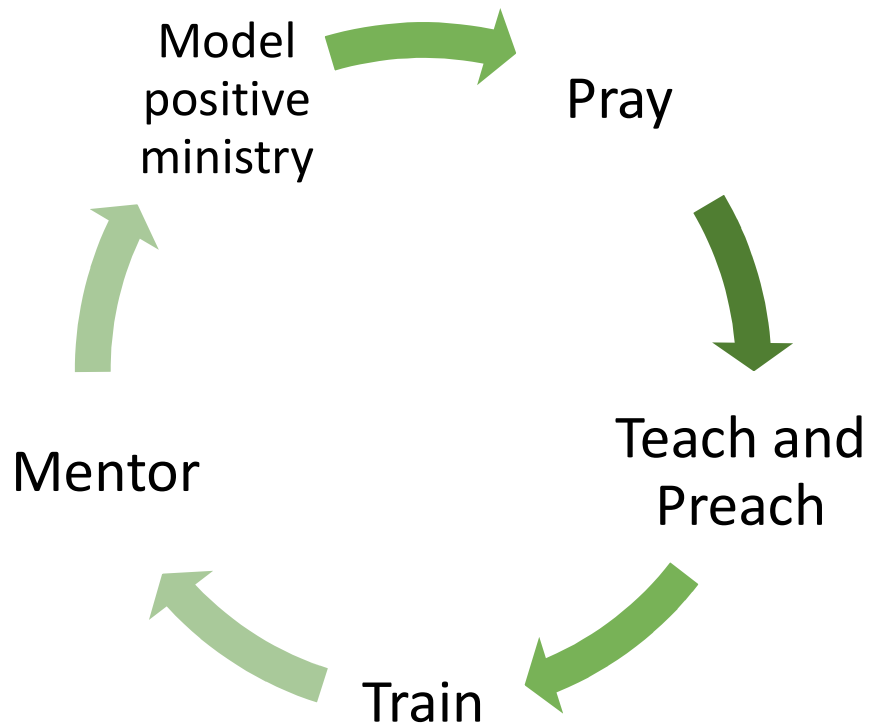


Model positive ministry

so people aspire to be part of it

- model that you love it
- model prayer, evangelism, love, enthusiasm...

How do we multiply gospel workers?



You can't pick and choose

- do all five all the time
- all are essential
- together they bear fruit

How do we multiply gospel workers?

Three specific aids....

1. Develop internship and apprenticeship options
2. Make the most of other training ministries
3. Hang out with people who do this well; it is best caught

Mentoring

Why do tradesmen have apprenticeships and doctors have internships?

Principle: narrow the investment to multiply the impact

Many biblical examples:

- Moses and Joshua
- Elijah and Elisha
- Jesus and the 12
- Paul and Timothy

Mentoring

Various one-to-one relationships:

- Reading Bible with non-Christian friend
- Discipling a new believer
- Training a new ministry leader or elder
- Coaching or mentoring an experienced pastor

No tricks and it's not tricky!

Mentoring

Three key ingredients

1. A strong, caring and real relationship

- informal as well as formal – at least coffee and chat
- talk about life, kids, marriage, work, sport...
- interact on the things they want to talk about
- pray for them; and tell them you are
- be real, vulnerable, honest

Mentoring

2. Regular, honest, intentional conversation

- Might read Bible together
- Might read and discuss books together or use a resource
- Might use accountability questions
- Might work through key areas of life and character
- Might interact on questions, concerns, life & ministry issues
- Will usually pray together

Mentoring

3. Active ministry engagement

- Both engaged in ministry
- Talk about how it is going, give feedback, discuss their questions
- Think about how to improve it
- Go to training together – conferences, events
- Draw them into ministry – give short devotions, lead a study, pray at start of event; mentor someone else
- Let them see you do ministry – lead a visit, share your faith
- Debrief afterwards

Mentoring

How often?

- It all depends!
- Often weekly or fortnightly, but might be monthly or occasional

How long?

- Maybe a year and then review

Use material?

- If you want to
- Resources available for 1-1 Bible reading, discipling and training