

Christ Together Triad Circles of Accountability (COA's) Mission and Purpose

The goal is for leaders and churches to take responsibility for the lostness and most pressing needs of their geography leading to the conviction that unity is not just a nicety, but a necessity for the Church to reach every man, woman and child (EMWC). This requires a Kingdom shift where pastors value collaboration over competition and see themselves collectively as pastors in The City Church and not just a pastor of an individual church. As leaders embrace Jesus' prayer in John 17, that unity becomes a catalyst that mobilizes the Church for effective collaboration leading to the multiplication of disciples, leaders, and new churches.

The purpose of Circles of Accountability (COA) Tables is to provide:

- John 17 unity and accountability for the sake of mission.
- Strategic execution of the 4 priorities: Mobilization, Transformation, Collaboration, and Multiplication
- Geographically based, relationally driven, and outcome focused ecosystems.
- Prayer, care and support of leaders for the mission
- An onramp for new churches into the vision (Gospel Saturation Primer).
- Accountability for a shared outcome (Gospel Saturation Accelerator).
- Measurement of the missional behavior and spiritual formation of God's people.
- Connection and engagement with the larger CT Triad vision.
- Commitment to disciple your geography and plant new churches together.

The COA's provide a common table for leaders to begin praying through and discussing what would it look like, and what it will take to genuinely go after Gospel Saturation to reach EMWC in their part of the Triad.

Guiding Principles:

For any collaborative vision to be accomplished, certain guiding principles are required for the vision to move forward. The following guiding principles are essential to building effective COA Tables around the vision of Gospel Saturation.

1) Alignment for the shared outcome of Gospel Saturation

The pastors collaborating must agree that the greatest need of people in their city is to have their sins forgiven and be reconciled to a holy God. They must also agree that forgiveness and reconciliation are only made available through proclamation of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The pastors agree that every other activity of the church flows from the life-transformation that results from experiencing the saving grace of God. They agree to not allow secondary theological issues to become a source of distraction and division within the Church.

2) Pastoral Unity & Trust Built on Genuine Friendship

Meaningful collaborative activity in a geographic region is dependent on *strong personal relationships* between the pastors of the local churches. These personal relationships must go beyond mere cordiality. The pastors have to spend enough time together to trust one another and turn away from a competitive spirit. The unity and trust must be built on personal friendships – the pastors have to actually like each other and support one another.

3) Strategic Leadership Based on Gifting

The Holy Spirit not only provides spiritual gifts to members of individual churches, He also provides gifts to the *pastors in a region* so that the church is equipped to follow His call to reach every man, woman, and child in that region with the Gospel. The challenge for the pastors is to recognize that they do not carry every gift themselves, to humbly recognize the gifts that other pastors carry, and to use their gifts in conjunction with the gifts of others.

4) Prayer

Jesus told us bluntly that we couldn't bear any fruit apart from Him. This means that a city-reaching movement must be saturated in prayer. There is no spiritual power to fuel Gospel Saturation without coordinated prayer over the city. Prayer must infiltrate every meeting, every ministry, and every activity.

5) Healthy Existing Churches, Multiplying New Churches, Re-Missioning Existing Churches

Pastors in an effective city-reaching effort realize that BOTH existing churches AND new churches are required to reach every person in a geographic region. As pastors build trust based on genuine friendships and prioritize the Kingdom over their local expression of the church, they are more willing to celebrate new churches in their area. They celebrate existing churches that are reaching people with the Gospel and new churches that are plowing new ground.

6) Partnering With Specialized Parachurch Ministries AS Needed

Another key element to accomplishing Gospel Saturation in a specific geographic region is a variety of specialized parachurch ministries that meet specific needs and share the Gospel. These parachurch ministries can be focused on helping people in crisis or ministering to an underserved people group within the geography. Either way, a healthy variety of evangelistic parachurch ministries are required to reach EMWC with the Gospel.

7) Commitment to Collectively Embrace AND Practice the 4 Priorities

In order to see gospel saturation happen in a region, every COA must be committed to executing the 4 priorities (Mobilization, Transformation, Collaboration, Multiplication) at three granular levels – personal, individual congregation, and collective of churches in a COA. Every pastor, every local church, and every COA is working to populate and execute a strategic plan for their geography as they:

- Build a narrative for the state of lostness for your COA (Percept Report)
- Engage the Gospel Saturation Accelerator
- Ask every church to define a disciple, have a plan for making disciples, and a commitment to measure their progress.
- Track collective church attendance and baptisms against the AGR (Annual Growth Rate) of city.