



Equipping Others to Plant Churches

AN UNBROKEN CHAIN

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The alluring aroma of freshly ground coffee greets your nose as the sound of the brewer gurgles into action. It's Tuesday night in downtown Richmond, where another round of Elder¹ Training is about to begin...

If you were to trace the path that led us to this point, you'd find a long line of leaders that have poured into each of us in untold ways. This unbroken chain of leadership is crucial to the health of the Church, and that's why before Remnant Church existed—when it was merely an idea in the hearts of its future leaders—we developed a systematic method

of equipping biblically qualified men to plant churches in Richmond and across the world. Though the church had not yet launched, we were already equipping leaders to start another work with our support. This is anything but “church

planting as usual.” Or is it?

After leaving the island of Crete, Paul explained to Titus the missiological necessity that lay before him: “This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you...” (Titus 1:5). These elders were to “hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught,” and must “be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it” (Titus 1:9). This was Paul's missionary strategy—he preached the Gospel in major cities, trained elders to pastor the churches, and exhorted them to reproduce themselves in like manner.

We take seriously the task of equipping elders for Gospel ministry for, as the elder goes, so goes the church (cf. 1 Tim. 4:16). To increase our capacity for training leaders and maturing churches, Remnant Church has partnered with Aletheia Church (Richmond) to found The Commonwealth Church Planting Center.

The Commonwealth enables both churches to share resources and collectively support church planters through direct funding. Together we have added five elders-in-training this spring, as we jointly strive to train doctrinally sound leaders who are committed to proclaiming the Gospel of Christ's Kingdom.

RESOURCE

■ Websites:

www.sbcv.org
www.remnantrichmond.org
www.aletheiarichmond.com
www.insidealetheia.com

■ SBCV Contact:

Call 888-234-7716 for details from the missionary in your region.

■ Consider:

Is your church equipping others for Gospel ministry?



¹ The New Testament uses “elder,” “pastor,” and “overseer” interchangeably (cf. 1 Peter 5:1-5).