



New Church Specialties

NewStart Self-Assessment Exercise

"Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else."

-- The Apostle Paul (Galatians 6:4)

Perhaps you've been wondering if you have the abilities and skill it takes to be a church planter. Or **maybe you are a denominational supervisor wanting to do an informal assessment**. This short self-assessment exercise will help you to become more familiar with the 13 key characteristics that research shows many church planters share. Rate your response level of competence in each of the 13 Church Planter qualities (with 5 being the highest).

1. Has a **"visionizing"** capacity. Are you one who: 1 2 3 4 5
 - a. projects into the future
 - b. casts vision to others
 - c. turns obstacles into opportunity
 - d. leads other to commit to the vision

2. Is intrinsically **motivated**. Are you one who: 1 2 3 4 5
 - a. committed to excellence
 - b. has stick-to-itiveness and is persistent
 - c. is a self starter and is willing to build from nothing
 - d. displays energy in performing tasks

3. Ability to create **ownership of ministry**. Are you one who: 1 2 3 4 5
 - a. demonstrates ministry is "theirs" not "mine"
 - b. trains reproducible leaders
 - c. has a "we" not "me" attitude
 - d. creates a sense of responsibility in those you lead

4. Ability to **relate to** the **unchurched** people. Are you one who: 1 2 3 4 5
 - a. communicates in a style easily understood by the unchurched
 - b. understands the "psychology" or mentality of the unchurched
 - c. breaks down walls of resistance in relationships
 - d. uses life events to influence the unchurched

5. Has **spousal** cooperation. As a couple are you a couple who: 1 2 3 4 5
- balances ministry and marriage
 - confronts issues in your marriage and move forward
 - mutually supports each other in ministry
 - complement each other in giftedness
6. Effectively **builds relationships**. Are you one who: 1 2 3 4 5
- takes the initiative in establishing relationships
 - makes others feel secure and comfortable in your presence
 - does not respond in a judgmental or prejudicial fashion to new people
 - helps people deal with personal problems
7. Committed to **church health**. Are you one who: 1 2 3 4 5
- understands what a healthy church looks like
 - accesses church health material
 - analyzes the health of a church
 - has been part of healthy local church
8. **Responsive to the community**. Are you one who: 1 2 3 4 5
- understands the culture of the community
 - adapts the philosophy of ministry to the character of the community
 - sets priorities of ministry based on the needs of the community
 - re-tools ministry to meet community needs
9. **Utilizes the giftedness** of others. Are you one who: 1 2 3 4 5
- identifies gifts in other people
 - trains others in discovering and developing their spiritual gifts
 - matches people with ministry needs and opportunities according to giftedness
 - moves people in ministry when necessary
10. **Flexibility and adaptability**. Are you one who: 1 2 3 4 5
- manages multiply responsibilities
 - shifts gears well and responds appropriately to the unknown
 - flexible in plans and schedules
 - adapts to change to schedule to assure the work is completed

11. Building a **group cohesiveness**. Are you one who: **1 2 3 4 5**

- a. embraces conflict and works with well with others
- b. helps people become a part of a group
- c. motivates people to become part of a team
- d. brings people together for the common good

12. **Resilience and determination**. Are you one who: **1 2 3 4 5**

- a. bounces back quickly from disappointments
- b. makes adjustments when reality and dream do not match
- c. grows through disappointments in life
- d. moves on after working through disappointment

13. Exercises **faith**. Are you one who: **1 2 3 4 5**

- a. consistently reads and studies the Word of God
- b. practices the discipline of personal prayer
- c. is faithful in giving of time, talent and treasure
- d. demonstrates a good understanding of living by faith

Your Score (Add all you numbers together) _____

If your score is 39 or higher you may be a candidate for church planting. This is especially true the closer your number is 65.

If your score is 38 or lower you are probably not a candidate for church planting. This is especially true the closer the number is 13.

These 13 characteristics are the ones we look for and assess for in selecting an effective NewStart Church Leader. For more information about Assessment options or a formal church or individual assessment, contact the New Church Specialties Assessment Office at (480) 659-2547.