

WEBVTT

NOTE recognizability 0.874

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Hi! My name is Ellen Livingood of Catalyst

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Services and my topic today is Reciprocal Partnerships.

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00:00:20.850 --> 00:00:24.740

I want to begin by sharing a story of one particular partnership that I think

a9884b13-a6e5-4dd5-8e2a-b2c262a2ac7e  
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just does a great job in this whole area of being reciprocal.

2b76be6b-8ada-42d4-97d5-46ac74bd9548  
00:00:28.880 --> 00:00:33.290

They're focused on what had been un-engaged, un-reached people groups

5018285e-82c3-4735-9ab9-2676c2e132d6  
00:00:33.290 --> 00:00:38.090

in a very high-risk area of one country. Their goal is to put a

c3d51841-cb81-497f-8d35-e9f8f62bd677  
00:00:38.090 --> 00:00:42.810

long-term, frontline team in each of those and they have done that. There are

9f1b9386-c389-4618-99dd-a6c5d486e43a  
00:00:42.810 --> 00:00:47.130

now teams in each of these places made up of young adults from around that

09eba652-7355-4105-a60e-eab79efa9398  
00:00:47.130 --> 00:00:52.450

country. But those teams are supported in a partnership

7ba6c6ee-8132-4465-a3ac-08aaeebea6e6  
00:00:52.450 --> 00:00:57.440

by North American Churches back in the United States and Canada. And

7f029f09-cba2-467e-8128-71c7caaee354  
00:00:57.440 --> 00:01:02.100

the exciting part is that every year they get together, the

frontliners

31934b89-faf9-4bf0-bd36-c633aefa4424

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come out, the North Americans go over. And they meet for a week of

7b3cdb56-2767-4100-9d97-368320fcd3d2

00:01:06.360 --> 00:01:09.930

intense sharing, getting the stories, finding out what God's doing,

8704f96d-75c1-46f5-a247-74661e11d348

00:01:09.930 --> 00:01:14.720

learning the most difficult things, praying together, encouraging one another, studying the

5a8cb939-6ad0-4abd-bbc9-1c2684e2ea98

00:01:14.720 --> 00:01:18.670

Word of God together. There's also an agency involved in this and

9e229b02-8074-4474-a370-2174c315fc99

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they have benefited as they have seen what God has done through the churches, to

0330c332-d5f9-4dd4-a65f-6e2580b29b60

00:01:23.590 --> 00:01:28.470

encourage and support their frontliners. And then there are network leaders that make all

c3ec5c08-5afc-4a64-91d2-b105f62df552

00:01:28.470 --> 00:01:32.270

these happen: keep it going; it's been going for a number of years

593e8bd4-5bf0-4999-8889-3c6b77660b64

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in fact, they are so successful. They have done so well and really reached their first goals and their moving

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out in a larger area. There's other

615d06a6-c27b-4a73-acd0-6c965efc6243

00:01:39.970 --> 00:01:44.970

partnerships like that, some of them are more complex even, but there's not enough

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that are really, truly reciprocal. So let's talk about how

674d9c33-61f6-4ae8-ba11-152ddd6e9662

00:01:48.830 --> 00:01:51.910

we move in that direction. I want to look primarily

ea4df2bc-e9f1-4d39-84a7-a9cd4df23aef

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at three different groups. There are other groups, I'm not going to talk about the global church. That's

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essential, but because of our audience today, I'm going to talk about what I

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think each of the three you represent. The first group that we're talking to today

953d7ca1-567f-4ad0-bd01-18e88a5f6d75

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is North American Churches. So let's start

a71896b1-5fc4-4c83-8051-a581288b8200

00:02:11.100 --> 00:02:15.910

there. My first question for you is, what do you have to give?

e832f656-c140-4780-9808-cabfc3e23e32

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And unfortunately, I think the question, discussion always

afb05137-daa6-4ff9-ad74-20f2fd4707d1

00:02:19.020 --> 00:02:23.600

goes around money and money's important, but money's not the most important thing and

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it so often clouds everything else. The most important thing you

670b6650-3755-47ec-bb46-af5106b71f0e

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have to give is Prayer. Yes, it is also the hardest but

15a32a96-01b2-4aac-b7da-42d29b9f5403

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in your congregation sits dozens, hundreds, maybe thousands

a9727645-d7ac-4ed8-a7f9-7a998ea366d6

00:02:37.790 --> 00:02:42.790  
of people who could be intensive prayer

663c3783-affb-4696-bfdd-96c227219609  
00:02:42.790 --> 00:02:47.210  
intercessors for this ministry. God has promised to respond as

c8e96891-5e57-46a8-a22b-1e567ef761e1  
00:02:47.210 --> 00:02:51.840  
His people pray. How can we invest more in

0230d684-e253-4a8f-bf17-b0d583172ccc  
00:02:51.840 --> 00:02:57.170  
giving that, there's also other things as well, other kinds of  
resources,

fccb542c-75c7-4cea-adac-204e5a5d76f6  
00:02:57.170 --> 00:03:01.270  
other kinds of expertise sitting, buried in people

4e0ccec5-883b-421f-b1e6-967d5d651589  
00:03:01.270 --> 00:03:03.820  
in your congregation. Expertise

d21c3673-e6f4-488f-acb3-5629f7581c0c  
00:03:03.820 --> 00:03:08.630  
they have been developing over a lifetime in their business, or in  
their allocation, just the passion that

2dcaba1e-d671-4a1e-abf6-6cdc22d8a2cc  
00:03:08.630 --> 00:03:13.920  
they have that they could use that we have not tapped. God wants to  
use

fceb2f1e-4119-45dc-82be-f1fcd57cc9dd  
00:03:13.920 --> 00:03:19.710  
everything for the Kingdom. Let's think about how to do that.  
Secondly, we're going to talk about the

e49987ac-f713-4a38-bf83-3efa465ac262  
00:03:19.710 --> 00:03:23.940  
'Getting'. It is legitimate for you as a Church to say, "What are we  
going

1d4afd14-6d21-4a5c-9684-04de1c9e4644  
00:03:23.940 --> 00:03:26.510  
to get from this partnership?"

e1cafce3-226c-40dd-9e32-9102328f9151  
00:03:26.510 --> 00:03:31.320

Being reciprocal as that's exactly what it means. And one of the things that you need to get

2444fdb8-ee6a-4e5e-8ce6-7cd5e3d4e9f4  
00:03:31.320 --> 00:03:34.260  
is some in-depth-mentoring

7e3265aa-7b64-404c-b0a2-4cd82bae8051  
00:03:34.260 --> 00:03:38.650  
Spiritual development. Let me give you one illustration: I'm involved in

37563a56-60ef-41a6-8edf-e0c6bd3a7b63  
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the Kinship Network which is matching churches here with churches in the

25653d34-abfc-4e69-a97b-3f59b4ddf925  
00:03:42.730 --> 00:03:47.950  
Middle East. And one of the benefits that we are seeing that is so exciting, is that

70edc75c-1231-46ac-aa70-834ad293ed54  
00:03:47.950 --> 00:03:51.740  
North American people are going over, they're rubbing shoulders

ef4dc207-684b-4c81-b135-36c5de84be95  
00:03:51.740 --> 00:03:56.380  
with new Muslim-background believers. These people who say,

85c2a8ab-3a23-428f-964e-2fdbbb00a673  
00:03:56.380 --> 00:04:01.820  
"I was disillusioned with Islam. Islam doesn't have the answers. I came to Christ. I saw a

f14b77d0-c979-4de8-a2b9-8f1814cf1574  
00:04:01.820 --> 00:04:06.490  
vision of Christ. I came to the Church looking for more information";

217a4b34-0136-4a53-ae68-e38e73298dba  
00:04:06.490 --> 00:04:09.390  
or, "Someone from the Church gave me a food

773cee56-2cca-422e-a3cc-24ccb5280d2b  
00:04:09.390 --> 00:04:13.520  
parcel and I was attracted, and they shared the Gospel, and now I'm

e32a7d0d-9dd6-4fdc-bca0-0a9cda79b468  
00:04:13.520 --> 00:04:17.830  
a believer." Our people coming back to North America with those

d5d6a9eb-9421-417e-9fb7-2121c9f77cd1

00:04:17.830 --> 00:04:22.790

kinds of stories and experiences have a whole new attitude about outreach to

53cc32c7-f34d-4706-ac58-bf0ac89eb8d8

00:04:22.790 --> 00:04:27.420

Muslims. Suddenly it has become possible. Suddenly, it's not so fearful.

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00:04:27.420 --> 00:04:31.840

What a tremendous 'Get' that is, for our Church Partners.

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The last question I want to ask is the 'Conversation' question. What kind

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of a conversation do you as a North American Church need to have? There's internal questions

2236b5af-d2b8-49e9-9cb7-8f842c3b91e2

00:04:41.080 --> 00:04:45.280

I think that need to be asked about how we move from approval of ownership,

5b8eb38e-43eb-4c6f-a7ac-95c4f020cb24

00:04:45.280 --> 00:04:50.770

of partnership, but right now I just want to talk about conversations with your

456be58a-e40f-4f0e-84a6-827c505848ae

00:04:50.770 --> 00:04:55.580

Field Workers about how you could have better reciprocal partnerships

980e38ec-cc6d-4a7e-8e6a-9e8dafcb2fca

00:04:55.580 --> 00:05:00.510

with them. They need it - many of them need it - money, all of them need it. But very

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00:05:00.510 --> 00:05:05.240

few missionaries know how to do that. How conversations about what that would look like,

0e85312b-1006-4011-b879-f82f66520861

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it's powerful. Okay, let's move on and talk about those questions as it

6dc26d6c-e2d4-4477-957b-077dd5e21355

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relate to agencies. Maybe you're an agency Leader. I think

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the same questions apply to you in a little different way. What do you have to

b2e33298-fbf6-4c64-9084-132279a2d872

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'give' to North American Churches to move them into partnership? We have not

5638e306-4a04-41f1-adc7-5b528b65be02

00:05:23.540 --> 00:05:27.760

asked those kinds of questions very often. We see churches as being a source of money, as

78c644b5-2091-4be7-bda1-b8ca4994b50d

00:05:27.760 --> 00:05:29.310

being a source of people, as being a

a5213d66-c3c7-4e8f-b93a-519a63afbead

00:05:29.310 --> 00:05:33.930

source of prayer. But we don't think about giving, and unfortunately, its really

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00:05:33.930 --> 00:05:38.570

had a negative impact on the Church. And so many churches I hear saying we've

abbaa8e5-f6b6-44b3-8a82-f2c68f15830e

00:05:38.570 --> 00:05:43.150

got exciting partnerships but they have nothing to do with their field workers, they have nothing to do with

3d82d58d-bd11-463f-954b-3120927be2b4

00:05:43.150 --> 00:05:48.220

an agency. Now, if you want to change that, if you want to be a part of their

05681e4e-f39c-498b-8d5e-a8782237d678

00:05:48.220 --> 00:05:53.000

partnerships, you need to say, "What do we have to give?", "How do we

serve churches and let's

d1e17ae6-83f2-45e8-87a6-14ae060be8bd

00:05:53.000 --> 00:05:59.030

develop partnerships?" We spend the whole session on that. What do you have to 'get'?

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00:05:59.030 --> 00:06:03.390

Again, I would like to push aside the usual 'get' framework

81f0185c-c41a-4f91-a451-3677b6e3320d

00:06:03.390 --> 00:06:07.810

and think about a classic people that you need to 'get', if you're going to

0462e98e-e184-4be0-8205-a479b780b8e2

00:06:07.810 --> 00:06:10.700

have effective partnerships and that's facilitators.

86fb1175-98e0-47e9-a3c7-ab4a805140f7

00:06:10.700 --> 00:06:15.610

Agencies have been recruiting 'Doers' - go to the field to plant a church,

7f20a7a7-f2c5-48e3-b3dc-ca290f6fe24f

00:06:15.610 --> 00:06:20.850

go to the field to do medicine, or teach English, whatever. But more and more, we need people who

30f38184-b10e-4b1d-b8d6-c66ef80929b5

00:06:20.850 --> 00:06:23.940

bring the ability to be a facilitator of

496e05c3-f71b-4353-b696-4da6ea3aaf24

00:06:23.940 --> 00:06:29.480

others. And those people are often in our churches, they may not be missionaries. They may never

09830a46-1074-4115-9d2c-04b472dcc95c

00:06:29.480 --> 00:06:34.020

be a missionary, or they may be a very different kind of missionary. But they can use

a9f3040a-3c59-452b-a715-c28d8b37c40b

00:06:34.020 --> 00:06:38.400

those kinds of guests to help you facilitate these kinds of

8cc8782c-ff54-4e05-aa30-687c77c646d5

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effective reciprocal partnerships. But how do you get them, and how do

6e6f0bca-b34b-4ad1-ba2c-7226e4f4fbc6

00:06:43.060 --> 00:06:46.010

you mobilize is a whole new question. What about

a82743b2-7eed-4244-bc0c-8ee091de4bad

00:06:46.010 --> 00:06:50.920

the 'conversations? Multiple conversations that need to flow around us  
but

3ad6dfd4-71a0-48d4-9226-701a95461de3

00:06:50.920 --> 00:06:55.790

one I'll focus on right now is the conversation with your Field  
Workers

abcaaff7-aa21-4749-b331-ad58f3e11617

00:06:55.790 --> 00:07:00.120

about how they could facilitate, and encourage,

c4b78825-0e7b-4ffa-b281-227529f73f8f

00:07:00.120 --> 00:07:04.950

and stimulate reciprocal partnerships with their churches? Most of  
them

9a04527b-664b-4145-9f71-e7fb9a5eec90

00:07:04.950 --> 00:07:09.580

have no idea how to do that. You need to help them. Say, "Here,

724e55f5-5502-4cfe-801a-f0e37a61d822

00:07:09.580 --> 00:07:14.730

we can help you engage your church in new and exciting ways". Okay,

d94c4215-1fae-4874-a723-f12f7bc07c58

00:07:14.730 --> 00:07:18.640

lastly, we're going to talk about Network Leaders. Maybe you're in a  
network and you

48e3d2a3-cf9f-4c4e-8eae-9fa24893f72a

00:07:18.640 --> 00:07:23.500

have some churches. Many networks know some churches but it seems like  
it's stalled out in terms

b7e08864-a33f-461e-8ca1-8fb32e241e23

00:07:23.500 --> 00:07:28.500

of adding churches. What could that look like? What about the 'give'  
question.

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00:07:28.500 --> 00:07:33.460

The biggest thing I think, you as a network, have to give to engage in the North American

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Church is the ability to tell the big story. Churches need

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00:07:38.580 --> 00:07:43.310

the big narrative. They need to be able to say, here's the situation,

098ca148-4ae6-4cfe-9787-c4c5f94893f0

00:07:43.310 --> 00:07:48.140

here's the need, here's the opportunities, here's what God is doing, here's what you

05e72363-2c6b-4bbd-bb31-da15ec94a8a7

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could do. And use the network to tell that big story.

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00:07:53.010 --> 00:07:57.590

And, continually tell it. It's not a one-time thing, either it needs to go on and on and on or there needs

102ff757-d860-4c43-8b61-c38d7e76d48e

00:07:57.590 --> 00:08:02.740

to be a regular communication to keep churches engaged. What about the 'getting'?

8ea57d18-a062-4f3a-8047-bf24c66429bf

00:08:02.740 --> 00:08:07.330

Well, the 'getting' can relate to the 'giving' in that particular case, because the churches have

8ccf1f2e-f1f3-4f3e-9287-03bc306734ae

00:08:07.330 --> 00:08:11.810

all these people with gifts for telling stories.

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00:08:11.810 --> 00:08:16.700

And they have video people, they have writers, and editors, they have Social-Media people,

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00:08:16.700 --> 00:08:20.300

and all kinds of resource people that are not being tapped

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00:08:20.300 --> 00:08:22.820

for missions sitting in the church. How could you

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help churches mobilize those kinds of people to tell that story that would

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00:08:27.060 --> 00:08:32.610

serve everybody. And then lastly, the Conversation question: I would just encourage using

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network to sit down and really listen to churches that are not

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00:08:37.100 --> 00:08:41.920

engaged in your network but should be. Why aren't they? I think that

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00:08:41.920 --> 00:08:46.820

there's some barriers that I hear mentioned a number of times that we could

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00:08:46.820 --> 00:08:51.670

address but they need to talk to you about that and then

8cc75b8c-28c4-4bbe-af0b-3c1f1bec9f10

00:08:51.670 --> 00:08:56.520

say, "Hey, how can we help you get over those barriers to get engaged, and get engaged

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00:08:56.520 --> 00:09:02.230

in a long-term?" So those are the three questions for every group related to Reciprocal Partnerships.

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00:09:02.230 --> 00:09:06.560

What do you have to give?

What do you have to get?

and what in-depth conversations do

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00:09:06.560 --> 00:09:10.440

you need to have to make these partnerships, new partnerships,

26a13cd3-12a7-45cb-8a8b-36521fe9cf2b

00:09:10.440 --> 00:09:25.400

reciprocal? I pray to God will bless you in that effort. Thanks for listening. Bye.