

## Church Planting Information

The purpose of an assessment center is to assist conferences in finding persons who are gifted in a specialized area of ministry called church planting. These persons should be entrepreneurial in spirit to begin this very challenging aspect of church ministry.

The next three times these events will be held are:

- October 9-12, 2002 – Detroit, Michigan
- February 19-22, 2003 – Pacific Southwest area
- May 28-31, 2003 – Plymouth, Minnesota

What takes place in an assessment center?

1. Church planters are divided into small groups to do a case study of a certain church that is experiencing some internal problems.
2. Each Planter is asked (prior knowledge) to preach a brief ten minute sermon and explain their call to ministry to the group
3. Various testing instruments are given to help understand their leadership style and personality, i.e. LEAD, Myers Briggs, and DISC
4. Evangelism exercise
5. How to plant a church seminar
6. Assessment team leaders will at different times conduct individual and couple interviews asking general questions about their marriage and personal lives.
7. General session with all assessors to review each of the planting candidates. This is usually a 6-8 hour process of reviewing our observations of each candidates in the various exercises that was done for the last two or three days. Each candidate is given one of three recommendations:
  - Recommendation to begin church planting right away
  - Conditional Recommendation – ready to plant but not at this time
  - Not Recommended – this person does not have the gifts, etc. to do this type of ministry
8. The last morning there is an exit interview with each couple in order to explain to them our group's decision and recommendation.

After the assessment period, there are a variety of training programs available through the Evangelical Covenant Church for church planters. These seminars are offered throughout the year at various places across the country.