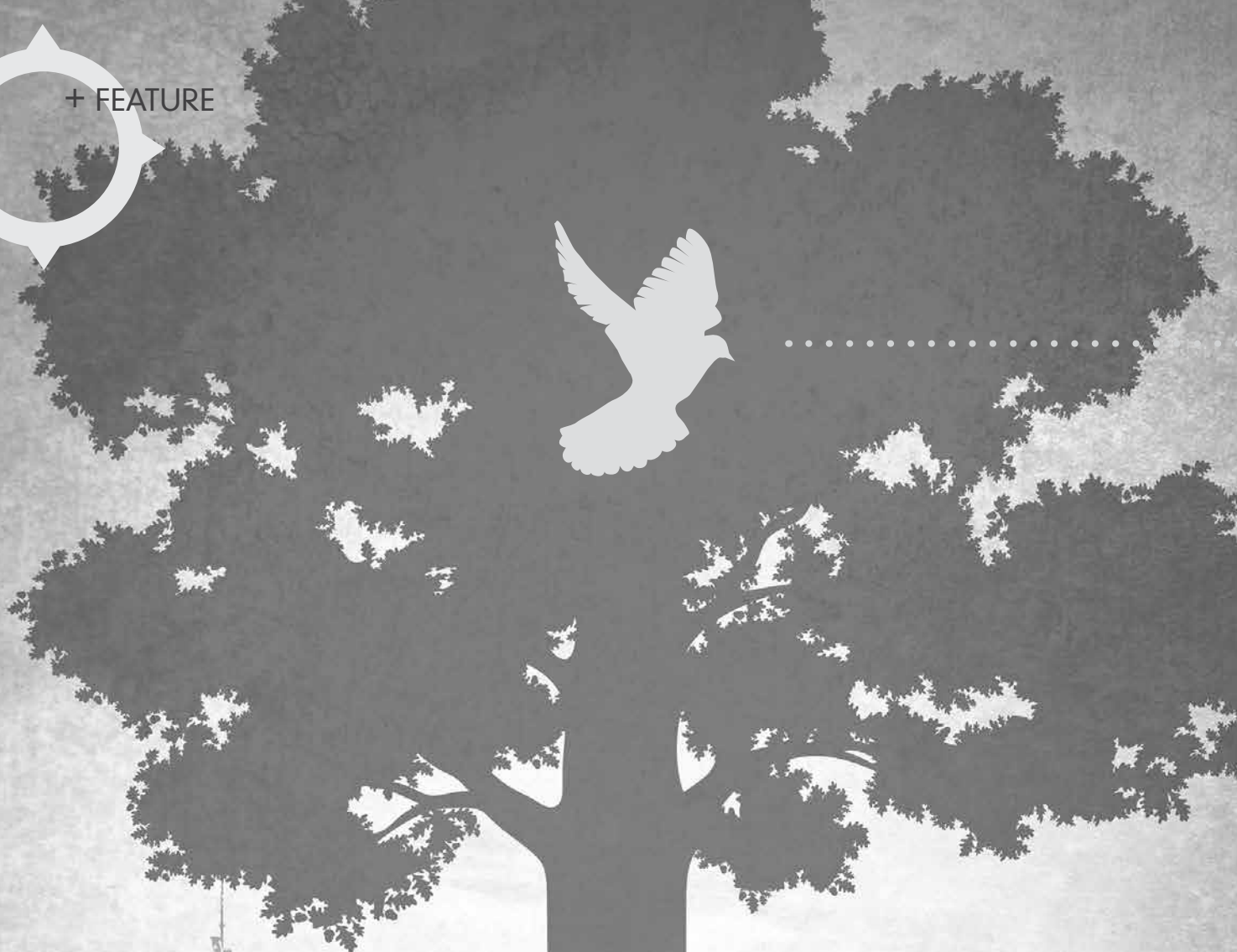




+ FEATURE



4X4 MOVEMENTS

COMING SOON TO AN UNREACHED PEOPLE NEAR YOU!



JEFF SUNDELL

Jeff Sundell spent ten years spreading the gospel among Tibetan Buddhists in northern India and Nepal. He now oversees a growing number of emerging T4T movements throughout the U.S. focused on unreached and unengaged peoples. He and his wife, Angela live in Booger Hollow, NC with their kids Caleb, Abigail, and Miriam. You may contact Jeff at: JSundell@dirtrroadconnect.net

The Holy Spirit is birthing an increasing number of generational movements around the world among previously unengaged and unreached peoples. In 2009, God led Jeff Sundell from helping launch those movements in Asia to pursuing them here in the U.S. MF has covered this story in several past issues (Mar-Apr '11, Jul-Aug '12, and May-Jun '13). What follows is a sampling from Jeff's latest report.

In Someone has to be First: The Power of Precedent,¹ Steve Smith explains the essential role of precedent in imparting vision for God's people to apply His promises. Jeff's success provides such precedent as U.S. "4x4" movement starts are now developing toward reaching the unengaged among us.

Do "try this at home," but don't try this alone—without guidance from the Holy Spirit and coaching from others.

T4T & DBS MERGE IN THE US

In Jan/Feb 2011, *MF* first introduced readers to the T4T (Training for Trainers) model of Church Planting Movements, and in March the book² was released here in the U.S.

Since then, this "re-Revolution" has multiplied steadily in the U.S. with an ultimate agenda of reaching all of the unengaged and unreached peoples represented here (see the 50-5-50 Vision sidebar on page 9). As of December, 2013 Jeff Sundell reports these developments:

- 30 solid leaders, and 20 emerging leaders,
- 27 cities with T4T multiplication, some with 3rd or 4th generation reproduction. In 13 of these, churches are mostly planting new churches; in the other 14, disciples are mostly multiplying disciples within existing churches.
- These developing movements are using a hybrid of T4T and Discovery Bible Study (DBS)³—disciples are taught a simple gospel presentation to share with friends, family and strangers. Some become Christians immediately, while others show spiritual hunger or apathy. New Christians and the spiritually hungry then engage in Discovery Bible Study together in the central third of the T4T 3/3rds format.

SOME EMERGING 4X4 MOVEMENTS IN THE U.S.

Austin, TX

Multiple streams of 3rd generation discipleship have developed just since April 2013, when the first 40 teams of two identified 400 potential houses of peace. Sixty groups were formed in 60 days, and by December more than 100 groups had formed in 36 communities, with more than 250 professions of faith in a variety of ethnicities. Read Fred & Melissa's Story on p.12: "No Longer 'Business as Usual.'"

Memphis, TN

Zach and Ron are seeing young African American males coming to Christ and sharing at the 4th generation and beyond. They also work with a medical doctor who has 4th generation and beyond disciples among medical students.

Zach and Ron started training four groups the second week in February. Within eight weeks they had 32, in 12 weeks they had 50 groups, with two in the 4th Gen. As of December, 2013 Zach and Ron had ten 4th Gen disciples and two 5th Gen groups. They held trainings in nine countries in 2013, and are now doing trainings within a prison and a college campus.

San Antonio, TX

Chuck is training others via Google Hangouts, and has a global, on-line network of collaborators.

He reports...

In San Antonio:

- 17 New Groups
- 11 2nd Gen Groups
- 1 3rd Gen Group

and around the world: (from voluntary reporting by one third of Chuck's network):

- 128 New Groups (22 Churches)
- 60 2nd Gen Groups
- 14 3rd Gen Groups

Read Chuck's Story on p.16: "No Longer 'Discipleship as Usual.'"

Nashville, TN

David and James are focusing on Unreached People Groups (UPGs) and Unengaged Unreached People Groups (UUPGs). Last October they hosted 50 trainees to go into UPG Communities and share the gospel with 400. About 50 decided to follow Christ, leading to 12 new groups involving immigrants from: Iraq, North Sudan, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Nepal, and Congo.⁴

Fishers, IN

Gary's Onward Church is a late 2011 church plant in the T4T model. By late 2013 it had grown to 200 groups with more than 1,000 people and five generations. And more than 50% of participants were non-Christians before joining one of these groups. Read Gary's Story on p.14: "No Longer 'Church as Usual.'"

THE CATALYTIC POWER OF COLLABORATIVE LEARNING Communities of Practice (CoPs)

The goal of CoPs is to create a holy discontent with the status quo, so that we count the lost rather than the saved.

In 2006, Southern Baptist missionaries working around the world with emerging movements met for three days to discuss their various training models.

Each brought a case study of their own work to guide others in asking questions and suggesting insights, testing everything against God's Word. The resulting cross-pollination in the light of Scripture increased everyone's fruitfulness and shaped emerging "Training for Trainers" (T4T) movements. Over the next 18 months, the pace at which movements emerged and matured increased significantly!

So many great ideas emerged that later gatherings were expanded to include YWAM, Discovery Bible Study (DBS), Movements.net, Act Beyond (formerly Mission to Unreached Peoples), Antioch Church in Waco, TX, and others. This CoP had a dramatic impact on me and several others I know, and on accelerating movements.

Movements Birthing Movements

The experience of this first CoP has led additional peer CoPs to emerge among those at similar stages of pursuing movements among unengaged and unreached people groups in the U.S and around the world.

These CoPs complement traditional coaching from successful practitioners as a powerful, catalytic dynamic to inspire and accelerate new and emerging movements.

The most powerful fruit of such CoPs is their potential for birthing new movements. As a movement matures, thousands of leaders are developed from potentially diverse backgrounds who know movement dynamics from personal experience. A simple list of unengaged people groups presented in a CoP invites everyone to consider "Who in your movement could become intentional about launching a movement among some of these other groups?" This has led repeatedly to experienced trainers in existing movements helping launch other movements across Asia!

Personal relationships developed through CoPs also facilitate the launching of additional movements. One of the first nationals we worked with who became a 4G trainer—successfully cultivating multiple streams of 4th Gen disciples—has presented his case study in a variety of CoPs and other contexts, and met and influenced 80-90% of the 40+ 4G streams we are now tracking today (beyond the 10-12 4x4 movements led by others this trainer has trained.)

Now these dynamics are unfolding here in the U.S. as well.

CoP Dynamics

This is the most fruitful CoP model I have witnessed:

- Involve only a small, intimate group of 15–25 practitioners who are pursuing full-blown Movements, with no observers. (Otherwise the conversation drifts from what we have learned from the Word of God and case studies to theory and conjecture.)
- Focus on overcoming obstacles as the greatest opportunities to see God work.
- Create an atmosphere for submitting plans and strategies to the Holy Spirit and inviting other practitioners to speak into them.
- Produce action plans which lead to clear outcomes.

Cross-Pollination

CoP participants don't try to convert each other to "their" approach. Instead they respect what others are doing while reevaluating what they themselves are doing. They gather to discover practices which can lead to more fruit,⁵ with the result that former "distinctives" are becoming adopted as "fruitful practices."

For example emerging U.S. movements:

- build on the "7 Commands of Christ" from George Patterson's "Obedience-Oriented Discipleship,"⁶
- utilize T4T evangelism to identify Persons of Peace,
- employ DBS (in a T4T three-thirds format) to disciple seekers and new believers into reproducing leaders,
- involve Bible Storytelling to accelerate the resulting movements, and
- make use of Generational Mapping⁷ for reporting and diagnosing.


Iron on Iron (IoI) sessions

IoI is another important development, in which peers gather to discuss what they can do differently in the next two weeks to see a breakthrough.

CONCLUSION

If God leads you to seek Him for a movement, don't neglect these powerful CoP and IoI resources.

Explore these online communities, then join one or start your own:

- T4Tusa.com
- Movement.net
- [Facebook.com/groups/278251675548545](https://www.facebook.com/groups/278251675548545)
- [Facebook.com/citychurchwoodbine](https://www.facebook.com/citychurchwoodbine)
- CityChurchMovement.com. 

¹ MissionFrontiers.org/issue/article/someone-has-to-be-first

² Smith, Steve and Kai, Ying. *T4T Discipleship Re-Revolution: The Story Behind the World's Fastest Growing Church Planting Movement and How it Can Happen in Your Community!* WIGtake Resources, 2011

³ MissionFrontiers.org/issue/article/small-groups-that-have-the-dna-of-a-disciple-making-movement

⁴ Hear David and James' story: movements.net/2013/11/24/teaching-the-world-in-your-backyard.html (45 min).

⁵ Such as the "Ten Universal Elements" identified by David Garrison in *Church Planting Movements: How God is Redeeming a lost World*. WIGtake Resources, 2003

⁶ Learn more at www.PeopleOfYes.com

⁷ www.missionfrontiers.org/issue/article/generational.mapping

THE 50-5-50 VISION: "NO PLACE LEFT" (ROMANS 15:23)

- 50 G4 trainers (who have launched a full "4x4" movement),
- raised up over 5 years (2013-2017),
- in 50 U.S. majority-minority cities (2,500 total trainers).

No longer are the ends of the earth only thousands of miles away. God is bringing Acts 1:8 to our doorstep.

In the next 10 years, an increasing number of U.S. cities will be majority-minority (the majority of residents being minority peoples from Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America).

This creates unprecedented opportunity for U.S. disciples to train and multiply among Unreached People Groups (UPGs) and Unengaged Unreached People Groups (UUPGs) here at home, then take or send experienced disciplers from within these groups back to their homeland.

For example:

- A high caste Hindu, recently won to Christ and trained in generational discipleship among his people in South Carolina, has gone to work with a team serving directly among high caste Hindus in his homeland.
- In late 2013 a team started a dozen multiplication groups among UPGs and UUPGs in Tennessee.

Early adopters of the 50-5-50 vision include E3 Partners and a variety of emerging U.S. T4T 4x4 movements. And participation is open to any group or individual pursuing 4x4 movements among UPGs and UUPGs.

To learn more or join, visit 50-5-50network.com