

A scenic view of a coastal town in Maine, featuring white houses and a church on a hillside overlooking the water. A vibrant rainbow arches across the sky above the town. The text 'IMPACT: MAINE' is overlaid in large white letters at the top.

IMPACT: MAINE

Winning Maine Communities to Christ

The History

A few years ago I was going through an intense period of seeking God for what He wanted me to do. The church I belonged to had a prayer chapel – a facility completely devoted to and anointed for prayer. I would go there daily before work and after work, seeking and worshipping my Lord. I would fast regularly. This period of seeking God was intense and lasted for over a year. Slowly God began to unveil to me a plan, a process, to win cities for Him. The goal was to go into a city and months later leave with the majority of that city born-again. The process consisted of 6 major steps:

1. Develop unity amongst the church leaders of the city.
2. Develop unity and enthusiasm amongst the church of the city.
3. Pray for each and every person in the city over a protracted period of time, amplified by periodic citywide concerts of prayer.
4. Blitz the community with heavy and relevant advertising.
5. Hold evangelistic events continuously until the Holy Spirit said to stop.
6. Disciple the new converts.

Following this I became aware of Ed Silvoso's work in prayer evangelism and about the extraordinary moves of God in places like Columbia and Kenya and later in Brazil. Note that no part of the above strategy was taken from these events, the strategy was given to me directly by God before I was even aware of them. Nevertheless, these events, which mirror the strategy God gave me, confirmed that such a strategy to win cities is indeed possible.

Later, in an intense worship environment God told me to write a book detailing the strategy He gave me. 2011 was spent writing this book, entitled *Win Your City: A Strategic Guide to Achieve and Sustain Revival in Your Community*.

The Process

Phase One – Church Leadership

For the transformation and renewal process to work the church leaders must unite under a common banner of love. This phase starts with a leader's breakfast where differences are aired, repentance encouraged, strategy solidified, and commitment established. The church leadership must also execute the vision for the city. They form the executive council and select the team leaders, such as treasurer, worship, children, media, etc. Refer to chapters 1-2 of Win Your City, especially pages 34-36.

Phase Two – the Church

This phase is based on 2 Chronicles 7:14 and Joel 2:13-32. The condition and actions of the church are critical to achieving true revival in your city. This phase starts with a citywide church gathering approximately 7 months prior to the IMPACT events. God demands humility, holiness, and prayer on the part of His people. The church prays for each and every resident in the city individually. Refer to chapters 3-6 of Win Your City.

Phase Three – Media Blitz and IMPACT Events

Just prior to the IMPACT events a massive media campaign is launched. This should include every available form of media in your community. This media blitz will be designed to impact the culture of every group segment in your city. Meaningful, relevant, powerful, evangelistic IMPACT events are presented. IMPACT stands for Invasion Ministries Producing Actual Community Transformation as opposed to CRUSADE, which can be defined as Costly, Repetitious, Uninspiring, Systematic Approaches Delivered Everywhere. Refer to chapters 7-8 of Win Your City.

Phase Four – Discipleship and Follow-up

The Great Commission says we are to "make disciples", not make converts. So in order to have true city transformation a discipleship program must be undertaken for all the new converts. Refer to page 72 and chapters 9-10 of Win Your City.

Unity

"The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God." 2 Corinthians 4:4

The unbeliever is blinded so that they cannot see the light of the Gospel. Unity amongst the church in a city removes those blinders and reveals Jesus to the unbelievers. Mass conversions are possible and history has proven it. We have only to use the proper key.

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

*... For there the Lord command[s] the blessing—Life forevermore.
Ps 133*

Life forevermore, or everlasting life, can only be obtained through the shed blood of Jesus. So, if God's people dwell together in unity, God commands a blessing that includes everlasting life. When God commands something, it is done! Essentially, when Christians dwell together in unity, the blinders talked of in the Corinthians scripture are removed, producing a readily available everlasting life that is not hindered.

In John 17:20-23 Jesus is essentially praying that the promise of Psalm 133 would be fulfilled for believers.

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one. . . so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

This Scripture clearly says that bringing believers to complete unity enables the world (unbelievers) to believe that Jesus was sent.