

Know the Bible

Paul's preparation for being a church planter was being steeped in Scripture 'from birth.' His *modus operandi* was to open the Scriptures and point to Christ. When we plant churches, we are not primarily in the world of process and start-up culture (even if we can learn from them - and we will!), but we are doing spiritual work with spiritual tools. The apostles devoted themselves to prayer and to the word. We need to remember that what people are converted by is what they are converted to...

Philip Moore has been pastoring and planting churches in the east of Paris for the past 12 years. He is currently European director for Acts 29, working to build relationships between local church-planting churches and church planters all over Europe. With over 50 countries and a population of over 700 million people the European continent, once the most Christianised in the world, is now a mission field. It is Philip's privilege, as European director of A29, to see what God is doing in our continent, and to encourage church-planting initiatives from Ireland to Turkey, from Denmark to Italy through assessment, coaching, training, and supporting of church planters and church-planting churches. Philip is married to Rachel, and they have 5 children.

J. D. Gilmore was born in Italy, where his parents were missionaries. God's grace opened his eyes to the good news of the gospel as a teenager. J. D. and his wife are passionate about the spread of the gospel in Italy, where they have been involved in church planting for many years. He now coordinates Impatto (Acts 29 in Italy) as well as being involved in setting up gospel-centred movements in Italy and the Balkans.

I. The word of God progresses : Acts 2:47; 5:14; 6:7; 11:21, 24; 12:24; 16:5; 19:20

A. Two essential things for conversion

1. A relationship of love and trust

2. Access to the bible

B. What people are converted by is what people are converted to

1. Personalities

2. Techniques

3. Shows

4. The gospel

II. Paul's practice

A. Acts 13:4, 15, 42, 44, 46, 48

B. Acts 28:30-31

III. Communicating the bible

A. Personal reading and meditation

B. Expository preaching

C. Small groups

D. One-to-one

E. In conversation

F. In family times