

Grow – Sound (Doctrine)

Think of growing a church to maturity and you might easily think of numbers, programs and methodologies. A growing, healthy church needs to be ‘sound’. It needs robust doctrine. In this session we will consider a number of different confessions of faith and then explore why, where and how the presence of doctrine in a healthy church is essential.

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 Christianized 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.

I. Grow – Sound (Doctrine)

“Walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit.” Exploring what a church that ‘walks’ is like

II. Doctrine is practical!

A. Titus 2:1

III. Confession(s) of faith

A. Apostles’ Creed

B. Nicene

C. Athanasian

D. 39 Articles

E. Westminster

F. 1689 Baptist Confession

G. Evangelical Alliance

H. Gospel Coalition

IV. Which doctrines need to be emphasised today in your culture?

A. “Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proved, and to be steady on all the battlefield besides, is mere flight and disgrace if he flinches at that point.” – Martin Luther

B. Where does the battle rage in the culture?

C. Where does the battle rage in the church?

V. In what contexts and in what formats do we emphasise sound doctrine?

A. Sermons

B. Songs

C. Prayers

D. Conversations

E. Internet vigilance

F. Missional communities

G. Membership classes

H. Webinars and courses

- I. Books
 - J. One-to-one Bible reading
- VI. Who needs to be trained in doctrine?
- A. Children
 - B. Youth
 - C. Adults
 - D. Marriage preparation
 - E. New converts
 - F. Deacons
 - G. Elders
 - H. Future planters
- VII. Are all doctrines equally important?
- A. First importance
 - B. Second importance
 - C. Third importance

Suggested Readings: