



Creating a Missional Culture: Equipping the Church for the Sake of the World
Available

September 2012

\$16, 224 pages, paper,
 978-0-8308-3653-6

JR Woodward is a church planter, activist, consultant, missiologist, speaker and writer. Graduating with an M.A. in global leadership from Fuller Theological Seminary, Woodward went on to cofound Kairos Los Angeles, a network of neighborhood churches in the Los Angeles area.

jrwoodward.net

There Is No *I* in Church

For many pastors, the idea of adding another thing to their already overflowing plates is enough to make them want to just give up. These pastors feel overwhelmed as they contemplate their calling: to preach, to teach, to cast vision, to evangelize, to inspire, to console, to challenge, to encourage, to stand with the poor, to love their families, and to somehow get enough rest to get up and do it all again. Overworked and under-supported, the pastor-as-one-man-band model is clearly not sustainable.

Fortunately, missiologist and church planter JR Woodward has provided a manual for struggling pastors everywhere. *Creating a Missional Culture* will give pastors the practical tools they need to lead more effectively and to spread the responsibilities of ministry and mission more evenly between themselves and the laity. Pastors will

- learn how to assess their church's culture and understand how the culture of the congregation will help or hinder the church's maturity
- understand what missional culture is and why it is so important
- discover the five environments that unleash a missional imagination in God's people
- reconsider their leadership style and learn why polycentric leadership may make more sense than hierarchical leadership given the realities of living in a digital age
- learn how to identify, cultivate and multiply the five equippers in the congregation: apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers
- discover the power of stories, liturgies, rituals and rhythms in developing a discipleship culture that reshapes peoples' desire for God and his kingdom

"If the church is going to cultivate a fruitful missional ethos, it needs a variety of gifted leaders working together as a community to stimulate the entire body to join God in the renewal of all things," Woodward notes.