



## WHAT JESUS STARTED: Joining the Movement, Changing the World

**~Steve Addison**

### ABOUT

The Christian movement began with Jesus. He founded something completely new in human history and his achievement has never been matched.

Every new generation of his disciples must sit at the feet of Jesus and learn from his example as the founder of a missionary movement.

What does that look like? What do missionary movements do? In *What Jesus Started* Steve Addison identifies the six activities that characterized the ministry of Jesus as it began in the Gospels, and as it continued through his followers in the book of Acts. Finally he outlines what it means to follow Jesus and fish for people today.



### STEVE ADDISON

Steve has spent most of his life studying and participating in movements that change the world.

Steve is married to Michelle. Together they lead MOVE ([www.movenetwork.org](http://www.movenetwork.org)), a mission agency devoted to training and deploying workers who multiply communities of Jesus' disciples everywhere.

He is the author of *Movements that Change the World: Five Keys to Spreading the Gospel* (IVP: 2011). He blogs at: [www.movements.net](http://www.movements.net)



## REVIEWS

In this highly accessible book, my old comrade Steve articulates something of the genius of Jesus' apostolic ministry in founding the movement that claimed his name. Jesus is the prototypal missionary. Therefore not only is his life worthy of moral and spiritual emulation, but his methodology is as well."

**~Alan Hirsch**

author of *The Permanent Revolution*

Addison seamlessly intertwines the biblical narrative with examples of how today's disciples of Christ are seeing the same miraculous activity of God. If you want to be a part of that movement that Jesus launched, you'll want to draw deeply from *What Jesus Started*.

**~David Garrison**

author of *Church Planting Movements*

Addison identifies the patterns of movement leadership shared by both Jesus and Paul in the New Testament with helpful examples of what God is doing around the world today.

**~Neil Cole**

author of *Organic Church*

Jesus connects with the lost, shares the gospel, trains disciples, gathers them in communities, and multiplies them to go out and do the same. Steve's insight into this process is clear and communicable. This book will challenge you to think more like a movement and less like an institution.

**~Ed Stetzer**

LifeWay Research

Addison draws on biblical insights and illustrates them with modern case studies to challenge existing paradigms to return to the New Testament ethos. Fortunately, Addison does more than challenge paradigms; he offers a practical guide to begin implementing this in your community.

**~Steve Smith**

author of *T4T: A Discipleship Re-Revolution*



## SYNOPSIS

The Christian movement began with Jesus. He founded something completely new in human history and his achievement has never been matched.

Every new generation of his disciples must sit at the feet of Jesus and learn from his example as the founder of a missionary movement.

What does that look like? What do missionary movements do? In *What Jesus Started* Steve Addison identifies the six activities that characterized the ministry of Jesus as it began in the Gospels, and as it continued through his followers in the book of Acts.

**1. See the need.** Missionary movements respond to God's call to join his mission. They are moved with compassion for lost people and do not rest until the good news of salvation through Christ is proclaimed, and communities of disciples are formed, throughout the inhabited world.

**2. Connect with people.** Movements cross boundaries to establish contact with non-Christians. They seek out responsive people, who have been prepared by God to welcome the messenger and take the message to the people in their world.

**3. Share the gospel.** Movements share the good news of Jesus the Messiah and Savior. They equip new disciples to become the means by which the good news spreads throughout their communities.

**4. Train disciples.** Movements lead people to faith in Jesus Christ and teach them to obey what Jesus has commanded including the command to make disciples of others.

**5. Gather communities.** Movements form new believers into the local communities of the followers of Jesus. Each community of disciples is responsible to reach its region in depth and to contribute money, prayer, and workers who take the gospel to unreached regions.

**6. Multiply workers.** Missionary movements send out workers into new, unreached fields to advance the spread of the gospel and the formation of new communities of disciples.

There were no precedents in the ancient world for what Jesus achieved. There were no movements—religious, political, or cultural—that intentionally sought to expand geographically and cross-culturally throughout the known world.

What Jesus started continues today. Not a dying institution, but a vibrant living movement of his disciples following a risen Lord to the ends of the earth and the end of history.

*What Jesus Started: Joining the Movement, Changing the World* will be released by IVP Press on January 7, 2013.



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David Garrison  
www.churchplantingmovements.com

## INTERVIEW WITH DAVID GARRISON

### Why did you write, *What Jesus Started*?

About two years ago I looked back on the impact of my first book, *Movements that Change the World* and saw that it had done a good job of changing the way people see the world, but there was still a gap between changed thinking and changed behavior.

At the same time I was reading the Gospel of Luke and Acts and asking, “What did Jesus do (Luke) and what did he continue to do as the Risen Lord (Acts). As I studied disciple-making, church planting movements around the world I realized casting vision for movements was not enough. To help people get started we need to join the dots. People need to know what to do on Monday morning. We need to get practical.

What better place to start than by asking, “What did Jesus do?” “What did he train his disciples to do?” As the Risen Lord, “What did he empower the early church and Paul to do?” Then we can ask, “What does that look like today?” “What do we need to do?”

You’ve identified the key elements of Jesus ministry in the Gospels and his continuing ministry through his followers in Acts. What were they?

**First, Jesus saw the end.** He was moved with compassion. He looked out over Israel and saw sheep, lost without a shepherd. He wept over Jerusalem’s rejection of God’s messengers. He prepared his disciples to take the gospel to the whole world.

**Next, Jesus connected with people.** Jesus crossed whatever boundaries stood in the way and connected with people. No group was beyond his care. Jesus spent a lot of his time ministering to people, looking for the “sick” not the “healthy,” “sinners” not the “righteous”. He sought out people who knew they needed God’s mercy.

**Jesus shared the gospel.** Jesus proclaimed the good news of salvation in words and deeds. In him, God’s rule had become a present reality. He preached, he taught, he rebuked, and he invited everyone he met to repent and believe. He gave his life as a ransom for many.

**Jesus trained disciples.** Jesus led people to put their trust in him and to learn to obey his commands. He modeled and taught them a new way of life.

**Jesus gathered communities.** Jesus formed his disciples into communities characterized by faith in him, love for one another, and witness in word and deed.

**Lastly, Jesus multiplied workers.** Jesus equipped his followers to make disciples of all nations. He sent the Holy Spirit upon them so that they would continue his ministry in his power.



Steve Addison

## COMMENTS FROM STEVE ADDISON

### Where do you see these elements playing out today?

Let me tell you about the journey Michelle and I have been on. Just after I'd written *Movements that Change the World*, my wife Michelle challenged me, as only a wife can. She said, "Steve it's a great book. But when are you going to do something?"

So we set aside time on Sunday afternoons to walk and pray looking for people God had prepared. The first time we went out God led us to a young woman in a Chinese bookstore. She was what Jesus called a "person of peace" (Luke 10).

Out of that one encounter grew a ministry to migrants in our area. We connect through an English conversation club. We do discover Bible study and share the gospel. People regularly come to know Christ. Discovery Bible study is our method of discipleship. Early on we teach new believers to share with the people in their world and make disciples. We also help form simple churches wherever we can find a group of disciples.

We're training people all over Australia and in other parts of the world to begin doing the same things. We're helping them get started by joining the dots. And we're training them to train others.

We are not yet seeing multiplication movements in Australia, but we are seeing people come to faith in Christ, learn how to follow and obey him and how to spread the gospel and make disciples.

### People will ask, Does this approach work in any context?

It depends on what they mean by "work." Does it work to see the end from God's point of view? Does it work to Connect with people and Share the gospel? Does it work to Train disciples to obey what Jesus has commanded. Does it work to Gather them into communities. Does it work to multiply workers at every stage?

This is what faithfulness to the Great Commission looks like in any setting.

### Who did you write this book for?

I'm writing for anyone who passionate about to making disciples and teaching them to obey what he has commanded.

### What do you hope the book will achieve?

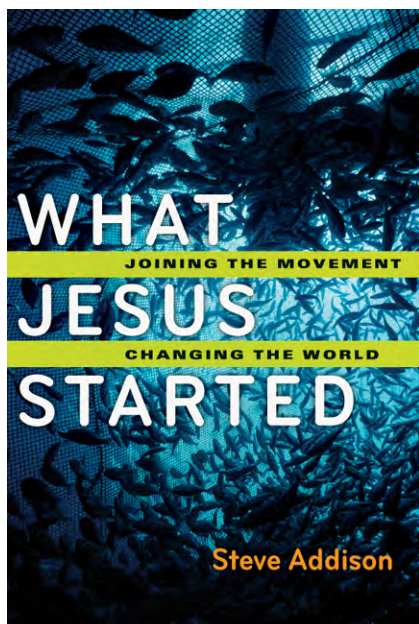
My hope is that we would rediscover the ministry of Jesus through a fresh reading of the Gospels and Acts and then base our ministries on that foundation.



**Steve Addison**

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### FACT SHEET

What Jesus Started: Joining the Movement, Changing the World.

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