

# “...EMPOWERING PASTORS & LEADERS OF CHURCHES WITH MOSTLY IMMIGRANT PEOPLE, WHO ARE REACHING THE WORLD!”

## NEW ROOTS MINISTRY

### A NEW NORMAL!

Pastors and church leaders, I hope the sentences below, quoted from Mark Sayers—pastor, author, and culture expert—are encouraging and empowering to you, during these days of the pandemic.

“We’re finding ourselves in a profound moment where there’s actually a loss of control,” notes Sayers, commenting on the recent data. “In moments like this, we’ve been reduced to an aspect of leadership that I actually think is biblical, [called] spiritual authority. It’s not positional leadership, it’s not leadership through charisma; it’s actual spiritual authority. In this moment of



disruption, I think one of the key invitations [we need to

address] is how do we lead with spiritual authority?”

“After we come out of a crisis, there’s a sense in us that wants to go back to normal,” states Sayers. “But God was already preparing a people before this [crisis]. I believe there’s going to be a remnant in the global Church who step into the invitation



[of this moment] and come back with a tenacity of faith, a spiritual resilience. ... My hope is that when dawn breaks, the Church is actually going to come back stronger.”

Sayers concludes, “My encouragement for leaders at this moment who are feeling frightened, scared or a loss of control is to step into this moment. This is an incredible moment—God wants to do something—so step into it.”→

**Gospel Conversation Training is available for your church. If interested, please let us know.**

**I continually teach Timothy Leadership Training classes.**

**Students can complete this program in about 14 months and become certified Advanced Trainers. Let me know if anyone is interested.**

**Strategic Planning for Achieving Goals is offered by New Roots Ministry. We help people to seek higher education and career advancement, so they can achieve their goals. Let me know if anyone is interested.**

(The quotes of Mark Sayers came from

<https://www.barna.com/research/new-normal-church/>)

I hope he is right. Actually, we can make sure that he is right, as we step-into this special moment. COVID-19 has been so difficult. It has caused grief through death. It has caused grief as some people have lost their businesses or their income. It has caused much sickness, including mental illness for some people. It has caused relationship stress for some and marriage-breakdown for others because they are together so much and they cannot handle the stress.

This makes me think of Jesus' words in Matthew 19—"With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." Jesus said that in response to his disciples' concern that if a person like the rich young man, who seemed good by the world's standards, had to do more to

enter heaven, "who then can be saved!?"

As a pandemic has hit the whole world, causing death, grief, bankruptcy, and depression, what are we to do, people? For man this is impossible. But for us as the Church, who serve a Living God, we now will shine, because with God all things are possible.

What might that look like for you and your church? Well, the "new normal" will probably be different. Maybe COVID-19 has forced your church to become better with technology--- Facebook livestreaming, videoing services, YouTube, Zoom, and a better website. I encourage you to keep moving forward with technology, even as you start to worship in person again. Many more people will be interested, especially through the internet, including people in your home country, because everyone has been forced to get used to new-normal.

Here are some words in the quote above which stand out for me---".... **spiritual authority**. It's not positional leadership, it's not leadership through charisma; it's actual spiritual authority. In this moment of disruption, I think one of the key invitations [we need to address] is how do we lead with spiritual authority?" We don't have to figure out new, fancy leadership styles, as much as to ask the Holy Spirit to speak in and through us, with spiritual authority!

If you wonder what that may look like for you, I would love to visit with you about the possibilities. I do believe it will be exciting!

---

Fred Wilgenburg, Director & Pastor  
New Roots Ministry  
225 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 203  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57104  
sfnewroots@gmail.com  
(605)376-6330