



Department Report

Department: Church Engagement – Establish

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Team members: Dave & Judy Wright and Eunice Free

A summary of how your department aided in accomplishing the vision of Ethnos Canada (3-5 sentences)

We are the discipler recruiting team of the Ethnos Canada PR team. Because the Canadian Church has holes in its biblical foundation, there is an ever-lessening interest in reaching the remaining unreached peoples. Our task is to disciple the church toward missions using a contextualized Canadian version of Ethnos's foundational resources and strategy called *Establish – Foundational Disciple-Making*.

Goals from 2025 (bullet points – include percentage of completion if applicable)

- **Establish 101 rewrite** (This is our gospel foundation portion that needed some heavy edits for a cleaner presentation.) This is 100% complete.
- **Establish 103 – Acts** (This is the third level of our foundational lessons.) This will be complete by June 2026.
- **Who Is God? translations** (This booklet became available in Portuguese and Mandarin this year.) This is 100% complete.
- **Maturing Church Assessment Tool** (This is an adaptation of our overseas church plant assessment tool which has been revised for the Canadian Church by a cross-section of denominational pastors and other church leaders. This resource now has two versions — a personal leaders' assessment and a general church assessment.) It is just going through a final edit and will be complete May 2026.

- **Engagement strategy** (Because the Church best grasps our resources and strategy through experience, we've continued to sharpen our Discipling Intro — a 7-hour evening plus morning engagement for 10-12 believers. This is now available in person and online.) This is 98% complete.
- **Establish website** (The PR team has put considerable time and effort into sharpening our online introduction into our foundational tools and our online sales page.) This is 100% complete.

Goals for 2026 (5-8 bullet points)

- **Establish 103 – Acts** (Complete the lessons to make them available to our disciplers) complete by June 2026.
- **Establish 102 cleanup** (These are our identity in Christ lessons — these require minor edits to bring them more in line with our current lessons.) We aim to have this completed by late summer 2026.
- **Discipler's Prep revision** (This is our equipping resource that needs a thorough revision based on what we've learned as it's been used.) We aim to have this completed by the fall of 2026.
- **Establish 104 – Romans** (This is our fourth level of lessons that we will start in the fall and hopefully complete by summer 2027.)
- **Who Is God? translations** (We would love to see this translated into the major languages of the world so that the Canadian Church can engage these peoples. We would like to focus first on the major languages of the East that are now prevalent in Canada.)
- **Engagement Bible teaching videos** (We will video the first 4 or 5 gospel foundation lessons with believers of 4 or 5 cultures to demonstrate how various cultures engage with our lessons and to demonstrate to our disciplers the method of teaching which we have found most effective.) Our aim is to have these completed by the summer of 2026.
- **Worldview Discovery Tool – Introduction** (This is a relational discovery workbook for believers of different cultures to self-discover their core beliefs so that our lessons can be better contextualized by our disciplers. After it's been edited, it will be refined in cross-cultural relationships over this next year. If it goes well, we will add a second workbook to this resource.)
- **Engagement strategy** (We will continue to conduct more Discipling Intros as requested, lead a pastors' conference to introduce our tools, conduct a Bible college mod with our tools, and whatever other doors God opens to us.)

Things You Most Enjoyed (1-3 bullet points)

- **Streamlining of our writing/editing process** (Eunice writes, I edit, Bill Janzen, a retired pastor, reviews for theology, Martin reviews for Ethnos, then we test-teach the lessons with a large cross-section of denominations. This has greatly improved our written lessons, increased their impact in the church, and removed unnecessary stress in how we introduce these lessons to the church.)
- **Increasing impact within the Church** (God is transforming lives through our personal teaching of various groups of believers, varied equipping options, sharpened Discipling Intros, and through more denominations and cultures coming on board. We've also found a way to simplify the entry point for the church to begin discipling.)
- **New resources to bless the Church** (Not every church is interested in our foundational Bible teaching, but they will engage with our Maturing Church assessment tool or Worldview Discovery tool.)
- **Cross-pollinating with the larger Ethnos team** (The PR team helped tremendously with the reworking of our website and the sharpening of our messaging, and we provided them with graphics for their needs. Another member of the broader Ethnos team is also part of our video project.)

Things You Found Most Difficult (1-3 bullet points)

- **Team** (Our team has shrunk to its smallest size since we began in 2016 — a few of our members moved onto other ministries within Ethnos or stepped out of the mission, and our Indigenous Elder went home to glory in April 2024. His passing has limited open doors to the Indigenous Church. While our smaller team has allowed us to move ahead more freely, Dave has had to assume more 'hats' to keep everything going.)
- **Finances** (The cost of our print materials are a bit cost-prohibitive, but they could be lowered by 20% if we had an additional \$25,000 in place for replacement printing costs.)

Ideas for Improving Your Department (1-3 bullet points)

- **Contact information** (Dave has been working to provide better contact info for our PR team.)
- **Additional engagement personnel** (So far, the primary engagement member is Dave because of his experience and gifting. But we could increase our engagement with the right members.)