

# Natural Church Development

## NCD Research

- ✓ 8 Quality Characteristics
- ✓ 40 Languages
- ✓ 70 Countries
- ✓ 50,000+ churches
- ✓ 1,500,000+ participants
- ✓ 136,000,000 responses

## NCD Results

- ✓ In 31 months, many churches completed 2 NCD Cycles & 3 Surveys
- ✓ 85% experienced a positive gain in quality
- ✓ We measured a 51% increase in their growth rate
- ✓ Over 1.3 million new Christians were added to local churches
- ✓ These new Christians joined churches with improving health (6 points on average)
- ✓ Churches working with a coach were 50% more effective in improving their health

I Corinthians 3:6

**"I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it Grow."**

H A V E   Y O U   H E A R D

about

# Natural Church Development

**ChurchSmart**  
RESOURCES

3830 Ohio Avenue  
St. Charles, IL 60174  
1-800-253-4276  
www.churchsmart.com

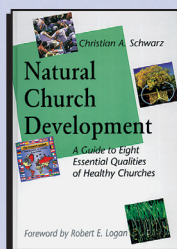
# Natural Church Development

Suggested Steps for Implementing the NCD Process in Your Church

SHEDDING NEW LIGHT  
ON CHURCH HEALTH  
AND GROWTH

## STEP 1 PREPARE

Acquaint yourself with NCD principles by reading the book: *Natural Church Development*.



### NATURAL CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

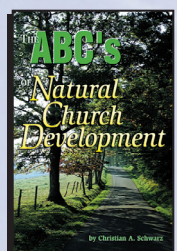
By Christian A. Schwarz

The author has done extensive research world-wide and found that healthy, growing churches seem to share eight quality characteristics.

These characteristics are: Empowering leadership, Gift-based ministry, Passionate spirituality, Effective structures, Inspiring worship service, Holistic small groups, Need-oriented evangelism, and Loving relationships. Schwarz uses the illustration of a barrel with eight staves to symbolize the eight quality characteristics. The barrel can only hold water to the height of the lowest staff. So too, Schwarz argues, a church can only grow as far as their "minimum factor," which is the lowest of the eight quality characteristics in their church. This book is a must read for pastors and lay leaders alike.

Retail \$20.00

Introduce NCD principles to your church leaders by distributing *The ABC's of Natural Church Development* booklet.



### THE ABC'S OF NATURAL CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

By Christian A. Schwarz

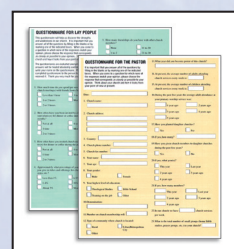
This booklet is designed to convey the key concepts of *Natural Church Development* in an informative and easy reading style. This resource is ideal for use in congregations who are implementing the natural church development survey and would

like to inform key leaders in the church of the principles of the book quickly and economically. Topics include the eight essential quality characteristics, "all-by-itself" principle and the concept of the "minimum factor." 32 page booklet.

Retail \$2.00

## STEP 2 DIAGNOSE

Conduct an NCD survey in your church to identify your minimum factor.



### NATURAL CHURCH DEVELOPMENT SURVEY

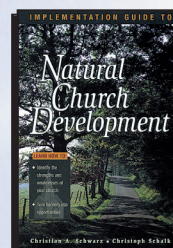
By Christian A. Schwarz & Christoph Schalk

We provide one survey for the pastor and thirty surveys for actively involved lay people in your church. The completed surveys are returned to either ChurchSmart Resources,

your denominational representative, or a Natural Church Development Coach for processing. The church receives a report identifying their minimum factor and a copy of the *Implementation Guide to Natural Church Development* and *The ABC's of Natural Church Development*. Your church may want to consider doing a survey every 12 months to track your progress and determine if your minimum factor has changed. ChurchSmart price \$175.00

## STEP 3 PLAN

Develop a strategy to raise the quality of your minimum factor by using the *Implementation Guide to Natural Church Development, Releasing Your Church's Potential*, and other available resources.



### IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE TO NATURAL CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

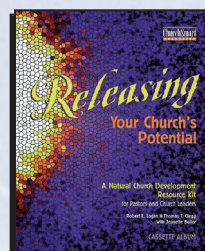
By Christian A. Schwarz & Christoph Schalk

Every church is unmistakably unique. Instead of projecting the experiences of a few successful model churches on every church, natural church development helps you discover and develop the God-given, unique nature of your church. This

workbook is based on the most comprehensive research project ever conducted on the causes of church growth. More than 1000 churches in 32 countries on all 6 continents took part in this study. A total of 4.2 million responses were analyzed. The result is an approach to church growth that won't be found in any textbook. Instead of trying to "produce" the church of Jesus Christ with human efforts, natural church development focuses on unlocking the potential that God has already put into every church.

Retail \$15.00

## STEP 4 IMPLEMENT



### RELEASING YOUR CHURCH'S POTENTIAL

By Robert E. Logan & Thomas T. Clegg with Jeannette Buller

Healthy churches are growing churches. God places within the genetic code of every congregation the potential for authentic church development. Translating this potential into reality

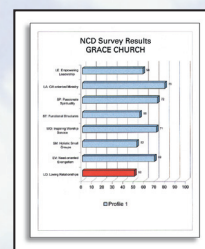
requires careful implementation of appropriate change dynamics. Anchored to the eight essential qualities confirmed through the international research of Christian Schwarz, leaders learn how to design and implement effective change strategies to develop healthy, thriving churches. This resource kit contains ten cassette tapes, reflection questions, detailed checklists, and action planning worksheets to increase your church's health. Topics include:

- Developing authentic churches
- Gift-oriented ministry
- Functional structures
- Holistic small groups
- Loving relationships
- Empowering leadership
- Passionate spirituality
- Inspiring worship
- Need-oriented evangelism
- Extending God's kingdom

Retail \$95.00

## STEP 5 EVALUATE

Monitor your progress with an annual church health check-up by completing another NCD survey.



Initial Survey



1 Year Later

Since churches are "living organisms" and not "static organizations," over time you can see how your church is progressing in each area.

Many churches have found it beneficial to walk through this process with the help of a trained NCD Coach. Please contact us for a list of trained NCD Coaches in your area.

**ChurchSmart**  
RESOURCES

3830 Ohio Avenue • St. Charles, IL 60174  
1-800-253-4276 • E-mail: orders@churchsmart.com  
www.churchsmart.com