

IS CHURCH PLANTING A GOOD FIT FOR ME?

Associate Reformed Presbyterian (ARP) Church Planting Self-Assessment

To assist you in assessing how well your present experience, training, and gifts equip you for planting a church in the ARP, we have provided rating scales for you to evaluate yourself in key areas of ministry competency. Give yourself a numerical score for each category.

Weak	Marginal	Neutral	Significant Strength	Exceptional
1	2	3	4	5

The Planter Between God and God's People

Prophet – proclaiming God's Word boldly

I have a demonstrable record of:

1. Commitment. Standing on God's Word despite the world's resistance.
2. Preaching. Persuasively proclaiming God's Word from the Biblical text, pointing to Jesus, with skillful and appropriate application to God's people and to the world.
3. Teaching. Teaching the Word often and well. I can use the Bible appropriately both to help unbelievers meet Jesus in the pages of Scripture, and to help believers grow.

Average score

Priest – sanctifying yourself and God's people for God's worship

I have a demonstrable record of:

1. Personal holiness. Pursuing personal sanctification.
2. Prayer. Praying regularly for God's name to be hallowed and for his Kingdom to come, I intercede for people, and I lead God's people into prayer.
3. Worship. Leading people well into worship of God.

Average score

King – leading God's people to fulfill God's vision

I have a demonstrable record of:

1. Calling to ministry and to church planting. Discerning a clear call from God and receiving external confirmation of the call.
2. Being a starter. Effectively starting new groups, new studies, and/or new ministries.
3. Team building. Mobilizing God's people in teams to fulfill God's purposes.

Average score

The Planter Before God's People

Disciple-Maker – Making disciples for Christ

I have a demonstrable record of:

1. Evangelism. Sharing the gospel and seeing professions of faith, and equipping others to evangelize.
2. Discipling new believers. Helping new believers grow in grace, knowledge, and practice.
3. Developing leaders intentionally. Identifying potential leaders and equipping them to grow as leaders.

Average score

Shepherd – moving in love toward God's people

I have a demonstrable record of:

1. Loving. I care deeply for the people of God.
2. Shepherding. I equip elders to shepherd the church.
3. Counseling. I am able to counsel and advise God's people.

Average score

Servant – working for the glory of God and not for my own glory

I have a demonstrable record of:

1. Being a Kingdom Seeker. Seeking the Kingdom of God rather than seeking to build my own empire.
2. Humility. Free from merely personal ambition, counting others better than myself, willing to suffer for others and for God's Kingdom, not insisting on my own way.
3. Self-management. Managing myself well: my time, talents, gifts, and money; to serve others.

Average score

The Planter's Personal Life

Son – who lives by the love of his Father

I have a demonstrable record of:

1. Living by grace. Relying on God's love and not my own performance.
2. Praying. Enjoying an intimate prayer life with God.
3. Leading. Helping and equipping others to live by grace.

Average score

Husband/Father – nurturing his family (if applicable)

I have a demonstrable record of:

1. Rightly prioritizing my family over ministry. Along with that, I have reasonable and Biblical expectations for my wife's role in the family and as a church member, and I help her fulfil her role.
2. Helping us grow in our relationship as husband and wife. We have a growing and enjoyable relationship.
3. Nurturing children. I love my children, and they respect me and my wife.

Average score

Brother – living in community with others

I have a demonstrable record of:

1. Having a mentor, mentees, and peer mentors.
2. Having an active network of friends in and outside of ministry helping me succeed.
3. Making room for the views of others. I seek out the views of others and respect those views, even if I disagree.

Average score

Average your score across all 9 ministry competencies for final average score:

Evaluation Key

- If your average score across all 9 ministry competencies is 4 or above, you are a good candidate for church planting.
- If your average score across all 9 ministry competencies is between 3 and 4, you probably need more preparation.
- If your average score across all 9 ministry competencies is 3 or below, you may fit a ministry area other than church planting.
- Note any ministry competencies where your average score is 3 or below. These are priority areas for further preparation.