

PRIMARY SOURCES & FURTHER STUDY

Articles & Books

- “What is Polycentric Leadership?” by Joseph Handley
- “Polycentric Mission Leadership: Toward a new theoretical model for global leadership” by Joseph Handley
- “Polycentrism as the New Leadership Paradigm” by Joseph Handley
- *Polycentric Missional Leadership* by Joseph Handley
- *Polycentric Missiology: 21st Century mission from everyone to everywhere* by Allen Yeh
- *Inalienable: How Marginalized Voices Can Help Save the American Church* by Eric Costanzo, Daniel Yang, and Matthew Soerens

UNICENTRIC vs POLYCENTRIC

Unicentric

- 1 Center of power
- 1 Cultural lens
- 1 Definition of success
- 1 History
- 1 Way imposed on others

Polycentric

- Multiple influencers
- Shared decision making
- Diverse values & priorities
- Varied methods and resources
- Nimble, responsive, proactive

POLYCENTRISM IN THE BIBLE

The Triune God

Proverbs Wisdom Literature

Early Church Growth & Leadership

UNICENTRISM IN MISSIONS

From the WEST to the REST

POLYCENTRISM IN MISSIONS

From EVERYWHERE to EVERYONE

POLYCENTRISM IN MISSIONS

But WHY?

- It honors the image of God in each of us
- It aligns with biblical teaching on the Body of Christ
- It reveals blind spots – we don't know what we don't know
- It counteracts generational hurts and sins
- It speaks to a generation that cares more about character than status

POLYCENTRISM IN MISSIONS

Not WHAT but HOW?!

- **Charisma:** a mature faithfulness that is attractive to followers
- **Collaborative:** works without self-promotion for the good of the team
- **Communal:** creates a community with shared values and mutual vision

*From "Polycentrism as the New Leadership Paradigm" by Joseph Handley

POLYCENTRISM IN MISSIONS

Not WHAT but HOW?!

- **Relational:** realizes that relationships are the foundation for leadership
- **Freedom:** ability to make decisions and operate according to the needs of the situation rather than bound by past experiences or structures
- **Diverse:** appreciates the differences in others by being better together

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