

# The Outpost Network

## “APEST IN MOVEMENT”

APEST, an acronym for Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Shepherd, and Teacher, is the leadership development framework described by Paul in Ephesians 4. At The Outpost Network, APEST plays a pivotal role in helping us multiply new leaders.

By recognizing and fostering these five-fold leadership gifts, APEST empowers diverse leaders within our network. It ensures a holistic approach to ministry, echoing the early Church's multifaceted leadership. APEST equips our team to love, disciple, and multiply effectively, promoting health as we strive toward our goal of seeing a disciple-making movement in Tampa Bay.

“But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift. Therefore it says, “When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men.” ( In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.)

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.”

- Ephesians 4:7-16 -



	Definition	Focus/ Core Task	Impact when in sync with other ministries	Impact when monopolizing
<div>Apostolic</div> <div>Prophetic</div> <div>Evangelistic</div> <div>Shepherding (Pastoral)</div> <div>Teaching</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>essentially the steward of the DNA of the church</li> <li>as the "sent ones," apostolic ministry and leadership ensures that Christianity is faithfully transmitted from one context to another context and from one era to another era</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>extending Christianity</li> <li>guarding and embedding DNA of the church both theologically and missionally</li> <li>establishing the church in new contexts</li> <li>"founding" the other ministries (A-&gt;PEST)</li> <li>development of leaders and leadership systems</li> <li>strategic missional perspective</li> <li>translocal networking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>healthy manifestation of Apostolic Genius</li> <li>extension of the faith</li> <li>authentic Christianity</li> <li>missional mode of church is fostered</li> <li>healthy translocal networking</li> <li>growth of church and movement</li> <li>pioneering mission</li> <li>experimentation with new forms of incarnational church</li> <li>manifestations of APEST</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>tendency to autocratic styles of leadership</li> <li>lots of wounded people in the organization due to task and future orientation of the apostle</li> <li>lots of challenge and change, not enough healthy transition - this requires the pastoral/teaching functions</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>essentially the person who has an ear toward God, acts as the mouth of God, and therefore speaks for God- often in tension with dominant consciousness</li> <li>truth-teller to the believer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>discerning and communicating God's will</li> <li>ensuring the obedience of the covenant community</li> <li>questioning the status quo</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>church's obedience and faithfulness to God</li> <li>God-oriented faith (less "fear of man")</li> <li>challenge to prevailing consciousness</li> <li>countercultural action</li> <li>social justice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>one-dimensional, "hobby-horse" feel to leadership's conception of church</li> <li>factiousness</li> <li>exclusive and even offensive</li> <li>propensity to be overly activist and driven</li> <li>sometimes and overly "spiritual" feel</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>essentially the recruiter, the carrier, and the communicator of the gospel message</li> <li>truth-teller to the unbeliever</li> <li>calls for personal response to God's redemption in Jesus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>making clear the offer of salvation so that people might hear and respond in faith</li> <li>recruiting to the cause</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>expansion of the faith through a response to God's personal call</li> <li>organic numerical growth of the people of God</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>loss of overarching vision and communal health</li> <li>narrow perspectives on faith, limited to "simple gospel"</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>essentially, the pastor cares for and develops the people of God by leading, nurturing, protecting, and disciplining them</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cultivating a loving and spiritually mature Network of relationships and community</li> <li>making disciples</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>nurture into the faith and the community</li> <li>loving relationships</li> <li>growth in discipleship</li> <li>sense of connectedness</li> <li>worship and prayer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>closed, nonmissional community</li> <li>co-dependency between church and pastor (messiah complex)</li> <li>don't rock the boat approach to organization</li> <li>if too "feminine" in expression, males can be alienated</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>essentially the ministry that clarifies the revealed mind/will of God so that the people of God gain wisdom and understanding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>discernment</li> <li>guidance</li> <li>helping the faith community to explore and understand the mind of God</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>understanding of God and the faith</li> <li>truth guides behavior</li> <li>self-awareness</li> <li>devotion to learning and integration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>theological dogmatism</li> <li>Christian gnosticism ("saved" by knowledge of the Bible and theology- Bible replaces the Holy Spirit)</li> <li>control through ideas: pharisaism ("is it lawful?")</li> </ul>