

Alan Hirsch

Quotes

Church, Jesus, Adventure, Christian, People, Journey, Community, Risk, Leadership, Way, Lying, Culture, Mean, World, Religious, Innovation, Safety, Quests, Action, Missions

The church of Jesus needs to wake up from the exile of passivity and embrace liminality and adventure or continue to remain a religious ghetto for culturally co-opted, fearful, middle-class folk.

~Alan Hirsch

Because we believe that somewhere in the nest of paradigms contained in the phrase "missional church" lies nothing less than the future viability of Western Christianity.

~Alan Hirsch

Building community for its own sake is like attending a cancer support group without having cancer.

~Alan Hirsch

You can do more with 12 disciples than with 1,200 religious consumers.

~Alan Hirsch

It's not so much that the church has a mission, it's that the mission of God has a church.

~Alan Hirsch

The safety-obsessed church lacks the inner dynamic to foster profound missional impact in our time.

~Alan Hirsch

A retreatist spirituality is not a spirituality that can, or will, transform the world in Jesus's name.

~Alan Hirsch

We will have to take risks, to chance failure, to be willing to walk away from the familiar paths that have brought us to this point.

~Alan Hirsch

Every Christian is a sent one. There is no such thing as an unsent Christian.

~Alan Hirsch

In missional churches, the baby birds have been pushed out of the nest and are learning to fly for themselves.

~Alan Hirsch

You cannot sell a Christendom approach to a post-Christian world. They are anti-Christian.

~Alan Hirsch

Real leaders ask hard questions and knock people out of their comfort zones and then manage the resulting distress.

~Alan Hirsch

But the standard churchy spirituality doesn't require any real action, courage, or sacrifice from its attendees.

~Alan Hirsch

Worship that is in some way divorced from mission is counterfeit worship

~Alan Hirsch

Many church folk, in their self-conscious attempt to be overtly morally upright, emit all the wrong signals, thus messing with people's perception of the gospel.

~Alan Hirsch

You plant the gospel. You don't plant churches.

~Alan Hirsch

There's no such religious force in the West as powerful as consumerism.

~Alan Hirsch

Mission is the practical demonstration, whether by speech or by action, of the glorious lordship of Jesus.

~Alan Hirsch

There's no such thing as an unsent Christian. You have already been SENT.

~Alan Hirsch

The kingdom of God is a crash-bang opera: the king is dramatic, demanding, and unavoidable.

~Alan Hirsch

But herein lies the rub: Christianity has been on a long-term trend of decline in every Western cultural context that we can identify.

~Alan Hirsch

In a world that demands service we position ourselves as servants.

~Alan Hirsch

This submission to the threshold of a cross is at the very root of our following Jesus; it changes the game completely.

~Alan Hirsch

The ultimate solution to the problem of spiritual complacency is to create a systematically embedded culture of holy urgency.

~Alan Hirsch

It is vital to see ourselves as part of an ongoing journey started by our heroes in the Scriptures.

~Alan Hirsch

Our preferences for stability and security blind us to the opportunities

for adventure when they present themselves.

~Alan Hirsch

At some point preoccupation with safety can get in the way of living full lives.

~Alan Hirsch

The missional church is not a new trend or the latest new technique for reaching postmodern people.

~Alan Hirsch

Whether we like it or not, we are all on a journey, a Quest if you will, every day of our lives, and the path we must take is full of perils, and our destiny can never be predicted in advance.

~Alan Hirsch

I found out the hard way that if we don't disciple people, the culture sure will.

~Alan Hirsch

When there is no possibility of retreat, we will find the innovation that only the liminal situation can bring. In short, we find the faith of leap.

~Alan Hirsch

The appetite for adventure and risk is not exclusive to young Christians. In fact, it seems to be a fundamental yearning, knitted into the fabric of the human soul.

~Alan Hirsch

Put simply, the church finds itself in a post-Christendom era, and it had better do some serious reflection or face increasing decline and eventual irrelevance.

~Alan Hirsch

Most churches don't have the resources for these tricks and inducements but are still bound to the imagination that church happens on a Sunday in a building.

~Alan Hirsch

Interestingly, it's as though the gospel story of Jesus is the archetypal heroic journey, the embodiment of the very adventure that all people in every epoch have desired.

~Alan Hirsch

The quest for heroic adventure then is a quest for the gospel, although it might not be seen that way by everyone.

~Alan Hirsch

We have to assume now that all mission is cross-cultural.

~Alan Hirsch

Go among the people. Don't assume you know what church looks like.

~Alan Hirsch

A missional church is a church that must live the dialectic. It must stay in the journey.

~Alan Hirsch

More data is not always the answer.

~Alan Hirsch

Judgments about who belongs in the Hall of Fame are extremely subjective.

~Alan Hirsch

Currently, young Christians reach adulthood bored with church experience, and with little or no sense of their calling as missionaries.

~Alan Hirsch

Truth is narrow, but grace is wide.

~Alan Hirsch

If we could be freed from our aversion to loss, our whole outlook on risk would change.

~Alan Hirsch

Those of us with too much invested in the way things are will never embrace the revolutionary cause required for wholesale change.

~Alan Hirsch

Nowadays we raise our children in a cocoon of domesticated security, far from any sense of risk or adventure.

~Alan Hirsch

If a can opener no longer has the capacity to open cans, what is it?

~Alan Hirsch

The fact is that if Jesus's future kingdom is secure, those who trust in its coming will enact it now.

~Alan Hirsch

Think of mission like the paddles of a defibrillator applied to the chest of a dying church.

~Alan Hirsch

There is no doubt that to walk with Jesus means to walk on the wilder side of life.

~Alan Hirsch

Christianity is an adventure of the spirit or it is not Christianity.

~Alan Hirsch

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