

How to Write a Theology of Development

R. Scott Rodin | Senior Consultant & Chief Strategy Officer

A "theology of development" is a statement of principles and motivations for your development work and the outcomes you hope to achieve through it.

Seven Implications for Our Life and Work

1 If God's people give through the prompting of the Holy Spirit, then God alone is the 'fundraiser'

For us this means that we rely upon God for all our fundraising initiatives and resources according to His will.



2 We are sowers, not just harvesters in our development work

For us this means...we value and measure our work of building relationships with our giving partners throughout the entirety of their journey with us.



3 We believe our work is to be used by God to bring transformation into the lives of our ministry partners, not merely transactions for our financial benefit.

For us this means that fundraising God's way is ministry.



4 We desire that our partners financially support us out of an alignment of our work with their passion and not out of our own attempt to persuade them to do so.

For us this means each member of our community will have the opportunity to pray how he or she can be led to participate in God's work here.



5 We seek to be a blessing and bring a blessing to our ministry partners in every interaction we have with them.

For us this means...we seek to be used by God to help our giving partners go further in the journey of faithfulness and also be blessed by their obedient giving to kingdom work through our ministry.



6 Because we know the Owner and are called to serve the Owner in our development work, we will carry out this work with the highest level of skill and excellence of which we are capable.

For us this means that fundraising God's way should be conducted with excellence, authenticity, and great care and concern for those we serve



7 Prayer is our greatest development tool and we will exercise it faithfully.

For us this means that wholeheartedly seeking God's wisdom and discernment through prayer will result in His will being accomplished through all our fundraising efforts with faithfulness and diligence.

