

## **Q & A with Dan Woodard**

### **Live Event - April 1, 2021**

#### **Q. *How would you describe the basis of your book, Let's Break the Rules?***

A. The book comes out of a series of Bible-based Sunday sermons my co-author and I co-preached last spring at the Prairie Tabernacle in Three Hills, historically linked to Prairie Bible College. This church, after nearly a hundred years of representing a rules-based Christianity, had recently had a little implosion with all three pastors and eight deacons resigning and 150 people leaving. The sermon series became the book, with every chapter illustrating from my life story of brokenness, recovery and freedom. Prairie Tab continues to go through a major transition in several ways.

#### **Q. *How did this book-writing project connect with the people-group you serve among?***

A. Thirty years ago I enrolled in a course at University of Manitoba called *Native Peoples of Canada*. On the first day of the course I was shocked to learn that the Canada Indian Act of 1876 stated on Page Two that the definition of a *person* was *an individual other than an Indian*. This course triggered an ongoing personal search of the Scriptures to learn what God wants us to know about our personhood. *Let's Break the Rules* describes what I've discovered . . . what God had in mind when he breathed into Adam the breath of life and made him a living soul. What does it mean to be a living soul? What does it mean to be fully alive as a person?

#### **Q. *What's in your book that should catch my interest as a mission director?***

A. If your organization has staff who work with people from dysfunctional backgrounds (whether or not they themselves came from a dysfunctional background), this book will give them a biblical frame of reference to teach and mentor those they are serving. People with backgrounds of abuse, family brokenness, absent fathers or absent mothers, or relational chaos and drama need help discovering and embracing a biblical view of personhood. To quote my own youth pastor who's recently retired from 45 years of full-time pastoring, after he read the book he called to say, "*Your book is so simple to understand. I regret that all my years of pastoring I took for granted that people in the pew already knew what you've written about, and I realize now they didn't.*" Although the book's application is the family, it will become apparent that this book applies to the very culture of your organization: how do people talk, manage their emotions, build trust, think through complications, make wise choices, and work together to have a healthy culture within your organizations or churches.

#### **Q. *What can I expect in the April 1 workshop?***

A. Our time will be equally divided between me sharing and having interaction and discussion . . . me talking for 10 minutes, us discussing what I've just shared, fielding your questions and comments.