



# National Coalition of Apostolic Leaders

Creating Coalitions of Apostles in the Nations of the Earth

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Mark W. Pfeifer

## AIM Strategy



## Defining the Vision of ICAL National Coalitions

**T**he first question people ask me regarding ICAL National Coalitions is, “*What’s the purpose of creating them?*” Usually that’s followed with, “*What are we trying to achieve?*” These are excellent questions. They represent the necessary starting points in defining vision. These points are especially important for establishing coalitions of apostles in the nations of the earth since we are dealing with a variety of people in different cultures. The vision of ICAL National Coalitions must be simple to comprehend and easy to communicate. It also needs to be practical, achievable and cross-cultural.

The **AIM Strategy** provides such a vision.

The AIM Strategy represents a simple three-point approach that expresses the foundational goals of ICAL in general and the National Coalitions in particular. It conveys our most fundamental purpose. It also answers the question, “*What are we trying to achieve?*” Understanding the AIM Strategy will help leaders communicate the purpose of National Coalitions plainly and simply. It provides a place of “buy in” for many apostles. If achieved, ICAL would be able to provide connecting points for apostles around the world and help them move the Kingdom of God forward in their respective nations, regions and cities.

AIM is an acronym for *Acknowledge, Instruct and Measure*.

**A = Acknowledge.** National Coalitions provide a forum where apostles acknowledge one another.

**I = Instruct.** National Coalitions provide common instruction on apostolic ministry.

**M = Measure.** National Coalitions provide a minimum standard by which apostles are measured.

Every innovative idea starts with a problem. Solutions are some of the most attractive concepts on earth. When a problem is solved, people like it! Great value is placed on any product or service that can solve a problem, whether real or perceived. In order to provide an attractive central message that becomes a rallying point for apostles, ICAL must define the common problems that exist in our movement around the world and provide solutions.



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Among other issues, many leaders would agree that the following problems have hindered the work of apostles in many nations.

- Apostles refuse to recognize one another
- Ignorance of the true apostolic function has left a vacuum that false teaching has filled
- Many who call themselves apostles simply are not

The AIM Strategy addresses each of these problems head-on. As a recognized body of apostles, ICAL is uniquely equipped and positioned to carry out this strategy worldwide. No other organization has the ability to provide solutions to these problems better than ICAL. Each time these hindrances are recognized, the purpose of ICAL National Coalitions becomes clear. We are called to *Acknowledge*, *Instruct* and *Measure* apostles within their given spheres. While this goal may be impossible to achieve from an international position, it is quite possible from a national, regional or local position.

*In other words, as ICAL replicates itself on a smaller scale within nations, regions and cities, local apostles who know one another can apply the AIM Strategy within their indigenous sphere by creating and maintaining a National Coalition.*

Let's look at each one of the AIM objectives more closely.

## **ACKNOWLEDGE Other Apostles**

*"...to admit or accept that something exists, is true, or is real; to respond to something; to show appreciation or express thanks for something; to officially or publicly recognize somebody's help or work."*

Apostles don't have to agree on everything to be connected. They don't have to sacrifice their vision, values and calling in order to be aligned with each other. In fact, variety makes the Body of Christ more effective and our differences provide overall strength. Apostles do, however, need to acknowledge one another and appreciate each other's work in order to achieve health in any given area of the world.

Reaching a place of acknowledgement is a process. Each person begins at a different starting point and every nation, region and city carries a distinctive environment for such things. There are five identifiable stages that are common on the journey to unity which may apply here.

These five stages are:





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1. **Antagonism:** This is when leaders are actively working against one another
2. **Peace:** This is when hostility has ceased.
3. **Fellowship:** This is when relationships are created.
4. **Cooperation:** This is when leaders work together, appreciating each other's work.
5. **Unity:** This is when sustained progress is made for social transformation.

While ICAL National Coalitions may not be able to facilitate unity among all ministries in a given area, it can help leaders in the prophetic/apostolic streams find a place where strife and division are largely replaced with mutual respect and acknowledgement. This alone, represents a huge step forward in the apostolic movement worldwide.

## INSTRUCT Leaders in Apostolic Ministry

*“...to teach somebody a subject or how to do something; to inform somebody about something; to ask or authorize a person to act on your behalf and supply him or her with relevant information.”*

One of the major concerns expressed by apostolic leaders worldwide is the lack of true understanding of apostolic ministry. Where ignorance abounds, a vacuum of information is filled by false teaching. We shouldn't be surprised, then, that many false apostles are doing damage to the Body of Christ in various locations. Some of these teachers are maliciously motivated; others are simply uninformed.



Regardless of the motive, the results are the same. A negative shadow is being cast on apostolic ministry in many circles.

The problem of misinformation will only get worse until the true apostles of God step forth with a consistent apostolic message. The same principles taught in South America need to be the same principles being taught in Africa, Asia, Europe, the United States, etc. Only then can counterfeit teaching be swallowed up by genuine truth.

ICAL can serve the vision of instructing leaders in apostolic ministry by becoming a clearinghouse of ideas. Some of the most accomplished teachers and thinkers regarding apostolic ministry in the world reside in our ranks. As a message is brought forth through our presiding apostle, apostolic council, esteemed teachers and resident prophets, it can be assimilated down to the smallest elements of our movement by the National Coalitions. Members of ICA can serve the leadership of National Coalitions by coming to their nations, regions and cities and conducting conferences and seminars under the banner of ICA. This consistency of teaching worldwide will accomplish our next task...



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## MEASURE Apostles with a Common Standard

*“...the size or extent of something, especially in comparison with a known standard; a way of evaluating something, or a standard against which something can be compared.”*

Over the years, each of the five-fold ministry gifts has tried to define the apostolic gift. However, it has been common to project one’s own gift upon the apostle as follows:

- **Teachers** have a tendency to measure apostles with a higher level of revelation
- **Pastors** have a tendency to measure apostles with a higher level of love for the sheep
- **Evangelists** have a tendency to measure apostles with a higher level of soul winning
- **Prophets** have a tendency to measure apostles with a higher level of supernatural breakthrough

While each of these measurements may be part of the definition of apostolic ministry, each one is incomplete in itself. It’s time for the apostles to measure apostles! This will go a long way in providing a common standard to determining true apostles around the world.

Should we measure those who call themselves apostles? Should there be a common standard to which apostles should attain in order to be called an apostle? Jesus thought it was a good idea...

*"I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars."*

**Revelation 2:2**

When measured against the genuine, what is counterfeit becomes easier to recognize. ICAL has an existing standard that needs to be consistently applied to those claiming to be (or called to be) apostles. That standard includes meeting the Biblical qualifications of an apostle as defined by ICAL, recognition from at least one other established apostle and the testimony of at least three legitimate ministries that look to the person for apostolic covering.



These minimum standards represent an excellent measurement that could be consistently applied by leaders worldwide. As National Coalitions are established, the leaders who know one another best are the most qualified to apply and evaluate these requirements on a case by case basis. This is why it is vital that existing members of ICAL find ways of creating National Coalitions in nations, regions and cities around the world. The AIM Strategy can help make this happen as we endeavor to bring legitimacy to the New Apostolic Reformation.

**THE END**