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| Omega Graduate School |
| Participant Consent Form for Data Collection: Milestone #6 |
| Colleen N. Damon |

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Appendix

**Colleen N. Damon – Duval Biography**

For the past twenty-five years, Colleen has worked in some form of mission service and became increasingly more involved in serving others and working with African American churches. Colleen is a doctoral candidate at Omega Graduate School working towards a PhD in philosophy with a self-directed focus on missiology and cultural anthropology.

Colleen’s research includes serving as a participant observer over the course of several years actively involved with mission teams within various mission organizations and the African American church. Her dissertation studies the lived experiences of African American missionaries who actively serve in various areas of mission service. The dissertation frames these lived experiences as a phenomenon among mission work typically practiced in an African American church.

Colleen’s work addresses the lack of participation in areas of mission service within the African American church. Her work has identified several areas of mission work and she has coined the term five-fold mission model based on the phenomenon observed while serving at a predominant African American church named Ebenezer Baptist Church in Charlotte, NC.

From a historical perspective the African American church has been missing from international mission service for decades due to the various systematic practices that oppressed African American people. Her dissertation research looks at the impact of historical realities and the phenomenon of an African American church that has broken the mold from decades of non-participation in mission service also known from a biblical perspective as the Great Commission. Her research investigates the viability of a five-fold mission model that can be documented and presented to the broader audience of the African American church to increase participation in all areas of mission service for African Americans. Colleen has had the opportunity to present her academic interest and findings at Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary for the past several years as a guest professor teaching students about missions from the African American perspective.

Colleen has also been interviewed by a journalist interested in her work from Christianity Today in the December 2021 issue entitled “How Black Missionaries are being written back into the story”.

**Participant Invitation for Research E-mail**

**Subject:** Recruitment invitation for EBC and CCC Missionaries

**Dear Participant:**

As you are aware I am working on my dissertation for the completion of my doctorate degree of philosophy with a concentration in missiology and cultural anthropology. I would like to invite you to participate in my study entitled “A model for active participation in mission service for the African American church: A phenomenological case study”.

Thank you for taking the time to review this e-mail and consider participating in this research.

**Please respond and answer the following**:

1. How many years have you attended EBC or CCC?
2. How long have you served in missions at your respective congregation?
3. Are you willing to voluntarily participate in this research project (yes or no)?

Your participation in this research project will require an additional 1 1/2 hours of your time. The goal of this study is to add to the knowledge and insight of how the five-fold mission model at EBC & CCC can be a success and utilized in the broader African American church.

The success of this research has the potential to be significant for churches and church leadership in the African American Community as it can provide them with a viable model for various areas of mission service for their congregations.

If you are interested in participating in this study and its contributions to the work of missions in the African American Church, please return this email with the questions addressed above. Again, thank you in advance for your consideration to participate in this research to further the work of mission service.

**Next steps:** Upon receipt of your response via email you will receive a follow up e-mail scheduling your interview.

Appendix

**Data Collection Informed Consent Letter**

A Model for Active Participation in Mission Service for the African American Church: A Phenomenological Case Study

**Dear Participant**:

Thank you for your responses to the questions in the e-mail entitled Invitation to Participate in Doctoral Research. Based on your responses to the questions in that e-mail I welcome you to participate in this study and move forward to the next step of scheduling an interview.

Please review this form for additional information and a more detailed description of the study. We can schedule a time for me to meet with you according to your availability within the next 2 weeks. My timeline to complete the interview process is June 15th. If you prefer, you can contact me after you have reviewed the consent information, and we will schedule the time then.

The study will focus on lived experiences that lead to service in various aspects of missions. This topic will also delve into the practice of missionaries serving in mission service at Ebenezer Baptist Church and Chosen City Church. The significance of this work will provide the African American Church with a framework to share a working model of a robust mission program. The aim of this study is to examine core lived experiences that have impacted the missionaries who serve on the mission team.

The researcher is inviting you to be in this study. This form is a part of a process called “data collection” informed consent to allow you to understand more details of this study before the formal interview takes place. This study is being conducted by Colleen Damon-Duval who is a doctoral candidate at Omega Graduate School.

**Project:** A Model for Active Participation in Mission Service for the African American Church: A Phenomenological Case Study

**Background information**: The purpose of this study is to explore, identify, and describe patterns in the lived experiences of missionaries who serve in the five-fold mission model used at Ebenezer Baptist Church and Chosen City Church.

**Data Collection Time Frame**: The Data collection for this research includes a formal interview process which will commence for all interviewees from June 1, 2023 – June 15, 2023. An invitation to participate email was sent to perspective participants on May 31, 2023. Upon a favorable receipt of the RSVP from participants the following procedures will take place.

**Procedural Information:**

1. Your participation in this formal interview process is voluntary
2. Participants will engage in an interview that will take approximately 1 hour and a half of your time and this interview will be audio recorded and transcribed
3. The interview will take place at a designated site, a mutually agreed upon location convenient to you the participant. During this interview you will be asked a series of questions. There is also an option to conduct this interview via a zoom call. These questions are designed to allow you to share your experiences as a missionary serving at EBC or CCC.
4. The document of interview questions will be provided to you within two business days prior to the scheduled interview. The original audio of your interview can be made available to you after the interview is conducted; likewise, the transcribed document of the audio recording can be made available to you if you would like to read the transcript. **Please note**: Any identifiable information (names, address, or personal information) will be deleted from the audio *transcript*.

**Here is a sample question:** What was your personal experience when serving with the Ebenezer Baptist Church or Chosen City Church mission team?

**Voluntary nature of the study**: This study is *voluntary*. The researcher respects your decision of whether you choose to be in the study. A time and date will be discussed to schedule your interview. You can still change your mind prior to the scheduled interview date.

**Risk and benefits of being in the study**:

Participating in this type of research study could involve risks that can be encountered in daily life such as fatigue or stress. Being in this study would not pose a risk to your safety or well-being. The information gained from this study may help the researcher to better understand the experiences of persons who actively serve as missionaries at EBC or CCC. Further benefits include gaining knowledge that can be useful to other churches, pastors and leaders who would be interested in replicating the five-fold mission model in their congregation. This research hopes to provide a mission service model and roadmap that could be duplicated and multiplied by other congregations.

**Privacy:**

The researcher *will not use your personal information* for any purposes outside of this research project. Also, the researcher will not include your name or anything else that could identify you in study reports. Data will be kept secure by executing the protection of confidential data and utilizing storage methods. Manuscripts will be converted into PDF files and stored in a data collection software system which will help the researcher identify and analyze themes and patterns from the interviews.

The researcher has included a demographic section below which is optional should you provide the information. This information will also be kept confidential. You can receive a copy of this signed document for your records upon request.

**Statement of consent:** I have read the above information, and I feel I understand the study well enough to decide about my *voluntary* participation. By signing below, I understand that I agree to the terms described above.

**Printed name of the participant**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Date of consent**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Participant’s signature**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Researcher's signature**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Researcher’s Information**: Phone (C) 704.408.7931

**Email**: CND.Damonconsultingllc@Gmail.com

**Researchers Additional Notes**: Demographic Information: (*Optional*)

**Scheduled Interview Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Location of Interview**: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Zoom \_\_\_\_\_\_ In Person

**Male** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Female** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Age**: Circle one (35 – 40 40 – 50 50 – 60 60+)

**Area(s) of Five-Fold Mission Ministry Served in**: (Circle/indicate all that apply)

1. Local (2) Stateside (3) National (4) International (5) Disaster Relief

**Do you serve in a leadership position at EBC or CCC?** (Yes or No)

**Do you serve in other ministries at EBC or CCC?** If so please list the names of the other ministries.

Appendix

**Participant E-mail Follow-up & Thank You**

**Dear Participant:**

Thank you for taking the time out of your schedule to participate in the data collection portion of my research for the completion of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

As you know my research focuses on Mission Service in the African American Church. Your input and lived experience add value to this work.

If you would like to receive a copy of any publication rising from this research, please let me know. This may be several months in the future post my graduation, but I would be happy to share any articles with you.

If you have any further queries, questions or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out to me. You have my contact information.

Again, thank you for your time and participation in this study.

Forever In His Service,

Colleen N. Damon-Duval