

The
Solutions
Workshop



Developing Evangelism & Discipleship in Every Church



Developed by David Midwood, Tom Johnston & Mike Perkinson. Used by permission.

Welcome to Solutions!

Purpose of our time together:

- ❖ Share biblical principles for evangelism / discipleship
- ❖ Dialog about practical issues surrounding mission
- ❖ Think with the Holy Spirit about potential solutions
- ❖ Make action plans for taking the next steps in our churches

Intentional Evangelism

❖ *Devotional:*

⊕ The Main Thing: "The Irreducible Core"

1. Love God: Mt 22:37-38, Mark 12:29-33
2. Love others Mt 22:39-40
3. As you go, make disciples: Mt 28:18-20

⊕ *Discussion*

❖ **Statistics**

❖ *Five Factors Limiting Missional Effectiveness*

1. Desire to preserve social intimacy
2. Desire to maintain control
3. Desire to conserve memories
4. Desire to keep outsiders out
5. Desire to remain comfortable

❖ ***Envision the Harvest***

- ⊕ Luke 10:1-2
- ⊕ John 4:31-38
- ⊕ The key for people in seeing themselves become laborers for the harvest is their apprehending the harvest, and in so doing, being apprehended by the Heart of God.

❖ ***Large Group Discussion***

- ❖ *What are some practical ways that we can help our congregation "see" the harvest?*

❖ ***Motivated for Mission: Two Targets***

- ⊕ *The Pastor must:*
 - ❖ Assume leadership
 - ❖ Work hard
 - ❖ Work smart
 - ❖ Add staff
 - ❖ Mobilize people
 - ❖ Change leadership style
 - ❖ Recruit personal intercessors
- ⊕ *The People must:*
 - ❖ Let the pastor lead
 - ❖ Behave like sheep
 - ❖ Give generously
 - ❖ Use their gifts
 - ❖ Welcome newcomers

- ✧ Assimilate new leaders
- ✧ Pray

❖ ***The Vision & Passion for Mission: Parables***

- ⊕ Fishing without _____ (Luke 5: 4-11)
- ⊕ An _____ banquet table (Luke 14:15-23)
- ⊕ Sowing _____ (Matthew 13:3-9)
- ⊕ A fig tree that bears _____ (Luke 13:6-9)
- ⊕ Lost sheep that are not _____ (Matthew 18:11-14)
- ⊕ A lost coin that is sought but not _____ (Luke 15:8-10)
- ⊕ Ripe harvests that are not _____ (Matthew 9:36-38)
- ⊕ Proclamation without _____ (Matthew 10:14)
- ⊕ Church without a _____ (Matthew 25)

❖ ***Motivation: Leadership through Vision***

- ⊕ Keeping an aquarium or fishers of men
- ⊕ Pastors create high value on evangelism
- ⊕ Facility capacity factor
- ⊕ The Main Thing:
 - ✧ Love God
 - ✧ Love people
 - ✧ Make disciples
- ⊕ Celebrate Champions

❖ ***Leadership Style: Lone Ranger vs. Team Leader***

- ⊕ Lone Ranger behaviors:
 - ◇ Primary caregiver
 - ◇ Overestimated significance
 - ◇ Availability
 - ◇ Performance mentality
 - ◇ Comfortable
 - ◇ Poor delegation
 - ◇ Poor planning
- ⊕ Team Leader behaviors:
 - ◇ Emphasis on big picture
 - ◇ Take charge, competent
 - ◇ Expectations
 - ◇ Flexible supervision
 - ◇ Outcome objectives
 - ◇ “Why am I doing this?”
 - ◇ Role creation
 - ◇ Vision keeper
 - ◇ Leadership development

❖ ***Small Group Discussion—groups of three***

- ⊕ What real-life factors impact your passion for mission?
- ⊕ What things inhibit your personal action?
- ⊕ What real-life factors impacts the passion of your people for mission?
- ⊕ What things inhibit your church in engaging in mission?
- ⊕ What “lone ranger” behaviors do you exhibit?
- ⊕ How can you become more of a “team leader?”

⊕ Missional Accelerators

1. Passion
2. Prayer
3. Pastoral Leadership
4. Personal Relationship
5. Process Evangelism
6. Powerful On-site experience
7. Passionate Community Outreach
8. Purpose
9. Power Presence

❖ *Individual action vs. organizational strategies*

- ⊕ The Plus and Minus of the organizational approach
- ⊕ Organizational approach as a result to endemic dysfunction
- ⊕ Organizational approach as a harness of resources
- ⊕ The Church as a Field vs. The Church as a Force

| Church as a "Field" | Church as a "Force" |
|------------------------------------|---|
| One or few do "ministry" | Full-body ministry |
| Ministry in the building | Ministry in the world |
| Meetings are for harvesting | Meetings are for nurture |
| Focus on individuals being "saved" | Focus on being a community of disciples |
| "Fortress" mentality | Mobile army |
| Pastor as direct care-giver | Pastor as care coordinator |
| Pastor is the evangelist | Pastor is equipper |
| Receives | Initiates |
| Passive | Catalytic |

❖ Large Group Discussion

- ⊕ *What thoughts does this chart provoke?*
- ⊕ *What is at the root of the problem?*
- ⊕ *Is your church more "field" or more "force?"*

Relational Evangelism

❖ Identify the *oikos*—This is the core of all Christian mission: Luke 10: 1-9

- ⊕ Greek word for "household"
- ⊕ Acts 10:22 - Cornelius
- ⊕ Acts 16: 15 - Lydia
- ⊕ Acts 16: 31-36 - Philippian jailer
- ⊕ Acts 18: 7-9 - Crispus

❖ Prayer

- ⊕ For laborers
- ⊕ To see the harvest
- ⊕ For open doors: Colossians 4:2-4

We pray>God makes opprotunity>we speak

❖ Person of Peace

- ⊕ Look for God opening a door
- ⊕ Build that relationship

❖ **Presence**

- ⊕ We must go, not stay (as you go, make disciples)
- ⊕ "Full contact" Christianity - a way of life
- ⊕ There must be the opportunity for encounter
- ⊕ The power of testimony:
 - ◇ Rev. 12:11
 - ◇ Telling your story
 - ◆ Give away the comfort you have received
 - ◆ 2 Cor. 1:4, John 9:35
 - ◇ The testimony of community
 - ◆ John 13:34-35, Matthew 5:14-16

❖ **Statistics**

- ⊕ Household Salvation
 - ◇ If a child or teen is first to come to Christ: 33%
 - ◇ If the woman of the house is the first to come to Christ: 17%
 - ◇ If the man is the first to come to Christ: 93%

❖ **Small Group Discussion**

- ⊕ *How is this being lived out now by your church?*

- ⊕ *What can you do to enhance, broaden and deepen this dynamic?*

Three-Fold Evangelism

- ❖ Based in the Father's heart and revealed will - which is grace, justice and truth.
- ❖ ***He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?*** Micah 6:8
- ❖ Not based in human need, but God's heart - which is to meet human need.
- ❖ Not man-oriented, but God-oriented.
- ❖ Not for the purpose of evangelization, but has evangelism as a result.
- ❖ Flows from relationship (personal contact/connection), not strategy. Any strategy has to be based in revelation and relationship.
- ❖ ***So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise.*** John 5:19
- ❖ Real needs are spiritual and relational. The felt needs represent the deeper needs of people and can be effective means to relationally touch the needs of the human heart and spirit.
- ❖ Individual & congregational responses: Individual Christians must be able to see and hear what the need is on an individual basis within the context of a

relationship.

- ❖ On the congregational level, if God highlights a major need within the cultural context that requires a ministry resource of a number of people, a strategy can be formed and tactics planned to facilitate the need being met (Reference A New Testament Trilogy - pp. 62-66).

❖ **Small Group Discussion**

⊕ Finding the Father's Heart

- ❖ Pray for God's heart over your community
- ❖ Discuss the spiritual, relationship, and felt needs of your community. Then list the needs

⊕ Exercise: Three Fold Evangelism

- ❖ *How is your church functioning in:*
 - ◆ *Grace/compassion?*
 - ◆ *Truth?*
 - ◆ *Justice?*

Next Steps: Evangelism

- ❖ *What are 3-5 things you can do in the next three months PERSONALLY to engage more in mission?*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

- ❖ *What are the 3-5 things your church can do in the next six months to engage more in mission?*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

The Discipleship Journey

The Spiritual Journey

- ❖ Enquire
- ❖ Encounter
- ❖ Embrace: Christ / His Church / His Mission
- ❖ Enrich
- ❖ Extend

The Discipleship Journey

- ❖ ***What are the three most positive moments in your spiritual development which have impacted you the most?***

- ⊕ *Reflect for a few minutes.*
- ⊕ *Get into groups of three and share*

- ❖ **Scenario**

- ⊕ John, the new disciple

❖ ***Definition of a Disciple***

- ⊕ Devoted to Christ
- ⊕ Devoted to His Church
- ⊕ Devoted to His Mission

❖ ***Flowing from the "Irreducible Core" of the Christian life:***

- ⊕ Loving God (Matthew 22:37-38)
- ⊕ Loving others (Matthew 22:39-40)
- ⊕ As we go, making disciples (Matthew 28:18-20)

❖ ***It's all about world view***

- ⊕ Transformation by renewing of the mind:
Romans 12:1-2
- ⊕ World view > Preconceptions > Thought Patterns >
Attitudes > Behaviors
- ⊕ How world view is translated

❖ *Positive Transmission*

- ◆ The Incarnational approach of Jesus

❖ *Negative Transmission*

- ◆ The Wound, The Lie & The Relational Style

❖ ***Exercise: The Jesus you know***

- ⊕ In 3 minutes, without using scripture or Christian language, describe the Jesus you know. Consider

the person with whom you are sharing to be illiterate of Christianity.

❖ ***The Discipleship Process***

- ⊕ Outcomes: Living the “IC”
- ⊕ The need for process around:
 - ◇ Spiritual disciplines
 - ◇ Relational connection (with you & others)
 - ◇ An inclusive, other-oriented lifestyle
- ⊕ The core of the process: Relationship & incarnation
- ⊕ Time investment: 3/12/72/Multitudes
- ⊕ Key focus:
 - ◇ Know what you know in Christ
 - ◇ Do what you do in Christ
 - ◇ To become who you are in Christ
- ⊕ Learning cycle:
 - ◇ I do, you watch
 - ◇ I do, you help
 - ◇ You do, I help
 - ◇ You do, I watch
 - ◇ You do - someone else watches

- ⊕ Listen to others (Proverbs 20:5) -- their stories
- ⊕ Be a witness to their life. In other words, verify their existence
- ⊕ Discern their needs
- ⊕ Life is the curriculum
- ⊕ Key focus:
 - ◇ Know what you know in Christ
 - ◇ Do what you do in Christ
 - ◇ To become who you are in Christ

❖ ***Exercise: Matthew 7:12***

- ⊕ If you were just beginning your process as a disciple, what are the five things you would want someone to do to you?

❖ **Preparing Your Pathway**

- ⊕ Remember the overall process is relational
- ⊕ The structure is relationship
- ⊕ The relationship between Jesus and the other disciples created the environment in which he developed them
- ⊕ The ministry activity - Jesus interacted with others, providing the opportunities which He used to form His disciples
- ⊕ As they grew, assignments were given
- ⊕ There were continual debriefs

- ⊕ Reflection is the path to wisdom
 - ⊕ The curriculum was life - "on the way."
 - ⊕ Practicum-based
 - ⊕ What you impart is *your life* - all ministry is incarnational
 - ⊕ You give away who you are, not just what you do:
 - Embrace: The Call to Follow / Watch / Live The Way
 - Enrich: Know What You Know (We very often disciple unto disobedience).
 - Extend: Do what you do
- All this to become who you are in Christ (1 Corinthians 11:1)

❖ ***Assess Your Path***

- ⊕ Are people's relationships with God stabilizing?
Before we can change the world, we need to see God change our worlds.
- ⊕ Are people's relationships with each other growing?
- ⊕ Is concern for the lost and broken increasing in the fellowship?
- ⊕ Are we beginning to reproduce ourselves spiritually?

❖ ***Discipleship Next Steps: Create Your Path***

⊕ What do you want them to know?

◇ How will they learn it?

⊕ What do you want them to be able to do?

◇ How will they learn to do it?

⊕ What do you want them to become?

◇ How will they become it?

Resources



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Interested in creating a culture of intentional evangelism in your local church? Looking to take your church deeper into the harvest? Contact Keith Tolley about the **Vision ONE** church evangelism assessment and development process by calling the VNE offices or by email—ktolley@visionnewengland.com



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Recommended Reading on Evangelism & Discipleship

[The Celtic Way of Evangelism](#)— George Hunter III

[Evangelism without the Additives](#)— Jim Henderson

[The Kingdom Quest](#)— Tom Johnston & Mike Chong Perkinson

[Choose the Life](#)— Bill Hull

[Conformed to His Image](#)— Kenneth Boa

[A New Testament Trilogy](#)— Tom Johnston & Mike Chong Perkinson