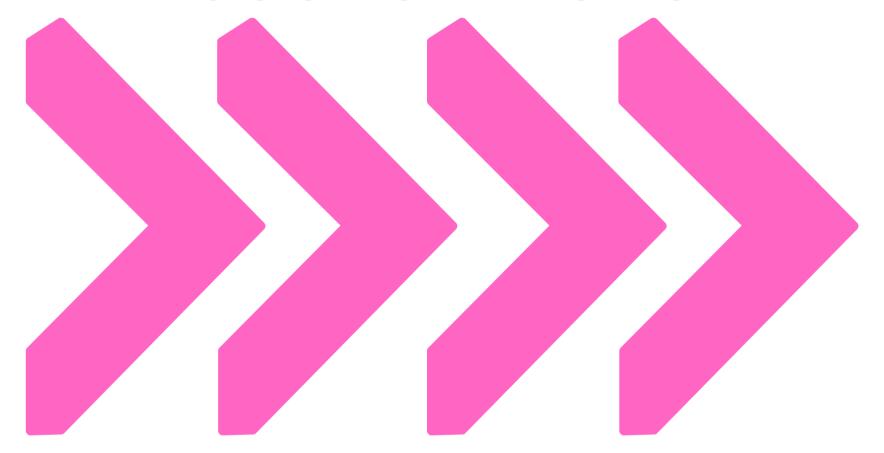
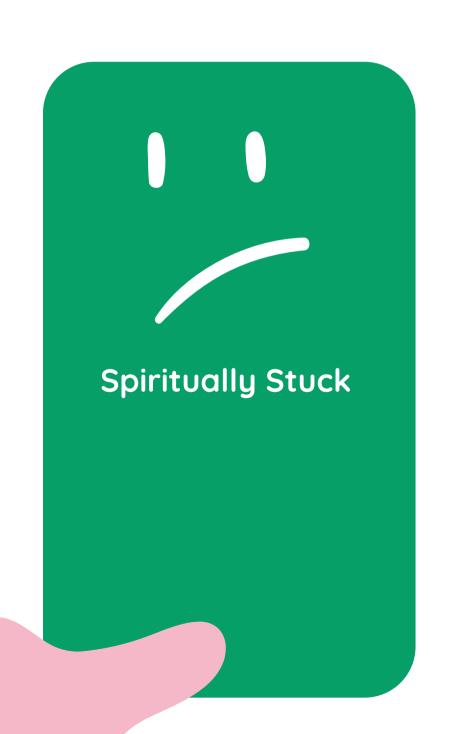
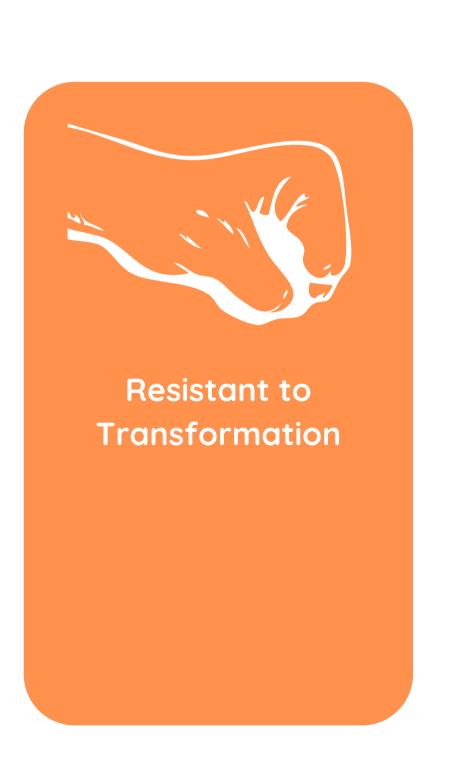
Discover Next



Discerning God's Vision for Your Church

3 Reasons Churches Do Not Move Forward

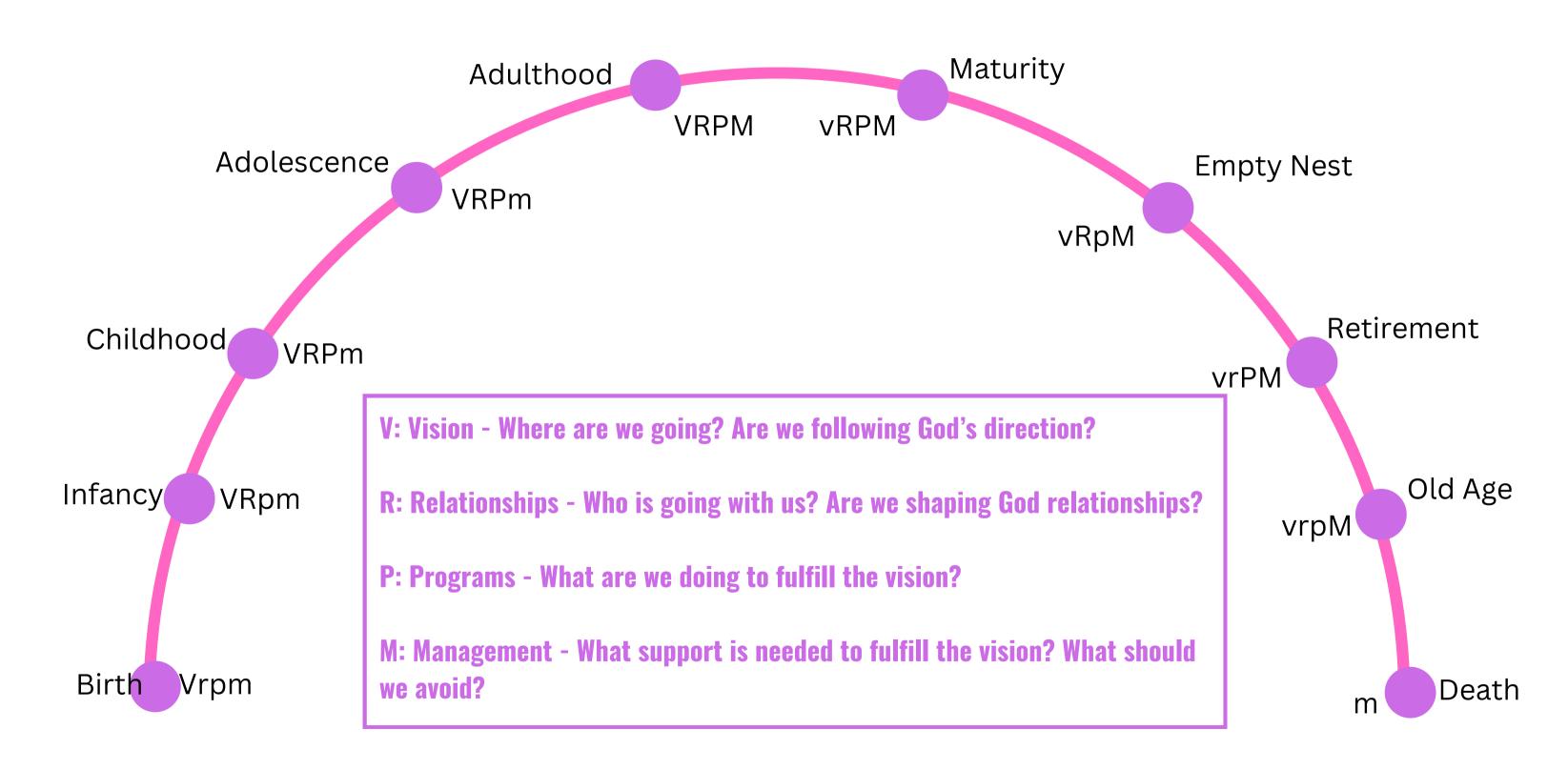








Lifecycle of the Church



The Mission of the Church

Go, therefore, and make disciples, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

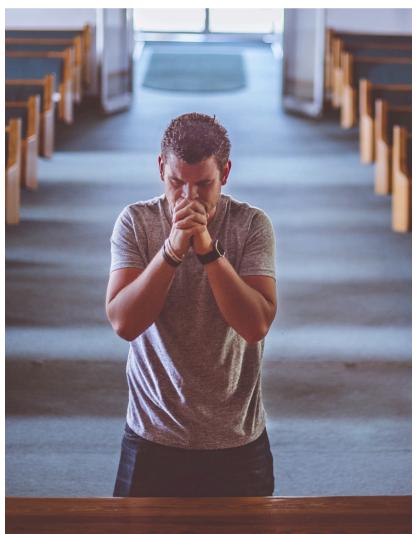
Matthew 28:19



... to make disciples of JesusChrist for the transformation of the world.

The Book of Discipline, para. 120





The Function of the Local Church

"The local church is a strategic base from which Christians move out to the structures of society. The function of the local church, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, is to help people to accept and confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and to live their daily lives in light of their relationship with God. Therefore, the local church is to minister to persons in the community where the church is located, to provide appropriate training and nurture to all, to cooperate in ministry with other local churches, to defend God's creation and live as an ecologically responsible community, and to participate in the worldwide mission of the church, as minimal expectations of an authentic church."

paragraph 202, The United Methodist Church Book of Discipline

What is Vision?

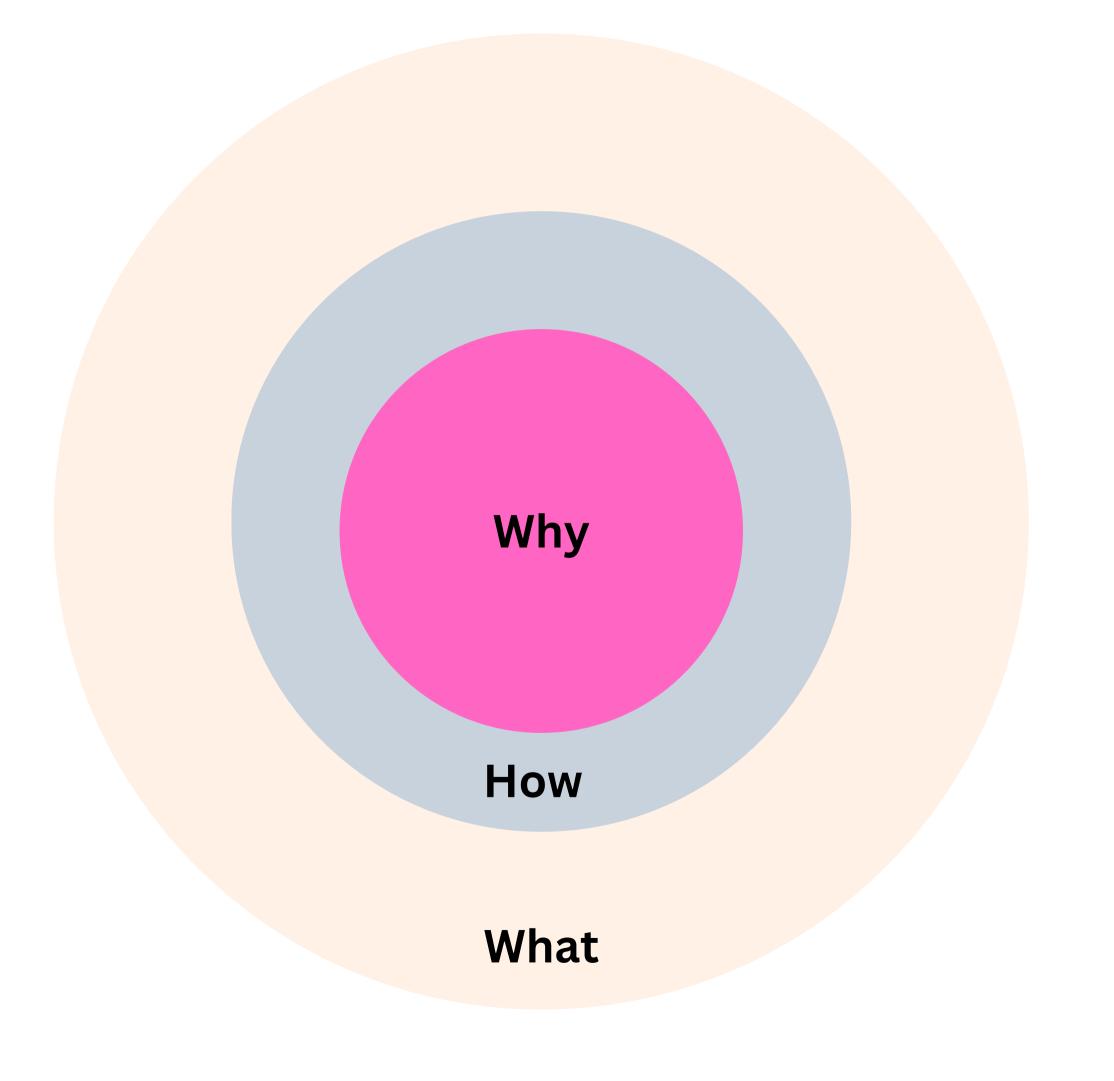


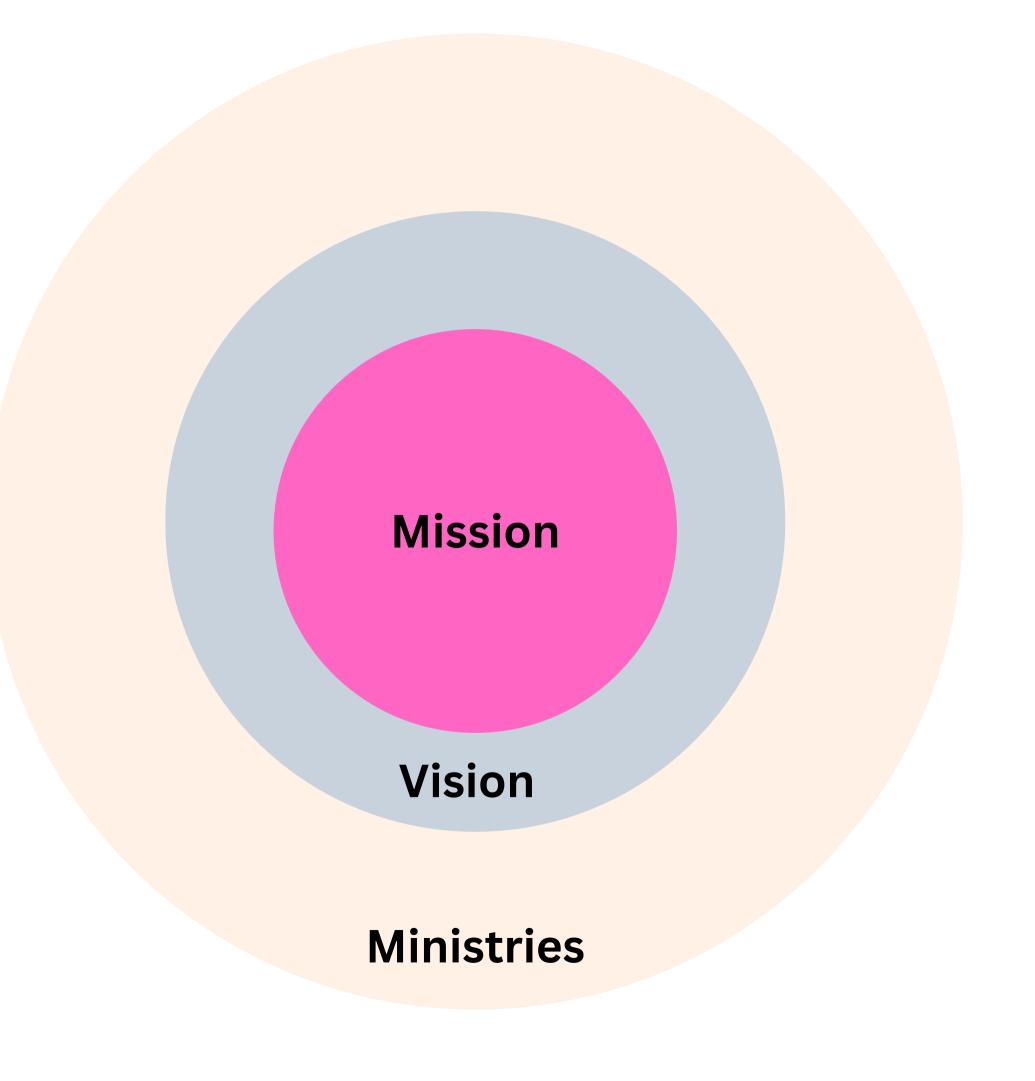
The "how" of making disciples of Jesus Christ

Strategic and measurable

Unique to the congregation.

Reflects the congregation's core values.



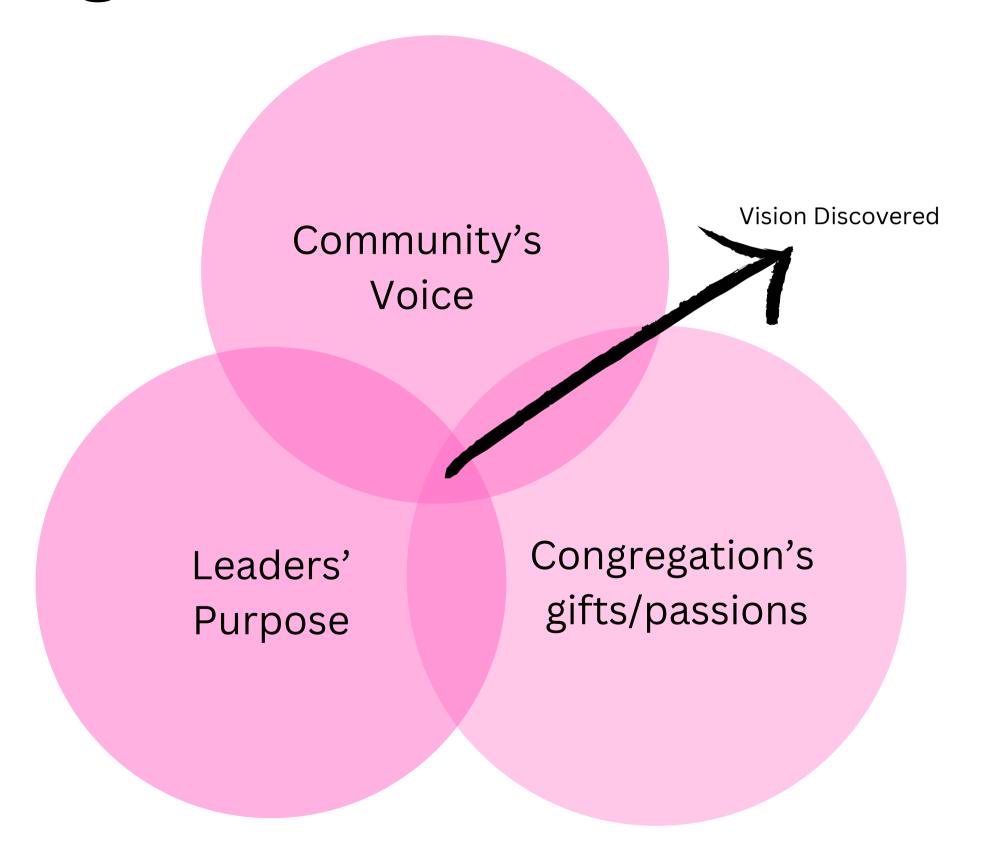


The Vision Team

- 1 Forward-thinking
- 2 Visionary
- 3 Strategic
- Passionate about God's will
- 5 Spiritually mature
- Trusted by congregation

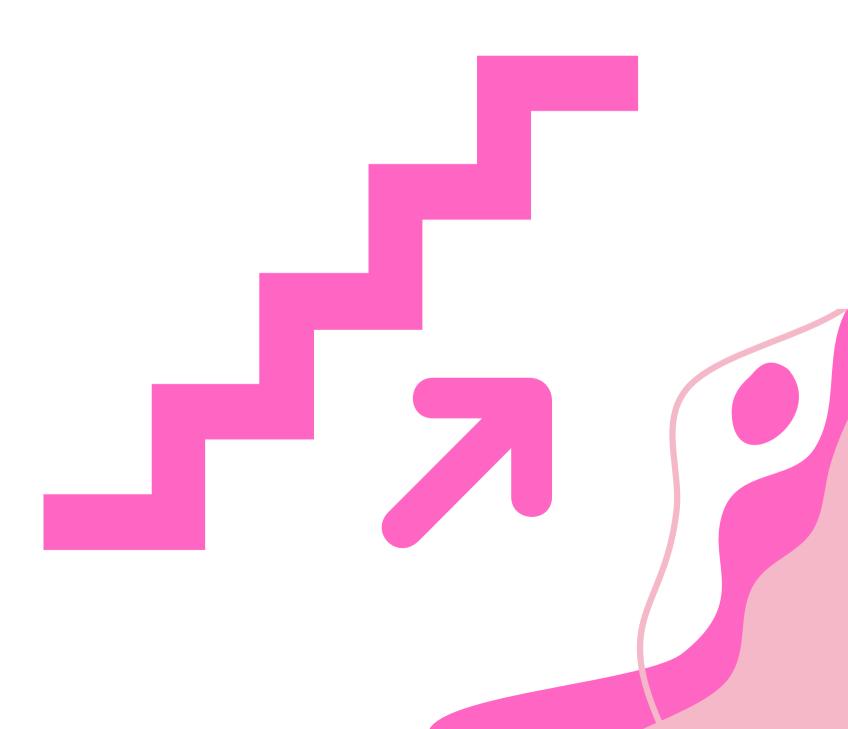
- 7 Trusted in community
- Skilled communicator
- 9 Newcomers
- 10 Young Adults
- 11 Youth
- "Old Timers"

Discovering Vision



Steps to Discerning God's Vision

- 1 Intentional Prayer Practice
- Leaders' Purpose
- 3 Dream Day
- 4 OR Congregational Listening
- Listening to Community Voices
- 6 Vision Day



Vision Day



Intentional Prayer

Pray before, during, and after Vision Day.



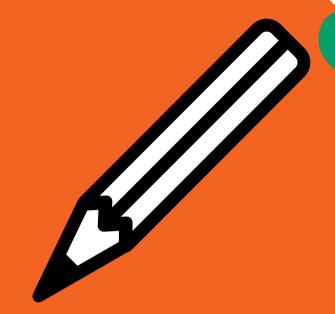
Vision Team Presents

Share key information
learned from
congregation and the
community.



Discover Common Themes

Look for common themes and threads in the information gathered.



Draft Vision
Statements

In groups,
congregation
members draft a
vision statement
based on the
discovered themes.

A Vision Statement Should Be

- 1 Simple & Clear
- 2 Memorable
- 3 Powerful
- 4 Reflective
- 5 Measurable



Then, goals...



Right Now

What can be do right now to implement the vision? What is the communication strategy?



Short Term

What can we do in the next 3-6 months to implement the vision? Who will help us?



Long Term

What are the BIG goals for the next year? What are the resources needed?



"... learned that moms and their kids really valued predictability."

from *Made to Stick* by Chip Heath & Dan Heath



