

Accelerate Your Church

The Key Questions to become a Missional Church

Preparation

Focusing your heart, mind, and strength to bless strangers to grace

What is our Organizational DNA?

Core values, bedrock belief, and motivating vision
(See *Moving Off the Map*)

What is our Experience of Christ?

The “Key Question” that begins all church growth
(See *GPS: Global Positioning for the Soul*)

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|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ▪ The Broken ... | looking for healing ... | and the healing Christ |
| ▪ The Lost ... | looking for guidance ... | and the mentoring Christ |
| ▪ The Lonely ... | looking for real friendship ... | and the companionship of Christ |
| ▪ The Anxious ... | looking for hope ... | and the promises of Christ |
| ▪ The Victimized ... | looking for justice ... | and the victory of Christ |
| ▪ The Trapped ... | looking for intervention ... | and the new life of Christ |

What is our Mission Mix?

Every church is a unique mix of three faithful mission motivations
(See *Accelerate Your Church*)

	<u>Church Growth</u>	<u>Change of Heart</u>	<u>Social Action</u>
All About:	Care Giving Inclusiveness Tradition Aesthetic Privilege	Healing Faith Salvation Lifestyle Purpose	Survival Security Family Justice Potential
Key Words:	<i>Access</i> <i>Belonging</i> <i>Identity</i> <i>Good Feelings</i> <i>Membership</i>	<i>Wholeness</i> <i>Christian Faith</i> <i>Hope</i> <i>Good Living</i> <i>Destiny</i>	<i>Necessities of Life</i> <i>Safety-Peace</i> <i>Quality of Family Living</i> <i>Justice – Well Being</i> <i>Personal Growth</i>

How is our Mission Field Changing?

The primary mission field is defined by the average distance people travel to work and shop
(Research www.MissionInsite.com)

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|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| ✓ Demographic Change | <i>Build a Report</i> |
| ✓ Lifestyle Segment Representation | <i>Opportunity Scan</i> |
| ✓ Socio-Psychographic Details | <i>Impressions</i> |
| ✓ Urgent Issues | <i>Worldviews</i> |

Who is our Macedonian?

Prayer Walks, Listening Prayer Triads, Focus Groups
(See *Kicking Habits*)

Prioritization

Making strategic decisions the elevate the needs of the seeker over the privileges of the member

Why are we doing this?

Absolute alignment with the motivating vision of the church
(See *Spirited Leadership*)

Who is leading this?

Identifying a minimum team of two willing to be trained & accountable to discern, design, implement and evaluate
(See *Spirited Leadership* and *Christian Chaos*)

What outcomes do we expect will result?

Defining measurable outcomes for both leadership development and program development
(See *Accelerate Your Church*)

- ✓ Statistics
- ✓ Signs, significations, and stories
- ✓ Feedback

What are the most effective tactics to get results?

Pragmatically deciding the most relevant ways to get results ... within the boundaries of identity
(See *Accelerate Your Church*)

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|---------------|--|
| When? | When will the program begin?
What will be the schedule?
When will it be evaluated?
When will it close? |
| How? | What are the training needs? What is the plan for continuing education of leaders?
What are the technology needs? What kinds of tools will be required?
What expertise may be required? (Certifications, ordinations, specialized skills)? |
| Where? | What is the best environment to accomplish mission?
Is the site readily accessible (visible and convenient) for the intended public?
Does the environment encourage deepening, quality relationships? |

How much will it cost?

Define the cost of discipleship in 7 cost centers ... in this order
(See *Accelerate Your Church*)

1. Cost in Changing Tradition	5. Cost in Changing Property
2. Cost in Changing Attitudes	6. Cost in Changing Technology
3. Cost in Changing Leadership	7. Cost in Financial Investment
4. Cost in Changing Organization	8. Other?

How much will we manage stress?

Anticipate stress with strategies for personal growth, higher accountability, mission sensitivity, lifestyle adjustments
(See *Accelerate Your Church*)

Cost in Changing Tradition Cost in Changing Attitude	Strategies for Personal Growth
Cost in Changing Leadership Cost in Changing Organization	Strategies for Higher Accountability
Cost in Changing Property Cost in Changing Technology	Strategies for Mission Sensitivity
Cost in Increasing Funding	Strategies for Lifestyle Adjustments

Perspiration

Making the hard choices to perfect programs, initiate creative ideas, and terminate sacred cows
(See *Accelerate Your Church*)

How effectively will any tactic *accelerate* individual and church growth?

Acceleration happens when churches exert themselves to learn more, try different things, & raise the bar of quality.

- ✓ Spiritual Growth
- ✓ Church Growth

How effectively will any tactic *impact* personal and social change?

Impact happens when churches address the key spot in culture, or the crucial social problem or spiritual need, on which everything depends.

- ✓ Personal Change
- ✓ Social Change

What do we need to *stop doing*?

Sacred Cows are tactics that shape the church around personal tastes, preferences, or agendas instead of God's mission

What do we need to *start doing*?

Creative ideas are tactics that emerge from spiritual growth, focus congregational mission, and get mission results

To whom will we delegate *both responsibility and authority*?

True teams have real power to discern, design, implement, and evaluate mission *without* asking permission

Program or Creative Idea			
Connects with Top Ten Major Leveraging Strategies			
Steps 4-6	Steps 7-9	Step 10	Implementation Issues
The Point	The Tactics	Major Cost Centers (High, Medium, Low)	Coming Stress Points
Why:	When? Begin? Schedule? Evaluation? Closure?	Tradition:	Personal Growth:
		Attitude:	
		Leadership:	
Who:	Organization:		
	Property:	Mission Sensitivity:	
Anticipated Results:	Technology:		
	Where? Environment? Accessibility? Relationships?	Finance:	Lifestyle Adjustments:
Acceleration:		Impact:	Total Score:
Delegation: Leader(s) to take authority & responsibility for implementation			Termination?



Relevant Resources

www.ThrivingChurch.com
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Relevant Books by Tom Bandy:

Abingdon Press	<i>Kicking Habits</i> <i>Roadrunner</i> <i>Mission Mover</i> <i>Coaching Change</i> <i>Moving Off the Map</i> <i>The Uncommon Lectionary</i>	<i>Coming Clean</i> <i>Fragile Hope</i> <i>Why Should I Believe You?</i> <i>Christian Chaos</i> <i>Growing Spiritual Redwoods</i> <i>95 Questions Shaping the Future of Your Church</i>
www.MissionInsite.com	<i>Accelerate Your Church</i>	<i>Mission Impact: Ministry Applications for Lifestyle Portraits</i>
BandyBooks (Amazon):	<i>Christian Mentoring</i>	<i>Global Positioning for the Soul</i>
Chalice Press	<i>Spirited Leadership</i> <i>Talisman</i>	<i>Christian OptiMystics</i> <i>Jesus the Christ</i>

Consultations:

Congregational Mission Assessment

A complete analysis of congregational strengths and weaknesses, obstacles and opportunities
Key resource: *95 Questions that Shape the Future of Your Church* (Abingdon Press)

Vision Discernment

A guided spiritual formation process to build trust and discern God's purpose for your church
Key resource: *Moving Off the Map* (Abingdon Press).

Strategic Planning

An intensive leadership retreat that helps churches prioritize creative ideas, ongoing programs, and limited resources.
Key resource: *Accelerate Your Church: 12 Steps to Get Out of the Box ... and Beyond* (www.MissionInsite.com).

Demographic Analysis

Research and interpretation of demographic, lifestyle segment, and psychographic trends for church development, church planting, and outreach. Key resource: *Mission Impact* (www.MissionInsite.com).

Coaching/Mentoring

Personal coaching is usually scheduled in blocks of six months, and requires *skype* internet technology that is a simple, free program that allows free dialogue, no time limits, around the world. Coaching involves a one-hour *skype* conversation per month, with additional resources and dialogue via email between sessions. We concentrate on shaping attitude, integrity, competencies, and teamwork ... and focus on spiritual life, problem solving, and stress management.

Conferences:

Seminars for pastors or congregational teams are developed for all topics of evangelism, church transformation, church planting, multi-site expansion, and leadership development. See our websites for the current schedule, or customize a seminar to address your congregational mission needs.