

GO

TRAINING 2

Transforming Congregations through Great Commission Ministry

*First EPC Roanoke, VA
Onsite Training
Presentation & Workshop Guide
September 18, 2021*

Ken Priddy, DMin, PhD

GO Center Resources

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Training Schedule:

9:00 – 10:00	Segment 1:	A Call to Action The Great Commission The Cosmic Picture
10:00 – 10:10	Break 1	
10:10 – 11:10	Segment 2:	The Congregational Picture The Church Lifecycle
11:10 – 11:20	Break 2	
11:20 – 12:30	Segment 3:	The Community Picture Four Disciplines of a Great Commission Church
12:30 – 1:15	Lunch Break	
1:15 – 2:30	Segment 4:	The Great Commission Matrix Bottom Line Church Vision & Strategy
2:30 – 3:00	Wrap-Up	What's Next? Q & A

**A CALL to ACTION
ARE YOU IN?**

Two Common Evangelical Realities:

1. The Bible is the authoritative Word of God
2. Over 80% of Evangelical Churches are in plateau or decline.

The GO Center

The GO Center is your Resource, Friend and Ally as you are Equipped and Empowered for Great Commission Ministry.

The Mission of the GO Center is Simple and Clear:
To Inspire Hope – To Instill Vision – To Inform Strategy
To Invigorate Action

Finding Who's Missing & Bringing Them Home!

CALL TO ACTION

ARE YOU IN?

LET'S DO THIS!

THE GREAT COMMISSION

Our God is a Sending God

Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Mark 16:14-20

¹⁴ Afterward he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at table, and he rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. ¹⁵ And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. ¹⁶ Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. ¹⁷ And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; ¹⁸ they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."

¹⁹ So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. ²⁰ And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by accompanying signs.

Luke 24:44-49

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

John 20:19-22

¹⁹ On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

Acts 1:8

⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

The hope for the future of the American evangelical church is firmly rooted in our commitment to living out the Great Commission by the grace and to the glory of God.

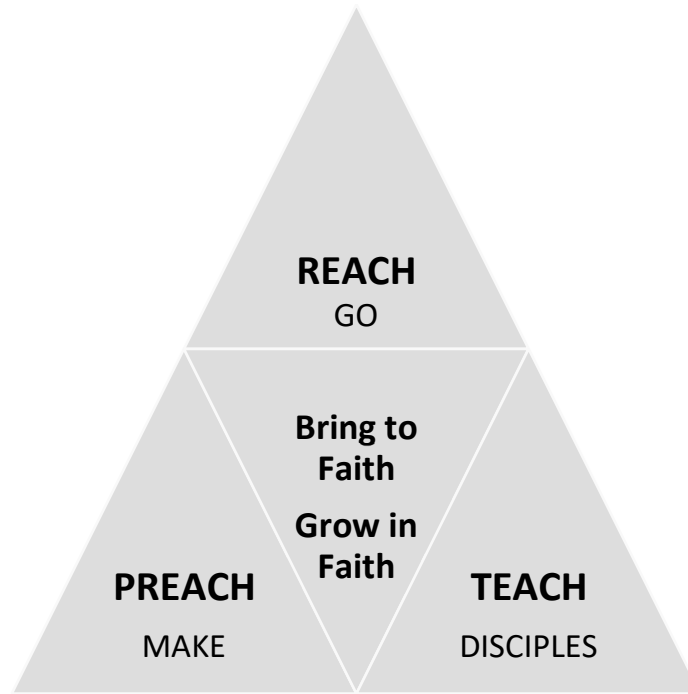
BOTTOM LINE:

Our GOD is a Sending God!

How will we serve as a Sent People?

The Great Commission Triangle

Reach – Preach – Teach



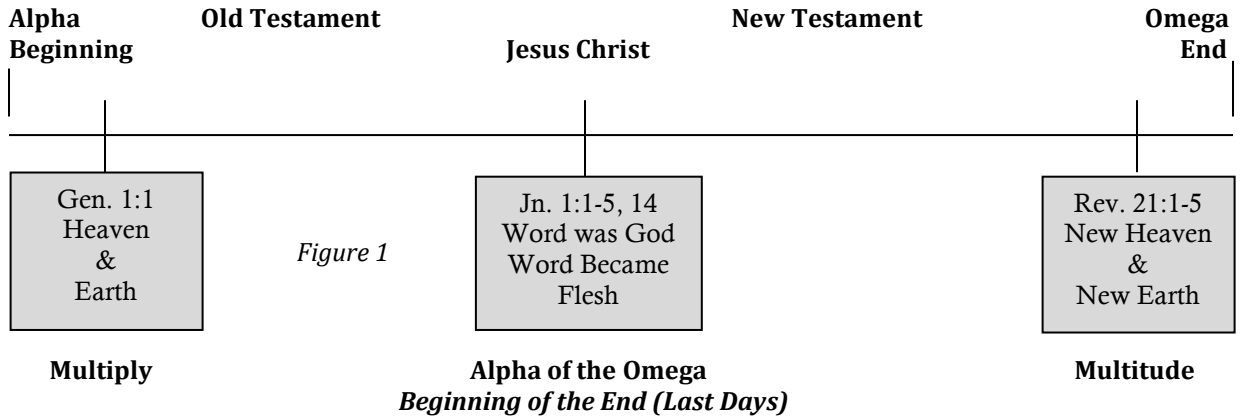
GO	>	REACH	>	OUTREACH	=	<i>MISSIONAL</i>
MAKE	>	PREACH	>	EVANGELISM	=	<i>MINISTRY</i>
DISCIPLES	>	TEACH	>	DISCIPLESHIP	=	<i>MOVEMENTS</i>

REF: Matthew 28:18-20
Acts 2:37-47
Ephesians 4:1-16
Ezra 7:1-10

THE COSMIC PICTURE

Catch a Vision of God

The Timeline of Redemption



Vital 180
NOT God's plan for my life BUT my life for God's plan.
NOT God's vision for our church BUT our church for God's vision.

Figure 2

If we do not change our direction, we are likely to end up where we are headed.
= Chinese Proverb =

Figure 3

NOTES: _____

The Wisdom of Teams

Proverbs 15:22 - *Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.*
Proverbs 27:17 - *Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.*

Introducing: The GO Leader Team - GLT

The Vision Team - VT

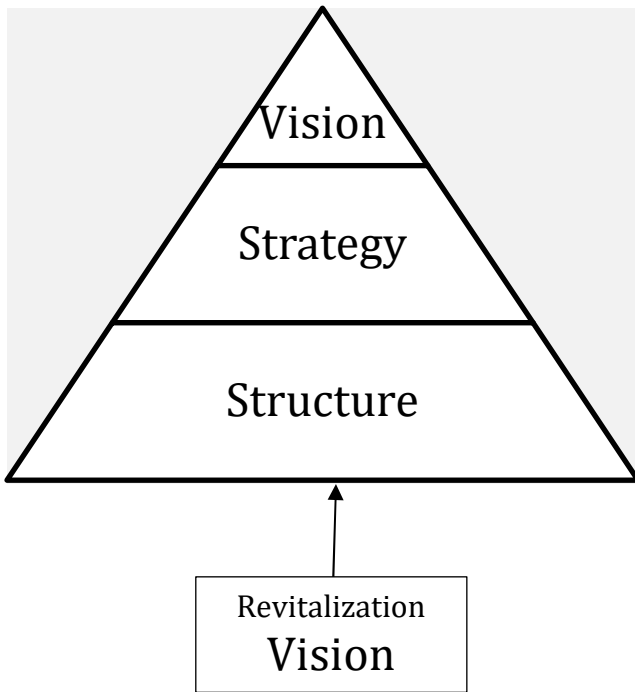
Prayer Teams - PTs

Unified Leadership

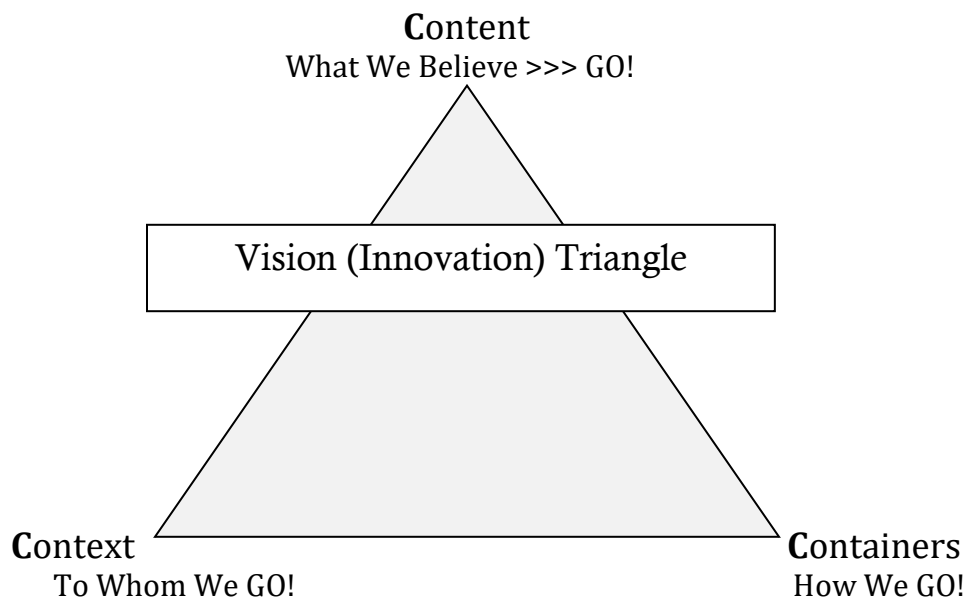
One of the great beauties of a truly healthy and unified leadership team is that it experiences unity in the healthiest sense of the word . . . When a battle of competing ideas is over, they [team members] march out and present a unified front, setting aside their personal preferences and agendas in light of the greater good and the bigger mission.

Larry Osborne, *Sticky Teams*, p. 20.

The Authority Triangle:



The Vision Triangle (Innovation Triangle)



THE CHURCH LIFECYCLE
Is Our Church in Incline, Recline or Decline?

Three Macro-Stages

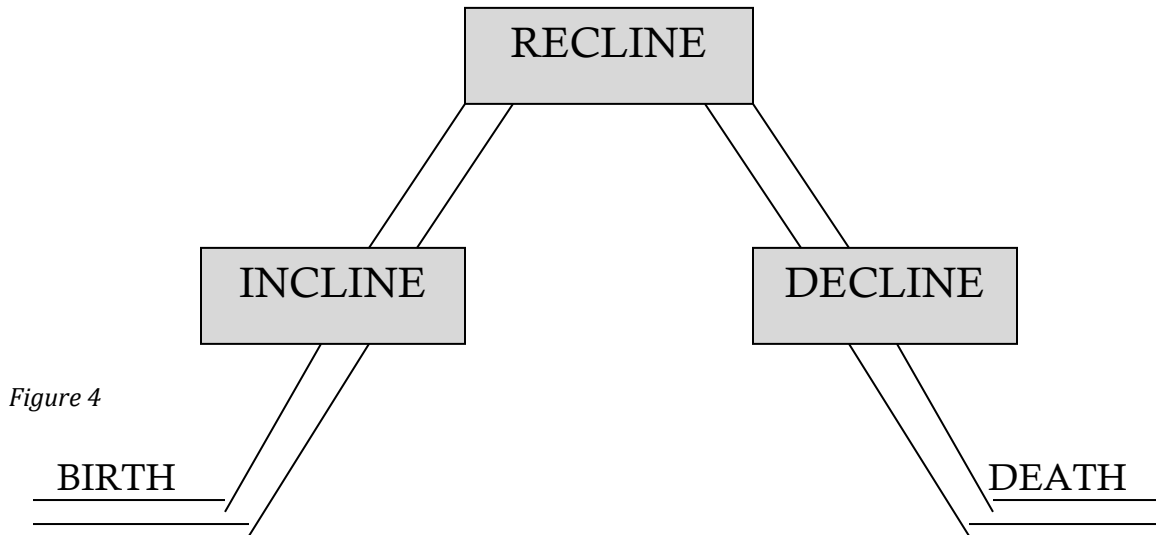


Figure 4

The Lifecycle Story:
Vitality LOST Over Time
Arnold C. Cook
Historical Drift: Must My Church Die?

Figure 5

Vitalization Principle:
Change ranges from
MODERATE to SEVERE
depending on the lifecycle stage.

Figure 6

10 Distinctive Characteristics of Incline, Recline & Decline

INCLINE	RECLINE	DECLINE
Future-Oriented	Present-Oriented	Past-Oriented
Vision-Driven	Program-Driven	Structure-Driven
Community-Focused	Congregation-Focused	Core-Focused
Innovative	Routine	Complacent
High-Risk Faith	Low-Risk Faith	No Risk Faith
Faith Decisions	Resource Decisions	Indecision
Serve by Gifts	Serve by Slot	Serve by Default
\$ = Investor	\$ = Provider	\$ = Preserver
New Leadership	Established Leadership	Incumbent Leadership
Conversion Growth	Transfer Growth	No Growth

Figure 7

NOTES: _____

A Closer Look at the Church Lifecycle: Six Micro-Stages

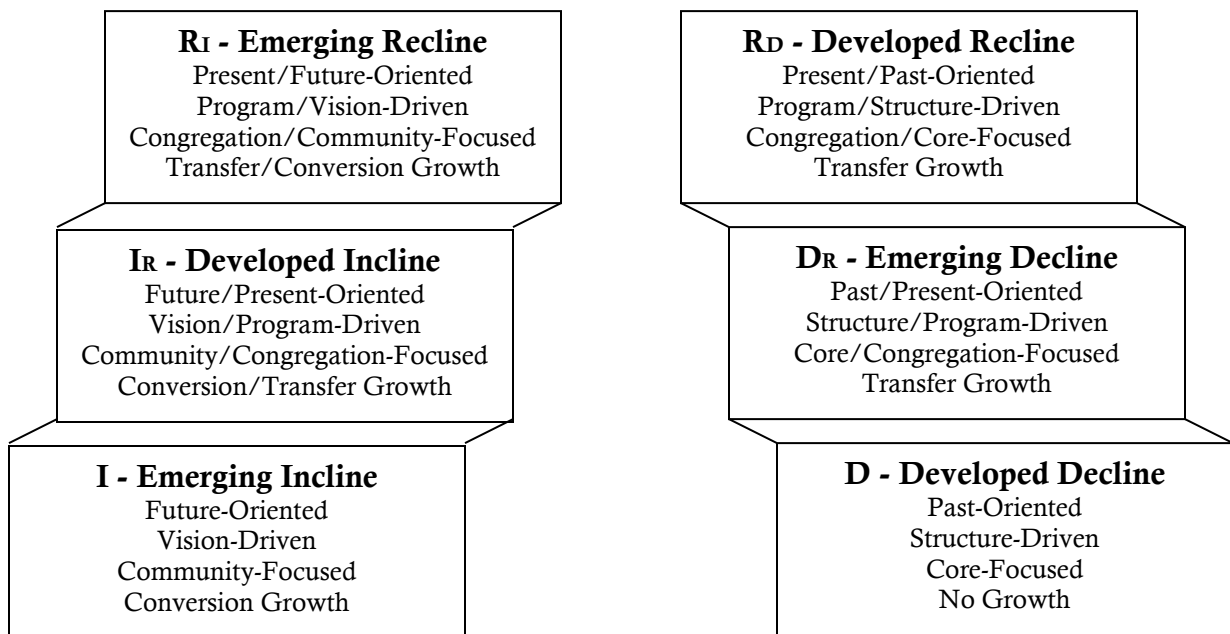
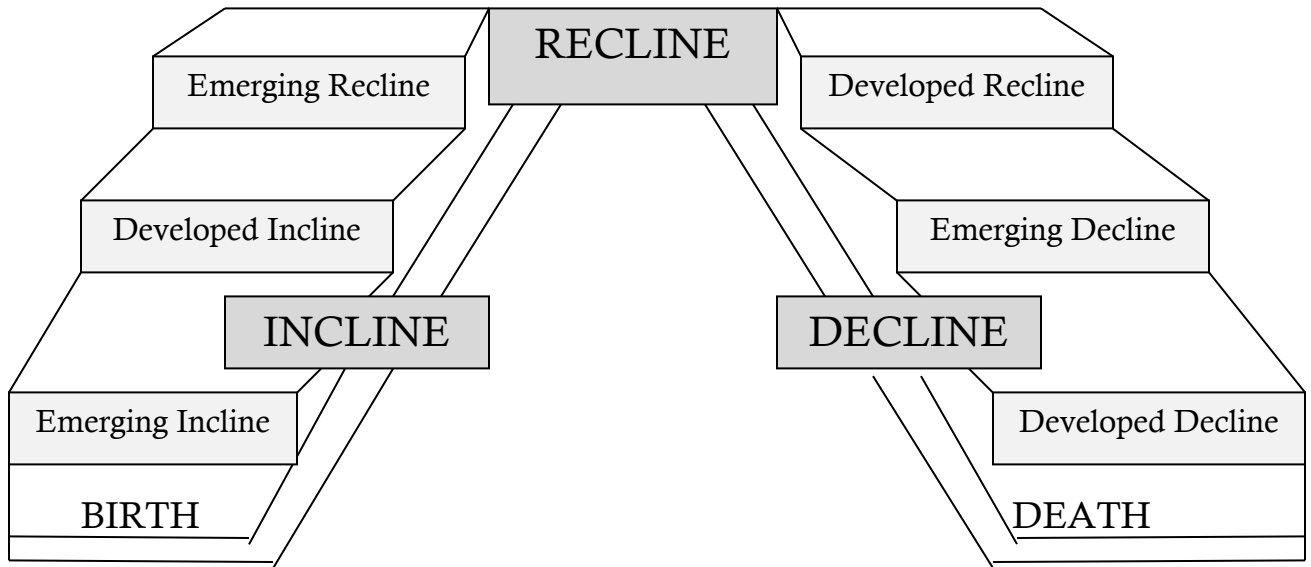


Figure 8

Vitalization Principle
The lifecycle is a one-way street.

Figure 9

THE COMMUNITY PICTURE
Zoom-In to God's Movement through Our Church

Key Vision Question

Begin with a **Key Vision Question**: How does God want to express Himself through our church in our community at this time? Notice that within this question there are **Four Vision Dynamics**:

It's **God's** Vision

Through **Our** Church

In **Our** Community

At **This** Time

Notes:

FOUR DISCIPLINES OF A GREAT COMMISSION CHURCH
 All-Church Implementation Led by the Vision Team

PREEMPTIVE PRAYER	BASIC BIBLE
COST COMMITMENT	MISSIONAL MULTIPLICATION

Figure 10

The vital church is a disciplined church whose members practice habitual spiritual behaviors that both develop and reflect biblical character. Though spiritual disciplines are many and varied, I cite four in this context that I believe are fundamental to Great Commission church vitality. Properly embraced, these four disciplines make a significant contribution to the assignment of church leaders “to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love” (Ephesians 4:12-16).

Discipline 1: Preemptive Prayer

Discipline 2: Basic Bible

Discipline 3: Cost Commitment

Discipline 4: Missional Multiplication

Brainstorm multiple ways of developing and applying the discipline of Preemptive Prayer throughout the ministry of your church.

Select 3 of these ideas as potential Preemptive Prayer strategies for near future application.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Four Disciplines of a Great Commission Church Workshop – Basic Bible

The habitual behaviors of a congregation reveal its true values more accurately than its professions. For example, most congregations **claim** allegiance to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission, but few truly **demonstrate** a sacrificial love for neighbor or a serious commitment to outreach and evangelism. The Apostle James might describe this kind of faith as dead. The good news is that disciplines can be formed and it’s never too late to start.

Analyze your church’s strengths or weaknesses in regard to Basic Bible.

Brainstorm multiple ways of developing and applying the discipline of Basic Bible throughout the ministry of your church.

Lined area for brainstorming ideas.

Select 3 of these ideas as potential Basic Bible strategies for near future application.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Additional lines for notes.

Brainstorm multiple ways of developing and applying the discipline of Cost Commitment throughout the ministry of your church.

Select 3 of these ideas as potential Cost Commitment strategies for near future application.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Brainstorm multiple ways of developing and applying the discipline of Missional Multiplication throughout the ministry of your church.

Select 3 of these ideas as potential Missional Multiplication strategies for near future application.

1.

2.

3.

The Great Commission Matrix

Ministry Area Implementation Coached by the Vision Team

Spiritual Renewal (SR) – Strategic Initiative (SI)
High/Low Strength of Commitment

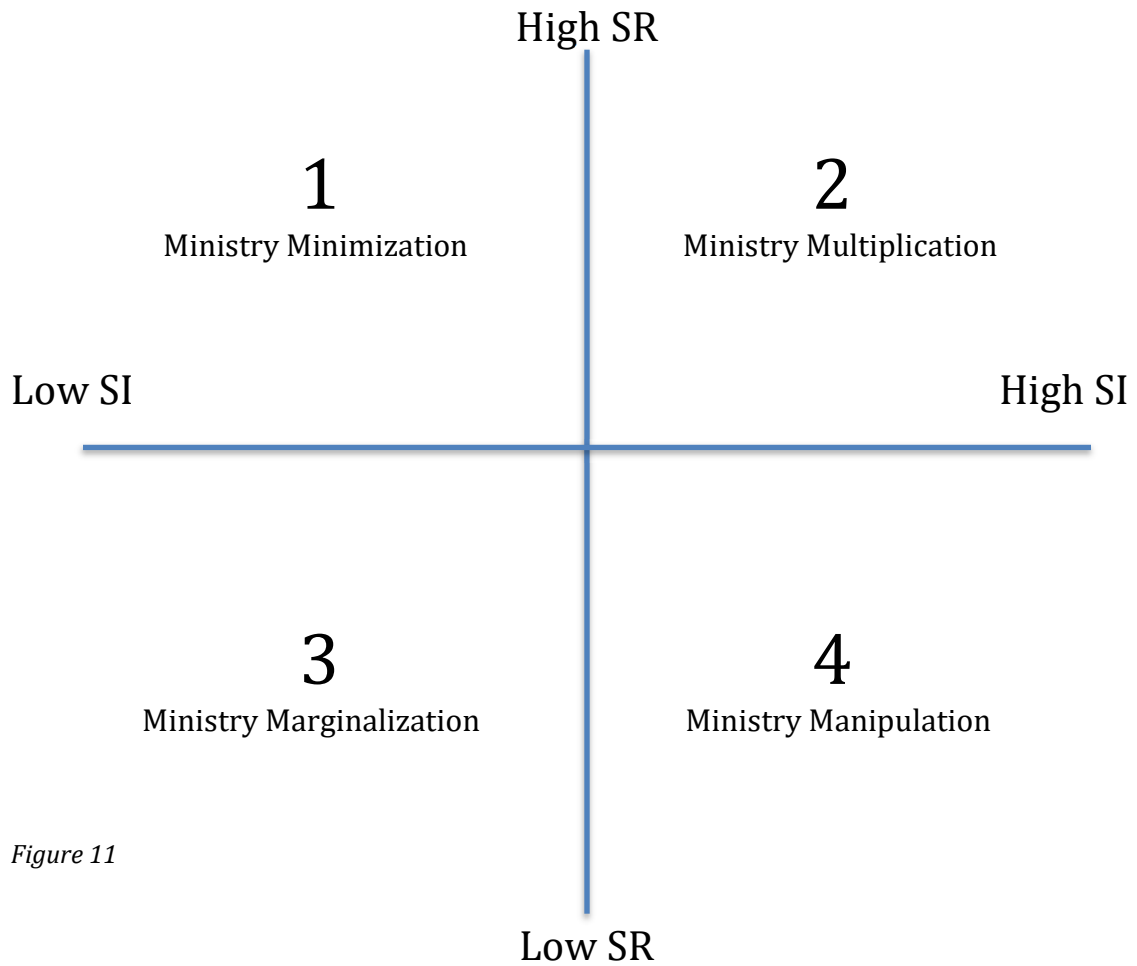


Figure 11

The Great Commission Matrix

Spiritual Renewal (SR) – Strategic Initiative (SI)
High/Low Strength of Commitment

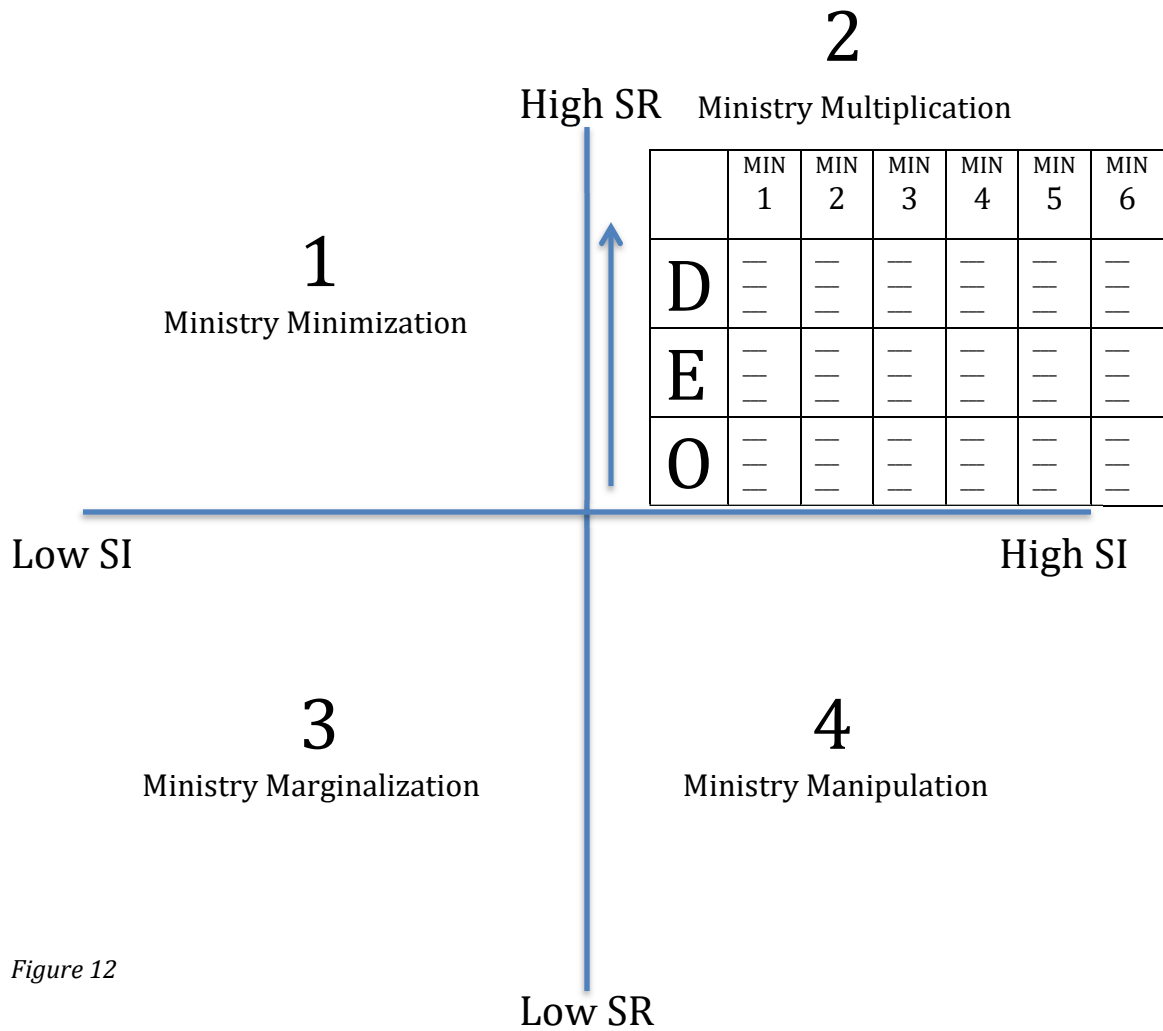


Figure 12

Years ago, I attended a church of roughly 1200 members. There were 15 of us on the Evangelism Team. That's a program approach.

A church of 1200 should have 1200 on the Evangelism Team. That's a movement!

	MIN 1	MIN 2	MIN 3	MIN 4	MIN 5	MIN 6
D	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
E	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
O	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —

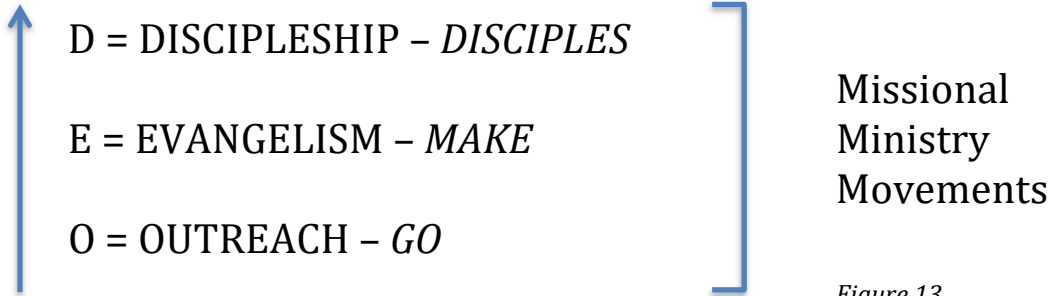


Figure 13

Vital 180s

*NOT how do we minister TO our congregation
BUT how do we minister THROUGH our congregation?*

Figure 14

GLOSSARY OF G.C. MATRIX TERMS

Outreach: The strategic connecting of people in the congregation with people outside of the congregation for the purpose of building sustainable relationships. It is these sustainable relationships that give opportunity to evangelism.

Evangelism: The strategic connecting of people outside of the Christian faith with a crystal-clear presentation of the Gospel including an opportunity to respond to the call of the Gospel. Note – if the Gospel has not been made crystal clear, evangelism has not happened.

Good News: Many congregations have greatly increased outreach in recent years.

Bad News: But many of these congregations are mistaking outreach for evangelism. Consequently, the Gospel is not being presented clearly.

Discipleship: Developing someone in his or her Christian faith with an emphasis on obedience to all that Jesus commanded. The objective of discipleship is not increased knowledge or moral improvement. The objective is true life transformation that is seen in behaviors and not simply in theological or doctrinal understanding, in orthopraxis and not simply in orthodoxy.

Ministry Area: Any program, department, sub-department, team or group that is employing strategies that impact people through Outreach, Evangelism, and Discipleship; the delivery systems a congregation develops to minister through the congregation to reach a community.

Strategy: The particular methods and tactics employed within a given ministry area to promote Outreach, Evangelism, and Discipleship.

The Lost: More than simply those who are without Christ, the Lost are those whose names are recorded in the Lamb's Book of Life but who have not yet come to faith. They are our missing brothers and sisters in Christ and we must reach them.

Worshippers: Formerly the lost, worshipers give themselves sacrificially to their Lord, driven by obedience to the Word of God. They do, indeed, worship in spirit and truth.

Gathering (noun): The gathering of the saints as a noun is the body of Christ having come together, a.k.a. the congregation.

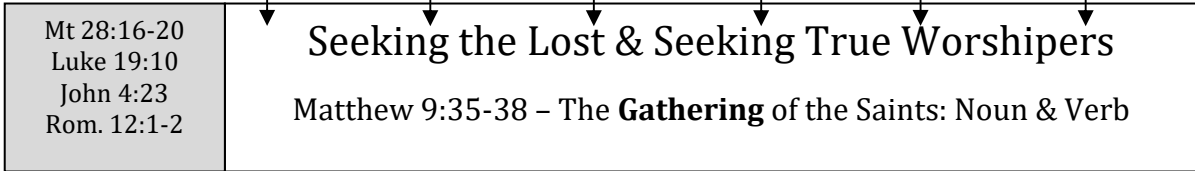
Gathering (verb): The gathering of the saints as a verb is the drawing of the lost into the family of God through outreach and evangelism while serving in the harvest.

The Great Commission Matrix

Quadrant 2

	MIN 1	MIN 2	MIN 3	MIN 4	MIN 5	MIN 6
DISC Disciples!	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3
EVAN Make!	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3
OUTR GO!	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3	Strategy 1 Strategy 2 Strategy 3

Figure 15



Great Commission Matrix Worksheet (permission to photo copy)

Use this worksheet to begin building your Great Commission Matrix by developing strategies in each ministry area to move people through Outreach to Evangelism to Discipleship.

Ministry Area: _____

Identify one to three strategies for moving people through each level of the Great Commission Matrix in this ministry area. Work from the bottom up.

Discipleship _____

Evangelism _____

Outreach _____

Great Commission Matrix Worksheet (permission to photo copy)

Use this worksheet to begin building your Great Commission Matrix by developing strategies in each ministry area to move people through Outreach to Evangelism to Discipleship.

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Ministry Area: _____

Identify one to three strategies for moving people through each level of the Great Commission Matrix in this ministry area. Work from the bottom up.

Discipleship _____

Evangelism _____

Outreach _____

BOTTOM LINE VISION & STRATEGY
Where Are We?

Vision: The Great Commission is the Vision!

What are we trying to accomplish? Why?

Strategy: The Great Commission is the Strategy!

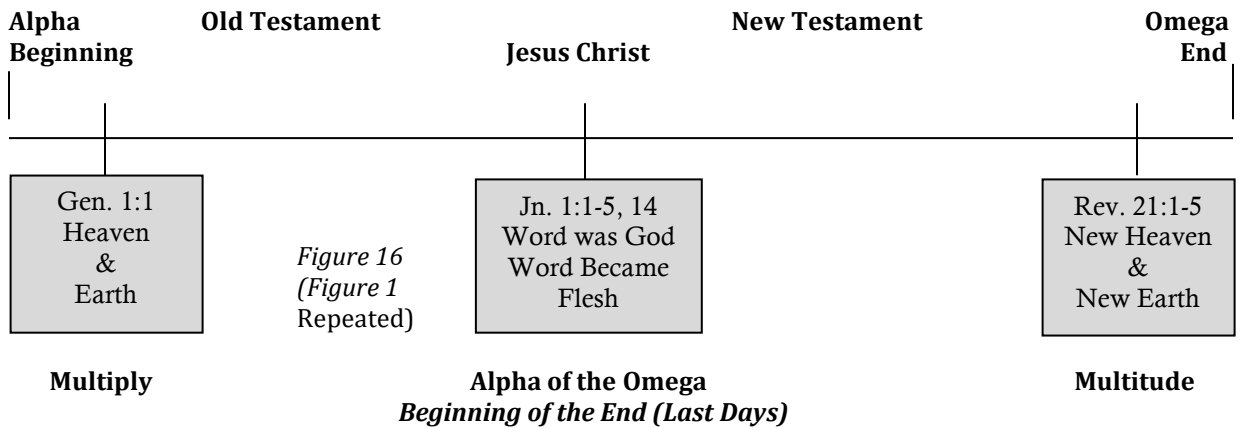
What are we going to do? How? When?

How will we know what's working and what's not?

What adjustments will we make?

A Final Comment

CATCHING A VISION OF GOD
Seeing God – Seeing What God Sees
The Place to Begin: A Sovereign God with an Eternal Kingdom Vision



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Ken Priddy is a seasoned ministry development practitioner, trainer and consultant who serves as Executive Director of the GO Center. He has served as a revitalization trainer with Global Church Advancement and with the Fresh Start Churches Network, and serves as an adjunct/guest professor with several evangelical colleges and seminaries. Ken and his wife, Sharon, have three daughters and a son, four grandchildren and reside in Richmond, VA.

Ken's ministry history is heavily weighted in church planting and revitalization. A former church planter and revitalization pastor, Ken, since 2000, has devoted himself to working with pastors and church leaders to establish health, growth and multiplication in their churches through a vitality process built on two platforms, Spiritual Renewal with Strategic Initiative.

Dr. Priddy holds the Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Reformed Theological Seminary in Orlando, FL. His D.Min. dissertation is titled, *ReStarting the Dying Church*. He also holds the Doctor of Philosophy in Biblical Studies from Newburgh Theological Seminary in Newburgh, IN. His Ph.D. dissertation, titled, *A Theology of Multiplication*, has been developed into a book titled *VACANCY: Finding Who's Missing & Bringing them Home*, due for publication in fall 2019. This timely book considers the biblical underpinning of both qualitative and quantitative growth in the church.

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ABOUT THE GO CENTER

The GO Center takes its name from the Great Commission – GO and make disciples. The GO Center Team is a dedicated group of revitalization trainer-consultants and coaches that brings insight, teaching, training, consulting and coaching to evangelical leaders who are committed to growing the kingdom of God. The need for church vitality is great and the need for effective outreach and evangelism is great. The GO Center is helping local churches and their presbyteries meet those needs.

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