

redirect

replicate

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repeat

realign

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rebuild

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renew

reform

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REBUILDING THE CHURCH

HAGGAI STUDY

replant

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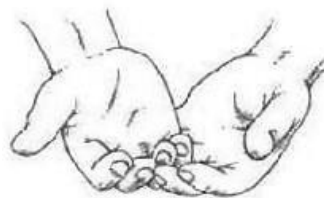
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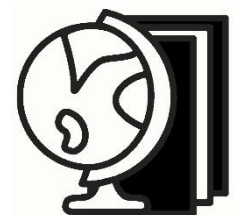
SURRENDER



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Framework

The 4-Stage Growth Development for Revitalizing a Church

- | | | |
|---|------------|-------------------|
| 1. Pioneer – Design a Biblical Foundation... | | Haggai 1:1-15 |
| a. Realign with Scripture... | OT Summary | 1:1-4 |
| b. Renew our Minds | Clarify | 1:5-11 |
| c. Redirect our Hearts; | Align | 1:12-15 |
| 2. Parent – Structure a Vision... | | Haggai 2:1-9 |
| a. Reconstruct our Plan | | 2:1-4 |
| b. Reform our Tradition | | 2:5 |
| c. Replant the Missional Mandate | | 2:6-9 |
| 3. Partner – Develop a Strategy... | | Haggai 2:10-23 |
| a. Recommit to the Great Commandment | | 2:10-19 |
| b. Reinstitute Discipleship | | 2:20-23 |
| c. Rebuild our Process | Movement | Deuteronomy 6:5-7 |
| 4. Participant – Expand Out... | | Acts 1 & 2 |
| a. Recycle our Resources | Focus | 1:4-26 |
| d. Replicate the Biblical Church | | 2:14-36 |
| b. Repeat the Model to Plant Churches | | 2:37-47 |

What is our Vision Statement for the Church?

Our Vision statement should line up with scripture, encourage the fellowship of believers, and connect to our culture.

- A SIMPLE CHURCH is a congregation designed around a straightforward and strategic process that moves people through the stages of spiritual growth.
- Spiritual growth, which is sanctification, is the process of the believer becoming more and more like Christ.
Clarity, Alignment, Movement, Focus

What are some things involved to move people through the stages of spiritual growth?

CLARITY – the ability of the process to be communicated and understood by the people.

ALIGNMENT – the arrangement of all ministries and staff around the same simple process.

MOVEMENT – the sub sequential steps in the process that cause people to move toward greater areas of commitment.

FOCUS – the commitment to abandon everything that falls outside the simple ministry process.



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**STRUCTURING A VISION FOR MINISTRY:
(PART 2 OF REBUILDING THE CHURCH)
Haggai 2:1-9**

**January 27-February 3, 2019
Pastor Trevor Cooper**

VISION

Two definitions that you need to be aware of when structuring a vision is: **CLARITY** – the ability of the process to be communicated and understood by the people. **ALIGNMENT** – the arrangement of all ministries and staff around the same simple process.

Last week, our head Discipleship leaders and Elders got together to start discussing a Church Vision. As a fellowship of believers, we should have a straightforward and strategic process that moves people through the stages of spiritual growth; which is becoming more and more like Christ. We currently do not have a Vision – which should always line up with scripture, encourage the fellowship of believers, and connect the gospel to our community and world. Ed Stetzer says, "Part of being a missional church is to recognize that we are to go into a culture, engage the people of that culture, and plant a biblically faithful church for those people, all the while acknowledging that culture matters in the way we do ministry." If we want to reach people for Christ, we must be willing to change our ways by having a Biblical Foundation and Vision that speaks with clarity within the culture. The Lord again spoke to the people, you see Solomon's temple destroyed and you started to build and stopped. Well, this time, the Lord is encouraging them to continue building.

READ, Haggai 2:1-9

First, We Need to RECONSTRUCT our PLAN for Ministry (v 3-4)

³ There was this source of discouragement. The Lord asked this question of "Who remembers when this church was thriving?" "Remember its former glory, and how do you see it now?" Sometimes we get caught up in how things used to be because we were comfortable or successful then. Often, a church makes the big mistake of "doing what we have always done and done well." They have missed the point of what made them a strong church in the first place. We need to remind ourselves of the spirit of sacrifice and adventure that created our church. ⁴ Repetition adds emphasis to the command to "Be Strong". Young people are excited while old are saddened. **GOD'S sustaining strength GUARANTEES the ultimate success of their labors. God's Blessing to us is "I AM WITH YOU."** **No blessing of possession, power prosperity.** "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9

One church grew from a few dozen people to an attendance near one thousand over a thirty-year period. When the long-time pastor retired, the church sought a pastor who could sustain the church's strength. Three pastors and then years later, the church is still in decline. The secret to their success was continual change led by a pastor focused on advancing the gospel. **The METHODS of ministry CHANGES because people change. The MESSAGE of ministry REMAINS because God never changes.** Therefore, we must structure a vision that is focused on the message: The True Gospel of Jesus!!! How will the church use methods of ministry with the NY Abortion and Homosexuality Laws while keeping the same message of God and His gospel? We need to make sure we focus on the root of the issue by defining biblically what is the real cause and what is the real solution. To do this we need to reform our tradition of the message, because our culture is more focused on tradition instead of God's transformation.

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Second, We Need to REFORM our TRADITION of the Message (v. 5-8) God's covenant promises, made with His people in Exodus from Egypt, now assure them of His presence. His mighty Spirit is present, just as in the days of the great deliverance from Egypt.

Christianity and the Church was not meant to hold its beliefs on tradition; but solely on Christ. Tradition can be useful to the church in areas of symbolism and structure. God is an organized God who has instituted marriage, church and government; the Lord develops structure, but He also gives us spiritual wisdom and understanding through symbolism: Lord's Supper, Baptism, New Identity, & Heart of sin. **For the Christian, your faith is based more on the TRANSFORMATION from CHRIST than the TRADITION of MAN. For the Christian, your reputation is more about CHRIST than it is about our SELF.** "For me to Christ is to live, and to die is gain" Phil 2:21.

I want to make something clear about what the message of Christ is before I acknowledge some of methods of Ministry is here at FBC Cypress. Methods will be next weeks to come. The Sanctuary that God prefers is of the heart, it's not a building; it's not this room. This room is not sacred; anyone can enter this room including Satan, but by Jesus' Christ power and security, Satan cannot enter your heart/soul. Tradition says this is sacred. God's word says man's heart is sacred, therefore give it to God. What do we do with this room? The Stewardship that God prefers is of the heart. We take care of what we have because Christians don't own anything that doesn't belong to God ultimate. (Boat, Cars, Kids, House, Education, Trust, stocks, clothes) Don't let your possessions own you, but you own them. We take care of this room, we don't eat or drink here and we take care of this facility because God is transforming our hearts and not that it's sacred and tradition says we must. 8 God is the sovereign possessor of all things and will bring about His own glorification & the church's health.

Third, We Need to REPLANT the MISSIONAL Mandate. (v. 6-9) God shakes the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; shake the nations. Stir them up... "When we don't cry out to God, the rocks cry out" I am reminded also by the scriptures, "Be still and know that I am God, I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted among the earth." Filling this house with glory was not to show how mighty and great Israel is. **God's intention is to honor HIMSELF by manifesting His glorious presence before "ALL NATIONS."** As God's presence fills the temple, the nations come to light. Isaiah 60:3-5 speaks about the Messianic age where Isaiah's promise was that Israel be made rich by the wealth of the nations. All the treasures of all nations are the things desired by all nations become contributions to the temple building project. **The promise of GREATER glory is realized in CHRIST.** "Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts." Malachi 3:1 "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

Christ is the greatest manifestation of God's presence and glory. Christ gives His glory to His church, which is you and I as the new temple of God. It will be greater than what anyone of us and the Israelites at that time could ever imagine. "Be Strong" and be encouraged about this house of greater glory... for verse 9, "in this place I will give peace, declares the Lord of hosts."

Christ gives PEACE to believers now. This peace (Hebrew shalom) means more than the absence of conflict. It implies prosperity and a sense of total well-being. But ultimate fulfillment awaits the time when the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb (God the Father & His Son Jesus Christ) are the temple of the New Jerusalem.... Our greatest treasure is God and when surrender everything and invest in following Jesus; our prize is Jesus – the peace maker!

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