

Workshop - World View Model of Discipleship

Thursday, 10:45 PM

Gene Getz

Sharpening the Focus of the Church

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The Measure of the Church

The Measure of a Man

Elders and Leaders

Basic Prin: God has given us absolutes in doctrine, function and freedom in form. but given us

What kinds of forms do we need to do this?

Evolved into small group ministry.

New church with principles but no form.

When you change structures there is going to be anxiety.

When you try to bring change people get insecure.

People will accuse you of trying to change absolutes when they are not absolute.

We just let the forms emerge.

Small group ministry began by the elders simply trying to be in touch with people. We asked them what their needs were and how can we pray for the.

Then an elder said, we ought to be meeting together.

The form in which we can do the “one another” commands

One of the things we needed was a “pathway” for people to get into the church and into small groups.

1. I am in the process of a 7 year transition

I was sharing the speaking ministry with others.

One emerged as a strong teacher, Jeff, an associate.

Jeff, how old is Gene? Do you know something we don't know?

Jeff and I had talked about the future. But I had to get ahead of this.

I went to every elder one on one and asked, “Guys, who should replace me in 7 years?”

Each said, “Jeff Jones”

Then I went to my senior staff and each said, “Jeff Jones” Lord willing.

My discipling ministry is with Jeff Jones and a few others.

When I step aside March 15 when I'm 75 things will go on.

At same time we are in a transition with our elders. We have a succession plan with qualified elders who are younger.

I mention that succession plan in terms of

Lead us through an alignment process!

Easy to get out of line and get islands of those not related to the whole.

Whether it is a men's ministry or women's ministry

Alignment is having the same mission, vision and values.

One of the problems is everyone doing what is right in his own eyes.

Happened at Willow Creek with Bill Hybels.

Had to let a lot of people go bec/ they were out of alignment.

What are our core values?

What are we committed to?

Make sure all ministries were in alignment with our small group ministry!

Make sure men's ministry in alignment with our main ministry.

Make sure women's ministry in alignment with our main ministry.

What we have in our hands is a result of that alignment process.

5 core functions and Forms

Worship services: 3 of them – we have chosen to keep all 3 in balance, one service that is the same. We've not divided the services up according to style. That's the form we've chosen to have a unified alignment.

Others have chosen to go with different styles to reach different communities.

Community

Small groups doing life together.

One of the greatest contacts to disciple and equip people. The equip leaders in the context of life. This was one of my greatest frustrations at seminary – it was an artificial setting separated from life.

Doing theology in community can only be done on the local church level.

Taking 2 or 3 couples and check them out to see if they are on the same page.

We made mistakes placing people into leadership too quickly. Takes 3 years.

Are their marriages solid?

With singles, do they have their act together?

There is a level of maturity that they must have.

One thing you are looking for is “how dedicated are they”? How committed to financial stewardship?

Growth

Discovery courses.

As I look back over my ministry in Dallas is that we did not have an experiential curriculum to people. Jeff and Bruce put together the courses we call *Discovery*

Learning together in community!
Together, learning in community!

To see people come to Christ.
This became our key form for growth.
This was a missing dimension in our ministry.

Service

Impact worship.
Learn to know who they are.
Their giftedness, their design.
Unless people get into service they will dry up.

Outreach

Key forms
Unless you have a flow of new life the church will stagnant.
The church is damned up.
The water begins to smell.
In fact, they don't want anyone to spoil their fellowship.
This is a death blow.

These small groups need to be reaching out.
Some small groups become so protective they don't even want others in the church coming.

All church outreach events.
Doing things "in the community"

Pat Sumerai!

Our men's pastor – working through our small groups so that when men come in their will be comfortable because they know someone.

Segmentation definitions:

Explorers

Challenge: how can you draw explorers into the process?
You have to have a door, a way to get into the system.
"I was in the balcony for 5 years before I trusted you."
We have to have a comfort zone for them and something to attract them.

Observers

They attend worship and some other activities. But they aren't committed to anything.
They are looking for the best deal in town.

Somehow we have to reach them.
You reach them by providing them with good teaching
The passive consumer

Participant

How do I become more involved?

Servant/Leader

Fully committed

Am I serving God in the church to the best of my ability?

Ambassador

Where can I be used most strategically.

These people are going on short term missions trips.

Maui – pagan culture!

Give these people positive feedback.

I learned a lesson about this when I worked at MBI's evening school.

There was a moral problem among the faculty.

Moral building – I just keep my ear to the ground and give people positive feedback.

What success looks like – these are goals!

Observer - I belong here!

Participant - I'm known here!

Servant - I am vulnerable here!

Leader - I am responsible here!

Easy to neglect those who are valuable.

Whatever you do people need a pathway.

It is up to you to create that.

Want to have an impact? Join the hospitality team!

Reach out to people.

Open doors for people!

Don't even have to be a Ctn. They may not know they aren't a real Ctn.s

The Discovery Process – The Center for Church Based Training

We've worked hard to make this transferable.

This is where we are seeing lives changed.

Once you understand the process you can do it yourself. But don't reinvent the wheel.

Bard Smith and Buford encouraged Gene to write the book.