

Visioning Forum 2

Uncovering VALUES

3 Key Questions for Churches to ask

1. Do we have an honest picture of who we are?
2. Do we have a shared vision of where we are going?
3. Do we have a clear understanding of the next steps necessary to take in this journey?

3 Basic Assumptions

1. Growth is desired by God & a natural outcome of healthy churches.
2. It is the Holy Spirit that causes churches to grow.
3. Prayer is foundational for any healthy church.

Purpose, Values & Vision

PURPOSE why we exist

Purpose, Values & Vision

PURPOSE why we exist

VALUES drive the way we do things around here

Purpose, Values & Vision

PURPOSE why we exist

VALUES drive the way we do things around here

VISION our future destination – a word picture of what we think the future might look like under God

Purpose, Values & Vision

Purpose, Values & Vision

PURPOSE determined Biblically

Purpose, Values & Vision

PURPOSE determined Biblically

VALUES uncovered not created

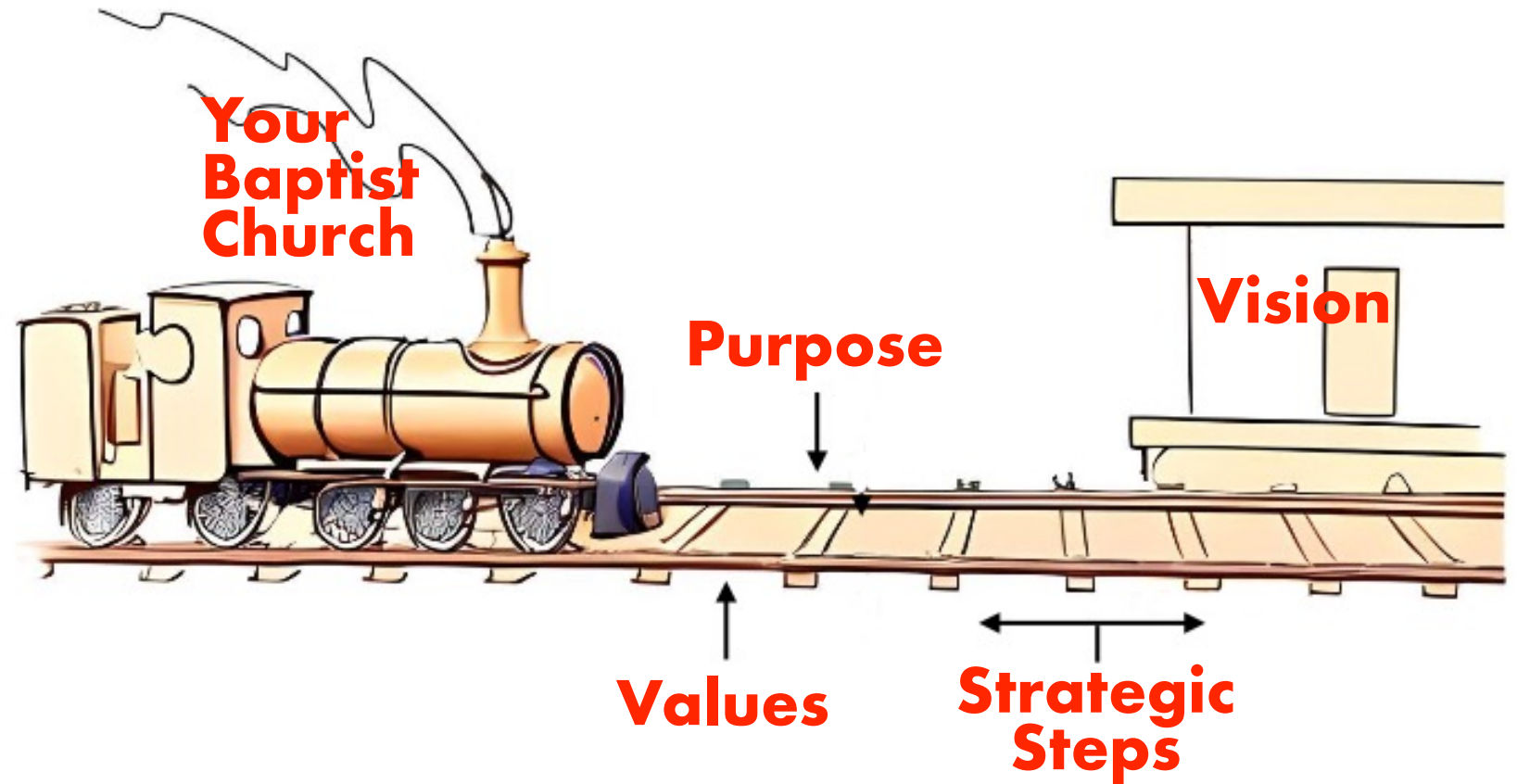
Purpose, Values & Vision

PURPOSE determined Biblically

VALUES uncovered not created

VISION imparted by God, discovered
through prayer, acknowledged by
the church body

The importance of Purpose, Values & Vision



Draft Purpose Statement

FEEDBACK





**Checking
our Purpose
Statement**

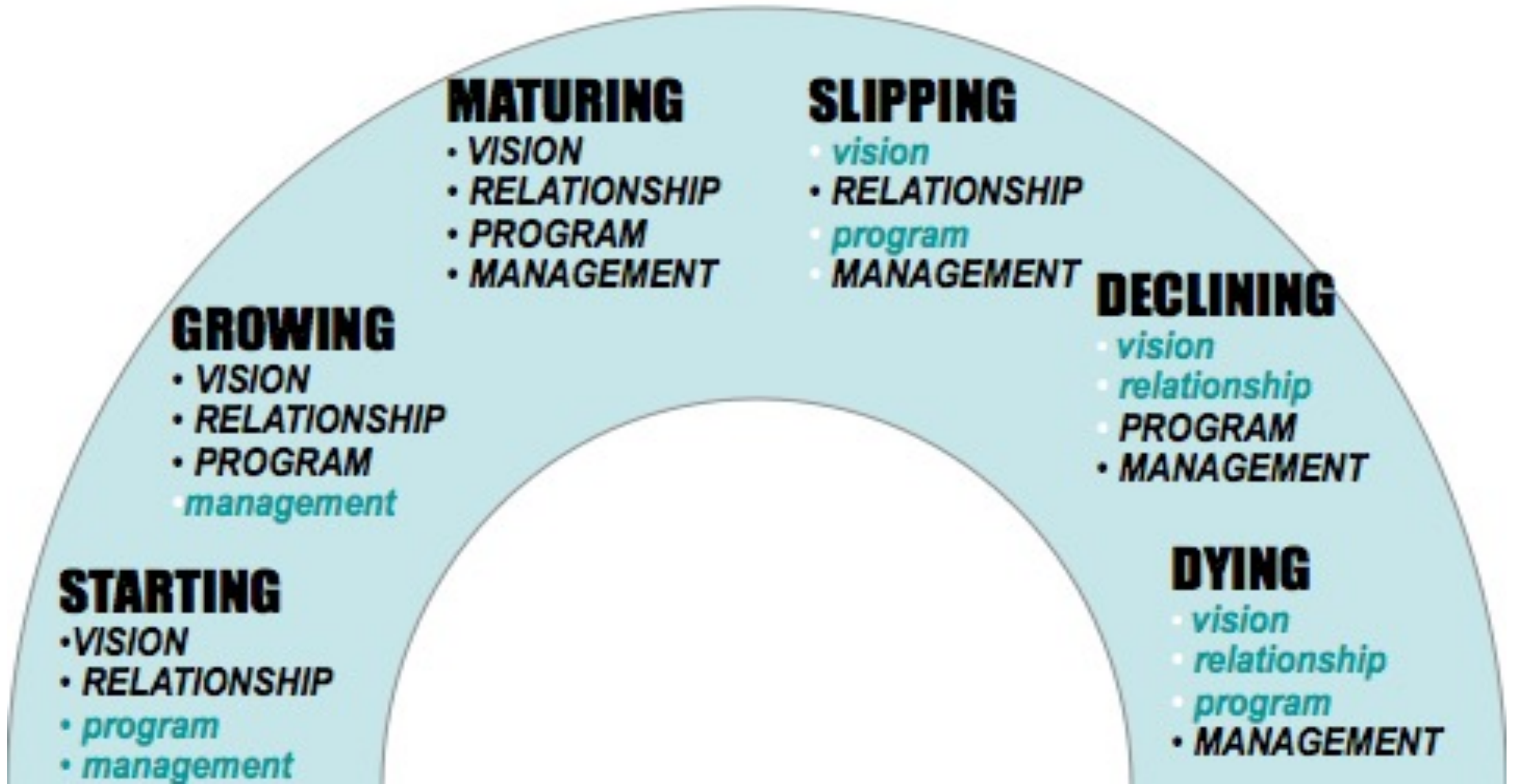


***Remember:
Purpose is
why we exist***

Is our purpose statement:

- 1. Biblically based?**
- 2. One sentence?**
- 3. Over-arching rather than specific?**
- 4. Applicable to most churches?**
- 5. Timeless? ie. it will never go out of date**

Lifecycle of a Congregation

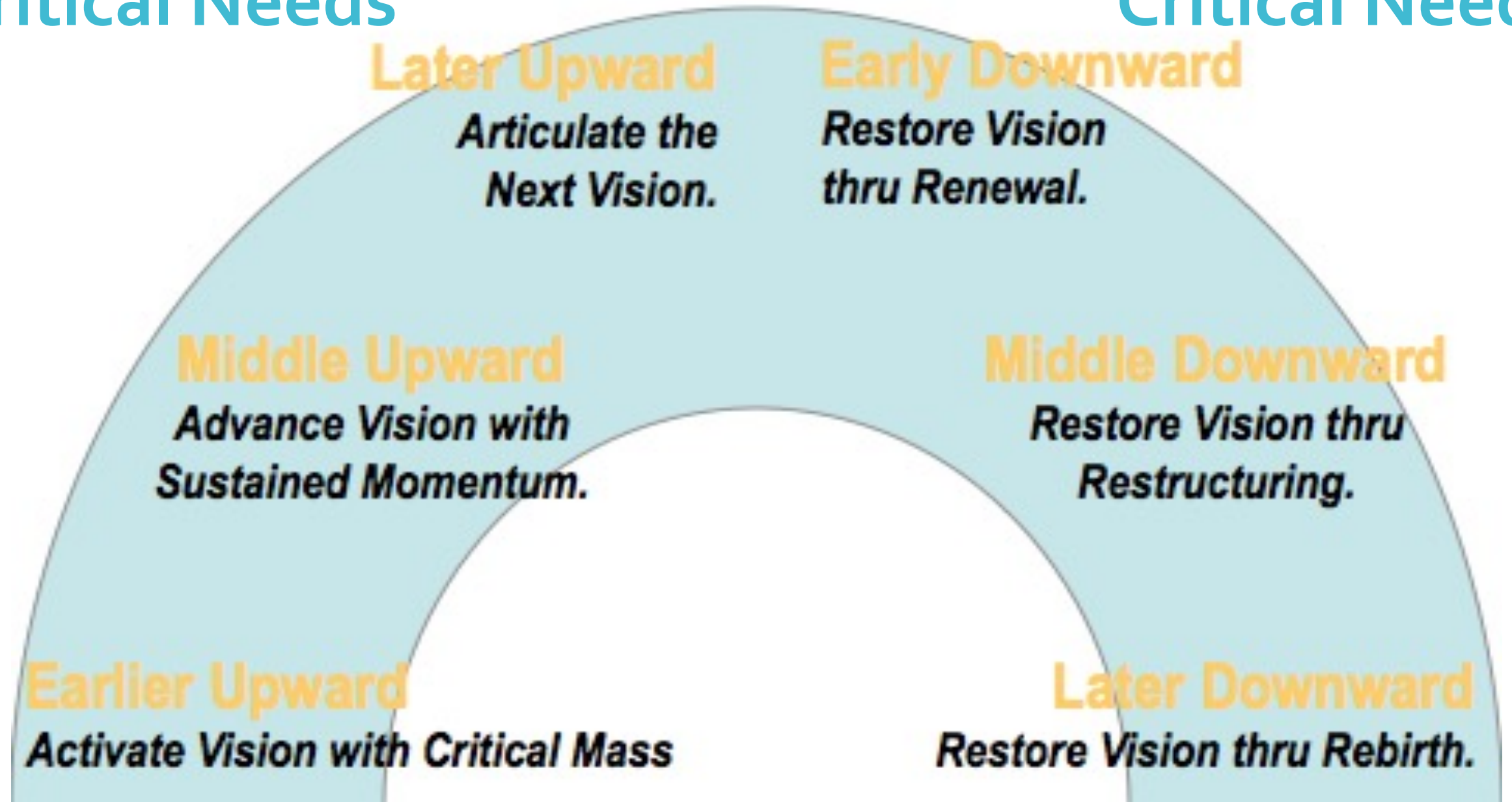


Upward Lifecycle

Critical Needs

Downward Lifecycle

Critical Needs





Critical Issues

CORE FIVE

• THE ESSENCE OF •
THE BAPTIST MOVEMENT

1
CHRIST
CENTRED

3
RELATIONALLY
COMMITTED

5
PARTNERSHIP
ORIENTED

2
MISSION
SHAPED

4
PEOPLE
EMPOWERING

DECLARATIONS OF WHAT WE VALUE MOST AND THE REFLECTION OF HOW WE SERVE JESUS.

CHRIST CENTRED

- a. enjoying a dynamic relationship with Jesus
- b. relying on the Bible as foundational to shaping our understanding of Christ, our faith and the world
- c. being led and empowered by the Spirit of Christ to live a life of worship
- d. believing God is able to do more than we ask or imagine.



MISSION SHAPED

- a. committed to the announcement and demonstration of the universal reign of God through Christ
- b. motivated by love for God and others
- c. seeing people, communities and societies transformed
- d. biasing our resources toward mission, both locally and globally.



RELATIONALLY COMMITTED

- a. serving each other and working together, honouring the varied expressions of our faith and practice and our cultural diversity
- b. actively promoting healthy unity through mutual collaboration, transparency and accountability
- c. prioritising authentic relationships over programs and structures
- d. honouring marriage as an institution created by God as the foundation for a lifelong faithful union of a man and a woman.



PEOPLE EMPOWERING

- a. nurturing a disciple making culture that encourages, shapes and releases every person to glorify God in all of their life
- a. investing strategically in the identification, development and empowerment of leaders
- a. respecting our heritage whilst championing further innovation.



PARTNERSHIP ORIENTED

- a. recognising and celebrating God at work both within and beyond our movement
- b. partnering with like-minded bodies in the mission of God both locally and globally
- c. evidenced by mutual respect, healthy dialogue, and where appropriate resource sharing and the development of common goals.



Values

Values answer the core question:

Why do we do what we do?

Defining Core Values

- **Core values are constant**
- **Core values are passionate**
- **Core values are Biblical**
- **Core values build quite slowly and change very slowly**
- **Core values drive the ministry**

Five Kinds of Values

- **Conscious vs unconscious values**
- **Shared vs unshared values**
- **Personal vs organizational values**
- **Actual vs aspirational values**
- **Good vs bad values**



**Checking
our Values
Statement**



***Remember:
Values drive the
way we do things
around here***

Are these values:

- 1. Evident in the history / life of the church?**
- 2. Do they feel like they 'fit'?**
- 3. Do they evoke a 'gut reaction'? (an emotive response)**
- 4. Are they 'realised' or 'aspirational' values?**

Discovering a Church's Values

What is a good church-related memory?

What values do these memories reveal?

9 Possible Values for our Church

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9

Aim: 3 CORE VALUES

'Real' vs 'Aspirational'

'Missing Values'



VALUES

Banner Activity

Negative Values

Churches have both positive and also usually some negative values. Whilst we often don't talk about the negative values they are still very powerful in the life of any church.

What are some values, attitudes, or behaviours that might hold us back at present?

Church Size

**Churches must transition to
new stages.**

**It doesn't happen naturally and
it can't happen without change!**

A Blended Ecology

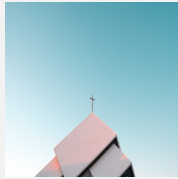
A diversity
of churches and
leaders working
together



Blended Ecology



SIMPLE CHURCHES



NEIGHBOURHOOD
CHURCHES



REGIONAL
CHURCHES



RESOURCE
CHURCHES

Is God calling us to grow in size or by sending?

Vision Exercise

Remember:

- **Vision is our future destination**
- **It is a word picture of what we think the future might look like (under God)**
- **It needs to be in keeping with our values.**

End of Forum 2

Uncovering VALUES