

Developing Your Ministry Plan 1: Congregational DNA



Craig Kennet Miller

Developing Your Ministry Plan Webinars

Ministry Plan 1: Congregational DNA

Thursday, September 24, 1:00 PM CST

Ministry Plan 2: Discovering your Congregation's Niche

Thursday, October 1, 1:00 PM CST

Ministry Plan 3: Discovering your Discipleship Process

Thursday, October 8, 1:00 PM CST

Ministry Plan 4: Worship, Small Groups & The Next 12 Months

Thursday, October 29, 1:00 PM CST

Where is our Audience Today?



Team Assignments

- **Ministry Action Plan**
- **Spiritual Life Template**
- **Budget Breakdown**
- **Discovering your Niche**
- **Four Drivers of Change**
- **The Next 12 Months**

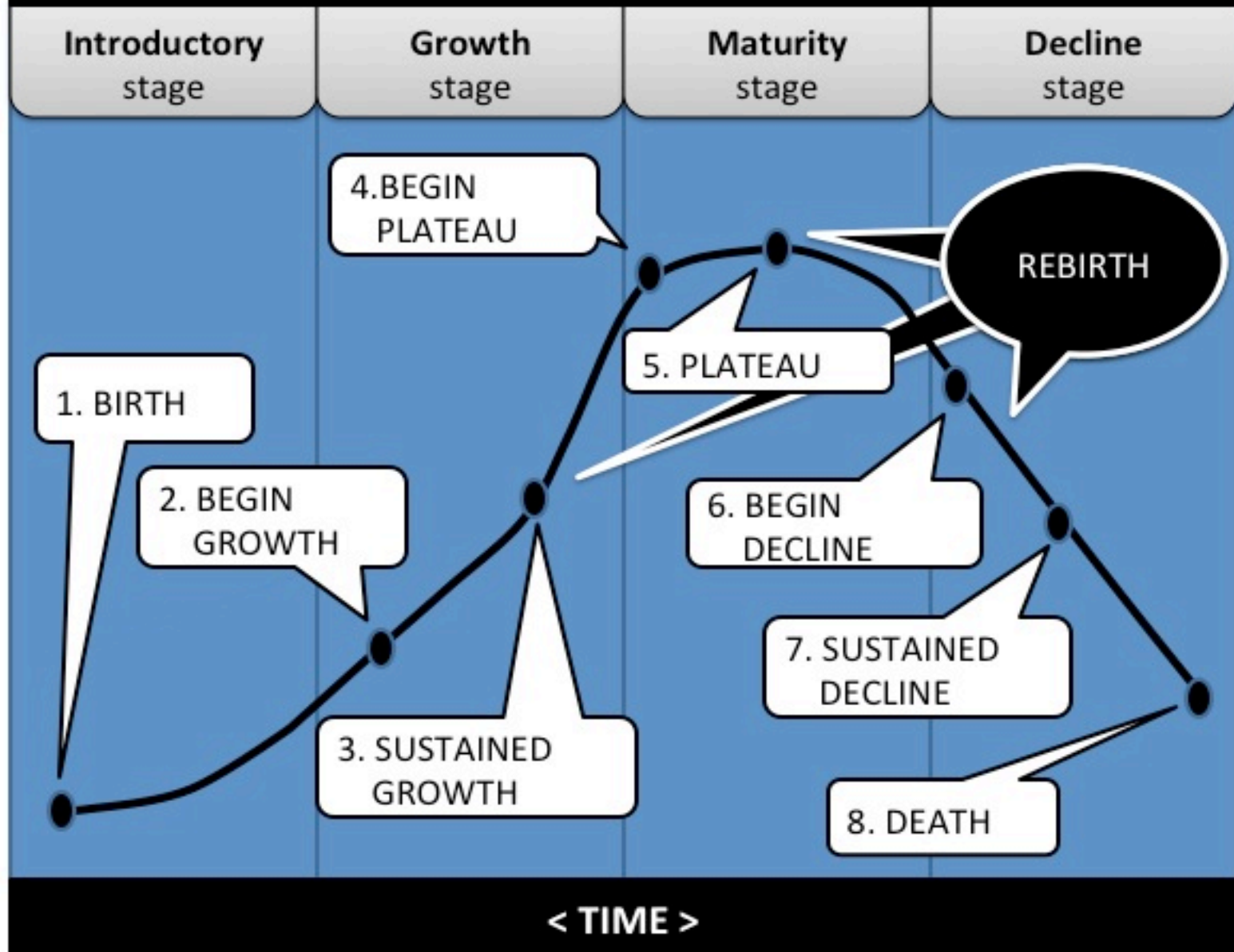
Poll Question 1:

- Are you watching this with your team?
- Are you watching it by yourself?
- Are you watching it by yourself and asking the rest of your team to watch it before you meet?



What is the lifecycle
of the church?

LIFECYCLE OF THE CHURCH



Poll Question 2:


Where is your church in the Lifecycle?

Introductory Stage

Growth Stage

Maturity Stage

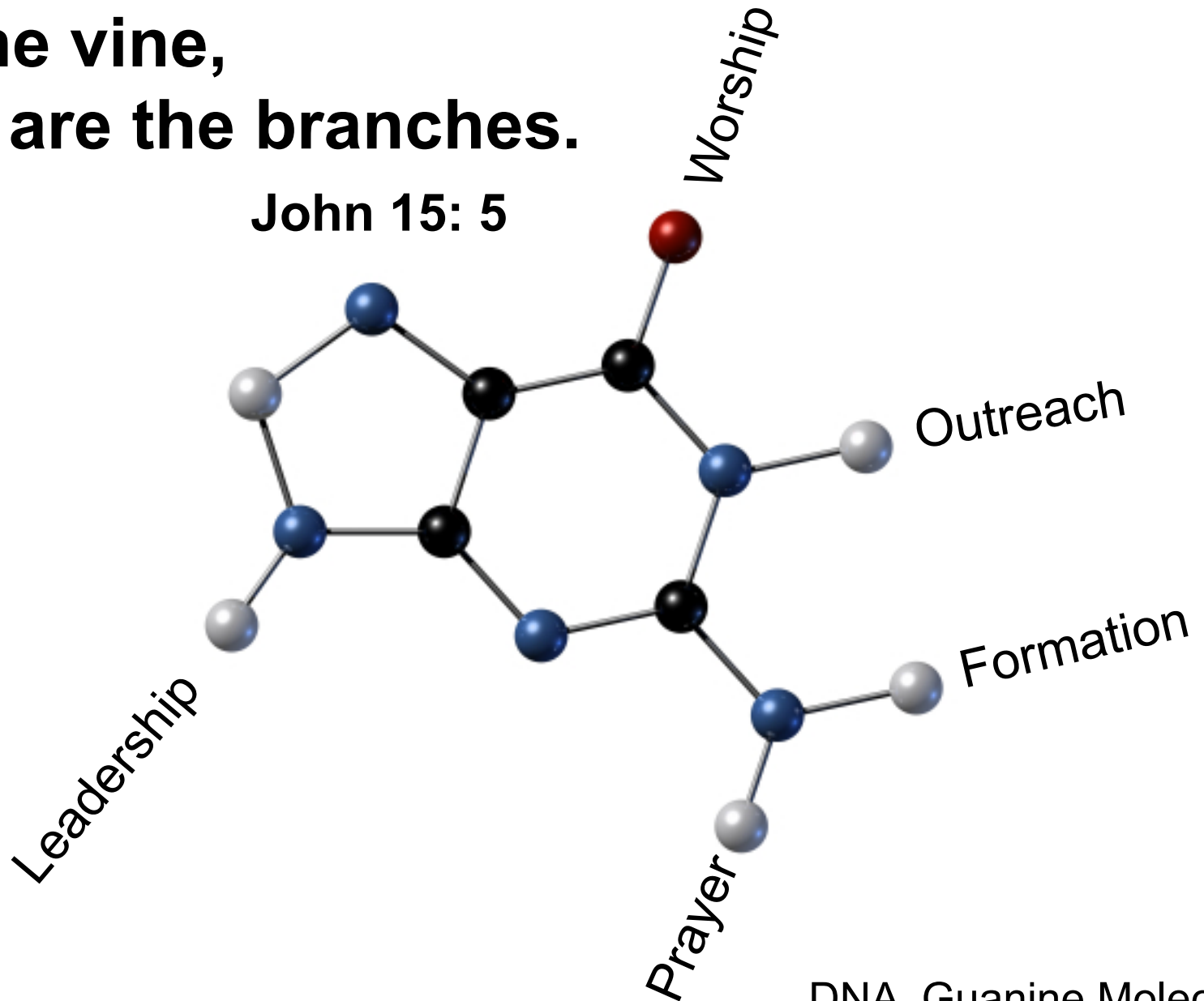
Decline Stage

A person is holding a rectangular chalkboard with a light-colored wooden frame. The chalkboard is black and has the text "What is congregational DNA?" written on it in white, bold, sans-serif font. The person's hands are visible on the sides of the frame, and they are wearing a light blue shirt. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

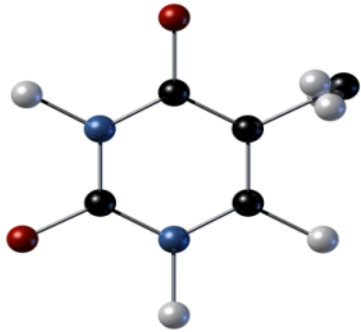
**What is congregational
DNA?**

**I am the vine,
you are the branches.**

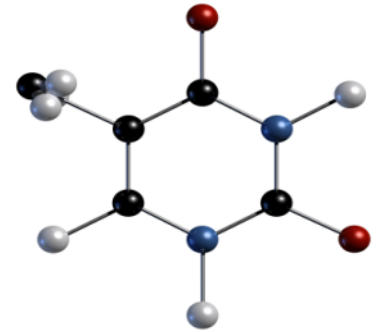
John 15: 5



DNA Guanine Molecule



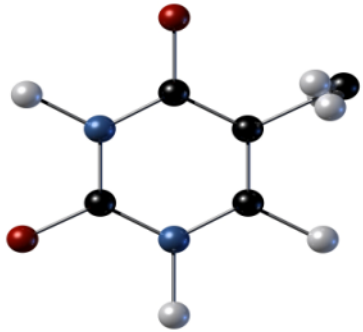
Congregational DNA



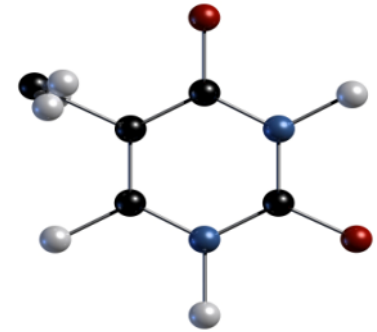
Discipleship:

“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, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28: 19-20



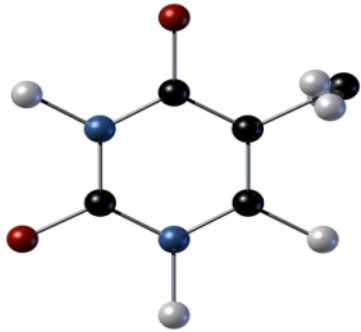
Congregational DNA



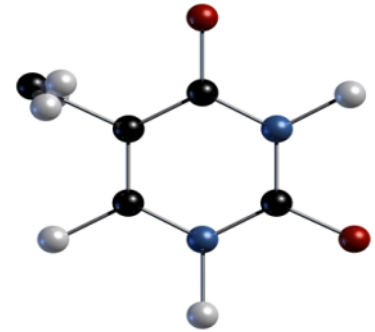
Niche:

Jesus talked to people in their context. The fisherman were invited to become fishers of men. The woman at the well was invited to drink living water.

Congregations who connect to their context – their community – grow in faith and numbers.



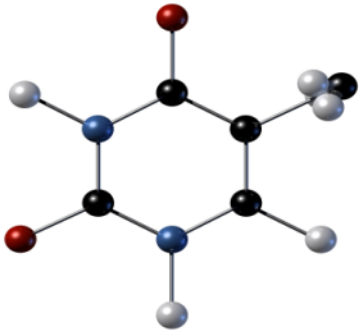
Congregational DNA



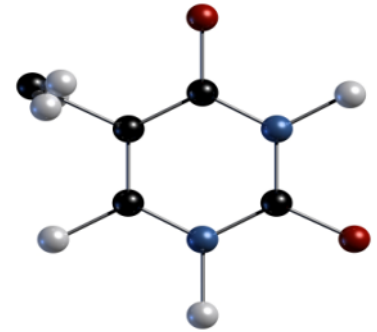
Affection:

“We love because he first loved us. Those who say, ‘I love God’, and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.”

1 John 4: 19-21



Congregational DNA



- **Discipleship System**
- **Niche**
- **Affection**

Poll Question 3:

How would you rate your church in these three areas?
(1 lowest, 5 highest)

Discipleship System:

Our congregation has a well designed discipleship system that connects newcomers and long-term members to all aspects of its ministry.

Niche:

Our congregation reflects the racial ethnic and language groups in our community. It also reflects the range of age groups.

Affection:

At the heart of our congregation is a leadership team that prays for each other, learns together, and holds one another accountable for spiritual growth.



**For where your treasure is,
there your heart will be also.**

Matthew 6:21



We invest our time, finances, and focus on the people or purposes we love.

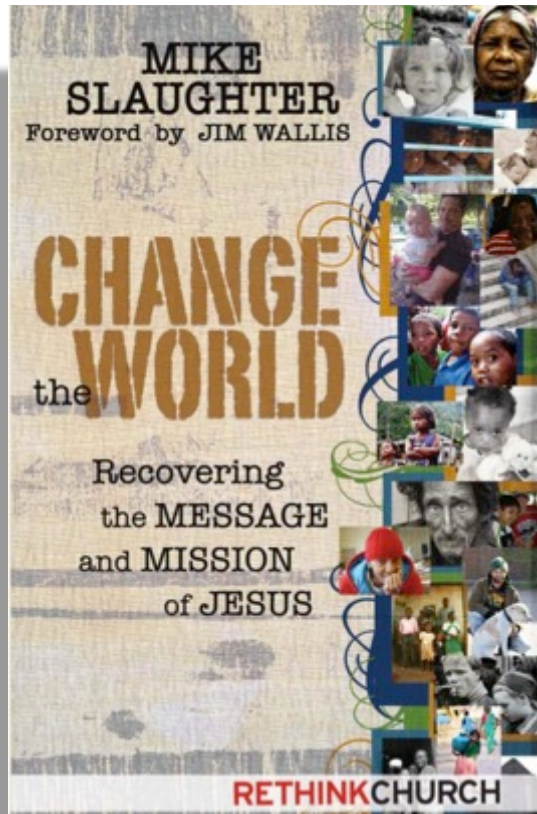
Home & Family

- **Digital Tech**
- **Upgrades**
- **Garden**
- **Education**
- **Music/sports lessons**
- **Transportation**

Church

- **Buildings**
- **Grounds**
- **Children & youth**
- **Music**
- **Community**
- **Staff**

From Mortar to Mission



“The leader of the missional church is committed to make sure ministry and mission are not sacrificed on the altar of mortar. In fact, I want to make sure that the mission line items that benefits those outside Gighamsburg’s walls exceed all capital expenses each year...” -Mike Slaughter

From Mortar to Mission

MORTAR

22%

Debt
Reduction

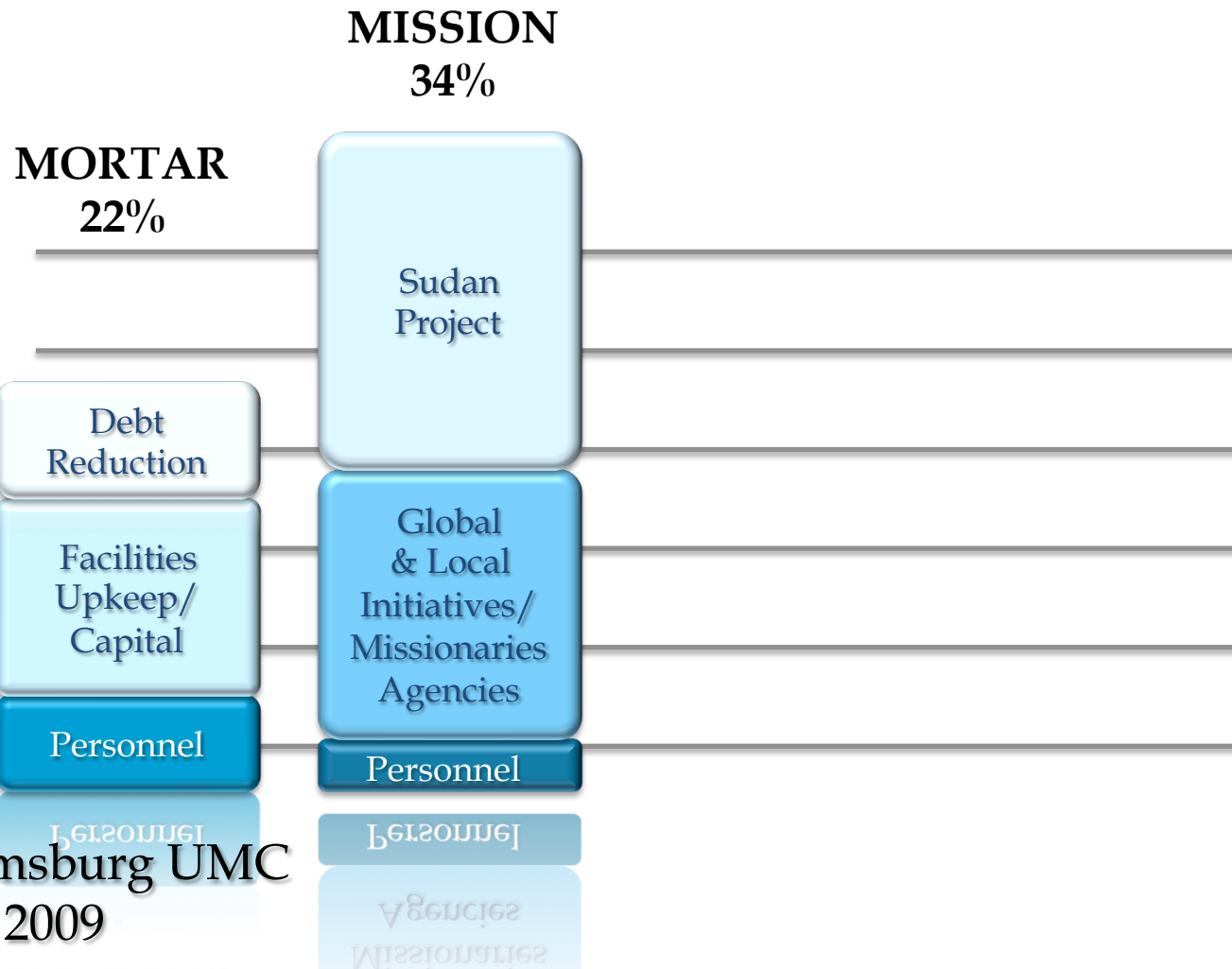
Facilities
Upkeep/
Capital

Personnel

Ginghamsburg UMC
Budget, 2009

Based on data provided in the book, Change the World by Mike Slaughter (Abingdon Press, 2010)

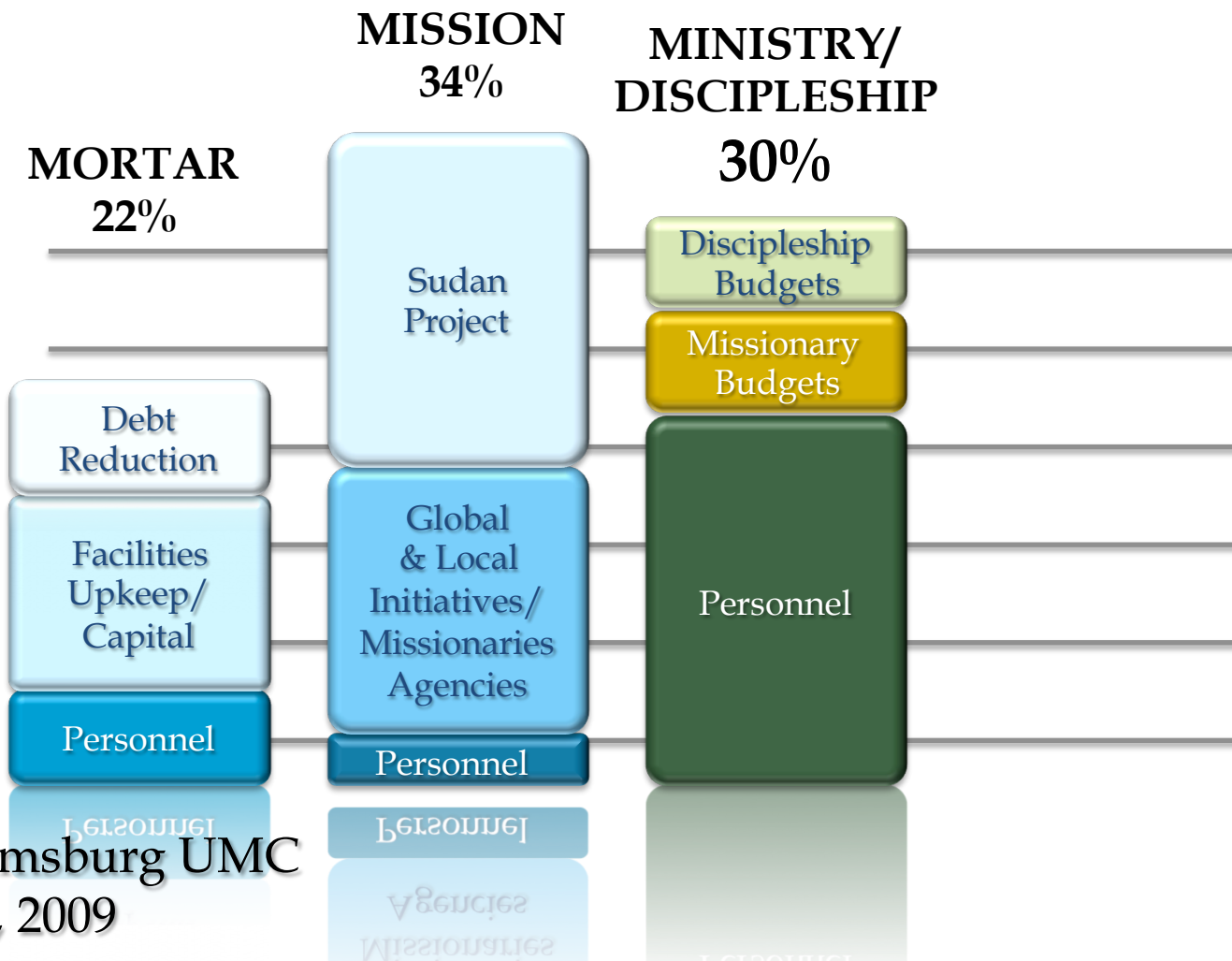
From Mortar to Mission



Ginghamburg UMC
Budget, 2009

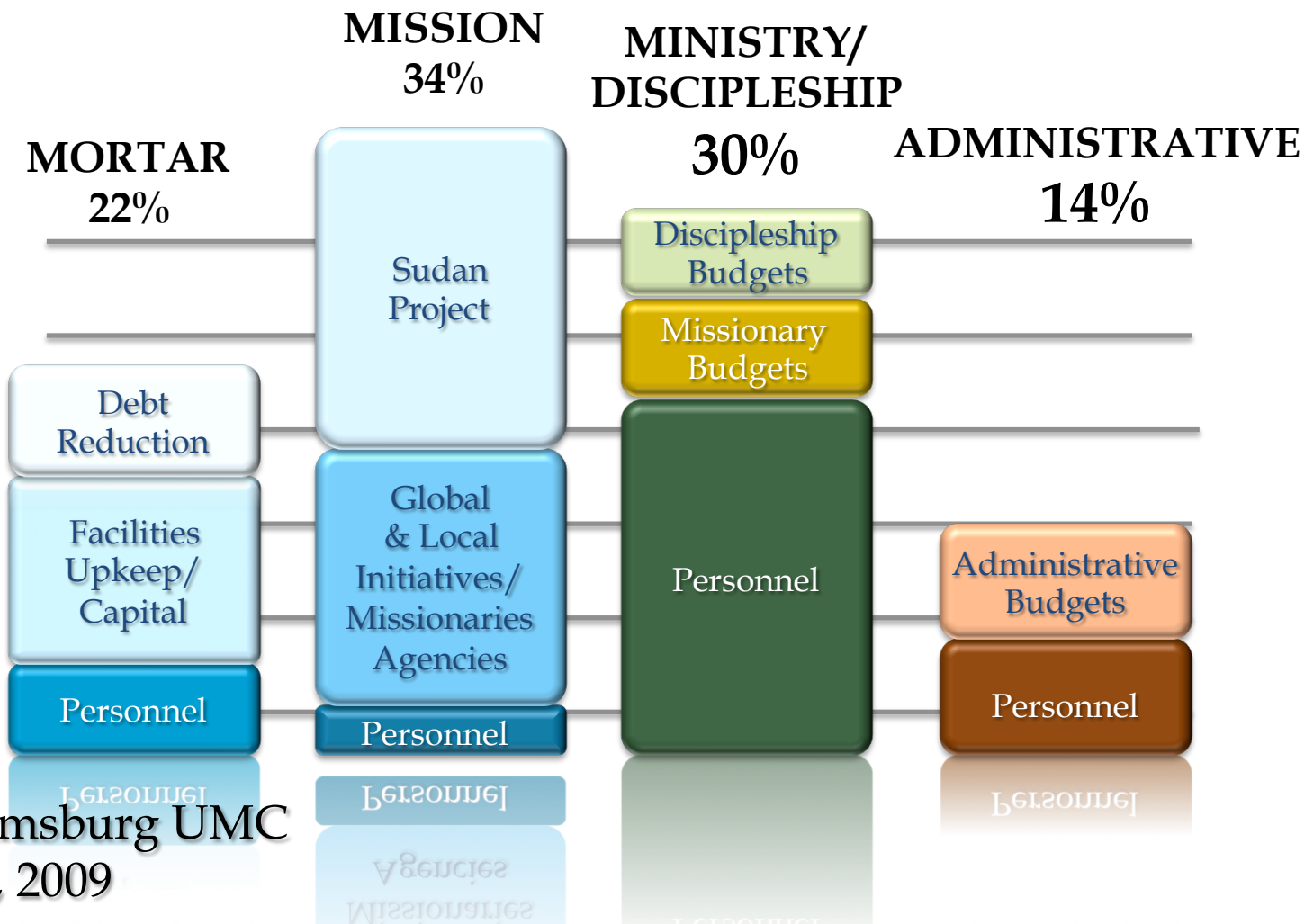
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From Mortar to Mission



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From Mortar to Mission



Ginghamburg UMC
Budget, 2009

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Assignment 1: Budget Breakdown

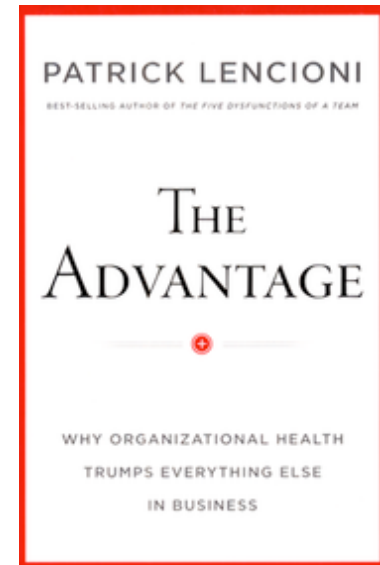
MORTAR	MISSION	MINISTRY/ DISCIPLESHIP	LEADERSHIP
Debt Reduction	Apportionments	Worship	Vision Casting
Facilities Upkeep	Local outreach	Discipleship	Administrative
Capital Improvements	Global outreach	Children, youth, young adults, older adults	Support services for all other ministries
Personnel: <i>Custodial, gardening, etc.</i>	Personnel: <i>Staff related to ministry in the community or global initiatives, etc.</i>	Personnel: <i>Choir director, paid musicians, staff related to specific ministries like Children's Director Youth Director, Discipleship, Visitation, etc.</i>	Personnel: <i>Lead Pastor, administrative staff, pastor's assistant, church secretary, treasurer, etc.</i>
Based on <i>Change the World</i> by Mike Slaughter			

**Affection is also seen in our love of God
and in personal relationships**



“I’ve become absolutely convinced that the seminal difference between successful companies and mediocre or unsuccessful ones has little, if anything to do with what they know or how smart they are; it has everything to do with how healthy they are.”

The Advantage: Why Organizational Health Trumps Everything Else in Business, Patrick Lencioni



Churches are in the relationship business

- ◆ Relationship to God
- ◆ Relationship to one another
- ◆ Relationship to the community



***The quality of the relationships between the leaders
of your church affects all aspects of its life***

As a congregation whom do you love?

Affection is expressed by the way we love God and neighbor. Both our spiritual life and our witness through service in the church and community tell people how much we love in the name of Jesus.

Our affection is most clearly seen in who participates in our church and who is welcomed to join those who are already part of the community of faith. Leaders in the church set the standard of affection for the whole congregation.

Wesley's focus on a system for accountable discipleship

Wesley's Innovation was the way he organized the Methodist Movement. In the best selling book *The Tipping Point*, Malcolm Gladwell says, "Wesley realized that if you wanted to bring about a fundamental change in people's belief and behavior, a change that would persist and serve as an example to others, you needed to create a community around them where those new beliefs could be practiced and expressed and nurtured." The author points out, "If they failed to lived up to Methodist standards, they were expelled from the group. This was a group, in other words, that stood for something."

Gladwell, Malcolm, *The Tipping Point*, p. 17

Spiritual Life Questions

1. In which spiritual discipline(s) do you want to grow?

- ☐ Weekly worship
- ☐ Daily Bible reading
- ☐ Daily prayer
- ☐ Frequency of communion:
☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Other
- ☐ Service to others
- ☐ Fasting or abstinence
- ☐ Tithing/Giving
- ☐ Family prayer
- ☐ Other:

Tip: How does your church teach & mentor people in these disciplines?

Wesley's Means of Grace

- The public worship of God
- The ministry of the Word, either read or expounded
- The Lord's Supper
- Family and private prayer
- Searching the Scriptures
- Fasting or abstinence
- Christian conferencing

Spiritual Life Questions

2. What is your plan for your continued spiritual growth and development?

How do you connect with God?

- ☐ Day apart
- ☐ Worship
- ☐ Meeting with a prayer partner or coach
- ☐ Family prayer
- ☐ Daily devotion
- Other: _____

How are you connecting with others?

- ☐ Time alone with spouse or friend
- ☐ Focused time with your children
- ☐ Regular connection with extended family
- ☐ Prayer or accountability group
- ☐ Time with friends outside of church
- Other: _____

What arts feed your soul?

- ☐ Playing a musical instrument or singing
- ☐ Writing ☐ Drawing ☐ Cooking ☐ Dance
- ☐ Gardening ☐ Acting ☐ Other: _____

How are you taking care of your body?

- ☐ Walking/running ☐ Active in a sport
- ☐ Healthy diet ☐ Yoga/Pilates
- Other: _____

A person wearing a dark pinstripe suit and a patterned tie is holding a large, light-colored wooden-framed chalkboard. The chalkboard has a dark grey surface with white text. The background is a blurred office setting with large windows.

Ministry Plan 1 Assignment

1. Start your meeting using the Spiritual Life Template
(Commit to using it each time you meet the rest of this year)
2. Talk about the Lifecycle
3. Do the Budget Breakdown

For follow-up resources:

**[http://www.umcdiscipleship.org/lead-your-church/
ministry-plan](http://www.umcdiscipleship.org/lead-your-church/ministry-plan)**

Innovative Leadership Project

www.ILPUMC.com

Or contact Craig Kennet Miller

cmiller@umcdiscipleship.org

Questions?



Upcoming Webinars

Developing Your Ministry Plan 2:

Discovering your Congregation's Niche

Thursday, October 1, 2015

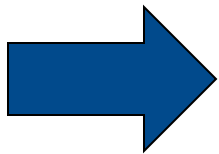
1:00 PM CST

Developing Your Ministry Plan 3:

Discovering your Discipleship Process

Thursday, October 8, 2015

1:00 PM CST



umcdiscipleship.org/Webinars

Thank you.