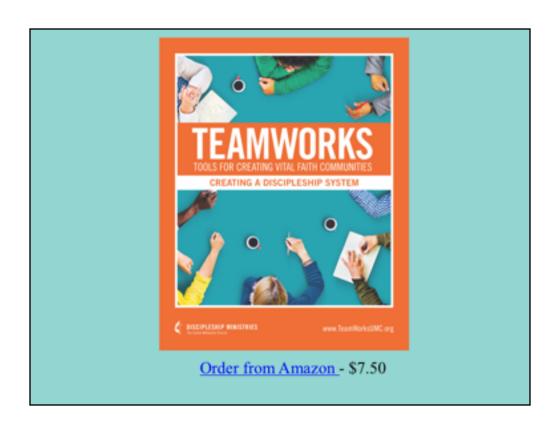


Please read the following slides to prepare for your seminar.

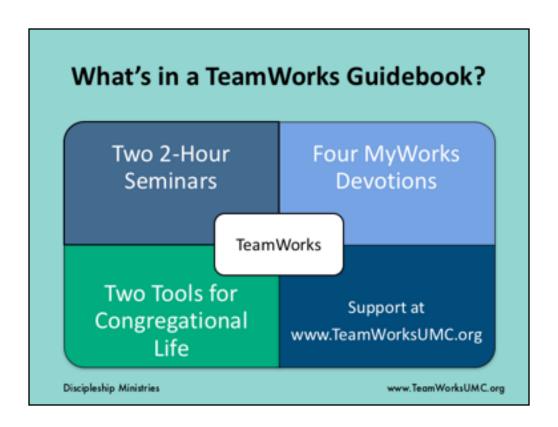


TeamWorks: Creating a Discipleship System Seminar 1: Ministry Settings is found in the *TeamWorks: Creating a Discipleship System* guidebook..

You will need a copy for each participant. They can be ordered on Amazon and cost \$7.50 each.

### **TeamWorks Guidebooks and Tools** TWS: Spiritual life · Use the Spiritual Life Template to build your group of the Leaders · Discover your group's spiritual gifts TWS: Connecting · Discover your homeland and learn about displacement with Your Use the NICHE Process to learn about your community Community TWS: Creating a · Learn about the Lifecycle of the Church Discipleship System Discover your Setting for Ministry Learn to use the powerful VAP→IT Strategic Planning Tool TWS: Futurecasting · Take the TeamWorks Church Assessment Discipleship Ministries www.TeamWorksUMC.org

This is the list of the whole series of the TeamWorks Guidebooks. If you decide to do the whole series, it is suggested you start with *Spiritual Life of the Leaders* and follow the series in the order listed.



Each TeamWorks Guidebook has these components. In addition, some also include articles.

## **Instructions for Seminar Leaders**

TeamWorks Seminars are designed to encourage discussion. To prepare for each seminar, do as follows:

- Setup a room with table and chairs for your seminar.
- You will need an LCD projector and a screen or a large TV that can be hooked up to a computer to show the presentations.
- Download the presentation slides for TW: Discipleship Seminar 2: Discipleship Process from www.TeamWorksUMC.org. You may get them as a PDF or in PowerPoint. When using PowerPoint, use it in presentation mode so you can view the notes for each slide.
- Download TW Discipleship Seminar 2: Discipleship Process with Notes PDF. Here you will find
  every slide with tips and ideas about the content.
- Before leading a seminar, go to www.TeamWorksUMC.org and watch the Seminar Leaders
  Webinar for the seminar you are leading. The webinar will go through each slide and will
  offer tips and ideas for how to lead the seminar.
- · Set dates for the seminars or for the one-day experience.
- Recruit a group of participants who will agree to attend both seminars and to do the MyWork devotions.

Discipleship Ministries

www.TeamWorksUMC.org

This gives you an overview of what you need to lead your seminar.

Be sure to read the articles which are included in the guidebook.

# How to lead the seminars

- TeamWorks Seminars are designed to foster discussions within the group. Your primary role as the seminar leader is to facilitate discussions.
- When you come to a discussion slide, divide people into groups of three or four people. Have them share with one another.
   After they are finished, you can ask individuals to share with the wider group.
- Avoid starting with the larger group. Why? Because few people are willing to talk in front of larger groups. By dividing into smaller groups, you help everyone have an opportunity to share their ideas.
- Spiritual Life Template: If you did TeamWorks: Spiritual Life of the Leaders and are doing the whole series, start each seminar with the Spiritual Life Template.

Discipleship Ministries

www.TeamWorksUMC.org

These are the instructions for leading the seminar.

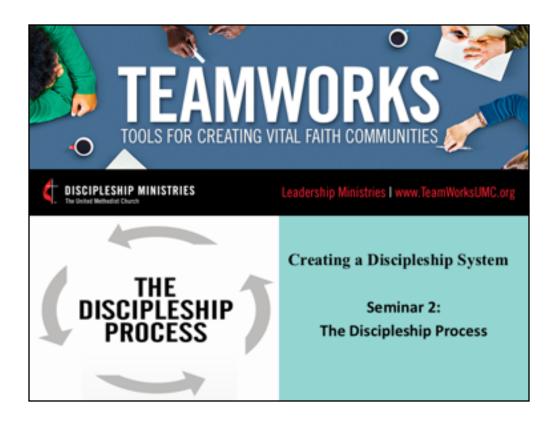
Spiritual Life Questions		
In which spiritual discipline(s) do you want to grow?      Weekly worship     Daily Bible reading     Daily prayer		
Frequency of communion:  Weekly Monthly Other  Service to others  Fasting or abstinence  Tithing/Giving  Family prayer Other:  Tip: How does your church teach & 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	
Discipleship Ministries	www.TeamWorksUMC.org	

If you did the Spiritual Life of the Leader and are doing the whole TeamWorks series, start off with the Spiritual Life Template. If this is new to you, you many choose to use this to start your session. Go to the TeamWorks tools section on the website and download Spiritual Life Template to learn more.

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:	
Discipleship Ministries	www.TeamWorksUMC.org	

Show this slide as they answer question 2.

They are only to identify one item off of the whole slide. They do not need to pick one from each area.



Use this slide for your first slide for your presentation.

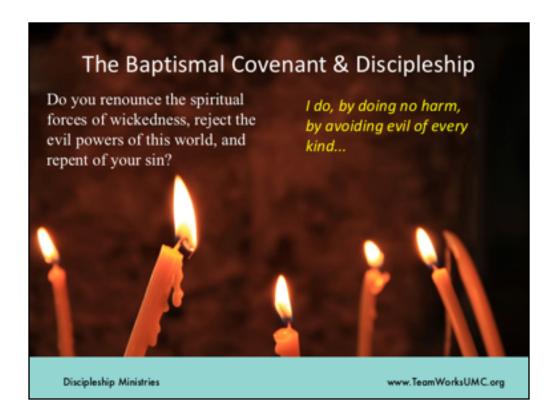
I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup>with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 4:1-6

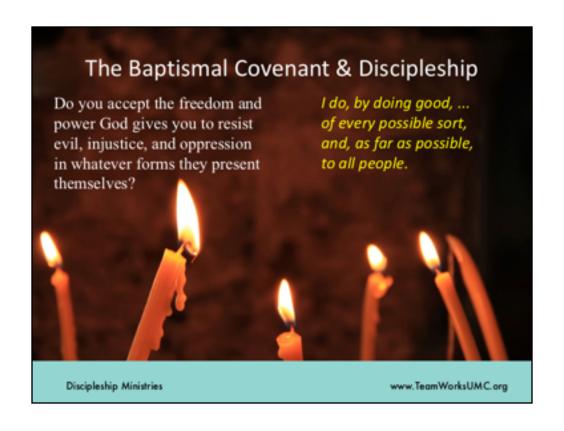
Discipleship Ministries

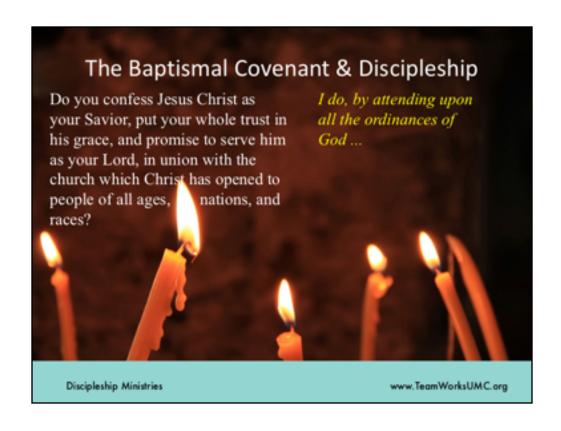
www.TeamWorksUMC.org

Use this as the basis for your devotion.

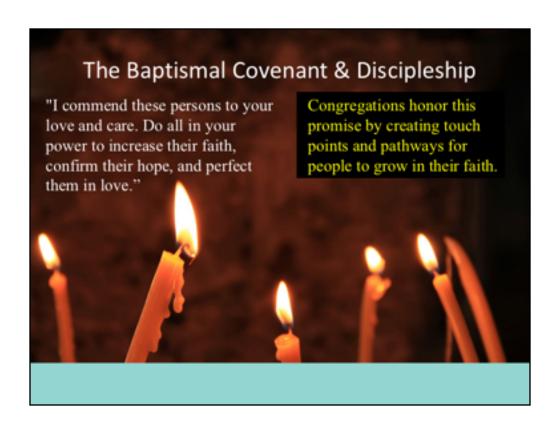


These next series of slides are the vows for the United Methodist church for membership. Use them to remind people of the commitments they made when they joined the church and what people are asked to commit to when they join the church. If you are not United Methodist, skip these slides and use the membership vows that are used for your church or denomination.











The Discipleship Process is what ties together all the aspects of congregational life. Be sure to read the article by Junius B. Dotson on "The Disciple-Making Imperative." First we start off with Hopeful. Our hope is grounded in Christ and founded on scripture.

"I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation; and an assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death."

Journal of John Wesley, May 24, 1738

Discipleship Ministries

www.TeamWorksUMC.org

This is the first of entries from John Wesley's journals that we will use in this presentation. This is how he described his experience of accepting Christ at a meeting on Aldersgate Street in London. He came to this point in his life after a series of events, including a mission trip to America that did not go well. His life was a series of conversions that led him to this point of fully accepting Jesus Christ and the salvation that was offered to him.

## Strategy of the Early Methodists

- A practical Christianity that spoke in the language of the people
- · Practicing the means of grace (spiritual disciplines)
- Accountability in small groups
- · Acts of mercy
- · Ministry of the baptized

Discipleship Ministries

www.TeamWorksUMC.org

When we study the early Methodist Movement, we find these key elements.

#### **Practical Christianity**

 Used the music of the time for their hymns and printed sermons, prayers, and songs for people to use in their Society and Class Meetings.

#### Means of Grace

Focused on the personal spiritual disciplines

#### Accountability

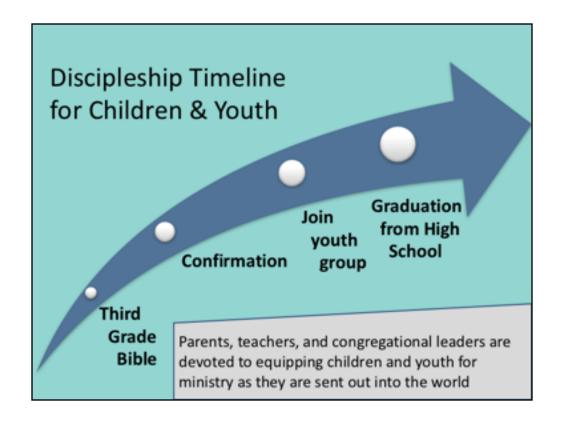
Remember the Methodist Movement was not a church. Their church was the Church
of England. The Methodist Societies and Class Meetings were part of a movement to
"spread scriptural holiness." The key to being a Methodist was being held
accountable for spiritual growth and maturity.

#### Acts of Mercy

 Personal piety led to acts of mercy—being in mission to the poor and those disconnected to the gospel of Jesus Christ

#### Ministry of the Baptized

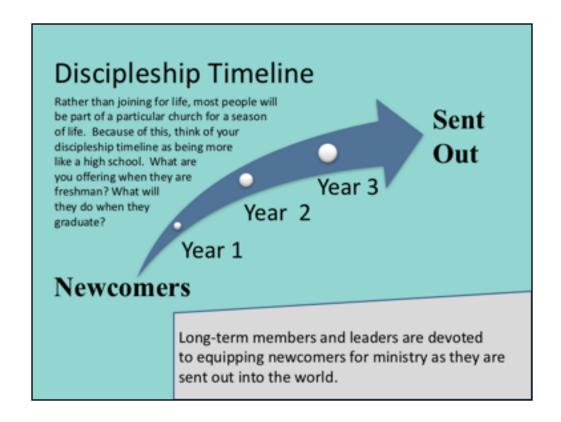
 Lay people were at the forefront of leadership and participation in the Societies and Classes.



Congregations are used to thinking about the discipleship process for children and youth.

They tend to follow a basic pattern that starts with baptism and continues to graduation from high school.

Note: Some churches give Bibles to members of the third-grade class in their church.

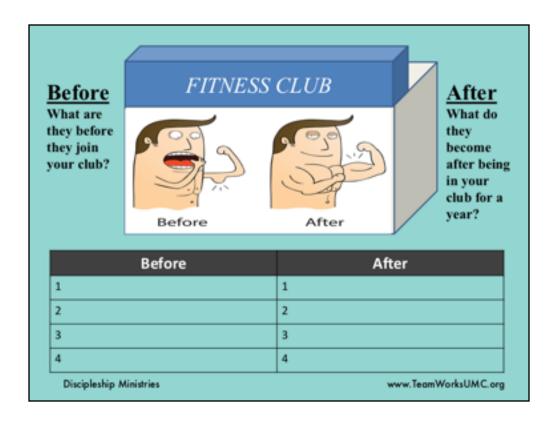


Congregations are not as used to thinking about the discipleship process for adults.

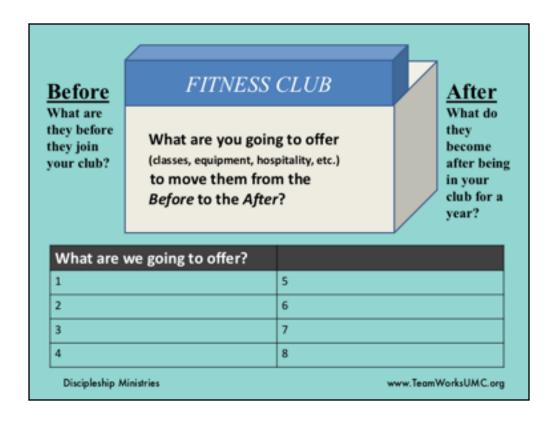
Because of high mobility of the population, most people will stay in a congregation for about three to four years. Rather than thinking that visitors will become long-time members of the church, it is more productive to view your church like a school or college where you will have people with you for a few years.

So what do you offer visitors in their freshman year? What happens in their junior year? What does graduation look like?

Long-term members can focus their time and attention on equipping and mentoring newcomers as they move through the process.



Have your group imagine they are the owners of a fitness club like the YMCA. Most people have seen ads that show an unfit person who becomes fit because they joined a fitness club. Have them identify what people are before they join and after they have actively participated for a year.



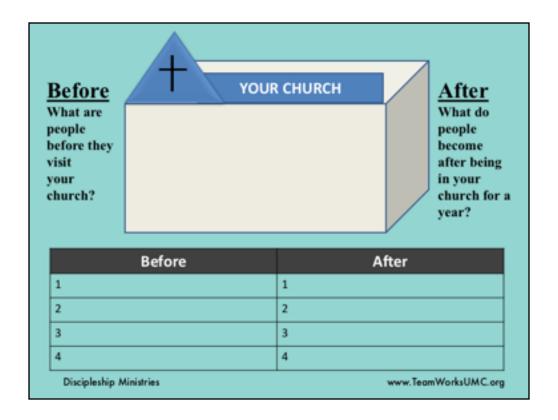
Once they have talked about the Before and After, have them talk about what their Fitness Club is going to offer to customers to move them from the Before to the After.

Invite them to get very specific.

(example: the latest exercise equipment, exercise classes tailored to ability, childcare, etc.)

Ask them this question after they have made their lists:

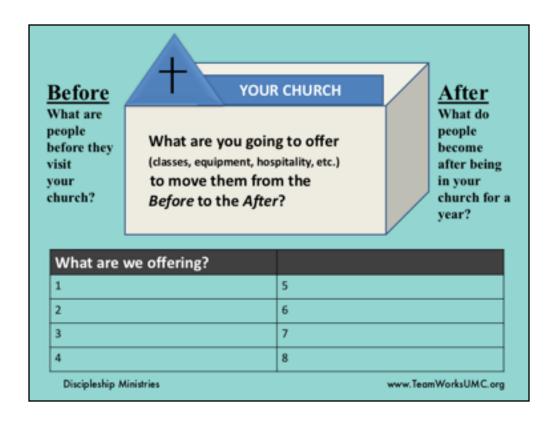
How important is it that the people who lead exercise classes and mentor and coach represent the After image?



Ask the group to think about their church in the same way.

Before people participate in their church, what are they? What do they hope people will become once they are active in your faith community for a year.

For example, the Before could be disconnected from God. The After could be connected to God.



Key Point: The discipleship system is everything you offer that moves people from the Before to the After

Have the teams talk about what they currently are offering to move people from the Before to the After.

Have them be very specific. For example, small groups, Sunday School classes, worship, etc.

Have them also talk about what this looks like for children and youth.



Relentless is our next category. It has to do with our passion for sharing the gospel with those who do not know the story of Jesus. Do we have a sense of urgency? Do we have compassion? Or are we content to stay in our own bubble and not be bothered with those who are outside of our comfort zones.

"I look upon all the world as my parish; thus far I mean, that in whatever part of it I am, I judge it meet, right, and my bounden duty to declare unto all that are willing to hear, the glad tidings of salvation."

Journal of John Wesley, June 11, 1739

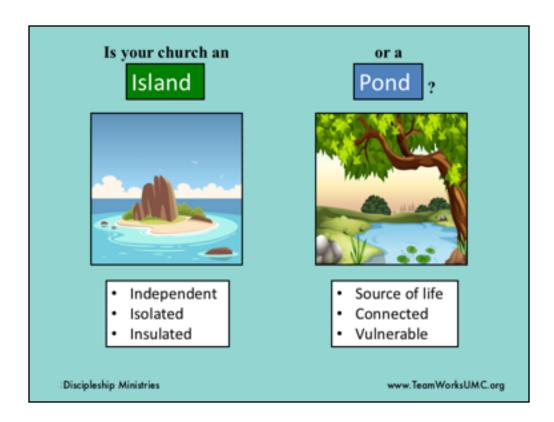
Discipleship Ministries

www.TeamWorksUMC.org

Wesley's quote reminds us that we are called to share the message of salvation throughout the world. For those who are United Methodist, our apportionment giving goes to support worldwide efforts to share God's love and compassion. The question for most churches is not if they are willing to help those in need, the question is are they willing to be in relationship with those in their own neighborhoods who are not active in their faith community.



Is what is happening inside your church making a difference for your community? Does your church have a reputation for being part of the community or it just another building on the street?



Island: An island has it own ecosystem and is rarely affected by the ocean that surrounds it. Only something devastating like a typhoon or a tsunami will impact the island. As a result it is independent, isolated, and insulated.

Pond: Unlike an island, a pond is integral to the ecosystem of the land that surrounds it. It is the source of life for all the animals as they come to the pond for water. Because it is deeply connected to its surroundings it also is vulnerable. What happens to the land also happens to the pond.

Help people think about their church and how they most often operate in connection to their community. The community may extend to the driving distance of people who actively participate in your church.

# Island or a Pond?

Does your church identify with those who are currently living around your church?

Are you expanding your pond by partnering with other churches, nonprofits, and schools?

How are you advocating for children and youth who may be facing multiple issues in your community?

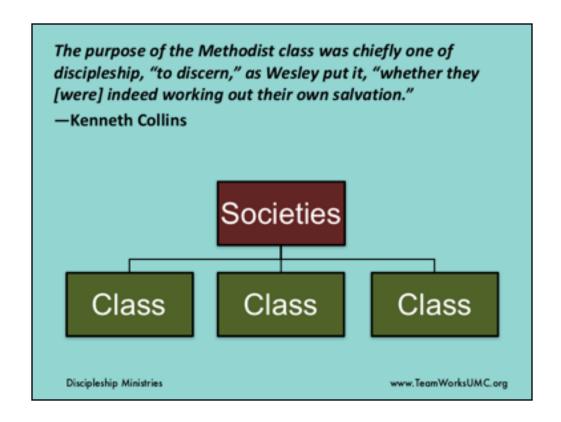
Discipleship Ministries

www.TeamWorksUMC.org

Use these questions to reflect on how your church is making a positive impact in the live of people who are not part of your faith community.

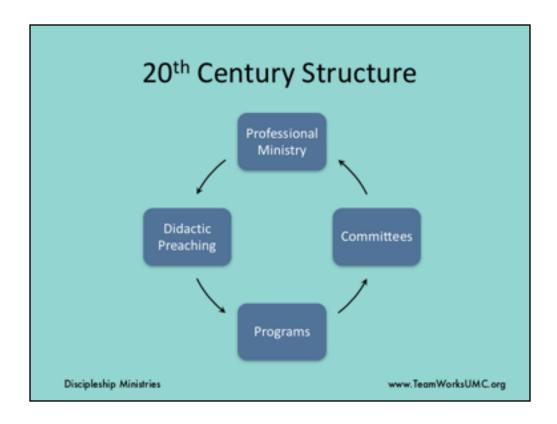


Intentional is our next area. Much of what we do in church are habits, rituals, and attitudes that have been passed down to us. By being intentional we can ask the important questions about why we are doing what we are doing and find ways ways to improve.



The focus of the early Methodist movement was on discipleship, encouraging Methodists to grow in faith and practice. While their message was important, they way they organized themselves made them different from other church groups of their time. By focusing on personal spiritual growth and organizing around small groups, they were able to identify new leaders, equip them for ministry, and help all people in their class meetings to become mature Christians who know how to pray, to give of themselves, and to help others.

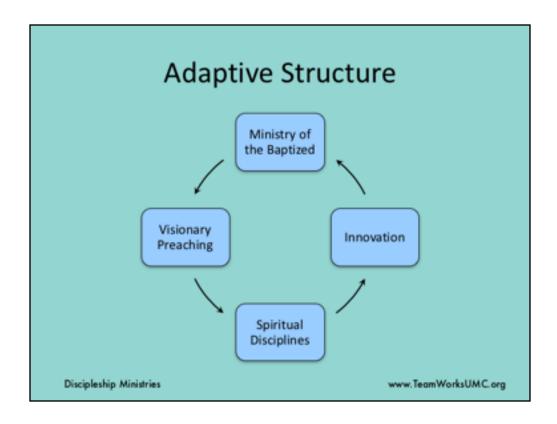
Source: Kenneth Collins, A Real Christian: The Life of John Wesley (Abingdon Press 1999), 81.



In the 1950s and 60s churches in the United States focused on developing the professional ministry. To become a pastor a person needed to attend college for four years and then go to seminary for three years to get the needed degrees. Along with the degrees pastors needed to have practical experience and to show an ability to lead. The best pastor could preach well thought out sermons and explain the complexity of the Bible in a fashion that was more about explaining the faith rather than living the faith. There was an assumption that everyone was already Christian, so the role of preaching was to encourage them to be better followers of Christ.

Rather than focusing on developing the spiritual life of individuals, programs for children, youth, and adults were offered to attract people to the church. The churches with the best programs attracted the most people.

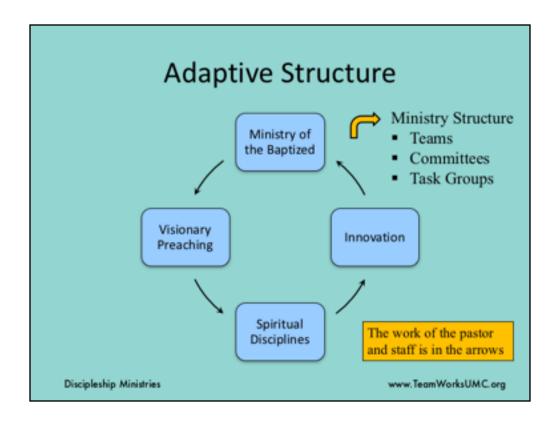
To make this all work committees and boards made decisions on behalf of the whole church. Based on the way business was conducted, people could be on the board of trustees or other committees to give their advice and make decisions, but did not need to participate in the ongoing worship life of the church.



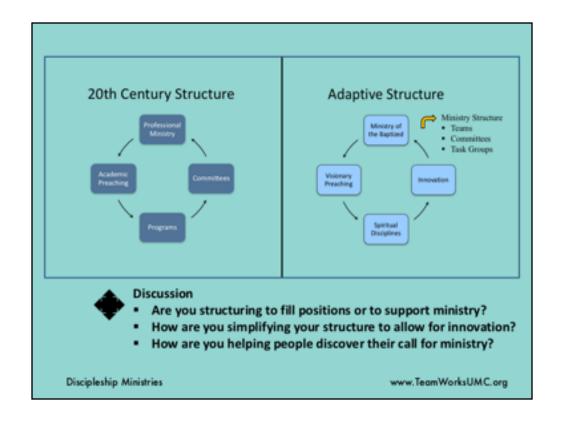
An adaptive structure offers a different image. Rather than the professional ministry where the pastor does all of the work on behalf of the church, the idea that everyone by virtue of their baptism is called to be in ministry is embraced. Preaching is focused on calling those gathered to become the beloved community of faith. Rather than assuming that everyone has arrived, the focus is on casting a vision of what individuals and the faith community are to become because they are followers of Jesus Christ.

Rather than focusing on programs, church participants are taught how to pray, how to read scripture, about fasting and abstinence, about the importance of worship and taking communion, and how to life in such a way that they are a blessing to others.

Innovation happens as people are free to share ideas and help shape the ministry of the church.



The ministry structure is designed to support the flow of ministry. The work of the pastor and the staff is in the arrows, to keep the flow of ministry working. As new ideas about ministry emerge the role of the ministry structure is to make sure what is offered is based on the values of the church and enhances its ability to introduce new people to faith in Christ.



Ask your group to look at these two images of structure and what are the positives and negatives of each model. Help them think about how your church structure can be more adoptive. Help them think about the difference between the pastor(s) and staff doing all the ministry versus equipping and encouraging the ministry of the baptized to live out their call through the church and in their work outside of the church.



Innovative is our next area. Innovation is about being flexible and connecting with the culture. The section will focus on worship and small groups as primary areas where innovation can take place.

"At four in the afternoon, I submitted to be more vile, and proclaimed in the highways the glad tidings of salvation, speaking from a little eminence in a ground adjoining to the city, to about three thousand people."

Journal of John Wesley, April 2, 1739

Discipleship Ministries

www.TeamWorksUMC.org

In his journal, Wesley attests to how uncomfortable he was leaving the comfort of the pulpit in a sanctuary to preaching outside to a group of coal miners. But as he conquered his misgivings, he was able to achieve great things for the gospel as he shared God's saving grace to thousands of people who rarely, if ever, attended church.

## Innovation

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."

Discipleship Ministries

www.TeamWorksUMC.org

Key Point: What do you think of the idea that people need a community around them to change?

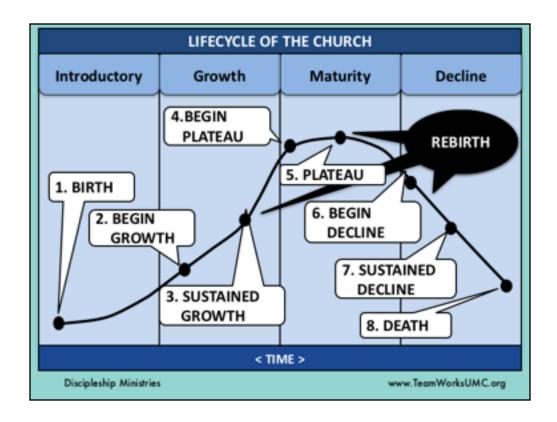


Another way to look at innovation is to look at the Landscape of Innovation.

Rather than use church illustrations, you can talk about the business world. When a company is on the peak (think of General Motors in the 1990s or IBM in the 1970s), its main goal is to maintain its status. Those running the company don't think they need to change because they are at the top. But the pathway for a company in the valley is full of opportunity because its focus is on reaching a new market (think of Kia and the Tesla or Apple computer being created in a garage).

Now think church. If a church is on a peak, church leaders may think they have it made and don't need to change. But a new church start knows it must reach a new group of people, so its leaders look for and create opportunities to connect with people in new ways. What about a church that is going down the slope? Its leaders must adopt a valley mentality. They must look for new paths and ways to connect with their community.

Source: Fleming and Sorenson, "Navigating the Technology of Innovation," Sloan Management Review, Winter 2003.



Key point: Emphasize the existence of systems. The key difference between the Introductory Stage and the Growth Stage is that the church is creating new systems for incorporating people into its ministry. The first worship experience requires the formation of a system that includes welcoming people, moving them through the order of worship, sending them out, and following-up. Small groups employ a system that issues invitations, accepts invitations, and coordinates group participation. As churches grow, they add more systems that connect people to their ministries.

Key point: Rebirth can happen at any time in the Lifecycle. This occurs when congregations take the time to reconnect with the people who are in the community. When this happens, a new vision emerges that moves the church back into the Growth Stage.

Typically, churches in Phases 1-4 need incremental improvement while churches in Phases 5-8 need radical improvement.

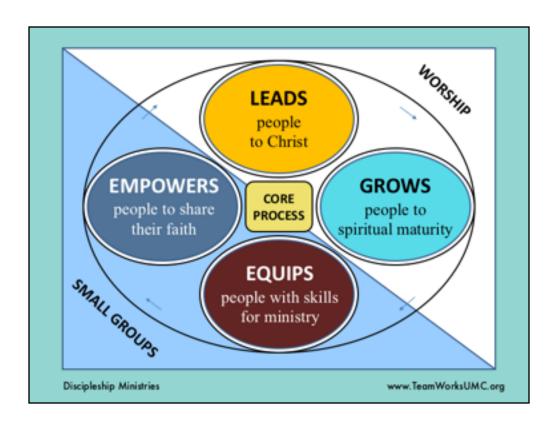


- Is your church on a peak, in a valley, or somewhere in between?
- · Where is your church in the Lifecycle?
- What does it mean that rebirth can happen at any stage?

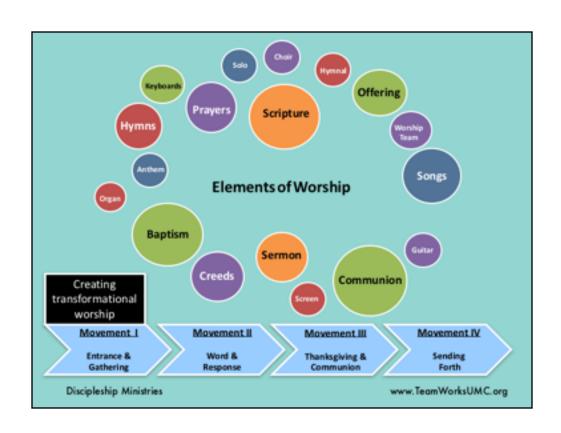
Discipleship Ministries

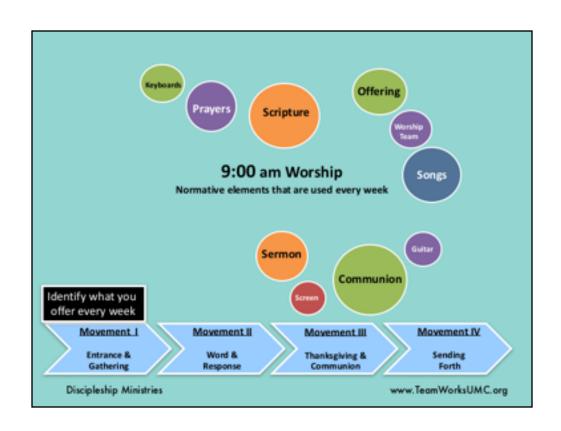
www.TeamWorksUMC.org

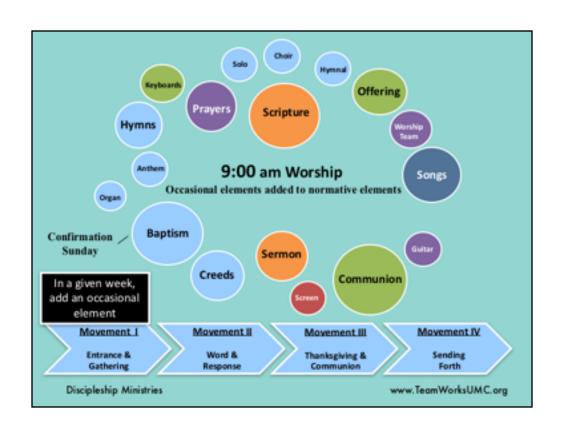
Discuss where people see your church on the landscape of innovation and on the lifecycle.

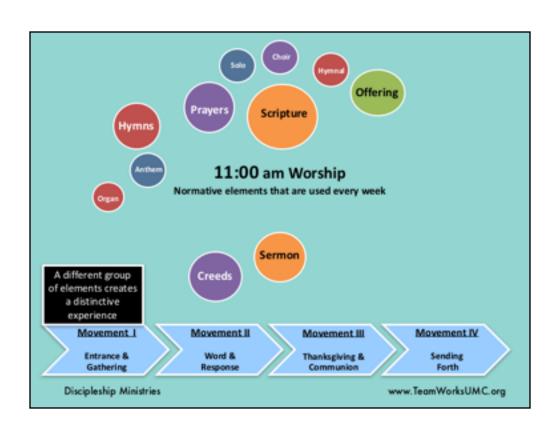


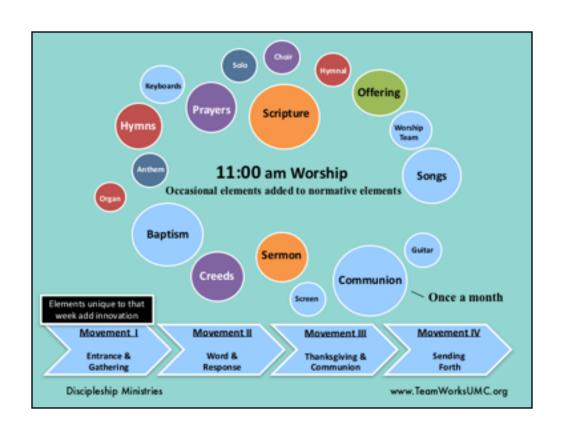
This chart shows how the four aspects of the core process of congregational life works together. The primary focus of worship is to lead people to Christ and to grow people to spiritual maturity. The primary focus of small groups is to equip people for ministry and to empower them to share their faith. While there are many other areas of congregational life, worship and small groups are key to the spiritual vitality of the whole congregation.

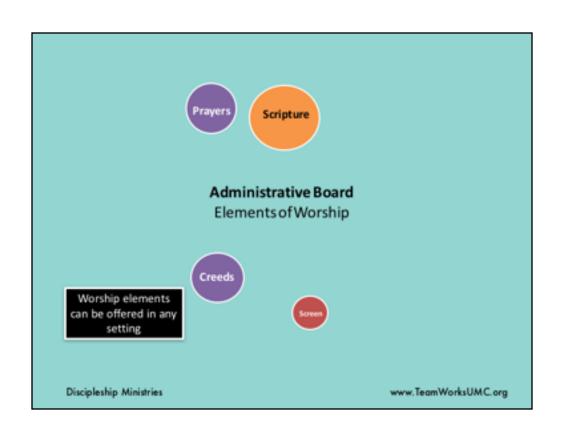


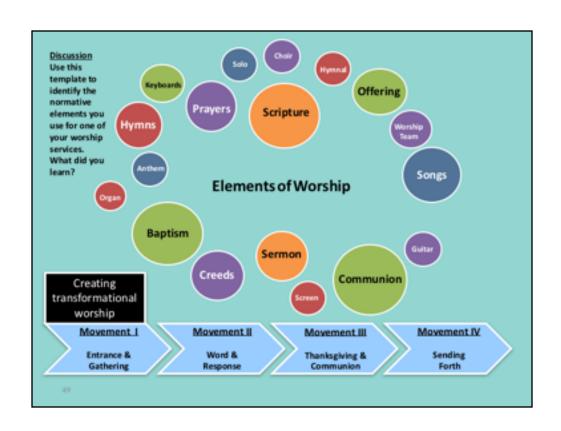






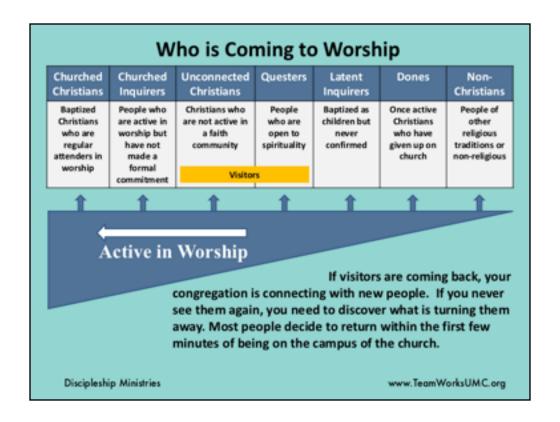




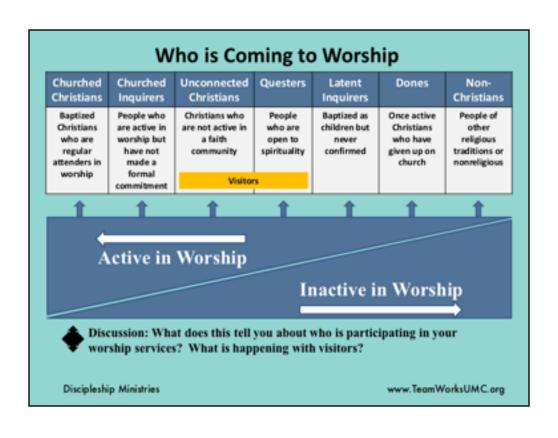


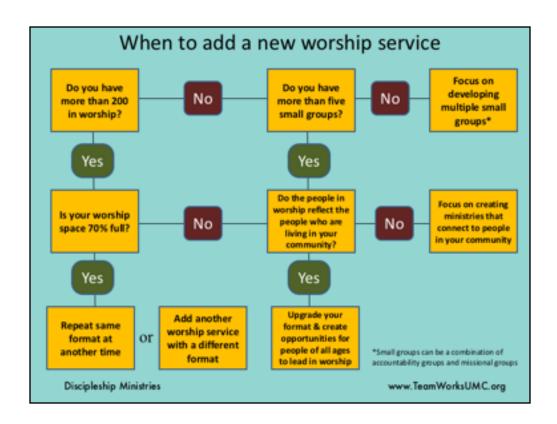


This series of charts helps your group think about who actually is attending your worship service. Studies show that active participants attend two times a month.



Your visitors are a barometer of whether your current worship format is connecting with new people. If they are returning, then you are in good shape. If not, you need to see what is happening that is turning them away. Many times it has nothing to do with the worship service itself. Check out the way you welcome visitors and their families. Also, remember most people explore your church on your church's website before they visit.

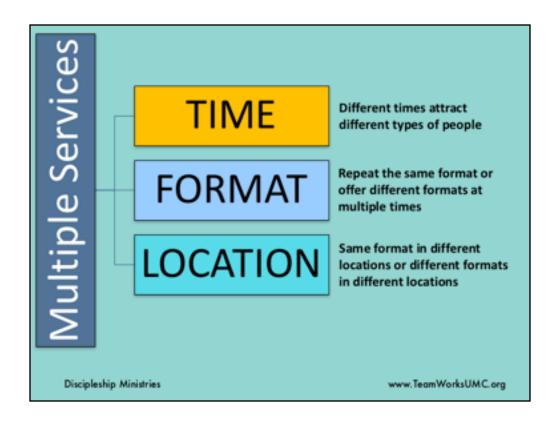




This is a quick way to talk about a very complex topic. For the most part, this is to help you think what needs to be put in place before a new worship service is added. Many churches make the mistake of launching a new worship service without talking about how it fits into the overall discipleship system and how people are going to be connected to your ministries through your small groups, missional groups, and fellowship/instructional groups.

Do you have more than 200 in worship?	When under 200 in worship, churches rarely have the resources to offer two or more worship services.
Is your worship space 70% full?	When you are at 70% of your seating capacity you are full. Even if you seat 100 or less, consider adding another worship service or moving to another space. If you are under 200 in a space that seats a large crowd, look for ways to decrease the seating options or consider using a smaller space until you get over 200 or more in worship. Don't let a large space overwhelm your numbers.
Repeat same format at another time	Instead of creating a totally new service, if your current format is attracting people, repeating the same format works best.
Add another worship service with a different format	A new format may mean having a choir sing at one service and having a small worship team lead the other service. Or doing communion every week at one service while offering communion once a month in the other service.
Do you have more than five small groups?	The more small groups you have, especially accountability and missional groups, the more opportunities people have to create deep connections with each other. It also is important to add new groups on a regular basis as a way to include newcomers in your ministry.
Do the people in worship reflect the people who are living in your community?	Vital congregations reflect the community in which it is located. A community in a suburban or urban area may extend to the distance people are driving to the church.
Upgrade your format & create opportunities for people of all ages to lead in worship	Look for ways to use more people up front in worship. Singers, liturgists, scripture readers, and ushers who better reflect those you are trying to reach helps newcomers feel welcome.
Focus on developing multiple small groups	Rather than using your energy to launch a new service, it is best to focus on connecting to more people by creating new small groups that are open to new people.
Focus on creating ministries that connect to people in your community	If your current service only attracts one cultural or generational group, focus on connecting with those who better represent those who are living in your community.

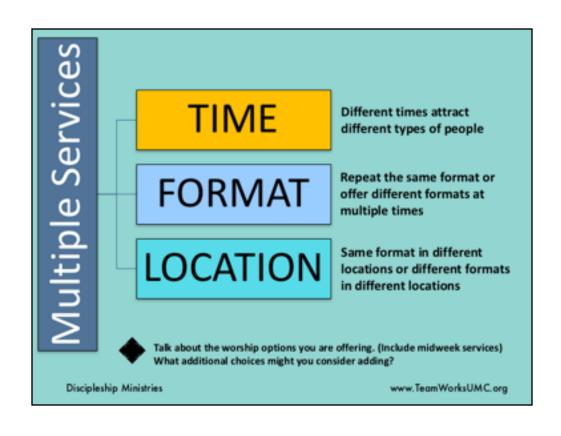
This chart gives a deeper explanation of each box. This is printed in the guidebook so have people refer to it as you show the previous slide.



The next series of slides talk about the different options for worship services.

Options	Time	Format	Location
Option 1 Multiple Times	8:30	Historic	Sanctuary
	11:00	Historic	Sanctuary
Option 2 Multiple Locations	8:30	Historic	Fellowship Hall
	11:00	Historic	Sanctuary
Option 3 Multiple formats	8:30	Historic	Sanctuary
	11:00	New Song	Sanctuary
Option 4 Multiple Locations	8:30	Historic	Sanctuary
	11:00	New Song	19 <sup>th</sup> Street Coffee Shop
Discipleship Ministries			www.TeamWorksUMC.org

This shows the multiple ways you can add new services.



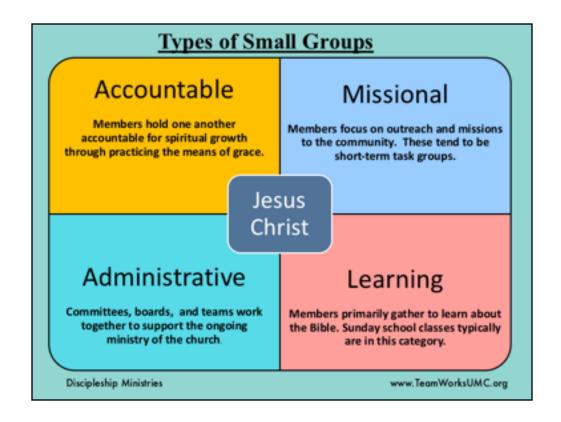
## **Early Methodists Started with Small Groups**

The Class Meeting was the central place where people talked about their faith and were given opportunities to share their lives. While people may get together in small numbers to do ministry together or to learn, accountable small groups are key to church vitality.

Discipleship Ministries

www.TeamWorksUMC.org

Accountable small groups are groups that focus on the spiritual life of people in the group. If you have used the *TeamWorks: The Spiritual Life of the Leaders* with your group, the Spiritual Life Template is a tool to use for accountable groups. If you have not used this you may download the Spiritual Life Template from the TeamWorks website under the tools section. Covenant Discipleship is also a good resource to use for this.



This are the four primary types of groups you will find in churches. You can turn the Missional, Learning, and Administrative groups into Accountable groups by including 30 minutes of spiritual accountability at the beginning of your sessions.

Missional	
Learning	
Administrativ	/e
Accountable	

Use this to talk about the types of small groups you have in your church.

## Developing a Metaphor for Discipleship

- · An Image that coveys meaning
- · Has movement
- · Is easily understood
- · Shows how people can become involved

Discipleship Ministries

www.TeamWorksUMC.org

Congregations have used metaphors as a way to picture what the discipleship process looks like.

A metaphor is an image that coveys meaning. It shows how people move through a process. It is easily understood and shows how a newcomer can become involved in the ministry of the church.



Here is "The River of Life" metaphor developed by Brentwood United Methodist Church in Brentwood, TN that was used by them a few years ago. It is a good illustration of a discipleship process.

Read through the five areas, asking people how this would help them know how to become connected to the ministry at a church.

## **Examples of Metaphors**

- 1. Harbor
- 2. Oasis
- 3. Road
- 4. Household
- 5. Vineyard

Discipleship Ministries

www.TeamWorksUMC.org

Divide your group into three or four groups and have each one use one of these metaphors to sketch out your discipleship process.

Note: Don't give them a choice – assign them to the groups.

Provide each group with a large sheet of newsprint and markers and ask each group to develop this metaphor using the ministries of the church as a guide.

You can invite them to refer back to their Before and After statements that were talked about earlier in this seminar.

Go to the next slide to talk about the assignment.



- Divide your group into two or more groups and assign one of the metaphor examples from the previous slide to each group.
- · Put in areas of ministry that you are currently offering in the drawing.
- Look to see the gaps What is missing that would help people become part of your community of faith?
- · Once they are finished, have each group share its images.
- Talk about how developing a metaphor for your church can help people understand how they can be involved in your discipleship process.

Discipleship Ministries

www.TeamWorksUMC.org

Give them 20 minutes.

After they are done, have the groups come forward to share their results.



To learn more about the whole series go to <a href="www.TeamWorksUMC.org">www.TeamWorksUMC.org</a>. Contact Craig Miller at <a href="mailto:cmiller@umcdiscipleship.org">cmiller@umcdiscipleship.org</a> if you need more information.