

# A NEW DAY

*Three Bible Study/ Discussions on our mission in the post-churched context*

## Part 3: Our Future Ministry

Slide 1



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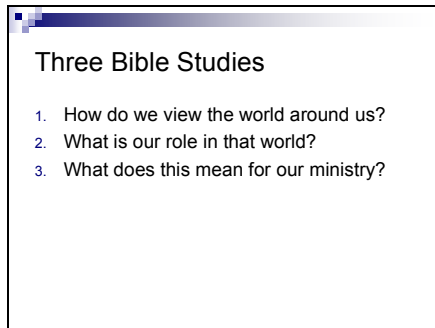
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Slide 2



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Slide 3



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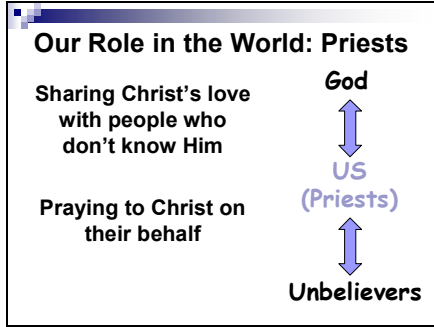
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Slide 4




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Slide 5

**Today**

- What does this mean for our future ministry?

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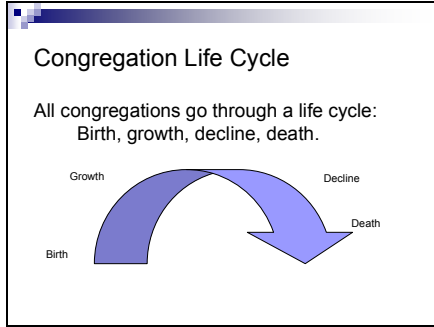
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Slide 6




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Slide 7

**Where are we?**

What side of the life cycle we find ourselves depends on where we seat these four passengers in our "car."

- Vision
- Relationships
- Structure
- Programs

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Slide 8

**What it means:**

- Dying churches:
  - Structure in the drivers seat
  - Programs in the navigation seat
  - Relationships and vision in the back seat.
- *Why do you think this happens in congregations?*

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Slide 9

**What it means:**

- Vibrant churches:
  - Relationships in the drivers seat
  - Vision as navigator
  - Structure and Programs in the back seat
- Relationships
  - The Great Commandment: Matthew 22:34-40
- Vision
  - The Great Commission: Matthew 28:18-20

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Slide 10

**Where are we?**

- *Where do you think your congregation is in the life cycle? Why?*
- *Where are the “passengers” in your congregation’s car? Why do you think they are “sitting” where they are?*
- *Read Revelation 2:1-7. Where are the “passengers” in the Ephesian car?*

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Slide 11

**What is the Mission?**

Scripture	Directed to Whom	What	Ministry to Whom	How	Where
Mat 28:19-20	Disciples	Go, make disciples	All nations	Baptizing and teaching.	—
Mark 16:15	Disciples	Go, preach the good news	All creation	—	All the world
Luke 24:46-48	Disciples	Be witnesses	All nations	Preaching repentance and forgiveness of sins	Beginning in Jerusalem
Acts 1:8	Disciples	Be my witnesses	—	With power	Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

from Advanced Strategic Planning, Aubrey Malphurs © 2005, p.127

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Slide 12

What is the Mission?

- *What are we supposed to be doing?*
- *Are we doing it?*
- *Why or why not?*
- *What will it take to get us to do what we are supposed to do?*

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Slide 13

Why do we do what we do?

- *Make a list of all of the ministries and activities of your congregation.*
- *Circle the ones that are intentionally designed to reach out to the unchurched in your community.*
- *What does this say about our congregation and its mission?*

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Slide 14

Asking the Right Question

As we think about our future, which question should we be asking?

- How do we build our church?
- How do we change our community?

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Slide 15

Another way to put it:

- Are we here for ourselves?
- Or are we here for those who aren't here yet?
- Both?
  - Who gets priority?
  - What are we called to do as priests?

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Slide 16

**Reaching Out**

*Brainstorm another list, a list of things that your congregation and its members could do to intentionally reach out to the unchurched in your community. Think about:*

- 1<sup>st</sup> article (creation) needs of people in your community that your congregation can address
- Answering questions that they are asking
- Building relationships
- Building bridges
- Building on your strengths

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Slide 17

**Summary**

- We live on a post-churched mission field
- We are called as priests to the unbelievers in our lives and in our community,
  - Sharing the love of God with them
  - Bringing their needs to the Lord in prayer
- We are here not just for ourselves, but primarily for those who are not here yet.

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