# **Developing Desire for Community Outreach**

**Keelan Cook, SEBTS** 

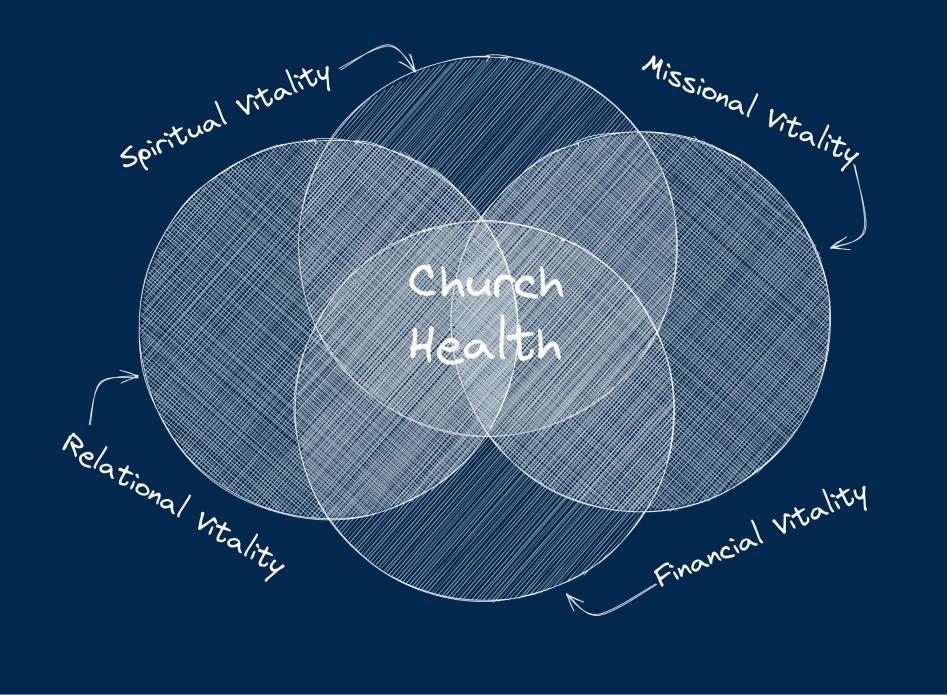


#### After examination...

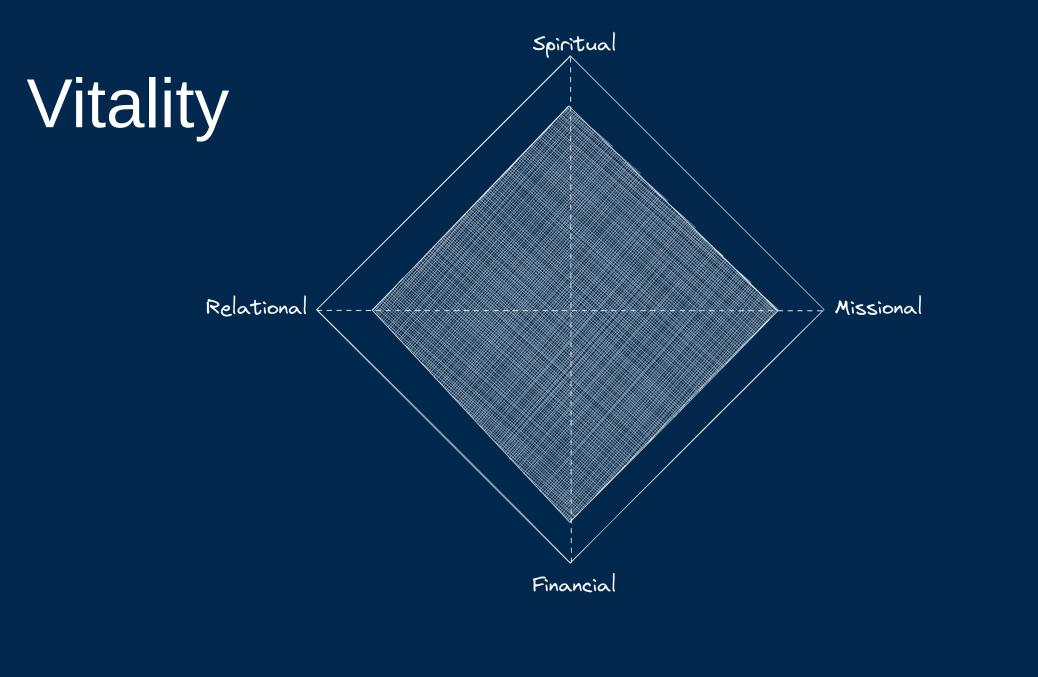
After a church and community have been assessed through the examination process and a renewal pathway is established, we start the process of implementation.

Implementing a renewal process *always requires outreach*.

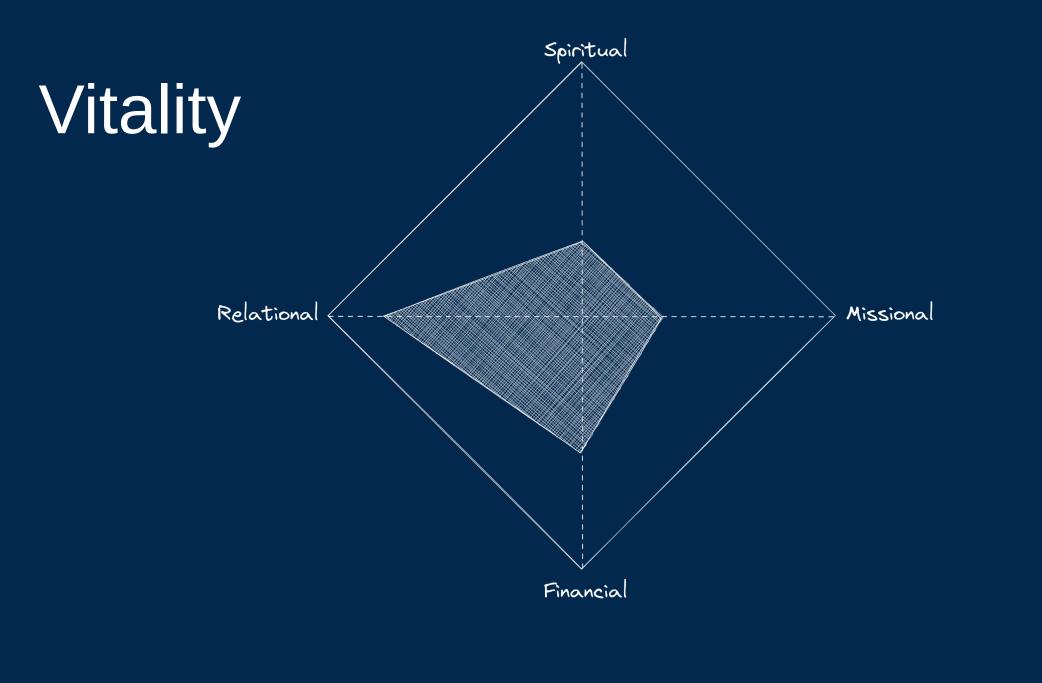














# Where are we going?

1. Developing desire is the most important aspect of navigating outreach.

2. Good community discovery naturally leads to engagement.



# Developing desire is the most important aspect of navigating outreach.



# There is no magic bullet for culture change.



#### Integrity of Message



#### Three Levels for Culture Change

- 1. **Macro-level** Broadcast level that is mostly likely to hit the whole church at once. Think sermons, website, emails, etc.
- 2. **Meso-level** Smaller groupings of people within the church where much equipping and fellowshipping takes place. Think Sunday school classes, small groups, etc.
- 3. **Micro-level** Interpersonal interaction. Think the foyer prior to corporate worship, or lunch following the service.



# We work toward what we celebrate.



#### Love by Doing



#### Learning Domains

1. **Cognitive** – Knowledge and concepts (head)

2. Affective – Emotional buy-in (heart)

3. Behavioral – Activity-based (hands)



#### Learning Domains





# Learning Domains

G

## **Experiential Learning**

"In 1964 Leon Festinger's research led him to advance the radical notion that the knowledge–behaviour relationship actually works the other way around – that is, *people are more likely to behave their way into thinking than think their way into behaving*"

Shaw, Transforming Theological Education, 2014.



# Kolb's Cycle

"This process is circular, moving from a concrete experience to reflective observation to abstract generalization to a final process of active experimentation. *While this process is circular (repeating over and over again), it is not flat.* Think of it as a spiral upward to increasing knowledge."

Lingenfelter, Teaching Cross Culturally, 2003.



# Why am I boring you with this?

If we want to grow *desire* for outreach, starting a church on an experience-based path engages all three learning domains.

- 1. Start at a simple action (community discovery).
- Which engages the affections (real relationship development).
  This creates the need for information (they see why they need to learn).



#### Where do we go from here?



# Good community discovery naturally leads to engagement.



#### Good community discovery...



# Map your spheres. Map your community.

- 1. Create a membership map to see church's footprint.
- 2. Have members trace their circles.
- 3. Fill in the gaps with ministry of presence.



## 1 in 5 Americans are on the Threshold of Religion



### A Warning Concerning Religious or Cultural Categories



#### ... naturally leads to engagement.

- 1. Christian, get out of the bubble.
- 2. A warning concerning "relationship evangelism".
- 3. Personal evangelism? Yes, but it should be a group activity.
- 4. Hospitality is hard, but you should do it anyway.



#### **KEELAN COOK**

Twitter: @keelancook Email: kcook@sebts.edu



