

CHOOSING *the* Faithful Path



Since every church is located in some type of transition, every local church is encouraged to study their congregation's potential.

Paragraph 213 Book of Discipline

But how and when do we assess the church's potential to maximize our Kingdom Impact?

Purpose:

When a church begins to plateau or decline in their growth and vitality, it is time to ask:

“What are we able, willing, and committed to do to fulfill the Call and Commission of the Church?”

Choosing the Faithful Path is a weekly Bible study and facilitated assessment process to guide churches in making an honest choice and developing a faithful plan of action to move forward faithfully and effectively as a church.

Components:

- Coaching for the pastor to provide support and accountability throughout the process.
- Two hour introductory seminar to prepare participants for study and assessment assignments.
- Eleven Bible study sessions rooted in the practice of the spiritual disciplines including worship, prayer, holy conversation, and communion.
- Review of objective data about the church and local community including current statistics and demographic studies.
- Practical and straightforward questions regarding the church's potential for ministry in the community.
- Clear pathways and step-by-step guidelines to develop an Action Plan for one of two pathways: Re-Innovation or Transition to Legacy.
- Practical guidance for congregation and leaders.
- Follow up within six weeks for follow-through on Action Plan.

Approximate length: 12 weeks including the introductory seminar, weekly Bible study, and development of an Action Plan.



CONVERSATION *at the* Crossroads

For churches at a critical fork in the road, the time is now to make a decision about the church's future.

Conversation at the Crossroads is a two-hour facilitated Bible study and discussion to lead congregations in critical conversation about church closure and future options.

Components:

- Coaching for the pastor to provide support and accountability throughout the process.
- Two hour facilitated Bible study and holy conversation regarding the church's future.
- Review of objective data about the church and local community including current statistics and demographic studies.
- Practical and straightforward questions regarding the church's potential for ministry in the community.
- Exploration regarding options for the church, including Transition to Legacy Ministry and closure.
- Practical guidance for congregation and leaders.
- Follow up within six weeks for Action Plan.

Approximate length: Two hour facilitated Bible study and discussion with follow-up in two to six weeks.

