

Dangerous Church

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Dangerous Church – Risking Everything to Reach Everyone

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Why Are You Doing Church?

- Am I really about what Jesus is about, or am I just doing church each week to collect a pay check or for some other reason?

If Your Church Ceased to Exist, Would Anyone Notice?

- Would unchurched people in your area notice if your church you were gone?

Will You Lose to Win?

- Churches who are reaching lost people understand that they must often die to programmes, methods, traditions and structures that sustain the status quo at the expense of lost people.
- It's only when we die to our selfish agendas that we really win.

Who is Building the Church?

- If you have grown stale and self-dependent in your leadership and ministry, it's time to take a risk and allow God to show you a different way.

Risk

- Stop defining how we do church in the present simply by how God has worked in your ministry in the past. Don't get caught trying to recreate the past simply to stay safe.
- Stop simply looking at what other churches are doing and start listening to God
- The longer people are in a profession the less they think about the people they are supposed to be serving, the more apathetic they can grow.
- 85% of churches in the USA are declining or have plateaued in size. Less than 5% are growing by conversion – Andy McAdams, 'The Condition of the Church'

It Starts With You

- When was the last time you personally shared your faith with someone?
- When was the last time you purposefully began a relationship with a lost person?
- If as leaders we aren't living out this mission as a passion how can we lead others to do it?
- It begins with you – what do you smell like?
- What does your church smell like?

When Churches Get Stuck

- We move in a positive direction but then to protect what has been built we get stuck, often gripped by fear. It feels safe to stick with the status quo.
- If your church isn't seeing lost people come to know Christ then chances are you're stuck. A healthy church is a growing church.
- When you stop hearing stories of life change you're stuck
- When people do not invite their friends you're stuck

- Be missional but also attrational.

God's Work

- Think about who you're listening to – does it include God?
- Recognize your gifts – what are the unique gifts God has given you. Be what God created you to become – not someone else.
- Let God break your heart.
- Keep it simple – It's easy for us to complicate what Jesus intended to be simple. Guard against overreliance on technology. Technology can serve the church and its mission but it can never be the ultimate goal.

The Potential of Failure

- Failure doesn't leave you where it finds you
- Risk big enough to fail

See Through the Eyes of the Unchurched.

Embrace Change

Communicate to go somewhere

- Know the destination
- Spend time in preparation

Being Dangerous In Your World

If the world were represented by a village of 100 people

- 67 would be adults, half would not be able to read or write
- 80 would live in housing unfit for habitation
- 50 would be suffering from malnutrition
- 33 would not have access to safe water
- 7 would own a car of some sort
- 33 would be trying to survive on just 3% of the entire wealth of the village.

Being Dangerous in Your Community

- You can't do everything but you can do something
- The homeless people are the 'least of these'

Release Everyone

Where are you in God's Story?