

LEADER CONVERSATION GUIDE

How to Clarify Your Next Bold Moves - Episode 321

How to Embrace Bold Moves in 2024 (Part 2)

When it comes to the future of our church, we all want to pursue God-sized dreams.

In this episode, Tony and Amy explain how to clarify your next bold move—including how to know if your goal is too bold or not bold enough—and how to begin communicating your bold moves once you've defined them.

Clarifying Your Bold Moves

First, we need to clarify our foundation: our theology, doctrine, mission, and our commitment to making new disciples of Jesus. Once that's been established, we encourage teams to begin praying, dreaming, and discussing internally where they feel God's leading their church.

From there, we come on-site and continue to dream about all that God might have for them, then take all those ideas and narrow them down. That conversation includes talking through pros and cons, the resource investment required, the risk involved, and most importantly, what the impact would look like if God moves and we see this bold move through to the end.

Out of those discussions, we land on 1-2 specific bold moves that we think the church needs to engage in the coming months in order to move the mission forward.

How do we know if the bold move is bold enough? The idea behind a bold move is to step beyond our regular goals and expected growth, and chase something bigger.

To determine if your bold move is bold enough, ask:

1. Does it change how we will need to invest our financial resources?
2. Does it change how we will use our time day-to-day?
3. Does it change how we will allocate our strongest leaders?
4. Does it change how we pray?

If none of that has to happen, then the vision isn't bold enough. We need a specific bold

move that can't be accomplished through our own efforts—we need God to move and a team to rally behind it.

5. Does it both rally and repel people?

If your bold move is specific and bold enough to attract the right people and to turn away the wrong people, you'll be left with a strong sense of unity and purpose as a church. The people that stay will be fully aligned and focused on what God has for your ministry.

How do we know if our bold move is too bold? We have to trust God, but also count the cost ahead of time, asking: Has God prepared us for this next step? Has he prepared us with resources and the right leadership? Do we have the bandwidth in our ministry to pull this off?

When we *don't* count the cost, we run the risk of losing credibility with our team, our congregation, and our community—the people we're trying to reach. And if our bold move is too bold, it can quickly become demotivating and demoralizing to our team.

Communicating & Measuring Your Bold Moves

When communicating and casting vision...

- **Start small, then widen the circle.** Start with your board/elders and key staff, then key lay leaders and volunteers, then the congregation.
- **Appeal to both sides of the brain.** The left side likes statistics and data and the right side likes stories.
- **People will buy in once they have an opportunity to weigh in.** People are more likely to support what they have a part in creating, so allow your leadership team to be part of the process.
- **If you think you're saying it too much, double it.** The best vision-casters know that it's their responsibility to keep everyone focused. *(That's why we recommend having just 1-2 bold moves at any given time. If you are trying to run after 10 bold moves at the same time, it's impossible to keep everyone focused and aligned.)*
- **Don't just address the "what"—address the "why."** The most important part of casting vision is helping people see "why" the bold move is critical to the mission of your church. Test your case for "why" with a handful of people you trust BEFORE you make the case for "why" with your whole church.

What we measure matters. Every number has a name, every name has a story, and every story matters to God. We measure progress so that we can celebrate together what God's doing.

You'll know your bold move is measurable if you can answer one of two questions:

1. What's the specific project or initiative that we're trying to complete?
2. What's the specific goal that we want to achieve?

At the Unstuck Group, we encourage teams to narrow their broader vision and bold moves into written action plans with short-term sprints. Rather than think about *everything* that needs to be accomplished to move our vision forward, we look at the next 90 days and focus on who's going to be responsible for doing what within those 90 days.

If you *can't* create an action plan that identifies who's going to do what by when, then you haven't defined a bold move for the future. When it's bold enough and specific enough, you should feel the urgency to start working on that vision today.

Listen to the full episode on Apple Podcasts, Spotify or at theunstuckgroup.com/episode321.

Webinar: Four Bold Moves for Churches & How to Make Them Happen

Ready to make a bold move in 2024? [At this free 1-hour webinar on November 16](#), the Unstuck team and guests Derwin Gray, Rick Atchley, and Jonathan Smith will help you clarify the next bold move God may be calling your church to make—and unpack the next steps to get there.

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