

LEADER CONVERSATION GUIDE

When Bold Moves Succeed (and Why Others Fail) - Episode 322

How to Embrace Bold Moves in 2024 (Part 3)

The right bold moves will help your church reach more people for Jesus.

In this episode, Tony and Amy walk through four examples of successful bold moves that have led real churches to experience health and growth—and explain the common reasons why some bold moves fail.

Successful Bold Moves

Here are some real-life examples of bold moves that we've seen churches make that ultimately led to their health and growth:

1. **Becoming a multi-generational and multi-ethnic church.** In other words, becoming a congregation that reflects the people in the mission field who the church is hoping to meet. Multi-generational and multi-ethnic looks different for different churches because communities are different and made up of different people.
2. **Expanding through multisite.** It's what healthy, thriving churches do when they *want* to continue reaching people for Jesus, but they are almost forced to multiply in new locations due to their growth.
3. **Improving facilities.** This bold move really isn't the new buildings—it's about using our space to serve our community and remove any barriers that would stop us from reaching people for Jesus.
4. **Addressing a core need in the community.** It's about being the hands and feet of Jesus, and also trying to help normal people think differently about church so that we have a greater opportunity to share the Good News and help people meet and follow Jesus.

The bottomline for all of these bold moves: **It's all about people.** It's all about loving God and loving others. It's all about our God-given mission to make disciples of all the nations.

Why Some Bold Moves Fail

Bold moves necessarily feel risky, and risk can be good or bad. It's good when it's tethered to your mission and clear foundation—and bad when it's not. In other words, sometimes bold moves fail because the “why” is wrong. The *motivation* is wrong.

Here are some examples of bold moves with the wrong motivation:

- Launching a new multisite location... because the current congregation isn't willing to make the necessary ministry changes to reach new people.
- Renovating a building because the facility is outdated... but then prioritizing the improvements to serve the people who are financially supporting the renovation rather than prioritizing the people the church is trying to reach.
- Serving people in the community... to make people *in* the church feel good about themselves, rather than helping people *outside* the church overcome the challenges they are facing and helping them take their next steps toward Christ

Other common mistakes we've seen churches make when it comes to bold moves:

1. **They try to take on too many bold moves at the same time.** They try to prioritize too many initiatives so that every ministry area gets a bold move. They're also hoping with multiple bold moves, every person in the church will identify an initiative that they can support financially.
2. **They don't make their bold moves actionable.** There's not an urgency to get going. They may vision cast... They may even pray for the bold moves to become reality... But, if they don't have a plan for who is going to do what by when, that vision they have for 5 or 10 years from now will never become reality.

As we've mentioned before: If it's not bold enough that you sense the urgency to start taking action today, you don't really have a *bold* move. At best, you have a *bold hope* for the future.

Listen to the full episode on Apple Podcasts, Spotify or at theunstuckgroup.com/episode322.

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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