

LEADER CONVERSATION GUIDE

Stupid Church Tricks: Complexity & Lack Of Alignment - Episode 331

Stupid Church Tricks (Part 2)

Often, well-intentioned churches add more programs believing it will lead to more growth. In reality, competing priorities ultimately lead to more complexity and a lack of alignment.

In this episode, Tony and Amy continue our series on Stupid Church Tricks—explaining what we can learn from them and how to avoid them.

Stupid Church Tricks: Complexity

#1: Adding competing services with completely different worship styles, teaching and leadership that meet in the same building at the same time.

Even though both services are located within the same building, different worship styles with different teaching and leadership will eventually lead to two different churches.

#2: Allowing ministry silos to thrive.

The foundation for silos is the lack of alignment, but silos are often also fueled by a focus on programs and filling the calendar with activities. We often also see silos occur by age, ministry type, and campuses.

#3: Keeping people busy at church.

The goal of ministry isn't to keep people busy in church activities—the goal is to equip people to become more like Christ and live out their purpose as part of the body of Christ.

Stupid Church Tricks: Lack of Alignment

#1: Avoiding any focus around a clear and specific vision for the future.

When there's a vision vacuum, the loudest people in the room will fill it. Instead, we need to create a vision for the future that both rallies people's prayer, time and financial resources.

#2: Establishing a vision, but avoiding a focused strategy for how it will be accomplished.

Many churches go through the hard work of confirming mission and vision, but they don't unify around the "how" part. When the strategy isn't defined, people drift back to doing what they've always done and pull in different directions—and that leads to division.

#3: Making a significant change in strategy without connecting the change to your mission.

The most important part of casting vision around change is helping people see "why" the change is critical to the mission of your church.

#4: Inviting people to more meetings to solve communications challenges.

Instead, we need to have better clarity of roles and responsibilities. We need to have good systems to manage projects/tasks so the right people are aware of who's working on what.

Listen to the full episode on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or at theunstuckgroup.com/episode331.

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