

Own Your Role: Breaking the MultiStuck Barrier - Episode 415

“Where did all our momentum go?”

We hear this question often from the multisite churches we serve. It is so common for a multisite church to get stuck at three locations. Having three locations is amazing and exciting, but if you are continuing to grow, it can suddenly feel very frustrating if your multisite model becomes the barrier to making room for new people.

In this episode, Sean and Amy break down a growth barrier that isn't discussed often: the “MultiStuck” barrier. They talk about the common tensions multisite churches feel when they get stuck at two or three campuses and start to lose momentum, and they provide solutions to break through the barrier to move toward sustained health.

Key Quotes

1. AMY: “Autonomy actually contradicts the phrase of being one church in multiple locations.”
2. AMY: “Some multisite churches find themselves overextended with too many programs that are competing for attention and resources across multiple locations.”
3. SEAN: “Churches launch often with a bench that’s just too thin; they don’t send those A players that carry the culture and that leads to stuckness.”
4. SEAN: “One of the most courageous things that you have to do through this process is decide what you stop doing.”
5. AMY: “If there’s unhealth in your systems, you wanna get healthy first and then replicate. Otherwise, you’re just gonna replicate that unhealth.”

Self-Assessment: How Are We Doing?

Use these questions to determine which area(s) may be contributing to stuckness you feel as a multisite church.

1. Assess our multisite model: Do we have a replicable model that maintains the DNA of the church while allowing some contextual adaptation for each community?
2. Audit programming: Are we trying to do too much?
3. Evaluate each location’s place on the church life cycle: What does each campus need? Are we fulfilling those needs?
4. Examine our leadership pipeline: Do we have a system for developing leaders? Who is building the pipeline? Is it working?

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