

How Does My Mindset Have to Change?

Episode 402

When a church slips into the maintenance phase, pastors often wrestle with all kinds of *fears*—worrying about rocking the boat, messing up, dealing with conflict or just burning out.

But what if those very fears are the thing standing between your church and its next season of growth and impact?

In the final episode of our “Just Maintaining” series, Sean and Amy dive into one of the most simple, yet critical, steps in reversing early signs of church decline: **shifting your mindset**.

Key Quotes

1. AMY: “The idea of stirring up more work or more tension can feel overwhelming, so pastors stay in maintenance mode because it feels safer and less emotionally costly.”
2. AMY: “Without fresh vision and leadership, a church will stay in maintenance mode and just keep doing what they’ve always done.”
3. AMY: “Over time, when we stay in maintenance, energy fades, momentum slows and the church becomes more about keeping things running than making a real impact.”
4. AMY: “Team buy-in makes change stick, and it spreads energy beyond just the senior pastor.”
5. SEAN: “We all want to be good stewards of the resources God’s given us, and stewarding those resources well sometimes means pruning.”
6. AMY: “At the end of the day, it’s about embracing the change God is leading you into, honoring the past with gratitude and then stepping confidently into the future with hope.”

Self-Assessment: How Are We Doing?

1. Do we have a clear vision about where we want to go as a church? If so, what is it?
2. Can we be honest about where we are as a church (i.e., are we stuck in maintenance)?
3. Where are one or two key areas where we can build momentum?
4. Who will help lead us out of the maintenance phase (senior leadership team, key influences, etc.) and how will we share ownership of our vision with them?
5. What ministries need to be pruned so that others can be prioritized?

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