

Taking Your Church's Temperature Assessment Tools for General Baptist Churches

Biblical Examples of Assessment

- The 7 chosen to take care of the widows
- Jesus and the 12
- Gideon's Mighty Men

Using Church Assessments

Local Church Request

- Preparing for ReFocusing
- Plateau/Declining in Attendance
- Pastor asking am I in the right place
- Frustration at current reality

Pastoral Reviews

- Used as part of the regular review process
- Used in special reviews

Pastoral Transition

- Identifies current needs and expectations of the church
- Assists in the putting together a pastoral profile
- Allows the church to be intentional in interim planning

Church in Crisis

- Allows for an outside view of current reality
- Removes some of the subjectivity and makes the process more objective

The Life Cycle Tool

- Assessment tool is sent prior to the assessment weekend
- Completed by whoever desires
- Answer sheets are collected during the weekend
- Answer sheets are scored in an excel spread sheet
- Scores are transferred to PowerPoint
- Interpret the Results

Statistical Review

- Look at Worship Attendance
- Gather the Information (10 Year Trends)
- Graph the information
- Determine Comfort Zone

Treasurer Reports

- Where does the church spend the money
- Basic Percentage Breakdowns
- Conclusions

Treasurer Report Summary

- Staff 38% of Expenses
- Building 35% of Expenses
- Administration 9% of Expenses
- Denomination 5% of Expenses
- Youth 3% of Expenses
- Worship/Arts 2% of Expenses
- Discipleship 2% of Expenses
- Missions 2% of Expenses
- Outreach 2% of Expenses
- Children 1% of Expenses
- Leadership Dev 1% of Expenses

Calendar

- Where does the church spend the time
- Highlight the most common
- Conclusions

Publications

- Review Content
- Review Quality
- Review Purpose

Community Summary

- Percept
- www.generalbaptist.com (National Missions Page)
- Other Web sites

Lay Interview

- Sent prior to the weekend
- Completed by as many as desire to give input
- Anonymous
- Results are summarized

Face to Face Interviews

- 10 -20 % of regular attendees
- 20 minute interviews
- Focus is on listening to the attitude and not just fact finding
- Results included in lay summary

Informal Conversations

- Listening for themes
- Determine the overall attitude
- Give people a chance to be heard

Spiritual Gift Profile

Core Value Audit

- Taken by all church leadership

Interview – Staff one on one –Church board in a meeting

- Attitude toward church
- Attitude toward community
- Attitude toward staff
- Dreams/Vision for the future
- Core Values

Facility Walk Through

- Pictures
- Form
- Conclusions

Worship Observation

- Sound/lights/Video
- Flow of Service
- Participation in Service
- Preaching
- Atmosphere

The Church Health Survey

- Choosing 30 people
- Scheduling a meeting
- Explaining the survey
- Do the Survey
- Interpreting the Results

The Church Health Process

- The Detailed Report
 - 90+ page report that gives a summary of lay responses organized by each category
- Insights Report
 - An additional report to understand the sub categories of each characteristic

The Assessment Weekend

- **Scheduling the Weekend**
- 3-4 Week Lead time
- Clear the church calendar
- Review Details

- **Sample Schedule**
- Friday Night
- Saturday
 - Facility
 - Board Meeting
 - Lay Interviews
 - Church Health Survey
- Sunday
 - --Worship
 - --Lunch
 - --Pastoral Staff Interviews
 - --Facility
 - --Travel Home

Components of the Report

- Church Health Report
- Life Cycle Report
- Statistical Review
- Leadership Profile
- Lay Responses
- Observations & Conclusions
- Recommendations
 - --Worship and Facility included here