

# Ambassadors of Christ (6)

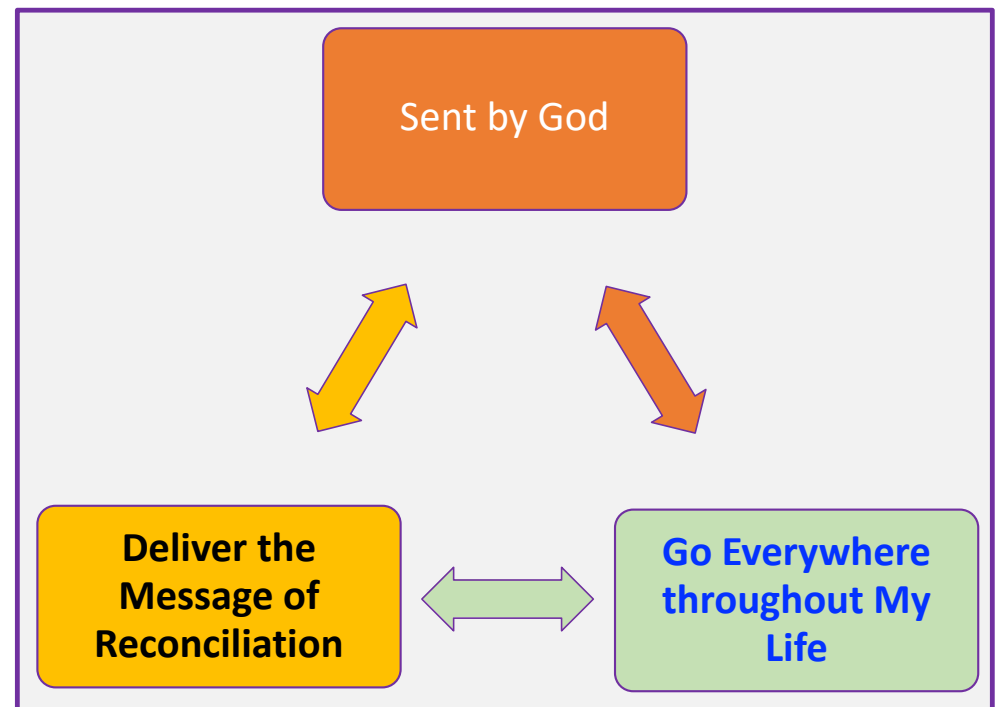


<https://www.shalomgrove.net/our-services>

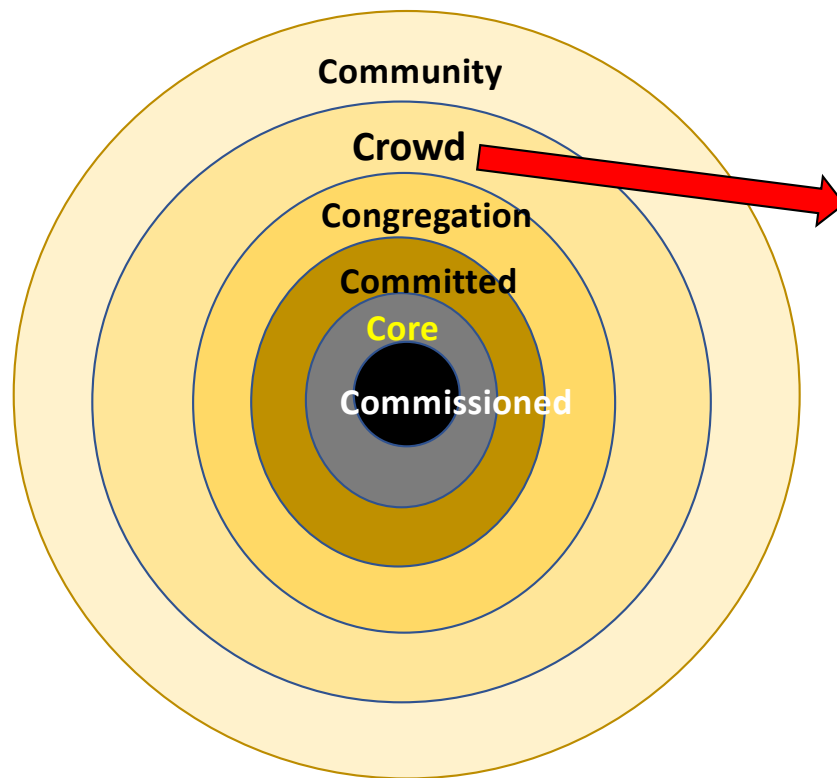
# Christ's Ambassador Model

We are **Christ's ambassadors**, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God

(2 Corinthians 5:20)

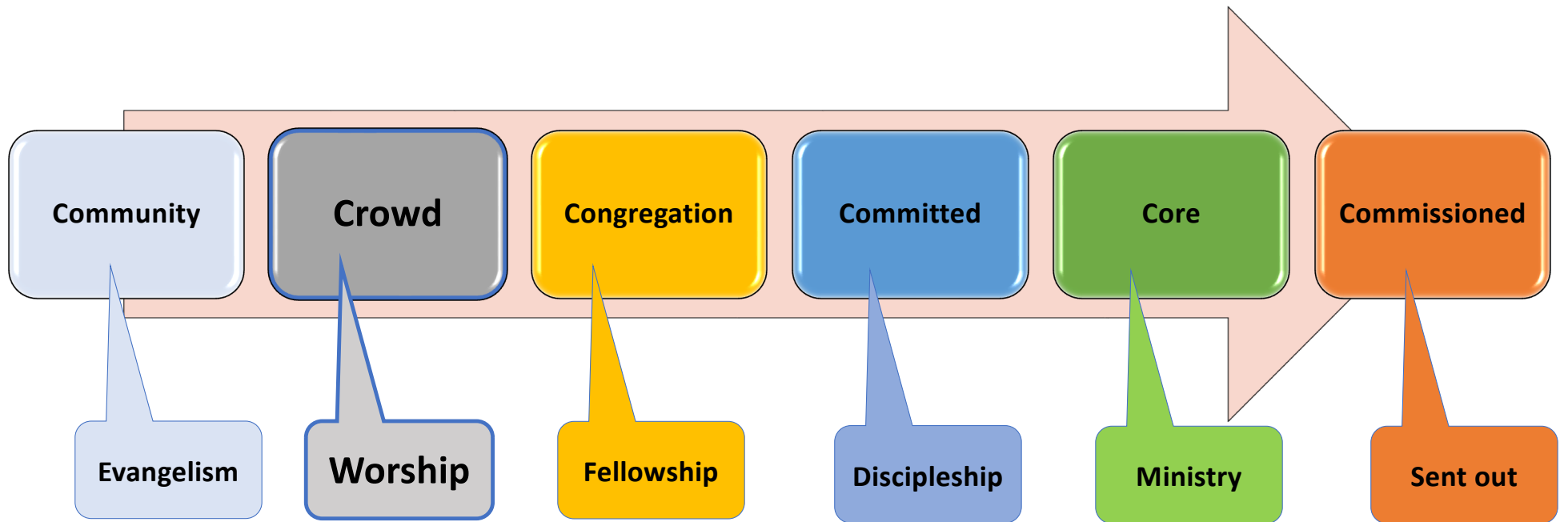


# Identify the Target



The Community	The uncommitted people who live within your ministry area
<b>The Crowd</b>	<b>The people who are committed to attending worship each week</b>
The Congregation	Those who have committed to membership
The Committed	Those who have committed to maturity
<b>The Core</b>	<b>Those who have committed to ministry</b>
<b>The Commissioned</b>	<b>Those who have committed to their mission</b>

# Different Strategies Needed to Each Target



# The Crowd Target



- Who are the crowd?
  - The common people, whom Jesus describes with compassion as sheep without a shepherd, harassed and helpless.
  - They are peasants and farmers and fishermen, the poor, the lower classes of society as well as tax collectors, prostitutes, and those labeled sinners.
  - Then he called **the crowd** to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me” (Mark 8:34-35).
- Characteristics of the crowd
  - They play an important role in the Gospels. They are everywhere Jesus goes. Jesus himself will be their shepherd who seeks them out and won’t lose a single one.
  - They are potential disciples who are curious, desperate, hopeful, amazed.
  - The ultimate question is this: 1) Will the crowds stay with Jesus and become his followers; or 2) Will they turn away and desert him in the end?

# Facts about Crowds



- Jesus' ministry attracted enormous crowds
  - Enormous **crowds** followed him wherever he went (Matthew 4:25, LB).
  - When he saw the **crowds**, he had compassion on them... (Matthew 9:36).
  - The large **crowd** listened to him and delighted (Mark 12:37).
- A crowd is not a church yet
  - A crowd can become a church if you prepare a well-designed worship service.
  - No church ministry grows without attracting crowds.
- Jesus uses two strategies
  - Come and see (attractational strategy).
  - Go and tell (missional strategy).
- God wants His house should be filled
  - Go out into the highway and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled (Luke 14:23)

# Reasons Why the Crowd Comes to Worship

- You have shown them you love them
  - Crowd will return when they know you care about them.
  - The only loving touch they'll get all week is a hug at your church.
- You have collected contact information
  - We use the newcomer information they provide to follow up about baptism, small groups, ministry opportunities and so on.
- You've reached out to them after they attended.
  - Send the letter after they attended worship to help people get connected to next week's sermon, small groups, membership class, ministries and so on.
- You've got them in a small group or connected them to a ministry.
  - People come back when they make a friend and get a responsibility.
- You have a system in place to assimilate people into the life of the church.
  - The church is not about growth; it's about health. It's about systematically moving people from your community to the crowd to the congregation to the committed to the core.

# Attracting a Crowd to Worship

- You don't need a building to worship God
  - The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and **does not live in temples built by hands** (Acts 17:24).
- There is no correct style of worship, only a correct spirit
  - There are varied of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them (1 Cor. 12:5-6, RSV)
  - True worshippers will worship the father in Spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for anyone who will worship him that way (John 4:23).
- Unbelievers can watch believer worship
  - As they praised God, people in general like liked what they saw. And everyday their number grew as God added those who were saved (Acts 2:47, MSG).
  - Worship is a powerful witness to unbelievers if God's present is felt and the message is understandable.
  - When the crowd saw this, they were filled with awe (Matthew 9:8).
  - He put a new song in my mouth. Many people will see this and worship him. Then they will trust the Lord (Psalm 40:3).

# What is Worship?

- Worship
  - Worthiness, worth-ship.
  - Bringing pleasure to God is called worship.
  - The Lord is pleased only with those who worship him and trust his love (Psalm 147:11).
- Myths of worship
  - Worship is far more than music.
  - Worship is not for our benefit.
  - Worship is not a part of our life, it is our life.
- The heart of worship is surrender
  - Only believers can truly worship God.
  - God is Spirit, and only by the power of his Spirit can people worship him as he really is (John 4:24, TEV).

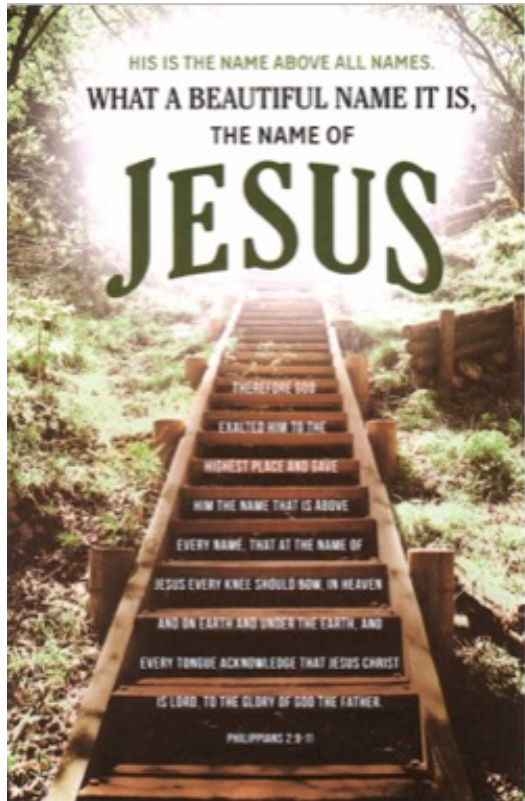


# The Church Exists for the Crowd

- God wants us to understand and be mindful of the fears, problems, and needs of non-believers when they join our worship services.
  - If the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and some who do not understand or some unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind? (1 Corinthians 14:23).
  - Do not cause anyone to stumble, whether Jews, Greeks or the church of God (1 Corinthians 10:32).
  - Be tactful with those who are not Christians and be sure you make the best use of your time with them (Colossians 4:5).
- It is best to purposefully target your service according to their purpose
  - Different kinds of services will reach different kinds of unbelievers
  - For ex. Sunday services for evangelism; midweek services for edification of believers.

# Creating a Friendly Worship Environment

- Before the worship service
  - Station greeters outside your building.
  - Set up an information table. Print a simple order of service.
  - Have taped music playing when people enter.
  - Offer a refreshment table.
- During the worship service
  - Begin and end each service by having people greet each other.
  - Minimize internal church announcement.
  - Help those who are unfamiliar with the Bible.
  - Preach with your target and purpose in mind.
- After the worship service
  - Altar call: Always offer an opportunity to receive Christ and expect people to respond.
- Continually evaluate and improve.
  - Ask what can we do better next time?



HIS IS THE NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES.  
**WHAT A BEAUTIFUL NAME IT IS,  
 THE NAME OF  
 JESUS**

April 21, 2024

"Courage Under Fire" - Acts 4:1-31

Welcome to the family ~ we're glad you're here!

**Order of Service\***

Welcome/Call to Worship.....Psalm 47  
 Pastor Serhil Rybak

Song of Worship.....Behold our God

Offering

Special Music.....Remember  
 Soloist Mia Rybak

Scripture Reading.....Colossians 1:13-18

Songs of Worship.....The Lord is My Salvation  
 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

Message.....Courage Under Fire  
 Pastor Glen Schaumloeffel

Closing Song.....Holy Forever

Announcements.....Pastor Serhil Rybak

Benediction and Dismissal

Key word: **parresia** = boldness, courage, confidence in the face of intimidating circumstances (v. 13, 29, 31)

I. Gospel courage is \_\_\_\_\_ in the power of Christ's name (person) - v. 7, 11-12, 17-18, 30

II. Gospel courage is \_\_\_\_\_ through filling of the Holy Spirit - v. 8, 31

III. Gospel courage is \_\_\_\_\_ to what is right in God's eyes - vv. 17-22

IV. Gospel courage is \_\_\_\_\_ through prayer of God's people - vv. 23-31

"My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion forever." Psalm 73:26

**TRUTH FOR LIFE (Application):**

1. We must be convinced that gospel courage fuels gospel \_\_\_\_\_ (see 4:4)
2. We must not \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel to make it more acceptable (see 4:12)
3. We must spend much \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus (see 4:13)

**Weekly Schedule\***

**Today**  
 8:30am Follow Home Class  
 10am Worship Service  
 12pm VBS Teachers Workshop  
 6pm Young Adults Meet - Youth House

**Monday 4/22**  
 2pm Ladies Bible Study

**Wednesday 4/24**  
 3pm Prayer Meeting  
 6pm JH & HS Meet in Youth House

**Saturday 4/27**  
 8am Plan's 318  
 10am Grief Share  
 10am Ladies Bible Study

\*Weekly Life Group information may be obtained at the Info Desk in the Main Lobby.

**Livestream** - If you cannot be in church because you're ill at home or traveling, you can still join us for worship each Sunday live on our YouTube Channel. Go to: [www.youtube.com/@cornerstonechurch9445/live](http://www.youtube.com/@cornerstonechurch9445/live) every Sunday at 10:00.

**Tithes & Offerings**

April 14	\$11,649
April Subtotal	\$26,941
Monthly Need	\$60,000
Hope House Giving Subtotal	\$12,432

Giving text to 84321

Online to: [cornerstonehemet.org/give](http://cornerstonehemet.org/give)

Want more information on Cornerstone Church? Use the QR code below to navigate our website!



If you are new to Cornerstone, please fill out a Connect Card in the pew and stop by the Info Desk in the Lobby for a free gift.

**Ladies, mark your calendars** - Plan to attend A joyful Tea on Saturday, May 4th at 11am. We will meet in the Rodda Hall and we need volunteers to host the tables. Our guest speaker will be our own Nancie Schaumloeffel, Pastor Glen's wife. To sign up and volunteer, stop by the Info Desk or call Sally at the Church Office. We hope you can come, and bring a family member or friend. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share, the rest will be provided. **All ladies are welcome!**

**Do You Love Music?** - Make plans to attend a concert by Mike D'Arcy of Tenth Avenue North, with special guest Stephen Stacey, next Sunday, April 28th at 7pm, right here at Cornerstone. Let your friends, family members, and neighbors know they are invited for this wonderful night of worship, praise, and great music. The concert is sponsored by 102.5 The Vine radio station's Worship World Tour 2024. Tickets are on sale at 1025thevine.org. Everyone is welcome.

**VBS Teachers Workshop** - If you have volunteered to teach with our 2024 VBS team, plan to attend our workshop today, in the Amber Room, right after the morning Worship Service.

**Baby Dedication** - Parents, if you are interested in having your child publicly dedicated to the Lord, please call the church office and let Sally know, or stop by the Info Desk and sign up. Dedications will be on Sunday, June 2 during the Morning Worship Service.

As a church family, we live and lead all people toward true transformation in our risen Savior.

*Jesus Christ*

- CORNERSTONE MISSION STATEMENT -

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