

TOM PLANCK

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# 7 S's OF CHURCH HEALTH





**ENGAGING  
CHURCHES TO  
BE HEALTHY  
AND MULTIPLY.**



**TO SEE 1,000  
CHURCHES  
EXPERIENCE A TURN  
AROUND WITH THE  
ULTIMATE FRUIT  
BEING DISCIPLES  
WHO MAKE DISCIPLES  
AND CHURCHES  
THAT MULTIPLY.**

**““WE HAVE HERE ONLY FIVE  
LOAVES OF BREAD AND TWO  
FISH,”” THEY ANSWERED.**

**Matthew 14:17**

**“For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being...”**

**Ephesians 3:14-21**

**“...so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ...”**

**Ephesians 3:14-21**

**“...and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us”**

**Ephesians 3:14-21**



EVERY LEADER AND EVERY  
CHURCH HAS THE **POTENTIAL** FOR  
KINGDOM IMPACT.



**WHAT IS  
INHIBITING  
YOU?**



**WHAT IS  
KEEPING YOU  
TEAM FROM  
PEAK  
PERFORMANCE?**



**WHAT'S  
HOLDING  
YOUR  
CHURCH  
BACK?**



**WHAT DOES A  
HEALTHY  
CHURCH  
LOOK LIKE?**

## 4 KEY FACTORS

- ▶ People toward and across the line of faith.
- ▶ Ongoing life change.
- ▶ Disciple making and church multiplication.
- ▶ Self-Sustaining (finances and people)



**“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together...”**

Acts 2:42-47

**“...and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts...”**

Acts 2:42-47



**“praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”**

Acts 2:42-47



**EVERY  
CHURCH AND  
EVERY LEADER  
HAS A LID(S).**

# LIDS OF CHURCH HEALTH

- ▶ Hinders ministry focus
- ▶ Shrinks leadership bandwidth
- ▶ Limits kingdom impact





# 7 S'S OF CHURCH HEALTH

# STAFF

- ▶ Defined: Paid or unpaid key leaders.
- ▶ Typical challenge: A church has the wrong people on the bus or they are in the wrong seat.
- ▶ Key question: Do you have the right people on the bus and are they in the right seat?

**Key Insight:** Once you get the right people in the right seats, leading, developing, discipling staff is job number one!

# STRUCTURE

- ▶ Defined: Who does what and when?
- ▶ Typical challenge: A church structure that prevents leader(s) from leading.
- ▶ Key question: What are the responsibilities, authorities, and accountabilities of the staff, leadership board, and the church?

## 3 APPROACHES TO PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

### ▶ Bureaucratic

Responsibility -  
Authority = “Safe”  
Structure, but Not  
Effective.





## 3 APPROACHES TO PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

### ▶ Accountable

Responsibility +  
Authority +  
Accountability =  
Safe and Effective  
Structure



## 3 APPROACHES TO PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

### ▶ Authoritarian

Responsibility +  
Authority =  
“Effective” Structure,  
but not Safe.



**Key Insight:** Install and use a structure that frees the pastors (staff) to lead, governing board provides accountability, and empowers everyone to use their gifts.

# STRATEGY

- ▶ Defined: Strategies define and detail how the mission, vision, and values are fulfilled.
- ▶ Typical challenge: Church lacks vision clarity and implementation plan for the strategy.
- ▶ Key question: Do we know why we exist and how we are going to accomplish that?

**Key Insight: When it comes to strategy, context is king.**

“Culture eats **vision** for  
breakfast.”

Peter Drucker



## Values

- ▶ What's most important to us?

## Narrative

- ▶ How we talk about it.

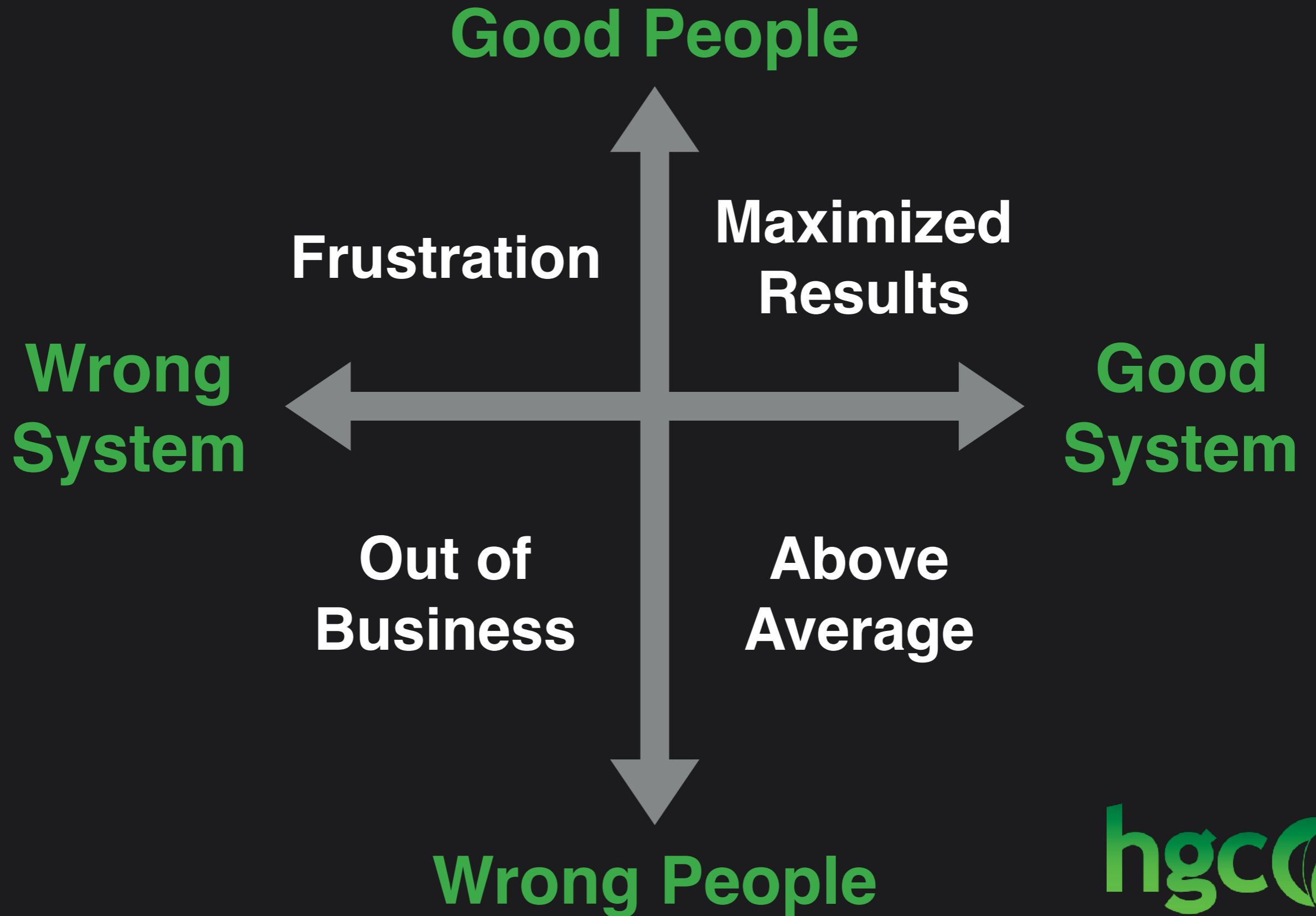
## Behaviors

- ▶ What we actually do.

# SYSTEMS

- ▶ Defined: Systems are inner workings of the strategy.
- ▶ Typical challenge: Pastor (staff) do too much instead of building a system that empowers others.
- ▶ Key question: Do we have the wrong strategy or lack systems?





**Key Insight: You do not have to do everything.**

# SPIRITUAL STATE

- ▶ Defined: The spiritual vitality or lack thereof.
- ▶ Typical challenge: Leadership allows spiritual sickness to go unaddressed.
- ▶ Key question: What is the current spiritual state of our church?

**Key Insight:** Nothing will derail church health faster than a spiritual sickness.

# SPIRITUAL STATE CONTINUUM

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**Trust**

**Distrust**

**Godliness**

**Sin** (Disobedience)

**Spirit**

**Pride**

**Empowered**

**Love**

**Disunity**

**Faith!**

**Scarcity  
Mentality**

# SPACE

- ▶ Defined: A churches use of space consistent with their mission and vision.
- ▶ Typical challenge: The church facility is not being leveraged to its maximum potential.
- ▶ Key question: Are we optimally using our space to fulfill our mission?

**Key Insight:** Space is not the reason churches grow, but it is often the reason some do not.

# STEWARDSHIP

- ▶ Defined: A spirit of generosity that invades and flows from everything a church is and does.
- ▶ Typical challenge: Pastors (church leaders) are hesitant to address the money issue.
- ▶ Key question: Is there a spirit of generosity in all areas of the church? If not then why not?



**Key Insight: Healthy stewardship in the church is about culture.**

**But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you[a]—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.**

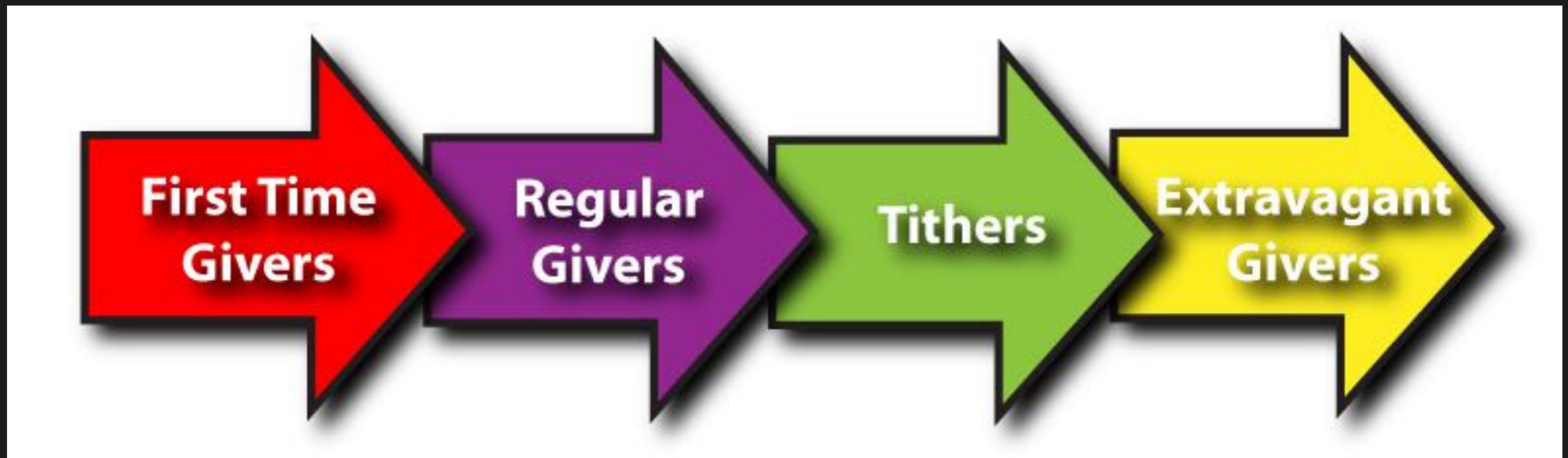
**2 Corinthians 8:7**

**Building a culture generosity in your church doesn't happen by accident—it takes effort, planning, and time.**

**The goal of building a culture of generosity is to increase the capacity of people to give, serve, and care.**

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# KEYS TO BUILDING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY

- ▶ Preach generosity of all resources.
- ▶ Train and send.
- ▶ Celebrate generosity.



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