

# THE MISSION OF GOD

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## Part 3: Our Future Ministry

### Two Questions as we develop a vision for the future

- How do we view the world around us?
- What is our relationship to this world?

#### 1. The World Around Us

- We have moved from a Churched to a Post-Churched Society

#### 2. Our Relationship to the World Today

- A Calling, not a Tragedy
- Called to be Priest to the Post-Churched Society

#### 3. What does this mean for our future ministry?

## Congregation Life Cycle

All congregations go through a life cycle: Birth, growth, decline, death.

### Where are we?

- What side of the life cycle we find ourselves depends on where we seat these four passengers in our “car.”
  - Vision
  - Relationships
  - Structure
  - Programs

Forward in Faith

April 1, 2007

**What it means:**

- Dying churches:
  - Structure in the drivers seat
  - Programs in the navigation seat
  - Relationships and vision in the back seat.
  
- Vibrant churches:
  - Relationships in the drivers seat
  - Vision as navigator
  - Structure and Programs in the back seat

**Asking the Right Question****Which question should we be asking?**

- How do we build our church?
- How do we change our community?

**Another way to put it:**

- Are we here for ourselves?
- Or are we here for those who aren't here yet?

**Both?**

- Who gets possession on a jump ball?
- Who gets the tie?

**Where is God calling us?**

- † In a Post-Churched Society
  
- † Called to be priests
  
- † To change the community for Christ