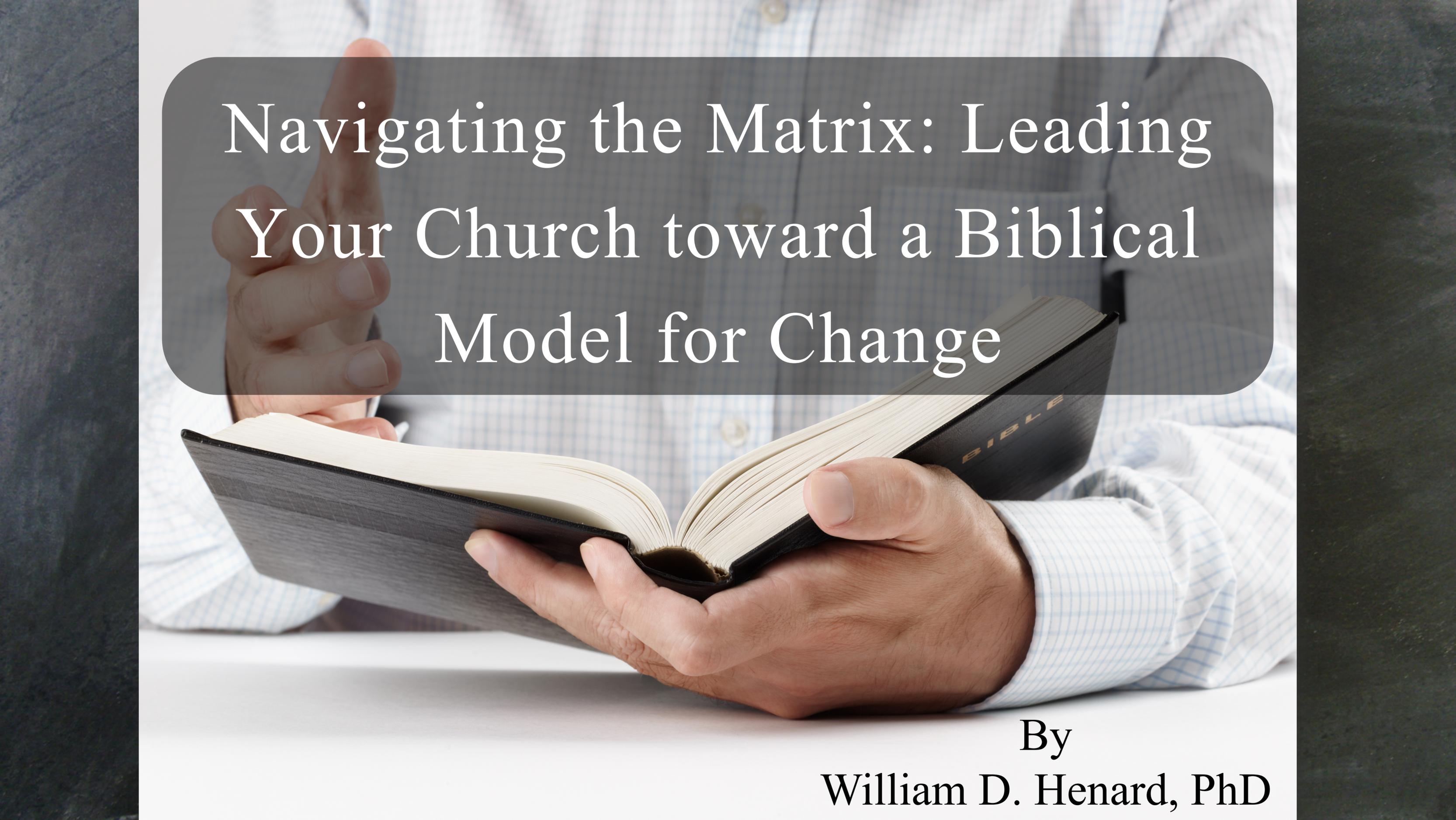




Bill Henard

Professor of Evangelism and
Church Revitalization, SBTS,
and Executive Director-
Treasurer, West Virginia
Convention of Southern Baptists

A person wearing a light blue and white checkered button-down shirt is holding an open black Bible. The person's hands are visible, and the Bible is held open, showing its pages. The background is a plain, light-colored surface. The text is overlaid on a dark, semi-transparent rounded rectangle in the upper half of the image.

Navigating the Matrix: Leading Your Church toward a Biblical Model for Change

By
William D. Henard, PhD

Thoughts on Transitioning Beyond Church Traditions

Why a biblical model is needed:

1. Fear of becoming Pragmatic
2. Charge of being Worldly
3. Connection with the Spiritual
4. Difficulty of Change
 - ▶ Don't attack friends of the family
 - ▶ Don't "tear down the Bear's tower"
 - ▶ Know which hills you should die on

Thoughts on Transitioning

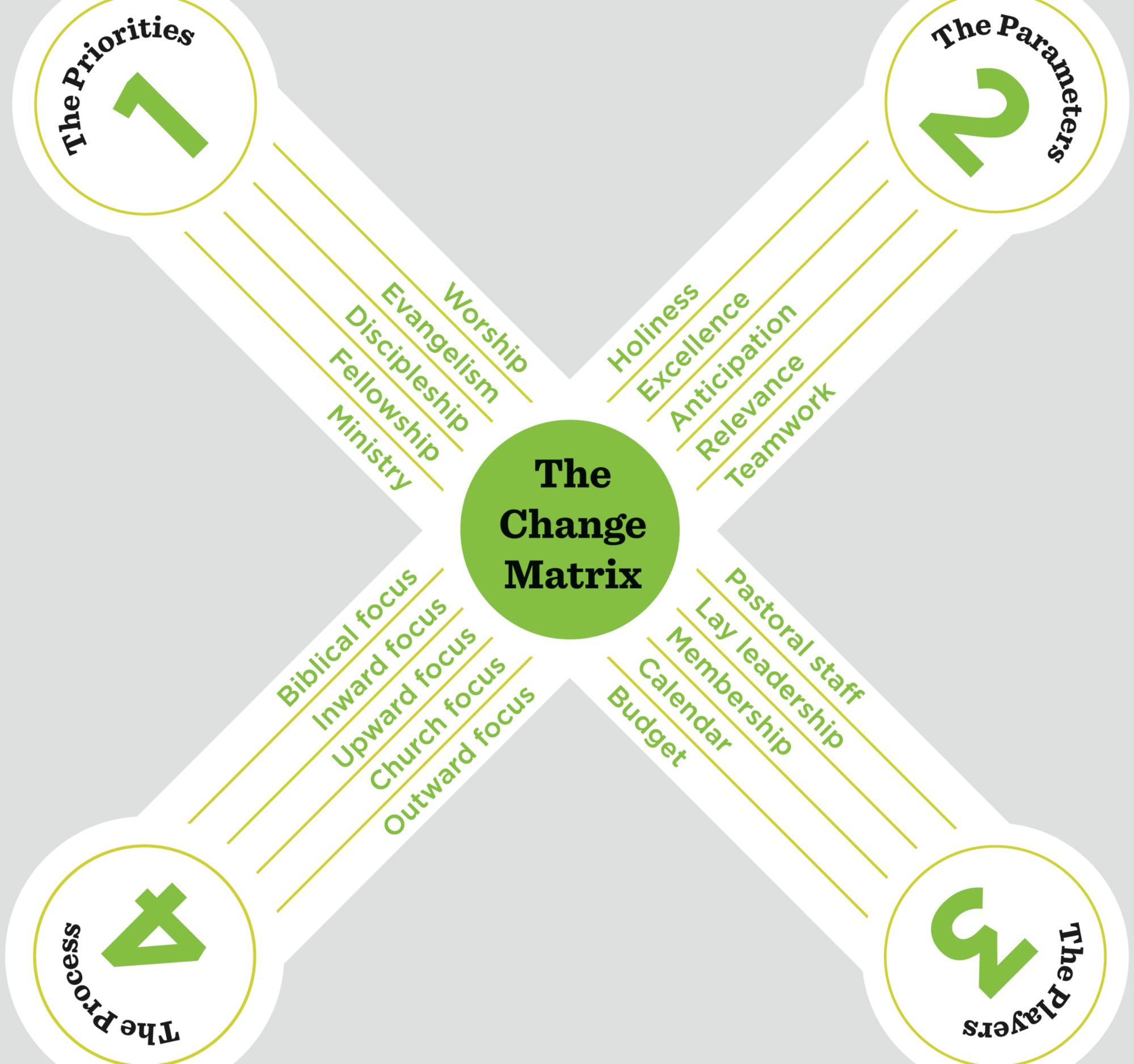
1. There are no real alternatives!

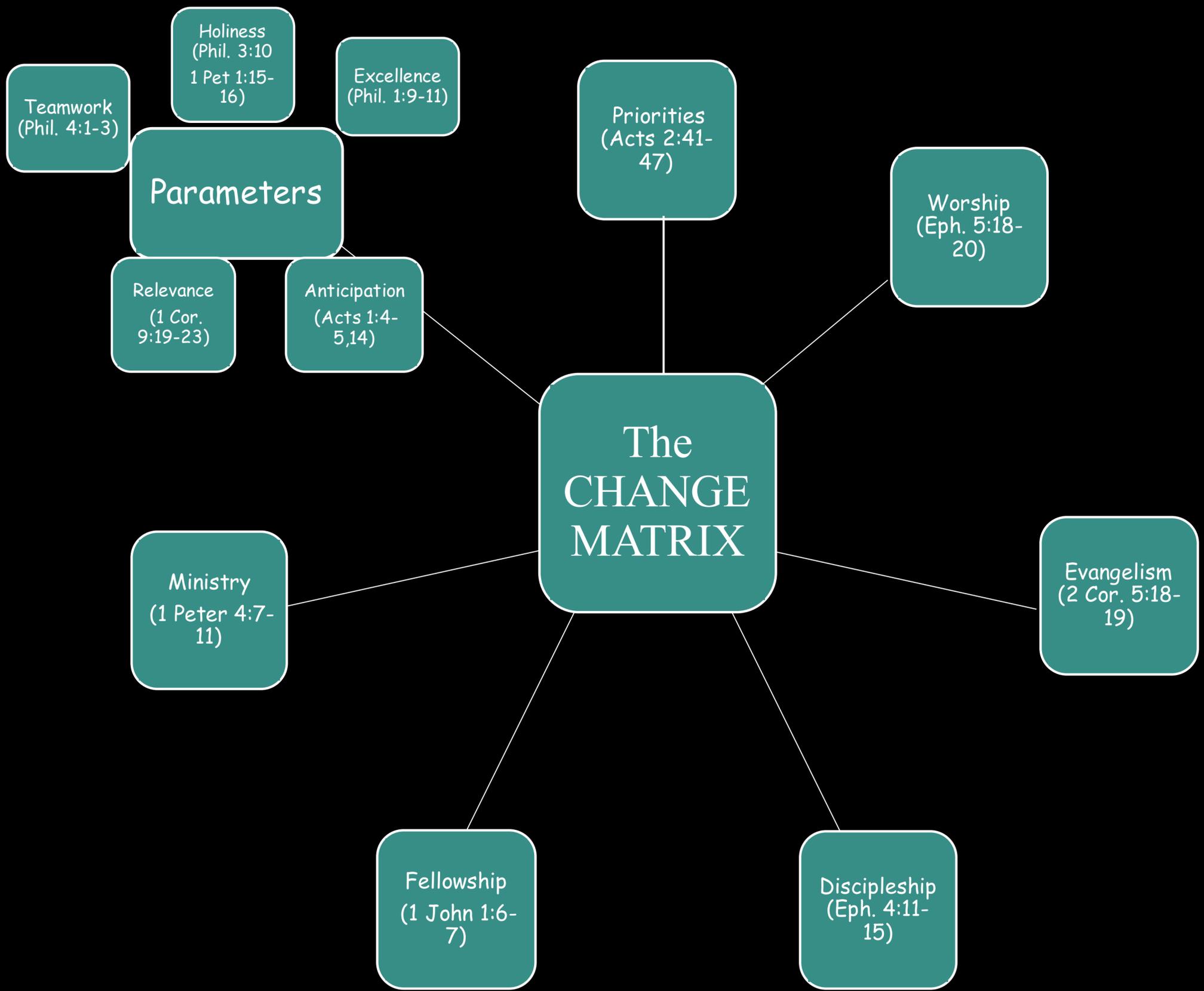
▶ Change or die!

2. There's no blueprint!

▶ Plethora of books on leading church from traditional to contemporary model

▶ Nothing on leading church from contemporary or seeker model to a biblical model





What Relevance Is

1. To be culturally relevant is to take the unchanging Gospel into ever-changing cultures.

2. We do that by:

▶ listening to and understanding the culture

▶ learning to speak their language

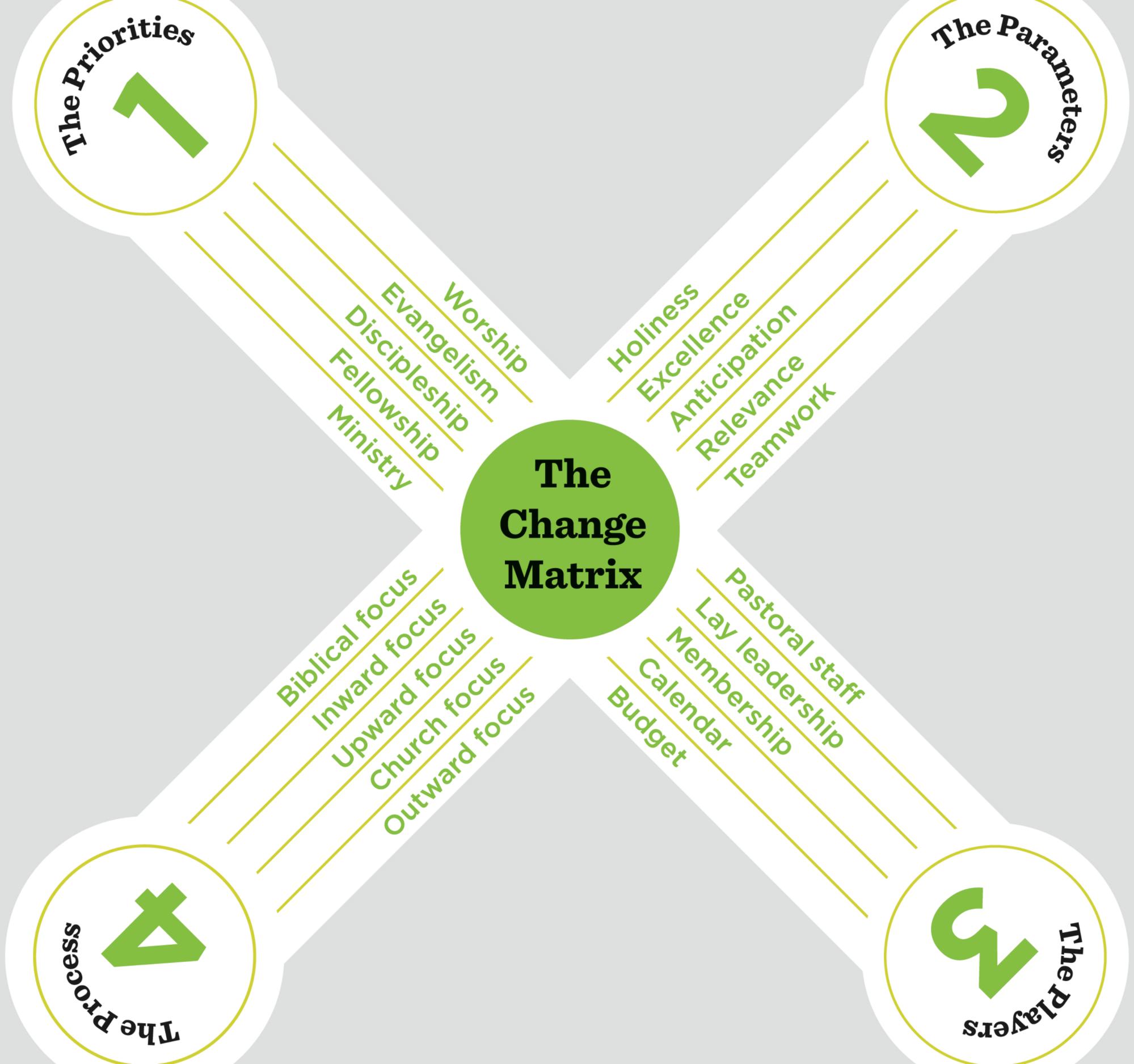
▶ Connecting the Gospel to the idols of the culture

▶ Showing the beauty and supremacy of Jesus

What Relevance Is Not

1. We focus on personal or social transformation and not Gospel transformation.
2. Our sermons are so practical that they lack a Gospel priority.
3. Our outreach demeans others who preach the Gospel.
4. Personal evangelism is an oxymoron at our churches.

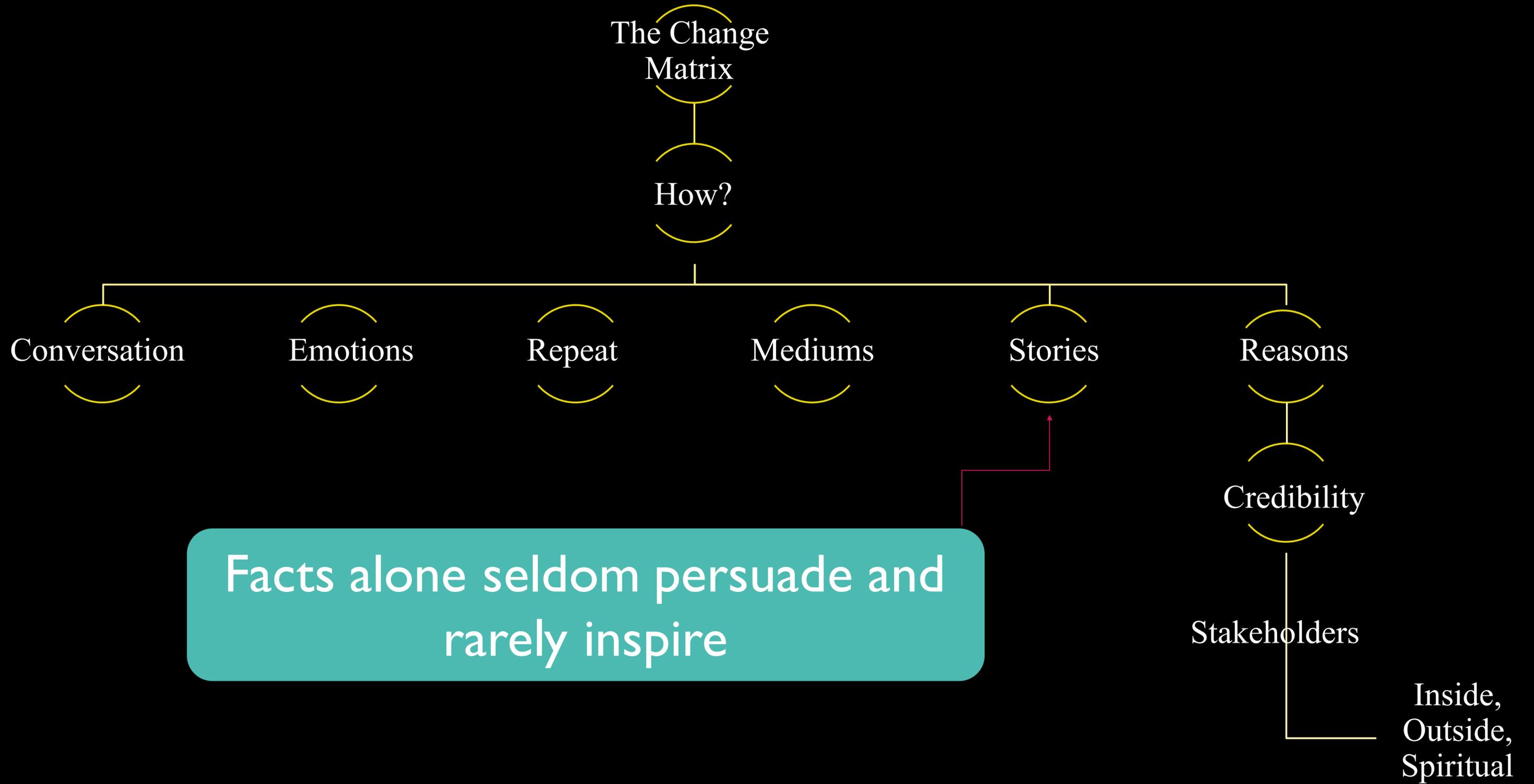
5. Attendance is celebrated more than conversions and discipleship.
6. Not offending seekers is often more important than telling the Gospel.

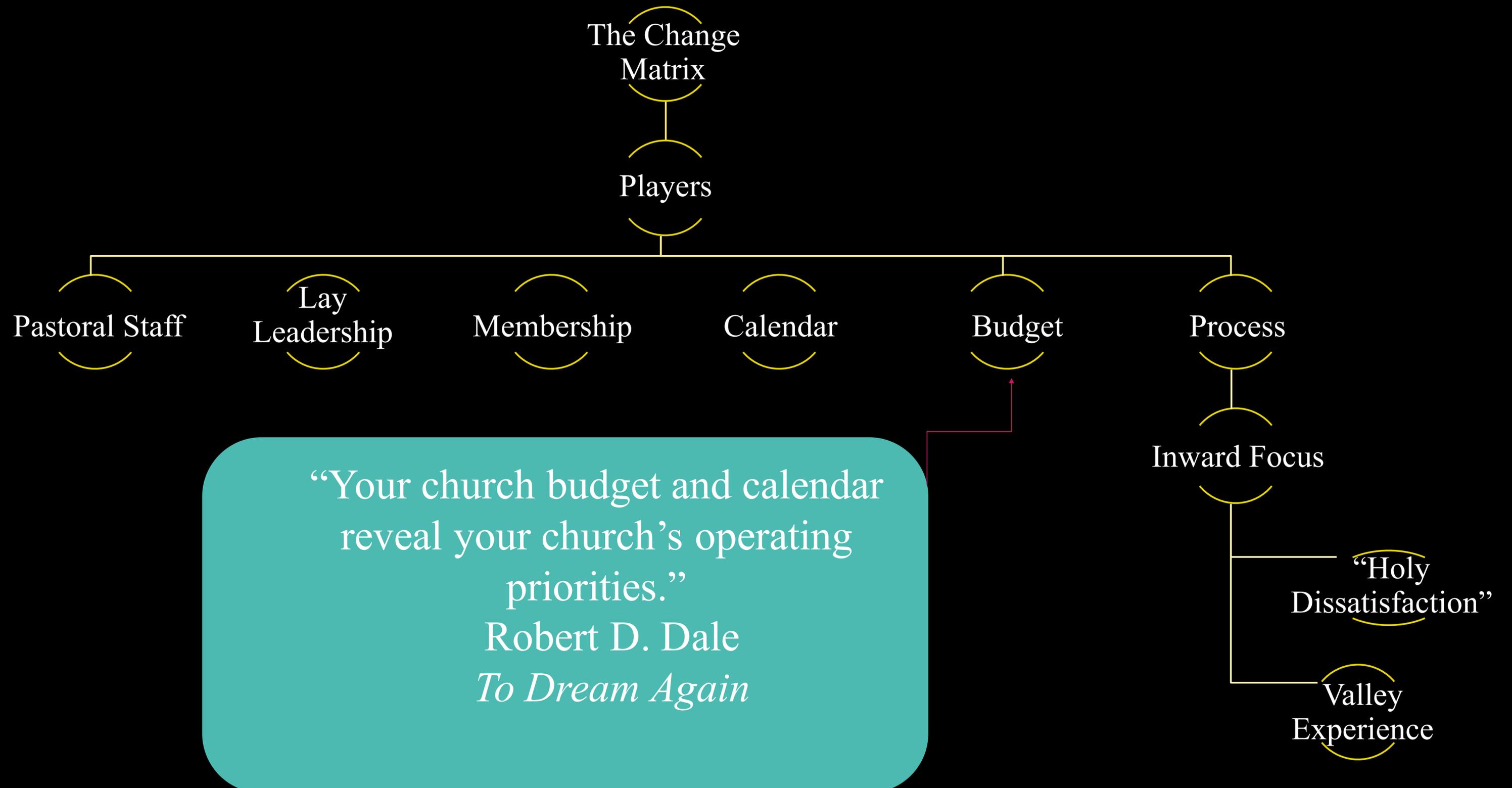


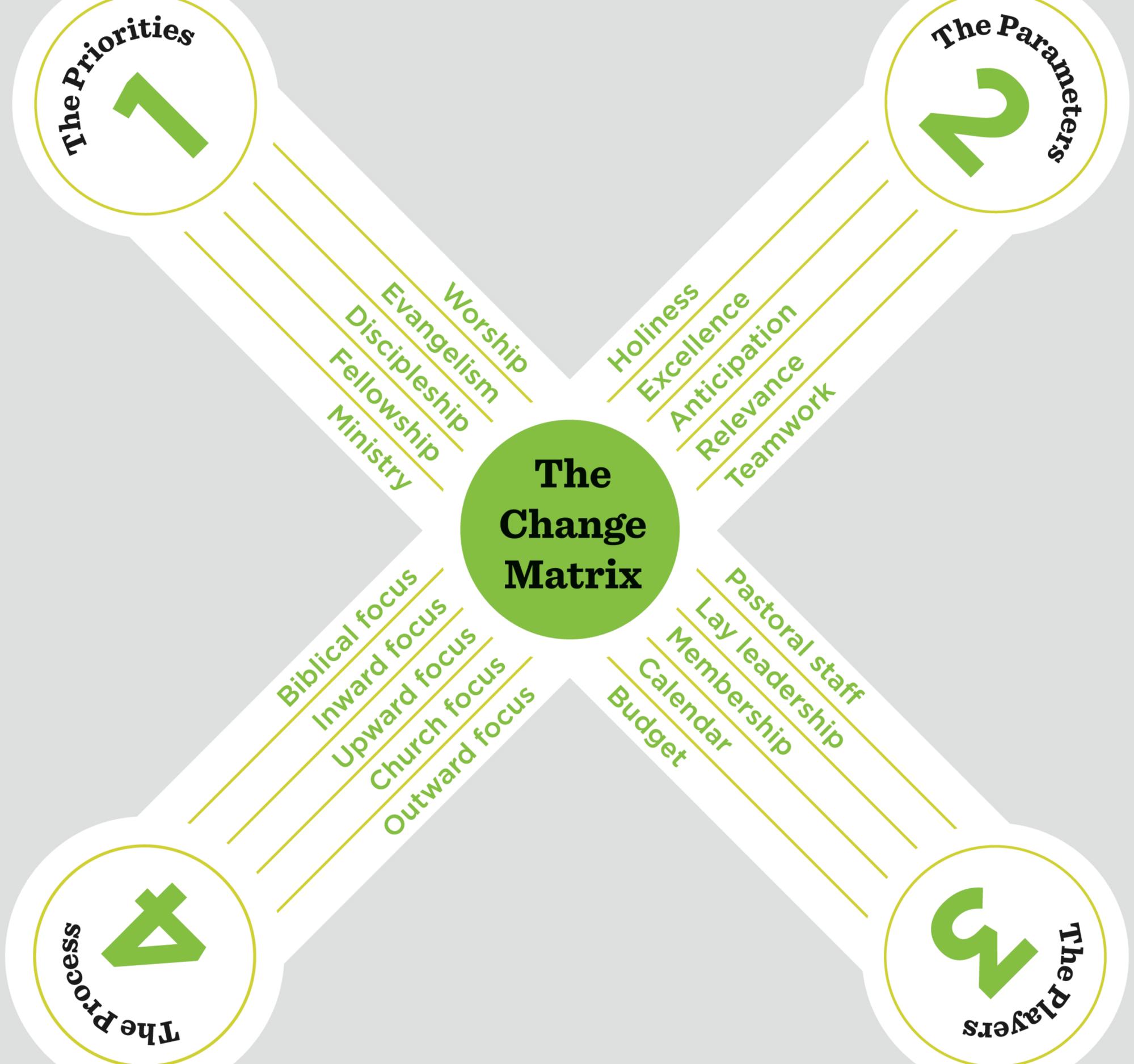
Vision Statement

Drawn from our priorities and parameters:

1. To worship God
2. To globally lead people to faith in Christ
3. To grow together to be like him







A Biblical Process for Developing a Holy Dissatisfaction

John Piper

1. “Grow in grace.” “But he gives more grace.” (2 Peter 3:18; James 4:6)
2. “We pray for you that you...increase in the knowledge of God.”
“Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” (Colossians 1:10; 2 Peter 3:18)

3. “Increase our faith!” “We give thanks because your faith is growing abundantly.” (Luke 17:5; 2 Thessalonians 1:3; 2 Corinthians 10:15)
4. “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.” (Romans 15:13)
5. “As you learned from us how you ought to...please God...do so more and more.” (1 Thessalonians 4:1)

6. “And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being changed into his likeness from one degree of glory to another.” (2 Corinthians 3:18)
7. “Let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.” (2 Corinthians 7:1)
8. [God] will cause the fruits of your righteousness to grow.” “Unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.” (2 Corinthians 9:10; Matthew 5:20)

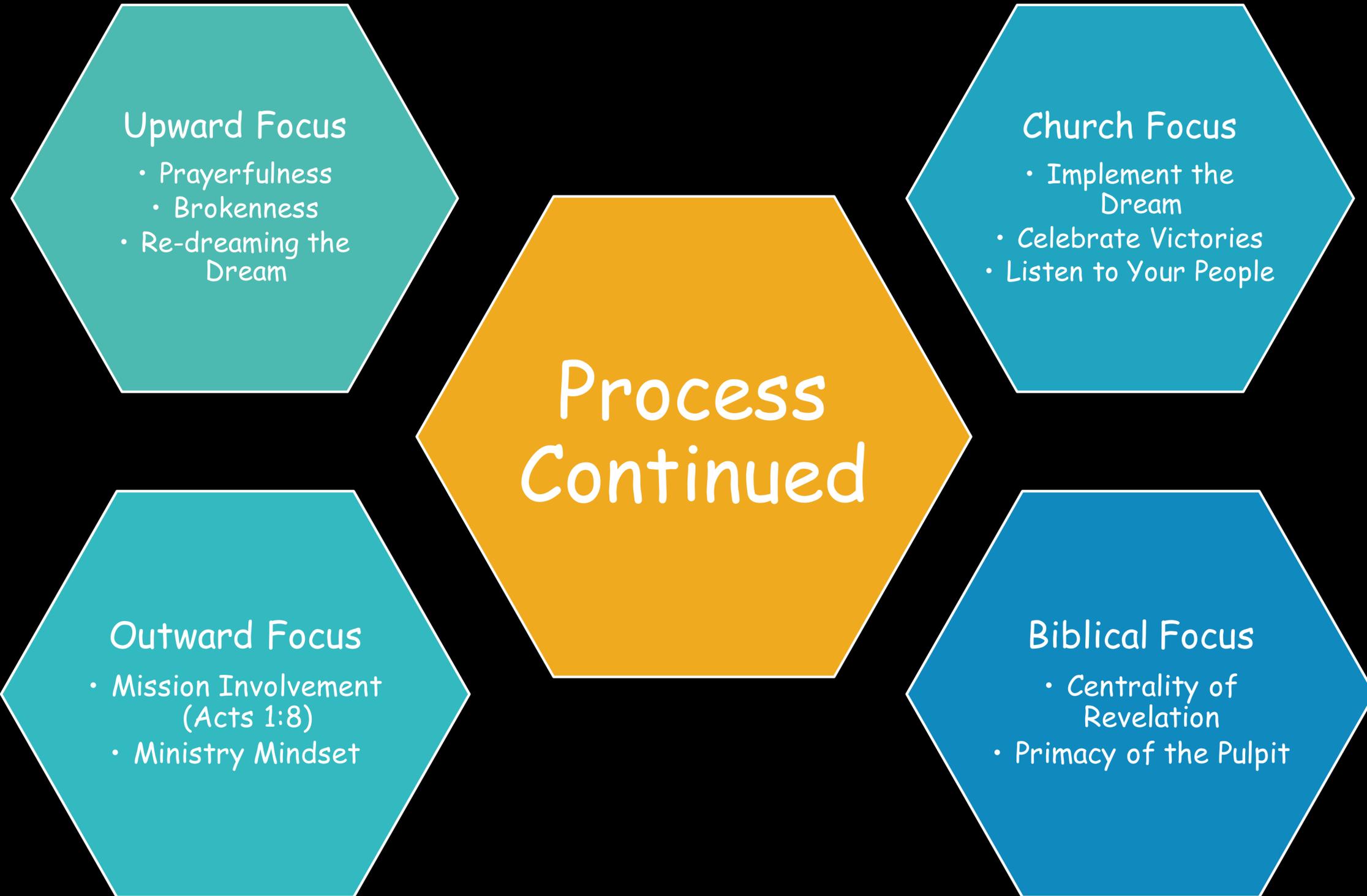
9. “May the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love to one another and to all men.” (1 Thessalonians 3:12; 4:10; 2 Thessalonians 1:3; Philippians 1:9)
10. “Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.” (1 Corinthians 15:18; 2 Corinthians 9:8)
11. “Be filled with the Spirit.” (Ephesians 5:18)
12. “I [pray] that you might be filled with all the fullness of God.” (Ephesians 3:19)
13. “The word of God grew and multiplied.” (Acts 12:24; 6:7)

14. “The number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem.” “I have made myself a slave to all, that I might win the more people.” (Acts 6:7; 16:5)
15. “Since you are eager for manifestations of the Spirit, strive to excel in building up the church.” (1 Corinthians 4:12)
16. “As you received Christ Jesus the Lord so live in him...abounding in thanksgiving.” “Always and for everything give thanks.” (Colossians 2:7; Ephesians 5:20; 2 Corinthians 4:15)

17. “Speaking the truth
in love, we are to
grow up in every
way unto him
who is the
head.” (Ephesians
4:15)



18. “You shall
be perfect as your
heavenly Father is
perfect.” (Matthew
5:48; Philippians 3:12)



Upward Focus

- Prayerfulness
- Brokenness
- Re-dreaming the Dream

Church Focus

- Implement the Dream
- Celebrate Victories
- Listen to Your People

Process Continued

Outward Focus

- Mission Involvement (Acts 1:8)
- Ministry Mindset

Biblical Focus

- Centrality of Revelation
- Primacy of the Pulpit