


our response to Christ begins the dance

BELIEF REPENTANCE BAPTISM

Response

lisan levi

A church designer must be the catalyst for movement. He has been called by God to be the first follower. This is the beginning of a designer's posture. His actions and beliefs will be multiplied into others and how he responds will be how others respond—creating a culture of response.



Training Video 1

*"Our response to Christ is the catalyst
for Missionality to begin."*

For the purposes of these exercises I will come under no assumptions. You have discovered this material because you may be interested in faith community design, faith community design resources, faith community design organizations, or you saw something you wanted to check it out. Whatever the reason, you are here, and as you flip the pages of this workbook you will discover a way to design faith communities in a way that attempts to produce sustainability and growth. Work through each exercise either in the dynamic online version or in hardcopy form. By the end of your work you will have produced the beginning elements ready for contextualization in the community you desire to begin the journey of faith community design.





RESPONSE: the reply to stimulus



God inspired the authors of the Bible by his Spirit to speak to everyone about who He is, what He has done, and what He is doing. God calls us to immerse ourselves in this narrative to learn about Him and find ourselves within His story today. God tells us that He created everything that you see and explains to us that He is in relationship with himself as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God created us as reflections to live in relationship with Him, one another, ourselves, and creation. These relationships were fractured when mankind decided to go their own way and not follow God's heart and desire for life. In response, God did not abandon the world, he promised to restore his creation and mankind to wholeness. He fulfilled this promise through Jesus who was born, lived a life, and overcame death all in a miraculous way. Through a virgin birth, death at the hands of mankind, resurrection, and ascension into heaven we now have hope. Jesus promised to be with us forever through His Spirit. We are told to respond to this great news through believing in Jesus, by following God's desires again, and to be dunked in water as a dramatic entry into His unfolding narrative. The Spirit affirms who we are, gives us a new life, empowers us to be co-creators with God, and delivers us from any separation from God. We are told that we find ourselves in this story through the church. The church is a gathering of people that desire to impact lives and reach the world with this incredible promise of Jesus. Our mission is to make followers of Jesus that are missionally and relationally active with our communities. Any gathering of the church is to make intentional relationships that lead to a greater understanding and expression of God; and a place of celebration, devotion to God's teaching, and communion until Jesus' promise of return is fulfilled. One day He will come back for us all and recreate everything. Our relationships with all of creation will be whole and that is hope. That makes life worth living and a story worth being a part of.

Before response is discussed one must discuss the stimulus. Write out God's narrative below. Use the example to the left as a framework.

God's Narrative:

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Responses are the catalyst for missionality. A designer must help people respond to Christ in a Biblical fashion. Below is a study of the responses connected to salvation. Walk through these verses and on the next page articulate your belief on non-negotiable issues.

Believe:

Mark 1:12; Mark 16:16; Luke 8:12; John 1:12; John 8:24; John 11:26; Acts 13:39;
Acts 16:31; Romans 3:22; Romans 4:24; Romans 10:9; I Corinthians 1:21;
Galatians 3:22; I Timothy 1:16; I Timothy 4:10; Hebrews 11:6; I John 5:13

Repentance:

Mark 1:15; Luke 13:3,5; Luke 24:47; Acts 2:38; Acts 3:19; Acts 11:18; Acts 17:30;
II Corinthians 7:10

Baptism:

Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12; I Peter 3:21

Reflection: How do these Scriptures make you feel about your own response to God?



Communicating the non-negotiables:

In the space below write out a brief statement of how you would communicate your belief about negotiable items (i.e. miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit, modes of communion, women in ministry) verses non-negotiable issues (i.e. belief, repentance, baptism, salvation, etc.)

Negotiable:

Negotiable: Opinions that one can hold differently and still have a voice in your faith community, even if they hold no place in corporate worship (i.e. end times beliefs, gifts of the spirit). What are the negotiable teachings in your faith community?

Non-Negotiable: The teachings that all must adhere to have a voice in your faith community (i.e. Jesus, trinity, bible). What are the non-negotiable teachings in your faith community?

Non-Negotiable: