



Strategic Planning & SWOT Open Forum

Bill Marianes

www.stewardshipcalling.com

billmarianes@gmail.com



Let's Set the Stage of the Saints Raphael, Nicholas & Irene Strategic Planning Process

Tonight's Objectives

- 1. Learn more about our Strategic Planning process**
- 2. Identify your suggested Parish Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats**



Download This Presentation:

Stewardship Calling

What are you doing with all of the gifts God has given you?

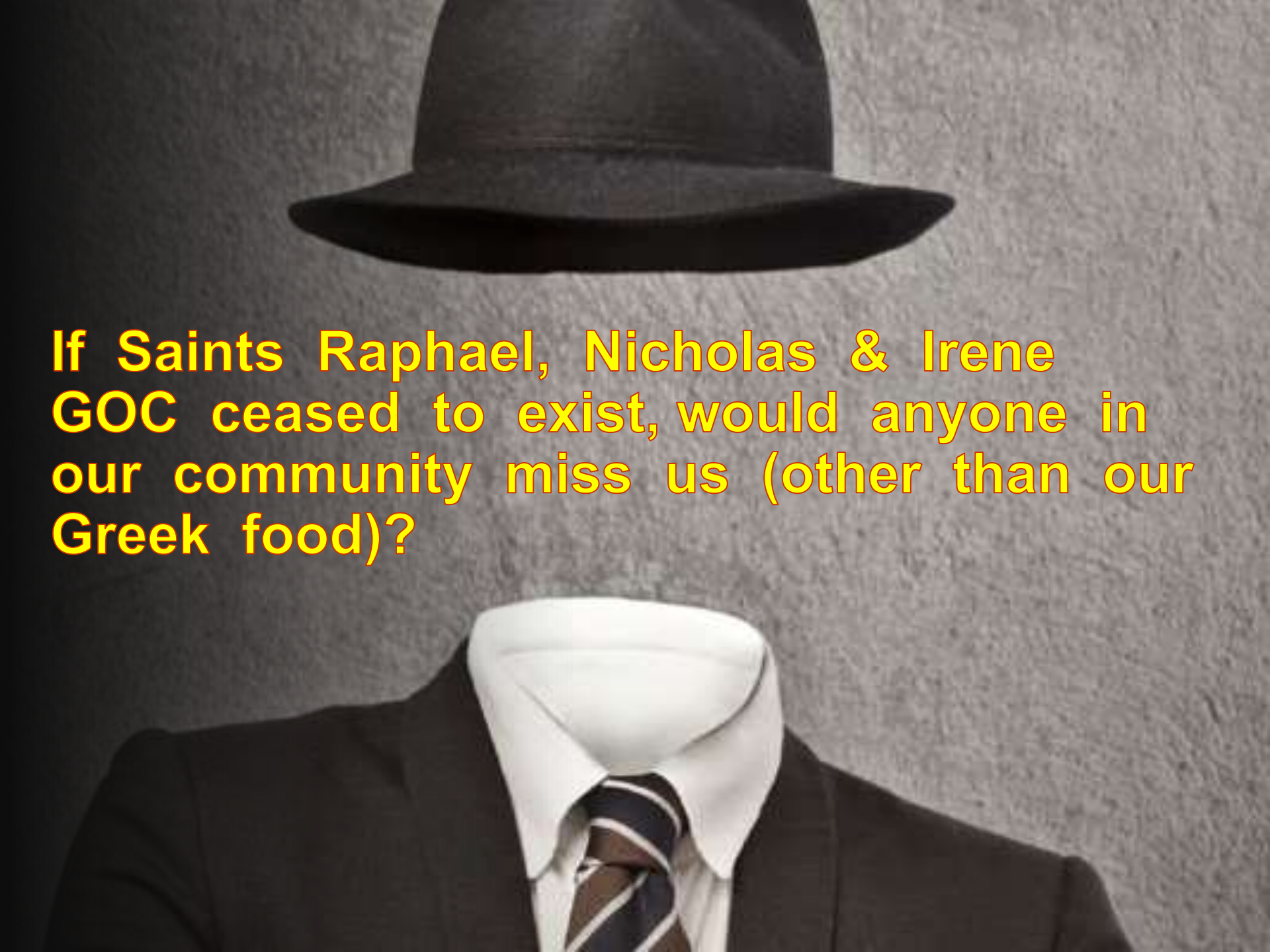
[StewardshipCalling.com](https://stewardshipcalling.com)

[Strategic Planning Tab](#)

[Saints Raphael
Nichols & Irene Page](#)

<https://stewardshipcalling.com/saints-raphael-nicholas-irene-cumming-ga/>

The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu with the following items: WHY?, STEWARDSHIP, STRATEGIC PLANNING, INTRODUCE PARISH & PAROCHETS, ACCOUNTS & LEADERSHIP, and RESOURCES. The 'STRATEGIC PLANNING' tab is selected, displaying a list of parish strategic plans: BOSTON METROPOLIS - THRIVING CONGREGATIONS TRAINING PROGRAMS ON PARISH STRATEGIC PLANNING; SAMPLE S.M.A.R.T GOAL & ACTION PLANS; METROPOLIS OF BOSTON - FOUR PARISH STRATEGIC PLAN; WARREN, OH - ST DEMETRIOS STRATEGIC PLAN; SAINTS RAPHAEL, NICHOLAS & IRENE - CUMMING, GA; CHRIST THE SAVIOUR - HARRISBURG, PA; HOLY TRINITY GOC - GRAND RAPIDS, MI; HOLY TRINITY - INDIANAPOLIS - STRATEGIC PLAN; and ST. NICHOLAS - GRAND RAPIDS, MI STRATEGIC PLAN. A large group photo of a parish is shown with a 'Welcome!' sign. Below the menu, the 'Saints Raphael, Nichols & Irene' page is partially visible, starting with 'By the grace of God... GA. is undertaking... incredible work is... dedicated team of... Strategic Planning...'. At the bottom, there are social sharing options for Email, Print, Facebook, and Twitter.

A black fedora hat is suspended in the air above a mannequin torso. The mannequin is wearing a dark suit jacket, a white dress shirt, and a striped tie. The background is a textured, light-colored wall.

**If Saints Raphael, Nicholas & Irene
GOC ceased to exist, would anyone in
our community miss us (other than our
Greek food)?**

A large, leafy tree dominates the center of the image. In the background, a park setting is visible with a blue canopy, a red car, and other trees. In the foreground, a person is sitting in a green folding chair in the shade of the tree, reading a book. The scene is bright and sunny, with shadows cast on the grass.

“A society grows great when old men and women plant trees in whose shade they shall never sit.”

Greek Proverb

**“We make a living
by what we get.**

**We make a life by
what we give.”**


Sir Winston Churchill





“For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.”

(Luke 12:48)

The background features a large, dark, and somewhat menacing figure, possibly a giant or a creature, partially obscured by shadows. The figure has a large, dark eye and a wide, toothy mouth. The scene is set in a dark, possibly outdoor environment with some foliage visible. In the foreground, there are several glowing blue spheres of varying sizes, some of which appear to be floating or moving. The overall mood is mysterious and slightly ominous.

What would you do if you weren't afraid?

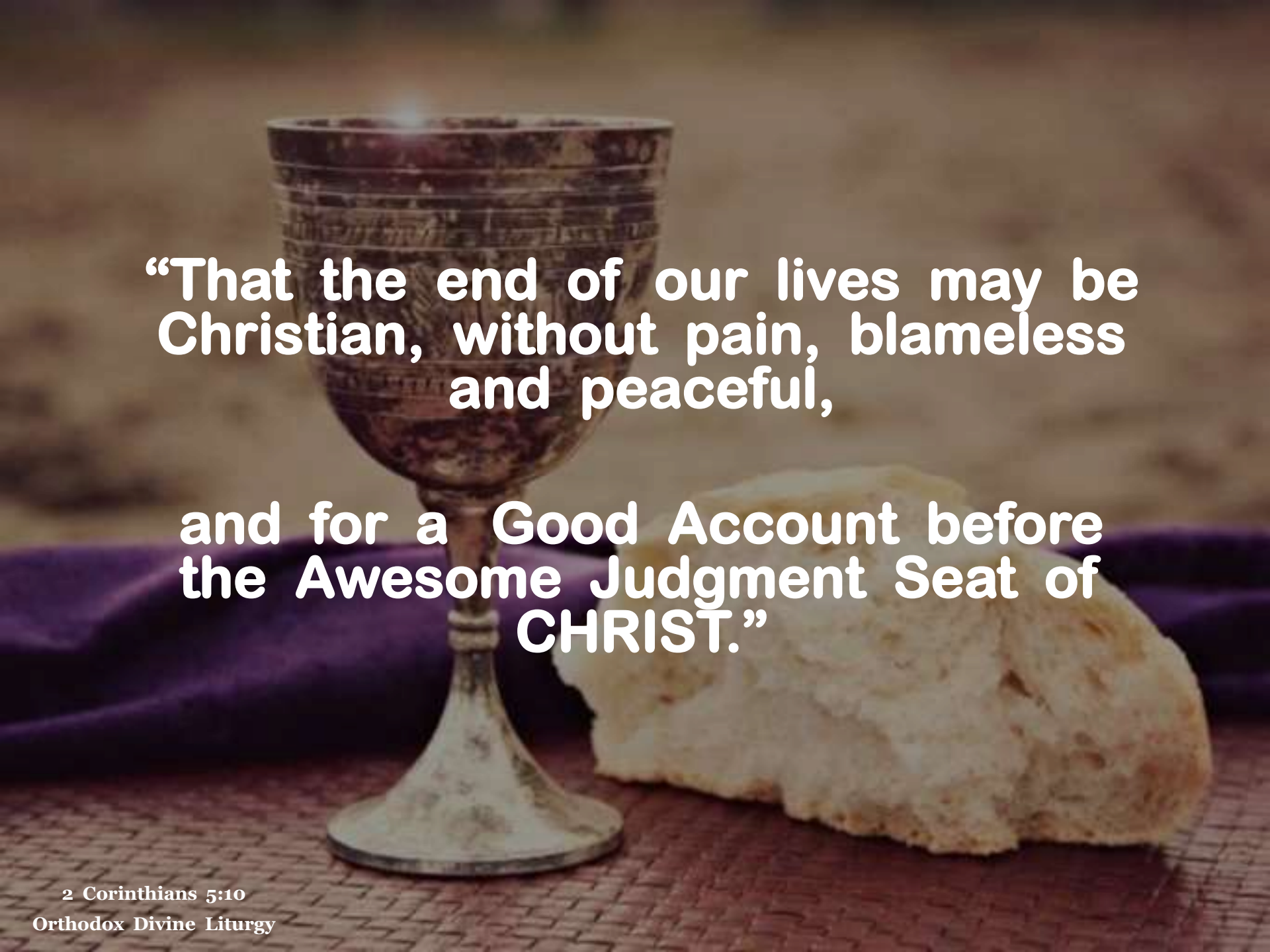
Fortune Favors The Bold...

Now, Lord, look on their threats,
and grant to Your servants that
with all boldness they may speak
Your word!



WHY Are You Here?

**The most critical question
each person, parish and
ministry must answer.**

A photograph of a chalice and a piece of bread. The chalice is a dark, ornate cup with a stem and a base, resting on a purple cloth. To its right is a large, irregular piece of white bread. The background is a textured, reddish-brown surface.

**“That the end of our lives may be
Christian, without pain, blameless
and peaceful,**

**and for a Good Account before
the Awesome Judgment Seat of
CHRIST.”**

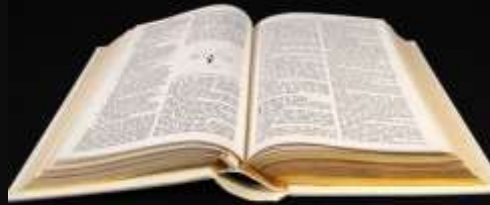
**Christ's
possible
very
difficult
question to
you**

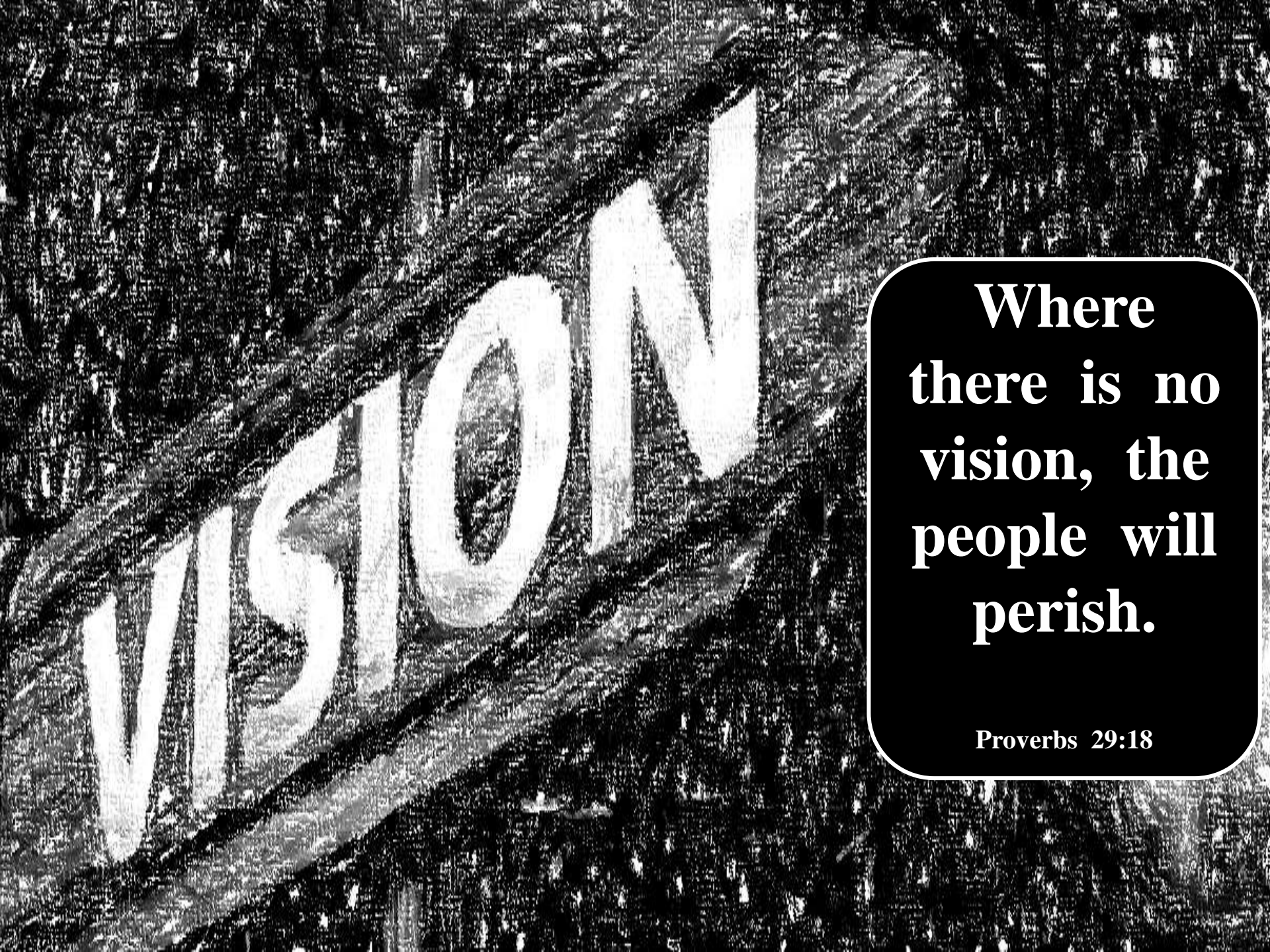




**What did you do,
for My church and My people,
under your watch,
given all of the gifts I gave you?**

Strategic Planning is Biblical





**Where
there is no
vision, the
people will
perish.**

Proverbs 29:18

Church Strategic Planning is:



A process to help manage the “busyness” of our Parish without turning our Parish into a “business.”

Strategic Planning is a process to define our strategy to allocate our resources to achieve our vision as we answer 4 questions:

- 1. Why do we exist?**
- 2. Where are we now?**
- 3. Where do we want to be?**
- 4. How will we get there?**



The 4 P's of Strategic Planning

The 4 P's

1. **Process** - comprehensive and methodical strategic planning process and schedule
2. **People** - Parish community that provides input and is engaged while several diverse and efficient smaller teams develop and implement the process and plan
3. **Plan** - Strategic Plan that addresses the most critical root cause issues and needs through a step-by-step implementation action plan and timeline
4. **Performance** - methodically implement the Strategic Plan through a well-managed, transparent, accountable, and publicized process

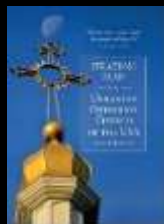
The Stewardship Calling Process has been used to complete Strategic Plans covering over **26%** of Orthodox Christians



**GOA
Metropolis
of San
Francisco**



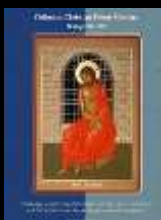
**GOA
Metropolis
of Atlanta**



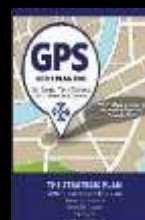
**Ukrainian
Orthodox
Church of
the USA**



**GOA
Metropolis
of
Chicago**



**Orthodox
Christian
Prison
Ministry**



**St. John The Divine (Jacksonville FL)
St. Mary (Wichita, KS)
St. John The Baptist (Beaverton, OR)
St. Nicholas (Ann Arbor, MI)
Sts. Mark, Mary, Philopater (Troy, MI)
Annunciation Cathedral (Atlanta, GA)
St. Nicholas (Grand Rapids, MI)**



Recently Completed Strategic Plans:

**OCA Diocese of New England
OCA Diocese of Midwest
St. Demetrios (Saginaw, MI)
Holy Trinity (Indianapolis, IN)
Christ the Saviour (Harrisburg, PA)
Holy Trinity (Grand Rapids, MI)**

Additional Strategic Plans In Progress:

**Holy Trinity (Concord, NH)
St. Nicholas (Lexington, MA)
Metropolis of Boston – (6-part parish training program and multi parish strategic planning retreats)
St. Demetrios (Warren, OH)
St. Sophia (Miami, FL)
Saints Raphael, Nicholas & Irene (Cumming, GA)
St. Luke (E. Longmeadow, MA)
Dormition of the Theotokos Luke (Somerville, MA)
St. Sophia (San Antonio, TX)
St. Raphael (Iowa City, IA)
Malankara Indian Orthodox Diocese of New Jersey**



10 Stewardship Calling Strategic Plan Elements



1. **SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threats)**
2. **Statement of Why**
3. **Core Values**
4. **Mission Statement**
5. **Vision Statement**
6. **Strategic S.M.A.R.T. Goals**
7. **Interim Goals & Interim Actions**
8. **Accountability Scoreboard**
9. **Cadence of Accountability**
10. **Strategic Plan**



It Takes 3 Teams



Community

Community-wide input throughout the entire process



Strategic Planning Team

Diverse, representative smaller cross-section of parishioners who analyze the data and help draft the Strategic Plan



Implementation Team

A large, diverse group of parishioners who implement all the Strategic Goals and Action Plans and are accountable to the entire Parish community

*So we, being many,
are one body in
Christ,*

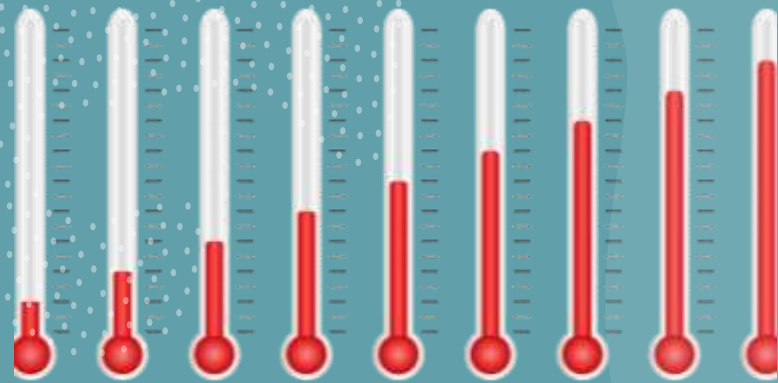
*and every one
members one of
another.*

Romans 12:5

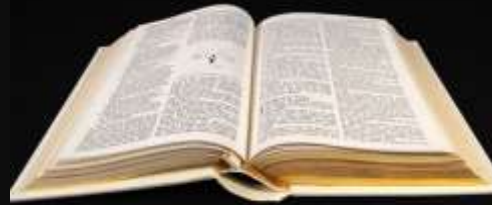


Fundamental Rule

“You cannot master what you do not measure.”



A S.W.O.T. Analysis is Biblical



S.W.O.T.
Strengths
Weaknesses
Opportunities
Threats

2 Corinthians 13:5

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{5}y - \frac{2}{3}x - \frac{2}{3}y + \frac{1}{2}x \\ &= \frac{3 \cdot 1}{3 \cdot 5}y - \frac{5 \cdot 2}{5 \cdot 3}y - \frac{2 \cdot 2}{2 \cdot 3}x + \frac{3 \cdot 1}{3 \cdot 2}x \\ &= \frac{3}{15}y - \frac{10}{15}y - \frac{4}{6}x + \frac{3}{6}x \\ &= \frac{-7}{15}y - \frac{1}{6}x \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

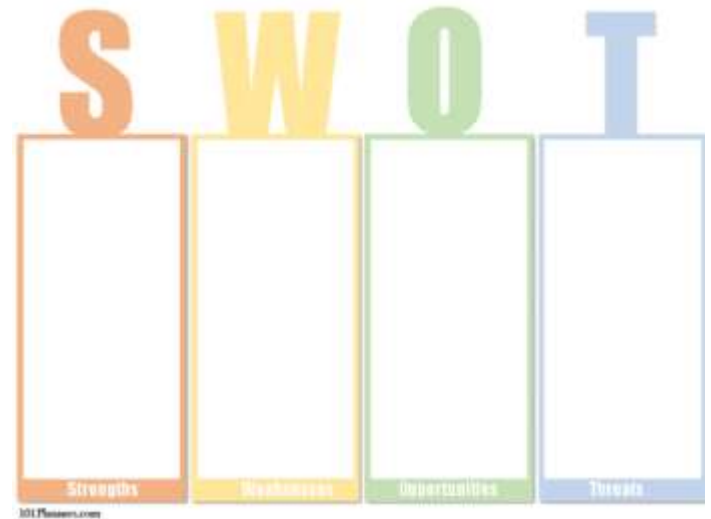
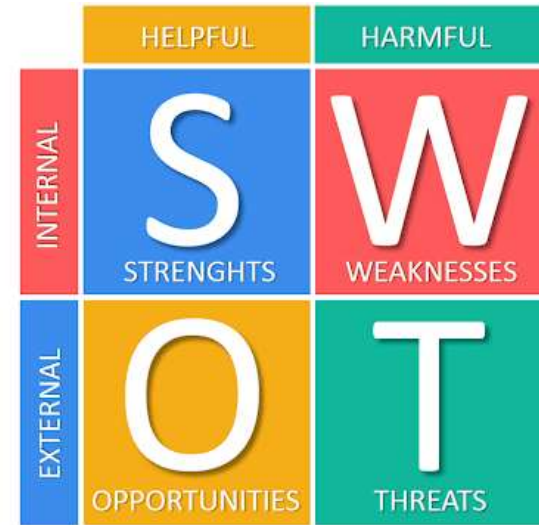
**“Examine
yourselves as
to whether you
are in the
faith.**

**Test
yourselves!”**

Answers strategic planning question #2: Where are we now?

First focus on INTERNAL Parish Strengths and Weaknesses

Second focus on EXTERNAL Opportunities and Threats that our Parish faces

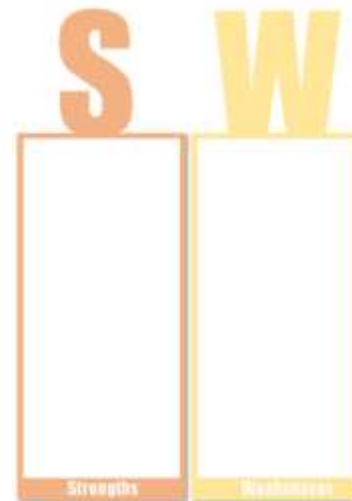


Strengths & Weaknesses



Strengths things we do well and characteristics that give us advantages

Weaknesses things we do poorly or internal challenges that place us at a disadvantage



Opportunities & Threats

Opportunities include external things outside of our control that could help us

Threats include external things outside of our control that could cause trouble for us

HELPFUL HARMFUL

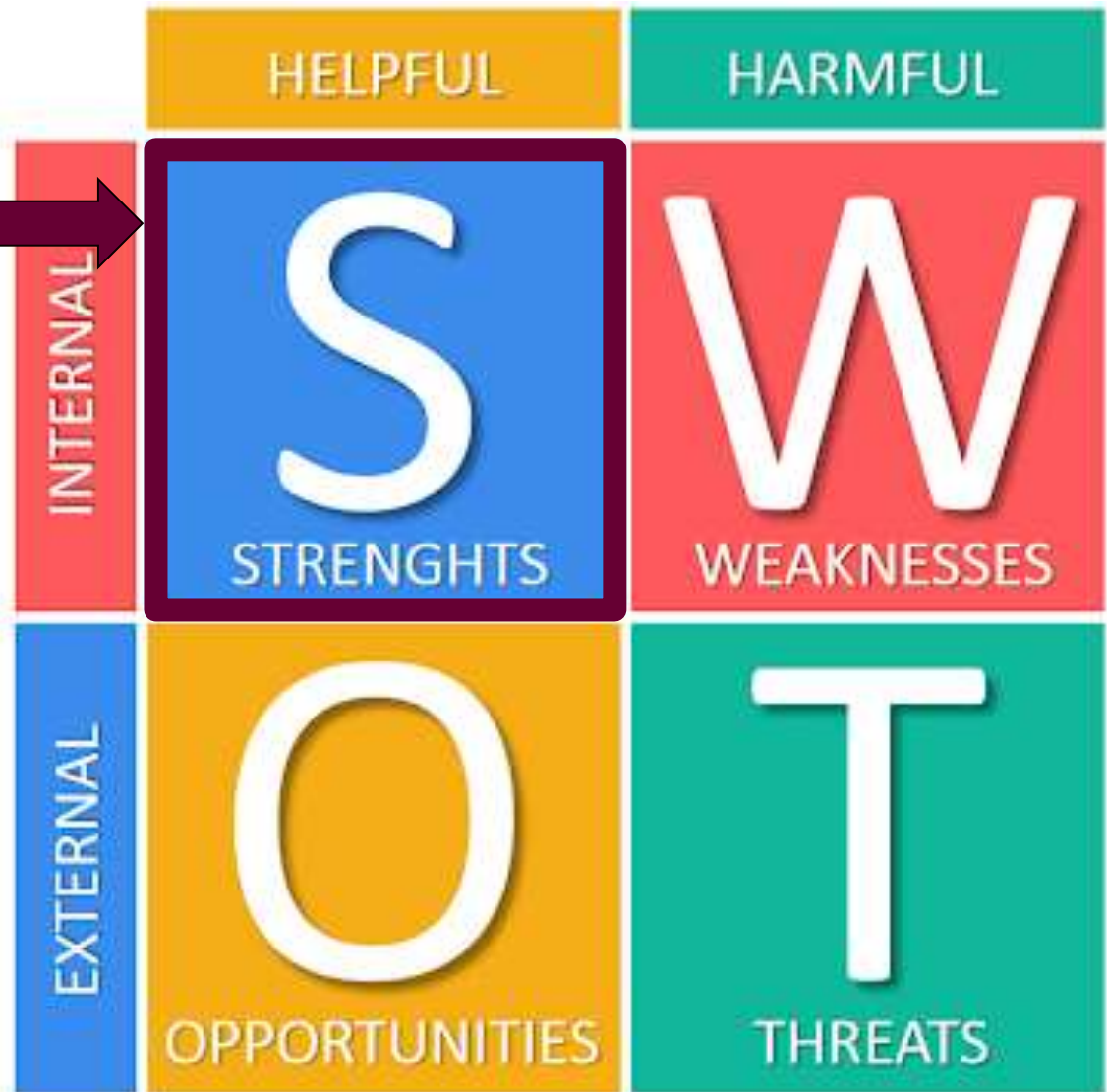


Tonight's Process

1. We'll discuss Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threats one at a time
2. Please speak only once on each topic; however, we welcome your suggestions on each S.W.O.T. category
3. We will NOT discuss/debate in this forum since we are merely trying to gather your input and suggestions
4. Please be as succinct as possible in what you say as you identify your key point(s)
5. We will include all comments in the final S.W.O.T. analysis
6. Remember, that Opportunities and Threats must be EXTERNAL to our Parish



STRENGTHS

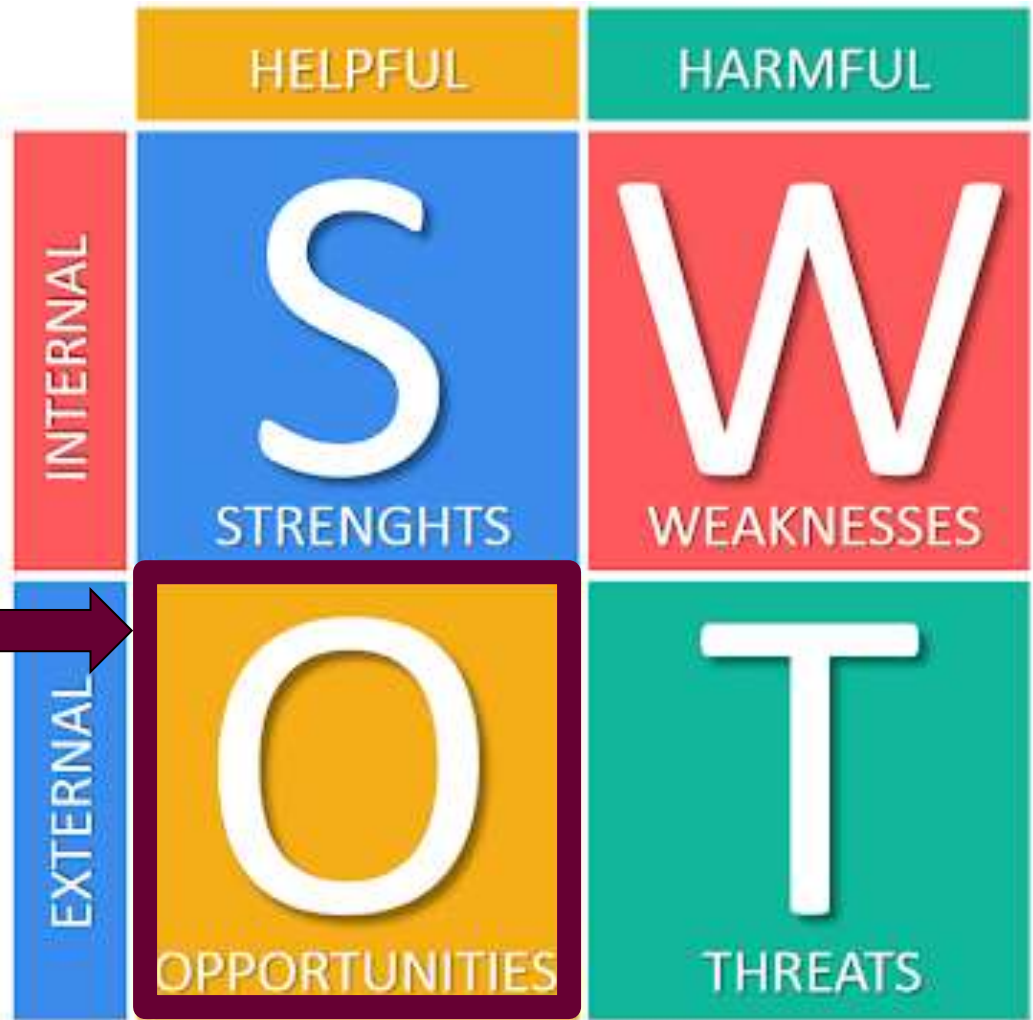


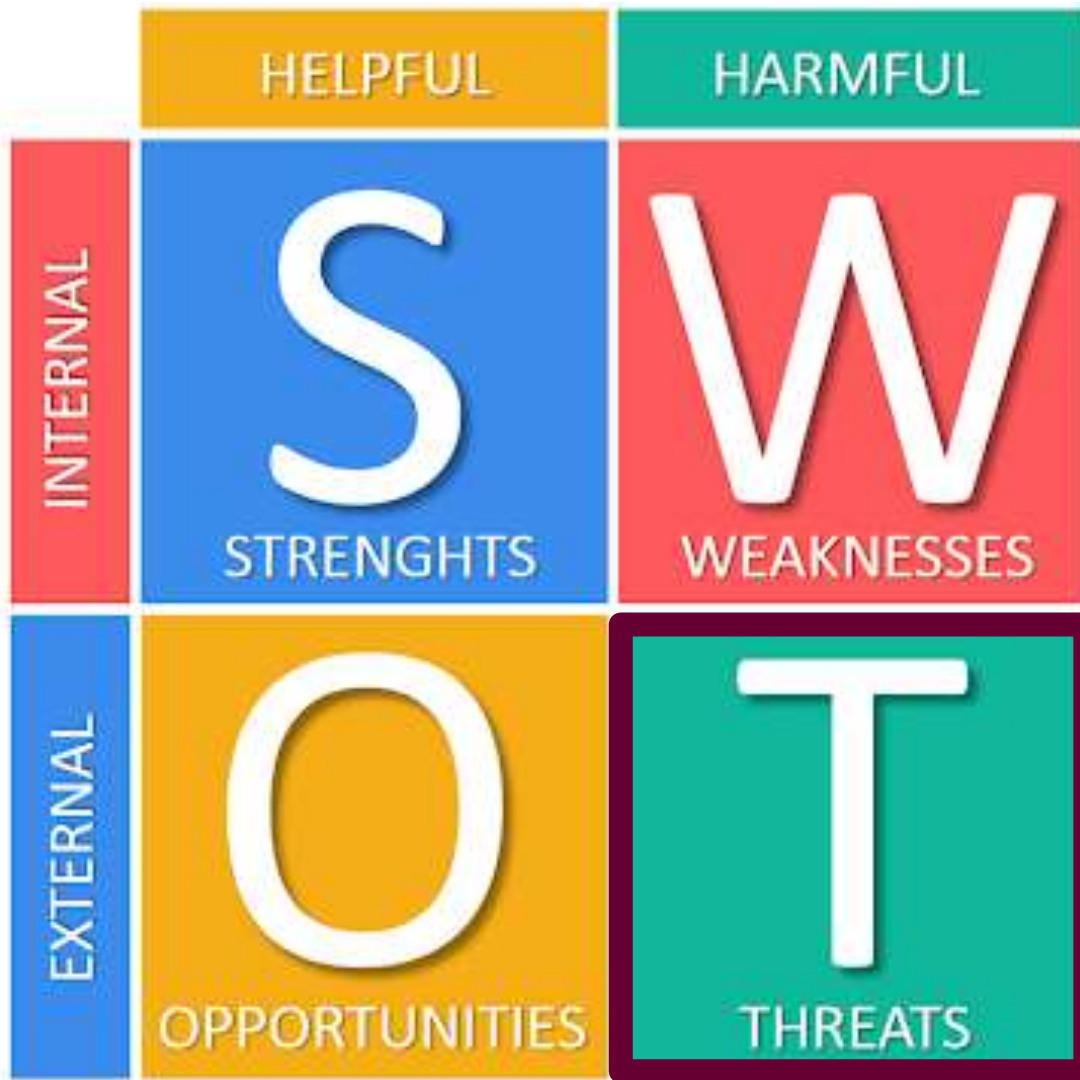


WEAKNESSES



OPPORTUNITIES

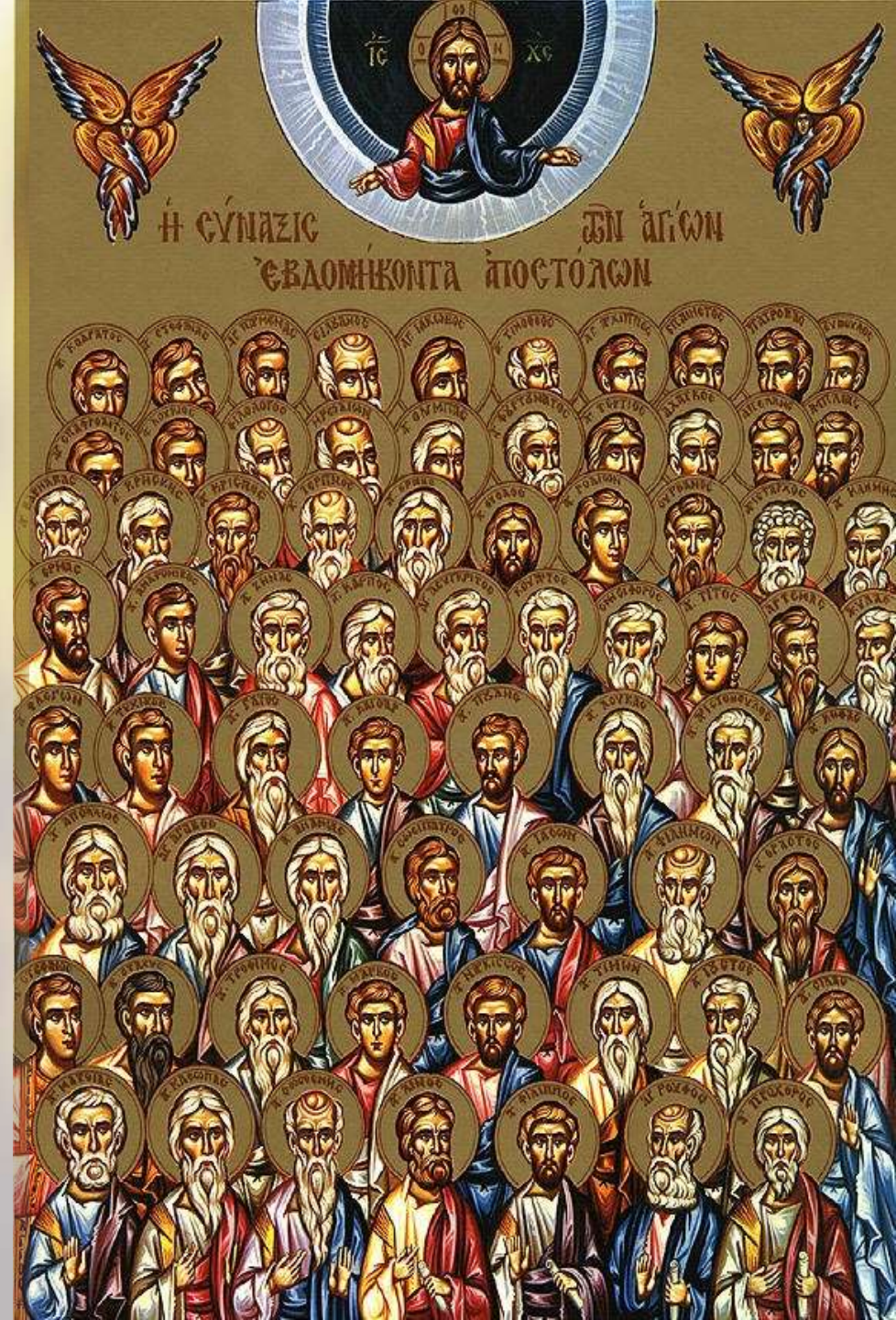




THREATS



***You have
now been
called as
one of the
70 Disciples***



Luke 10:1



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