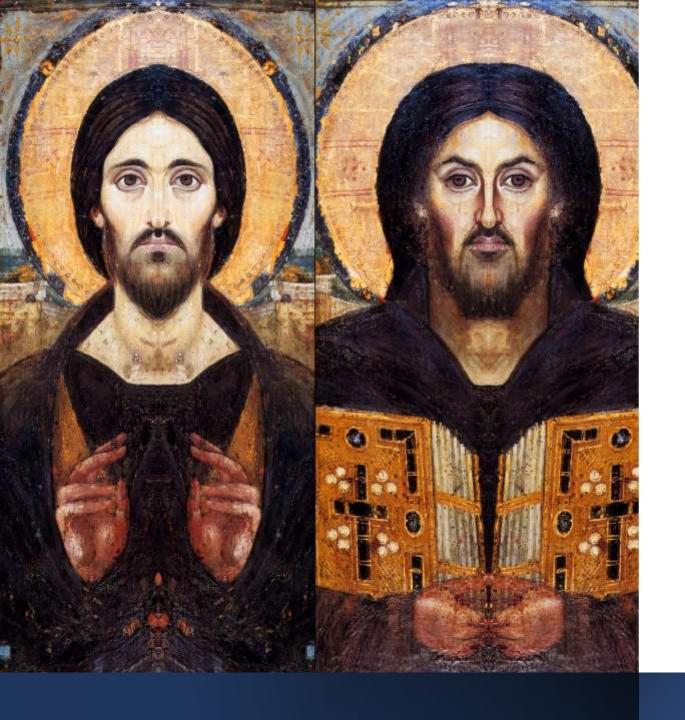


### Why Do This?

"That the end of our lives may be Christian, without pain, blameless and peaceful, and for a good account at the awesome judgment seat of Christ."

Orthodox Divine Liturgy II Corinthians 5:10



Christ's possible very difficult question



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

### "The domain of the Leader is the

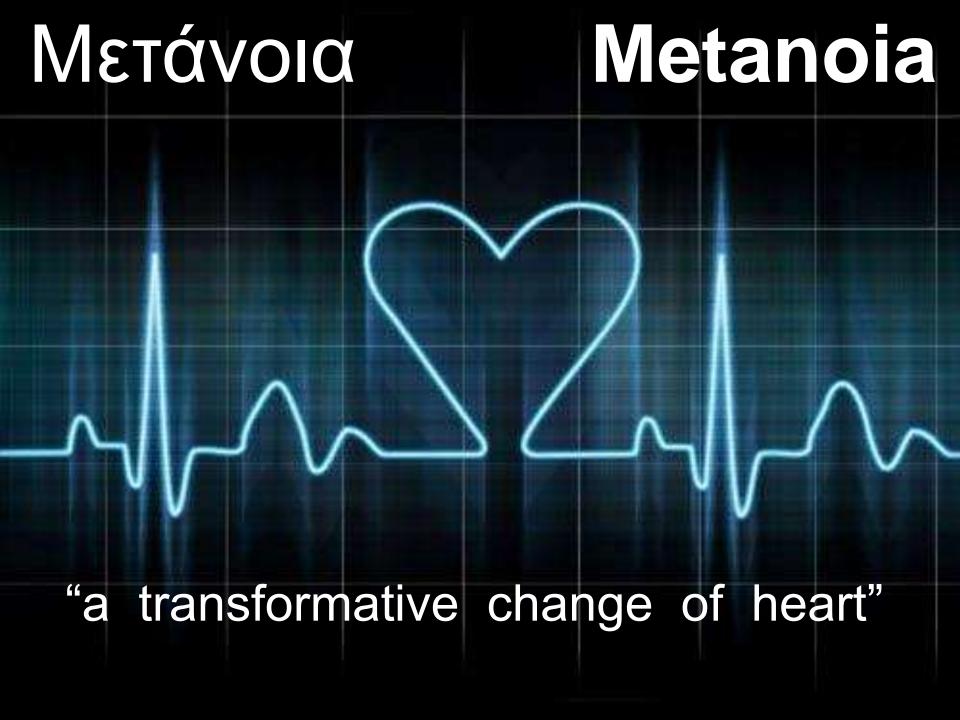


The work of the leader is change."





Dr. James Kouzes





Leaders of a
Church will either
be risk takers or
caretakers that
will eventually
become
undertakers.



### A journey ...

... 450,000+ airlines miles over 30 years

...presentations to over 1,000 Parishes of all Orthodox jurisdictions

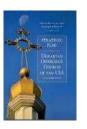
...a financial stewardship analysis for over 275+ Parishes



### Stewardship Calling has completed Strategic Plans for over 26% of U.S. Orthodox Christians

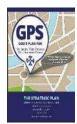




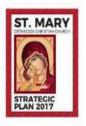


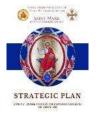




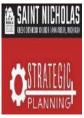




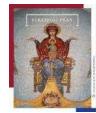












St. John The Divine (Jacksonville FL)

St. Mary (Wichita, KS)

St. John The Baptist (Beaverton, OR)

St. Nicholas (Ann Arbor, MI)

St. Nicholas (Grand Rapids, MI)

Holy Trinity (Grand Rapids, MI)

St Nicholas (Lexington, MA)

St. Demetrios (Warren, OH)

St. Raphael (Iowa City, IA)

St. Sophia (Jefferson, PA)

St. Demetrios (Saginaw, MI)

Holy Trinity (Indianapolis, IN)

St., Luke (E. Longmeadow, MA)

Holy Trinity (Concord, NH)

Christ the Saviour (Harrisburg, PA)

(Many more currently in progress)

**GOA Metropolis of San Francisco** Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA **GOA Metropolis of Atlanta** OCA Diocese of New England **GOA Metropolis of Chicago OCA Diocese of Midwest** Sts. Mark, Mary, Philopater Coptic (Troy, MI) Annunciation Cathedral (Atlanta, GA)

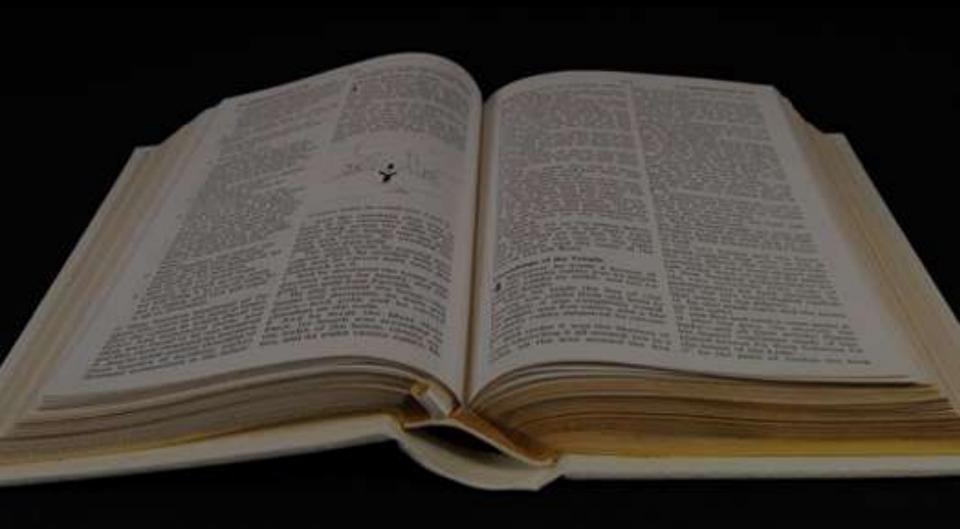
Sts. Raphael, Nicholas & Irene (Cumming, GA)

**Dormition of the Theotokos** – (Sommerville, MA)

**Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry** 



# Strategic Planning is Biblical





Where there is no vision, the people perish.

Proverbs 29:18



### A process to:

1. manage the "busyness" of our Church without turning our Church into a "business"

2. define our strategy to allocate our resources to achieve our vision



Must 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 Ps of



- 1. People The right people leading, developing and implementing the process, with input from everyone along the way
- 2. Process A comprehensive, inclusive and methodical process and schedule
- 3. Plan A 10-element comprehensive strategic plan with a detailed implementation action plan and timeline
- 4. Performance A well-managed and persistent implementation with full accountability

- 1. SWOT / EPA / FSA
- 2. Statement of Why
- 3. Core Values
- 4. Mission Statement
- 5. S.M.A.R.T. Goals
- 6. Vision Statement
- 7. Interim Goals & Interim Actions
- 8. Success Timeline
- 9. SMART Goal
  Accountability
  Process
  ("SMART GAP")
- 10.Strategic Plan



### 10 Strategic Plan Deliverables





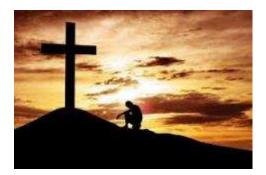
#### 3 Critical Rules of Strategic Planning



### **Date your Vision**



### Marry your Mission



Die living your WHY and Core Values



### **Question 1:**

WHY do we exist?

#### WHY Statement

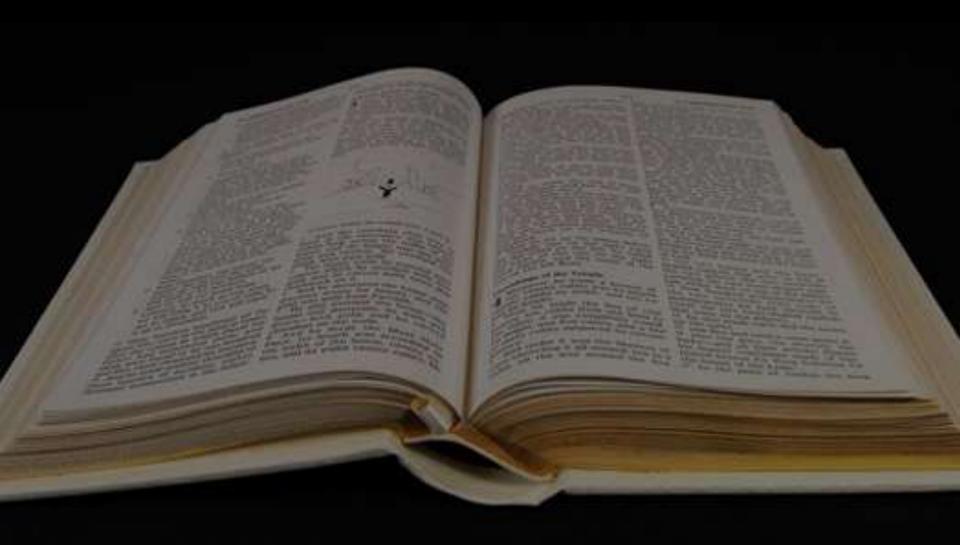
Answers strategic planning question #1:

Why are we here?

~ An articulate, compelling and inspirational reason why our parish exists and why anyone should care, or want to join us.



# A Statement of Why is Biblical



"Friends, WHY are you doing these things?"

To help people and parishes discover and live their stewardship callings,

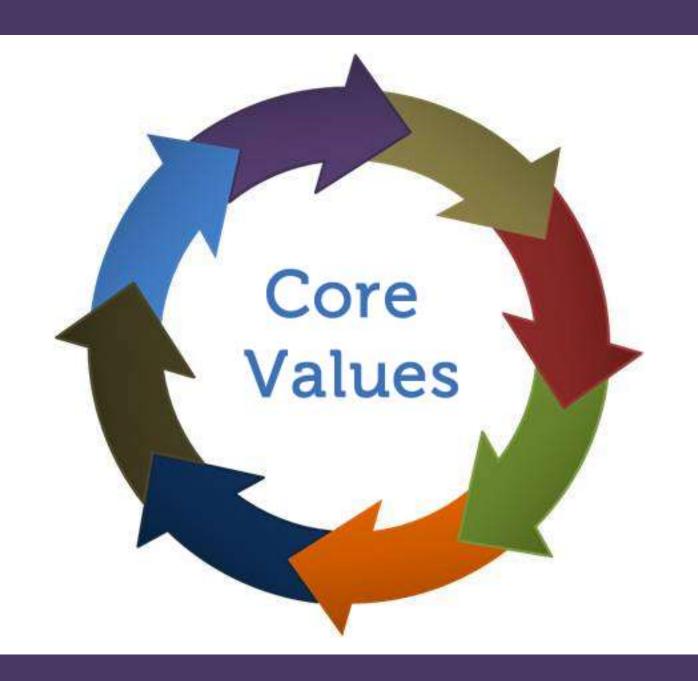
so that they may have a good account before the awesome judgment seat of Christ.



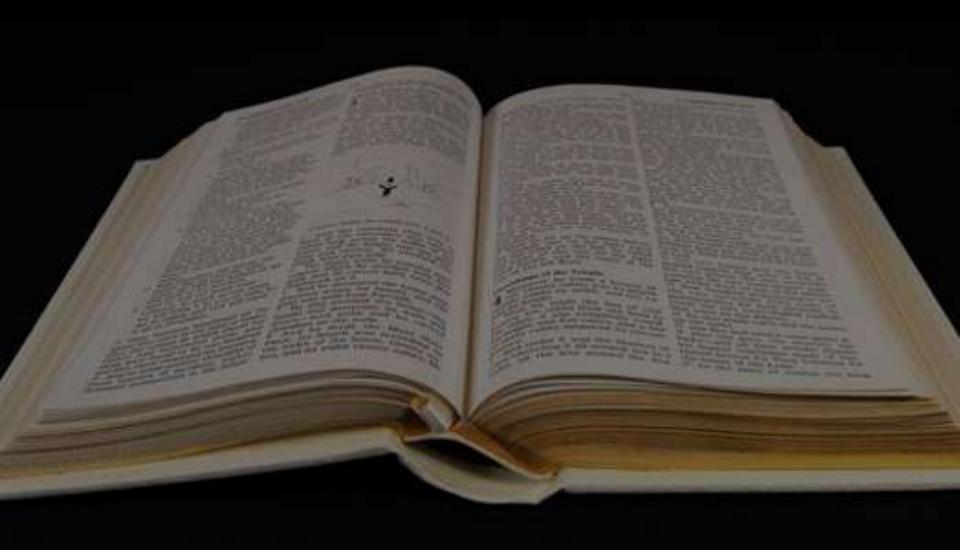


### **WHY Statement**

To welcome all on a transformational journey to a life of purpose and salvation.



### Core Values Are Biblical



### GOD'S Core Values

THOU SHALT HAVE NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME

THOU SHALT NOT MAKE UNTO THEE ANY GRAVEN IMAGE

THOU SHALT NOT TAKE THE NAME OF THE LORD THY GOD IN VAIN

IV
REMEMBER THE
SABBATH DAY TO
KEEP IT HOLY

HONOR THY FATHER
AND THY MOTHER

VI THOU SHALT NOT KILL

VII
THOU SHALT NOT
COMMIT ADULTERY

VIII
THOU SHALT
NOT STEAL

THOU SHALT NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS AGAINST THY NEIGHBOR

> THOU SHALT NOT COVET

# CHRIST'S Core Values

#### THE BEATITUDES

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

> Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:3-10





### **Core Values**

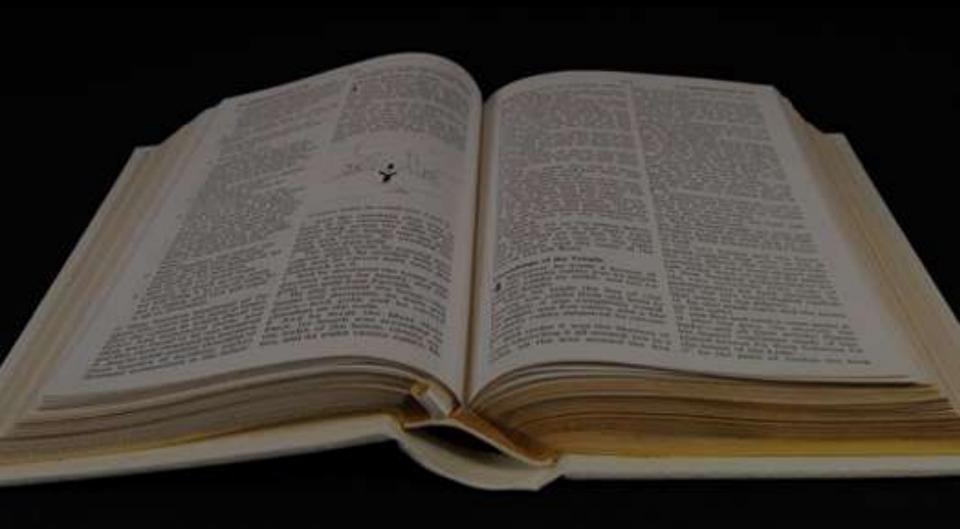
Intentionally Orthodox Community Agape Love Christ-focused

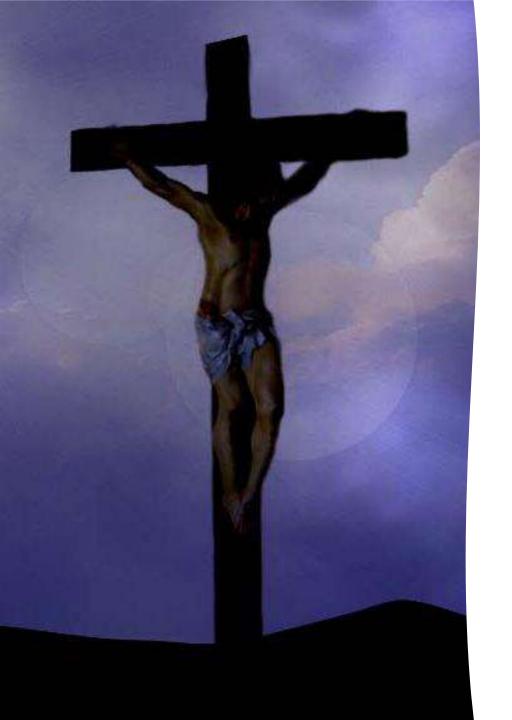


### **Question 2:**

Where are we now?

# Where Are We Now Assessment is Biblical





"Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith.

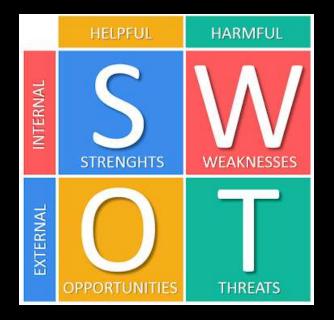
Test yourselves!"

2 Corinthians 13:5

### Three Not Mutually Exclusive Discovery Options



Financial Stewardship Analysis for Churches ("FSA")

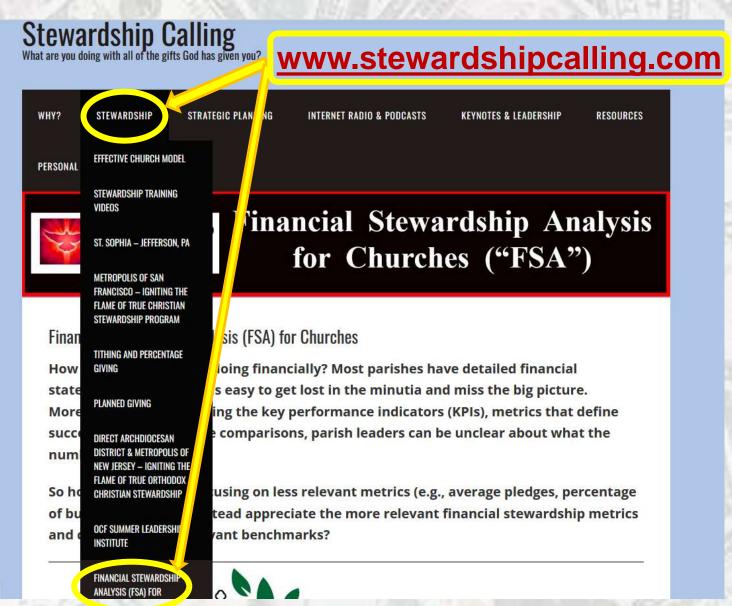




### Financial Stewardship Analysis

- ~ Validated financial analysis tool to help understand what
  - ~ is happening financially at the parish
  - ~ are the most critical areas to focus on
  - ~ areas are less important or misleading
  - ~ are the good and bad trends over the last 3 years
  - are the 7 items the Parish Council must track and report on to the parish
- Validated over 20 years of working with over 275
   Orthodox parishes

### For More Information About A Financial Stewardship Analysis





# Recommended Parish Financial Dashboard

ITEM <sup>1</sup>	THIS YEAR LAST YEAR	PRIOR YEAR
-1 6 11 1	g are reported monthly	
The followin	are reported monthly	
The following	s are reported monthly	
	Sure reported monthly	
Total Income Total Stewardship Income	Sure reported monday	

#### The following are added to the report each quarter

chosen charities and ministries	
% of Total Expenses invested in parish chosen charities and ministries	
Proxy Tithe % Analysis <sup>3</sup>	
% of stewardship income from top 10 stewards	
% of stewardship income from top 10% of stewards	
% of stewardship income from top 20 stewards	
% of stewardship income from top 20% of stewards	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ALL columns include only "month to date" numbers as of the end of the previous month

Net Income or Loss

Number of Stewards

needs to watch here)

Stewardship

% of Expenses Covered by

Median Stewardship Pledge 2

Total Expenses invested in parish

(add any other critical line item the PC

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Use median NOT average because major donors skew averages

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Divide median stewardship contribution by \$8,175 (tithe of median U.S. Orthodox income)



# Recommended Parish Financial Dashboard

Item	2023		2022	2021
Total Income	\$ 464,641	<b>\$</b>	453,696	\$ 381,626
Total Stewardship Income	\$ 341,457	<b>\$</b>	288,538	\$ 282,969
Total Expenses	\$ 454,719	<b>\$</b>	516,581	\$ 315,224
Net Income or Loss	\$ 9,922	<b>\$</b>	(62,885)	\$ 66,402
% of Expenses Covered by Stewardship	73%		64%	<b>74</b> %
Number of Stewards	135		133	122
Median Stewardship Pledge	\$ 1,200	\$	900	\$ 1,214

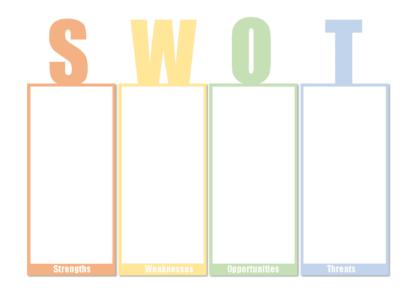
Item	2023	2022	2021
Total Expenses invested in Parish Chosen charities and Ministries	\$ 11,7	<b>12</b> \$ 38,117	<b>\$ 11,189</b>
& of Total Expenses invested in Parish Chosen charities and Ministries	;	<b>3</b> % <b>7</b> %	4%
Proxy Tithe Analysis	1.40	<b>1.06</b> %	1.43%
% of stewards income from top 10 stewards	4(	) <del>%</del> 35%	42%
% of stewards income from top 20 stewards	60	)% 58%	59%

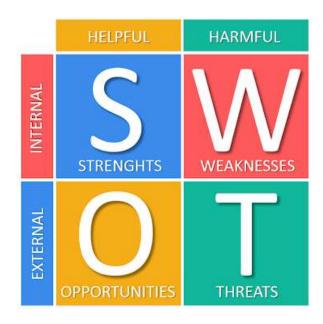
### **SWOT ANALYSIS**

Answers strategic planning question #2:

Where are we now?

- ~ First focus on <u>INTERNAL</u>
  Parish Strengths and
  Weaknesses
- ~ Second focus on <u>EXTERNAL</u> Opportunities and Threats that our Parish faces

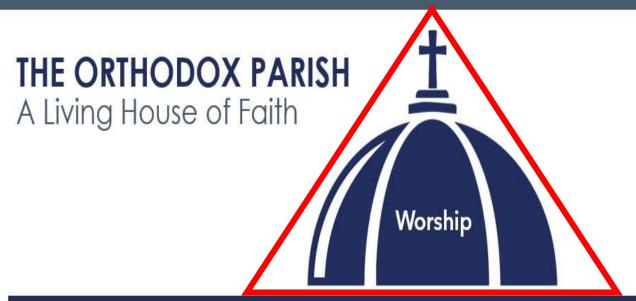






### **Effective Parish Assessment**







Vision & Planning



Leadership & Teams



Stewardship & Generosity



Parishioner Engagement



Ministry



Operational Effectiveness

**Personal Faith Formation** 



- ~ Doctors can assess your personal health.
- ~ Financial planners can assess your financial health.
- Until now, your Parish lacked similar empirical and validated assessment tools to assess its operational health and effectiveness.
- ~ After 20+ years of working with over 500
  Orthodox parishes, the Orthodox Ministry
  Services (OMS) team developed its Effective
  Parish Assessment (EPA).
- ~ The EPA is a reliable, easy, and empirical way to assess the health and operational effectiveness of your Parish.

# Effective Parish Assessment

The EPA online assessment evaluates in greater depth the 30 Building in the 6 Pillars of operational effectiveness and parish health.

Each Pillar and Building Block assessed will be color coded based on survey responses:

- Green = Good
- Yellow = Caution
- Red = Critical

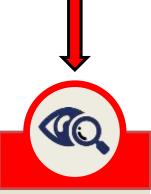




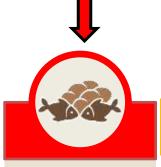
### **Effective Parish Assessment Sample Results**

6 Pillars & 30 Building Blocks

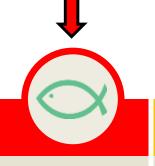














### Vision & Planning

- Strategic Planning
- Operational & Tactical Planning
- Parishioner Involvement
- Goal Achievement & Accountability

### Leadership & Teams

- Christian Leadership
- Leading & Coaching
- Conflict Management
- Effective Teams
- Parish Council & Boards

### Stewardship & Generosity

- Giving & Tithing
- Stewardship Campaign
- Capital Campaign
- Planned Giving & Endowments
- External Philanthropy
- Transparency & Accountability

#### Parishioner Engagement

- Spiritual Education & Catechism
- Liturgical & Sacramental Participation
- Outreach
- Evangelism
- Welcoming & Fellowship

#### **Ministries**

- Defines Needs of Parishioners
- Ministry Management
- Ministry Engagement
- Volunteer Management
- Youth & Young Adult

Communication

**Operational** 

**Effectiveness** 

- Strategies
   Facilities &
- TechnologyFinancial Excellence

& Digital

- Safety & Security
- Staff Management



### Summary – EPA 2 EXAMPLE ONLY



	EPA2	EPA2	EPA2	
	% favorable	% unfavorable	% neutral	% I don't know
Vision & Planning	51%	18%	31%	20%
Leadership & Teams	72%	7%	21%	11%
Stewardship & Generosity	43%	33%	24%	30%
Parishioner Engagement	51%	25%	24%	15%
Ministries	42%	29%	29%	21%
Operational Effectiveness	59%	17%	25%	21%

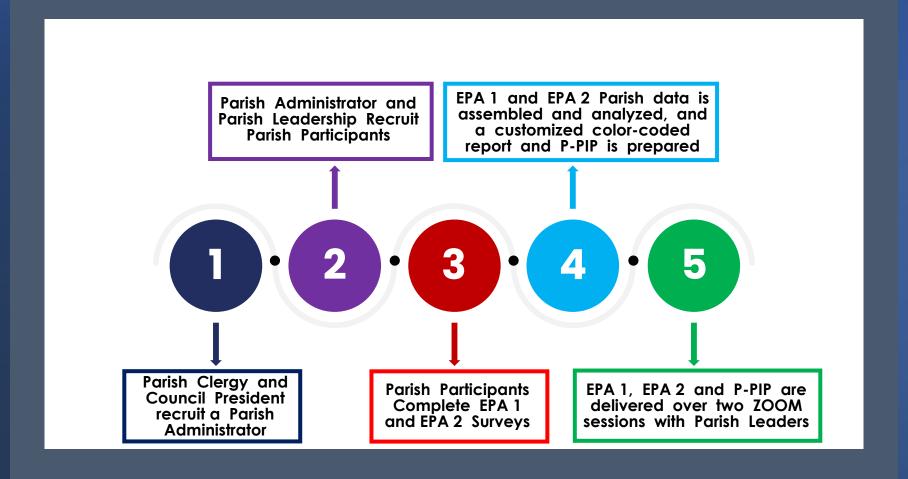


### EPA 2 – Example, Building blocks for 1 pillar only Stewardship & Generosity



Stewardship & Generosity	% favorable	% unfavorable	% neutral	% I don't know
Giving & Tithing	43%	33%	24%	24%
Stewardship Campaign	53%	25%	21%	23%
Capital Campaign	30%	39%	31%	44%
Planned Giving & Endowments	24%	49%	27%	46%
External Philanthropy	43%	33%	24%	24%
Transparency & Accountability	65%	17%	18%	17%

### THE 5 STEPS IN THE EFFECTIVE PARISH COHORT JOURNEY



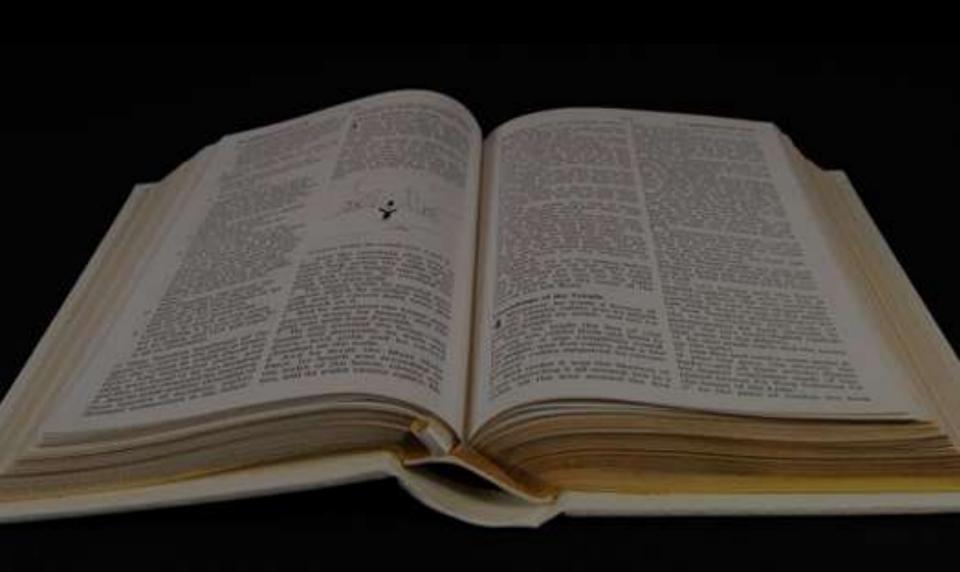


### **Question 3:**

Where do we want to be?



## A Mission Statement Is Biblical



### The Great Commission Mission Statement

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations"



Matthew 28:18-20

### **Mission Statement**

Answers strategic planning question #3:

What do we do?

 A clear description of the what the organization does to achieve its Why/Vision/Goals



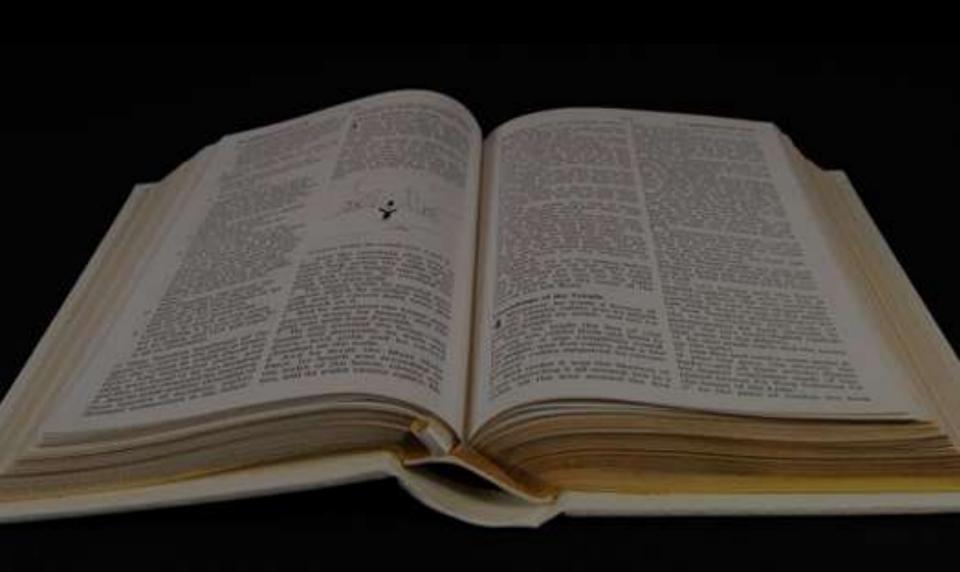


### **Mission Statement**

Sts RNI is a welcoming family who develops intentional Orthodox Christians through worship, education, outreach, and service.



## A Vision Statement Is Biblical





Where there is no vision, the people perish.

Proverbs 29:18

### Vision

**Acts 1:8** 

"... and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all of Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."



### A Vision should be:

- 1. clear & concise
- 2. compelling & inspiring
- 3. a "picture" of where you're going
- 4. about the future (3-5 years)
- 5. possible...



### **Vision Statement**

We will

(a)measurably improve our Adult and Youth Stewardship & Ministry Engagement and Religious

months; and

**Education Ministry within 36** 

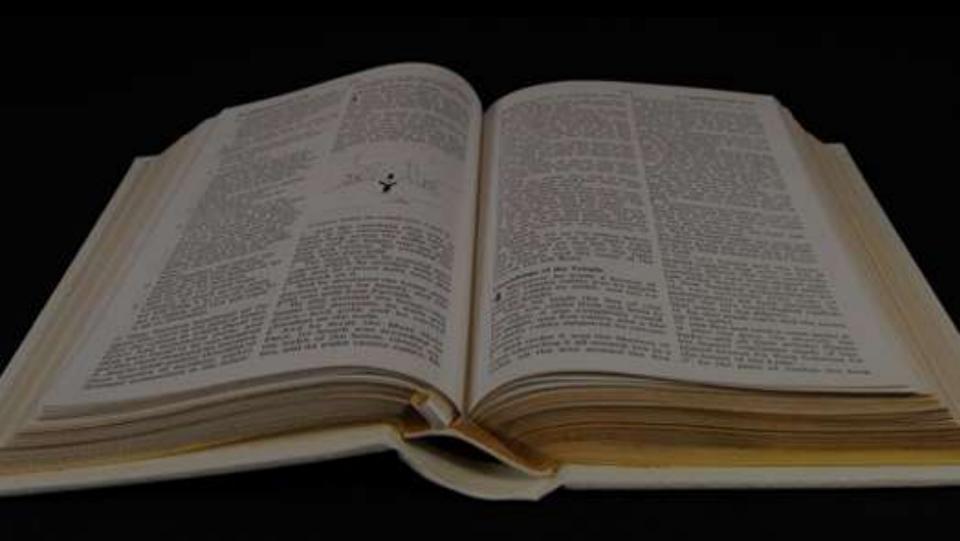
(b) Establish and Implement a Viable Building and Capital Campaign Strategy to Have a New Church within 54 months.



### **Question 4:**

How will we get there?

## Strategic SMART Goals Are Biblical

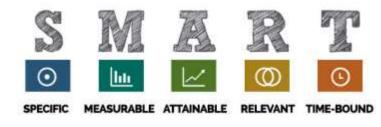


These twelve
Jesus sent out,
charging them...

- 1. ...go to the lost sheep
- 2. ...preach as you go
- 3. ...heal the sick
- 4. ...cleanse the lepers
- 5. ... raise the dead

6. ... cast out demons

### SMART Goals



The "S.M.A.R.T." goal process helps ensure our Strategic Plan can be achieved

Specific: Is the goal clear and specific enough to be understandable?

Measurable: Can you measure the success of the goal?

**<u>Attainable</u>**: Is the goal attainable within a reasonable time?

Relevant: Is the goal most relevant to us and is it "Realistically written"?

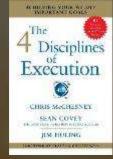
**Time-Bound**: Is there a realistic timeline to achieve the goal?



### The 5 Step Stewardship Calling Vision & Strategy Success Plan



### The Power of FOCUS



- Human beings are genetically hardwired to do a very small number of things at a time with excellence<sup>1</sup>
- Focus on the most critical things produces larger scale positive impacts

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> MIT neuroscientist Earl Miller: "Trying to concentrate on two tasks causes an overload of the brain's processing capacity."

### Stewardship & Engagement S.M.A.R.T. Goal



We will research, develop, and implement a best practices and effective adult and youth Stewardship & Ministry Engagement Program (the "Stewardship & Engagement Program") with a comprehensive communications plan that will achieve the following "Stewardship & Engagement Targets" within 34 months:

- (a) Transition all adult and youth parishioners to intentionally give a percentage of their income on their way to becoming at least tithers (10%);
- (b) Increase the adult and youth ministry engagement so that at least 90% of parishioners use their time and talents in ministry so that we can become a full participation parish; and
- (c) Cover solely through financial stewardship all parish operating expenses plus at least an additional 10% of operating expenses to be given to parish-chosen external charities without negatively impacting the capital campaign.
- (d) Implement a planned giving campaign in which at least 25% of parishioners participate



### Stewardship & Engagement Action Plan

5	<u>nigagonio</u>		<u> </u>
Actions Steps	Responsible Party	<u>Deadline</u>	Completion <u>Test</u>
Interim Goal 1: Research the most effective stewardship and ministry engagement programs within 3 months			

S&EPT

S&FPT

S&EPT

1. Form Stewardship & Engagement Program

2. Determine adult and youth stewardship,

tithing, ministry engagement, and planned

baseline on those key stewardship, tithing,

metrics, survey/research parish impediments to achieving increased stewardship, tithing, ministry engagement, and planned giving

ministry engagement, and planned giving

giving key definitions and effectiveness

3. Analyze the adult and youth parish

4. Identify at least 3 engagement, 3

percentage giving/tithing, and 3 planned

and outside the Orthodox ecosystem.

giving programs to consider from both inside

Team (S&EPT).

metrics.

success.

SPT and S&EPT

Goal Co-Captains

S&EPT members

Definitions and metrics

Parish baselines and

At least 3 stewardship

& engagement, 3

percentage giving/

tithing, and 3 planned

giving programs are

examined

parish impediments

determination are

finalized

agree to serve

determined

1 month after Start Date

1 month after

1 month after

Simultaneous

with steps 2 &

step 1

step 2



Welcome!
To Sts. RNI Greek Orthodox Church

### Stewardship & Engagement Action Plan

	gagome		<u> </u>
Actions Steps	Responsible Party	<u>Deadline</u>	Completion <u>Test</u>
Interim Goal 2: Develop the most effective Stewardship	& Engagement Progra	m within 3 months	
5. Evaluate researched adult and youth stewardship, tithing, ministry engagement, and planned giving for effectiveness against key performance metrics and parish baselines based on criteria of effectiveness determined in step 2.	S&EPT	1 months after step 4	Evaluation of alternative stewardship & ministry engagement, tithing, and planned giving programs is completed
6. Modify or develop new adult and youth stewardship, tithing, ministry engagement, and planned giving for utilization at the parish the Stewardship, Tithing, Ministry Engagement and Planned Giving Program (collectively the "Stewardship & Engagement Program") and establish monthly performance benchmarks and comprehensive communications strategy and plan.	S&EPT	2 months after step 5	Stewardship & Engagement Program is finalized, and monthly performance benchmarks are determined
Interim Goal 3: Recruit and train Ambassadors within 2 r	months		
7. Identify and recruit personal visitation ambassadors/small group leaders ("Ambassadors") who can implement the Stewardship & Engagement Program.	S&EPT	1 month after step 6	Ambassadors are recruited
8. Train Ambassadors to implement the Stewardship & Engagement Program.	S&EPT	1 month after step 7	Ambassadors are trained



### Stewardship & Engagement Action Plan

RAPHAEL

Actions Steps	Responsible Party	<u>Deadline</u>	Completion <u>Test</u>	
Interim Goal 4: Implement the Stewardship & Engagement Program to achieve the Stewardship & Engagement  Targets within 24 months				
9. Implement Stewardship & Engagement Program to achieve the Stewardship & Engagement Targets.	Ambassadors	24 months after step 8	Stewardship & Engagement Program is fully launched	
10. Track and report on monthly performance benchmarks determined in step 6 and continue Ambassadors follow-up with parishioners until Stewardship & Engagement Targets are achieved	Ambassadors	Contemporaneous with step 9	Established monthly Stewardship & Engagement Targets are achieved	



### Stewardship & Engagement Action Plan

Actions Steps	Responsible Party	<u>Deadline</u>	Completion <u>Test</u>		
Interim Goal 5: Compile and assess the results of the Stewardship Program and make necessary improvements within 2 months					
11. Obtain and compile qualitative and quantitative data from Stewardship & Engagement Program and determine effectiveness and success (based on criteria established in step 2) and identify areas for improvement.	Ambassadors and S&EPT	1 month after step 10	Stewardship & Engagement Program assessments are completed		
12. Finalize and deliver Stewardship & Engagement Program assessment analysis report, and make all refinements necessary to make the Stewardship & Engagement Program more effective based on information identified in step 11.	Ambassadors and S&EPT	1 month after step 11	Analysis is completed, and Stewardship & Engagement Program is refined accordingly		



Welcome!
To Sts. RNI Greek Orthodox Church

### Stewardship & Engagement Action Plan

Lead Measure Action	<u>Deadline Date</u>	% Complete and Date
1. Form Stewardship & Engagement Giving Program Team		
2. Develop definitions and effectiveness metrics		
3. Analyze parish baselines and engagement success impediments		
4. Research Stewardship &.Engagement Program		
5. Evaluate Stewardship & Engagement Program		
6. Finalize Stewardship & Engagement Program		
7. Identify and recruit Stewardship Ambassadors		
8. Train Stewardship Ambassadors		
9. Implement Stewardship & Engagement Program and manage to interim monthly targets		
10. Track performance Data from Stewardship & Engagement Program Implementation		
11. Obtain qualitative and quantitative assessment data from Stewardship & Engagement Program		
12. Improve Stewardship & Engagement Program based lessons learned in step 11		



### IN PERSON SUMMARY OVERALL TIMETABLE<sup>1</sup>

Finalize SPT<sup>2</sup>  $\approx$  2 months from start First retreat  $\approx$  4-5 months from start Second retreat  $\approx$  7-8 months from start Public Rollout  $\approx$  8-9 months after start

<sup>2</sup> **SPT** = Strategic Planning Team

<sup>1</sup> Subject to Pascha, Festival and Holidays

TASK	TIME
Pick and Recruit SPT	1-2 months after start
Solicit "Where Are We Now" Data	2-3 months after start
First retreat	4-5 months after start
Create SMART Goals and Action Plans	6-7 months after start
Second retreat	7-8 months after start
Public rollout event	8-9 months after start



### ZOOM SUMMARY OVERALL TIMETABLE<sup>1</sup>

Finalize SPT<sup>2</sup>
SP Element
Determination
Strategic Goal &
Action Plans
Second retreat
Public Rollout

≈ 2 months from start
 ≈ 4 months from start
 ≈ 5-6 months from start

<sup>1</sup> Subject to Pascha, Festival and Holidays

≈ 7 months from start
 ≈ 8 months after start

Strategic Planning Team

<sup>2</sup> SPT =

TASK TIME
Pick and Recruit SPT & Solicit

Man Recruit SPI & Solicit

"Where are we now" Data 1-2 months after start

Why Discovery Zoom 3 months after start

SWOT Determination 2-3 weeks later

**Core Values, Mission Statement** 

& Strategic Area of Focus Determination 2-3 weeks later

Second retreat 7 months after start

Public rollout event 8 months after start

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor.

If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.

But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up."

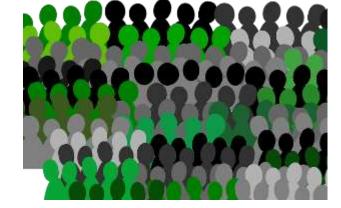




**Ecclesiastes 4:9-10** 

## **Community**

Community-wide input throughout, including the beginning and in the Strategic Goal formulation



# It Takes 3 Teams

#### **Strategic Planning Team**

A diverse, representative cross-section of Parish strategic thinkers who analyze the data and help draft a Strategic Plan



A larger diverse group of parish faithful who actually do the work and implement all of the Strategic Goals and Action Plans and who are accountable for the achievement of the Strategic Plan





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

and every one members one of another.









# Two Process Keys



Rules of Engagement & Consensus

# Sun Tzu



"Strategy without tactics is the slowest route to victory.

Tactics without strategy is the noise before defeat."

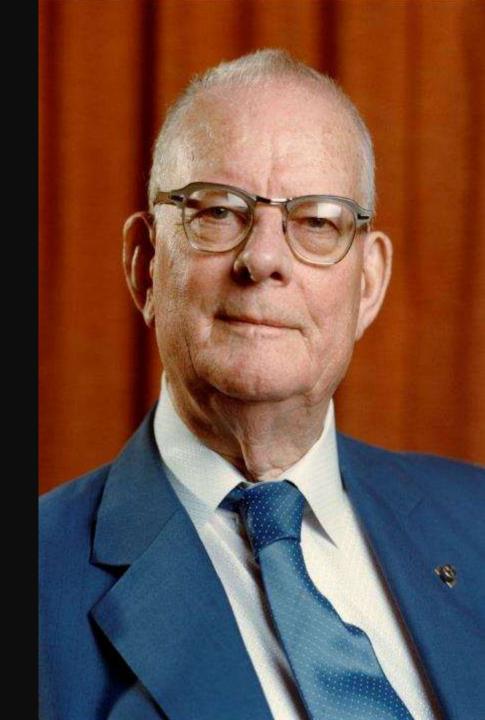
## Who Owns The Problem?

"Any time the majority of people behave a particular way the majority of the time, the people are not the problem. The problem is inherent in the system.

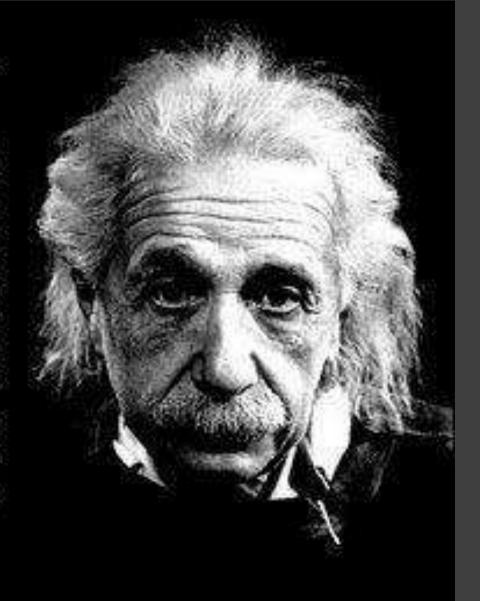
As a leader, you own responsibility for the system.

...if you find yourself blaming the people, you should look again."

W. Edwards Deming (father of the Quality Movement)



"WE CANNOT SOLVE OUR **PROBLEMS** WITH THE SAME THINKING WE **USED WHEN WE CREATED THEM"** 



# The 4 Deliverables From the



Strategic Planning Process

# 1. Comprehensive Strategic Plan

10 elements - SWOT / EPA /OCAI Analysis; WHY; Core Values; Mission Statement; S.M.A.R.T. Goals; Vision Statement; Interim Goals & Interim Actions; Success Timeline; SMART Goal Accountability Process ("SMART GAP"); Strategic Plan

- 2. Inspired Teams
- 3. Consensus Decision Makers
- 4. Energized & Improved Culture





QUESTIONS ANSWERED HERE EVEN THE SILLY ONES

**Any Questions?** 



# Selected SPT Criteria

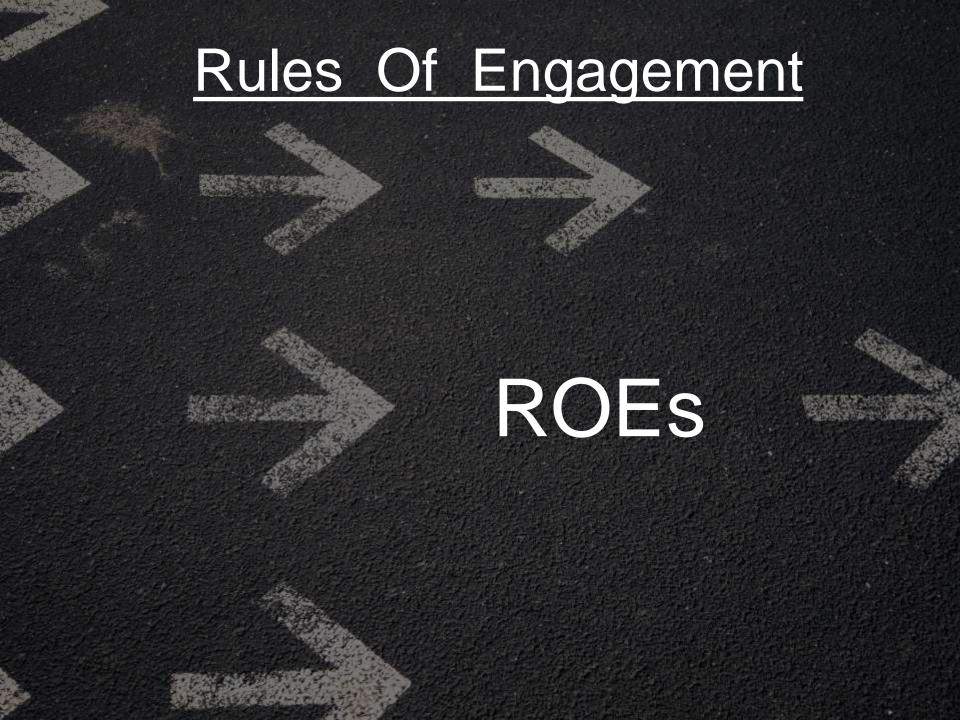
### YES:

- ~ Who must be a part of the team
- ~ Many different perspectives
- ~ Many diverse gifts
- ~ All major constituencies
- ~ Team-players
- ~ Intelligent
- ~ Strategic thinkers and not small thinkers
- ~ Creative
- ~ Visionaries + futurists not rooted in the past
- ~ Articulate
- ~ Engaged
- ~ Faithful
- ~ Intellectually honest
- ~ Well-adjusted
- ~ Genuinely care about doing the right thing
- ~ Can leave their egos at the door
- ~ Must represent all areas and all different constituencies (young/old, non-ethnic/ethnic, urban/rural, professional/non-professional, convert/cradle, men/women, incidental/intentional, etc.)

SPT members must be willing to dedicate a fair amount of time over the next 6 -7 months

### NO:

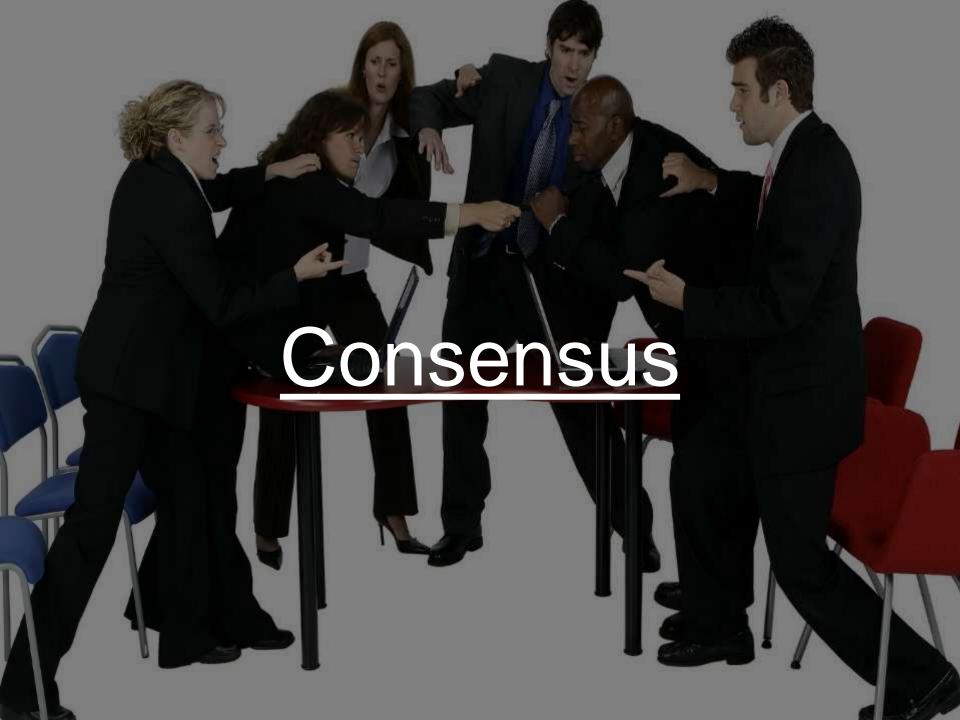
- ~ serial arsonists
- ~ "know-it-alls"
- ~ non-team players
- ~ mean-spirited folks
- ~ inarticulate thinkers or talkers
- ~ people who say nothing
- ~ people who can't stop talking
- ~ malcontents
- ~ people who are so sad/mad/angry/hostile that they cannot see beyond their own circumstances.
- ~ not just the same "usual suspects"



- 1. We stay on schedule
- 2. Everyone is equal
- 3. We interact confidentially
- 4. Ask questions
- 5. Park tangential issues
- 6. No distractions
- 7. All decisions made by consensus
- 8. Focus only on things we control or influence
- 9. Everyone MUST participate
- 10. Be honest and "no spin"



- 11. No defensiveness
- 12. NO "Discussion Killers"
- 13. Think strategically
- 14. Speak precisely and succinctly
- 15. We are members of the Body of Christ treating everyone with love and respect and allowing the Holy Spirit to participate freely



# Consensus

- Seek the "common mind" through respectful dialogue
- ~ An agreement everyone can "live with" (even if it is not their first choice)
- Consensus is achieved once:
  - (a) the discussion has been full and fair
  - (b) everyone can live with the modified proposal