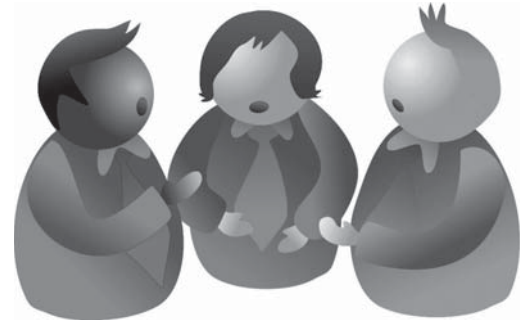


# After Thoughts

## *Small Group and Congregational Discussion Guide*



### *Back to Basics (p. 4)*

1. How free of major conflict is our church? If not, why and what can be done to make it an incubator of faith?
2. How openly and decisively does our church deal with conflict?
3. What measures do we have in place before, during, and after worship to insure the stranger feels welcome?
4. How often does our church baptize an adult?
5. When was the last time our board prayed and wept for our city instead of taking care of church business?
6. How much of our budget goes toward reaching the unchurched, our nation, and our world?

### *Ten Worship Tips for Every Church (p. 8)*

1. What questions about worship design prompted you to read this article?
2. What questions were answered for you?
3. What questions remain unanswered?
4. What next three most important steps does your team need to take?

### *Let's Start at the Very Beginning (p. 11)*

1. How does your church currently recruit church leaders? How's that working for you?
2. Where do you think most folks get their idea about how a Christian is "supposed" to behave?
3. Besides besides the "love one anothers," what other One-Anothers can you find in the New Testament?
4. What do you suppose would happen if your fellow church members adopted the One-Anothers as their pattern of behavior?

5. Discuss what would have to happen in your church to find consensus around these behaviors.

### *Worship that Works (p. 16)*

1. So often worship conversations and debates focus on contemporary versus traditional. How might this article expand your church's worship conversation beyond that question?
2. Of the Five E's, which one or two does your church excel at?
3. What might be the next E where you could move toward excellence? What are some next steps you can take to put this issue on the table for your worship team?
4. In addition to the Five E's, is there another quality of Worship that Works that you would rank on this level, perhaps something that begins with a letter other than E?

### *The Synergy of Church Growth (p. 23)*

1. What percentage of adult worshippers (16 and over) regularly participate in Sunday school or mid-week small groups that hold participants accountable for prayer, spiritual learning, and deep sharing? Don't count committees and task groups.
2. What percentage of the spiritually growing adults can articulate their personal mission in life, and are regularly active in some outreach mission or pastoral service?
3. What percentage of the worshippers on any given Sunday is specifically motivated by the mission outreach of the church?
4. What holds your church back from the synergy of church growth? And what are you going to do about it?

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