



mission drift

Diagnostics for Missional Communities

Second Law of Thermodynamics: When things are left alone they break down. The same is true of organizations, churches, and MC's.

In 1636 a university was formed around the mission statement "To be plainly instructed and consider well that the main end of your life and studies is to know God and Jesus Christ." That university was Harvard.

About 80 years later a group of local pastors believed that Harvard had lost its mission and sensed that it was drifting from its Christian values, so they formed a new university that would be committed to "Light and Truth" and in 1701 they formed Yale University.

Today both of these universities, though great in their own way, have abandoned their original mission. They have drifted into something totally different than what they were when they started.

The YMCA has drifted as well. Now it's just the Y.

There is a natural drift towards secularization. Everything drifts. We drift away from Mission. All of us as leaders have certain gifts and natural dispositions and without focused assessment and effort our MC's will drift towards our preferences and away from the gospel, community, and mission.

Mission drift checklist for MC Leaders at Huddle

1. Are new people coming?

- Yes, Praise God!
- No, Why not?
 - Seasonal? Time to sow, time to reap.
 - We aren't inviting people. We need to address our Missionary identity, repent and make a personal missionary strategy. Make sure you address both Sunday mornings and everyday life in your strategy.
 - We've drifted from the gospel.

2. Are new people staying?

- Yes, Praise God!
- No, why not?
 - The cost of discipleship. Discipleship is not easy.
 - We aren't fostering a hospitable environment. Repent, and make a plan!



- We aren't creating a unique and distinct gospel culture that is intriguing to outsiders.
- We've drifted from the gospel

3. Are new people growing?

- Yes, Praise God!
- No, why not?
 - We aren't creating a challenging environment that calls people to a new life of discipleship. Repent, and refocus. Step into those difficult "gospel issues" and go after the heart idolatries. Pray. Beg God and lean on the Spirit.
 - We've drifted from the gospel.

4. Are new leaders being developed?

- Yes, Praise God!
- No, Why not?
 - We aren't noticing them and calling on them to step up.
 - We aren't handing responsibilities off to them.
 - We aren't challenging them in their identities as learners to take Porterbrook.
 - We've forgotten the gospel.

5. Are leaders being sent out to lead new MC's?

- Yes, praise God!
- No, why not?
 - Seasonal? We should multiply about every 18 months.
 - We like it the way it is.
 - We don't want to pay the relational cost anymore.
 - We aren't identifying, equipping, and training leaders to lead future MC's
 - We are drifting from the gospel.