



# LEADING RENEWAL IN YOUR CHURCH

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## QUICK START GUIDE



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**Your journey to leading church renewal begins here.**

This quick-start guide offers simple, actionable steps for pastors and church leaders who are eager to lead their congregations in spiritual and organizational renewal. Renewal is not about finding the perfect formula for success but rather about fostering love and obedience to God. As you lead, let your faith and life model the path of renewal. Prepare your congregation for the journey, diagnose the challenges, and take deliberate steps toward revitalizing your church for God's mission.



### RESOURCE ICON


We have gathered key resources developed by the NAMB Replant Team and other key partners to support you throughout this process. Where the resource icon is present, find additional resources and tools by using the QR code or going to [www.renewalmovement.com](http://www.renewalmovement.com).




## DEFINE REALITY

*How do I assess my church's true condition?*



### 1. Seek Outside Perspectives

- Connect with your local association or state convention leaders to help assess your church and to provide their evaluation, too. 

### 2. Analyze Objective Data

- Chart your ACP data for worship and Sunday School attendance and giving over the past 20 years. Your association or state convention leaders can help with this.
- Utilize a demographic report to understand the current reality of your community. 



### 3. Seek Subjective Evaluation

- Survey your church members regarding church health. 
- Interview four kinds of people: members living inside the community, members living outside the community, non-members living inside the community, and non-members living outside the community. 
- Ask: What has changed? What has remained the same? What about the church doesn't "connect" with the community? In your opinion, why is this?

## DIAGNOSE THE CONDITION

*How do I identify the critical issues to be addressed?*




### 1. Identify Underlying Causes

- Once you've gathered input, reflect on potential causes behind your church's current state by reading one of the recommended resources. 
- With your leadership team, determine whether the issues are spiritual, contextual (changes in the community), or structural (programs or systems not producing results). 

### 2. Prioritize Impact

- Through prayer, seek the Lord for discernment and wisdom.
- Identify which underlying cause may be the root of other critical issues.
- Discern what change has the potential to provide the greatest impact.



### 3. Implement Deeper Solutions

- Spiritual issues: Lead the church through corporate confession and repentance. 
- Contextual issues: Study your community and consider new ministry approaches. 
- Structural issues: Reverse-engineer your current processes to identify and fix roadblocks. 


## DEVELOP A PLAN

*How do I create a clear plan to address the spiritual and strategic issues?*


### 1. The Essentials

- Call people to seasons of prayer, cast vision for and preach about renewal, and confront biblically, as needed. 
- Cultivate intentionality by setting 3-4 SMART goals to pursue regarding outreach and discipleship. 

### 2. The Support

- Develop a long-term strategic plan with key leaders and members. 
- Determine structural changes that will facilitate more effective outreach and discipleship: programs, bylaws, facilities, roles, communications, etc.

### 3. The Follow-Through

- Provide pastoral care and feedback channels to listen to your people and love them well.
- Persevere through criticism and conflict by surrounding yourself with godly leaders who will encourage, pray for, and share wisdom with you. Your fellow pastors, associational leader, or state convention staff are great for this. 

## DO IT!

*How do I get started?*

### 1. Prepare for Change

- Announce the renewal plan, address concerns early, and give your people time to process the changes.
- Model the changes you long to see in your people.

### 2. Mobilize the Congregation

- Follow an intentional, deliberate plan that gets everyone involved in the renewal effort at a pace that works for your church.

### 3. Celebrate Victories

- Celebrate every win, no matter how small. Encourage a culture of hope, joy, and expectancy for God's work in your midst.

Need more information?  
Contact us at [replant@namb.net](mailto:replant@namb.net)

