



WEBINAR

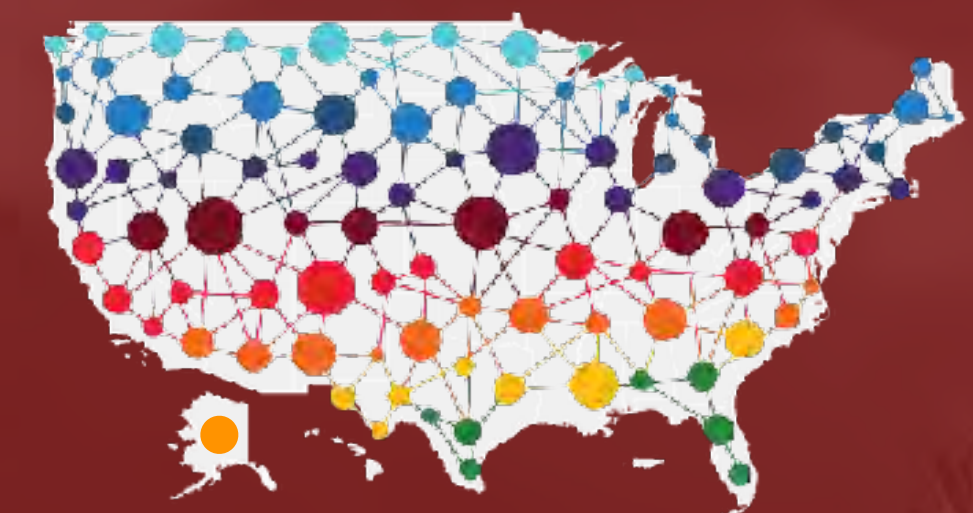
Shrinking THE PROBLEM

Three **Simple** Principles to Help Your
Church **Embrace** the **Complex**

THE NATIONAL CHURCH MINISTRY INITIATIVE

Through the National Church Ministry Initiative, CAFO helps churches build effective and sustainable ministries with essential knowledge, best-practice models, practical resources, strategic coaching and networking opportunities.

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A FIELD GUIDE FOR STRATEGICALLY
RALLYING YOUR CHURCH AROUND THE
ORPHANED AND VULNERABLE.

AVAILABLE MAY 9TH

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A person in a dark jacket stands in a mountainous landscape. A large white circle is overlaid on the image, containing the word "QUESTIONS" in red capital letters.

QUESTIONS

Submit questions
using the panel on the
side of your screen.



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Shrinking THE PROBLEM

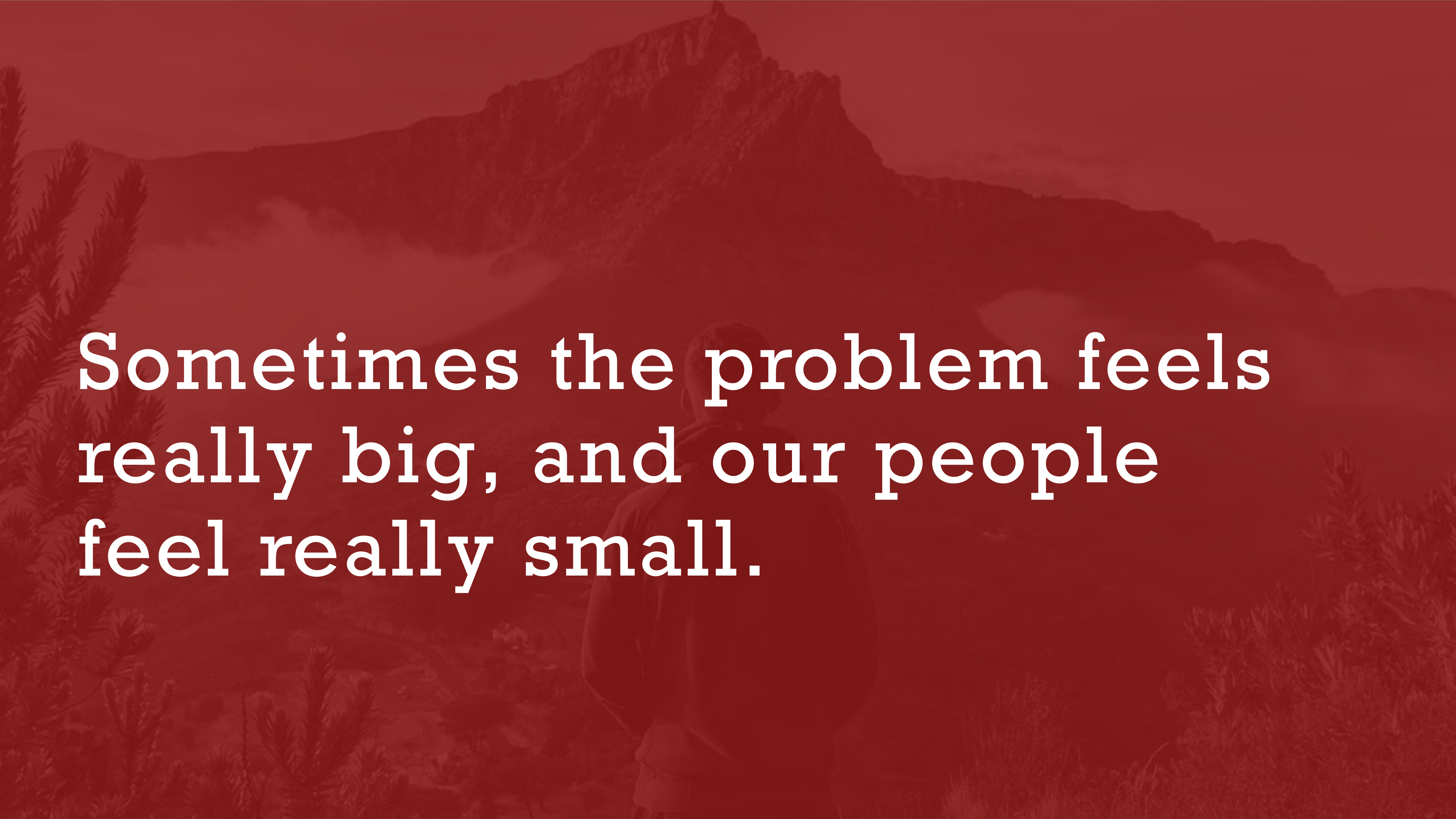
Three **Simple** Principles to Help Your
Church **Embrace** the **Complex**

THREE PRINCIPLES

Shrink
THE PROBLEM

Grow
YOUR PEOPLE

Chart
THE PATH

A person is seen from behind, standing on a mountain trail and looking towards a large, rugged mountain peak. The scene is set in a natural, outdoor environment with some vegetation in the foreground. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter.

Sometimes the problem feels
really big, and our people
feel really small.

1

Shrink
THE PROBLEM

SHRINKING THE PROBLEM =

- ✓ Presenting the problem in a way that people can relate and respond to.
- ✓ Not minimizing the problem.
- ✓ Solutions feel more manageable.

THE ART OF SCALING

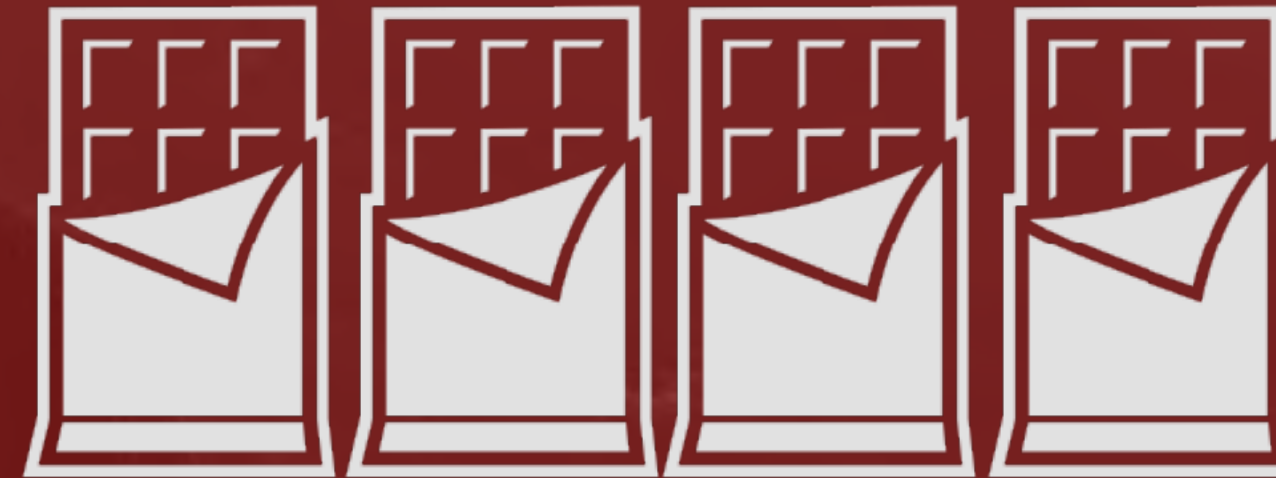
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Big
Intangible
Easy to discard

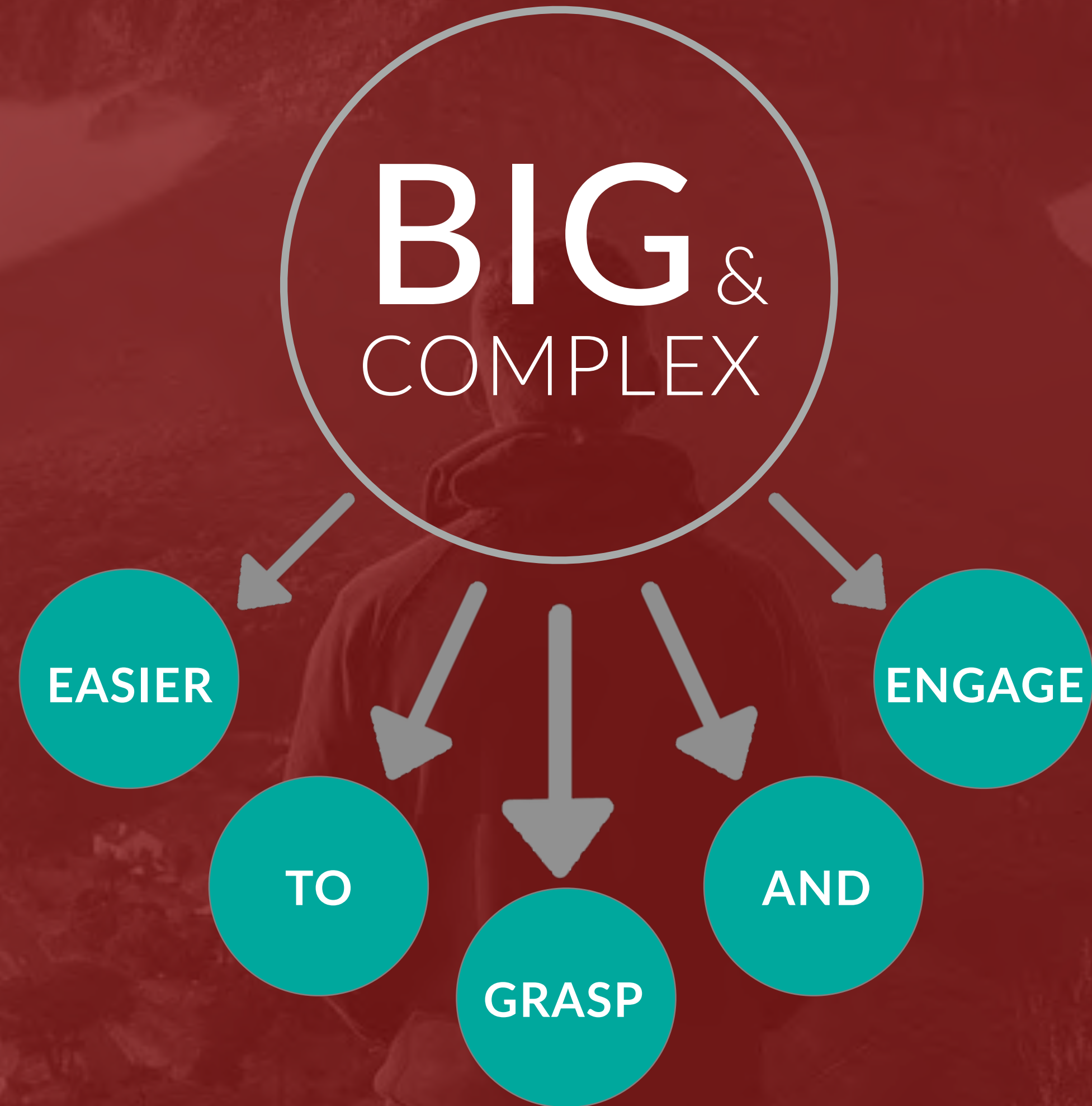
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4



Relatable
Tangible
Difficult to ignore

THE ART OF SCALING



SCALING THE VISION OF YOUR MINISTRY



Ensure your advocacy is catalyzing, not paralyzing.

INCREASE CLARITY, DECREASE ANXIETY



The vision of your ministry should increase clarity on where you are going, why you are going there and how you are going to get there.

INCREASE CLARITY, DECREASE ANXIETY

“ Sometimes what looks like resistance is
often just a lack of clarity. ”
Chip and Dan Heath, *Switch*

SAMPLE “SCALED” STATEMENTS

“We want to eradicate the foster care crisis in our city.” = NOT A VISION

“Our county needs 50 more foster families...we want to see 25 of those come from our church in the next 12 months. Here’s how we’re going to do it...” = Clear, tangible, achievable

SAMPLE “SCALED” STATEMENTS

“There are 153 million orphans in the world.” = NOT A VISION

“You can’t change the world for every kid, but you can change the world of one. There are 13 kids within a 60 mile radius of our church waiting to be adopted. We want to bring that number to 0 in the next 12-18 months. Here’s how we’re going to do it...” = Clear, tangible, achievable



80K GOAL

0 RAISED

80K NEEDED

100k GOAL

20K RAISED

80K NEEDED



80K GOAL

0 RAISED

80K NEEDED



100k GOAL

20K RAISED

80K NEEDED

“SCALED” ON-RAMPS

TIER 1 (Less commitment)	TIER 2 (Increased commitment)	TIER 3 (Highest commitment)
Bring meals Donate supplies Prayer	Babysit Financial support Transportation/run errands	Foster Adopt Provide respite

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

In what ways is your current message helping to “shrink the problem” by giving your people clear, tangible and relatable pieces of information to act on?

In what ways might your current message actually be counterproductive - overwhelming and perhaps paralyzing?

What specific things about your message can you change to increase clarity and decrease anxiety, uncertainty, etc?

What pieces of information do you need to gather (i.e. smaller stats locally or globally, special needs that can be met in the community, etc.)?

2

Grow
YOUR PEOPLE

GROWING YOUR PEOPLE =

- ✓ Discipleship.
- ✓ Equipping in the gospel.
- ✓ Empowerment in their gifts.

A landscape photograph of a mountain range with a river winding through a valley. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent white rectangle in the center, which contains the text. The overall color palette is dominated by warm, earthy tones like reds, oranges, and browns.

WE ARE NOT
SIMPLY
RECRUITING
PEOPLE TO
MEET A NEED;
WE ARE
DISCIPLINING
THEM TO OBEY
A COMMAND.

MATTHEW 28:19-20

*Jesus came to them and said,
“All authority in heaven and on
earth has been given to Me.*

*Therefore go and **make
disciples** of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of
the Father, and of the Son, and
of the Holy Spirit, and **teaching
them to obey** all that I have
commanded you.*

NEEDS BASED VS. GOSPEL DRIVEN

What good is it, my brothers, if someone claims to have faith, but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you tells him, “Go in peace; stay warm and well fed,” but does not provide for his physical needs, what good is that?

James 2:14-16

If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?

1 John 3:17

NEEDS BASED VS. GOSPEL DRIVEN

It is possible to motivate people to meet needs without becoming disciples of Jesus. However, it is impossible to be a disciple of Jesus and not meet needs.
It's just what disciples do.

NEEDS BASED VS. GOSPEL DRIVEN

What you bring them in with is what you will keep them with.

FRONT-END
MOTIVATION



BACK-END
SUPPORT



FOUR AVENUES OF SUPPORT



TANGIBLE

RELATIONAL

EDUCATIONAL

SPIRITUAL

Building a Discipleship Pipeline:
*Five Essential Elements of
Movement for Your Foster Care
and Adoption Ministry*

www.cafo.org/church



1

USE THE EXISTING

The answers to what you need are often found in the things you already have.

2

SET MICRO GOALS

Set goals small enough to reach yet still meaningful enough to strive for.

3

INSPECT WHAT YOU EXPECT

Establish accountability measures for goals and action items.

4

CONDUCT SMALL EXPERIMENTS

Sometimes the greater goal of something isn't success, but learning.

5

CELEBRATE SUCCESSES

Create a culture that recognizes, reinforces and rewards the “wins.”



3

Chart
THE PATH

CHARTING THE PATH =

- ✓ Clear, fluid action items.
- ✓ Tangible pathway.
- ✓ Easier to do the right things next.

A person with a backpack is seen from behind, looking out over a vast landscape. In the foreground, there are pine trees. In the middle ground, a lake is visible, surrounded by a forest. In the background, there are large, rugged mountains under a clear sky. The entire image has a reddish-brown tint.

“PATH” RELATED QUESTIONS

Where is your ministry going?

How are you getting there?

What are the steps people need to take?

Who should they talk to if they have questions?

Where should they go if they want more information?

IDENTIFYING YOUR PATH



TOP-DOWN

Church leadership driven
Church resources utilized
Wide promotion



BOTTOM-UP

Passionate advocates
Little, if any, support
Grassroots engagement

TOP-DOWN PATH



Starts big and moves people into smaller levels of community and discipleship.

TOP-DOWN PATH

Engage the **crowd.**

Orphan Sunday
Sermon/series
Service opportunity
Missions emphasis
Vision series



Build a **bridge.**

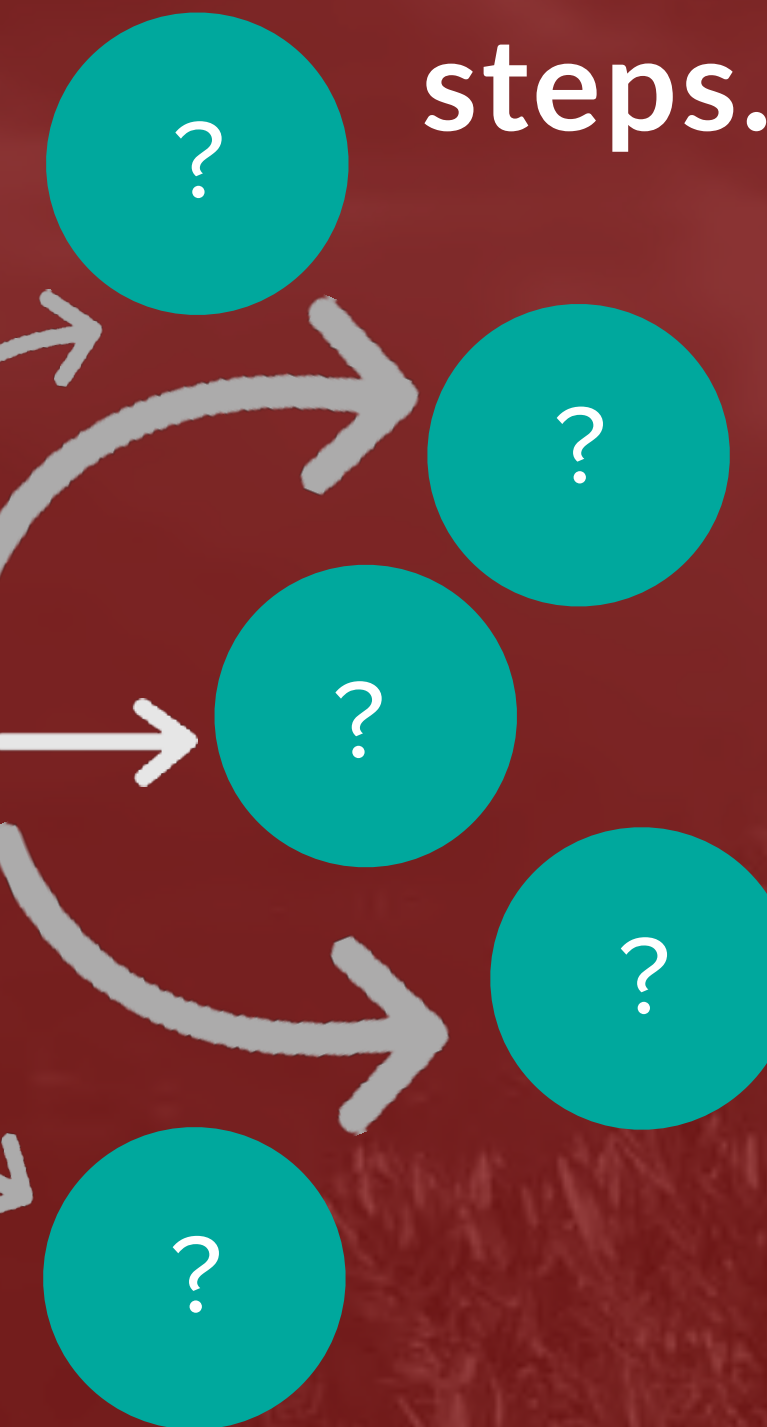
Luncheon
Info Meeting
Social gathering



Connect & **equip.**

Small group
Class
Orientation

Take **next steps.**



TOP-DOWN PATH

Key Principles to Consider:

- ✓ Don't implement one stage without having the next step planned.
- ✓ This four-stage rhythm can become a consistent engagement process in the church (1x/year, 2x/year, quarterly, etc.)
- ✓ Before connecting families with outside agencies, consider the important of journeying with them through this connection and equipping process.

BOTTOM-UP PATH



Starts with the foundation of community,
then expands from there.

BOTTOM-UP PATH



BOTTOM-UP PATH



BOTTOM-UP PATH

Key Principles to Consider:

- ✓ Ask, “When was the last time we had everyone in our church who is fostering/adopted or ever has in a room together?”
- ✓ The legitimacy of your ministry is not compromised working bottom-up, but the trajectory is.
- ✓ Work in concentric circles, continually expanding the sphere of community to those who are “interested/curious”.
- ✓ Approach your leadership with proof of concept and historical precedence.

APPROACHING CHURCH LEADERSHIP

ESTABLISH PROOF OF CONCEPT

Demonstrate how the ministry is already “working” and meeting the needs of people in the church.

PRESENT A STRATEGIC PLAN

Present a reasonable, actionable plan for how the ministry can be most effectively executed.

KEEP THE LARGE PICTURE IN MIND

Understand, and communicate, how the ministry fits into and serves the overall vision of the church.

FLIP YOUR ASSUMPTIONS

Instead of believing they don't care, assume they do care but just don't know how to care.



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