

Discussion Resources For Church

This series of resources poses questions to prompt discussion amongst church members. It is intended to lead to a fresh understanding of the way in which the Church's buildings can serve the work of the Church.

This follows the book "[Making Property Serve Mission – Rethinking the Church's Buildings 21st-Century](#)" by Fred Batterton. This is a series of on-screen slides to accompany the following questions. Download the slides in PowerPoint (Windows) or Keynote (Mac).

Part 10: Troubleshooting & FAQs

Questions and comments relate to the following slides:

3. Opposition. But when Sanballat ..., Tobiah ... and Geshem ... heard about it, they mocked and ridiculed us. "What is this you are doing?" they asked. "Are you rebelling against the king?" I answered them by saying, "The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding..." *Nehemiah 2: 19-20a*
4. *Encouraging commitment. Set the scene: what's wrong now. A spiritual discipline. Lead by example. As thanks for the past, you are gifting for the coming generation. How is the mission compromised by our facilities now? How could mission be improved with better facilities? Financial commitment is part of exercising faith. The leader team can start the fundraising by their own commitment - lead from the front. The improvements are for the future generations use - we fund them as thanks for our inherited spaces that we have used.*
5. *Comfort in status quo. Acknowledge the challenge for all. Embrace the need for change. Mission is not comfortable. Preach creative tension. Paint the picture of a mission-enabled future. There will be no shortage of reasons to do nothing! It is a challenge for all including the leaders. Change is natural. Being on mission is not easy - many missionaries have it much harder. The preaching can prepare the way for change.*
6. *Dissent and fear. Visit dissenters early. Understand their main fear. Are their other concerns just supporting the main one? Seek to get a significant majority onside. Focus fully on mission but acknowledge their emotions. Come alongside any who cannot see the need for change and understand them.*
7. *Delay and inertia. Ask God for a timetable. When you have a clear way forward, take it. Set milestones along the path: claim each of them as victories. Challenge delays, no too-hard basket. Delay and postponement is easy. Do not be tempted to think that you can take forever or the enthusiast will leave. Compare with developers who need to build as fast as possible*



to get a financial return on investment. The church needs its missional return on investment in its buildings.

8. *Buildings for us or... For our successors, our children. Investment in future generations. Unwelcoming facilities need renewal. Change is normal. Not for us - for those in need of faith. We build for our children and all those who will find faith in the future. We create for the next 50 - 80 years of the church's life.*
9. *Example- Goodlife Church was established in 2000. It has grown and supports missionaries in many countries. Its facilities have enabled local growth and thereby missionary support worldwide.*

