

Building What You Really Need

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How can a client be sure that what is described in their brief will be what they really need when the building is finished? For churches, will it enable the future mission of the church in the years ahead? Everyone wants it to be an asset, facilitating the mission and not a hindrance.

There is a process to develop a better brief that involves everybody and creates unity and support among members. It's based on the core business of the church and a self-critical assessment of its property.

The scarce funds for building work will then target the local mission needs of the church. An architect's skills can then be focused on facilitating mission.



Missional Identity

It follows a logical process:

1. Teach, pray and consider the likely future community. Learn from others.
2. The Missional Identity (MiD 1) questionnaire asks all members: *What is your mission focus now, and what do you think it will be in the future?*
3. The results form a future mission priority shortlist dependent on the church size.
4. Each part of the property that the church currently uses is then critically reviewed by the leaders (PA 2) asking: *How useful will this be to serve our future mission.*
5. The need for change can be clearly identified.
6. An architect considers this against the opportunities provided by current property, developing a strategy for change.
7. Concept masterplanning by your architect is workshopped with leaders
8. The proposals are then presented on screen and judged in terms of their usefulness to enable future mission.
9. There is support among people who can see the purpose of the church being served by change.

The process has been trialled and refined over twelve years and is now available online. MiD1 covers:

- Core Ministries
- Connection Ministries
- Community Care.
- Community Engagement
- Educational Ministry
- Worship Expressions
- Spiritual Connectedness
- Ecological Responsibility
- Accessibility and Communication
- Leadership and Governance.

Demographics and opportunities for funding are also explored.

Deliverables are:

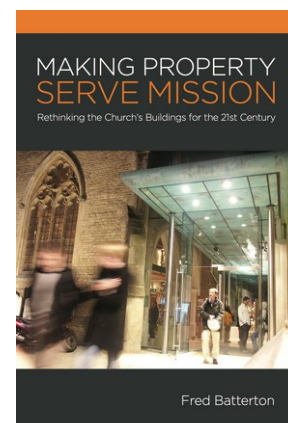
A shortlist of mission priorities agreed with the leaders based on church size - MID 1.

A prioritised critical review of current property - PA 2.

A staged design solution presented on-screen - Masterplan.

This is a low-cost approach before committing to major construction.

Call 03 9486 4425 or email info@studiob.net.au



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