

Learning Community















IS OUR CHURCH READY TO GO WITH NEW CLARITY WHERE GOD IS CALLING US?

Church leaders across the globe long to see the Good News of the Gospel carried outside the walls of their churches and into their local communities. However, due to the "Sunday is coming" mentality that has seeped into church ministry culture, increasing the church's capacity to reach outside its walls feels burdensome and finds itself competing with running existing ministries.

The necessary task of running the church and the programs that serve its people can inadvertently draw church leaders away from the important role of aligning their church's strategies and structures with the Mission of God. This can cause the mission to drift, fade, or even be forgotten. Often, church leaders are aware, but struggle to identify next steps toward realignment while engaged in the relentless pace of ministry.

What if you didn't need to have all the answers today, but could be part of an intentional journey of discovery and clarity in the coming months? What if you could leverage the collective potential of your team in a learning community of impact-oriented leaders and courageously act to build and discover your church's future missional path?

The degree to which you and your team are willing to wrestle with the answers to these five critical questions for your context will impact the next 5-7 years of your church's collective Gospel impact:

- What strengths must we maximize and what old paradigms must we release in order to multiply leaders and disciples for the future?
- Does our vision inspire and mobilize our people to engage in greater "Mission of God" impact with their lives beyond worship attendance, bible study, and serving at church?
- Do we have an effective, relational strategy for training and releasing disciples that embody our church's contextualized expression of God's timeless mission?
- How do we discern and articulate a disciple-making vision that everyone in our church shares, propelling them into mission for the sake of our community's future?
- Where can we find a trusted partner to help us gain clarity and develop strategy to step into what God has for us next?



VISION BRIDGE PROCESS

THE CORE PROCESS & DELIVERABLES

The Vision Bridge journey is an innovative process that delivers disciple-making clarity and shared vision designed around your church's unique DNA and context.

The following identify five key signposts for the journey as key deliverables along the way.



FUNNEL FUSION

Move the finish line. Most churches are over-programmed and under-discipled, focused on engaging people in worship services, small groups and service opportunities. These are good things! But, ministry success is not only in the crowds that gather, but the disciples that scatter to be the church in the places where they live, work, and play. Move the finish line of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus from simple church engagement to living as a family on mission.

Deliverable

Identify the challenges your church faces in training and releasing disciples and how the Spirit is leading you to navigate them, stepping into the future with confidence.



CROWD CLOUD

Become a hero-maker. Learn how to elevate mission to engage everyone, everywhere, everyday by exchanging the staff's identity as ministry heroes to becoming hero-makers who develop the Kingdom potential in others. Take a fresh look at both the unique mission-force God has brought together in your congregation and the unique mission field in which God has placed you.

Deliverable

Craft an everyone, everywhere, everyday mission that focuses and unites the leadership while activating the congregation.



DISCIPLE'S JOURNEY

Build a training center. Learn how to elevate discipleship by establishing the key essentials necessary to a disciple-making culture. Define the specific kind of disciples you are intentionally seeking to develop and which your local context desperately needs.

Deliverable

Change the scorecard by identifying your Dream Disciple and codifying your unique set of transferable tools to develop them.



KINGDOM PLATFORM

Empower each one. Learn how to elevate leadership development that moves beyond the walls of the church. Explore five essential skills to help maturing disciples become kingdom leaders that are easy to follow.

Deliverable

Identification of the key environments and practices that empower multiplication in your context.



VISION FRAME

Create the future. With vivid language, clarify God's unique disciple-making calling that defines your church's unique identity and direction as you step with God into your next chapter together.

Deliverable

Your shared dream of the future that answers "Where is God taking us?" coupled with an executable plan.





LEARNING COMMUNITY RHYTHMS

The Vision Bridge process is an innovative journey that delivers solutions for real disciple-making growth based on a church's unique DNA.

The journey is built around a collaborative training and decision-making environment based on biblical principles and proven tools. Vision Bridge Trainers will facilitate a team-building and coaching dynamic to help each church's key leaders align around disciple-making clarity that culminates in a Vision Frame which provides greater unity, clarity, freedom and alignment for the whole church. Each team will navigate through mission opportunity clarification, disciple-making culture, and steps to effective implementation. The process consists of ten sessions in an approximate nine-month window which are delivered utilizing a mix of in-person and virtual environments.

TIMELINE VISUAL SUMMARY

This table helps you visualize the timeline. Descriptions for each component are listed below.

Training Components	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Immersions										
Virtual Sessions										
Open Office Hours										

COMPONENT DESCRIPTIONS

2 IMMERSIONS

Immersions are in-person gatherings that bring all church teams together, both at the start and midway through the process. These gatherings foster relational courage combined with catalytic ideas.

8 VIRTUAL SESSIONS

Each Immersion is followed by four virtual sessions (8 sessions total) taking place every 3-4 weeks. Each session runs two hours and consists of content, coaching and team conversations.

OPEN OFFICE HOURS

At critical junctures in the process, Vision Bridge Trainers are available to church leaders through an "Open Office Hours" virtual time.

TEAM WORK SESSIONS

Between sessions, each church team is encouraged to schedule a two-hour "working session" in order to continue the conversation and maintain forward momentum.



10 MAKE OR BREAK QUESTIONS

The Vision Bridge Learning Community will help motivated church teams answer the following 10 Make or Break questions with greater confidence and shared agreement than they do today.

Rating: 1 = Strongly Disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Uncertain 4= Agree 5 = Strongly Agree

1	Our Mission Motivates: We have a clear, compelling, contextualized mission statement that mobilizes our congregation (not just our staff) to live out their identity where they live, work and play.	1	2	3	4	5
2	Our Unique Distinctives: We have a clearly articulated set of actionable values that define the distinct culture, behaviors and decision making filters of our church.	1	2	3	4	5
3	Our Dream Disciple: We have defined our Dream Disciple—the kinds of disciples we are intentionally developing and which our local context desperately needs—as the key measure of success in fulfilling our mission.	1	2	3	4	5
4	Our Disciple-making Pathway: We have an effective disciple-making strategy that functions more like a multiplication map than a program menu.	1	2	3	4	5
5	Our Development Practices: We have reproducible tools, practices and coaching that empowers multiplication through increased 'show-how' training versus primarily 'tell-how' teaching experiences.	1	2	3	4	5
6	Our Deployment Passion: We have an intentional way of helping people cooperate with the Holy Spirit as they identify and engage persons of peace within their relational sphere of influence.	1	2	3	4	5
7	Our Shared Dream: We, as a church, are being guided into the future by a shared dream—a 5-7 year God-inspired vision that vividly describes where God is taking us as church.	1	2	3	4	5
8	Our Strategic Objectives: We have identified a handful of strategic objectives we must achieve in the next three years on the way to our long-range vision.	1	2	3	4	5
9	Our 1-Year Goal: We have a single, short-range goal, six to twelve months into the future, that has become a rallying point for both the leadership and congregation.	1	2	3	4	5
10	Our Action Initiatives: In the next 90-120 days, we have a set of clear action initiatives that are helping us to win early and often as we stay in step with the Holy Spirit and one another on the way to our long-range vision.	1	2	3	4	5



FINANCIAL INVESTMENT

VISION BRIDGE LEARNING COMMUNITY \$6,000*

\$500 registration fee

Tuition payable to PLI in 2 payments of \$2,750 before each Immersion

Includes:

- 2 Immersions
- 8 Two Hour Virtual Sessions
- 2 Open Office Hours
- Vision Bridge Materials
- Access to a Learning Community
 Web Portal for your team**

NEXT STEPS

JOIN PLI FOR THE NEXT VISION BRIDGE COHORT*

- Contact Raechel Pfotenhauer to reserve your spot raechel@plileadership.org or 630.795.9747
- Be prepared to register with a \$500 fee
- Begin to build your team of 3-5 people total

^{*} Travel and lodging for the Immersions not included.

^{**} Maximum team size is 5 people (including the senior pastor). We recommend a team of 3-5.

^{*} Cohort size is limited.