




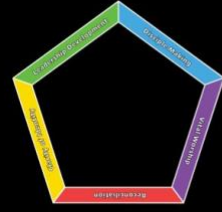
Spiritual Depth | Reconciliation

A VIBRANT TOGETHER SERIES

A Vibrant Christ-Centered Community...

HAS SPIRITUAL DEPTH
It is reflected by congregational commitment to scriptural study, building of relationships beyond the membership of the church, generous giving, active prayer life, and deepening of the interior spiritual life of its members.



CLARITY OF IDENTITY
A clear sense of identity is evident in principally articulated vision, intentionality, multi-generational membership, and reconciliation.

PASSION

What are your passions?

What are your congregation's passions?



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ALTERNATIVE QUESTION

What might we follow instead of our passions?

Dan Cable – London Business School

Harvard Business Review

“As a professor of organizational behavior at London Business School, I’ve been studying and writing about people’s job choices and career success for 25 years. And instead of ‘Follow your passion’ or ‘Follow your bliss,’ my bumper-sticker career advice is ‘Follow your blisters.’”

“A blister appears when something wears at you – and even chafes you a bit – but you keep getting drawn back to it. What I like about the phrase is that it implies something about perseverance and struggling through tasks even though they are not always blissful. ‘Follow your blisters’ makes me ask myself the question, ‘What kind of work do I find myself coming back to again and again, even when I don’t succeed right away, when it seems like it’s taking too long to make progress, or when I get discouraged.’”

“Finally, ‘Follow your blisters’ implies something that you come back to so many times that you eventually move past the blister stage, into toughened skin. Eventually, the activity ‘marks you’ through use and practice, and you develop a special competence. When you practice and activity more obsessively than other people, you build unique character – you earn some wear and some healing that makes you idiosyncratic, and a little unbalance.”

“You develop what the Japanese culture might call ‘wabi-sabi’ – a beauty caused by the personalized texture you have earned and the places you are not quite symmetrical.”

“FOLLOW YOUR BLISTERS”

“A blister appears when something wears at you...you keep getting drawn back to it.”

When YOU think about you as a leader, what are YOUR blisters? What chafes at you? What do you keep getting drawn back to?

When you think about your church, what are their blisters? What chafes at your church? What does it keep getting drawn back to?



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How might paying attention to a blister actually be theologically appropriate? What biblical story or narrative comes to mind?

When you think about Spiritual Depth, what intersections are there with your blisters? How might blisters grow a leader's (your) Spiritual Depth?

When you think about Spiritual Depth, what intersections are there with your congregation's sense of how it understands God? Who God is? Where is God leading? What is God up to?

When you think about Clarity of Identity, what intersections are there with your blisters? How might blisters grow a leader's (your) Clarity of Identity?

When you think about Clarity of Identity, what intersections are there with your congregation's sense of how it understands God? Who God is? Where is God leading? What is God up to?



WABI-SABI

How would you describe your own unique “wabi-sabi” as a leader?

How would you describe your congregation’s own unique “wabi-sabi”?
