



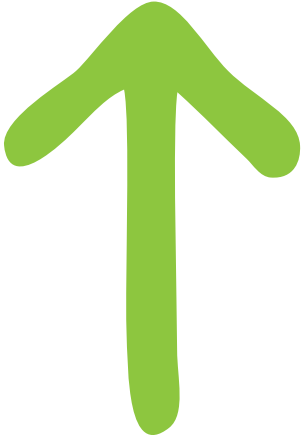
MISSION
CHURCH

HOW

FROM UNFAITH → FAITH

HOW: MOVING FROM UNFAITH → FAITH

This isn't a linear sequence but to move from unfaith to faith in every area of your life you'll have to spend time in contemplative, communal and missional practices. So what does that mean?



Let's start with **Contemplative**. Contemplative deals with the interior life. Contemplating who we are, who God is, and what He can do for us. To pursue a contemplative life is to read the Bible, understand what it says about us, to pray, fast, and build margins of grace and love in our lives. It deals with some of the classic disciplines the Christian faith has promoted over two thousand years.

There's never been a more important time than now to promote contemplative living... our society runs fast... from rehearsal to project to email to gym to class to the game to on and on... Do you ever just feel tired? Do you ever want to get away? This is where contemplative practices can help! A life consistently built around grace and margin and prayer brings peace. You need to pursue a contemplative life because **you need peace**.

Communal:

So, here we are running everywhere... activity to activity, always connected. We're always plugged in, online, getting stuff done and doing something... but seldom are we in relationship with people. This leads to loneliness. Some people say, well I've got my virtual friends. And I do believe the lines between physical and virtual are blurring. No doubt that's a part of our society but it's not yet the same. In fact there are many studies demonstrating that constant virtual connection is life-draining not life-giving.



I was interested in reading lately about group of bloggers making plans for their annual conference which consisted of them getting together. Wait... does anyone see the irony? If ever there was any group that could do a virtual conference it would be professional bloggers... but

they get together, face to face every year. Why? Because without connection it's lonely. It's how we're wired. You need to pursue a communal life because you need to be connected... **it's the antidote to loneliness**.



Missional:

The very word, missional, propels outward. It's a sending concept. Being missional is going to others to serve, to love, to bless. Of course, this means around the world but sometimes we forget that it means right here at home as well. There are people already within your circle who need to be influenced by you as you move from unfaith to faith. Additionally, the way you move to faith is through missional practices. That's right... blessing, serving, giving not only helps others. It helps you. Makes sense... our world is completely wrapped up in getting, achieving, conquering and growing. We want to be the best, number one, have the corner office and the best life. None of these are necessarily wrong in and of themselves but if you back up and pause to take a look at all of this activity you realize in many cases we're so wrapped up in all this that it drives us. To admit we're driven is to admit that what we really want is to play something of a god in our lives. (Now we're getting somewhere!) If that's true, there has to be some things you're involved in that help you lay this God-complex-thing down. This is what Jesus did. He was God yet didn't consider equality with God something to be grasped. He laid it down. You need to pursue a missional life because you need to intentionally remind yourself **you are not God**.

Ways to learn more...

Check out our videos [here](#) →
Join us for Sunday gatherings [here](#) →
Grow in contemplative, communal and missional ways by joining a Mission Group [here](#) →
Most importantly:

Read this → The Bible

Pray this → The Lord's Prayer

Be this → Yourself