

Christian Leadership Reflections

Discussion Guide

THE CHURCH IS AT A TURNING POINT

https://www.cccc.org/news_blogs/john/2015/10/13/the-church-is-at-a-turning-point/



- 1) List some ways that Christianity, as your ministry lives it, is counter-cultural. The more we are counter-cultural, the more difficult it will be to relate to the world around us. Discuss reasons why each of the items on your list should or should not be there. The goal is to ensure that where you are counter-cultural, you have a good reason for being so.
 - a) Is there any item that you wish to refer to someone or a committee to do further research on?
 - b) Consider using this excellent book to determine if something is culturally-bound or eternal: *Slaves, Women, and Homosexuals* by Bill Webb.
- 2) Examine your messaging and graphics, goals, and strategies and look for anything that suggests your goal is to return to a 'golden age.'
 - a) Have a focus group of people under forty review your materials and tell you what they think your key messages are.
- 3) What privileges, if any, do you now enjoy? Examples could include charitable status, access to government funding, partnerships with secular agencies, etc.
 - a) For each privilege, discuss the benefits of losing it. What would it force you to do differently?
 - b) Imagine you had to get all your ministry work done by volunteers. How could you get it done? This is not a suggestion to get rid of your paid workers, but a prompt to think about how their work could be augmented by volunteers.
- 4) Thinking only in terms of your mission, what does true success look like? How could you measure it? What indicators of success would you look for?