



Mission Refocus | Disciple-Making



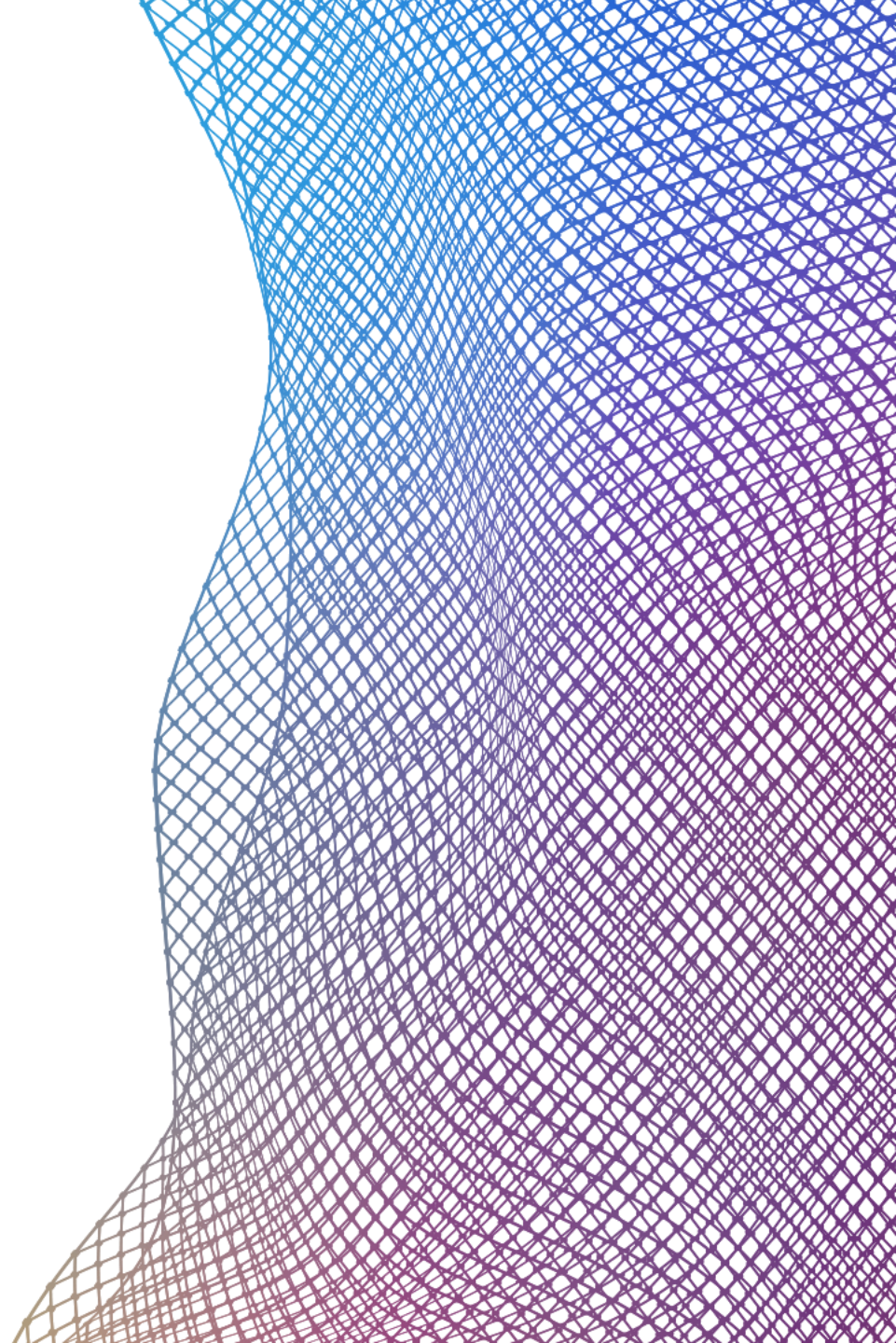


# *Mission Everywhere*

## *From Holy Places to Holy People*

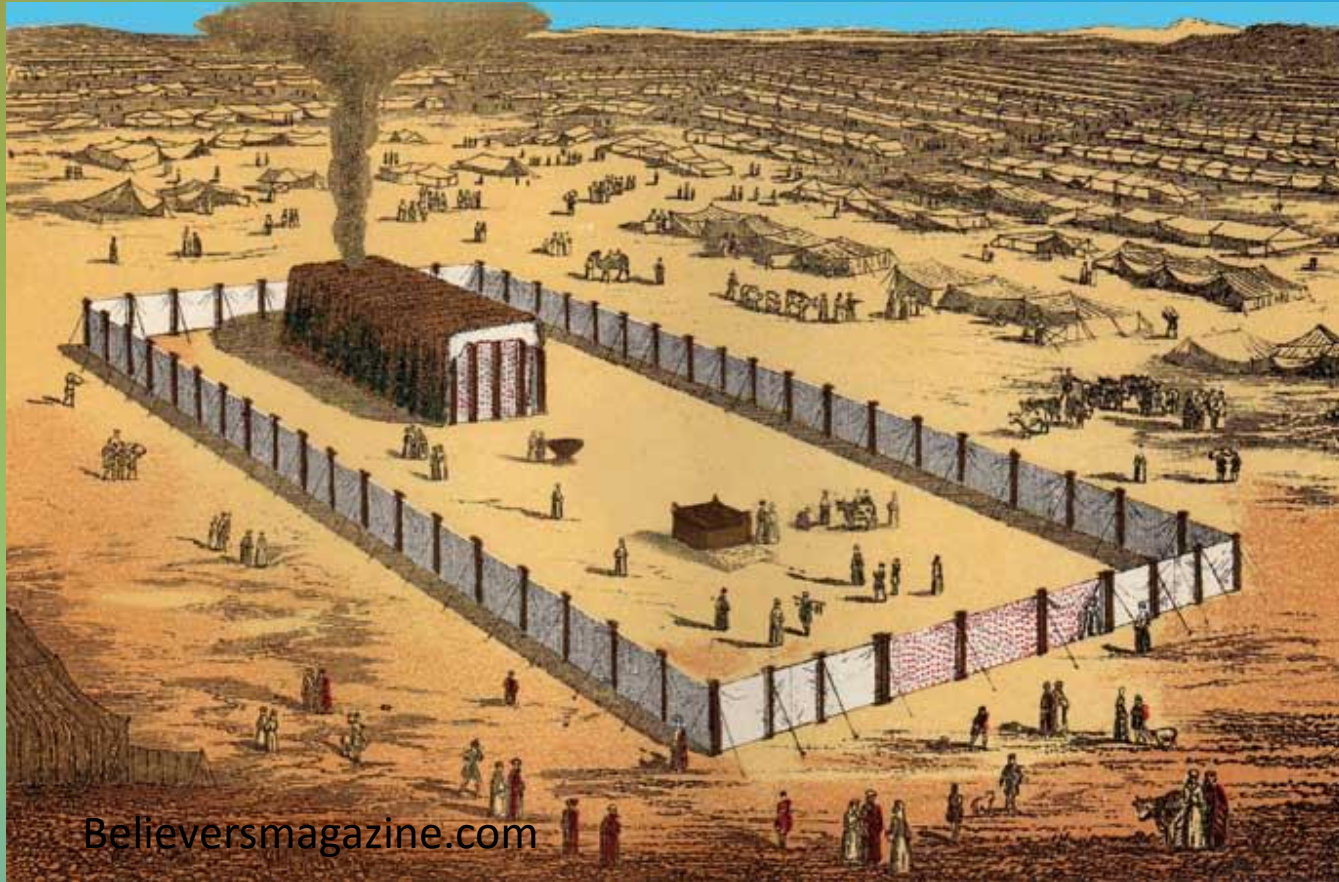
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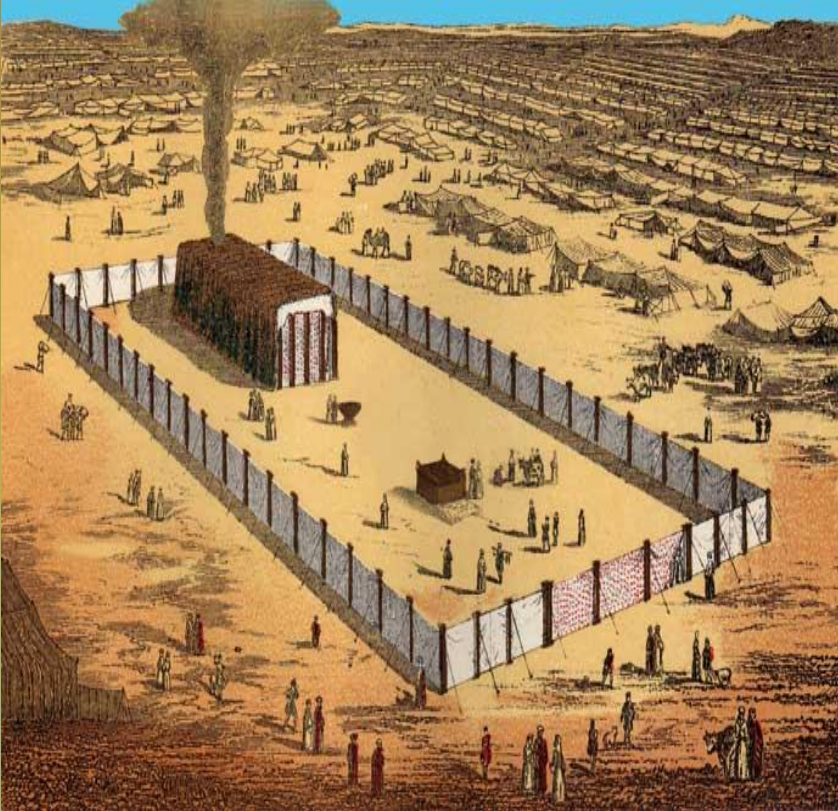
# God's sanctuary as the space



where heaven and earth collide



# God's sanctuary as the space



where heaven and earth collide



Today's concept of church as a holy place where religious stuff happens is an inheritance from Roman Christianity and an increasingly limiting concept for mission in today's secular cultures and the persecuted church across the 1040 window.

# So What?

Today's concept of church as a holy place where religious stuff happens is an inheritance from Roman Christianity and an increasingly limiting concept for mission in today's secular cultures and the persecuted church across the 1040 window.

As Christians who believe in the heavenly sanctuary as God's holy space, Seventh-day Adventists should be on the cutting edge of a missional transition from holy places to holy people. Applying this biblical teaching opens new avenues for disciple-making and church planting and ironically—rather than denigrating buildings—holds the key to the future of church buildings as missionally effective and financially sustainable.



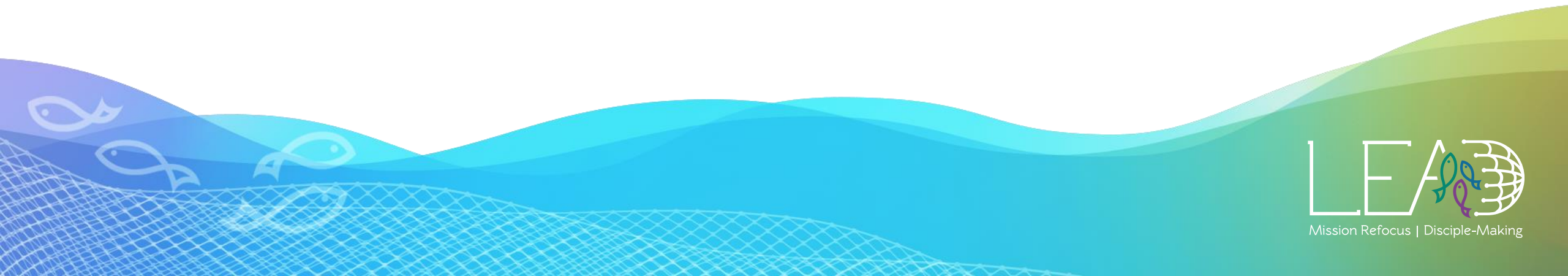
Disciplemaking

Church Buildings

Implications?

Personal

Church Planting





# The Cell Phone Test





“It was not Christian worship that attracted outsiders. It was Christians who attracted them and outsiders found the Christians attractive because of their Christian lifestyle and practices which came from their spiritual formation and worship as a community.”

Kreider – *Patient Ferment of the Early Church*



# Disciplemaking

(mission scorecard)

# Church Buildings

(missionally effective +  
financially sustainable)

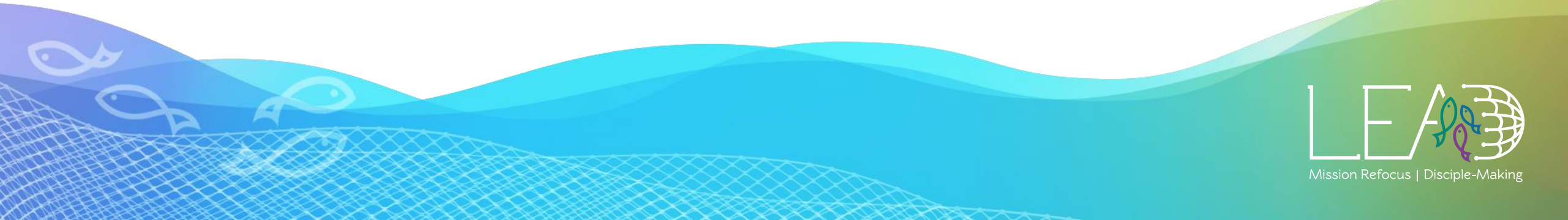
## Implications?

# Personal

(cell phone test)

# Church Planting

(reached-field to mission-field)



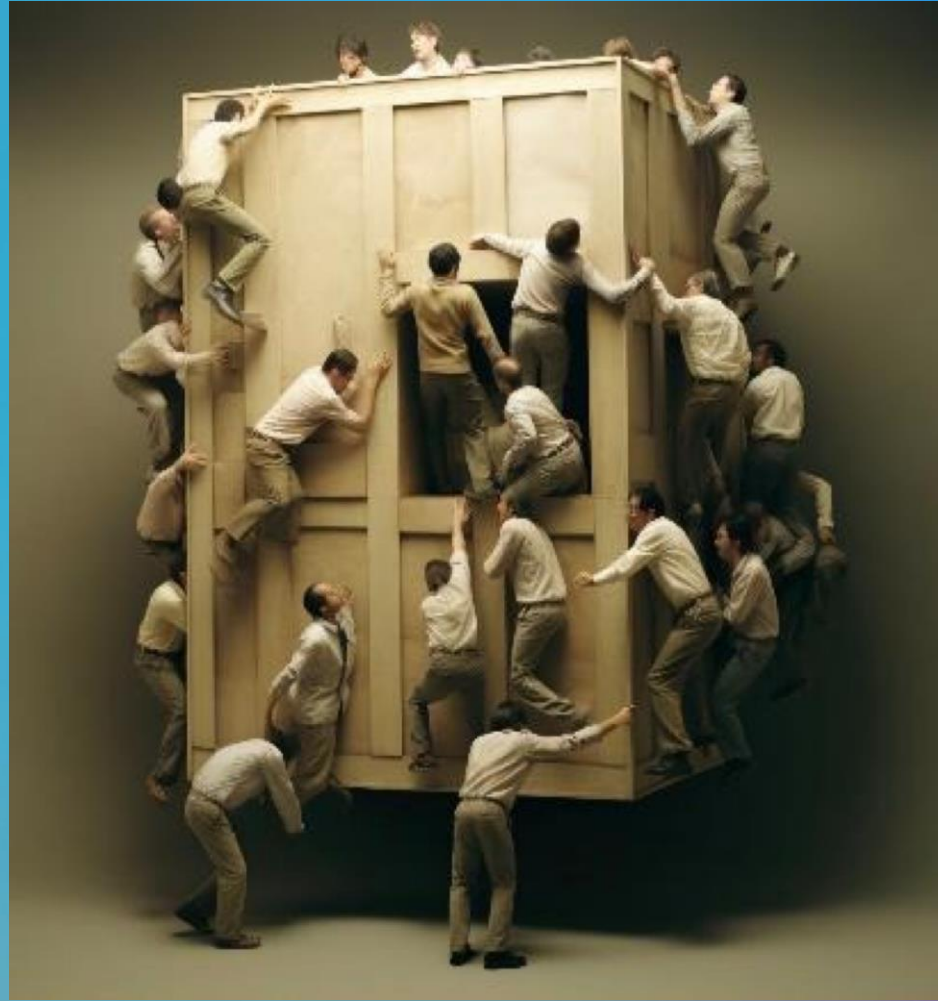
# Acts 17:24-25

“The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else.”





# Inside the Box a missional poem



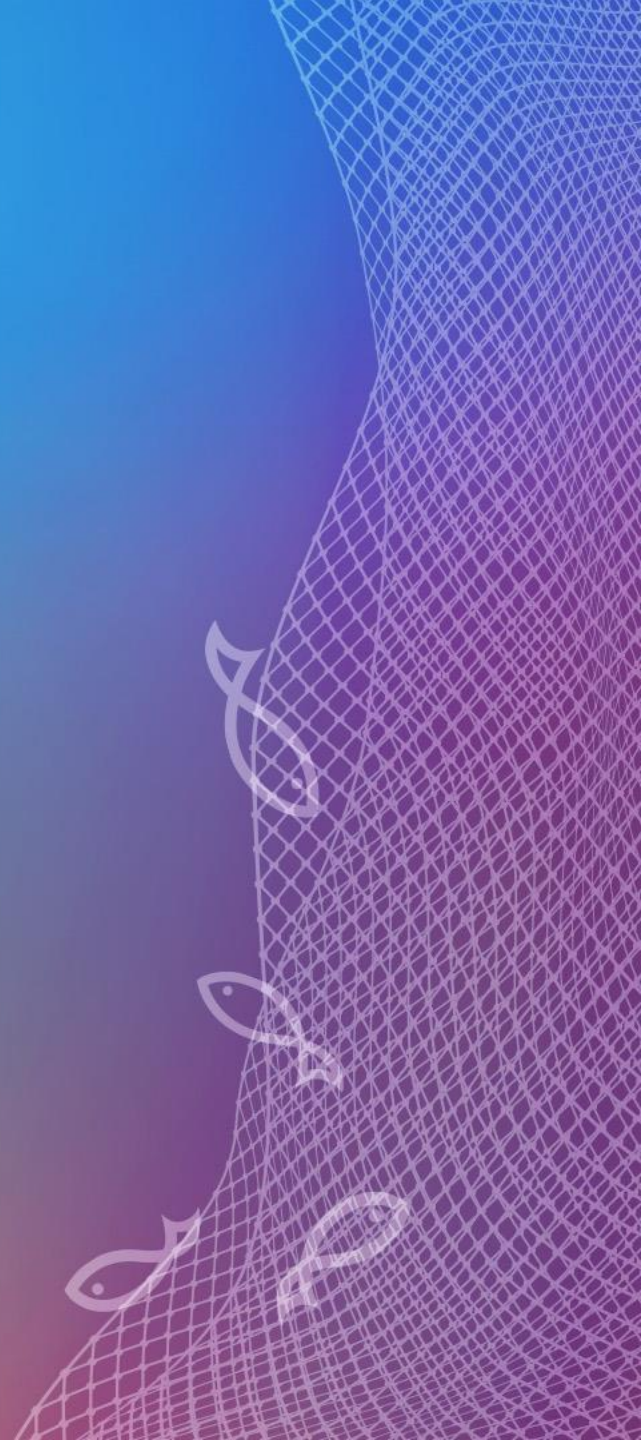
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# Inside the Box

As the Master stood upon a hill  
He gave a mission to fulfill  
Shine the light into dark spaces  
Markets, parties, and unusual places

These early disciples were hard to stop  
As they witnessed in ships, houses, and shops  
Go and show not come and see  
Nothing was done conveniently





# Inside the Box

A church with no walls, pulpit, or steeple;  
To them it was clear that the church is God's people.  
Since visiting yourself is a most foolish lesson,  
Going to church was out of the question.

But this wild horse received a trainer  
As they placed the bright light into a container.  
The graves of martyrs a place to meet  
To remember their lives, pray, and eat.  
And if these great people reside in great places,  
The light must be brightest in these sacred spaces.





# Inside the Box

Constantine believed this as head of the nation  
So he already had the perfect location  
A temple named Peter and one for Paul  
Even over the tomb of the Greatest of all

These buildings were patterned from pagan design  
And referred to as 'churches' with the passing of time  
From park bench to pew box from nursery to nave  
From armchair to altar and storefront to stage  
From porches to pulpits the light was contained  
As this type of thinking was fully ingrained

# Inside the Box

Though centuries later I still can attest  
That with brick and mortar we are quite obsessed  
So much of our time is spent raising cash  
To keep up with maintenance and things that get smashed  
We fight over carpet and pest control plans  
But the real fun begins when we decide to expand

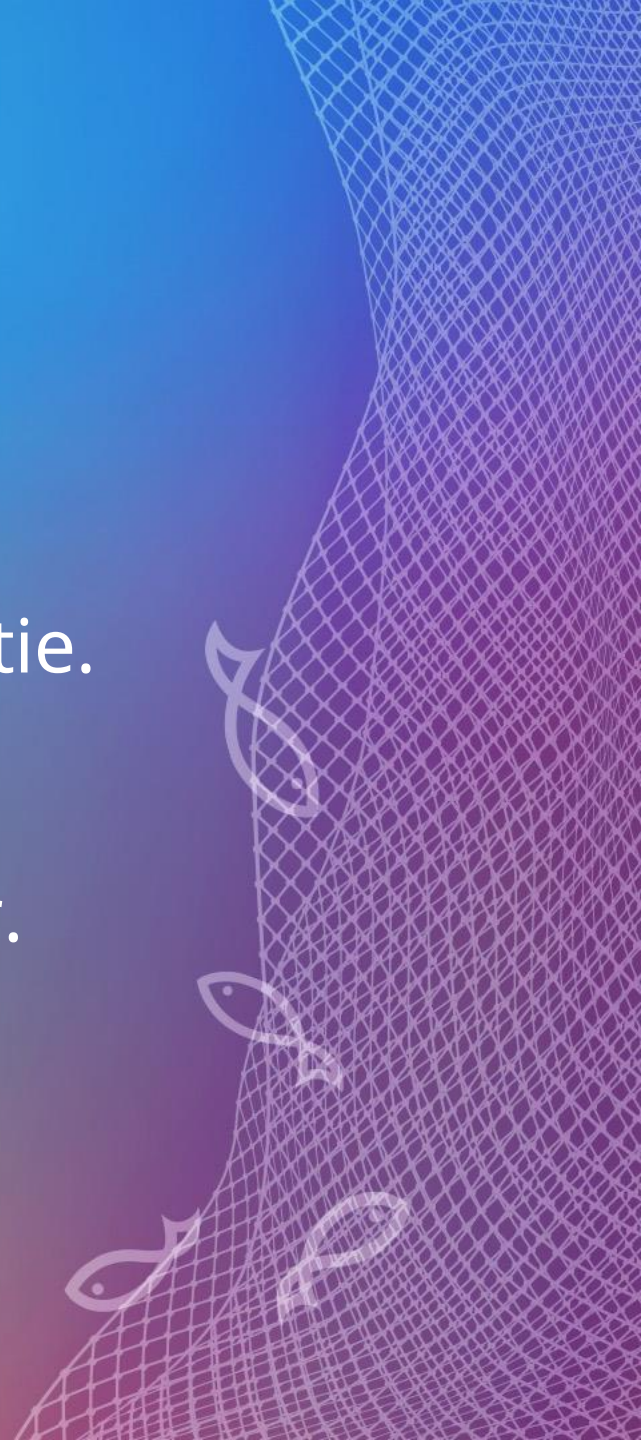
Why let our lights shine at the park or the beach  
When we all know 'the church' is the place for outreach  
If mission will grow through our money and time  
Then the enemy thrives on this paradigm



# Inside the Box

As some of you read this you're cheering hooray  
It's about time we move past traditional ways.  
From steeples to sofas and screened-in lanais  
From three-piece to short-sleeves without a necktie.

And, yes, it is true that in building a fire  
If you rearrange the logs the flame can go higher.  
Yet our ultimate goal is not configuration  
But to carry the light that brings transformation.







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