

# Into the World



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# Looking at the Story

- Imagine your Bible Study/Prayer Group sailing off to a strange new village to do a "mission trip." A stranger comes up to you and says...
- Who are you?
- Why are you here?
- How would you answer these questions?



# Who Are We?

- We are those who have been embraced by the truth that...
  - All that we have and all that we are comes to us...
  - By grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone!



# What Does This Mean?

## ■ Grace is:

- The love of God accepting us as we are AND
- The love of God calling us to be more than we have ever been before

## ■ Faith is:

- Surrender of ego to the love and the power of a God I cannot comprehend

## ■ Christ is:

- The fullness of God and the path to God
- Life with Christ is both the journey and the destination



# Why Are We Here?

- Our reason for being here is...
  - To BEAR WITNESS to the love and power of Jesus
  - To CALL OTHERS into the love and power of Jesus
  - To DISMANTLE BARRIERS that prevent others from being embraced by the love and power of Jesus

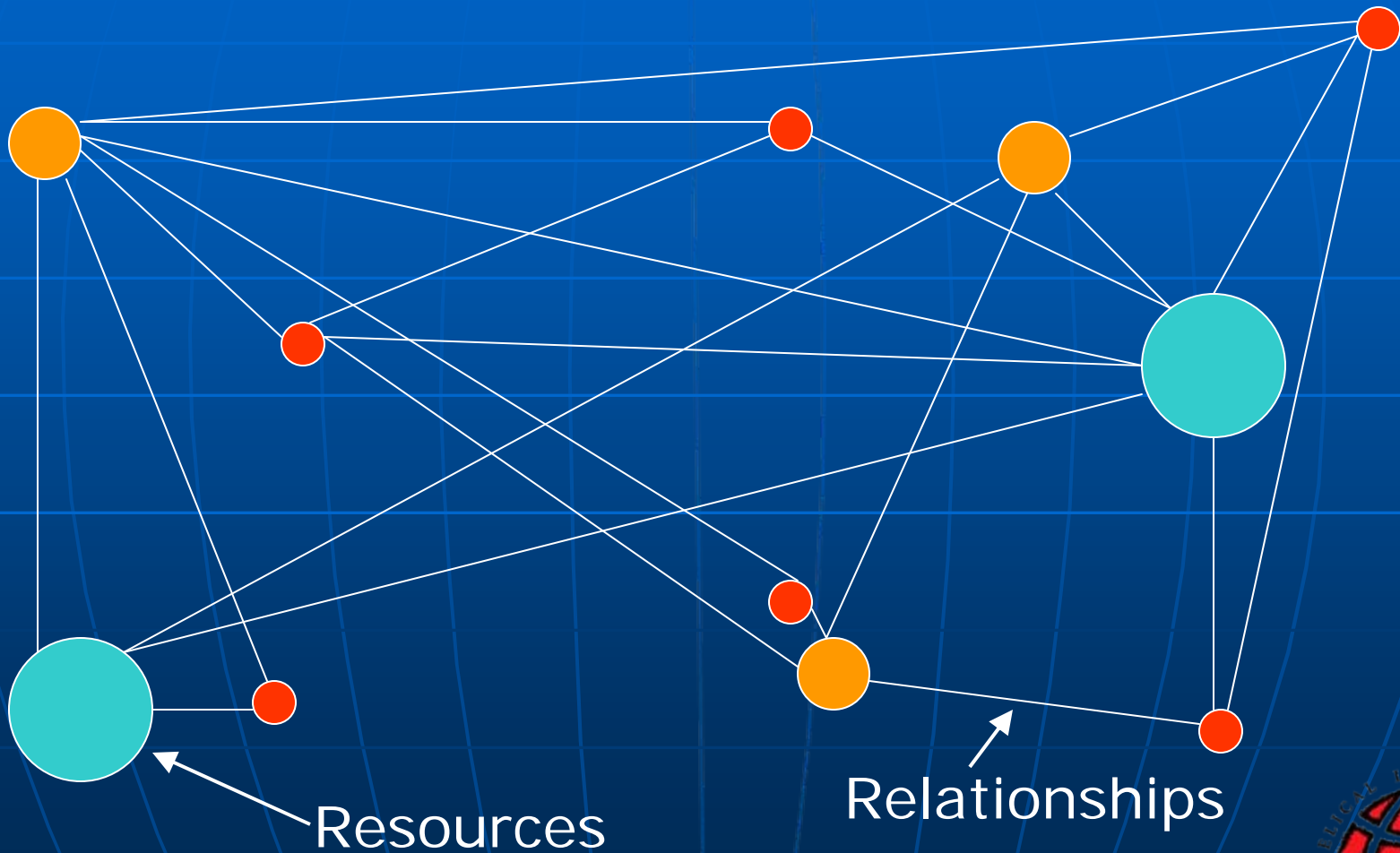


# How Do We Do This?

- We build authentic life-giving, life-saving, and life-changing Christian Community
  - No such thing as an *individual* Christian
  - No such thing as an *isolated* congregation



# A Network Vision



# Weaving the Garment

- We build authentic life-giving, life-saving, and life-changing Christian Community
- We blanket the world with Christian disciples joyfully bearing witness to the love and power of Jesus





# Seamless Connections

- Mission objective is global:
  - No one can faithfully fulfill the mission without the partnership of everyone!
- Partnership in the Mission Network
  - Building resources by building relationships
- Connection to the Mission Field
  - How well do you know your neighbors?



**Reformation**

**Conversion**

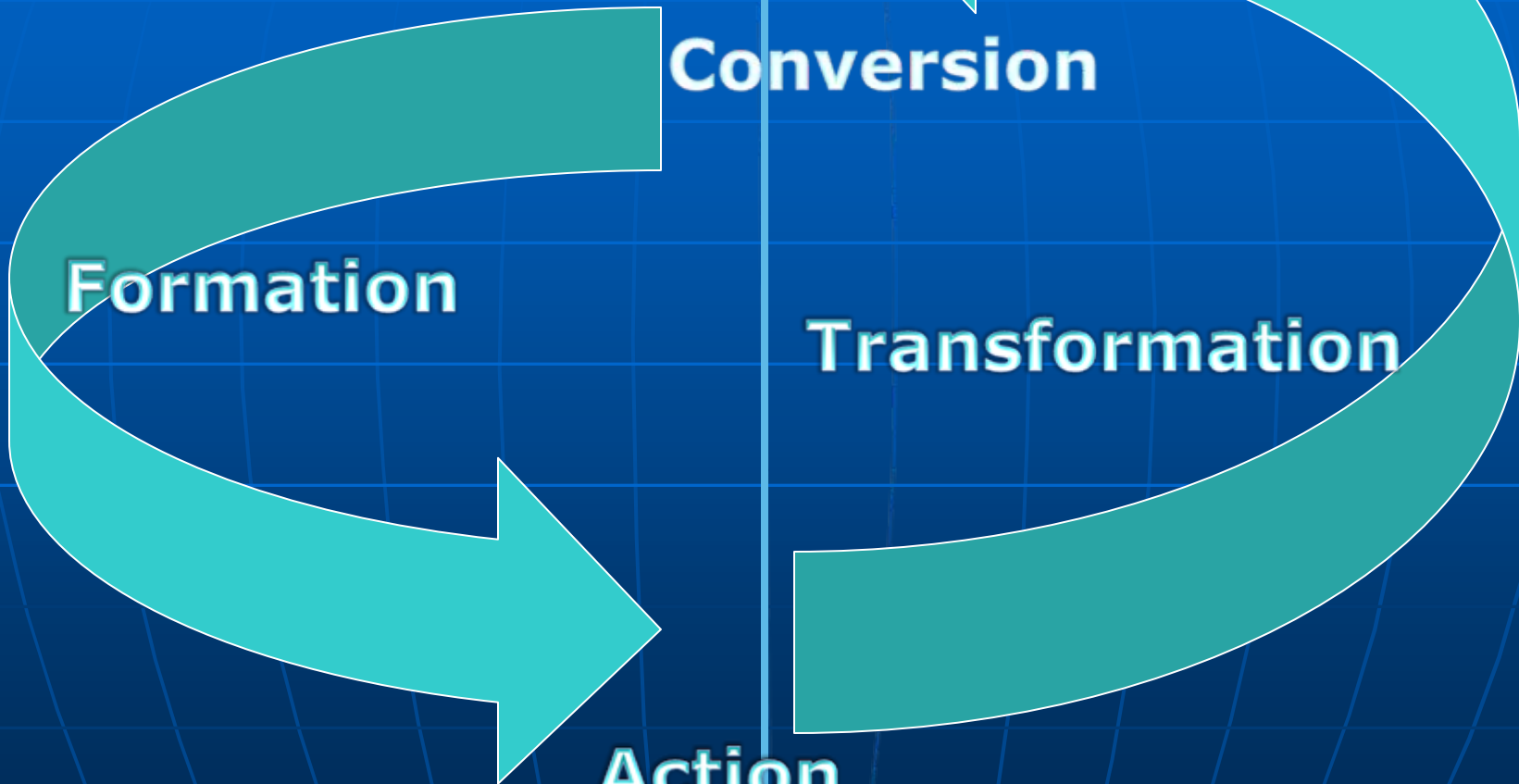
**Formation**

**Transformation**

**Action**

*Inside*

*Outside*



# Interdependence

- Of the 5 elements in the “Evangelical Whirlwind”, where do you see the importance of partnership beyond your local worshiping community?
  - Conversion
  - Formation
  - Action
  - Transformation
  - Reformation



# No Shortcuts!

- Turnaround Synod Initiative
- Intentional Leadership Training
- Creative Approaches to New Communities
- Breaking down walls of Race and Privilege
- Stewardship Education



# One More Central Question

- Who Are You?
  - Those who live by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone
- What Are You Here For?
  - To bear witness, call others, remove barriers
- How Are You Doing At It?
  - Gathering, creating, telling...
  - Stories of growth and transformation



