

LEADING THE CHURCH IN THE **POST COVID-19** ERA

SEND
INSTITUTE



BILLY GRAHAM CENTER
at Wheaton College



**North American
Mission Board**

PSALM 42:1-5

- ¹ As the deer pants for streams of water,
so my soul pants for you, my God.
- ² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When can I go and meet with God?
- ³ My tears have been my food
day and night,
while people say to me all day long,
“Where is your God?”
- ⁴ These things I remember
as I pour out my soul:
how I used to go to the house of God
under the protection of the Mighty One
with shouts of joy and praise
among the festive throng.
- ⁵ Why, my soul, are you downcast?
Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise him,
my Savior and my God.

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FOUR PHASES

LEADING DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS

PHASE 1

Pause
and
Innovate

PHASE 2

Prepare
and
Plan

PHASE 3

Engage
and
Execute

PHASE 4

Recover
and
Reemerge



How do you think 6 months of interruption will impact how we do church in North America?

**EQUAL
OPPORTUNITY
FOR CHANGE**

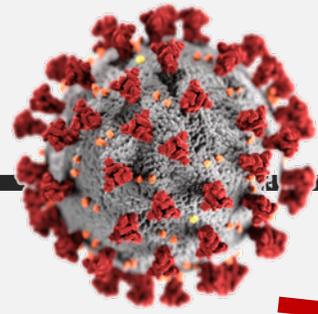
HIGH INVITATION

Consumer
cozy culture

Discipling
empowered culture

LOW
CHALLENGE

HIGH
CHALLENGE



Boring
apathetic culture

Stressful
discouraged culture

LOW INVITATION



FOUR STAGES

LEADING **POST COVID-19** TOWARDS
DISCIPLINE AND A CULTURE OF EMPOWERMENT

STAGE 1

Current
Apr - May

STAGE 2

Near-Term
Jun - Aug

STAGE 3

Short-Term
Sep - Dec

STAGE 4

Long-Term
2021+

STAGE 1: CURRENT REALITY (APRIL AND MAY)

PLANNING ENERGY

**Small Groups or
Physical
Engagement**

**Virtual
Engagement**

**Large
Groups**

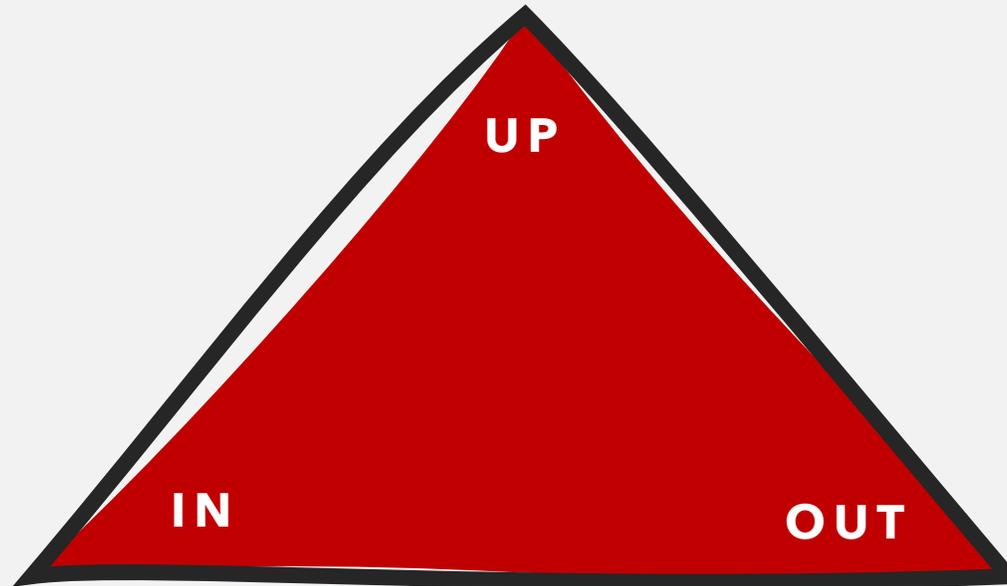


STAGE 1: CURRENT REALITY (APRIL AND MAY)

QUESTIONS TO ASK

How do we equip our members to lead and worship in their homes?

How do we prepare small group leaders to meet again?



How can we create useful content for our neighbors?

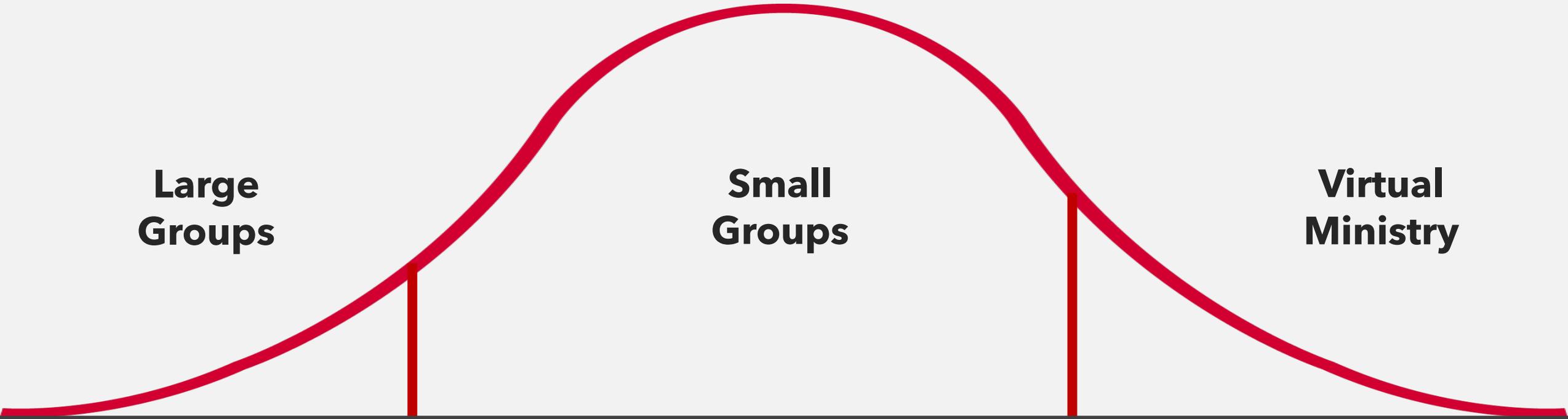
STAGE 2: NEAR-TERM (JUNE - AUGUST)

PLANNING ENERGY

**Large
Groups**

**Small
Groups**

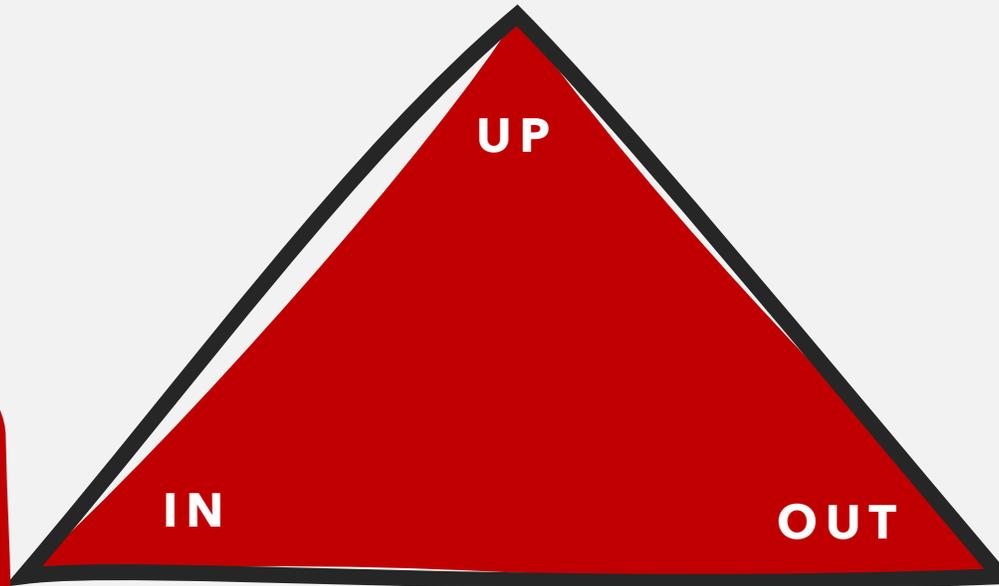
**Virtual
Ministry**



STAGE 2: NEAR-TERM (JUNE - AUGUST)

QUESTIONS TO ASK

*How do we “re-open”
with hybrid gatherings?*



*How do we
reimagine and
invest in
in-person leadership
enrichment?*

*What does it mean
that our community
is “re-opening”?*

STAGE 3: SHORT-TERM (SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER)

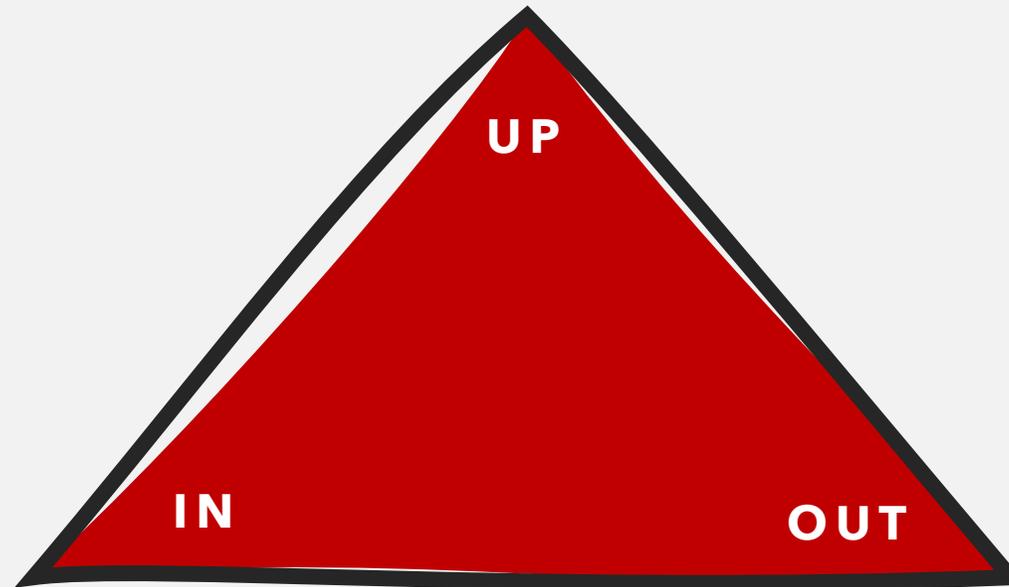
PLANNING ENERGY



STAGE 3: SHORT-TERM (SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER)

QUESTIONS TO ASK

How do we conduct meaningful and flexible large gatherings?



What meaningful digital engagement do we continue?

How can member and group mobilization be our primary mode of ministry?

STAGE 4: LONG-TERM (2021 AND BEYOND)

PLANNING ENERGY



**Digital
Equipping**

**Decentralized
Missional
Communities**

**Large Group
Equipping**

STAGE 4: LONG-TERM (2021 AND BEYOND)

QUESTIONS TO ASK

How do we reimagine our gatherings as equipping forums to hear God?

UP

IN

OUT

How do we meaningfully network our missional communities?

How do we plant more missional communities through community engagement?

CAN WE WIN WITHOUT THE QUEEN?



HIGH INVITATION

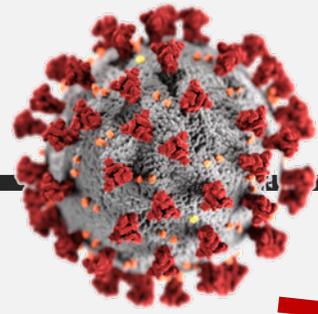
**INTENTIONAL
DECISION**

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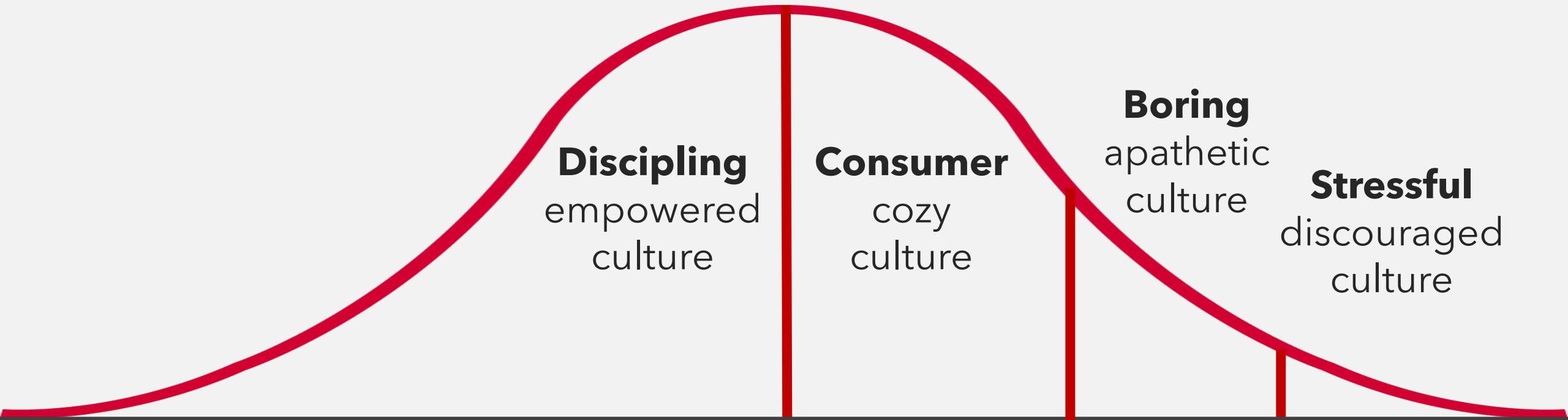
Stressful
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LOW INVITATION



How many churches will make this shift?

INNOVATION CURVE



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