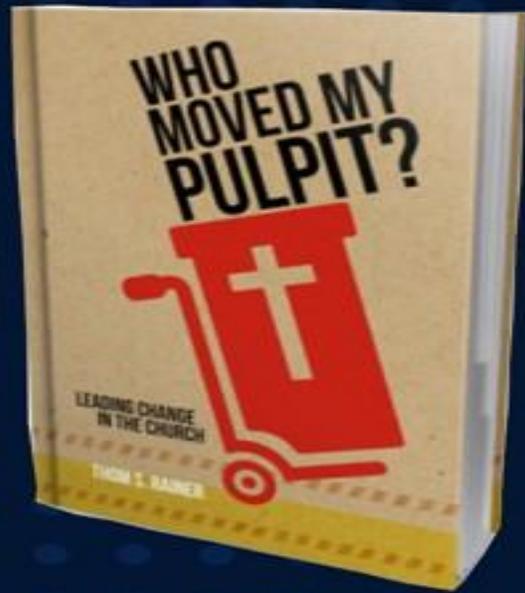


Virtual Bible Study Every Wed. @ 7:00 PM EST

Who Moved my Pulpit:

Leading Change in the Church



A New Online Book Study Series Starting September 9th

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**WEEK 3:
BUILDING AN EAGER COALITION**

Nehemiah 2:7-10

⁷ I also said to him, “If it pleases the king, may I have letters to the governors of Trans-Euphrates, so that they will provide me safe-conduct until I arrive in Judah? ⁸ And may I have a letter to Asaph, keeper of the royal park, so he will give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel by the temple and for the city wall and for the residence I will occupy?” And because the gracious hand of my God was on me, the king granted my requests.

Nehemiah 2:7-10

⁹ So I went to the governors of Trans-Euphrates and gave them the king's letters. The king had also sent army officers and cavalry with me. ¹⁰ When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official heard about this, they were very much disturbed that someone had come to promote the welfare of the Israelites

Introduction

- In our text After Nehemiah prayed in chapter 1. He then approached the king for permission. After receiving his endorsement. Nehemiah then strategically sought support from key persons to assist him in rebuilding the Jerusalem and city walls.
 - Governors of the Trans- Euphrates for safety
 - Asaph keep of the Royal Park for wood
 - Army officers and Calvary to serve as support.
- What Nehemiah did was build a collation/team to assist in the change he prayed about.
- **Q: Why should you have a team around you to lead change?**

Sacred Cows

- When moving a church forward through change because of sacred cows:
- **Sacred Cows (in Church):** is a tradition that has been exalted to a position of normalcy without Biblical warrant. **Sacred cows** are often hard to get rid of because they are accepted and considered respectable in Christianity.

Here are some ways to recognize sacred cows.

- They're usually associated with a particular person or persons in the church.
- They're often in decline. The program isn't growing.
- Nobody is willing to be the first to say, "We need to stop doing that."
- Their greatest influence is usually past tense.
- Cost a lot of money to produce – even while their influence is waning.
- Few people have really prayed about them

Here are some ways to recognize sacred cows.

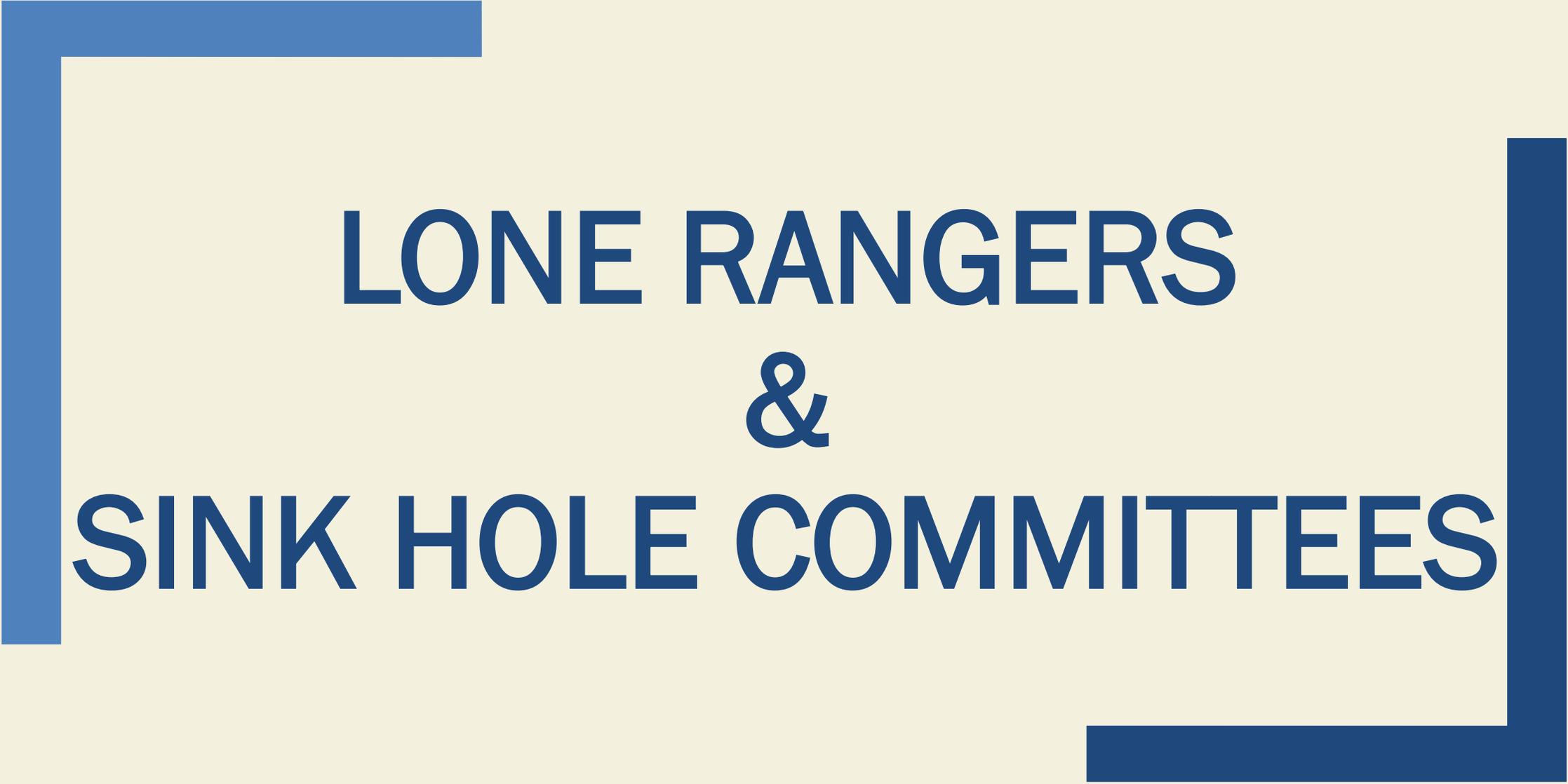
- If you change them, some people will threaten to leave the church.
- They're not essential to the gospel, though they're treated that way.
- You're not the first person who thought about trying to remove it.
- People talk about them behind the scenes But won't change them.

Luke 13:10-17

¹⁰ On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, ¹¹ and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, “Woman, you are set free from your infirmity.” ¹³ Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God. ¹⁴ Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue leader said to the people, “There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath.”

Luke 13:10-17

¹⁵ The Lord answered him, “You hypocrites! Doesn’t each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? ¹⁶ Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?” ¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing.



**LONE RANGERS
&
SINK HOLE COMMITTEES**

Leading change alone is tempting. We assume it can be done due to our personalities, intellect, and leadership acumen, but it cannot.

- No one can lead lasting change on their own.
- There are two extremes in change:
 - **Slow drag (Not ready for Change):** Everyone has to be spoken to first. Afraid of consequence, hesitant to make a move. Avoids Conflict, so they delay making decisions. -
 - **No buy-in (Want change but usually gets heartache):** Fail to listen to other's ideas & opinions. Loathe having to adjust their plan because they have heard a good idea. Like to work alone.

Lone Rangers Are Not Good Change Leaders

- Lone rangers have only one opinion: their own. Going it alone is problematic especially when challenges arise because you have no one to turn to for help, why? You are a committee of 1.
 - “Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.” (*Proverbs 11:14*)
 - “The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice” (*Proverbs 12:15*)
 - “For by wise guidance you can wage your war, and in abundance of counselors there is victory.” (*Proverbs 24:6*)

Sink Hole Committees

Sink holes can swallow cars, people. And homes. If something goes in a sink hole you probably won't see it again.

- It's the place where change ideas die. They are discussed but no action is ever taken.
 - This is sinful. God has not given us ideas, gifts to not do anything with them.
 - “But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.” (*Matthew 25:18*)
- Change doesn't take place if the coalition does have credibility with the congregation.
 - *Change will not take place if the coalition doesn't have strategic members.*

Most leaders fail because it takes time to build a team.



EAGER COALITIONS



Building the right change group starts with the right personnel.

- *“Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.” (Proverbs 27:17)*
- *So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.” (Acts 6:2-4 NIV)*

Who should be apart of the Eager Coalition

- **Chemistry:** they have a desire an “eager” to move forward with change. These people are not naysayers nor are they yes men.
- **Position:** some people need to be apart because they hold key positions.
- **Influencer:** Individuals who may or may not be official leaders, but other members listen to them. **A good influencer did not overuse their sway on others. They are wise and selective**
- **Expertise:** Individuals who are knowledgeable in certain areas that key to the project’s success.
- **Leadership:** True leaders are outstanding resources to help lead change. They have been there, and they know what it takes to move forward with significant change.

The Process to Build an Eager Coalition



Informal

Leaders presents the idea. But it requires more listening than speaking.



Individual

Lots of 1-on-1's show their importance and creates a space dialogue



Lengthy

It may seem painfully slow depending on the level of change, church culture, and tenure of Change Leader.





WRAP UP



FREE DRIVE THRU FOOD DISTRIBUTION

THURSDAYS | 10:00AM-12:00PM

TAKE-OUT MEALS FRIDAYS 11AM-1PM

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED. WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.



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SEP 27TH | 11AM

PLANTING SEEDS

Sunday Service

ALL TITHING SUNDAY

"Isaac planted crops in that land and the same year reaped a hundredfold, because the Lord blessed him."

Genesis 26:12 NIV



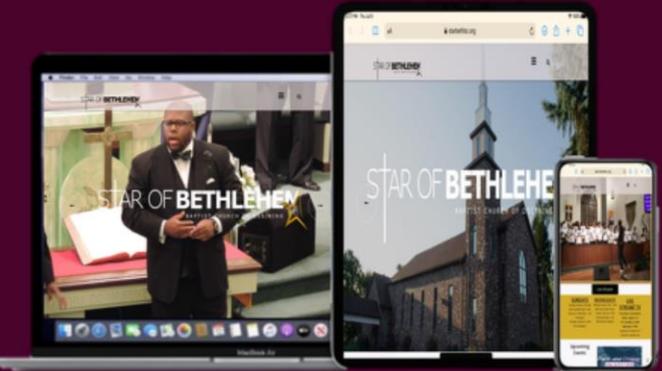
VIRTUAL *Informational* MEETING

DATE: MONDAY SEPT 28TH

TIME: 7:00 PM

ZOOM: 839 6350 1818

PASSWORD: STARBETHBC



HEAR UPDATES FROM PASTOR JONES, THE REENTRY TASK FORCE, THE JOINT BOARD, & CHURCH ANNIV. COMMITTEE

8 Day Church-Wide Fast

NEW WINE

October 4th - 11th

