

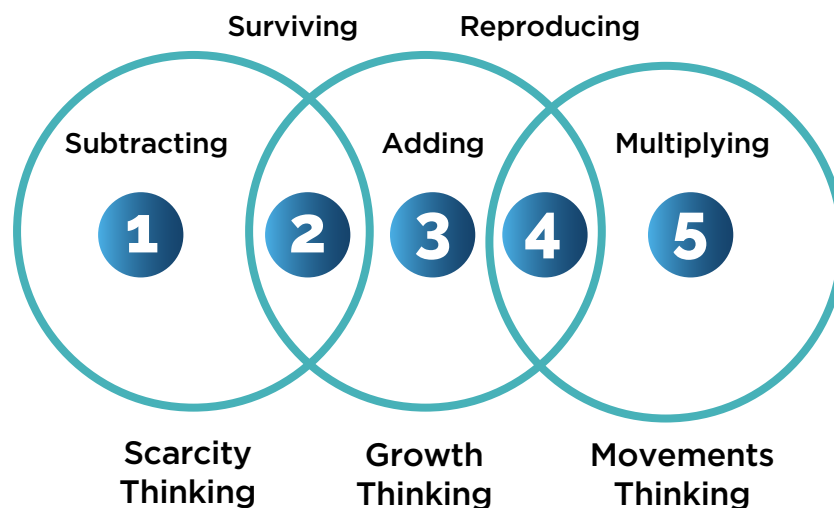
# How do I lead my church to be a reproducing church?

## “Reproducing” Church Assessment Tool

*‘Our fervent prayer is that we would close the gospel gap by mobilizing a Kingdom Force, celebrating every time a disciple makes a disciple and a church multiplies itself until The Wesleyan Church has a transforming presence in every zip code.’*

The following descriptions provide a guide for you to assess your church. This is not about the size of a church but about its multiplication culture. From your own view, use the following graph and descriptions of the five levels, to assign a Level for your church.

### LEVELS 1, 2, 3, 4 AND 5



**Take the becoming Level 5 Assessment:**  
<https://reproducingchurches.org/assessment/>

#### Level 1: Subtracting

Approximately 80 percent of U.S. churches are subtracting (attendance is decreasing) or have plateaued. These churches live in a **survival/ scarcity culture** that makes it difficult to even think about multiplication. When there is a **sustained period of decline**, a church is at level 1.

#### Level 2: Plateauing

Churches that are plateaued demonstrate some characteristics of both subtraction and addition cultures. Their thinking lies in a state of **tension between scarcity and growth**. When there is a **sustained period of plateau**, the church is a level 2.

### Level 3: Adding

Some 15 to 20 percent of churches find themselves here. In addition-growth churches, attendance is increasing. Many are often externally focused, making an impact in their surrounding communities, and many have added multi-site venues. For this framework, we intentionally defined churches that have a **strong addition-growth culture, yet are not aggressively multiplying**, as Level 3 churches. Most of the largest and fastest-growing churches that make our “envy lists” are actually Level 3 churches. **A church is a level 3 church when it has sustained growth but without reproduction.**

---

### Level 4: Reproducing

At this level, approximately 4 percent of U.S. churches **reproduce programmatically as part of their growth**. While they may aspire to be a multiplying church and may even be making progress in that direction, too often the tensions and forces pulling them back to Level 3 limit their ability to move more fully to level 5. Because multiplication is not yet strongly embedded in their DNA, it won't happen spontaneously without programming. **A church is a level 4 church when it experiences sustained reproduction.**

---

### Level 5: Multiplying

Currently represented by less than 005 percent of U.S. churches, **multiplying churches focus more on sending and releasing** than catching and accumulating. **They plant churches as a regular part of their existence.** Level 5 church leaders see their church through a Kingdom lens. Their burden is more for Kingdom capacity than for local church capacity.

## ANTICIPATED SHIFTS

As you lead your church into a disciple-making and church-multiplying movement, five shifts will occur.

- **A shift in the hero story for the primary leader...** from being the hero to becoming the mentor who creates heroes that become mentors.
- **A shift in expectation for every believer...** from being consumers or converts to being disciples who make disciples who make disciples to the fourth generation.
- **A shift in opportunity for every disciple...** from being a volunteer in a church to becoming a missionary to a mission field waiting to be declared.
- **A shift in operation for the system...** from the bias of “no” to the bias of “yes.”
- **A shift in the scorecard...** from counting the number of people in any one church to the percentage of a population changed. From accumulation to transformation.

*Todd Wilson, Will Mancini. Dream Big, Plan Smart (Kindle Locations 257-260) Todd Wilson, Multipliers, Leading Beyond Addition, pp 100-102*