**Marks of a Movement Assessment Tool**

# By

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The Wesleyan Church

Throughout this Marks of a Movement, Winfield Bevins has presented 6 marks of a movement from the Wesleyan revival of the 18th and 19th centuries. These marks are not theoretical ideals from days gone by—they are applicable for ministry today.

The following assessment tool was designed to help movement-minded leaders discover what ministry components are aligned with movement-thinking and what may need more attention. For better accuracy and team dialogue, consider involving other ministry leaders, board members, or key influencers by having each complete this assessment and compare the results.

Throughout the assessment, you will find a summary of each mark, followed by five evaluative questions. On a scale from 1-5 (five being the strongest value), circle the number representing your current context. Calculate the total for each mark at the bottom of the page. After you complete all 6 categories, calculate the overall total (out of 150 points) on the final page.

At the end of the assessment, a series of reflective coaching questions are available to help clarify your next steps, both individually and organizationally.

# 6 Marks of a Movement

1. Changed Lives
2. Contagious Faith
3. Spirit Empowered
4. Disciple Making
5. Apostolic Impulse
6. Organic Multiplication

# Changed Lives

The life of John Wesley reminds us of the essential fact that movements are built on Christ, not people. When we look at the pages of church history, we see that multiplication movements happened through leaders who have had a life-changing encounter with the living Christ. History is made by men and women of faith who have met the living God and cannot help but tell everyone they meet about the Good News of Jesus.

v How often are people in your church invited into a life-transforming experience with Jesus Christ?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Never Once in a while All the time

v Is it common for people in your church to publicly share about having a life-transforming encounter with Jesus Christ?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Never Once in a while All the time

v Does the preaching and teaching ministry of your church help people understand the fullness of salvation, through Christ alone?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

No Every now and then Absolutely

v When the leaders cast vision for your church’s ministry, do they place an emphasis on helping people far from God encounter Jesus Christ in a life-altering way?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Never Once in a while All the time

v How many opportunities, outside of weekend worship gatherings, does your ministry create for people to encounter Jesus Christ in a meaningful way?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Never Bi-annually Quarterly Monthly Weekly

# Contagious Faith

As a result of Wesley’s decision to begin using lay ministers in the Wesleyan revival, people today have an open door in most churches to share in ministry. Lay leadership is one of the most common features of rapidly expanding church planting movements around the world. If we want to see a rapid multiplication movement today, it must be built on a model that empowers and releases all people for ministry and evangelism.

v Does your church offer frequent training opportunities in evangelism?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Never Once a year Consistently

v Does your church offer a spiritual gift assessment or ministry mobilization course?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Never Once a year Monthly

v Does your church provide a clear pathway to get involved in the church’s mission?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Not Really ` Being developed It’s highly visible

v Does your church provide or promote a basic church planting orientation course?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Annually ` Quarterly Monthly

v Does your church have a reproducible format for training and networking future church planters?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

No ` Sort of Yes

# Spirit Empowered

The early church came alive and grew exponentially after the Holy Spirit came and while the first Jesus followers gathered together in prayer (Acts 1:8). In the same way the church came to life on the day of Pentecost, the Wesleyan revival was founded upon the guiding influence of the Holy Spirit. As we look at other similar movements throughout history, and even today, we find the Spirit’s empowering work at the very core. It is impossible to understand multiplication movements without understanding the important role of the Spirit in the lives of the catalytic leaders.

v How robust is your church’s prayer culture?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Weak Mediocre Strong

v How often does your church emphasize the person and work of the Holy Spirit in the church?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Never Once in a while All the time

v Does your church have a consistent prayer/intercessory team in place?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

No A few people Yes

v How often does your church provide specific teaching/training on the role of the Holy Spirit?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

As needs arise Quarterly Monthly

v Does the Spirit’s presence permeate throughout the leadership culture and serving teams?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Not really Goes in spurts Absolutely

# Discipleship Systems

In terms of Christian movements, the genius of Wesley was he realized the importance of creating disciple-making systems. He organized people into three interlocking discipleship groups: societies, class meetings, and bands. Societies were larger gatherings of 50-70 people, providing worship and teaching (much like a new church). It was the smaller, more intentional class meetings (10-12 people), where deep discipleship happened. The bands (three to five people) were distinguished by high accountability.

v What percentage of your church’s weekend worship attendance are engaged in smaller groups for care, accountability, spiritual growth, and missional outreach?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

v How would you describe the discipleship fervency throughout your church?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Low Average Very Strong

v How does your church communicate lifestyle and spiritual growth expectations?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

We don’t Verbally, when asked Written down and regularly explained

v Do your church’s small group leaders view themselves as spiritual guides/disciple-makers?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Not really Unknown Absolutely

v How would you describe the spiritual accountability environment in your church?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Nonexistent Weak Very strong

# Apostolic Leadership

One cannot understand the Wesleyan revival without recognizing the apostolic nature of the movement. John Wesley was an apostolic leader who assimilated great men and women around him, allowing those individuals to become champions of the revival. Wesley was a strong leader who had a God-given talent to recognize the best in people and develop leadership qualities in others.

v Is the leadership in your church committed to discipling and developing future ministry leaders?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Not so much ` Somewhat Absolutely

v Does the leadership in your church sense a burden to develop, empower, and send leaders (church starters) into other communities with the message of Jesus?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Not really ` Somewhat Obsessed

v Does the pastoral leadership in your church have apprentices (potentially a future church planter)?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Not Yet ` Undefined Well defined

v How often does your church provide a training or small group curriculum focused on developing future preachers, teachers, and communicators of biblical truth?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Annual event Quarterly rallies Weekly meetings

v Does your church have an intentional way of evaluating the faithfulness and fruitfulness of your emerging leaders?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Nothing in place ` Through conversations Clearly defined process

# Organic Multiplication

The Wesleyan revival spread rapidly throughout the British Isles and North America. Methodism was a multiplication movement which reproduced everything: disciples, leaders, small groups, societies, and new churches. To keep up with the growth, the movement’s leaders planted hundreds of new societies around the world. Societies were essentially faith communities planted in new geographic centers. These societies would quickly reproduce themselves by planting other societies in neighboring areas and surrounding towns to reach even more people with the message of Jesus.

v How would you describe your church’s desire to reproduce everything in your church?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Low Average Strong

v How does your church communicate the expectation for leaders to reproduce themselves?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

We don’t Only when asked Communicated everywhere

v How does your church communicate the expectation for your church to reproduce itself (as in, planting a new expression of the church in another populous or people group)?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

We don’t Only when asked Communicated everywhere

v Does your church measure and celebrate how many believers and leaders you are sending out to serve as pioneers of new faith communities?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

No Sort of Absolutely

v Does your church clearly understand your vision for rapid kingdom expansion through church multiplication?

# 1 --------------- 2 -------------- 3 ---------------- 4 --------------- 5

Not really I wish they did They own it!

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Identifying Your Next Steps**  1. Changed Lives |  |  | /25 |
| 2. Contagious Faith |  |  | /25 |
| 3. Spirit Empowered |  |  | /25 |
| 4. Discipleship Systems |  |  | /25 |
| 5. Apostolic Leadership |  |  | /25 |
| 10. Organic Multiplication |  |  | /25 |
|  | Total |  | /150 |

# Reflective Coaching Questions:

1. What 2-3 things can you celebrate in regard to the assessment?
2. How would you characterize the obstacles you are facing at this time?
3. What component will take you and your church more than a year to advance?
4. Who could you and your church learn from as you implement movement-minded changes?
5. What philosophical, theological, or practical questions are you wrestling with?
6. What are five practical things you could do in the next 45 days to begin implementing a movement-minded church culture?
7. If funding was not an obstacle, how would you address the issues facing your church planting movement?