MISSIONAL SPACE 2

DOING THEOLOGY SPIRAL



1. EXPERIENCE
– looking at our history, culture, immediate context and current circumstances of our "church spaces"

2. EXPLORE
– looking at what others are doing with their "church spaces," across different disciplines

3. REFLECT
– looking at what the Bible and other theologians say about what we can do with our "church spaces"

4. RESPOND
– forming actions and strategies on what can be done regarding our "church spaces"



Green, Laurie. *Let's Do Theology: Resources for Contextural Theology.* London: Bloomsbury Publishing, 2009.

- The pandemic was the most traumatic crisis in the recent history of the Church.
- It challenged the Church into a structural transformation, and the Church should never be allowed to go back to its former state.



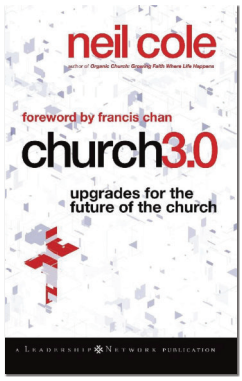
Johan Reiners, *The Church Out and About: Missio Dei for a Post-Covid World* (Independently Published, 2021), 66, 34, 8.

- The way of running the church has dramatically changed because of the epidemic.
- Believers are looking for innovative ways to re-connect with the community.



Mark Elsdon, *We Aren't Broke: Uncovering Hidden Resources for Mission and Ministry* (Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2021), 24-25.

/ church 3.0



CHURCH 1.0

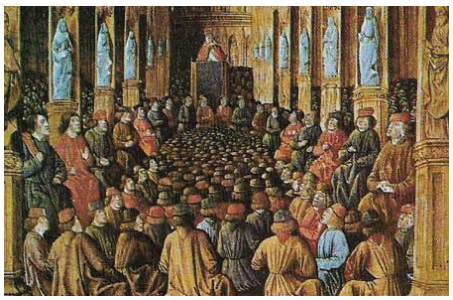


Early Church

CHURCH 1.0

Early Church

CHURCH 2.0



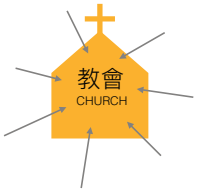
4th Century Roman Church

CHURCH 2.0



20th Century Megachurch

CHURCH 2.0



"COME"

Attractional Model

CHURCH 3.0

Post-pandemic Church

MISSIONAL SHIFT

- The pandemic helps us to see the state of the world, rather than to focus on the inside of the church.



Jerry Pillay, "COVID-19 Shows the Need to Make Church More Flexible," *Transformation* 2020, Vol. 37(4), 269.

MISSIONAL SHIFT

- In the past, we were more concerned about bringing "the world" into "the church," but now we are more interested in bringing "the church" into "the world."



Jerry Pillay, "COVID-19 Shows the Need to Make Church More Flexible," *Transformation* 2020, Vol. 37(4), 269.

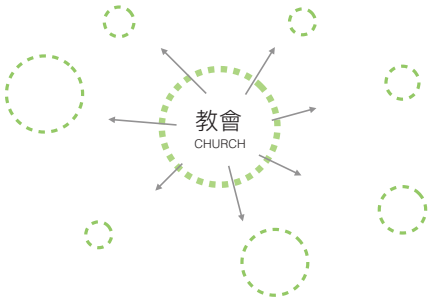
MISSIONAL SHIFT

- In the past, we were more concerned about "come," but now we are more concerned about "go."



Jerry Pillay, "COVID-19 Shows the Need to Make Church More Flexible," *Transformation* 2020, Vol. 37(4), 269.

CHURCH 3.0



Attractional Model

"GO"

CHURCH 3.0

- "Church 3.0" is relational, simple and viral.



Neil Cole, *Church 3.0: Upgrades for the Future of the Church* (New York: John Wiley& Sons Inc., 2010), 47.

CHURCH 3.0

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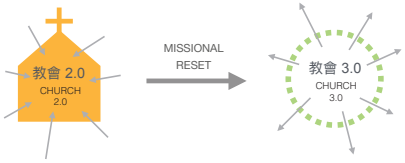
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- "Church 3.0" is about making use of the internet, technologies, accessibilities of the 21st century.
- "Church 3.0" is no longer about the building.
- "Church 3.0" is about re-activating the "missio Dei" of the church.



Neil Cole, *Church 3.0: Upgrades for the Future of the Church* (New York: John Wiley& Sons Inc., 2010), 47.

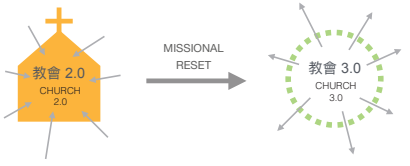


FROM CHURCH 2.0 TO 3.0



"COME" "GO"

FROM CHURCH 2.0 TO 3.0



"COME" "GO"

missional church
resource church
sending church

/ 1. missional church

MISSIONAL CHURCH

- Christopher Wright: "Missio Dei" (the mission of God) is about God's people, participating in God's mission, in redemption of God's creation.



Christopher J. H. Wright, *The Mission of God: Unlocking the Bible's Grand Narrative* (Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2006), 67.

MISSIONAL CHURCH

- The forming of the church is for the purpose of mission, and the purpose of mission is for the forming of the church.



Christopher J. H. Wright, *The Mission of God: Unlocking the Bible's Grand Narrative* (Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2006), 62.

MISSIONAL CHURCH

- William McAlpine: Mission must be in the DNA of every church.
- Every believer is to be a missionary, carrying out the "missio Dei" wherever he/she is.



William R. McAlpine, *Sacred Space for the Missional Church: Engaging Culture through the Built Environment* (Eugene: Wipe and Stock Publishers, 2011), 3.

/ 2. resource church



RESOURCE CHURCH

- Ric Thorpe: "Resource Church" has been a church-planting concept in England over the past 10+ years.



Ric Thorpe, *Resource Churches: A Story of Church Planting and Revitalization across the Nation* (London: The Gregory Centre for Church Multiplication, 2021), 24-27.

RESOURCE CHURCH

- Churches with a long history can make use of their resources;
- to train and support leaders;
- to form "fresh expressions" of church communities outside of the church.



Ric Thorpe, *Resource Churches: A Story of Church Planting and Revitalization across the Nation* (London: The Gregory Centre for Church Multiplication, 2021), 24-27.

/ 3. sending church

SENDING CHURCH

- The New Testament church, such as Jerusalem, Antioch, Ephesus, etc. were bases of training and sending of missionaries to other areas to carry out mission work.



Ric Thorpe, *Resource Churches: A Story of Church Planting and Revitalization across the Nation* (London: The Gregory Centre for Church Multiplication, 2021), 55.

SENDING CHURCH

- Francis Chan: Churches is not just about "gathering," but most importantly is about "sending."



Francis Chan, *Letters to The Church* (Colorado Springs: David C Cook, 2018), 153-154.



SENDING CHURCH

- A pastor of a megachurch of 70,000 in South Korea, encouraged his members to "leave" the church.
- They are to bring the mission of God into their own spaces, and not to remain in the "comfort zone" of the church.



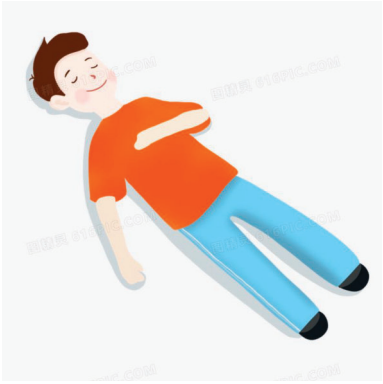
Francis Chan, *Letters to The Church* (Colorado Springs: David C Cook, 2018), 153-154.

SENDING CHURCH

- Another Korean pastor of 40,000, said that he did not want his members to remain in the church for more than 5 years.



Francis Chan, *Letters to The Church*
(Colorado Springs: David C Cook, 2018), 153-154.



SENDING CHURCH

As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.

John 20:21b

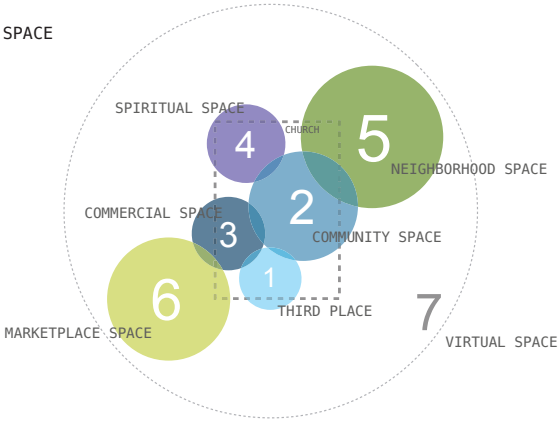
/ missional space

space

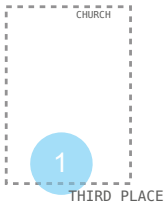
space x *missio Dei*

space x *missio Dei* → missional space

MISSIONAL SPACE



MISSIONAL SPACE



1: THIRD PLACE

Sociologist Ray Oldenburg :



Ray Oldenburg, *The Great Good Place*
(New York: Paragon House Publishers, 1989)

1: THIRD PLACE

Sociologist Ray Oldenburg :

- First Place -



Ray Oldenburg, *The Great Good Place*
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1: THIRD PLACE

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- First Place - the home
- Second Place - the office / school
- Third Place -



Ray Oldenburg, *The Great Good Place*
(New York: Paragon House Publishers, 1989)

1: THIRD PLACE

Sociologist Ray Oldenburg :

- First Place - the home
- Second Place - the office / school
- Third Place - where you would go to relax



Ray Oldenburg, *The Great Good Place*
(New York: Paragon House Publishers, 1989)

1: THIRD PLACE

Characteristics of the "third place":

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Characteristics of the "third place":

- People from different economic and political background are all welcome

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Characteristics of the "third place":

- People from different economic and political background are all welcome
- Food and drinks are always available

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1: THIRD PLACE

Characteristics of the "third place":

- People from different economic and political background are all welcome
- Food and drinks are always available
- The space is easily accessible and is always open
- There are always familiar faces
- Conversation is always the dominant activity
- The mood is always relaxed

1: THIRD PLACE ("CHEERS")



- One of the most popular sitcoms in North America in the 80s and 90s.
- People from all walks of life, blue collar and white collar alike, would simply drop in after work.
- They would share a beer and a casual conversation around the bar.
- The famous tagline from the theme song: "the place where everybody knows your name."

1: THIRD PLACE ("STARBUCKS")



- In the 1990s, Starbucks had already adopted the concept of the "third place" in their mission statement.
- The company claimed that they did not merely serve good coffee, but to provide a sociable and a comfortable environment where people could find a sense of "belonging."

1: THIRD PLACE (“STARBUCKS”)



- Where people carry their cups around, that is where “third places” happen.

1: THIRD PLACE (AT THE CHURCH)



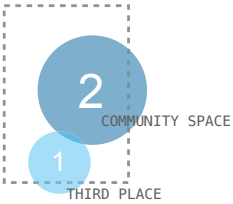
- Over 20 years ago, churches in the US recognized the problem of a lack of community.
- They adopted a similar idea of creating “third places” inside or outside of their churches.
- They formed cafes, bookstores, playrooms, music studios, shared kitchens, etc., equipped with free wifi, TVs, and comfortable seating.

1: THIRD PLACE



“Belonging before believing!”

MISSIONAL SPACE






2

COMMUNITY SPACE




2

COMMUNITY SPACE




2

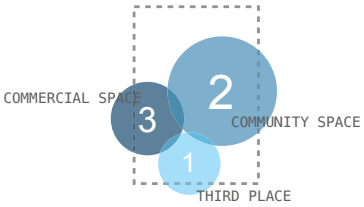
COMMUNITY SPACE




2

COMMUNITY SPACE

MISSIONAL SPACE

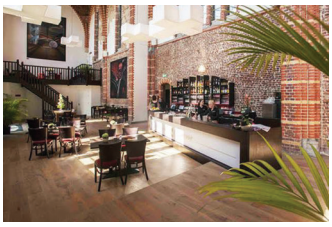






3

COMMERCIAL SPACE

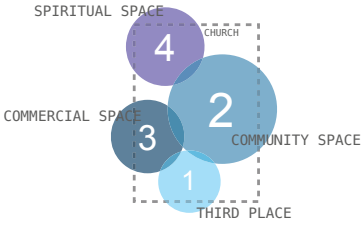




3

COMMERCIAL SPACE

MISSIONAL SPACE






4

SPIRITUAL SPACE




4

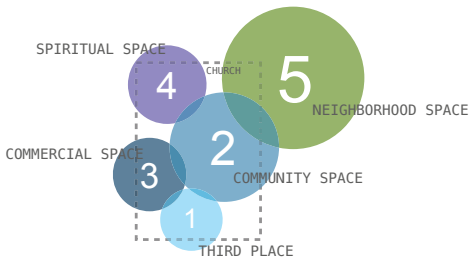
SPIRITUAL SPACE




4

SPIRITUAL SPACE

MISSIONAL SPACE



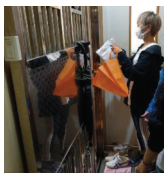




5

NEIGHBORHOOD SPACE



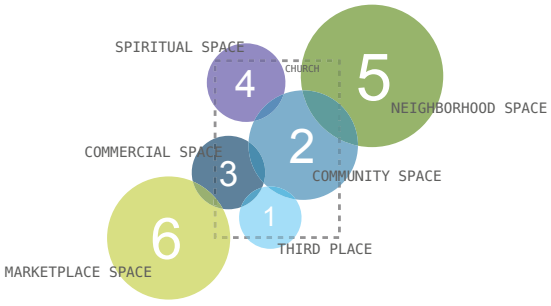




5

NEIGHBORHOOD SPACE

MISSIONAL SPACE



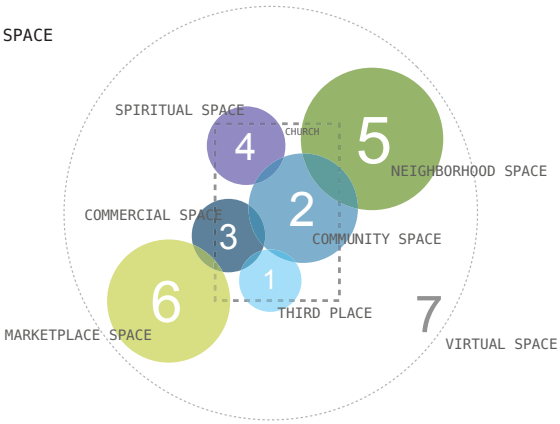


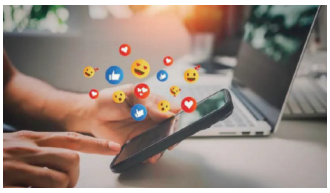


6

MARKETPLACE SPACE

MISSIONAL SPACE







7

VIRTUAL SPACE

The concept of "Missional Space" is to carry out the missio Dei,

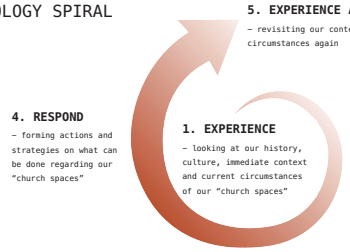
in the most ordinary spaces of life,

responding creatively to the context,

in transformation of lives and culture.

Dr Ben Wong

DOING THEOLOGY SPIRAL



5. EXPERIENCE AGAIN
– revisiting our context and circumstances again

4. RESPOND
– forming actions and strategies on what can be done regarding our "church spaces"

1. EXPERIENCE
– looking at our history, culture, immediate context and current circumstances of our "church spaces"

2. EXPLORE
– looking at what others are doing with their "church spaces," across different disciplines

3. REFLECT
– looking at what the Bible and other theologians say about what we can do with our "church spaces"



Green, Laurie. *Let's Do Theology: Resources for Contextural Theology.* London: Bloombury Publishing, 2009.



4/ RESPOND – what is your missional space?