

# DISCIPLE *SHIFT*

Necessary Shifts  
To Become More Like Jesus

## MEMBER *SHIFT*

- According to research, 9 out of 10 churches had declining membership between 2004 and 2010.
- 66% of the people born before 1946 are church goers.
- Only 15% of those born since 1980 are church goers.

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## MEMBER *SHIFT*

- We can blame it on our secular culture.
- We can blame it on our politics.
- We can blame it on hypocritical church members.
- We can blame it on our church leaders.
- But maybe we would do well to look in the mirror and see if we could be part of the problem.
- Could we need a “shift” in our thinking?

**DISCIPLE** *SHIFT*

## MEMBER *SHIFT*

- Do we need to shift our thinking about what it means to be a “member of the church?”
  - It’s not a name on a roster, but a function to perform.
  - (Romans 12:4-5).
  - (1 Corinthians 12:12-26).
  - Are you a member of the church? If yes, then what’s your function?

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## MEMBER *SHIFT*

- Do we need to shift our expectations?
  - Where did we get the notion that “membership has privileges,” and thus view it as a “perk.”
  - Rather, membership places you in a relationship wherein you get to live out the characteristics of Jesus (e.g. serving, caring, teaching, and sacrificing).
  - (John 13:35).
  - (Ephesians 4:3).
  - (1 Corinthians 12:22-23).

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## MEMBER *SHIFT*

- “Members**hifts**” we may need to make:
  - Begin functioning.
  - Seek unity & cease from undermining talk.
  - Practice forgiveness.
  - Don’t always demand your way.
  - Fall deeply in love the church.

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