

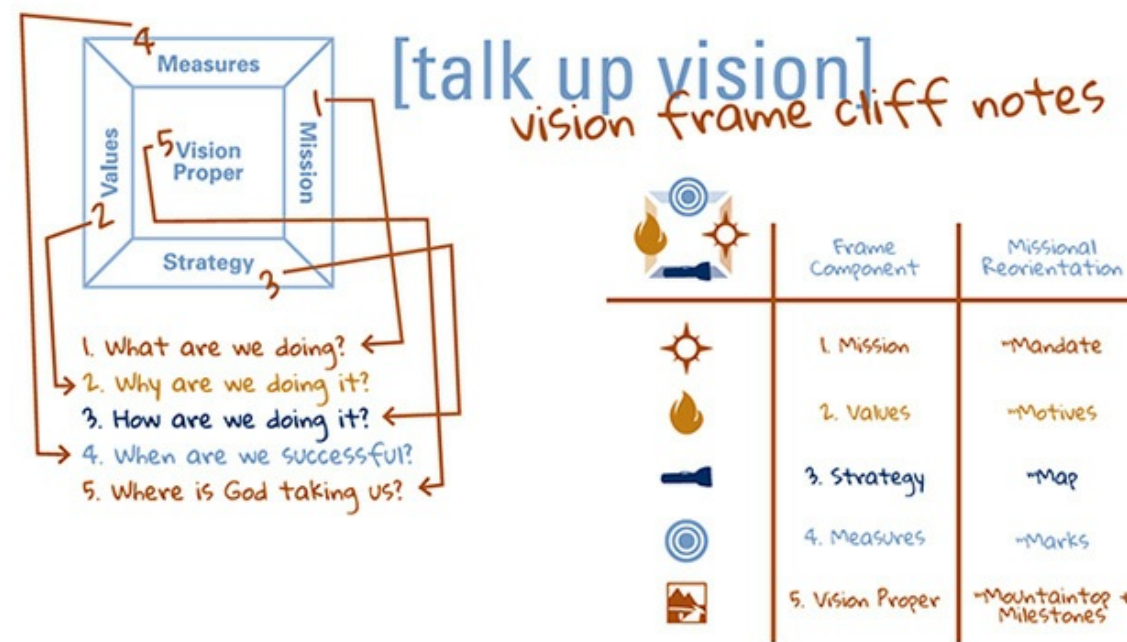


Jody and I have taken tons of pictures of our grandchildren, children and places we go. At times we want to display the pictures in our house on a wall. Depending on the room environment [i.e. colors and other decor], we will find a frame that enhances the image.

Before going into the "big picture" of the vision, I want to frame the picture within our environment. Each component is what I have observed over the past year or so and what I believe biblically and uniquely we as an association should be about.

Before you read further, if you have not seen / read part 1, do so by clicking [here](#).

Explaining the vision "frame"...



As we look to the future of the NorthCoast Baptist Association, we need to ask some questions to understand our vision. Each framing component answers a question. For instance, the "what" is our mission or mandate; the "why" is because we hold certain values as an association, or motives; the "how" is the strategy in which we accomplish the vision or our map; and the "when" is how we will measure the whole vision.

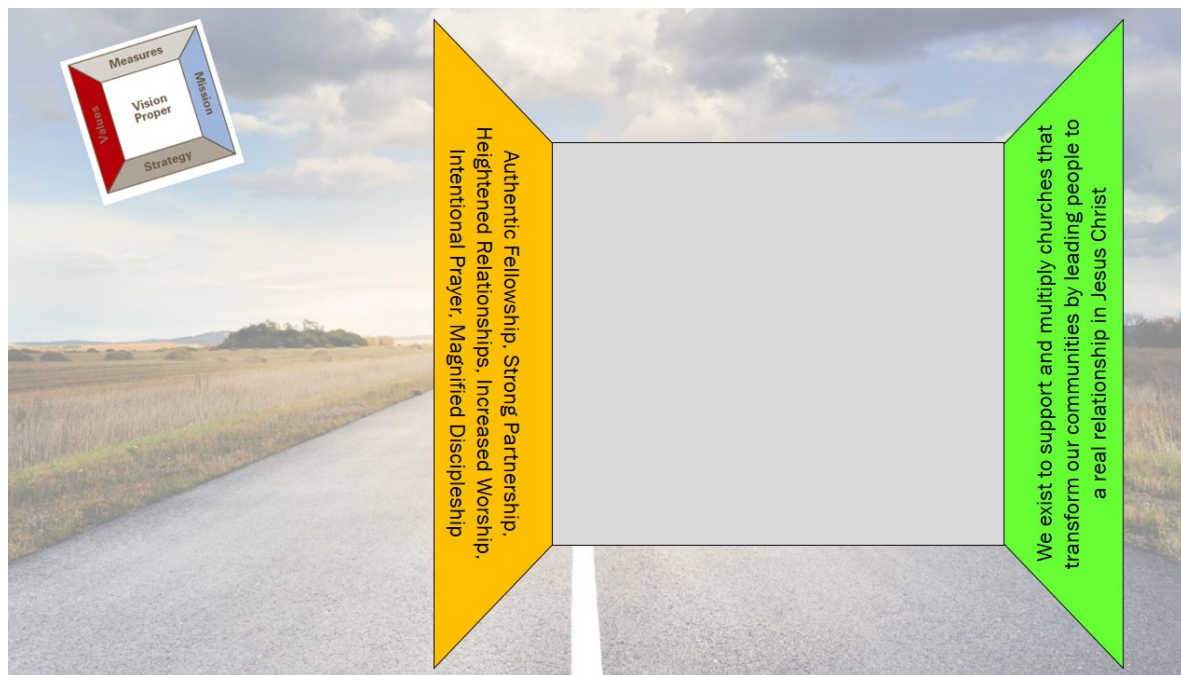
A look at our mission as an Association...



Why do we exist as an association? Specifically, why is there a NorthCoast Baptist Association? Simply put would be cooperation, but how do we define the cooperation? Every dollar we budget and event we hold should be about our mission.

I believe we exist to support established churches and multiply new churches that transform our communities by leading people to a real relationship in Jesus Christ. Go to baptize, baptize to teach, teach to grow, grow to go...

Why this mission?

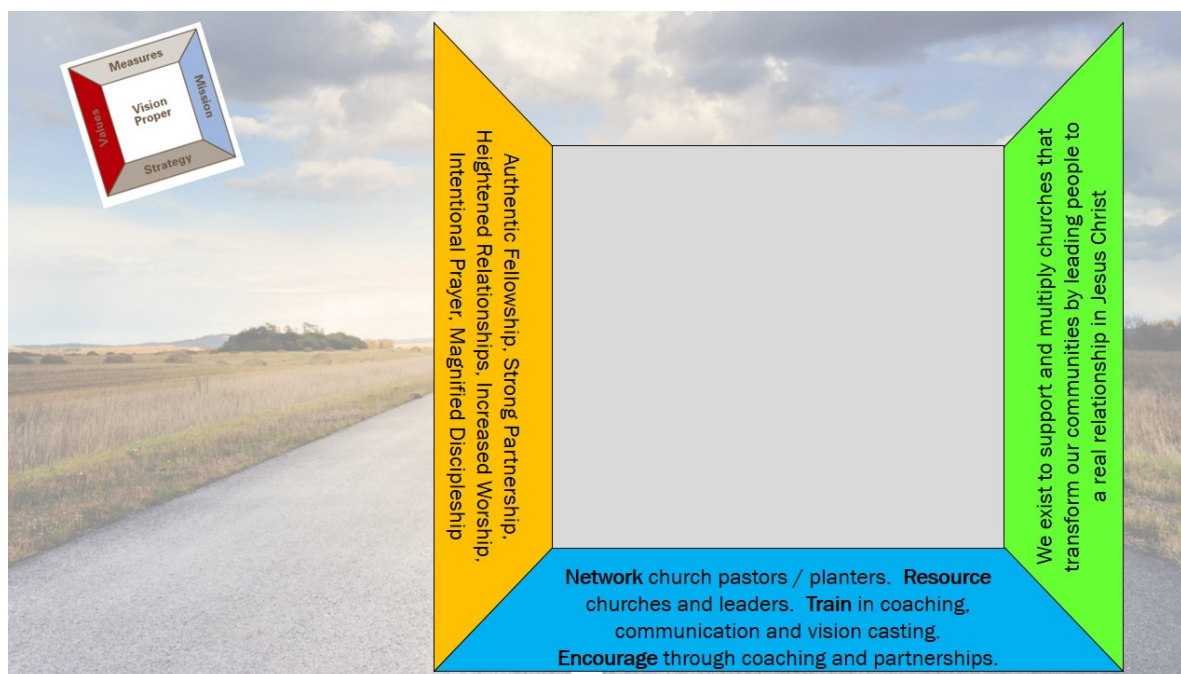


While our mission is what we do, our values or motives is why we do it. I believe our cooperative associational values include fellowship, partnership, relationship, worship, prayer and discipleship. Our hearts beat as an association, by definition, to associate.

If we don't hold to these values and perhaps others, we will not be very effective in cooperating together. When we authentic fellowship we heighten our relationships which in turn forms strong partnerships and increased service or worship to our King which causes us to intentionally pray for one another and magnifies the discipleship process.

This can not be manufactured, but must be Spirit led. However, there is a strategy or map to offer opportunities that will enhance the values and accomplish the mission.

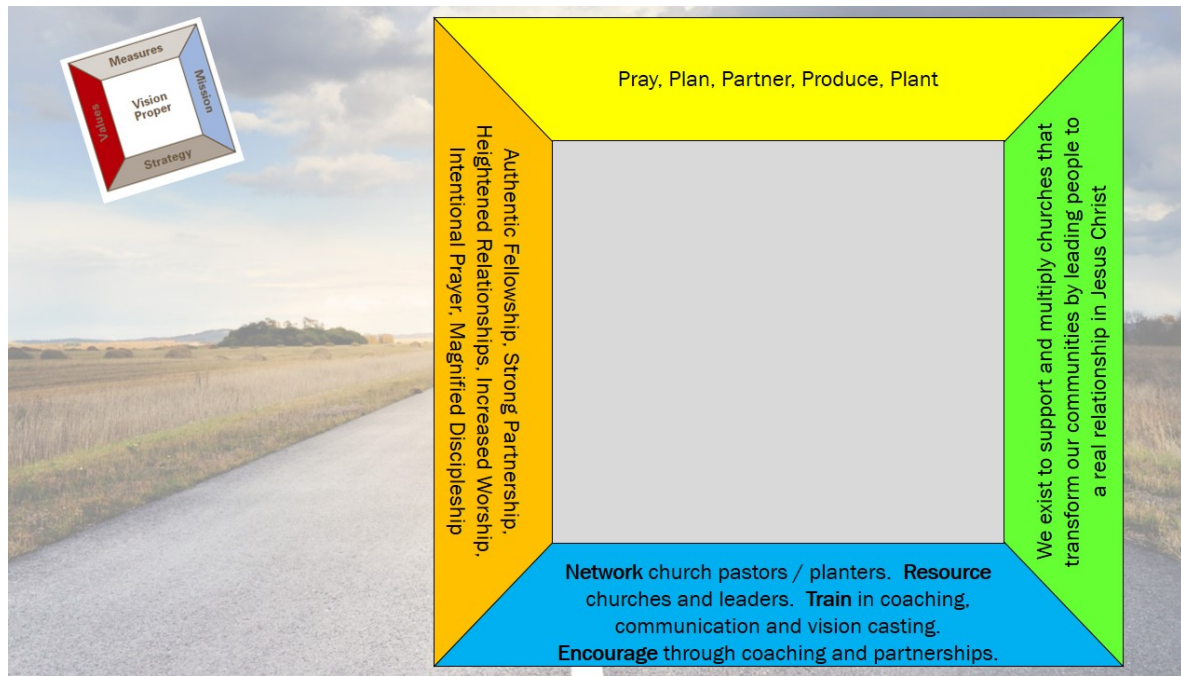
How can we see this happen?



As I mentioned a moment ago, we cannot manufacture our values or motives as they must be Spirit led. But we can create opportunities for to enhance the process. This would be our strategy, map or method.

I believe **networking** pastors and planters, as well as their families can enhance the fellowship and relational opportunities. In 2017, there will intentional network dates for pastors, planters and families to partake in. Another area in which has already begun is **resourcing** pastors and churches. This past year so far we have offered an Effective Church Conference, Prayer Boot Camp and Women's Retreat. In the early fall, we will offer **training** to coach, communicate and cast a vision in your churches and ten **encourage** each other through more coaching and partnering together.

When can we see it is working?



As Southern Baptists we have a unique tool called the Annual Church Profile. This will be a measurement in and of itself, but I believe the truer measurements will be the following:

Prayer - This is a God sized vision and the things that will happen can be attributed to the prayers of the saints. When we see God move, we will know there is prayer and when we pray, we will know God is moving.

Planning - Another measurement is planning. We will see what was accomplished based on the plans set forth. In 2017, a plan is an Associational outreach event to include music, speakers and motorcycles. If we fail to plan, we plan to fail.

Partnering - We will be able to measure the partnerships that take place. When we partner together, we accomplish more. One way we will introduce partnering among some of you is in planting new works within the Association.

Producing - We can count the new believers, leaders, etc. As we coach and train, resource and network, new leaders will be developed. As we partner on mission together, we will be able to measure the product of the partnering.

Planting - As an Association, I believe we can have 6 to 8 healthy thriving plants by the year 2020. In partnership with NAMB and the Northwest Association, we will be able to measure the plants and sending churches within our region.

Again, this is God sized and we must rely on the Holy Spirit to move mightily among us. The question is, "will we truly surrender to the movement of God?" Will we become Kingdom focused and lead our congregations to be the same?

One resource most of the pastors have received is a book called "Church Unique" by Will Mancini, I encourage you to read it and find a fresh Unique Vision for your church. I have another book for each of the pastors by Thom Rainer entitled "Who Moved My Pulpit?" I encourage you to download the kit and take the "Church Readiness Inventory" found [here](#) and to read the book once you receive it.

In a few weeks, I will send Part 3 of A look at the future of the NorthCoast Baptist Association. In this portion we will discuss the "big picture" and then narrow in on the next 4 months. It is my prayer that you catch the vision and pray for the future of the NorthCoast Baptist Association. Drop me a note to let me know your thoughts so far - northcoastdom@gmail.com



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