



Embracing the Valley

Summit 2026 Recap & The 4 Phases of
Unlocking Microchurch Potential

Navigating Disruption to Build Movemental Christianity

Power in Ordinary Vessels



“For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus’ sake, so that his life may also be revealed in our mortal body.”
– 2 Corinthians 4:11-12



The Summit Paradox

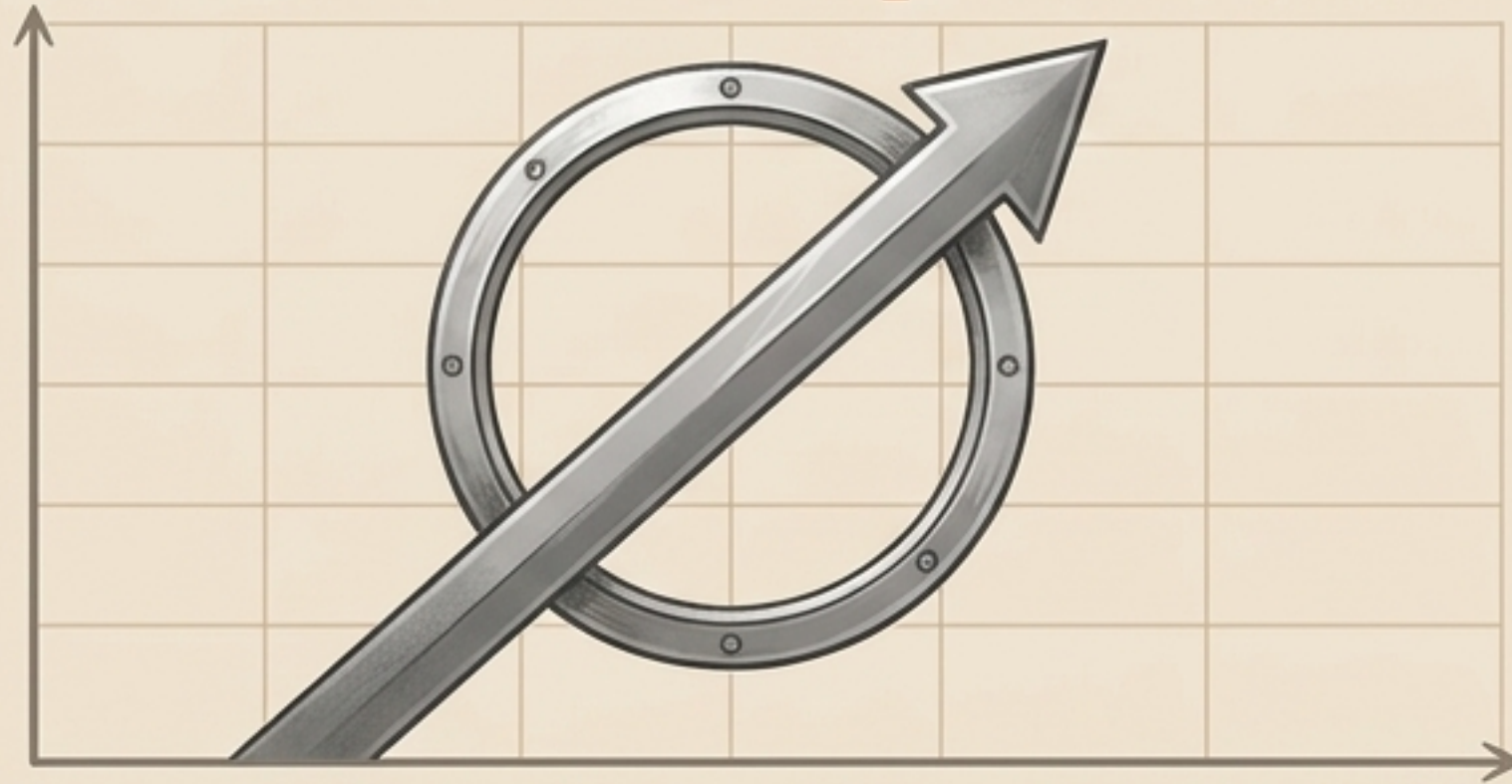
The Trap: Planning weakness out of the equation.

The Reality: Planning out weakness means planning out God. The contrast between our fragility and God's power is exactly what expresses His love to the neighborhood.

Is it Stagnating, or Just Ordinary?

Are we truly failing to bear fruit, or do we simply lack the emotional maturity for the slow pace of change?

The Western Expectation



The Microchurch Reality



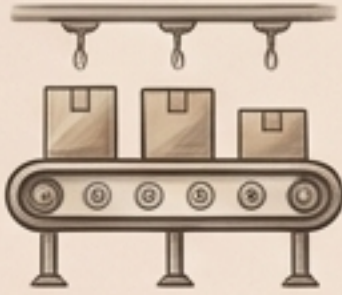
3 Friction Points of Perceived Stagnation

1. **Disconnected** from new people.

2. **Shallow** community depth.

3. **Alive** merely for the sake of **survival** (busyness).

Kingdom Imagination vs. Human Management

	The Factory		The Field	
	The Mindset Systems and industrial scalability.		The Mindset Agrarian rhythm and experiential learning.	
	The Input/Output Plug in raw materials, expect identical output.		The Input/Output Scatter seeds, rely on God for growth and weather.	
	The Posture Predictable, managed, sterile.		The Posture Vulnerable, dependent, alive.	

The Geography of Change

"Change is 'Down and Through,' not 'Up and Over.' If we're to better the future, we must first disrupt the present." — *Rich Robinson*



The 'All Change' Framework

Four phases to transition a stagnating group or launch a new microchurch expression.



1. Dream
(The Descent
into the valley)

2. Discover
(The Valley Floor / Prototypes)

3. Design
(The Ascent /
Structuring)

4. Deploy
(The New Heights /
Multiplication)

Jesus as the Ultimate Movement Maker



Phase	Jesus' Posture	Gospel Context	Core Action
Deploy	The Champion	Luke 22-Acts	Releasing leaders into multiplied mission.
Design	The Challenger	Luke 12-21	Unearthing and testing Kingdom principles.
Discover	The Coach	Luke 7-11	Experiential learning with a core few.
Dream	The Catalyst	Luke 2-6	Disrupting the status quo & sparking imagination.

Phase 1: Dream

The Goal

Spark a Kingdom vision centered entirely on God.

Ask: Who will benefit? How will the world become better?



The Barrier (The 3 Rs of Scarcity)

We carry the perception of our current scarcity into our future. We limit God based on our current lack of:



1. Relationships



2. Resources



3. Responsibility
(Scope of influence)

Tactical Tool: Divergent Thinking Canvas

Prompt: Do not manage the present. Define the ideal future.



Phase 2: Discover

The Goal

Test, trial, and fail forward with a small, core group (the “scouts”).

The Method

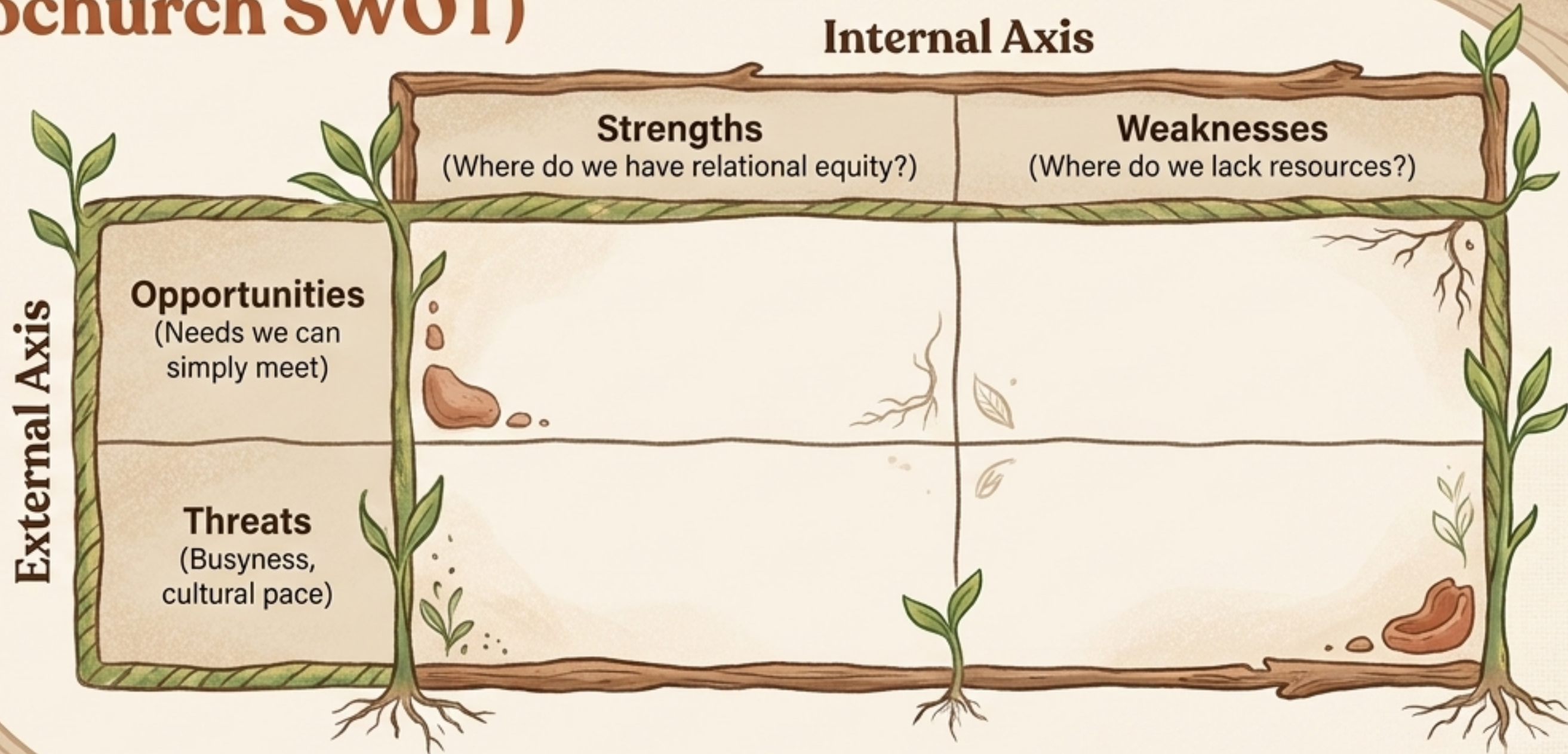
Experiential learning in the field, not conceptual learning in a classroom.

The Mantra

“Go where the grace is.” Pay attention to the pain and passion already present in your neighborhood.



Tactical Tool: Finding the Friction (Microchurch SWOT)



The Strategy Check

Are people high in resources but low in relational equity?
Don't pitch your organization; ask how you can help them.

The Goal

Create "A place where you can change your mind without changing your church."

Phase 3: Design

1
Skeleton
Core Kingdom Principles
The unchanging framework
(e.g., Unity in Christ,
Authenticity, Repentance).

2
Spirit
Holy Spirit Partnership
The life-breath and daily
dependency on God's
movement.

3
Skin
Contextualized Practices
What it specifically looks like
in your neighborhood.

Design Rule: Build on your core principles; do not hyper-fixate on designing away your weaknesses.

Phase 4: Deploy

The Goal

Releasing others into the mission; moving from one place to many places.

The Focus

Deciding what practices we will realistically try for the next 3-6 months.

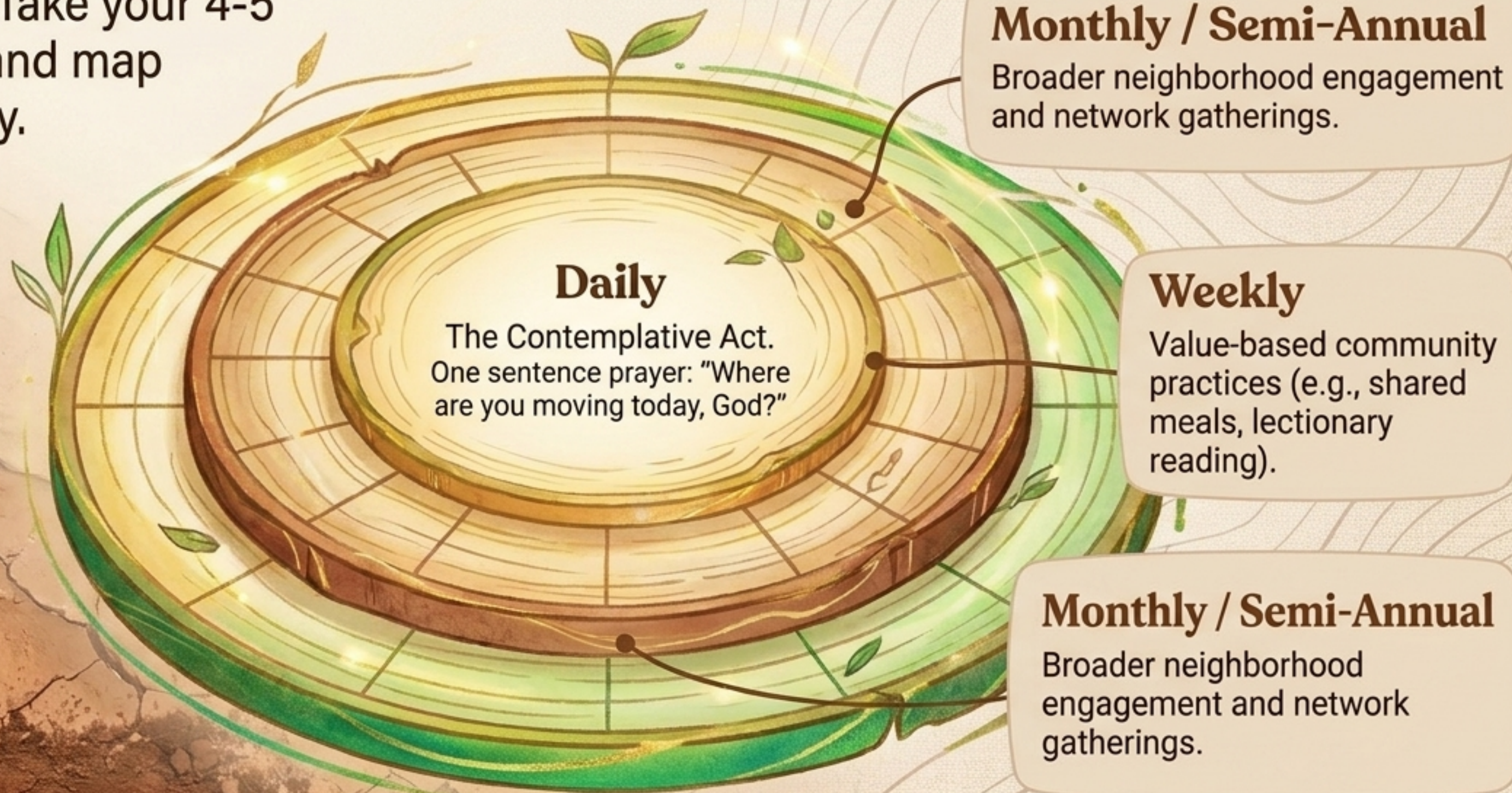
The Warning

"Don't let the vehicle become the vision."
The structure exists to serve the movement, not the other way around.



Tactical Tool: Building Rhythms

The Prompt: Take your 4-5 **core values** and map them to reality.



Beautifully Normal, Deeply Significant

Core Takeaway

The valley is real and disruption is necessary. But as we walk these four phases with Jesus, He uses ordinary people living extraordinary lives of mission to unlock Kingdom potential.



Trust God for the ripple effect of small, faithful, everyday work.