

Breakout Sessions

Assimilation, Hospitality & Volunteers

Onboarding Volunteers

Healthy ministries are built on healthy volunteer teams. This session covers best practices for recruiting, developing, and deploying volunteers while building trust and reinforcing vision.

Recommended for: Pastors, Discipleship Leaders, Student Leaders, Sunday School Leaders

Guest & New Member Assimilation

First impressions matter, but lasting connections matter too. This breakout provides practical steps for helping guests and new members move toward meaningful involvement in the life of the church.

Recommended for: Pastors, Discipleship Leaders, Student Leaders, Sunday School Leaders

Church Planting & Revitalization

Who Is Driving Your Church?

The Ministry Vehicle concept, rooted in George Bullard's work on the congregational life cycle, helps leaders understand how their church arrived at its current stage. This session helps participants identify what to embrace—and what to release—as God leads their congregation forward.

Recommended for: Pastors, Discipleship Leaders, Deacons

Nothing Is Broken, But Everything Needs Work: A Leader's Responsibility for Problem-Solving

Healthy churches recognize that growth often requires adjustment, not overhaul. This session equips leaders with a practical framework for diagnosing challenges by identifying whether issues stem from attitude, skill, knowledge, or systems. This session equips leaders to respond with clarity and lead toward effective, sustainable solutions.

Recommended for: Pastors, Discipleship Leaders, Deacons

Collegiate & Young Adult Ministry

From Lost to Laborer: Helping College Students Find Belonging in Your Church

Being grounded in research and real-world ministry, this session equips leaders to effectively engage, equip, and mobilize college students within the local church.

Recommended for: Pastors, Collegiate Leaders, Discipleship Ministers, NextGen Leaders

Hills and Hurdles: Strengthening Leaders 30-and-Under

Younger ministry leaders often carry significant responsibility while navigating unique pressures. This breakout offers practical guidance for spiritual formation, leadership resilience, and avoiding common pitfalls.

Recommended for: Pastors, Collegiate Leaders, Discipleship Leaders, NextGen Leaders

Cross-Cultural Ministry

Pastoral Care in Immigrant Communities

Ministering across cultures requires both compassion and intentionality. In an increasingly interconnected world, ministry leaders are called to serve across cultural boundaries with wisdom, empathy, and practical skills. This session equips leaders with practical approaches for engaging immigrant communities, offering pastoral care, and building trust across cultural boundaries.

Recommended for: Pastors, Mission Leaders

Leading Volunteers in a Multicultural Context

Diverse ministry contexts present opportunities for unity and growth. Cultural awareness, humility, and intentionality rooted in Christ-centered values is necessary for effective ministry. This breakout helps leaders develop cultural awareness and effectively lead volunteers from varied backgrounds.

Recommended for: Pastors, Mission Leaders, Discipleship Leaders

Disaster Relief Preparedness

Disaster Ready Church: A Pastor's Guide to Crisis Response

When a disaster or crisis strikes a community, the church can serve as a place of hope and stability. This session equips church leaders to lead effectively in the initial stages of disaster response. Participants will learn how to assess local impact, communicate clearly, activate volunteer roles, maintain ministry continuity, and integrate effectively with Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief.

Recommended for: Pastors, Disaster Relief Teams, Leadership Teams

Faithful Watchcare: A Pastor's Guide to Church Safety & Security

Churches are called to be places of welcome, worship, and spiritual refuge — and that requires thoughtful, pastoral leadership in safety and security. The pastor's role in setting expectations, selecting, and shepherding a safety team, understanding safety and security risks, and preparing for medical or disruptive incidents is vital. This session emphasizes a biblical, grace-filled approach to safety and security that protects the flock while preserving the warmth and openness of the church's ministry.

Recommended for: Pastors, Leadership Teams, Church Security Team Leaders/Members

Disciple-Making

From Consumers to Disciples

Some church members only see themselves as passive participants. This session explores how to move people from passive participation to active discipleship through ownership, accountability, and multiplication.

Recommended for: Pastors, Discipleship Leaders

Relational Discipleship & Culture

Authentic relationships among staff and volunteers help build a discipleship culture in the church. This session focuses on cultivating meaningful spiritual conversations and leading staff and volunteers with care and clarity.

Recommended for: Pastors, Discipleship Leaders

Developing a Disciple-Making Framework

A strong framework leads to lasting multiplication. Learn how to build a discipleship pathway that produces disciples, not just volunteers.

Recommended for: Pastors, Discipleship Leaders

Evangelism & Outreach

Creating a Culture of Evangelism in the Church

Evangelism thrives when it becomes part of a church's identity. This session explores how to cultivate a culture where sharing the gospel is valued, modeled, and encouraged across the life of the church. Participants will discover how leadership, vision, and everyday rhythms can shape an environment where members are motivated and supported in living on mission together.

Recommended for: Pastors, Discipleship Leaders, Outreach Leaders

Go Fish: Reaching Your Community

Churches need practical strategies to reach their communities. This session equips leaders with simple, actionable ways to engage people through intentional, everyday interactions. Participants will gain tools to build relationships, recognize natural gospel conversations, and create clear pathways for members to live out their faith with purpose.

Recommended for: Pastors, Outreach Leaders, Volunteers

KidMin

Encouraging and Leading Multi-Generational Volunteers in KidMin

Healthy volunteer relationships drive effective ministry. The real trick to engaging with volunteers is to see a relationship rather than a transaction. This session explores how to understand the people that serve, ways to build trust, and connect across generations.

Recommended for: Children's Leaders, Preschool Leaders

An Essential Part of KidMin: Disability Ministry

Every child matters—and every child belongs. Creating a ministry that includes children with diverse abilities is essential for today's church. This session explores both theological foundations and practical steps for creating an inclusive ministry for children with disabilities.

Recommended for: Children's Leaders, Preschool Leaders

Essential Leadership Skills for KidMin

Leading a Kids' Ministry is more than just creating events and discipling children. This breakout focuses on communication, strategy, conflict resolution, and leadership development.

Recommended for: Children's Leaders, Preschool Leaders

Connecting the Home and Church in Kids Ministry

Partnering with families is critical for spiritual growth. Families are busier than ever, and Kids' Ministry leaders often feel inadequate to support them as the spiritual leaders at home. This session explores creative ways to partner with parents in the spiritual development of their children.

Recommended for: Children's Leaders, Preschool Leaders, Pastors

Leadership

Battling and Overcoming Ministry Burnout

Ministry seasons can be demanding. When these seasons become severe and extreme, ministers find themselves in danger of ministry burnout, feeling the pull and temptation to step away from the ministry. This session provides biblical encouragement and practical strategies to help leaders navigate burnout and remain faithful.

Recommended for: All Ministry Leaders

Building a Spiritually Healthy Staff Culture

A unified staff is essential to a thriving church. Because of different personalities, leadership styles, and ministry perspectives among staff members, ministry can be challenging. This breakout focuses on fostering a church staff culture marked by grace and shared vision.

Recommended for: Pastors, Administrative Pastors

Navigating Church Conflict & Leading Change

Conflict and change are inevitable within a church. When combined with the ongoing need for evaluation, vision, and direction, church leadership may wonder how to navigate this path. This session equips leaders to address challenges wisely while guiding their church toward growth and health.

Recommended for: Pastors, Leadership Teams, Deacons

Effective Preaching and Teaching

Communicating God's Word is both a privilege and a responsibility. Whether one preaches or teaches the truths of God's Word, our purpose should be to see the eternities and lives of people transformed by Christ. This session offers guidance for discernment, preparation, and clear delivery of God's Word.

Recommended for: Pastors, All Ministry Leaders, Sunday School Teachers

Media & Communications

Effective Church Communication Strategies

Take a behind-the-scenes look at how branding, websites, social media, and weekly touchpoints work together to form a cohesive communication strategy. This session helps participants with alignment across platforms, strengthening and clarifying the church's engagement.

Recommended for: Pastors, Communication Director, Worship Pastor

Church Media on a Budget

The creation of high-quality media does not have to be expensive. This session highlights practical tools, affordable resources, and streamlined workflows that maximize impact while staying within budget.

Recommended for: Pastors, Communication Director, Worship Pastor, AV Team

Church Production: Trends, Tools, and Lessons Learned

Explore current AV and production trends while learning from real-world lessons. This breakout equips leaders to make wise decisions, avoid costly mistakes, and build systems that effectively serve their ministry long term.

Recommended for: Pastors, Worship Pastors, AV Teams

Mission & Mobilization

Developing a Missional Vision and Strategy for Your Church

Strong missions engagement begins with clear convictions and a compelling vision. This session helps leaders shape a biblical foundation and develop a practical strategy for becoming a Great Commission church.

Recommended for: Pastors, Mission Leaders, Discipleship Leaders

Zero to One: Moving Your Church Toward a Sending Culture

Many churches struggle to gain momentum in missions. This breakout provides actionable steps to help cultivate an outward-focused culture that actively engages both local and global mission fields.

Recommended for: Pastors, Mission Leaders

Engaging Your Entire Church in Missions

Missions should involve every generation. This session offers practical ways to inform, inspire, and mobilize your entire congregation for meaningful missions involvement and partnerships.

Recommended for: Pastors, Mission Leaders, Children's Leaders, Student Leaders

Prayer & Renewal

Why Prayer Is Non-Negotiable for Ministry Leaders

Prayer is not an optional discipline but the foundation of faithful ministry. This session reinforces its vital role and calls leaders to prioritize prayer as their primary work.

Recommended for: All Ministry Leaders

Practical Disciplines for a Minister's Prayer Life

For ministers seeking a practical plan for consistent prayer. This breakout equips leaders with actionable strategies for developing habits, rhythms, and routines that cultivate a consistent and deepening prayer life amid the demands of ministry.

Recommended for: ALL Ministry Leaders

Personal Revival: Prayer for the Minister's Own Soul

Before ministry is public, the minister's walk with God must be personal. This session guides ministers in nurturing their own spiritual health through prayer, helping them keep their private walk with God vibrant, authentic, and distinct from the responsibilities of public ministry.

Recommended for: Pastors, All Ministry Leaders

Student Ministry

Creating a Culture of Missions and Evangelism in Student Ministry

Reaching the next generation begins with equipping them to share their faith. This breakout explores practical ways to foster a culture of evangelism and missions among students.

Recommended for: Pastors, Student Leaders, Volunteers

Making the Moments Count

In a fast-paced world, every interaction matters. This session helps leaders leverage limited time for meaningful discipleship through intentional, gospel-centered conversations.

Recommended for: Student Leaders, Volunteers

Combating the Norm: Helping Students Stay Connected Beyond Graduation

Many students disengage from church after graduation, but this pattern can be changed. This session focuses on building a strong spiritual foundation early, equipping students to develop lasting faith and meaningful connection to the body of Christ that continues into adulthood.

Recommended for: Student Leaders, NextGen Leaders, Volunteers

Bridging the Gap

The transition from children's ministry to student ministry can be challenging. This session equips leaders to create a welcoming environment that helps younger students feel connected and ready to grow.

Recommended for: Student Leaders, Children's Leaders, NextGen Leaders

Women's Ministry

Ministry to Women in Crisis

Ministry to women in crisis requires a distinct set of tools. This session provides insight into the emotional, physical, and spiritual impact of crisis while developing skills for compassionate, trauma-informed ministry.

Recommended for: Pastors, Women's Ministry Leaders

Intergenerational Women's Ministry

Relationships across generations are powerful and can help strengthen the church. This session explores how to cultivate meaningful connections and friendships among women of all ages.

Recommended for: Women's Ministry Leaders

Teaching Women to Study God's Word

Biblical teaching begins with confidence and clarity that comes from being adequately equipped. This breakout equips leaders to help women ask questions that lead to a deeper understanding of Scripture.

Recommended for: Women's Ministry Leaders

Worship Ministry

Multi-Generational Worship Teams: Bridging the Age Gap with Unity and Purpose

A thriving worship ministry reflects the diversity of the body of Christ across generations. This session explores practical ways to build unity among different age groups through thoughtful leadership, team culture, song selection, and platform involvement while keeping the mission of worship at the center.

Recommended for: Pastors, Worship Leaders

The Worship Leader as Shepherd: Caring for Souls, Not Just Songs

Worship leadership involves more than planning services and leading music—it requires caring for people. Discover practical strategies for fostering spiritual health, preventing burnout, cultivating healthy team culture, and measuring success by faithfulness and discipleship rather than performance alone.

Recommended for: Pastors, Worship Leaders

Cultivating Unity and Excellence in Worship Ministry

Healthy worship ministries flourish when leaders pursue both spiritual unity and ministry excellence. This breakout offers biblical and practical principles for building Christ-centered teams that are prepared, focused, and committed to serving with excellence while avoiding a performance-driven approach.

Recommended for: Pastors, Worship Leaders