

Central and North Florida Districts  
of the Church of the Nazarene



*Nurturing Strong and  
Effective Church Boards*

October 6 - 17, 2013

[www.boardserve.org](http://www.boardserve.org)

# Introduction

A Quote... “A Man In the Arena” T. Roosevelt

A Question.... What is the one “big” board-question you would like to hear addressed in this session?

A Statement... **The leadership ministry of church boards enables church attendees to fulfill *their* ministry to each other in the congregation and *their* mission in the neighborhood and beyond.**

*Video clip #1*

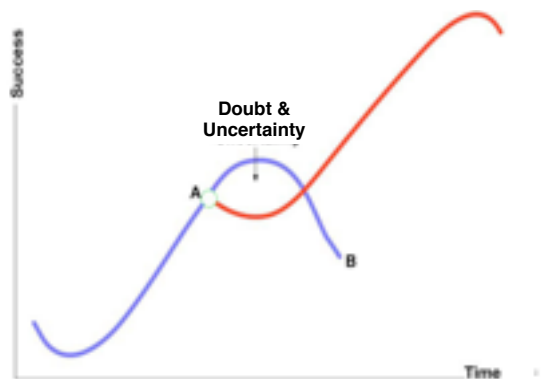
## Goals for the board conversation

Review...

Affirm...

Identify...

The “S” Curve and “Lifespan Stages” diagram helps us! (p. 10,



**Needed for These Transitions:** Strong Pastors & Strong Boards

**STRONG BOARDS**

**EMPOWER MISSIONAL AND VISIONARY PASTORS;**

**STRONG PASTORS EMBRACE PASSIONATE AND**

**ENGAGED BOARDS**

# Building Blocks for Strong and Effective Boards



\_\_\_\_\_ the role and function of the board, including \_\_\_\_\_.

The local church board oversees the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of the local church.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ role.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ role.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ role.

Does your board utilize committees? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Are they effective? Can they be strengthened?

✓ The APEX “Legal and Program” Audit and Link:

[www.usacanadaregion.org/apex-organizational-assessment](http://www.usacanadaregion.org/apex-organizational-assessment)

✓ It’s All About the Agenda! Some suggestions:

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... know, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
in light of the church’s mission, vision, and values

**Mission?**

**Vision?**

**Values?**

**“The Board holds the *future and mission* of the local church *in trust.*”**



3 ...Ask the \_\_\_\_\_ questions!  
*(You have permission!)*

- Who are we?
- Where are we?
- Where are we going?
- How will we get there?
- How will we know when we get there?
- Why did the “founding fathers” establish this church in the first place?
- Why should this church exist today?
- What is the real issue? What is the core problem?



4 Embrace a \_\_\_\_\_ that contains the board-approved policies.

Begin with \_\_\_\_\_!

Include clear \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ statements.

Identify key personnel and financial \_\_\_\_\_.



5 ...address \_\_\_\_\_ situations as Christians.

What ever happens, \_\_\_\_\_!

Conviction: Speak \_\_\_\_\_ . (Eph. 4)

Why?

- |    |    |
|----|----|
| 1. | 2. |
| 3. | 4. |

**Watch Your Words!**  
**A GOOD RATIO:**



...relate to their leaders and constituency \_\_\_\_\_

**A good reminder:**

Keep \_\_\_\_\_ conversations \_\_\_\_\_ !  
\_\_\_\_\_ discuss critical issues in \_\_\_\_\_ meetings.

When vote is taken and decision made, communicate

\_\_\_\_\_

**No Minority Reports!**

**Character Counts... Really Counts!**

**Good and Godly People \_\_\_\_\_ over \_\_\_\_\_,**  
\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. **Therefore:**

- **Speak** \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Listen** \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Forgive** \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Pray** \_\_\_\_\_.

Then move ahead with clear vision, deep humility and fierce resolve.

Protect significant time in board meetings for forthright and growth producing discussions regarding pastor/board relations.



... engage in mutual \_\_\_\_\_, including systematic board \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Board Development options:**

**Board Orientation option:**

**Board Survey options:**

8

...take time to process decisions, with *no intentional surprises.*

9

...embrace change, and resolve to remain united.  
Work through transitions together!

**YES! TO THE BOARD PLANNING Process!**

- 1. EMBRACE THE MISSION AND VISION.**
- 2. ASSESS THE SITUATION AND CONTEXT.**
- 3. CLARIFY THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES.**
- 4. INSURE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN.**
- 5. CONTINUOUSLY REVIEW AND REVISE!**

***A Three Year Planning Process Includes all of the above!***

10

...assess prior decisions and make appropriate adjustments.

11

... are outstanding examples of giving sacrificially.

12

...develop new leaders for increased responsibilities and commitment to the local church.

**Summary and Leadership Questions: Dr. Larry Dennis.**  
(p. 8 & 9)



**Conclusion: Dr. LeBron Fairbanks**

What TOP TWO blocks does our board need to build on?

- 1.
- 2.

**ONE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATION:**

**THE (BIG) LEADERSHIP QUESTION (AGAIN):**

How can our ministry of leadership  
on the local church board  
enable the local church attendees  
to fulfill *their* ministry to each other within the  
congregation, and *their* mission  
in the neighborhood and beyond?

# Church Board Leadership Development Questions

## Evaluation Tool

### 1. Do we have efficient and effective meetings?

- Does each meeting have a clear agenda?
- Is the Pastor given the authority to lead effective meetings?

### 2. Am I developing my leadership skills?

- Am I a good listener?
- Am I overly impressed myself?
- Is God's Word an intricate part of my life?
- Am I an out-front leader?
- Am I committed to learning and improving?
- Am I a Team Player?
- Is our board Goal-Oriented?

### 3. Do we have healthy relationships on the board?

- Do we practice biblical conflict resolution? Matt 18
- Are conversations from the board room confidential?

### 4. Do we have an effective decision making process?

- Rehashing decisions that have already been made?
- Do all board members support decisions made?



**5. Do we spend quality time in p\_\_\_\_\_ and biblical reflection?**

- Prayerfully approach critical issues?
- Is our church a House of Prayer?

**6. Do we have a good plan for r\_\_\_\_\_ the very best people for our board?**

- How does our nominating committee function?
- How could we do it better?

**7. Are we a Missional Board?**

- What do I know about bottom up leadership?
- What am I learning about being outwardly focused?

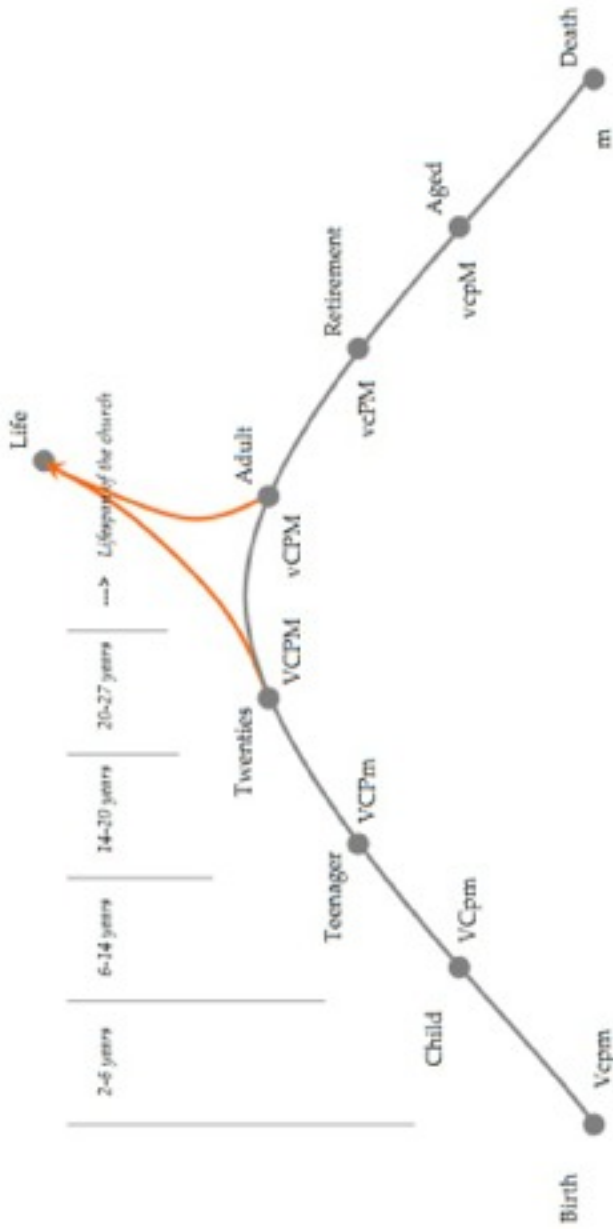
**8. Is our board a\_\_\_\_\_ implementing our Mission Action Plan?**

- God has a unique plan, for His unique Church, in your unique neighborhood.

***“It’s a lack of clarity that creates chaos and frustration. Those emotions are poison to any living goal.”***

**Steve Maraboli**

## Lifespan and Stages of a Faith Community



Characteristics of the faith community: V=vision, C=Community, P=programs, M= Management