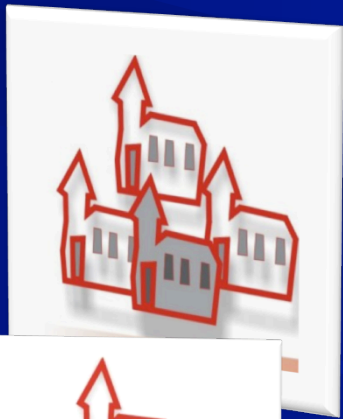
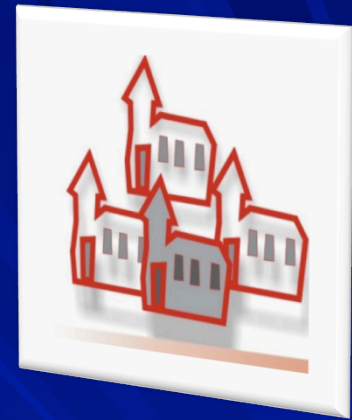




A church that's easy to multiply





They were not perfect...

- Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: **but some doubted**. Mat. 28,16-17.



They were still missing
essential resources...

- „But ye **shall receive power**, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me...” Acts 1,8

The disciples started working...

- First preaching:

- „Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about **three thousand** souls were added *to them*.” *Acts 2:41*.

- A distinctive lifestyle

- Acts 2:42-47

The disciples started working...

- Second preaching:

- „However, many of those who heard the word believed; and the number of the men came to be about **five thousand**.” Acts 4:4

The church started working...

- A couple of days later:

- „And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, **multitudes** of both men and women.”

Acts 5:14

14 μᾶλλον δὲ προσετίθεντο πιστεύοντες τῷ κυρίῳ, πλήθη
ἀνδρῶν τε καὶ γυναικῶν, 15 ὥστε καὶ εἰς τὰς πλατείας

The church started working...

- A couple of weeks later:
 - „Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples **multiplied greatly** in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.” Acts 6:7

χεΐρας. 7 Καὶ ὁ λόγος τοῦ θεοῦ ἤϋξανεν καὶ ἐπληθύνετο ὁ ἀριθμὸς τῶν μαθητῶν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ σφόδρα, πολὺς τε ὄχλος τῶν ἱερέων ὑπήκουον τῇ πίστει.

The long term result of the ministry of the church:

■ Multiplication of churches :

- „Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, **they were multiplied.**” Acts 9:31



Multiplying ministries...

■ Educates new leaders

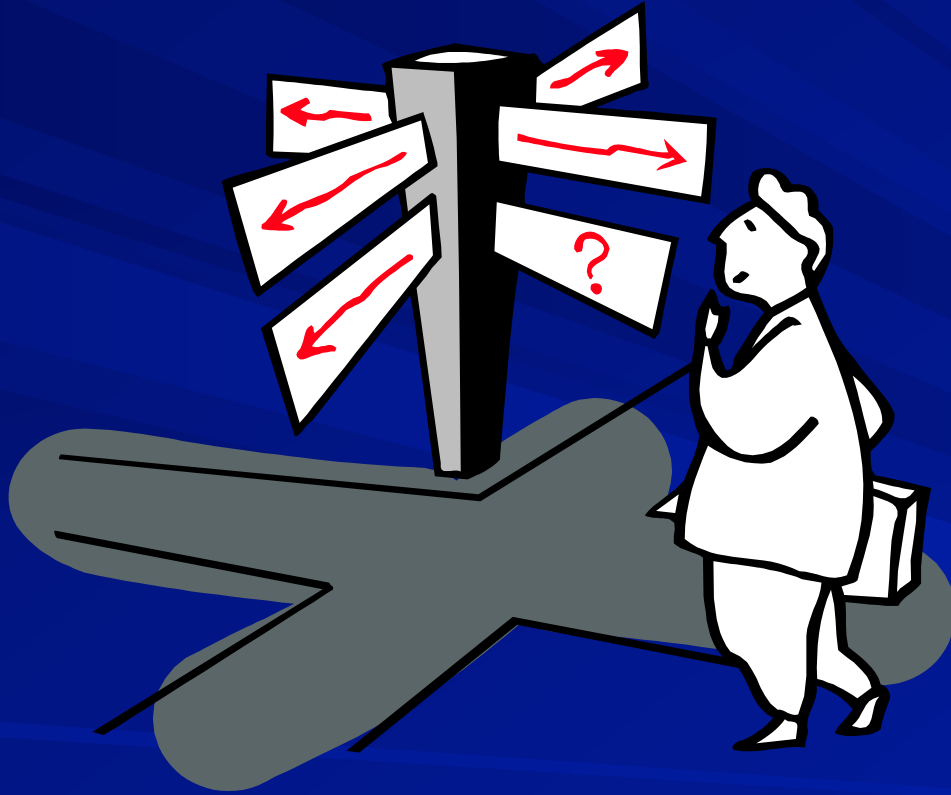
- „And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and **they were all scattered** abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles... Therefore those who were scattered **went everywhere preaching the word.**” Acts 8:4.

Jesus gave an example ...



- Disciples followed Him
- His example led to a distinctive lifestyle
- And the natural result was multiplying churches

The early church was not
left in confusion...



They received a tested
model

The Power of Prototyping

What is a Prototype?

- *Proto* (Gr.) means First.
- *Tupos* (Gr.) means Model.
- A Prototype is a Tested and Refined model that is ready to be Reproduced.



Subaru, Ford Issue Major Recalls

Posted Thu, 7 Mar 2013 by Associated Press

Subaru of America is recalling more than 47,000 cars and SUVs with remote starters because the engines can start on their own. Ford is recal...



Toyota Recalls 1.29 Million Vehicles For Air Bags, Wipers

Posted Wed, 30 Jan 2013 by Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) - Toyota is recalling 907,000 vehicles, mostly Corolla models, around the world for faulty air bags and another 385,000 Lexus IS ...

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BMW Recalling Nearly 570,000 Cars

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DETROIT (AP) - BMW is recalling almost 570,000 cars in the U.S. and Canada because a battery cable connector can fail and cause the engines ...



Chrysler Recalls 919,000 Older Jeep Grand Cherokee And Liberty Models

Posted Fri, 9 Nov 2012 by Associated Press

DETROIT - Chrysler is recalling more than 919,000 older-model Jeep Grand Cherokee and Liberty SUVs worldwide because the air bags can inflat...

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What is the Purpose of Prototyping?

- To Work out the Bugs in the Implementation of a Design before it is Mass Produced.
- To Ensure that Different Elements of the Design fit Together in actual practice.
- To Discover Features or Difficulties that Would Prevent the Embrace of a New Design.
- To Discover Unforeseen Consequences in a New Design or New Way of Doing

Is Prototyping a Biblical Concept?

- The concepts of Modeling and Examples is emphasized through the New Testament.
- Jesus set a Pattern for His Disciples (Mark 10:42ff; John 13:15).
- Paul held out his Life as a Model (*tupos*) for others (Acts 20:31; 1 Cor. 11:1; 1 Thess. 1:6-7, et al.).
- Jesus “prototyped” Community, Outreach and Ministry with His Disciples.

Most Modern Products are Carefully Prototyped...

- Cars undergo 3-5 Years of Designing and Prototyping before they are Mass Produced.
- Electronic Components go Through Careful Product and Consumer Testing.
- Software Goes through *Alpha* and *Beta* Prototype phases before It is Released.

Prototyping is Critical When 1 or More of the Following are True...

- When Something Novel is Being Introduced (in Contrast to A Slight Modification of Something Old).
- When Different Components Must Intersect to Form an Effective Whole.
- When the Margin for Error is Small.

The Power of Prototyping



- Major Problems Only Need to Be Fixed Once!
- Both Leaders & Members Can More Easily Excel in a Proven System.
- A Growing System Multiplies Health & Not Problems.
- Less Skilled Leaders Can Be Mobilized. (This Equals More Rapid Growth.)

The model of Jesus

■ Public ministry

- Even during this period Jesus went into a house to instruct his disciples, at night or whenever it was cold or rainy.

■ Ministry in private, most likely, at least in part, in domestic houses

- In the ancient Jewish, Christian, and Hellenistic world, a private home often provided the meeting place for religious and intellectual dialogue
- The oikos had a central economic and social significance in the ancient world
- We can assume that the synagogues were rather house synagogues rather than pompous structures

A movement of house churches

- „On one point nearly all NT Scholars presently agree: early Christian met almost exclusively in the homes of individual members of the congregation.
- For nearly three hundred years – until the Roman empire – christian gathered in private houses built initially for domestic use, not in church buildings originally constructed for the sole purpose of public worship.“

Roger W. Gehring, p.1.

The post-Easter use of houses in the primitive Jerusalem church

- Acts 1,12-15.
- Acts 2,42-47. 5,42.
- Acts 12,10b-17

The use of houses in Pauline missional outreach

- Acts 16, 14-15; 29-34; 17,1-9; 18,1-4; 7-8.
- Cities with demonstrable House Churches
 - Philippi
 - Thessalonica
 - Corinth
 - Cenchrea
 - Ephesus
 - Rome
 - Colossae
 - Laodicea

House churches in missional outreach

- „By their very existence, house churches were of great importance for the expansion of the early Christian movement:
 - The way of relating, brotherly love, their sense of togetherness
 - The lifestyle stimulated the interest of their fellow citizens and presumably led them to ask the members why they were the way they were
 - In comparison to those who were not open to all (e.g., the synagogue), Christian house churches had a decisive advantage.

The paradigm

- The church as showcase of brotherly love to non-Christians

Life cycle of a church

(EPAF)

(EPaF)

(EpaF)

(Epag)

(ePAF)

(ePAf)

(epAf)

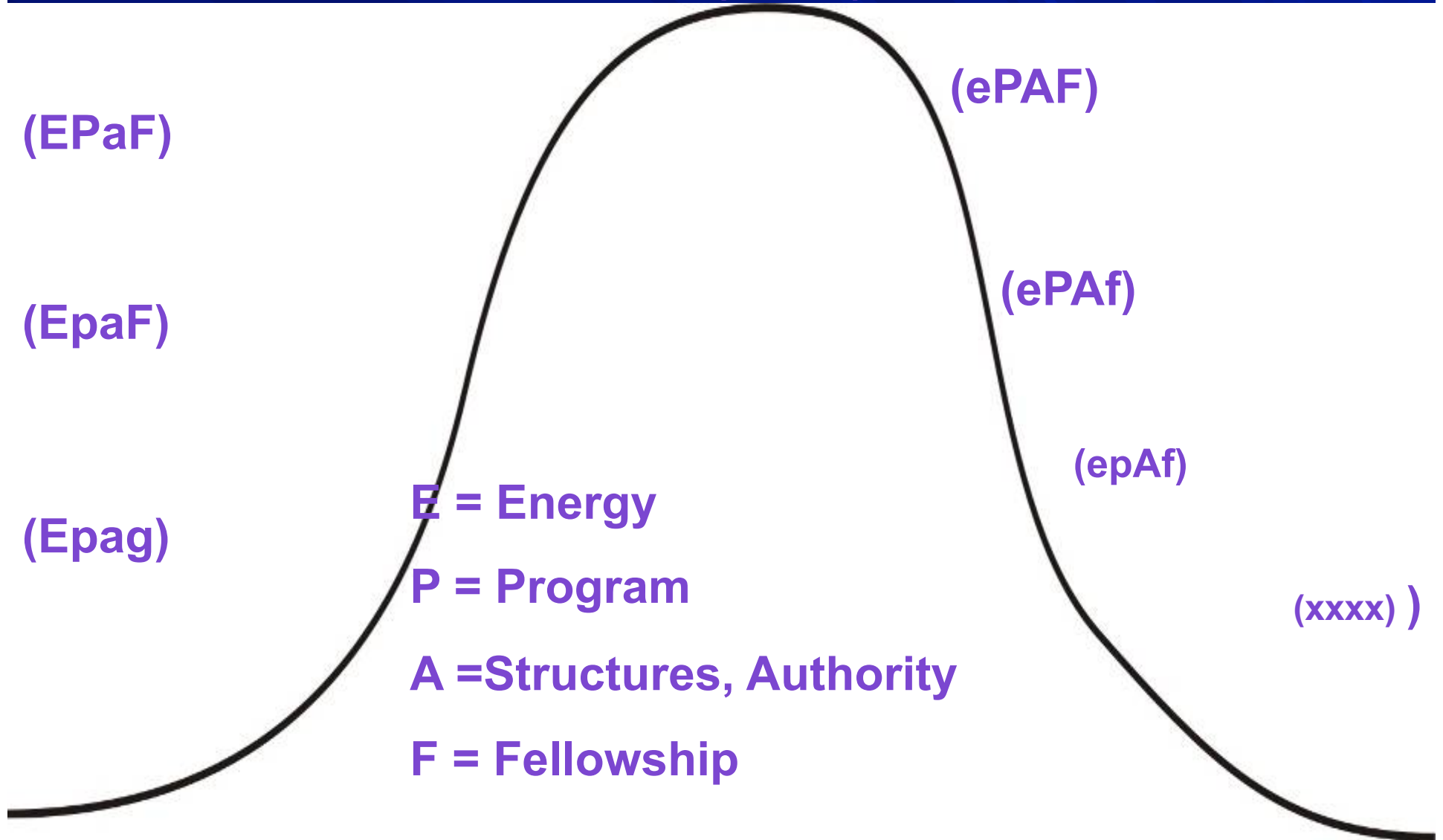
(xxxx)

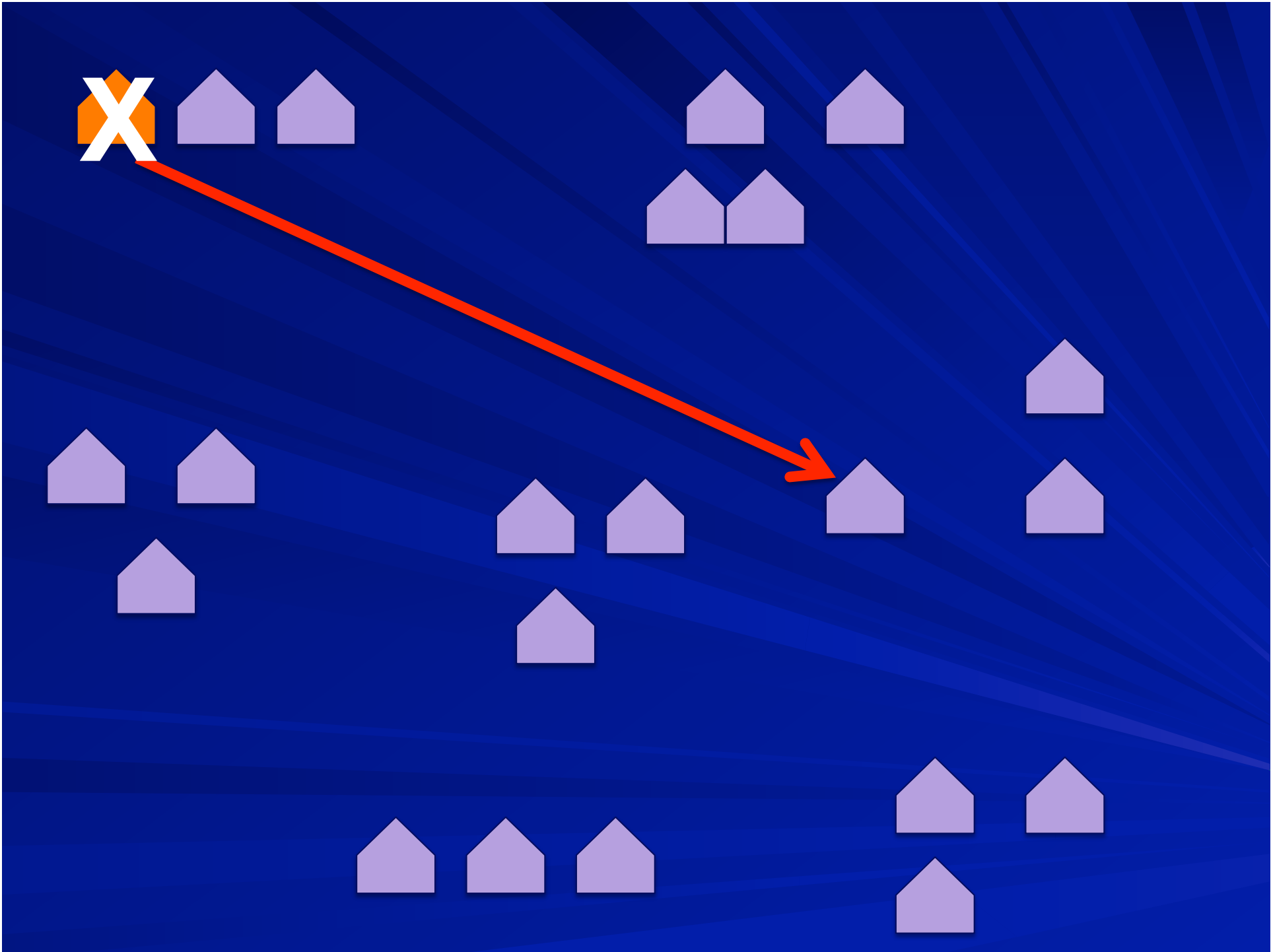
E = Energy

P = Program

A = Structures, Authority

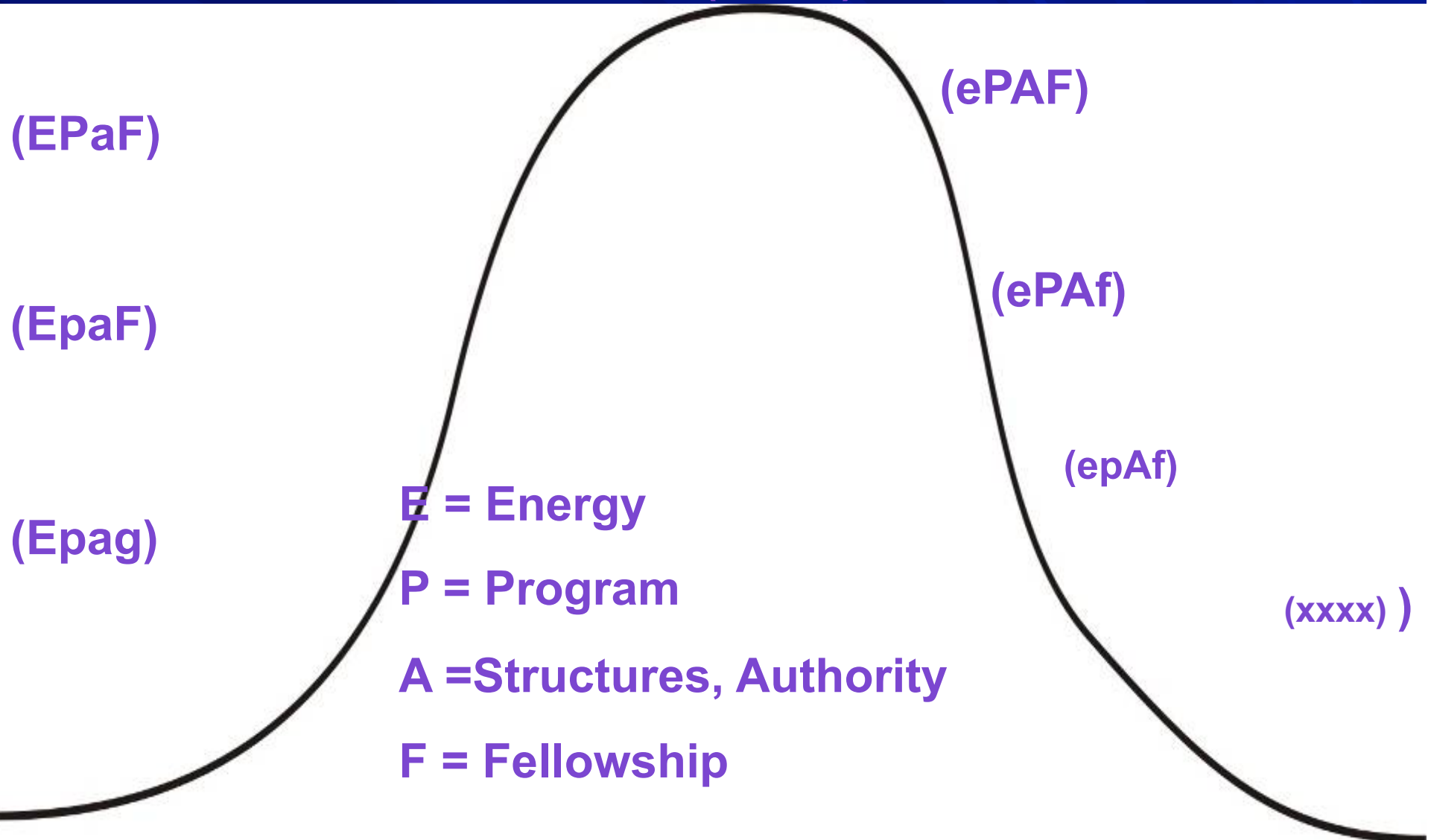
F = Fellowship





Life cycle of a church

(EPAF)



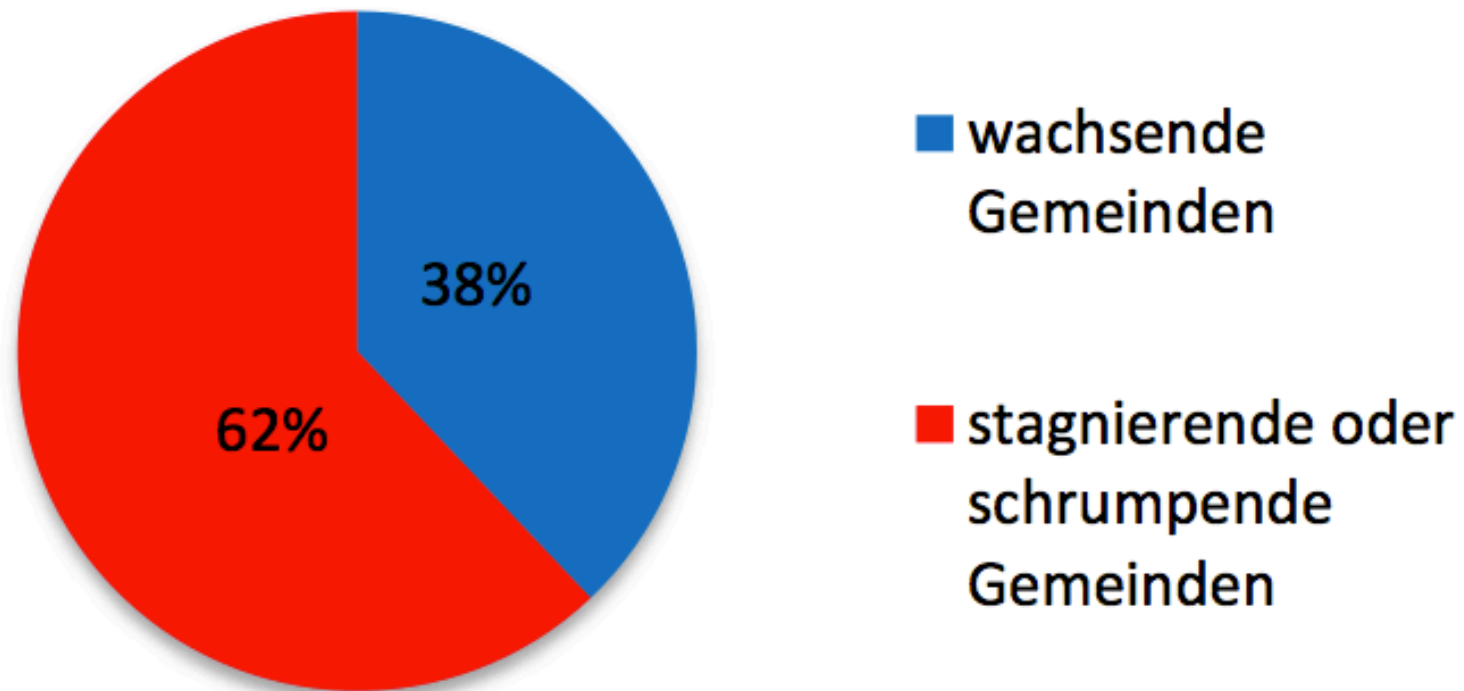
The reality might force us to
think about it seriously...



A Conference Germany

- Territory: 48.000 km²
- Population: 8.460.000
- SDA
 - 58 local churches
 - 3.584 church members
 - 25 pastors

Gemeinden und ihre Gliederentwicklung



Demographics

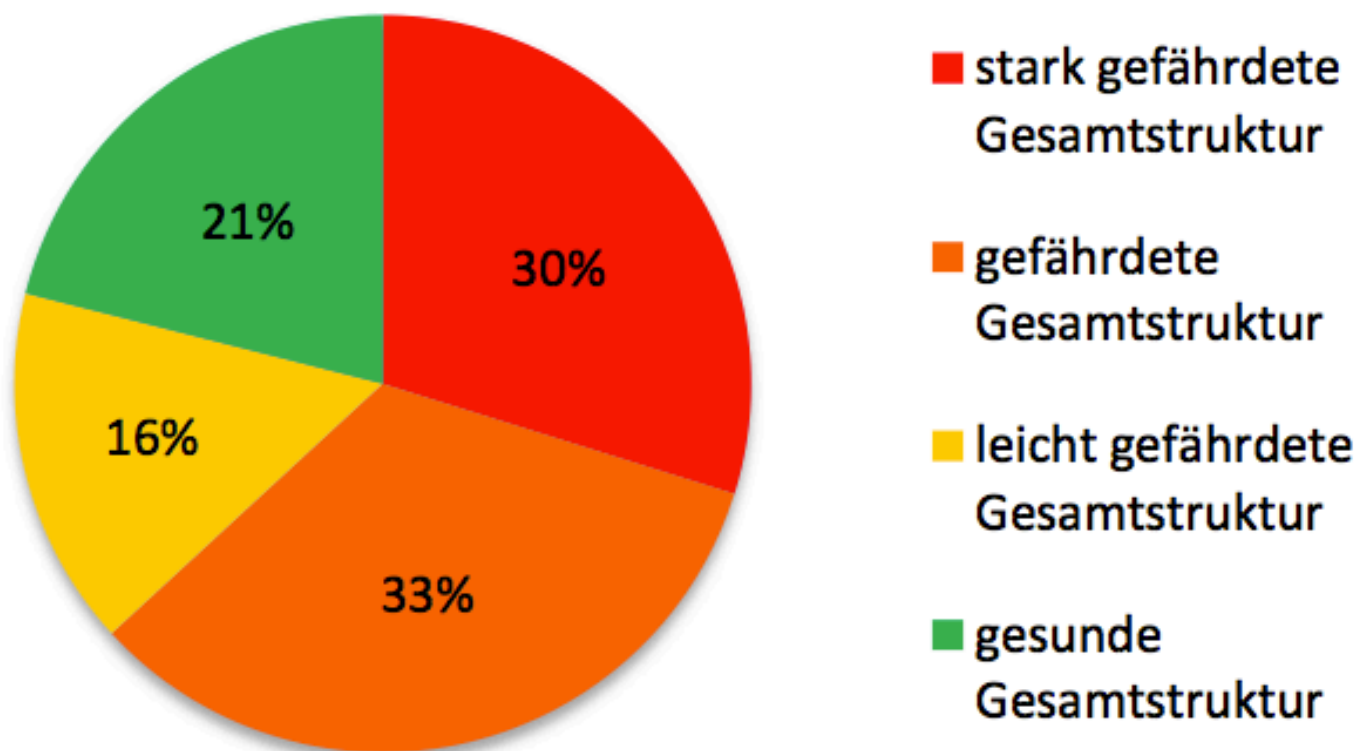
Demographics

- Group 1.: church members under 30 years of age
- Group 2.: church members 30-45
- Group 3.: church members 45-65
- Group 4.: church members 65-80
- Group 5.: church members above 80

Kategories according to age structure

- **Churches with ballanced age structure:**
people above 65 are less than 33% of church members
- **Churches with critical age structure:** church people above 65 are 34-49% of church members
- **Churches with highly critical age structure:**
people above 65 are more than 50% of church members

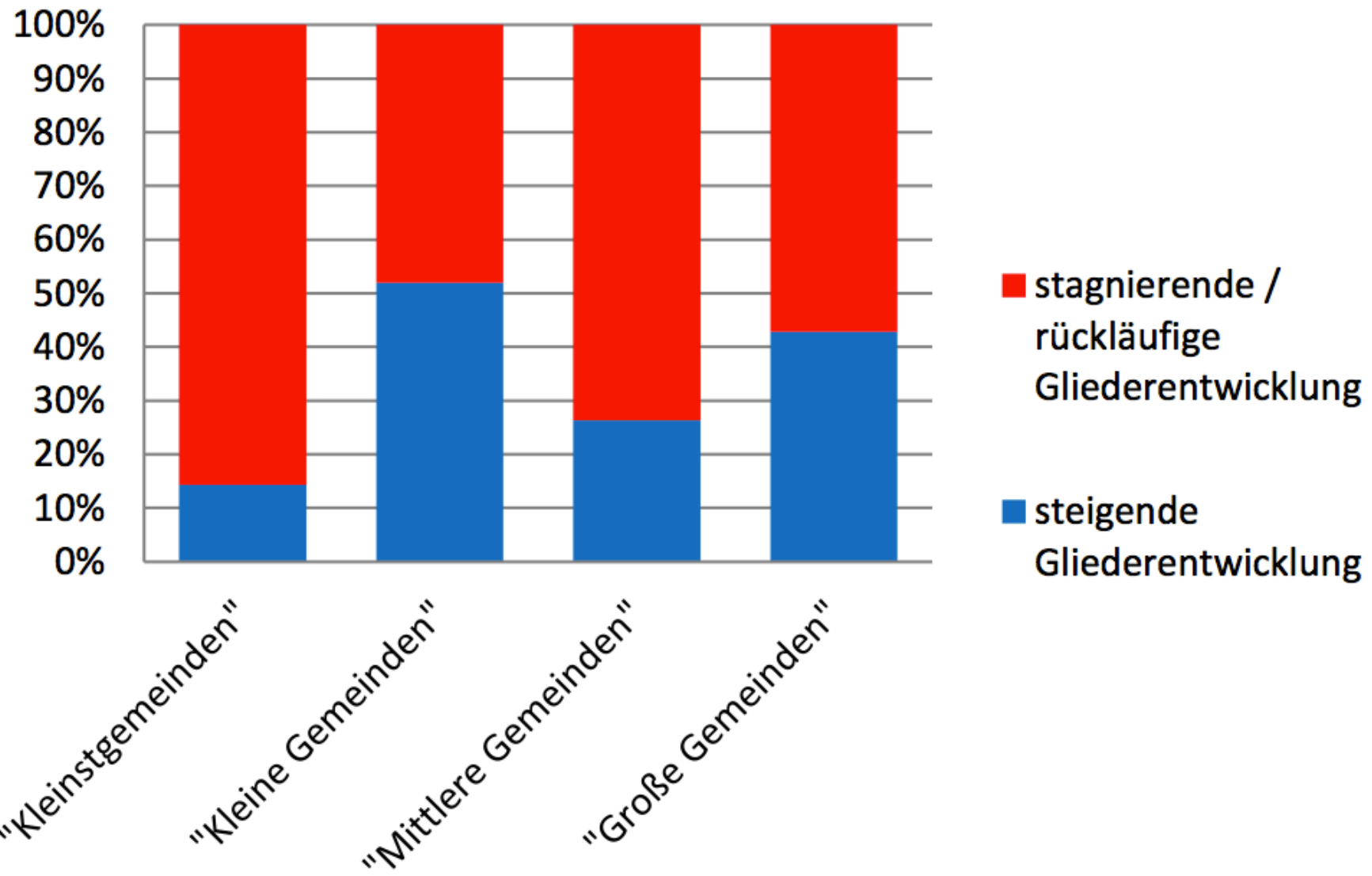
Gesamtstruktur (Gliederentwicklung & Altersstruktur)

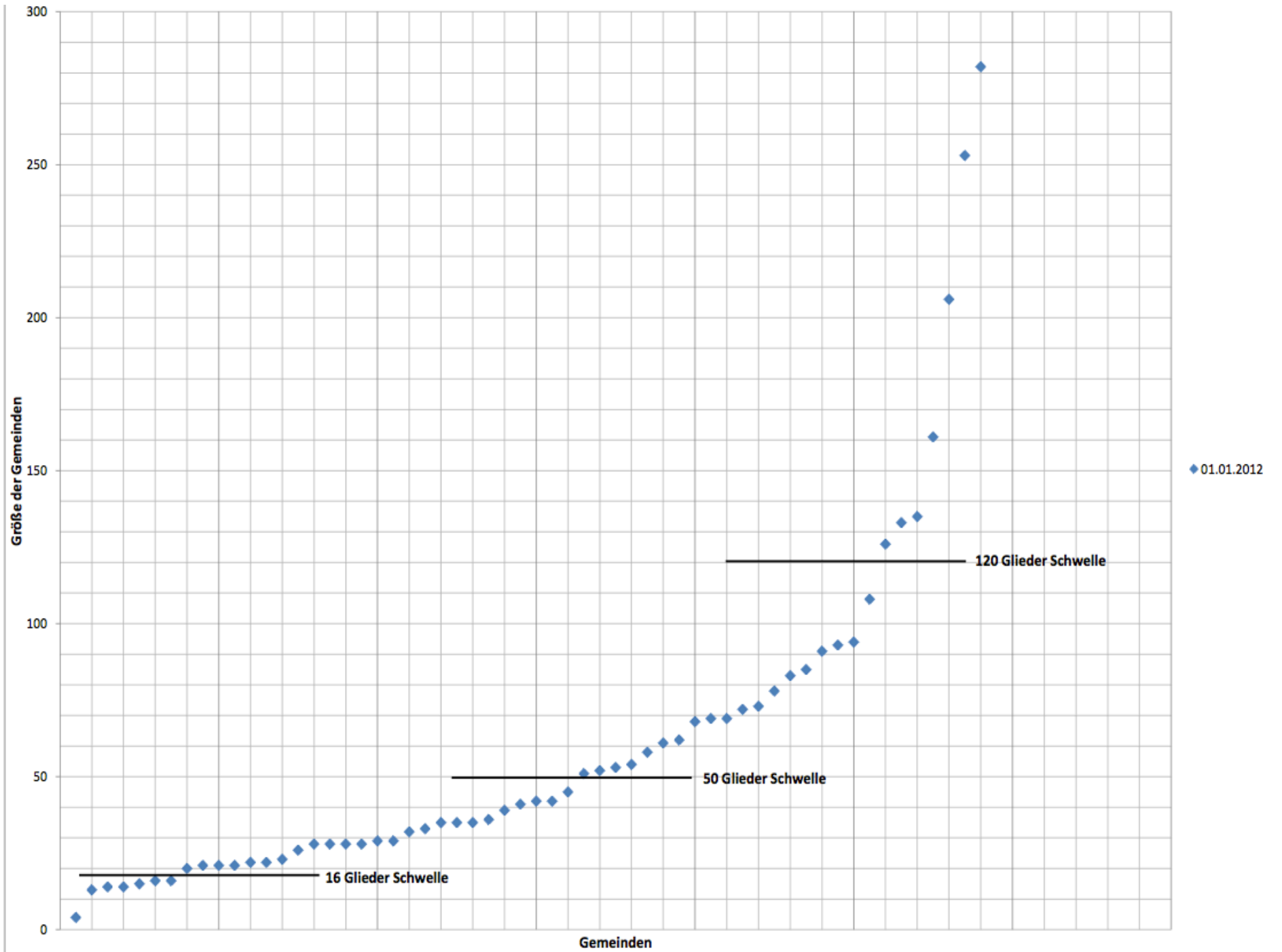


Gemeinde	Jahr												%	
	01.01.2001	01.01.2002	01.01.2003	01.01.2004	01.01.2005	01.01.2006	01.01.2007	01.01.2008	01.01.2009	01.01.2010	01.01.2011	01.01.2012		
"Kleinst-gemeinden"	27	21	12	12	12	12	12	5	5	5	4	4	-85,19	
	21	21	22	22	23	23	21	19	19	17	15	14	-33,33	
	20	20	18	18	18	19	20	18	17	16	15	16	-20,00	
	18	19	20	20	18	18	17	15	16	16	16	15	-16,67	
	16	17	18	16	14	13	12	12	12	13	14	14	-12,50	
	13	13	13	13	12	12	11	14	13	13	13	13	0,00	
	0	14	14	16	17	19	19	21	22	16	16	14,29	7 Gemeinden	
> 16 Glieder	34	35	35	37	38	33	33	29	25	24	24	21	-38,24	
	36	26	22	23	25	25	22	23	21	23	23	23	-36,11	
	58	58	54	48	52	52	51	52	51	50	47	39	-32,76	
	48	46	50	48	46	42	39	37	33	34	34	33	-31,25	
	35	33	31	31	30	30	30	29	30	29	26	28	-20,00	
	27	28	26	29	29	24	25	25	24	23	23	22	-18,52	
	27	28	26	26	21	25	23	26	27	24	22	22	-18,52	
	24	23	25	25	24	21	22	22	21	20	20	21	-12,50	
	23	23	21	20	18	18	18	18	22	23	21	21	-8,70	
	37	35	36	36	35	36	34	34	34	37	35	35	-5,41	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	28	28	28	28	-3,45	
"Kleine Gemeinden"	32	33	35	35	33	32	34	33	33	32	31	32	0,00	
	41	42	40	41	43	41	43	41	43	43	42	42	2,44	
	27	28	29	29	30	32	29	29	30	30	30	29	7,41	
	41	41	44	48	49	46	43	43	41	40	39	45	9,76	
	31	31	30	30	29	31	32	33	36	35	34	35	12,90	
	17	18	19	18	18	19	22	20	20	16	18	20	17,65	
	22	23	23	24	22	24	25	25	26	25	25	26	18,18	
	23	24	26	25	22	24	26	30	28	31	31	28	21,74	
	33	35	30	35	35	37	35	35	35	35	39	41	24,24	
	23	22	22	24	25	25	27	30	29	29	29	29	26,09	
	32	35	38	41	42	42	44	44	44	42	42	42	31,25	
	13	13	14	17	22	25	27	27	26	26	26	28	115,38	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	14	35	169,23	
	0	0	0	9	37	34	29	29	30	33	35	36	300,00	25 Gemeinden

	0	0	0	9	37	34	29	29	30	33	35	36	300,00	25 Gemeinden
> 50 Glieder	138	122	109	107	98	90	86	88	79	73	78	73	-47,10	
	145	149	148	149	153	142	136	128	122	114	115	108	-25,52	
	90	89	92	87	84	79	79	73	75	68	70	68	-24,44	
	117	117	109	110	106	107	104	101	95	94	92	91	-22,22	
	110	110	103	103	104	109	107	107	103	97	94	93	-15,45	
	71	67	63	64	63	66	66	67	62	61	57	61	-14,08	
	109	116	114	111	108	106	108	104	108	102	104	94	-13,76	
	58	52	52	53	52	50	54	54	55	55	55	51	-12,07	
	60	61	57	53	60	59	59	59	54	54	55	53	-11,67	
	87	88	82	88	84	81	93	92	90	85	80	78	-10,34	
"Mittlere Gemeinden"	89	90	86	86	85	84	86	88	84	84	85	85	-4,49	
	54	62	69	70	73	73	74	66	64	60	54	52	-3,70	
	56	57	54	55	56	56	56	57	60	59	58	54	-3,57	
	70	69	73	73	70	71	70	71	70	73	67	69	-1,43	
	57	58	57	57	61	63	62	63	65	61	60	58	1,75	
	65	66	67	68	63	67	67	71	67	66	67	72	10,77	
	54	57	61	60	62	60	63	66	67	72	71	69	27,78	
	44	45	47	49	49	51	51	56	61	60	63	62	40,91	
	51	50	48	63	79	84	95	96	87	84	79	83	62,75	19 Gemeinden
	> 120 Glieder	120	116	123	125	112	119	117	119	121	123	127	126	5,00
127		133	141	138	137	136	133	140	134	132	138	133	4,72	
119		121	120	124	124	126	123	123	124	127	128	135	13,45	
"Große Gemeinden"	188	184	188	180	182	184	178	171	168	165	162	161	-14,36	
	239	238	237	233	223	221	228	225	221	220	207	206	-13,81	
	267	271	268	259	262	251	254	253	256	257	261	253	-5,24	
	307	308	308	297	301	294	298	301	298	294	285	282	-8,14	7 Gemeinden
	19	9	9	11	15	15	6	15	15	59	38	42		
	3710	3696	3678	3687	3704	3676	3678	3699	3645	3646	3581	3565	-3,91	

Gliederentwicklung nach Gemeindekategorien





Gemeinde	Altersstruktur										%		
	16-30		31-45		46-65		66-80		81-100			Gesamt	
	<i>absolut</i>	%	<i>absolut</i>	%	<i>absolut</i>	%	<i>absolut</i>	%	<i>absolut</i>	%		<i>absolut</i>	%
<i>Gemeinden, in denen mindestens 50% der Glieder jenseits der 65 Jahre alt sind</i>	0	0%	1	8%	5	38%	3	23%	4	31%	13	100%	54%
	0	0%	3	21%	3	21%	8	57%	0	0%	14	100%	57%
	2	13%	0	0%	6	38%	5	31%	3	19%	16	100%	50%
	0	0%	1	5%	8	40%	8	40%	3	15%	20	100%	55%
	1	5%	4	19%	4	19%	10	48%	2	10%	21	100%	57%
	0	0%	5	13%	10	26%	15	38%	9	23%	39	100%	62%
	4	8%	7	14%	10	20%	23	45%	7	14%	51	100%	59%
	7	10%	4	6%	10	15%	17	25%	30	44%	68	100%	69%

8 Gemeinden

Gemeinden, in denen zwischen 33% und 49% der Glieder jenseits der 65 Jahre alt sind

1	17%	0	0%	3	50%	1	17%	1	17%	6	100%	33%
1	7%	1	7%	7	50%	4	29%	1	7%	14	100%	36%
0	0%	2	13%	6	40%	1	7%	6	40%	15	100%	47%
1	5%	3	16%	7	37%	4	21%	4	21%	19	100%	42%
0	0%	5	25%	8	40%	5	25%	2	10%	20	100%	35%
0	0%	3	14%	8	38%	7	33%	3	14%	21	100%	48%
1	4%	5	19%	8	30%	9	33%	4	15%	27	100%	48%
7	26%	2	7%	9	33%	4	15%	5	19%	27	100%	33%
4	14%	6	21%	8	29%	5	18%	5	18%	28	100%	36%
1	3%	2	7%	13	45%	5	17%	8	28%	29	100%	45%
1	3%	6	19%	11	35%	9	29%	4	13%	31	100%	42%
1	3%	9	27%	8	24%	12	36%	3	9%	33	100%	45%
5	14%	9	26%	8	23%	10	29%	3	9%	35	100%	37%
0	0%	8	22%	12	33%	12	33%	4	11%	36	100%	44%
3	8%	4	11%	15	39%	12	32%	4	11%	38	100%	42%
5	12%	7	17%	13	32%	15	37%	1	2%	41	100%	39%
3	6%	7	14%	18	36%	19	38%	3	6%	50	100%	44%
6	12%	7	13%	18	35%	14	27%	7	13%	52	100%	40%
0	0%	11	21%	21	40%	15	28%	6	11%	53	100%	40%
8	14%	9	16%	21	36%	13	22%	7	12%	58	100%	34%
7	11%	14	23%	19	31%	15	25%	6	10%	61	100%	34%
3	4%	12	18%	24	36%	22	33%	6	9%	67	100%	42%
0	0%	21	30%	20	29%	23	33%	5	7%	69	100%	41%
8	11%	10	14%	20	29%	15	21%	17	24%	70	100%	46%
9	11%	12	15%	30	38%	14	18%	14	18%	79	100%	35%
5	6%	19	22%	29	34%	23	27%	9	11%	85	100%	38%
7	7%	18	19%	34	35%	22	23%	15	16%	96	100%	39%
19	14%	33	24%	37	27%	34	25%	14	10%	137	100%	35%
16	10%	40	25%	48	29%	43	26%	16	10%	163	100%	36%
17	8%	46	22%	78	37%	54	25%	18	8%	213	100%	34%

30 Gemeinden

<i>Gemeinden, in denen bis 33% der Glieder jenseits der 65 Jahre alt sind</i>	1	6%	12	75%	1	6%	2	13%	0	0%	16	100%	13%	20 Gemeinden
	2	9%	5	23%	8	36%	4	18%	3	14%	22	100%	32%	
	1	4%	5	20%	16	64%	3	12%	0	0%	25	100%	12%	
	4	15%	4	15%	12	46%	4	15%	2	8%	26	100%	23%	
	5	18%	3	11%	14	50%	3	11%	3	11%	28	100%	21%	
	4	13%	6	19%	13	42%	5	16%	3	10%	31	100%	26%	
	10	29%	6	17%	15	43%	4	11%	0	0%	35	100%	11%	
	4	11%	15	42%	17	47%	0	0%	0	0%	36	100%	0%	
	4	11%	10	26%	13	34%	7	18%	4	11%	38	100%	29%	
	5	11%	10	22%	26	58%	4	9%	0	0%	45	100%	9%	
	2	4%	8	15%	28	53%	11	21%	4	8%	53	100%	28%	
	16	24%	22	32%	25	37%	4	6%	1	1%	68	100%	7%	
	23	26%	7	8%	29	33%	21	24%	7	8%	87	100%	32%	
	10	11%	13	15%	38	43%	18	20%	10	11%	89	100%	31%	
	4	4%	27	29%	33	36%	20	22%	8	9%	92	100%	30%	
	6	6%	21	19%	49	45%	18	17%	14	13%	108	100%	30%	
	13	10%	30	24%	45	36%	19	15%	18	14%	125	100%	30%	
	19	15%	36	27%	44	34%	15	11%	17	13%	131	100%	24%	
	38	15%	41	16%	110	43%	43	17%	25	10%	257	100%	26%	
	41	14%	50	18%	119	42%	48	17%	25	9%	283	100%	26%	

Consequences

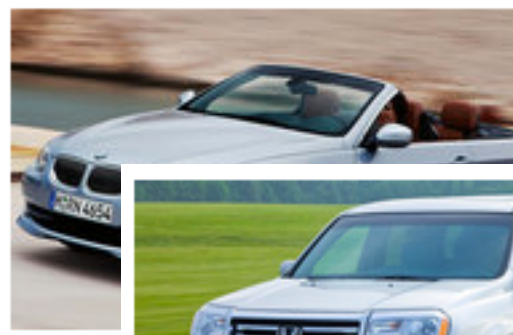
- 2/3 of the local congregations are heading ahead of a major crisis because of their age structure
- The decreasing number of church members makes it difficult to run the existing system (liturgy, building...)
- The model they are implementing might overburden many churches
- They might have less and less capacity for building bridge to the society



Conclusion



- Are we supposed to recall some church models because of their failures before it will be too late?



BMW Recalling Nearly 570,000 Cars

Posted Tue, 19 Feb 2013 by Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) - BMW is recalling almost 570,000 cars in the U.S. and Canada



Honda Issues Major Recall For Airbag Problem

Posted Fri, 18 Jan 2013 by Associated Press

TORRANCE, Calif. (AP) - Honda says it's recalling 748,000 Pilot and Odyssey vehicles because of a possible problem with their driver's-side ...

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It is vital to understand that cells are the basic building blocks of the church.



... and this is how
a cell multiplies !

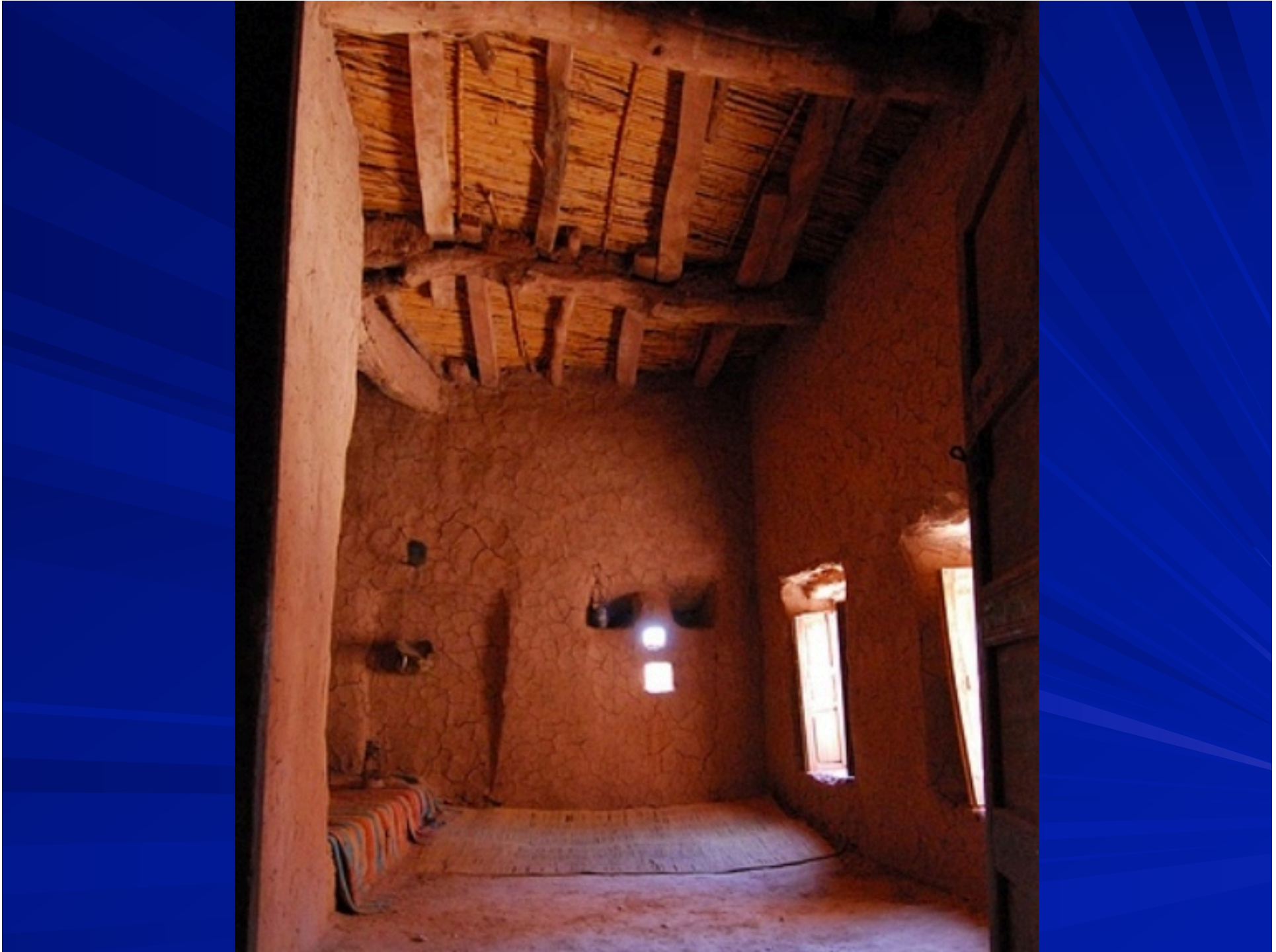




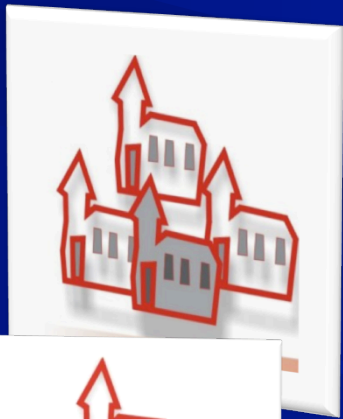
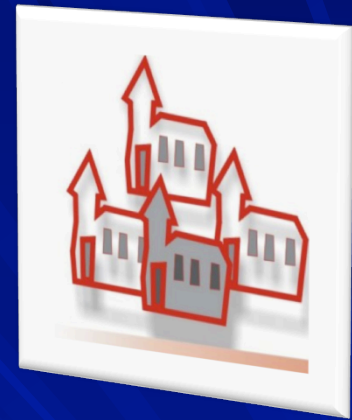








A church that's easy to multiply



At that time it was just the way of life...

- „The insight that the oikos was of fundamental importance for society and economy in the ancient world is gaining ever more acceptance among scholars.“

Gehring

- By belonging to an oikos, each individual gained a sense of identity within society as a whole; it provided them an “inside” and an “outside”, not only a dwelling place but also a home.

Simple Church

Milton Adams

- House churches, specifically Simple Church, operate out of a decentralized, grassroots paradigm that is faithful to the Seventh-day Adventist mission. This paradigm intentionally recaptures the New Testament and early Adventist roots by eliminating the professional clergy/lay person distinction. This elimination, in and of itself, naturally empowers lay-people to become Adventist front-line missionaries.

Milton Adams

- Lay people realize that if they do not become missionaries, there are no professional clergy or Bible workers to whom they can shift their missionary responsibility. This awareness both calls and invites lay people to step up to the plate and once again take ownership of the unique message God has invited Seventh-day Adventists to share with the world—beginning with their unchurched neighbors.