How can socially conscious ministry promote revitalization in a traditional Black Baptist church?

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traditional Black Baptist church?

 Myrrh is a spice or ingredient that the more it is pressed the sweeter the smell. The same thing can be thought about the church, more specifically the average traditional Black church in America. The question posed is, why wait until the congregational dynamic and/or leadership complexion changes before church transformation and revitalization is discussed? Three areas where church leaders may want to consider focusing vision investments in are: Christian Education (knowledge), Charisma (spiritual gifts), and Conviction (power). According to Bradsen’s research, transformation is not just an intellectual process, it requires our emotions, experiences, relationships, and bodies” (p. 9). The development of an educational model tailored to a particular context takes a five-fold investment into three tentacles, the vision investment areas.

It requires the buy-in of key leaders and powerbrokers in the church. What happened to the missiological objectives of the church? Transformation is for the institution and its activities. Revitalization concerns the congregation, the constituency of Christ. So many times, the church, like many institutions of society for the most part, are reactive to crises. Being proactive towards any crises will not stop it from occurring. However, it will tool a church, it will prepare a people to adapt, evolve and thrive despite congregational, ministry, and muse decline. Christian Education is the intellectual process. Spiritual gifts will address the emotions, experiences and relationships of the believer in the body of Christ. The power of conviction serves as the energy or fuel by the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit.

# Research & Ministry Model Search Terms

Search terms related to the topic of this paper are as follows:

* Social consciousness
* Revitalization (congregational/community)
* Church growth
* Turn around church
* Evangelism
* Outreach
* Social entrepreneurship
* Black church ministry
* Christian education
* Prophetic ministry
* Community building
* African American church
* Church life cycles
* New member/disciple ministry
* Assimilation ministry
* Leadership training
* Missiology
* Spiritual gifts/discovery

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