

BURIED IN DAILY DETAILS

There is a point at which the leaders of the organization are consumed by daily details and the organization will no longer grow.

That is a true and valid statement, even though the leaders are not specified and the organization is not specified.

All you have to do is determine when the organizational structure of an organization will bring the leaders to that point and you can know the limit of that organization. If the President of a company wants to sign off on every shipping ticket, the company is limited to one location, and not a lot of shipments.

If the company is to grow, the President must delegate signing shipping tickets to someone else so he has time for more conventional Presidential duties. He can then spend some time facilitating activities which will cause company growth. He continues to be responsible for shipments.

Churches may have a higher purpose, but as an organization of people have a lot in common with other types of organizations. In the case of the church the "President" is the elders.

It is a true statement that when the elders have too much to get done, they will not get it all done.

Some tasks, such as shepherding the members are solely the territory of the elders and must be done by the elders.

Other tasks are under the authority of the elders, but are not specifically required that the elders do them. Many details can be delegated to deacons and other members.

If the elders hold all authority and delegate nothing, the potential for church growth is seriously limited. Typical church growth plateaus of 200, 700, and 2500 primarily represent limitations of delegation or management styles. At each of these levels there seems to be an organizational type which was sufficient to get you there, but not sufficient to get you past it.

This is not to say that the elders are bad people or anything other than sincere hard working people. It is a situational problem.

When the elders reach the limit of their organizational capabilities, it effectively means that they cannot reasonably delegate the work of the church. What frequently happens is that those to whom work should be delegated to do less work, and the elders work harder. As the elders work harder in a thankless situation, they tend to become burned out and frustrated with the lazy deacons and members.

Elders must recognize that shepherding is their job and they are to delegate other activities of the church. If deacons and members are not working, it is not an inherent characteristic of lazy deacons and members—it is a failure of elders to properly delegate.

Elders will not be justified by being buried in details. If they want to be buried in details, they need to resign and become a deacon.

IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION!

WIND PROPAGATION

The other morning I sat in one of the best funded churches of Christ in the brotherhood and watched as the windows were adjusted to moderate the temperature. Good news is that with the windows half open I saw a single seed float gently across the class room in almost still air.

As it was the middle of class, it was not appropriate to go and get it, so I didn't. I don't know what kind of seed it was.

What I know is that a plant (which is heavy) produced a seed so light that it seemed to float like a balloon. The wisdom of this design is self evident. It allows the plant to propagate itself over substantial distances as the seed floats on the wind.

What is also self evident is that evolutionists will tell you that the plant species "decided" that it would be good to have seeds flying with the wind and so they evolved this unique characteristic. Can you imagine a bush deciding the design of its seeds. You are probably pretty smart. Do you ever consider re-designing your seeds? How about deciding to make your seeds float in the wind. How could scientists say with a straight face that a bush can decide this.

There is probably somebody out there who knows what kind of seed this is. Let me know and I will at least forward the name.

Blowing in the wind (from Wikipedia)

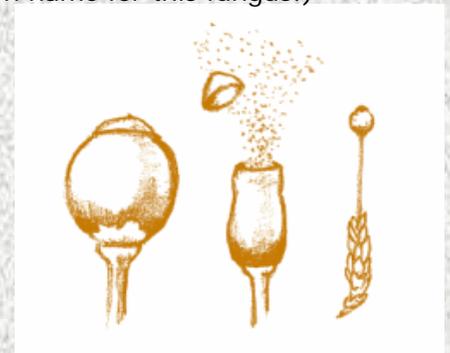
There are many plant species in the Caledonian Forest that disperse through the air - an effective strategy, considering there's no shortage of wind in the Highlands! [Scots pine](#) (*Pinus sylvestris*) seeds are wind-dispersed, typically travelling up to 100 metres from their parent tree, although in snowy landscapes, they can travel several kilometres, blown across the frozen surface of the ground. [Birch](#) (*Betula spp.*) also produces huge numbers of lightweight seeds. These come complete with two tiny wings that help them float on the air. Birch is a pioneer species, ie one that colonises a bare site rapidly and in large numbers, although it is relatively short-lived. It was among the first tree species to arrive on the bleak tundra after the last Ice Age.

The seeds of plants such as rosebay willowherb (*Chamerion angustifolium*) and willows (*Salix spp.*) use downy hairs as a flight mechanism. Even more sophisticated are the tiny parachutes used by members of the daisy family, such as thistles (*Cirsium spp.*). This can ensure they travel much further, drifting on the breeze.

Orchids, such as [creeping ladies-tresses](#) (*Goodyera repens*) invest in their seeds being almost powder-like - well suited to air travel - but because the seeds are so fine they do not have enough energy reserves to allow them to germinate. Like all orchids, they rely on [mycorrhizal fungi](#) to start them off. In this mutually-beneficial relationship, the fungus provides the seedling with nutrients which it could not access on its own. In return the fungus can get sugars that the plant photosynthesises as it starts to grow.

Fungi and some plants such as ferns and mosses produce tiny lightweight spores that also carry very easily on the breeze. Puffballs, including *Lycoperdon pyriforme*, release their tiny spores when rain, or an animal's foot, puffs the spores through the exit hole in the top of the fruiting body. The puffballs therefore rely on a combination of dispersal agents, which can include animals, water and wind. (Scientific names often reflect some of the characteristics of the species, and are not always lofty as they may appear: *Lycoperdon* translates as 'wolf fart', which is an alternative common name for this fungus!)

The spores of *Sphagnum* mosses are wind-dispersed a tiny cap flies off the spore capsule, and this releases the spores into the air.



THE CHRISTIAN ARRAY

DEDICATED TO SUSTAINED SCRIPTURAL CHURCH GROWTH IN OUR GENERATION

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WHAT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS NOT

A local group of Christians who believe that the Bible can be updated by contemporary council decisions.

A church which receives the permission from an earthly headquarters to plant a new congregation.

A church which attempts to duplicate a 19th or 20th century pattern for a church.

A church which believes you can pick and choose what part of the Bible you want to believe and follow only those parts.

A church which believes that we should judge that we are all in a community of believers as long as we say we believe in Jesus, irrespective of what we do and preach. A church which should assure all others that they are saved.

A group who makes decisions based on popularity rather than scriptural basis.

A group which simply skips over Acts 2:38.

A group which finds more convenient ways to simulate baptism.

A group which votes on what it suits them to believe and preach or a group which believes that they are still getting direct revelations from God.

A group who believes we are here to entertain ourselves.

WHAT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS

The church of Christ is a local group of Christians which try to speak where the Bible speaks and remain silent where the Bible is silent.

The church of Christ tries to reestablish the first century pattern and teaching of the New Testament era at each location.

The church of Christ tries to reestablish the scriptural organization of the church at each location.

The church of Christ has members who believe they are following the scriptural teachings as best they can.

Church of Christ members believe that we should not judge others' eternal reward, but that it is not reasonable to give comfort to others who follow their own preferences rather than teachings of the Bible.

A non-instrumental body as instruments were available in the first century and not used, and not used for several centuries.

A group who teaches Acts 2:38.

A group which teaches baptism by immersion for the remission of sins as that is what is taught in the Bible.

A group which believes all revelation was given in the first century.

A group which believes we are responsible to take the Gospel to the world.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Each of you should have received a request to let us borrow your church directory to collect e-mail addresses to increase our mailing list.

It didn't work.

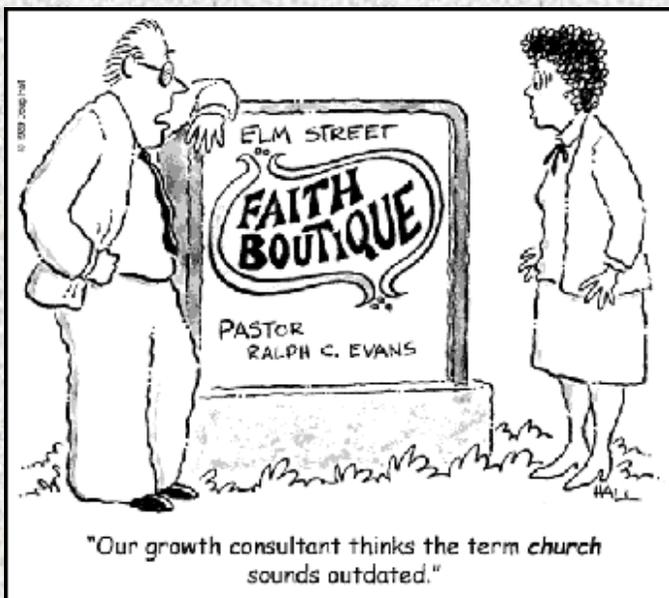
We received a number of e-mails which indicated that their church directory did not list e-mail addresses, but no directories.

We considered hiring college students to call congregations to collect e-mail addresses, but if congregations don't publish them that won't work either.

NEXT PLAN

The next plan is to hire you. Each member with e-mail will have some church of Christ contacts. If you will send us your church of Christ related e-mails, we will send \$1.00 per new name to the church of Christ related children's home of your choice. If you don't have a preference, we will send it to Foster's.

Send the e-mail addresses in any form which is convenient for you. One way is to simply send an e-mail to the group and copy us. We will collect them off the e-mail.



HERD MENTALITY

Scientist A teaches evolution and it seems mostly right but there are some things he has doubts about. Scientist B, C, and D are unwavering in their belief of their particular technical areas, so Scientist A keeps a stiff upper lip and continues unqualified support of evolution.

Scientist B teaches relativity and it seems mostly right but there are some things he has doubts about. Scientist A, C, and D are unwavering in their belief of their particular technical areas, so Scientist B keeps a stiff upper lip and continues unqualified support of relativity to do his part.

Scientist C teaches quantum theory and it seems mostly right but there are some things he has doubts about. Scientist A, B, and D are unwavering in their belief of their particular technical areas, so Scientist C keeps a stiff upper lip and continues unqualified support of quantum to do his part.

Scientist D teaches the fact of constant speed of light in a vacuum in physics and it seems mostly right but there are some things he has doubts about. Scientist A, B, and C are unwavering in their belief of their particular technical areas, so Scientist D keeps a stiff upper lip and continues unqualified support of the constant speed of light in a vacuum to do his part.

No one is trying to do something bad or is intending to be dishonest. The net effect is that questionable theories are presented as fact. It inhibits the free search for the truth. It is therefore unscientific practices claiming to be pure science.

MONEY PAGE

GUARANTEED CHURCH GROWTH

If your congregation does the following, BCE Publications guarantees that it will grow.

Poll your congregation three times at 6 months intervals with the following results:

- 50% of the members know who their elder is
- 50% of the members will say that a minister is their friend
- 50% of the members will say that they are uplifted by the song services
- 50% of the men will say that their input is considered before physical decisions are made
- 50% of the members will say they are an important part of the work
- 50% of the members will say they are aware of the goals of the congregation
- 50% of the members will say that they know what their part is in achieving your goals

GUARANTEE: For the first congregation which does this and does not grow by at least 10%, we will send \$1000 to the church related children's home of your choice in your name.

I have never met a person who said that if they did this their church would not grow. If your congregation is not growing, what have you got to lose? (Offer made since 2001)

IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION?

We will offer \$100 to the first person who can explain how we could have violated the first law of thermodynamics and have come into existence without God.

We will offer \$100 to the first person who can explain how we could have violated the second law of thermodynamics and have existed forever without God. (Offer first posted 8/08)

IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION!

This publication continues (since 1991) to make a standing offer of \$100 to the first person who can give any reason (1 or more) as to why atheistic evolution is a better explanation for the universe and/or life than creation by God, The Father of Adam, Abraham, and Jesus; as revealed in the Bible.

We will also give you \$100 if we cannot give you 12 reasons why atheistic evolution is impossible as an explanation for our existence.

We will discuss this any place, any time, and in any forum. (Offer posed since June, 1991)

RUN AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT:

We will offer \$100 to the first person who can refute the logic that a person can in fact run at the speed of light as presented in the September 2009 issue of this newsletter.

THE MONEY PAGE:

This page may seem odd, even irreverent to offer money for something like this. It is 3 simple statements on church growth, that we cannot be here without God, and evolution is not possible. The steadfastness of putting money on the line for this is to try to be of assistance against those who would discourage church growth, believe in atheism, or promote atheistic evolution.

The page is intended to be a continuing reinforcement.

AREA WIDE ACTIVITIES

CITY OF HOUSTON CHURCH OF CHRIST BULLETIN BOARDS?

Gary Smith (Pulpit Minister of Fifth Ward Church of Christ) and David Duncan (Pulpit Minister of Memorial Church of Christ) are proposing a program to place a church of Christ message on several bulletin boards around Houston for a period of 4 months. They will be approaching area congregations to seek a broad base of support for this program. We would like to encourage your support of this program.

YAHOO GROUP

HoustonCofC is a Yahoo group hosted by Steve Sandifer [steve.sandifer@sbcglobal.net] for the purpose of communicating Houston area news among the brethren. It is open to any member of the church at no cost.

The Christian Array Newsletter

This newsletter will be sent to members of the church on a monthly basis as an attempt to promote area wide activities and church growth. If you do not want to receive this newsletter, send an e-mail to info@thearray.org and it will be stopped.

If you know of anyone who would like to receive this newsletter, send their e-mail addresses to info@thearray.org. All past copies of the newsletter can be found on the website "thearray.org".

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

A goal of this newsletter is to develop a mailing list of as many members of the church as possible and to communicate church related information to as many members as possible. In that light, we would appreciate:

1. Your forwarding the church member e-mail addresses which you have.
2. Sending the directory of the congregation you attend or any other directories which you might have.
3. Give us an idea of how to collect church member e-mail addresses.

This information will not be sold or used for any purpose not mentioned herein.

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