

4. To further integrate a way of life around our savior, we spend time in each other's homes – at least weekly **Fellowship**: The meeting together for meals, prayer, and ministry to one another.



5. From the strength of these rhythms, Mission-link simple churches establish intentional, missional impact (**Leadership**) in several ways: (“Go, make disciples...” Matt 28:18...)

- a. **Public Witness** – finding opportunities to share the wonders God has done in the public forum;
- b. **Public Narrative** – in places like the synagogues of the first century, telling the story of the human journey from **God’s perspective – God’s meaning.**
- c. **Public Service** – finding ways to demonstrate the value of people, (the message of the gospel) by serving those outside the Church

Mission-link has extended this vision by establishing these rhythms in Cambridge, Isanti and St. Paul-Minnesota, and in Liberia in West Africa – through many forums and means. The mark of our ministry is *being* and *making* disciples. Yet these are not new ideas...As it is written: **“Stand by the ways and see, and ask for the ancient paths where the good way is, and walk in it; and you will find rest for your souls.”** Jeremiah 6:16 www.mission-link.org



Mission∞link

Changing how the Church is led

Mission-link is a “vehicle” designed to extend the impact of the living Church of Jesus Christ. “Changing how the Church is led” is the purpose of this vehicle, because we interpret leadership as “influence” (in contrast to a title or position), so extending the impact of the living Church begins and ends with the culture of leadership within the Church. Thus, the starfish...

KNOW GOD – LOVE PEOPLE – DON’T GIVE UP John 13:35

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The starfish is amazing creature. It appears to have several legs attached to a central body – kind of like a spider. Yet the two could not be more different. Chop the head off of a spider and it dies. Chop a leg off and the leg dies, while the rest of the spider moves on. The spider has essential and non-essential parts. Chop the leg off of a starfish, though, and you will soon find out that you now have two starfish! The body of a starfish is completely integrated so that every part has the “essentials” to continue on with life. Its body is “decentralized” – every part having ownership of the DNA for the mission of life.

We see the Church being made by God this same way. Jesus Christ is the “Head”, and yet He lives within every cell – every part of His Body the Church. This makes every cell of the Church responsible for maintaining life, not like the spider whose parts are completely dependent on the central brain and organs. The starfish was made for multiplication – and so is the Church.

The vehicle of Mission-link is committed to multiplying this decentralized culture and carrying its “DNA” to wherever God is growing it...we refer to these places as “simple” or “organic” churches. They may or may not meet in houses, but they share some very definite “rhythms”...




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Rhythms of Followership:

1. A living member of the Church has a rhythm of personal **Worship**. *Worship is what a person gives “worth”-ship to: clearly seen by where we spend our Attention, Time, and Money (our ATM).*
 - Attention - to the voice and leading of God (relationship) in our life;
 - Time - spent in the daily things that God has invited us into;
 - Money - intentionally administered as God’s Spirit leads us.*Each member of the living Body must own the process of spiritual health and growth as a temple of God, in relationship with Him. (John 17:3)*
 2. Living members of the Body of Christ also reflect a rhythm of **Kinship**: *covenant honor toward their family members. Our closest, life-long relationships are the first place our hearts are reflected back to us. They bring brokenness at times, and are the tools of God’s grace and growth. We protect space in our lives for these relationships.*
 3. There is no way to describe someone who belongs to Jesus without the word **Discipleship**. *To Jesus, these are not mere “subjects” or “students”, but He calls them His friends. (John 15) He spent **time** with them, and they were open books to one another.*
4. “You do
I watch”
1. “I do
You watch”
3. “You do
I help”
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- We don’t spiritualize this – we carve out a rhythm for this we call “triads” – 2-4 of us who get together weekly for accountability and encouragement.*

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