

A man wearing a light-colored long-sleeved shirt, khaki pants, and a wide-brimmed hat stands in a vast, open field. The field is dark brown and appears to be a recently plowed or harvested area, with long, straight furrows running across it. In the background, there are rolling hills under a sky with soft, wispy clouds. The lighting suggests it is either early morning or late afternoon, with a warm, golden glow on the horizon.

# **The Mission of The Church**

**We're Here...**

**Now what?**

By J.R. Allebach

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# Our Mission...

Jesus came and told His disciples, " *I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth.*

*19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.*

*20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

Matthew 28:18- 20

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# Christ's Commission

Is the Great Commission time-sensitive?  
Are we on a time clock – should we hurry?

Is the Father simply waiting for us to  
prepare the stage for Christ's return?

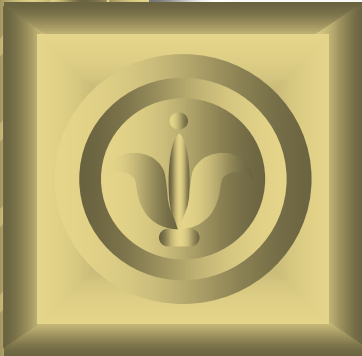
What are the criteria for Christ's return?

- Political... ?
- Social... ?
- Religious...?

Matthew 24:14

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# Wrestling With Our Assignment



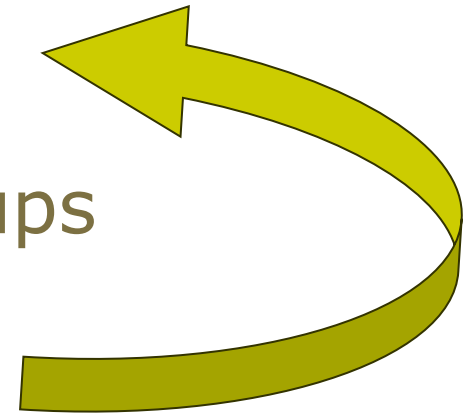
Is There a Divine Plan For  
Reaching the World for Christ?

What precisely does the Great  
Commission require of the  
church?

# Players On *The Great Commission Stage...*

Matthew 28:19

1. Goers: the church
2. Ethnos: people groups
3. Disciples



Disciples become Goers

# Writing The Script...



## *Creating an Environment for Christ's Return* (Matthew 24:14)

- ***Preach to every nation***  
*There are still over 8k people groups to be reached*
- ***Teach them all that Christ taught***  
*Matthew 28:20*
- ***Make disciples***  
*Matthew 28:19*
- ***Do the loving works of Christ***  
*Matthew 25:34-36*

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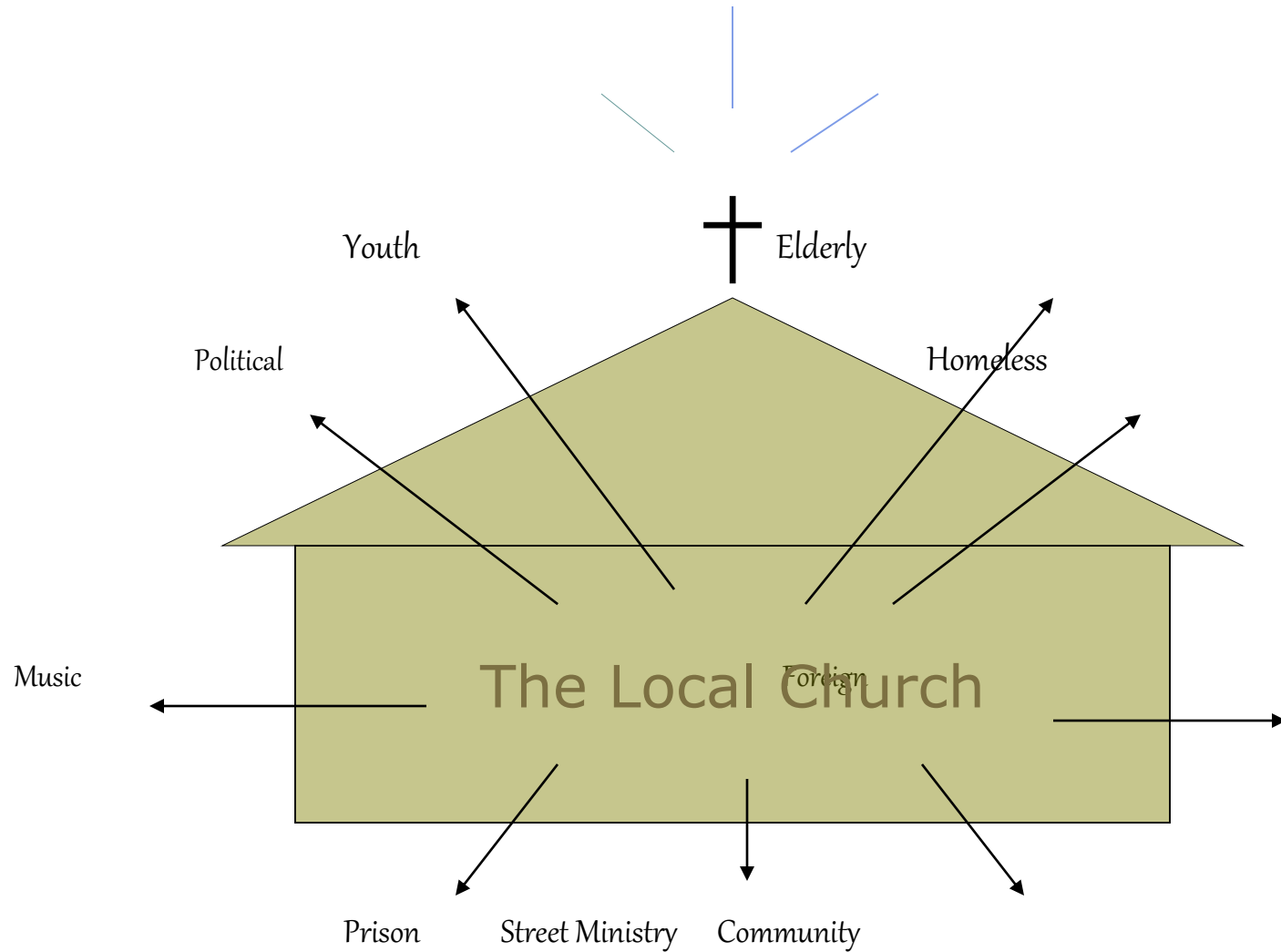
# The Local Church and Missions...

## THE CHURCH MINISTRY TEMPLATE SUGGESTS...

- ✓ *Active*
- ✓ *Strong Outward Focus*
- ✓ *A Strong Sense of Community*

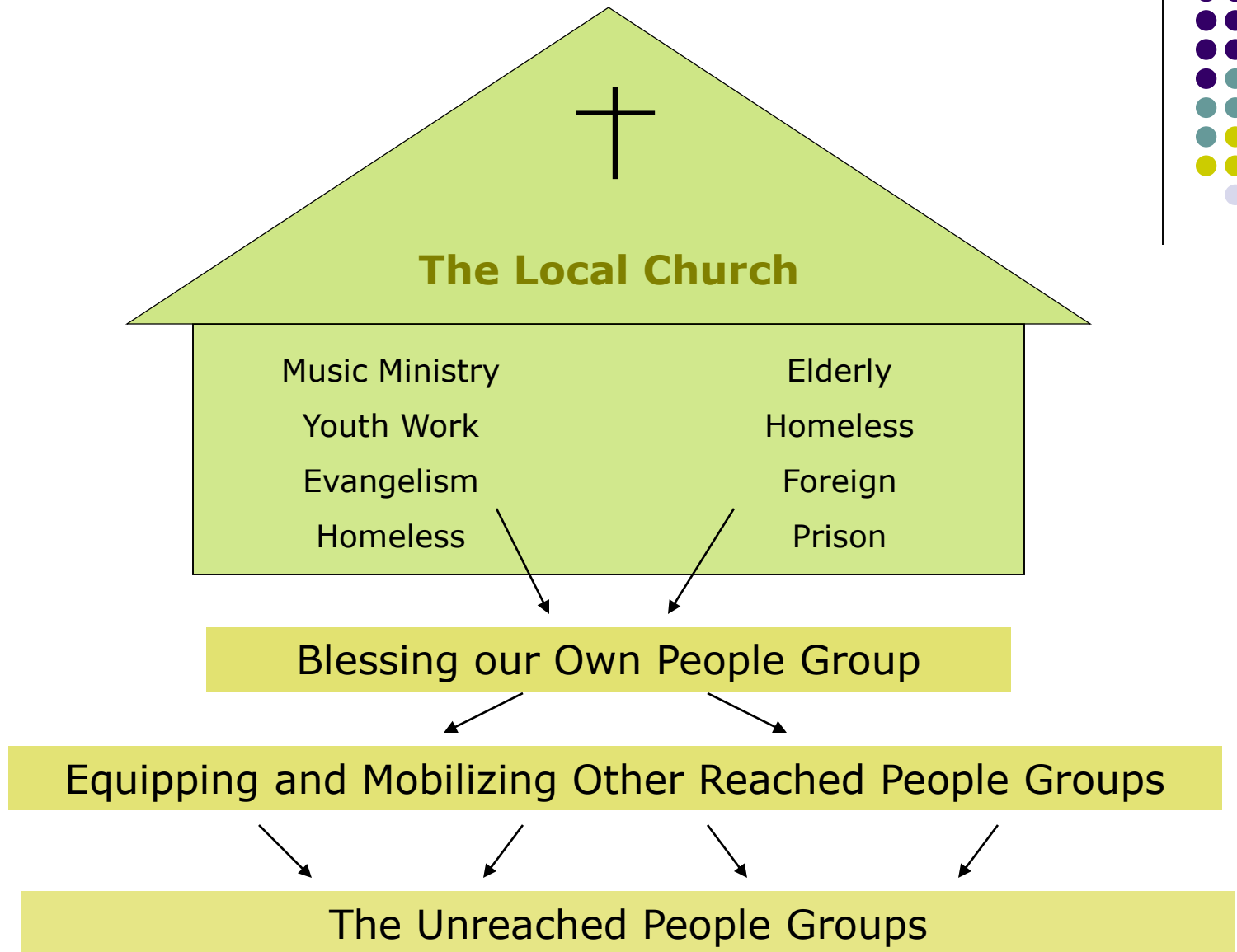
But is that all we need to know?

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## The Prevalent View of Local Church Ministry





## **A Biblical View of Local Church Ministry**

# The Peter Factor

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## A. Peter's Received a Vision

The Revelation – a core His ministry understanding

Acts 10: 9-16, 34 & 35, 42 & 43

- Peter's vision would enlighten
- The vision defined his mission
- The vision changed his perspective on ministry

The vision brought acceptance of Paul's ministry

# The Peter Factor

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## B. A local church and vision.

The local church must seek God for a strategy for fulfilling the vision.

*This is a faith issue*

God will provide the opportunity

*(an open door)*

God will not open a door of opportunity until the church is poised to walk through it.



# The Peter Factor

## C. Peter and Jerusalem modeled *Partnerships*

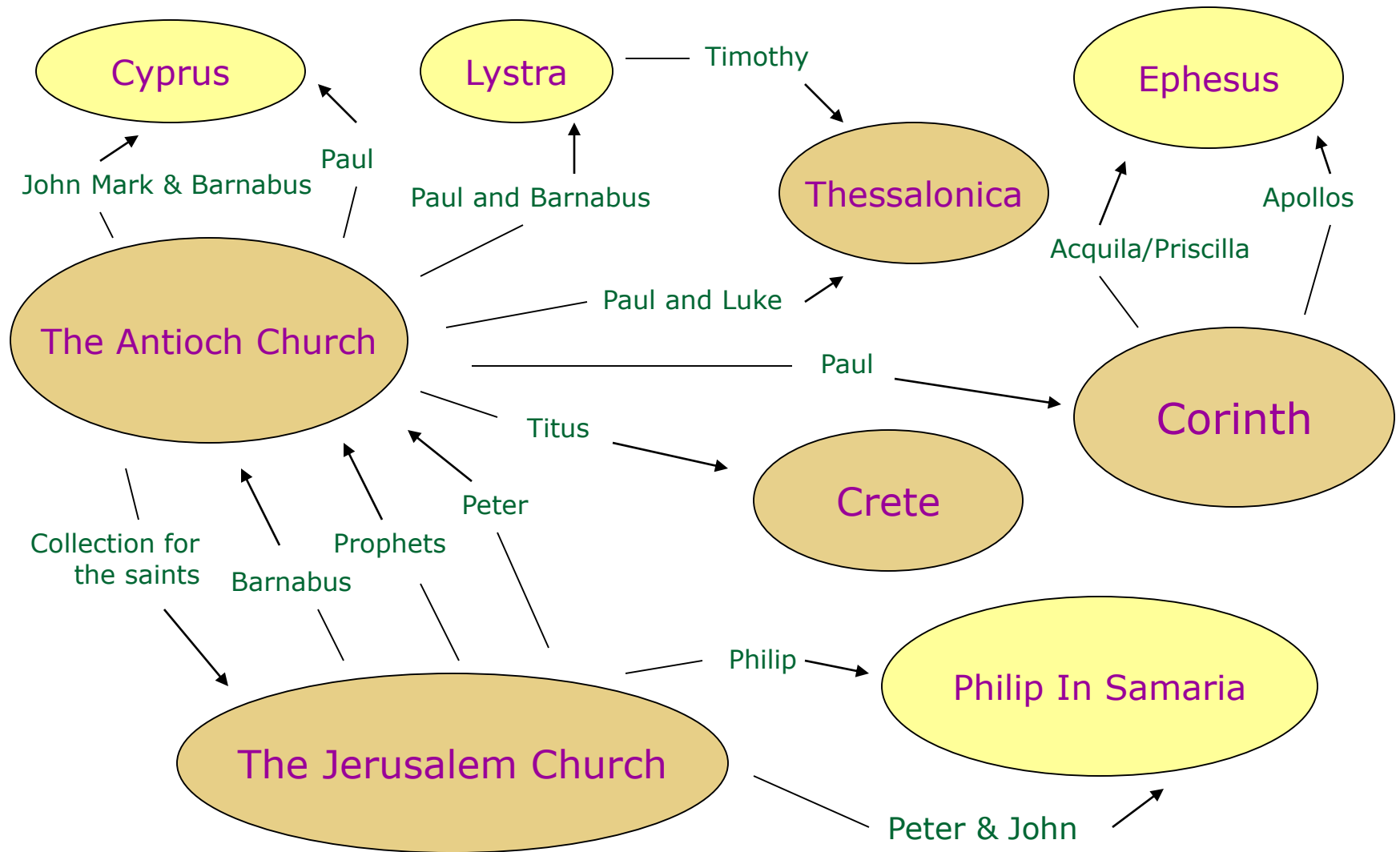
Acts 8:5,14

Definition: people working for the benefit of a venture;  
personal investment for mutual benefit and growth.

### Partnerships are God's Design

- Rejuvenate the parent church
- Open opportunities for involvement
- Require the mentorship of new leaders
- Honor the giftings God has appointed

# New Testament Church Partnerships

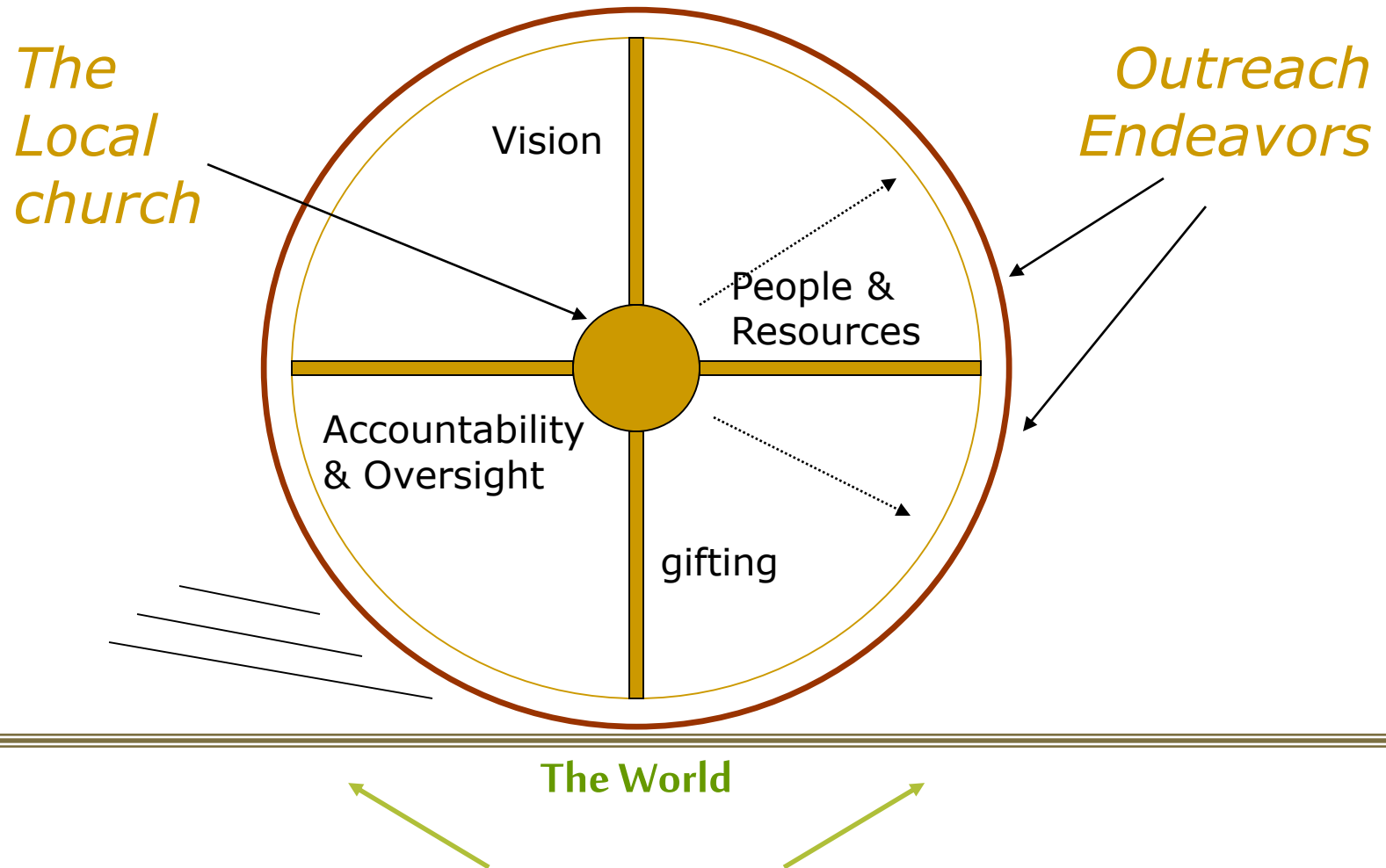


# The Sovereign Role of the Local Church In Ministry Endeavors

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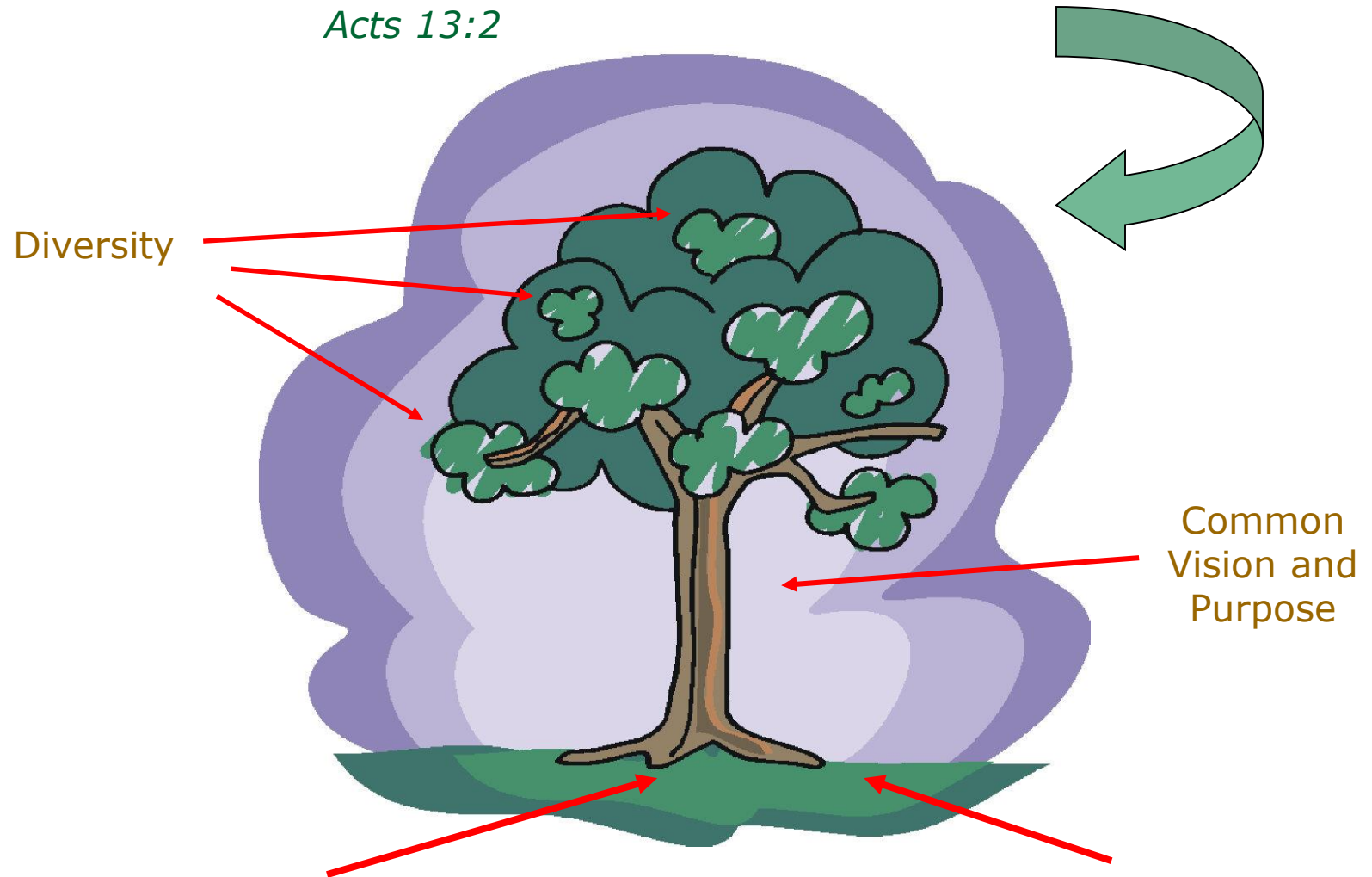
- The primacy of local church in mission vision  
Act 13
  - The giftings within the local church are crucial to successful church planting and discipleship
  - The authority of the local church for balanced missions ministry
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# *The Great Commission Wheel*



# The Prepared Church

*Acts 13:2*



Spiritual Environment: The Soil of a Church's Outreach Ministry



# Let's do what it takes...

- Paul had an aggressive approach to ministry. It seems he would try anything or go anywhere.

*“I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some.”*

*1 Corinthians 9:22*