

The background features a gradient from green at the top to blue at the bottom, with a subtle pattern of small white dots. On the left side, there are several circular elements: a large scale with numbers from 140 to 260, and several smaller circles with arrows indicating clockwise or counter-clockwise movement.

PRESBYTERY CONVENER INPUT

THURSDAY 11 OCTOBER 2018

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Report of Council of Assembly **REJECTED**



The bush is burning out and the Kirk will finally be consumed.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND MEMBERSHIP 1950 - 2015

Year	Membership
1950	1,271,247
1956	1,319,574
1960	1,301,280
1970	1,154,211
1980	953,933
1990	786,787
2000	607,712
2010	445,646
2011	432,343
2012	413,488
2013	398,389
2014	380,163
2015	363,597

DESIGN FLAWS

- Minister Centric (“Vacant”)
- Passive Laity
- Sacred/Secular divide
- Negative impact of central bureaucracy on innovation & finances

TOXIC ENVIRONMENT





LIAM FRAZER

DECLINE

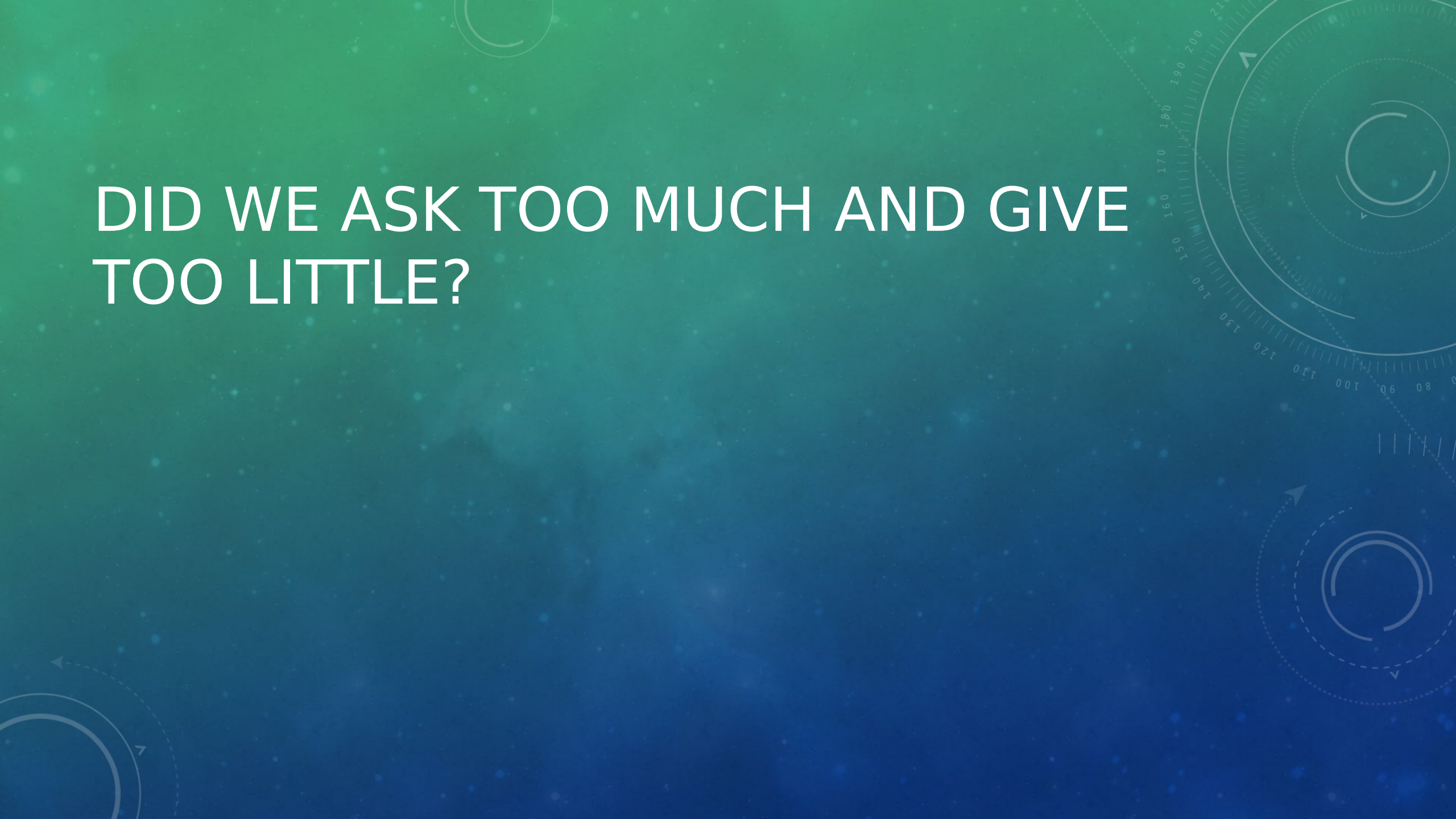


PRESBYTERIANISM

“Superiority without tyranny, parity without confusion, subjection without slavery.”

A Henderson, 1641

DID WE ASK TOO MUCH AND GIVE
TOO LITTLE?



MINISTER CENTRIC



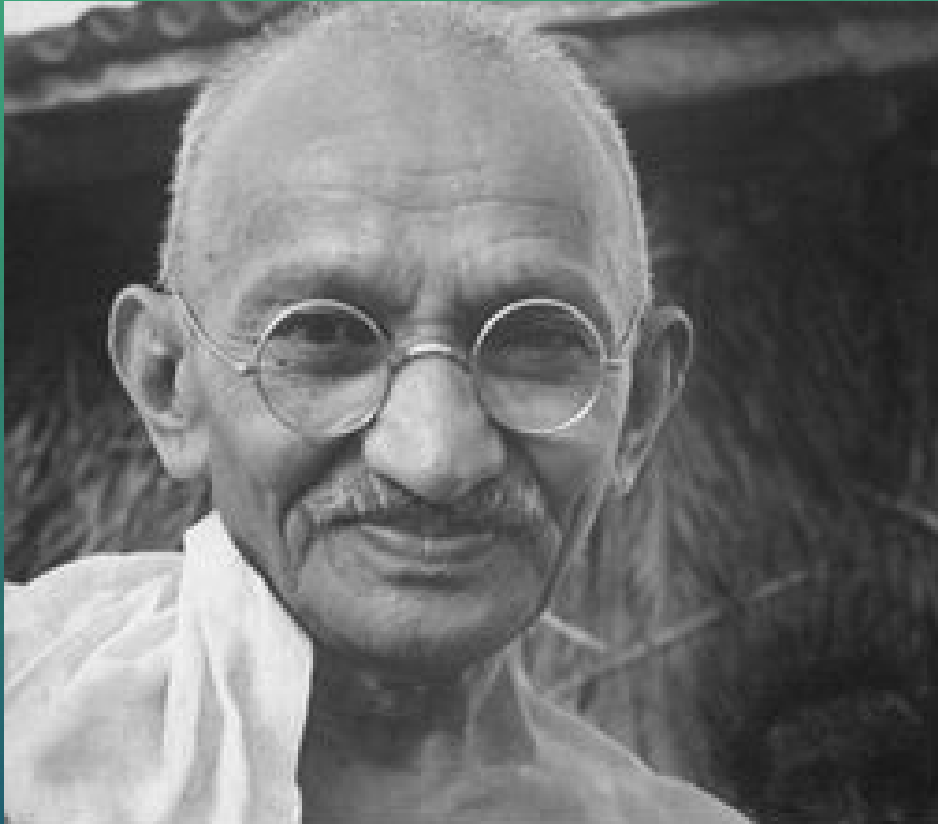


You were a believer, yes.
But you skipped the
not-being-a-jerk-about-it part.



Bazzo
1-26-07

bazzo.com



“I like your Christ, I do
not like your Christians.
Your Christians are so
unlike your Christ.”

~Mohandas Gandhi

SUGGESTIONS

1. More attention to growth
2. More resources available for planting & pioneering
3. Planters & Pioneers.
Plant a church then ordain
4. Create credible models

- Empowering environment, Training, Opportunities
- Don't lower assessments, give money back
- Not maintainers but innovators
- Show people, make it simple, give confidence to try

QUESTIONS

1. Name 5 worshipping communities planted by your Presbytery in the last 10 years, not born out of conflict

QUESTIONS

2. Suggest 2 ways in which your Presbytery could restructure/rationalise congregations for a better growth trajectory.

QUESTIONS

3. Suggest 2 models that could be attempted in your Presbytery to start/grow a non traditional congregation.

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