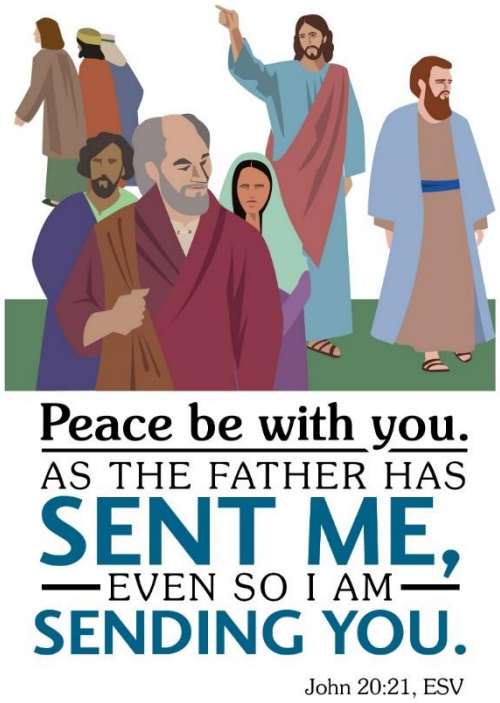
March 3, 2019 …
More Than Just A Place To Worship God
Matthew 9:35 to 10:2

VISION: We are a functional family of God, where Jesus is Lord and people grow.

MISSION: Every layperson is called to carry out the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20); every layperson is called to be missional. *(¶126 of the 2016 Book of Discipline)*

There are two kinds of people in this world: people who need to become disciples and disciples who need to become disciple makers.



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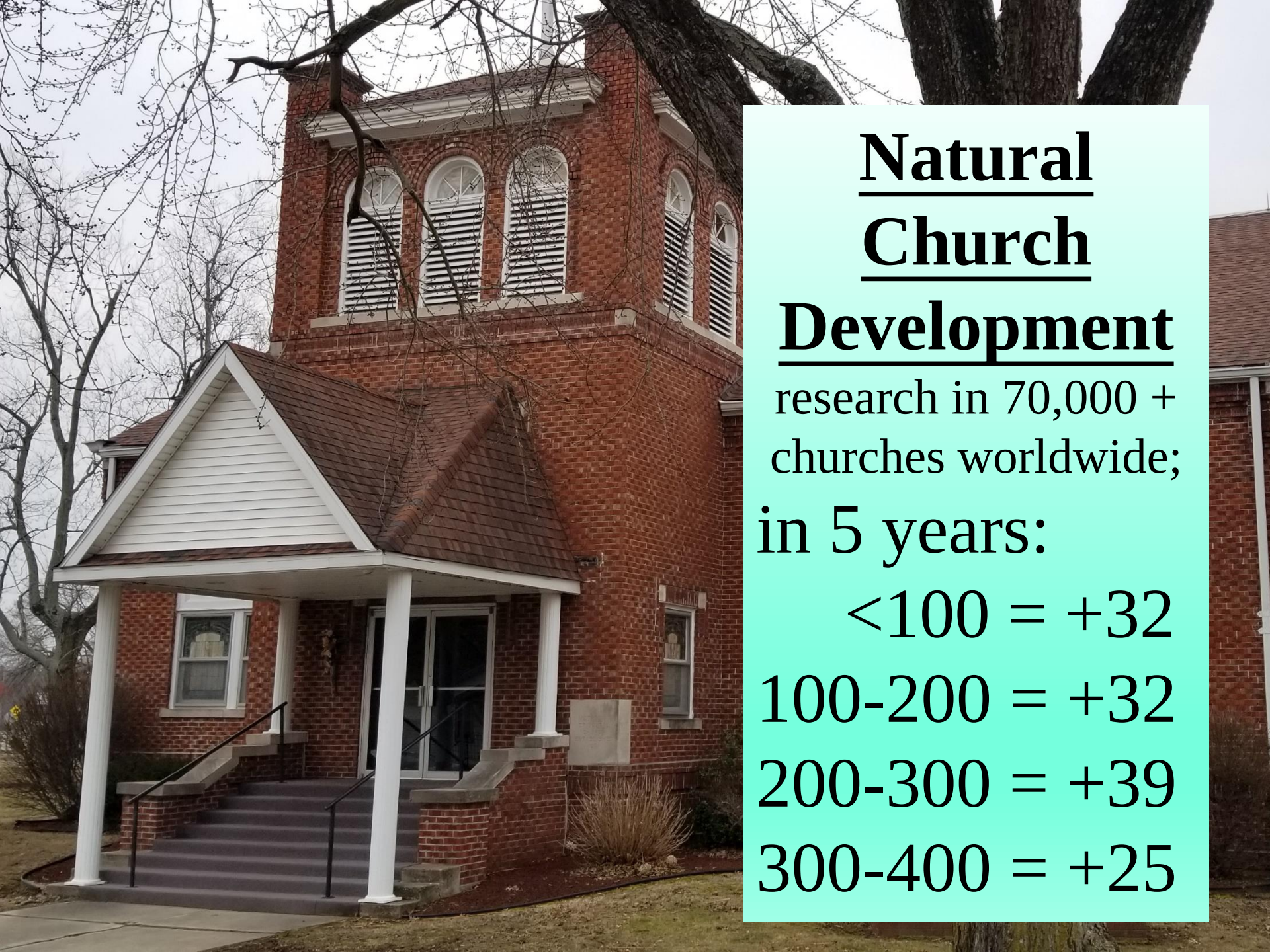


Natural Church Development

research in 70,000 + churches worldwide;

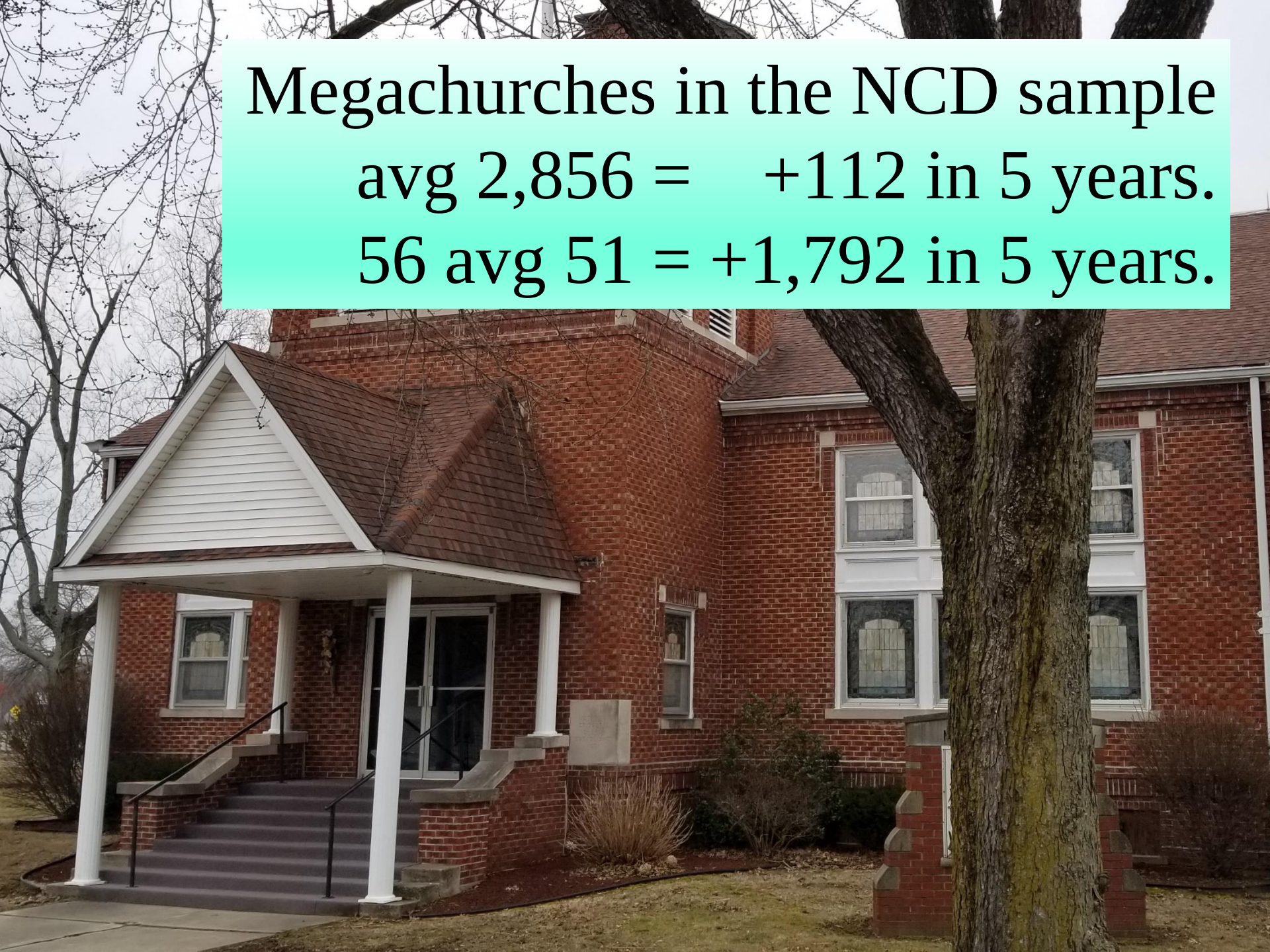
in 5 years:

<100 = +32

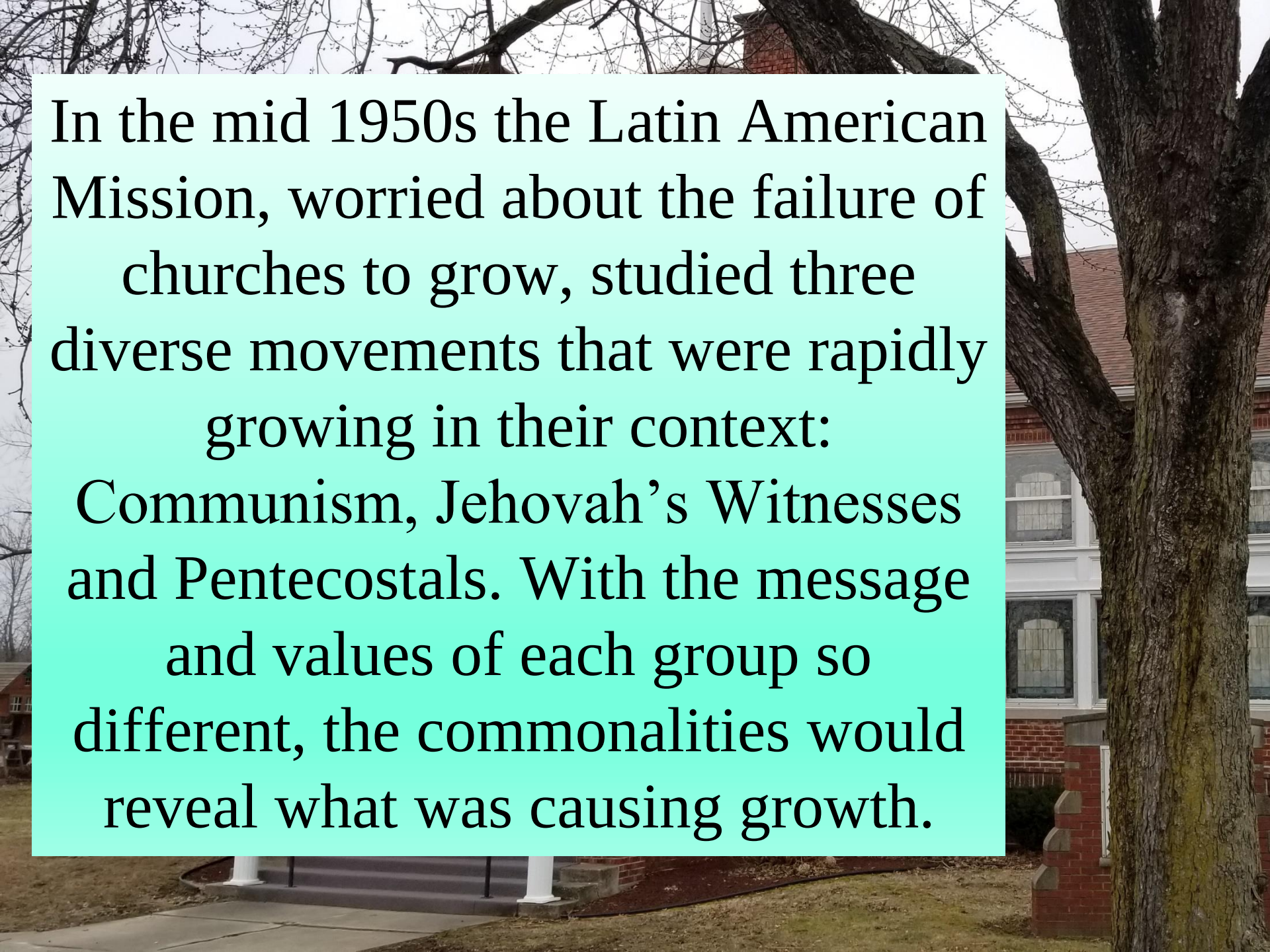
100-200 = +32

200-300 = +39

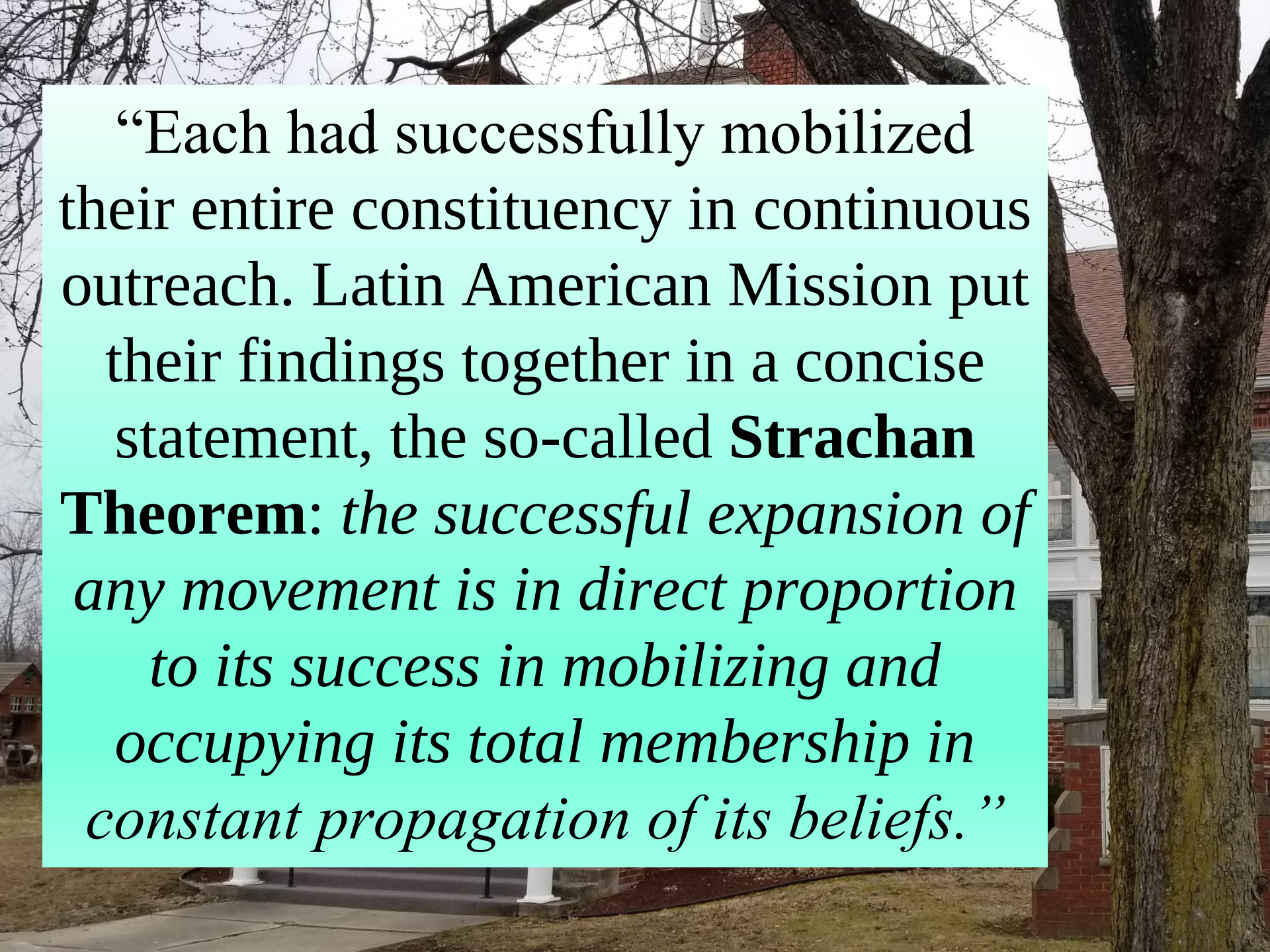
300-400 = +25


Megachurches in the NCD sample
avg 2,856 = +112 in 5 years.
56 avg 51 = +1,792 in 5 years.

Craig Miller: A faith community is created when a worship experience is tied to a discipleship system. ***A worshiping group without a discipleship system is not a faith community; it is simply a place to worship God.*** A faith community intentionally creates settings that link worship to discipleship and spiritual formation.



In the mid 1950s the Latin American Mission, worried about the failure of churches to grow, studied three diverse movements that were rapidly growing in their context: Communism, Jehovah's Witnesses and Pentecostals. With the message and values of each group so different, the commonalities would reveal what was causing growth.

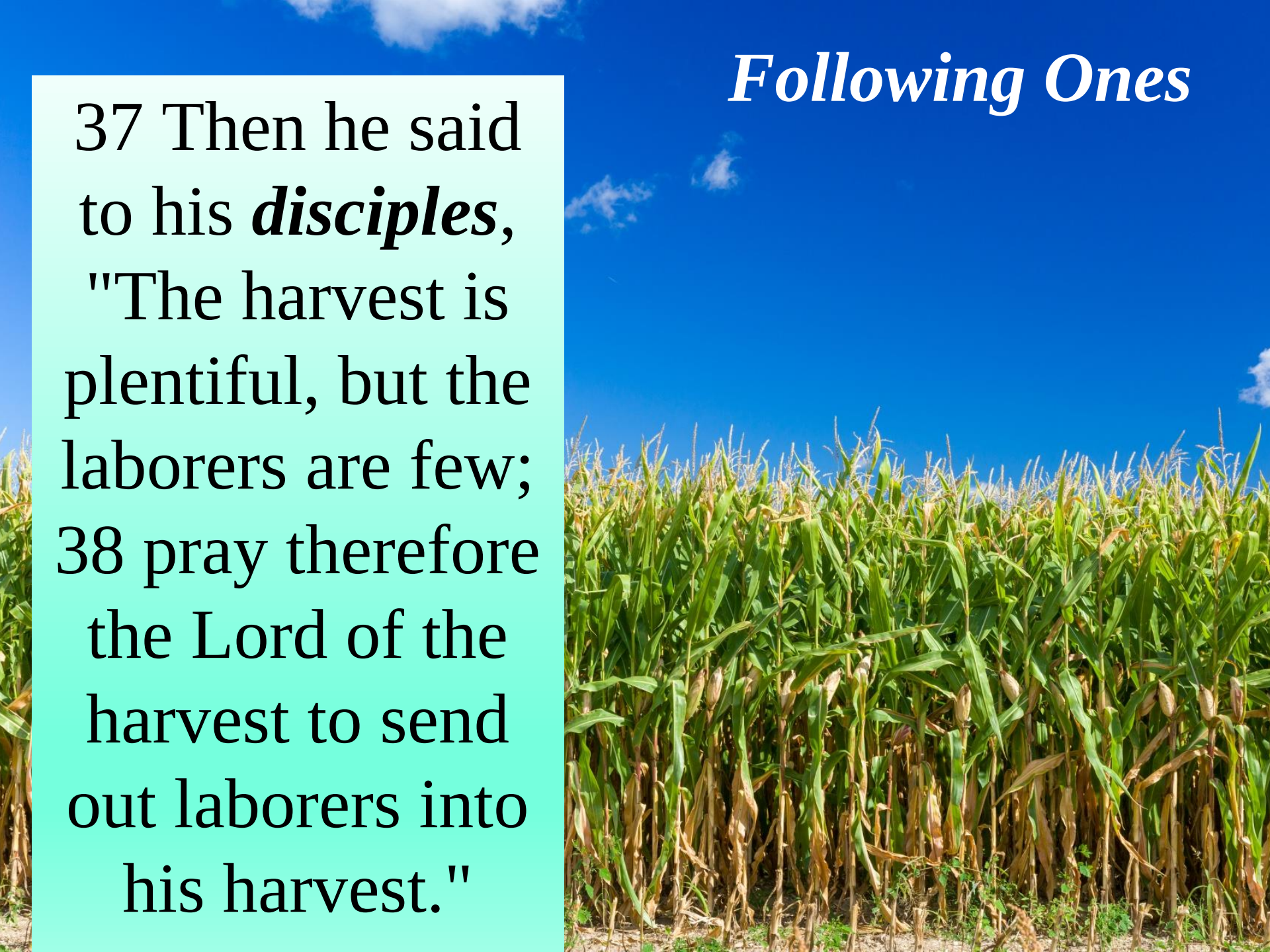


"Each had successfully mobilized their entire constituency in continuous outreach. Latin American Mission put their findings together in a concise statement, the so-called **Strachan Theorem**: *the successful expansion of any movement is in direct proportion to its success in mobilizing and occupying its total membership in constant propagation of its beliefs."*

Matthew 9:35 And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity. 36 ***When he saw the crowds***, he had ***compassion*** for them, because they were ***harassed and helpless***, like sheep without a shepherd.

Following Ones

37 Then he said to his ***disciples***, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; 38 pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."



pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers …

19 ***Go therefore***

Disciple Walk

and make disciples of all nations,

baptizing them

teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you

Sent Ones

Matthew 10:1 And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every infirmity. 2 The names of the twelve ***apostles*** are these ...

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Everyone
into the pool!

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