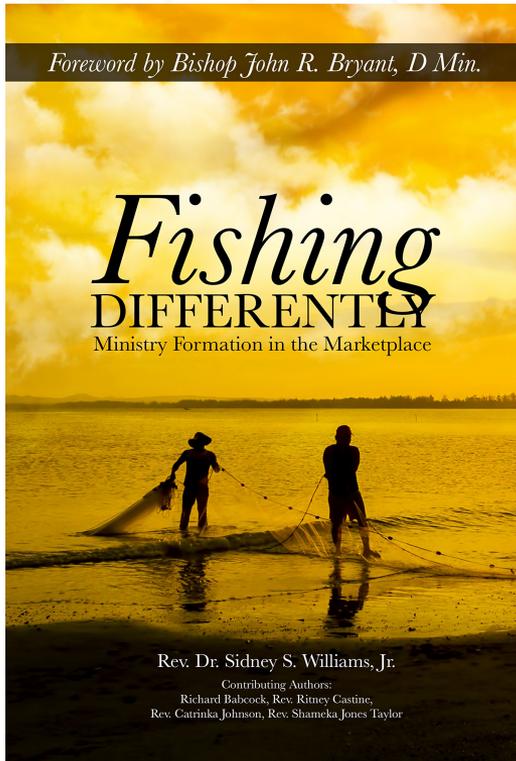




Moving ministries forward, *together.*



Stewardship Shorts:

Fishing Differently
the Rev. Dr. Sidney S. Williams, Jr.

Thursday, October 22, 2020
11:30 am

Overview

(aka what I loved about the book):

- Incorporates theological, sociological, economical, psychological, and business concepts
- Grounded in scripture
- Real examples of churches who are utilizing concepts and what is happening as a result
- Includes graphs and charts reader can complete to begin to evaluate and plan response

Deeper Dive

(aka points that really resonated with me):

1. Importance of relationships:

- Listening to one another's stories
- Nurturing, being vulnerable, establishing trust
- Focusing on the value of each person
- “If the gulf between the preaching of the gospel and actual relational practice of the congregation grows too wide, people are in danger of cognitive dissonance, disillusionment, cynicism, and even loss of faith.”

Deeper Dive

2. F.I.S.H. Concept:

Capital resources fall into four categories:

- **Faith**
- **Intellectual**
- **Social**
- **Human**

Seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers you will prosper too. (Jeremiah 29:7, NIV)

Deeper Dive

3. Faith Capital:

- What is it? Money and assets given to church
- How is it developed?
 - Cultivating spiritual disciplines (prayer, fasting)
 - Developing biblical literacy (small groups, Bible study)
 - Shifting from “paying to the church” to investing *in* the work of the church
 - Intentional plan for inviting generosity

“Fishing differently requires a collaborative investment of Faith, Intellectual, Social, and Human Capital, not by finding different ways to ask the same people for more money!”

Deeper Dive

4. Intellectual Capital:

- What is it? Individual and collective knowledge, skills, experience, and expertise of congregation
- How is it developed?
 - Identify and use gifts of congregation
 - Nurture differences
 - Focus on results, not rules
 - Clarify your mission
 - Decentralize, delegate, distribute (increase ownership)

“Strategically thinking about who is missing from the table builds the foundation for funding relevant and impactful ministries that are bold enough to attempt to solve some of the most difficult problems in a church’s community.”

Deeper Dive

5. Social Capital:

- What is it? Network of relationships
- How is it developed?
 - Pause and ask “Who should we do ministry with?”
 - Look at HOW you connect, not just who you know
 - Shift from just serving to collaborating to solve a problem
 - Build community with an eye towards what is needed and how God is leading/calling you

Deeper Dive

6. Human Capital:

- What is it? Helping people reach their full human potential in both spiritual **and** practical ways
- How is it developed?
 - Develop an eye for programs that have a demonstrable impact in people's lives
 - Ask for input
 - Be willing to let go of past practices and ministries to explore new ones that will better meet needs
 - “Teach children to dream and to dream big.”

Now What?

(aka there are only 24 hours in a day):

- Let Laura know if you are interested in receiving a copy(ies) of *Fishing Differently*
- Schedule a time to meet with Laura to go more in-depth about the book and your congregation's stewardship to see how you can utilize aspects of *Fishing Differently* in 2021
- Visit the stewardship resources page on MMFA's website

“We are called to lead communities of faith in making transformational change, resulting in a relevant impact to lives worldwide through the collaborative investment of **F**aith, **I**ntellectual, **S**ocial, and **H**uman capital.”



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