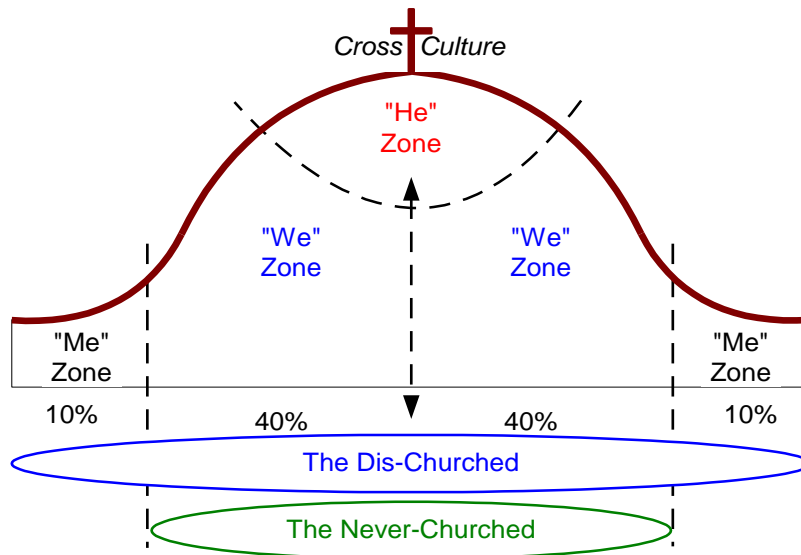


The Calvary Bell Curve: *Overcoming the tension in worship styles.*

Pastor David Niquette, Christ Center Community Church

¹ Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, ² make my joy complete by **being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.** ³ Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; ⁴ do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. ⁵ Let this same mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus. Philippians 2:1-5.

The figure below helps us map the tensions that often arise among Christians of different ages, backgrounds, denominations, and traditions as they come together in a Worship Service.



Applications of the Calvary Bell Curve: We at Christ Center strive to become . . .

- a. **Multi-Generational:** We are a family of mature and maturing saints. of all ages.
- b. **"Pleromic:"** We desire the fullness of Christ by uniting Evangelicals and Charismatics.
- c. **Blended in Style:** We use both traditional & contemporary – upwardly focused on "Him."

We earnestly believe that unity is possible and essential. It requires the maturity described in the passage above, namely, a willingness to humble ourselves as Jesus did, intentionally choosing to love Jesus by delighting in all those whom He loves. Rather than leaning left or right, we aim to look up, to establish a new, spiritual culture. It's not all about "me." Our focus is on blessing the heart of Jesus, and uniting to minister with other saints to the dis-churched and never-churched.

Application to Style Preferences: We at Christ Center believe that worship is part of the life of mature saints all week long. When we come together, we unify to look up to Jesus alone.

