

Church Growth

Enemies of Church Growth

The Greatest Enemies **of Church Growth**

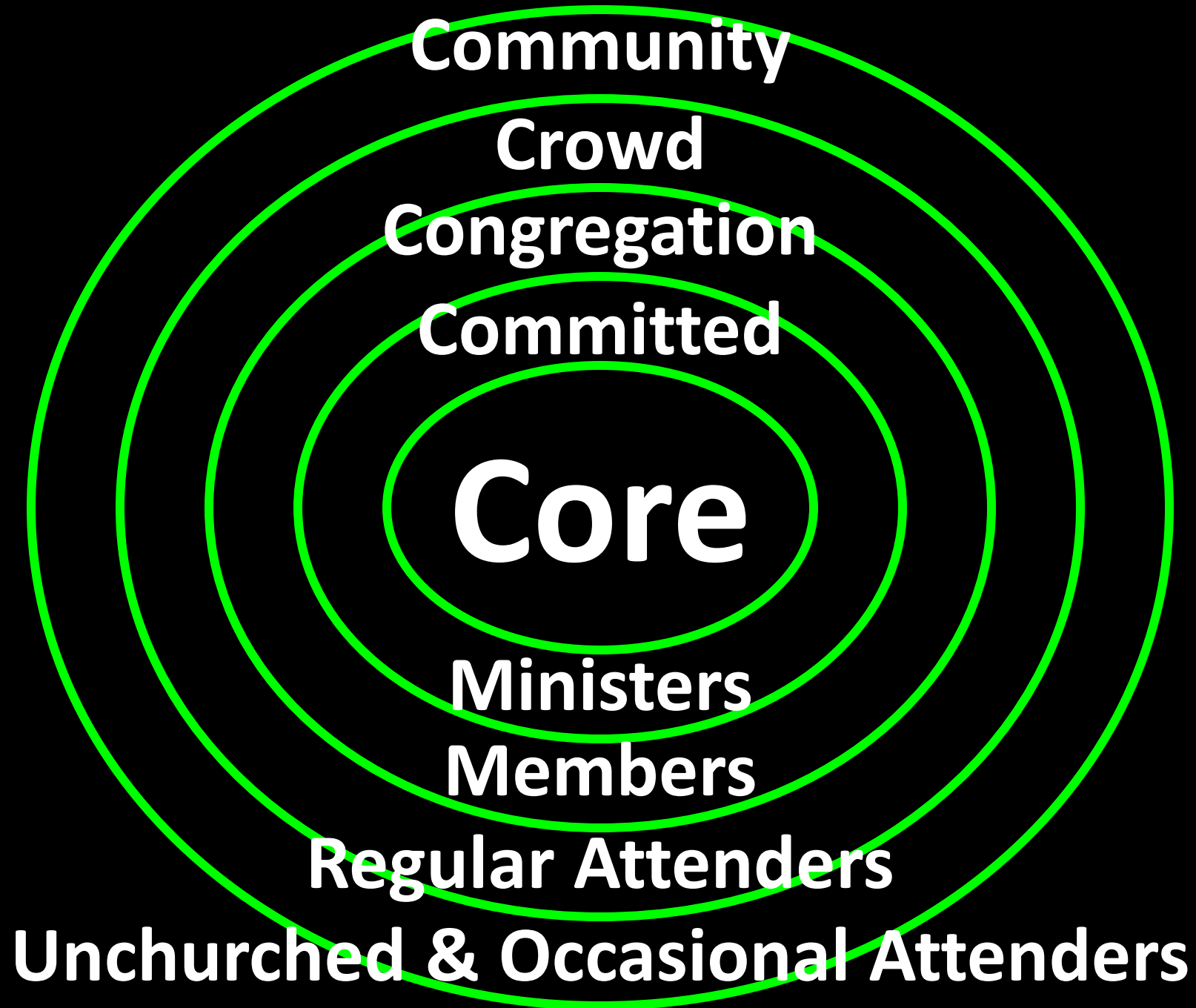
Ezra 3:1-13

Ezra 3:12

But **many** of the **older** priests and Levites and family heads, who had seen the former temple, **wept aloud** when they **saw the foundation** of this temple being laid, while **many others shouted for joy.**

1. Conflict of mission

Ezra 3:1-2



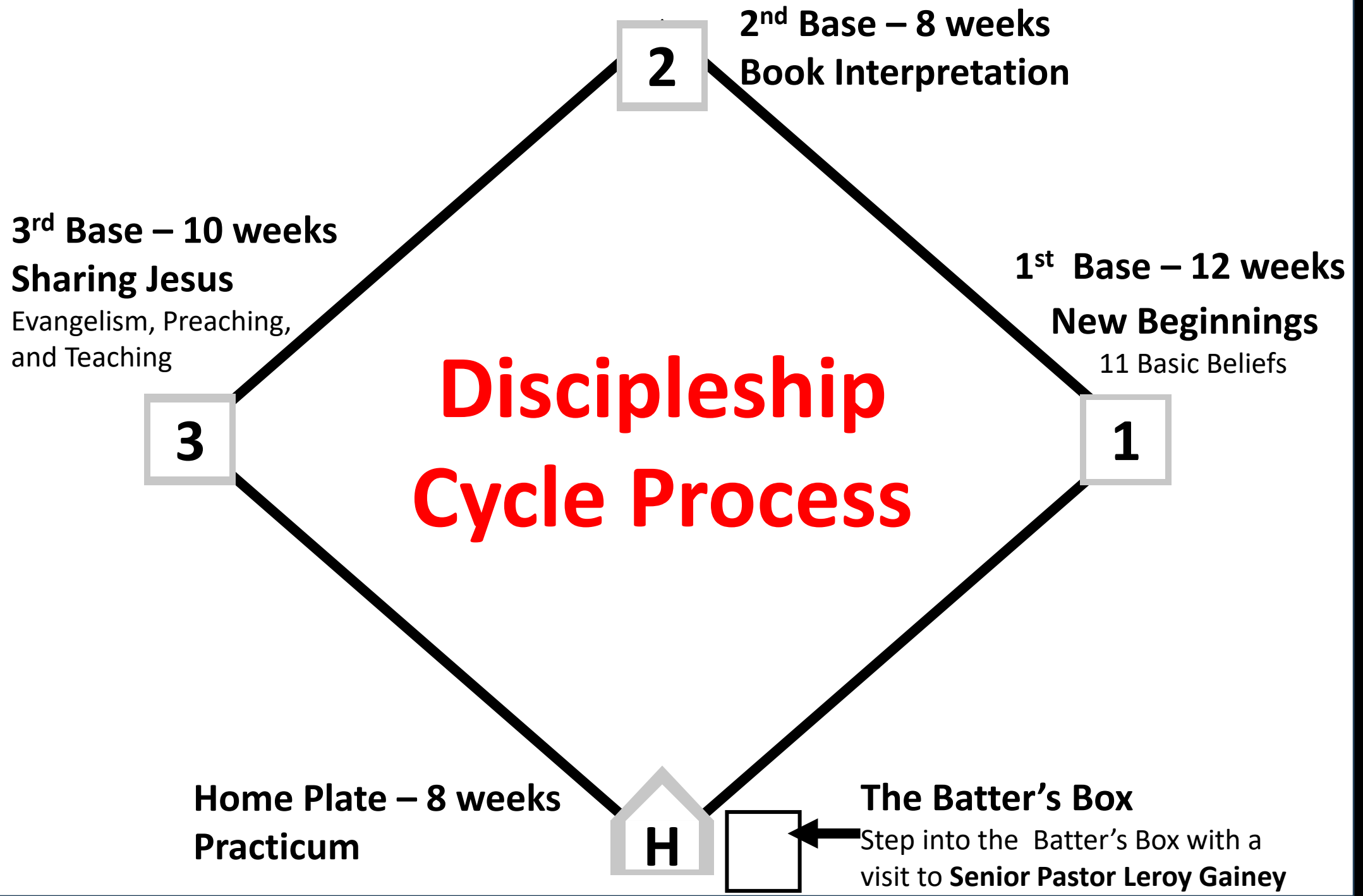
2. Conflict of inclusion

Ezra 3:3



3. Conflict of process

Ezra 3:4-6



4. Conflict of **stewardship**

Ezra 3:7

Ezra 3:7

Then **they gave money to** the masons and carpenters, and **gave food and drink and olive oil to** the people of Sidon and Tyre, so that they would bring cedar logs by sea from Lebanon to Joppa, as authorized by Cyrus king of Persia.

Malachi 3:10a

Bring the **whole tithe** into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty,

Malachi 3:10b

“and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

2 Corinthians 9:6

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

2 Corinthians 9:7

Each of you should **give** what you have
decided in your **heart to give**,
not reluctantly or under compulsion,
for God loves a **cheerful giver**.

2 Corinthians 9:8

And God is able to **bless you abundantly**, so that in **all things at all times**, having all that you **need**, you will abound in **every good work**.

5. Conflict of labor

Ezra 3:8-11

Ezra 3:8a

In the second month of the second year after their arrival at the house of God in Jerusalem, Zerubbabel **son** of Shealtiel, Joshua **son** of Jozadak and the rest of the **people**

Ezra 3:8a

In the second month of the second year after their arrival at the house of God in Jerusalem, Zerubbabel **son** of Shealtiel, Joshua **son** of Jozadak and the rest of the **people**

Ezra 3:8b

the priests and the Levites and all who had returned from the captivity to Jerusalem) began the **work**. They appointed **Levites** twenty years old and older to **supervise** the building of the house of the LORD.

Ezra 3:9

Joshua and his **sons and brothers** and
Kadmiel and **his sons** (descendants of
Hodaviah) and the **sons** of Henadad
and their **sons and brothers—**
all Levites—joined together in
supervising those **working** on the
house of God.

Ezra 3:10

When the **builders** laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the **priests** in their vestments and with trumpets, and the Levites (the **sons** of Asaph) with cymbals, took their places to **praise** the LORD, as **prescribed** by David king of Israel.

Ezra 3:11

With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the LORD: “He is good; his love toward Israel endures forever.” **And all the people gave a great shout of praise to the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.**

2 Timothy 2:15

Do your **best** to present yourself
to God as one approved, a **worker**
who does not need to be ashamed
and who **correctly handles**
the word of truth.

1 Timothy 1:14

Do not neglect your **gift**, which was given you through prophecy when the body of **elders** laid their hands on you.

Ephesians 4:11-12

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to **equip** his people for **works of service**, so that the body of Christ may be built up

Ephesians 4:13

until we all reach unity in the faith
and in the **knowledge** of the Son of
God and become mature, attaining
to the **whole measure** of the
fullness of Christ.

Ephesians 4:14

Then we will no longer be **infants**,
tossed back and forth by the waves,
and blown here and there by every
wind of teaching and by the cunning
and craftiness of people in their
deceitful scheming.

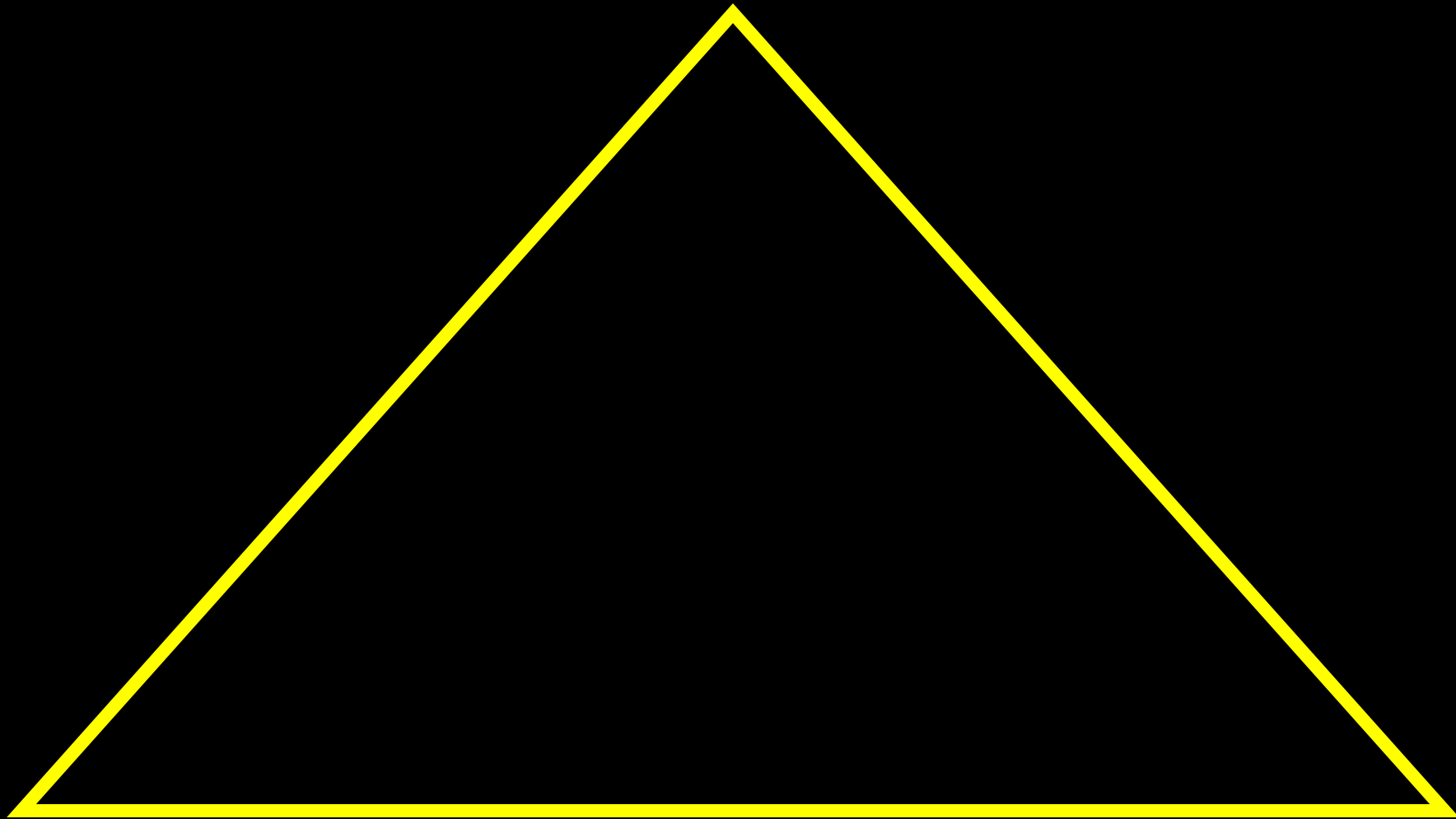
Ephesians 4:15

Instead, speaking the **truth in love**, we will **grow** to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

Ephesians 4:16

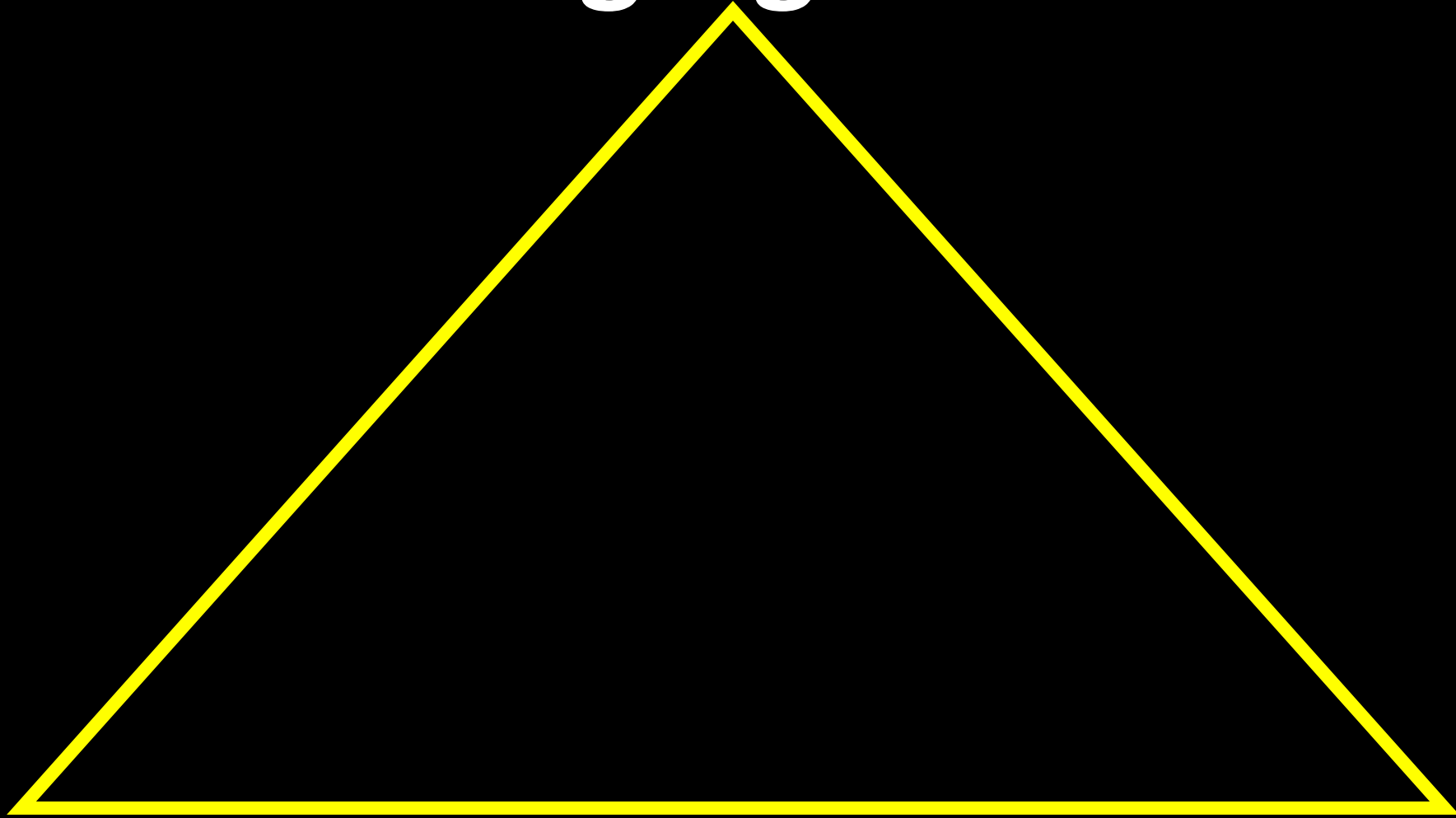
From him the **whole body**, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, **grows** and builds itself up in love, **as each part does its work**.

Leaders



Congregation

Congregation



Servant-Leaders

JOB DESCRIPTION

1. Principle Function (Title)
2. Responsibilities (Duties)
 - a. -Administration
 - b. -Leadership Development
 - c. -Relationships
3. Supervision
4. Performance Expectations
5. Personal Characteristics

6. Conflict of vision

Ezra 3:12

Ezra 3:12

But many of the **older** priests and Levites and family heads, who had seen the former temple, **wept aloud** when they **saw the foundation** of this temple being laid, while **many others shouted for joy.**

Mark 3:24-25

If a kingdom is **divided** against itself,
that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵ If a
house is divided against itself,
that house cannot stand.

7. Conflict of message

Ezra 3:13

Ezra 3:13

No one could distinguish the sound of the shouts of joy from the sound of weeping, because the people made so much noise. And the sound was heard far away.

EReT

TREE

JESUS IS LORD!

The Greatest Enemies of Church Growth

1. Conflict of **mission**
2. Conflict of **inclusion**
3. Conflict of **process**

The Greatest Enemies of Church Growth

4. Conflict of **stewardship**
5. Conflict of **labor**
6. Conflict of **vision**
7. Conflict of **message**

The Greatest Enemies of Church Growth

I Want to **See** LHF Grow.

I will Do All I Can
to Make LHF Grow.

Enemies of God
are **Enemies** of Mine