Overview of the Church Renewal Journey

**The Awakening Weekend** is the *awakening* step of the Journey and is an opportunity to re-awaken the church to its purpose and passion. It takes believers, wherever they are in their spiritual journey, and refreshes them with a godly perspective of their role in service to others. This is an *inward journey* that renews and restores the love of Christ to those who have drifted away from their commitment or like many are just too busy and have allowed other things, good things to take place in our lives preventing God from having first place. This weekend also brings the church body together as a family because of the small group meeting during the weekend.

Acts 3:19, *Therefore repent and turn back, that … seasons of refreshing may come from … the Lord.*

**The Equipping Weekend** serves as the *equipping* step by sharing how God designs each believer for ministry. Using the acrostic, SHAPE, this weekend teaches about Spiritual gifts, what God is saying to our Heart, and how our Abilities, Personality and Experiences have uniquely prepared us for specific ministries. It is here that many laypeople understand for the first time that they are called to ministry as much as their pastor and also just as accountable. This weekend prepares Christians for the *outward journey.*

1 Peter 4:10-11, *Based on the gift they have received, everyone should use it to serve others, as good managers of the varied grace of God … so that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.*

**The Commissioning Weekend** is the *commissioning* step of the Journey and is an application of the Awakening and Equipping steps. Church members are encouraged to prayer walk their everyday environment, whether that is a marketplace, a school, or a neighborhood. They ask how God wants to use them outside the church walls, where they spend their other 6 days. Those who commit to God’s calling are commissioned by their church and return to where God has placed them. However, now they go as missionaries to witness and minister with their unique giftedness but also with the prayer and power of God’s church behind them.

John 20:21, *Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.*

**The Empowering Weekend** is a time for the church to dedicate themselves to concerted individual and group prayer. Participants focus on Kingdom priorities; through prayer they seek personal holiness and guidance for carrying out the Great Commission. God responds by unleashing His church to be on mission with Him in their world and outside the walls of the church. The church as a whole and its individual members are *empowered* to follow God’s leading for them, focusing on His kingdom, rather than their own.

Luke 11:1, *He was praying in a certain place ... one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, teach us to pray ... ”*

**The Sending Weekend** is typically the fifth step of the Church Renewal Journey but it can also be used as the first step to launch the church into a new and exciting journey. This *sending*
weekend encourages church members to be witnesses in their Jerusalem (involving local or associational ministries), their Judea (involving state or state convention ministries), their Samaria (involving national or North American Mission Board ministries), and to the Ends of the Earth (involving international or International Mission Board ministries). They are also encouraged during this weekend to seek out and adopt a church planter in each of the four areas, so they will have a continuing relationship with church planting and praying for those called to plant new churches. This is a great kickoff weekend for churches considering planting a new church themselves.

Acts 1:8, *But you will receive power ... and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

**Other Renewal Weekends** are available for churches desiring to continue the Journey. Churches beginning the Renewal Journey only register for one weekend and after the weekend, they decide if they want to continue the Journey be moving to the next step. Weekends are usually schedule 6 to 12 months apart.

To learn more or to begin your church renewal journey, contact:

Bob and Phillys Foy  
bfoy@namb.net  
800-634-2462 X 6481  
[www.churchrenewaljourney.net](http://www.churchrenewaljourney.net)