

Churches, Mission, and Structure: An Internet Sampling

By Bruce Campbell Moyer

Is church structure somewhat akin to bike-riding? Something we do but do not talk or write about it? Spend some time surfing the web and this would seem to be the case.

A major contributor to the subject is *Mission Frontier Journal*. Peruse their site and focus in on the archives section (www.missionfrontiers.com).

The Southern Baptists bare their organizational soul at (www.missionfrontiers.com/1997/0710/jo976.htm). There is also a great article on laying the foundations (6 Spheres) for structure at (www.missionfrontiers.org/1998/0504/ma986.htm).

One may find a critique on Managerial Missions and a review of new ecumenical structures at (www.missionfrontiers.org/archive.htm).

A community church in the middle of the U.S. shares their struggles with structure on (www.redeemercommunitychurch.com/faq). An article from the emerging church weighs in at (www.jonnybaker.blogs/2007/01/the_starfish_an.htm). Charles Swindoll weighs in on structure at (buildingchurchleaders.stores.yahoo.net/coandbychpr.html).

Want the official word on the Adventist version? Go to (www.adventist.org/world_church/commission-ministries-services-structures/cooper-reasons-for-considering.html). To see how others see Adventists point your mouse to (www.caum.org/sda/churchstructure.htm), and (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seventh-day_Adventist_Church).

What really seems to be lacking is a serious study on missions structure or a good debate on form and function in structure. Any takers?

Forthcoming articles in the next issues of *JAMS*:

- Logic Systems in Cross-Cultural Mission
- Short Term Mission in the Adventist Church
- Adventist Witness to Muslim Women
- Missiological Insights from Daniel