

# Count the Cost

## THE PROCESS

Count the Cost is a process developed by California Southern Baptist Convention Executive Director Bill Agee to assist healthy churches, churches needing revitalization, and new church plants.

The process is based on Luke 14:28: "For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it ...."

## BENEFITS TO CHURCHES

Count the Cost helps churches plan by giving them a glimpse into the future, showing potential dangers and guiding them in mapping out a plan to achieve their vision. By using Count the Cost, a church will not only know what they are starting with and what they hope to end with, but they also see what the middle looks like, according to Bill Agee. "If you know what the middle looks like, the entire church planting or revitalization process is easier."

Areas covered by Count the Cost include determining the current reality of my church, dreaming where my church could be in five years, a month-by-month plan to get to that dream, and consulting to address the first "obstacle" keeping us from growing.

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- Fill out the CTC church data form.
- Send it to [ctc@csbc.com](mailto:ctc@csbc.com).
- Contact any Church Revitalization Team member.
- Visit [csbc.com](http://csbc.com) to download the data form.
- Fill in the information and mail to:  
Count the Cost  
678 E. Shaw Ave.  
Fresno, CA 93710

## BENEFITS OF COUNT THE COST

- See the future and what it will take to get there.
- Find some unexpected obstacles in the journey ahead and plan for them now.
- Know when a second service is needed.
- Join a coaching network and receive benefit from experienced pastors.

## 2019 TEAM EVENTS

- Church Music Workshops  
January 26, Livermore  
February 23, Riverside
- OnTrack Equipping Conferences  
April 27, Southern California  
August 24, Northern California
- Ministers' Wives Retreat  
May 17-19, Jenness Park
- New Senior Pastor Orientation
- Fellowship of Church Musicians Conference  
October 21-22, San Diego

# CHURCH REVITALIZATION INITIATIVES TEAM

## WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT COUNT THE COST...

As I have had opportunity to share with pastors in follow-up to these Count the Cost discussions I have watched their eyes as they begin to see the possibilities for their churches moving forward.

This brings hope, and encourages everyone.

*Michael Proud, DOM, Orange County Association*

Count the Cost can give any pastor the kind of ministry clarity they need.

*Michael Stewart, DOM, Great Commission Association*



Please provide the following information and send it to your CSBC contact.

**Email to:**  
ctc@csbc.com

or

**Mail to:**  
Count the Cost  
678 E. Shaw Ave.  
Fresno CA 93710

Resourcing the Vision  
of Local Churches

# COUNT THE COST INFORMATION

## EXISTING CHURCH

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_ Church City \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Church Budget

Budget and giving actuals for the previous full calendar year as well as a current year budget:

*Send complete copies to CSBC via email or mail*

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Attendance

Average Weekly Worship for:

2018

\_\_\_\_\_

2019

\_\_\_\_\_

### Total Staff Compensation

Estimated annual salary and benefits for all staff 2018:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Worship Space

Maximum seating capacity of your worship space:

\_\_\_\_\_

### Undesignated Giving

Total amount given annually (*tithes and offerings only, do not include outside income*) for:

2018

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Other Regular Income

This would include renters, cell towers, or endowments that are included in your annual budget:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Facilities Cost

Enter the current total annual cost including utilities, office, storage, insurance, repair, mortgage payment, etc:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

### SBC Missions

Amount sent to your local association and to the Cooperative Program last year:

Association

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cooperative Program

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other Mission Gifts

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Five-year Attendance Estimate

Where do you see church attendance realistically in five years?

\_\_\_\_\_

### Short Summary

Please include a short (*1/2 to 1 page*) summary of your current church situation as a separate file or email.