

VERTICALITY SURVEY

Review all ten statements and use the boxes to enter a number equal to that element's frequency in your church.

5 = weekly

4 = regularly

3 = periodically

2 = occasionally

1 = infrequently

0 = never

- 1. Expectant prayer frequently before, after, and during the actual service. God's grace petitioned for healing work at every level: mind, emotions, and body. Where stories of healings of all kinds are regular and verifiable as God's response to prayers of faith from his people.
- 2. Powerful "thus says the Lord" biblical preaching where people have a distinct sense of hearing God speak with authority into their souls in a way that brings Holy Spirit conviction they cannot deny or dismiss.
- 3. Where people line up at the doors long before the service starts and rush to the front to get the best seats for passionate, expressive worship where the voices are loud, hands are raised, tears are flowing, minds are expanded, and hearts are moved as Christ is adored by every one in every corner of the room, from the very first note. The passion of their praise testifies to the reality of God's presence and melts the hearts of those attending who do not yet believe.
- 4. Where individual salvations proportionate to the size of the church regularly and continuously occur in large numbers because people want their friends to experience what they have. Salvations flowing from all walks of life—from the businessman who discovered his millions as worthless to the derelict or prostitute who looked up from his or her addiction and despair to experience the total transformation of their now and forever.
- 5. Where racial, economic, language, and generational diversity is growing because what we have in common in the Lord is far greater than the things that separate. Where the white guy covered in piercings and tattoos sits beside the black business- man and the babe who is inappropriately dressed but everyone welcomes and embraces her because they remember when they were like that.

- 6. Where the majority of adults gather in smaller groups to stir up and spur on and support the weight of walking with God. Where relationships flourish and follow the biblical pattern of grace and truth. Not the shallow grace of mutual enablement but the truthful grace that fights for God's best in each other, one relationship at a time. And Christians love and forgive and forbear and carry one another's burdens from house to house.
- 7. Where elders lead, discord is not tolerated, and people are held to account. But where leaders also listen and learn, loving the people and letting the unity of the Spirit be enjoyed by all who persevere in working to keep it.
- 8. Where Christ reigns and is exalted increasingly as head in the hearts of the people, so that gratefulness overflows into graciousness and generosity so that Christians become disciples and disciples become leaders and leaders are frequently sent out so that churches are planted nearby and around the globe.
- 9. Where the needs of the poor are met and those in prison are visited and aliens are welcomed as friends and strangers are served as brothers and widows are not neglected. Where these priorities are not a program or a phase but the lasting overflow of God's abundance in our hearts.
- 10. Where all of these things are manifest. As in, everyone sees it and knows it and feels it and delights in it. Manifest means visible, obvious, undeniable activity that cannot be attributed to a person or a place or a program and is totally disproportionate to the ones who experience this abundance with overflowing joy as glory comes down when they gather.

Add your boxes for a total that helps you evaluate your current Verticality.

40–50 = A Vertical Church to the glory of God—keep it up and spread the word.

30–40 = More Vertical than most—review the survey for areas of improvement.

20–30 = Feeling the heaviness of your horizontalness? Much to follow in this book will help you.

10–20 = Your honesty is good, but it's time to get on your knees and deal with what hinders.

0–10 = We will deal with your kind of church in chapter 4—God may have a new plan.

Don't be overwhelmed or discouraged if much of what is described in the questionnaire is absent in your current ministry. I believe God is willing to move in this way in every church around the world when we deal authentically with the obstacles that prevent His glory from coming down. I believe there are ways God has given to provoke His manifest presence regardless of your current role in your church. The second half of this book covers those things in great detail, but first, in chapter 3 we have to take glory to church, and in chapter 4 we have to study "when the glory departs."