

# What CHAT<sup>SM</sup> Provides

## TEN TRAITS OF VITAL CHURCH MINISTRY

- **Clarity:** informed perspective that gives clear direction.
- **Objectivity:** sound affirmation where your ministry is excelling, clear insight where attention is needed.
- **Measurability:** quantitative categories with year-to-year comparisons through a framework of charts, graphs and specific feedback.
- **Unity:** value and importance placed on congregational feedback in order for the church to grow in healthy and life-transforming ways.
- **Principle-based:** emphasis on Biblical principles rather than program, thus avoiding interference with current ministry programming.

*CHAT<sup>SM</sup> is based on extensive research with over 2,000 churches and individuals. Transformation Ministries has contracted with Leadership Transformations, Inc. in order to strengthen its churches.*

1. GOD'S EMPOWERING PRESENCE

2. GOD-EXALTING WORSHIP

3. SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

4. LEARNING AND GROWING IN COMMUNITY

5. LOVING AND CARING RELATIONSHIPS

6. SERVANT-LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

7. AN OUTWARD FOCUS

8. WISE ADMINISTRATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

9. NETWORKING WITH THE BODY OF CHRIST

10. STEWARDSHIP AND GENEROSITY



CHAT<sup>SM</sup> ...  
the Prevailing Church Journey resource



## Church

The primary designer of CHAT is Stephen Macchia, author of *Becoming a Healthy Church*. Macchia calls CHAT a "listening tool" that provides opportunity to hear how people are experiencing their church.

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*I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not prevail against it.* —Jesus Christ

Matthew 16:18

**Help for churches, pastors, leaders:**

- Discover your strengths
- Respond effectively to challenges
- Reach your worlds for Christ

**RESOURCES PROVIDED DURING THE PREVAILING CHURCH JOURNEY**

- Online Survey (CHAT<sup>SM</sup>)
- Leadership Coaching
- Discernment Process
- Leader's Retreat (optional)
- Trained Support Team
- Flexible Process

# The Prevailing Church Journey

Jesus expected his church to prevail. The apostle Paul echoed this belief of his Lord when he wrote, "... to Him (God) be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 3:21). While many churches want to prevail, their actual experience is very different as they struggle to experience Kingdom breakthrough.

Transformation Ministries believes the transformation of churches is possible; daring to believe that frustrated churches can begin to become prevailing churches. Your church is invited to embark on a process to help it experience the promise of Jesus. You are invited to join other TM churches on The Prevailing Church Journey.

## ONGOING COACHING

Churches signing up for The Prevailing Church Journey will receive a coach for up to one year to help them walk through four significant stages while on the road to becoming a prevailing church. Church Resource Ministers will do most of the coaching while others trained to coach will serve in this capacity, as well. Coaches will work primarily with the pastor and designated leadership of the church.

**Coaching helps interpret CHAT and guide implementation.**

## THE FOUR STAGES OF COACHING

**A. DISCERNING** - The key to discerning is careful listening: leading to deeper understanding. A variety of tools are used to help the church listen to its membership, its primary ministry, and to God. A key element in this listening process is CHAT<sup>SM</sup>, an all-church online survey designed to hear what church members are saying about their church's health. (See the back panel for the Ten Vital Traits measured by CHAT<sup>SM</sup>).

When the discernment process is complete, the church will have a clearer understanding of what God is saying about its current reality.

**B. ENVISIONING** - The leadership team will wrestle with the question: Where is God leading us as a church? To answer this question, the church will engage in dialogue, reflection, Bible study and prayer. The envisioning process will develop long-term vision, and identify short-term goals.

**C. IMPLEMENTING** - A plan of action is developed based on the envisioning results. Coaches will help churches build on the strengths, even as they address weaknesses. Implementing an action plan may involve removing barriers, which prevent the church from moving into the future God has planned. The goal will be for churches to implement strategies, which will help them take the next step toward becoming a prevailing church.



**Accurate Information  
+ Spiritual Discernment  
= Increased Clarity**

**D. EMPOWERING** - Coaches will seek to empower the success of the plan through encouragement and accountability by meeting with the leadership team of the church on a monthly basis, either in person or by phone. These meetings will also allow for an evaluation of the implementation process and any needed changes.

At the end of one year, the church will be equipped to continue its prevailing journey.

