CONTENTS

7

INTRODUCTION If you have a new world, you need a new church. You have a new world.	9
STRATEGY ONE: MAXIMIZE DISCONTINUITY Distinguish between renewed, restored, and reconceived churches, and focus on the last.	17
STRATEGY TWO: REDEFINE YOUR MISSION Clarify and simplify to "more Christians, better Christians," and take both parts seriously.	27
STRATEGY THREE: PRACTICE SYSTEMS THINKING See the church program in terms of interrelated systems rather than quick fixes.	37
STRATEGY FOUR: TRADE UP YOUR TRADITIONS FOR TRADITION Distinguish between church traditions and the Christian Tradition, and move emphasis from the former to the latter.	49
STRATEGY FIVE: RESURRECT THEOLOGY AS ART AND SCIENCE Stop thinking of theology as a matter of technical training, in which answers are already known, and rejuvenate theology through a quest for truth and beauty.	63
STRATEGY SIX: DESIGN A NEW APOLOGETIC Find fresh ways to communicate the gospel to the postmodern mind.	71

PREFACE

STRATEGY SEVEN: LEARN A NEW RHETORIC Realize that old communication patterns are less and less	87
effective in the new world, and discover new, appropriate modes of discourse.	
STRATEGY EIGHT: ABANDON STRUCTURES AS THEY ARE OUTGROWN Adopt a new paradigm for church structure that allows for routine reengineering based on changes in size, constituency,	95
resources, and strategy.	
STRATEGY NINE: SAVE THE LEADERS Recognize the terrible toll that the transition time is taking on leaders; recognize their immense value to the church at this time; help them to be "saved" for their needed work.	111
STRATEGY TEN: SUBSUME MISSIONS IN MISSION Understand the crisis in world missions, and help launch a new missionary movement.	125
STRATEGY ELEVEN: LOOK AHEAD, FARTHER AHEAD Anchor your hope in the future rather than the past, and explore a new eschatology.	151
STRATEGY TWELVE A: ENTER THE POSTMODERN WORLD— PART A: UNDERSTAND IT Understand postmodernism, and learn to see it from the inside.	165
STRATEGY TWELVE B: ENTER THE POSTMODERN WORLD	177
Engage postmodernism, and maximize the opportunities it presents.	
STRATEGY THIRTEEN: ADD TO THIS LIST Help your church become a learning organization that discovers and implements its own new strategies.	197
APPENDIX: STRATEGY SPECIFICS	203
NOTES	217
ABOUT THE AUTHOR	223