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*For additional resources from Innovation<sup>3</sup> visit [learnings.leadnet.org](http://learnings.leadnet.org)*



Dave Gibbons  
NewSong Church  
Irvine, CA

## SHAPING THE CULTURE: MONKEY AND THE FISH: AN ALTERNATIVE AND CONTRARIAN WAY

### Quotes

“Right now, we are seeing the largest transfer of wealth in history... times have changed.”

“We’ve pimped the second commandment. We define neighbor as “someone like us”... When Jesus said to “love your neighbor”, He wasn’t saying to love someone just like you.”

“When you look at your church... how much [money] goes toward innovation?”

“Who is the fringe in our community?... You’ll start seeing God when you start loving on people different than you.”

“The purpose of a word is to convey an idea. Once the idea is caught, the word is forgotten”

### Notes

Something amazing is happening right now, even in the landscape of bad economic times:

1. Bad news is better than no news. Bad news means that we are starting to define reality.
2. Scarcity brings Clarity. We will better be able define our vision and mission.
3. Waste less. Because we’ll have less to work with, we will waste less.
4. When darkness occurs, that’s when the church can shine. The church is never brighter than when it’s darkest.

Five Alternative Perspectives:

1. Fueling creativity rather than preserving our current culture. We will preserve what will keep us running. We have to respect the past, but
2. Focus on the fringe. Jesus was all about focusing on the marginalized.
3. Develop holistic and sustainable approaches rather than quick fixes.
4. Think intersections. You get a different picture of God when you hear different perspectives.
5. Seek God and pray. There is no way that you can be effective unless you are connected to the Holy Spirit.

### Links

[New Song Church Church](#)

[Dave's Blog](#)

Book by Dave Gibbons:

[Monkey and the Fish: Liquid Leadership for a Third Culture Church](#)