

## **SPIRIT-EMPOWERED MINISTRY: A LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR FAITH ASSEMBLY OF GOD, DEWEY, ARIZONA**

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Dewey Faith Assembly of God, a small church in rural Arizona, ministers to the people of its community. Over the years, many people have attended Dewey Faith, but the church has been unable to keep most of the attendees. After examining the causes of this lack of growth, it was determined that the main reason was due to ill-equipped leadership. Without adequate leadership in place, the community did not receive the ministry it needed. People from the community only saw a small church that did not have the programs they desired.

This project implemented a leadership development ministry to help Dewey Faith face its growth issues, develop effective leaders, and overcome the growth barrier. In developing leaders equipped to lead missionally, Dewey Faith began to reach its community effectively. The leadership ministry challenged the leaders in the church to grow individually and to think “outside the box.”

As a result of this project, the church has experienced new growth—including both membership and conversion growth—and new ministries continue to impact the community as well as the church. Because of the training the leaders received, Dewey Faith grew 20 percent from 2008 to 2009. The children’s ministry continues to grow as it ministers to children of all ages.

This ministry of leadership development continues to aid in the expansion of evangelism and discipleship efforts at Dewey Faith. New leaders now attend leader training that will give them the confidence to lead effectively. In addition to the benefits of this project for Dewey Faith, this project will also provide a tool to help other churches train leaders for effective ministry.