

# Tools to Untangle Families in Your Church

Steve Swartz

## Tool # 1: Use a Family System View

Change creates more \_\_\_\_\_.

Homeostasis—\_\_\_\_\_

## Tool # 2: Family Health Continuum

Closeness

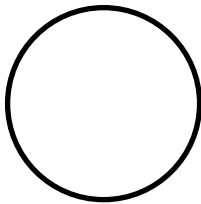
Separateness

*So in Christ, we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.* Romans 12:5

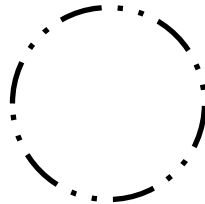
*For each one should carry their own load.* Galatians 6:5

*God sets the lonely in families.* Psalm 68:6

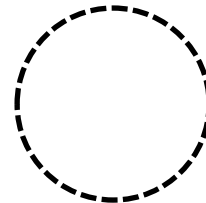
## Tool # 3: Family Boundaries



Impermeable Boundary



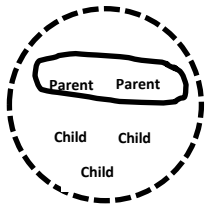
Permeable Boundary



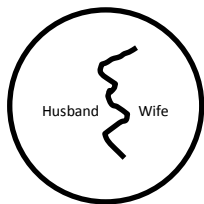
Healthy Boundary

*Therefore, go and make disciples . . .*

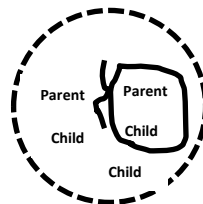
## Tool # 4: Family Subsystems



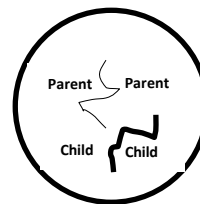
Parental Subsystem



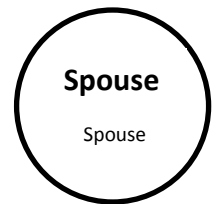
Marital Schism



Special Alliance

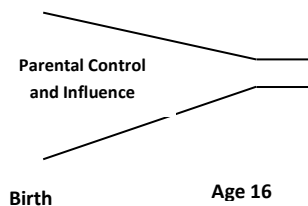
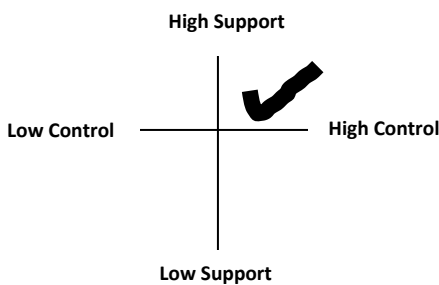


Scapegoat



Marital Skew

*Be completely humble and gentle, be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.* Ephesians 4:2



*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.*

Luke 4:18-19