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We Downsize and Dry-up

(SERIES: *The 4 Dumbest Things We
Do During Down Things: 02 of 04*)
by Dr. David Foster

3 Living Landscapes

We do life in **organizations**.

We do life in **families**.

“A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families, he leads forth the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land.”
(Psalm 68:5-6 NIV)

We do life in **tribes**.

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, . . .” (1 Peter 2:9-10 NIV)

As we advance

We accumulate **stuff**.

“Someone in the crowd said to him, ‘Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.’ Jesus replied, ‘Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?’ Then he said to them, ‘Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.’” (Luke 12:13-15 NIV)

We attach **value**.

We avoid **the brutal truth**.

Change Option #1: **Down-size**

Conduct an irrational **cost-cutting crusade**.

Turn inward and attack **people's motives**.

Sever trusted **connections**.

Jump ship just before **the crash**.

Change Option #2: **Right-size**

“Early in the morning, Jerub-Baal (that is, Gideon) and all his men camped at the spring of Harod. The camp of Midian was north of them in the valley near the hill of Moreh. The LORD said to Gideon, ‘You have too many men for me to deliver Midian into their hands. In order that Israel may not boast against me that her own strength has saved her, announce now to the people, “Anyone who trembles with fear may turn back and leave Mount Gilead.”’ So twenty-two thousand men left, while ten thousand remained.

But the LORD said to Gideon, ‘There are still too many men. Take them down to the water, and I will sift them for you there. If I say, “This one shall go with you,” he shall go; but if I say, “This one shall not go with you,” he shall not go.’ So Gideon took the men down to the water. There the LORD told him, ‘Separate those who lap the water with their tongues like a dog from those who kneel down to drink.’ Three hundred men lapped with their hands to their mouths. All the rest got down on their knees to drink. The LORD said to Gideon, ‘**With the three hundred men that lapped I will save you . . .**’” (Judges 7:1-7 NIV)

What are we **doing here?**

Who are we **doing it for?**

Who do we **need to be great?**

Why does it **matter?**