**INREACH AND OUTREACH**

**Implosion / Explosion**



The church has the tasks of both in-reach and outreach. Both are necessary. One is not more important than the other, but the sequence matters. While we acknowledge that the Spirit blows where it wills (Jn. 3:8) God’s word is not bound (2 Tim. 2:9) and God’s word accomplishes what he intends (Isa 55:9-10), Scripture sets out a clear theme for formation and development (1 Cor 2:14 - 3:3, 2 Peter 3:18, Hebr. 5:11 – 6:3, etc.) As a matter of practice, our outreach will be more effective as we do more effective in-reach, education, formation, and preparation. The issue of in-reach and outreach is particularly significant for Christian universities and schools. Is the school an evangelism agency? A ministry for discipleship and deep formation in God’s word? Both? Can we do both with a mix of students who are Christians and non-Christians? How may the current culture shifts influence our tasks and strategies of in-reach and outreach?