

# Depth Perception™

Commentary from Design For Ministry™  
Los Angeles • Milwaukee • Philadelphia

## Thick Irony 15 April 2007

Sometimes the irony runs so thick you can slice it like meatloaf.

Example: *A person quits the church because everyone is judgmental* (Think about it).

Example: *A person no longer attends their congregation because they cannot stand the informal dress among the congregation. Their favorite hymn, however, is "Whosoever will."*

Example: *Someone is wounded because of a fractured relationship. They withdraw from all other relationships in the congregation to draw attention to the need to address this wound, thus wounding even more relationships.*

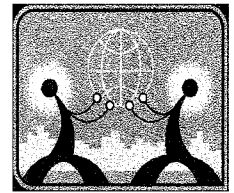
Example: *A person quits volunteering and then attending altogether. They do so protesting the lack of commitment in the congregation.*

Example: *At a congregational conversation on the subject of looking ahead to future worship services, the worship leader asks those who came to talk about music and singing as a part of worship. A congregational member rises to speak. They are upset with the worship leader over song choices. "You should ask us what we like to sing!" they protest.*

Example: *A consultant sits with the church board to help them sort through their problems of working as a united board. Upon the consultant's introduction the first words out of the mouth of the financial secretary are "Who are you to tell us about our problems?"*

Perhaps the greatest irony is our inability to spot the irony in all these scenarios.

-mark I vincent



## Construction Dust!

We are The line between non-profits and for profits continues to blur. Business owners leap to run non-profits who now admit they need business savvy. Successful non-profit leaders move to for profit platforms because business admits it lost ethical underpinnings and human concern. Collaborative partnerships between both sectors are springing up everywhere. To that end we developed a consulting and services network that specializes in the for profit enterprise. By developing Design For Business, Intl™ we will be better able to work with this mix. We look forward to sharing more of these developments in the months ahead.