
INTRODUCTION

The word "Renaissance" is a French word meaning "rebirth" that has come to mean a noticeable surge or resurgence of learning and advances that produces a lasting contribution in one or more realms.

Renaissance Thinking draws attention to barrier breakers like Gutenberg, Copernicus, Erasmus and others who practiced the three pillars of intentionality—being Imaginative, Industrious and Integrative. But there are four other eras that historians, theologians, and other commentators sometimes describe with the word renaissance due to their sudden occurrence of advances.

We will make a few observations from these eras but this presentation will emphasize what is often the most difficult hurdle—being Integrative with supporters, advisers, followers and other stakeholders. Be sure to take note of the 5 Rs of integration.

ICONS OF FOUR DISTINCT RENAISSANCE ERAS

These men led off the changes that rippled throughout their generation and beyond

King Hezekiah (617-687BC), famous for reviving Judaism, solving large institutional problems, and for his role in saving Jerusalem in 701BC from the hostile Assyrian empire.

Johann Gutenberg (1400-1467), famous for successful launch of printing enterprise in 1452, including a wide variety of products including the Bible

Ignaz Semmelweis (1818-1865), famous for major reduction of deaths in hospitals in the 1840s and largely contributing to the awareness of unseen causes that were later called germs, bacteria and viruses

Ludwig von Bertalanffy (1901-1972), famous for formulating General Systems Theory from his expertise with biology that, surprisingly, was trans-disciplinary. Soon thereafter ecosystems, social networks, and organizations were being re-conceptualized on the basis of the parallels in "living" systems because of their inter and intra-dependence dynamics.

RENAISSANCE ERAS

I. ... UNDER KING HEZEKIAH AND ISAIAH IN JUDAH (716-687 BC)

- Hezekiah's Major reset and renewal of the Jewish faith, influenced by Isaiah
- Recovery of sacred literature
- Solved huge organizational hurdles
- Outsmarted tyrant at his own game, preserving Judaism
- Hezekiah became the all-time iconic king of Judah

II. ... PRINTING, ARTS, SCIENCE, VOYAGE, AND REFORM IN EUROPE (1440-1520)

- The development of Gutenberg's movable type printing press
- Mapping heavens, thanks to Regiomontanus, enabled more accurate calendars and certainties in navigation
- Discovering the "Americas" by Columbus
- Earth begins to be envisioned by Copernicus and friends as an orbiting planet, not as a center. And astronomy begins a slow divorce from astrology
- The Church is publically critiqued by the widely read Erasmus from Rotterdam, a highly literate priest from within inside the church
- The Bible is put out into the public, by Erasmus
- Indulgences are renounced by Erasmus and Luther
- As Luther's reform movement spreads, leaders in Europe undergo a massive realignment, which ends an era where popes have rule over emperors and kings
- The launch of the first three-year expedition of global circumnavigation by Magellan's fleet

III. ... IN MEDICINE IN AMERICA/EUROPE/RUSSIA (1840S-1890S)

- Ignaz Semmelweis, 1846, founded connection of hygiene to disease
- Pierre-Paul Broca, 1860s, demonstrated neurological connections between the brain and motor functions of the body
- Florence Nightingale, 1860s, founded modern nursing, improved hygiene and sanitation standards and spread medical knowledge
- Robert Koch, 1870s, founder of modern bacteriology, postulated Germ Theory
- Louis Pasteur, 1880s, founded vaccines, an answer to evasive microscopic bacteria
- Joseph Lister, 1860s, pioneer of antiseptic surgery, “father of modern surgery”
- Dmitri Ivanovsky, 1890s, Russia, isolated and classified agents, later named viruses

IV. ... IN MANY REALMS IN FIRST WORLD COUNTRIES

The realms of aviation/aerospace, communications, energy, ground transportation, health/medicine, organizations and technology

The concentration here is on organizational developments where the stakes are efficiency, cross-cultural understanding, decision-making, negotiations, managing crisis, communications and safety. One thing most developments have in common is “systems thinking”.

- Ludwig von Bertalanffy
- Edward T. Deming
- Russel Ackoff
- Peter Drucker
- Geert Hofstede
- Donella Meadows
- Rene Girard
- Edwin Friedman
- William Ury
- Peter Senge
- David Marx

THE THREE PILLARS OF “RENAISSANCE THINKING”

IMAGINATIVE—seeks an aligned view of reality that includes past wisdom, the heavens looking down, and the future looking back, and personal observations

INDUSTRIOUS—resolutely explores all conceivable gateways to progress, including alternate fields of study, tools, and sources of reliable information

INTEGRATIVE—enthuses and coordinates supporters, advisors, and other stakeholders through shared meaning

THE 5 R’S OF INTEGRATION

(Space for notes)

BECOMING WAVEMAKERS

INSPIRING CHANGE IN YOUR CHURCH OR ORGANIZATION

Reach Conference
St. Louis, Missouri
Saturday, July 9th, 2 pm - 4 pm.

Scott Green, Steve Staten

We often hear of boxes, paradigms, and wineskins when people talk about change. Steve and Scott present measures for forging institutional change, regardless of one's rank or title. Through self-awareness, respect, best communication practices, developing collaboration roadmaps, and "nudging", we can avoid 'us and them' pitfalls. The format will include TED-style talks, interactive lessons, case studies and handouts.

LESSONS LEARNED IN MAKING WAVES

RESPONSIBLY SAILING THE WAVES OF CHANGE

A NEW GLOSSARY OF CHANGE

CO-DEVELOPING ROADMAPS

RENAISSANCE

WHEN LIGHT CUTS THROUGH THE HAZE

May be coming soon to your organization or church!

INTERACTIVE SESSIONS

HEZEKIAH: THINKING OUTSIDE THE CAGE OR *DA VINCI: THINKING OUTSIDE OF ACADEMY*
TED-Style talk for congregations for companies

CULTIVATING CONDITIONS FOR BREAKTHROUGH

A look at case studies for recurring causes behind institutional renewal for your messages, products or services

THE NEW RENAISSANCE: BREAKTHROUGHS IN OUR TIME

Exploring the major developments that transform efficiency, increase resilience to threats, improve safety, navigate crisis, negotiate cross-culturally, and making conclusive decisions

"DIVERGENCE" DISCUSSION GROUPS

Exercises and Group Discussions

WHAT DO I GET FROM WORKSHOPS, COACHING, AND MATERIALS?

Renaissance Thinking can benefit *anybody*. It is possible to have a brilliant breakthrough, even if you are a craftsman who prefers to work with his or her hands, and are not an academic. Surprisingly, Leonardo da Vinci was often insulted for his lack of education and for how little he read. Yet some of the ideas found in his drawings were centuries ahead of his times. Here are some examples of how the workshops, coaching and associated materials will benefit you ...

ILLUMINATION—QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD BE ASKING AND RECEIVING SOUND ANSWERS TO...

What are the principle causes that keep individuals and groups in proverbial dark ages?

What is the biggest and most frequent mistake made by people who want to experience a breakthrough?

Breakthroughs often appear in constellations of interdependent breakthroughs. How can *my* cherished organization benefit from such influences?

What are highly committed believers of other theological traditions doing that led to amazing results that *my* church could be doing?

INSPIRATION—YOU GET STORIES THAT WILL HELP PURGE ANY BAD HEURISTICS IN YOUR MIND...

There is an example of an innovation developed between the testaments Jesus and the apostle Paul used, that was as profound as Facebook in its day. Do you know what it is?

A fifteenth century astronomer did something that rapidly changed the world in three distinct fields and successful entrepreneurs today are doing the same thing. Who was and what did he do?

Some innovators have been so disruptive that they are called “the crazy ones”. Learn what distinguishes talkers from doers.

Netflix did what some renaissance thinkers practiced, some five-hundred years earlier—harnessing existing technology to meet a need that people don’t know they have. Learn what drove them.

INTEGRATION ROADMAPS

Bulls-Eyeing—a workshop about valuing and aligning diverse perspectives for a common target. This session focuses on matching individuals to roles that tap into their greatest contribution for something everyone wants, determined objectively through a unique assessment.

Case Studies—facilitative and instructive session using compelling case studies. Participants will walk away with great practices for bringing a new idea forward for their institution to completion benefitting from the blood, sweat and tears of others.

Training in “systems thinking” using exercises designed to equip teams to change the game by seeing “wholes”, review their assumptions and develop resilient organizational cultures.

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