



The Connectional Table

GCFA/CT Meeting

May 14, 2009

*Making disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world*

Sheraton Music City
Nashville, Tennessee

Our Scriptural Mission



Great Commission

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit . . .” Mt. 28:19

Great Commandment

“You shall love the Lord your God . . .

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

Mk 12:30-31

The United Methodist Church



Making disciples
of Jesus Christ
for the transformation
of the world!

How is The UMC Organized for Ministry?



- **Annual Conference** is basic unit of the church
- **Local church** is where disciples of Jesus Christ are called, formed and sent into mission
- **Jurisdictions** are where bishops are elected and some regional programs are developed
- **General Agencies** are where specific functions are lodged

General Agencies



- General Council on Finance and Administration
- General Board of Church and Society
- General Board of Discipleship
- General Board of Global Ministries
- General Board of Higher Education and Ministry
- General Commission on Communications

General Agencies



- General Commission on Archives and History
- General Commission on Ch Unity & Inter Concerns
- General Commission on Religion and Race
- General Commission on Status & Role of Women
- General Commission on United Methodist Men
- General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits
- United Methodist Publishing House

General Conference

(¶501)



*The **General Conference** has full legislative power over all matters distinctively connectional. It has no executive or administrative power.*

Council of Bishops

(¶427.3)



The **Council of Bishops** is charged with the oversight of the spiritual and temporal affairs of the whole Church, to be executed in regularized consultation and cooperation with other councils and service agencies of the Church.



The purpose of the **Connectional Table** is for the discernment and articulation of the vision for the church and the stewardship of the mission, ministries, and resources of The United Methodist Church as determined by the actions of the **General Conference** and **in consultation with the Council of Bishops**.

Vision – Mission – Money

Together at One Table



Connectional Table

Vision – Mission – Money Together at One Table



Connectional Table

28 Members

21 Jurisdictions

7 Central Conferences

(Annual Conferences/Local Churches)

Vision – Mission – Money

Together at One Table



Connectional Table

33 Members

***5 Racial Ethnic
Caucuses***

***21 Jurisdictions
7 Central Conferences
(Annual Conferences/Local Churches)***

Vision – Mission – Money

Together at One Table



Connectional Table

35 Members

***5 Racial Ethnic
Caucuses***

***21 Jurisdictions
7 Central Conferences
(Annual Conferences/Local Churches)***

***1 Youth
1 Young Adult***

Vision – Mission – Money

Together at One Table



Agencies

10 Presidents

12 General Secretaries

Connectional Table

57 Members

**5 Racial Ethnic
Caucuses**

**21 Jurisdictions
7 Central Conferences
(Annual Conferences/Local Churches)**

**1 Youth
1 Young Adult**

Vision – Mission – Money

Together at One Table



Agencies

10 Presidents

12 General Secretaries

GCFA

1 President

1 General Secretary

Connectional Table

59 Members

**5 Racial Ethnic
Caucuses**

**21 Jurisdictions
7 Central Conferences
(Annual Conferences/Local Churches)**

**1 Youth
1 Young Adult**

Vision – Mission – Money

Together at One Table



Council of Bishops
1 Chairperson

Agencies
10 Presidents
12 General Secretaries

GCFA
1 President
1 General Secretary

Connectional Table
60 Members

5 Racial Ethnic
Caucuses

21 Jurisdictions
7 Central Conferences
(Annual Conferences/Local Churches)

1 Youth
1 Young Adult

Legislation

The CT's Essential Functions



1. To provide a forum for understanding and implementing the vision, mission and ministries of the global church as determined in consultation with the Council of Bishops and/or the actions of the General Conference.

Legislation

The CT's Essential Functions



2. To enable the flow of information and communication among annual conferences, jurisdictions, central conferences, general agencies, and the Council of Bishops.

Legislation

The CT's Essential Functions



3. To coordinate the program life of the church with the mandates of the gospel, the mission of the church, and the needs of the global community.



4. To review and evaluate the missional effectiveness of the general program-related agencies and connectional structures of the church as they collectively seek to aid annual conferences and local churches.

Legislation

The CT's Essential Functions



5. To recommend to the GC such changes and implementing legislation as may be appropriate to ensure effectiveness of the general agencies.

Legislation

The CT's Essential Functions



6. To provide leadership in planning and research, assisting all levels of the church to evaluate needs and plan strategies to carry out the mission of the church.

Legislation

The CT's Essential Functions



7. In order to be accountable, along with the GCFA, to The United Methodist Church through the GC, the CT shall have authority and responsibility in the following:
 - To collaborate with the GCFA in the preparation of budgets for the apportioned funds (§806),
 - To submit to each quadrennial session of the GC budgets of expense for each of the general funds of the church.
 - To make recommendations regarding all other funding considerations before GC

Legislation

The CT's Essential Functions



- To receive from the GCFA and approve all general agency budget reviews.
- To review and approve special offerings and church wide appeals.

Legislation

Essential Functions Summary



1. Provide a forum for vision and implementation
2. Enable flow of information and communication
3. Coordinate program life of the global church
4. Evaluate the missional effectiveness of agencies
5. Recommend changes for agency effectiveness
6. Provide leadership in planning and research
7. Collaborate with GCFA in development of budget

Connectional Table

Important Understandings



- Not a “**Program**” Group
 - Brings vision, mission, money to same table
 - Brings conversations out of the hallways and parking lots into the living room of the church
- Not a “**General Agency**”
 - Judicial Council decision
 - Has “members” rather than “directors”
 - Very small staff
- Not a “**Box**” on the organization chart
 - Responsible for connecting/aligning the boxes

Vision – Mission – Money



Annual Conferences and Local Churches

Vision – Mission – Money



Annual Conferences and Local Churches

*General
Conference*

Vision – Mission – Money



Annual Conferences and Local Churches

*Council
Of
Bishops*

*General
Conference*

Vision – Mission – Money



Annual Conferences and Local Churches

*Council
Of
Bishops*

GCFA

*General
Conference*

Vision – Mission – Money



Annual Conferences and Local Churches

*Council
Of
Bishops*

*Connectional
Table*

GCFA

*General
Conference*

Vision – Mission – Money

Together at One Table



Council of Bishops
1 Chairperson

Agencies
10 Presidents
12 General Secretaries

GCFA
1 President
1 General Secretary

Connectional Table
60 Members

5 Racial Ethnic
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21 Jurisdictions
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1 Youth
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Vision – Mission – Money



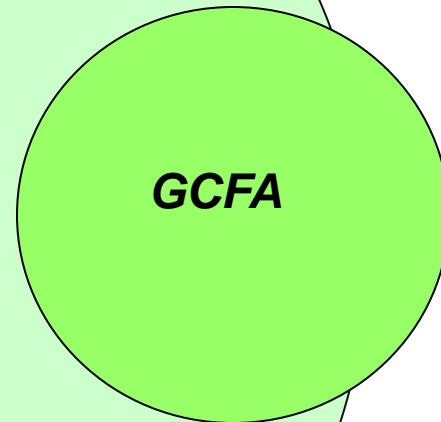
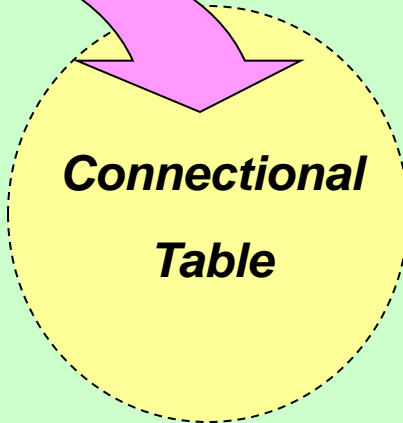
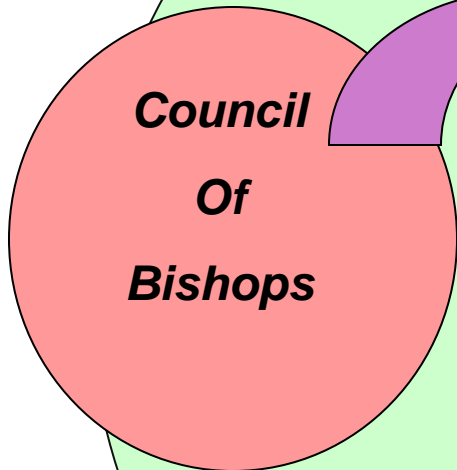
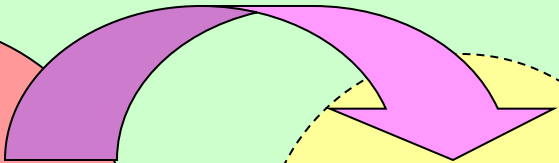
Annual Conferences and Local Churches

**Council
Of
Bishops**

**Connectional
Table**

GCFA

**General
Conference**



Vision – Mission – Money



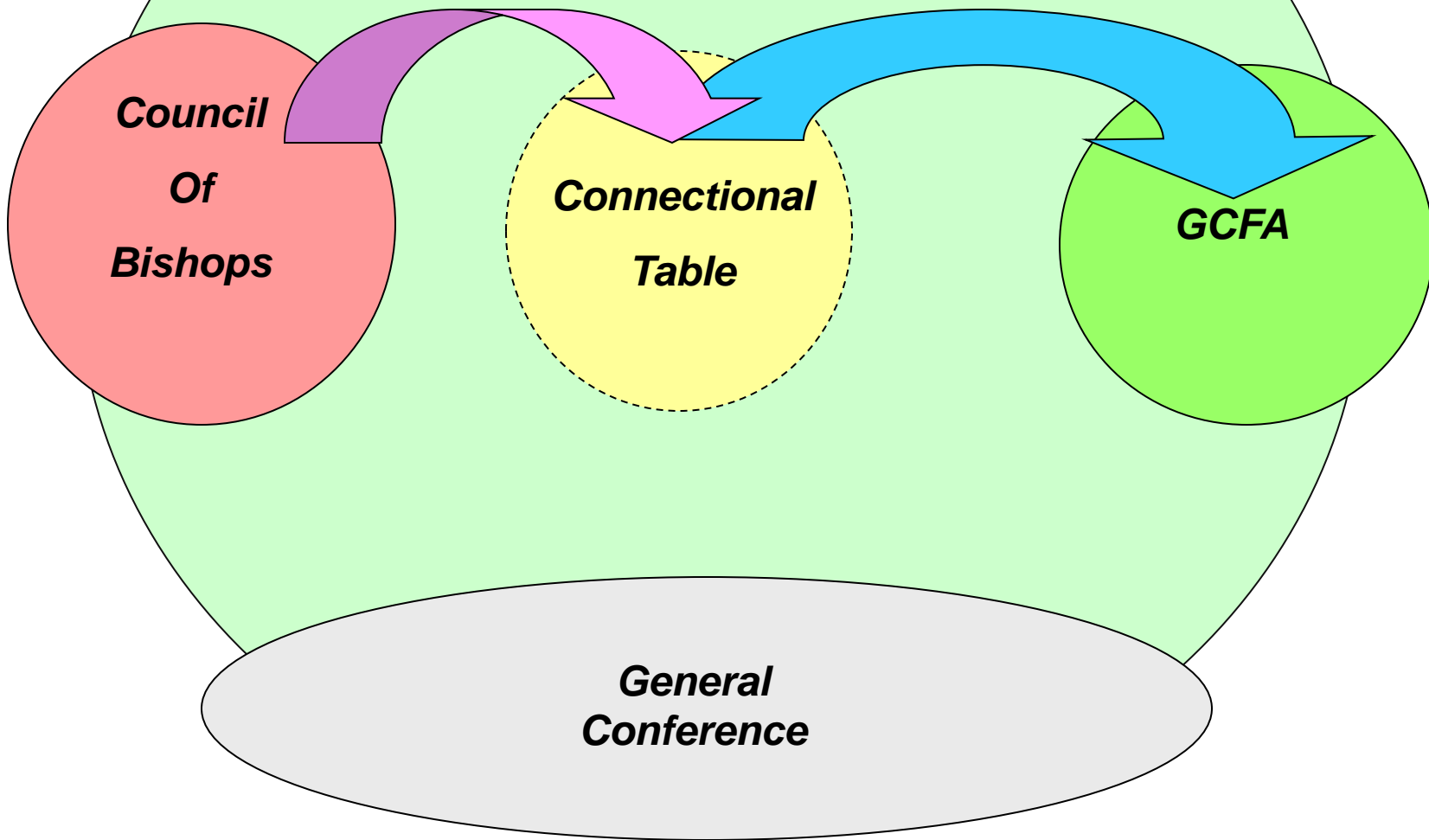
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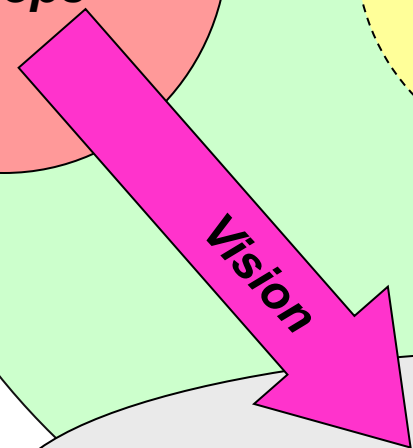
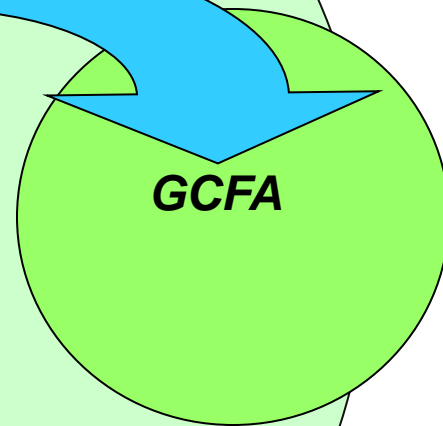
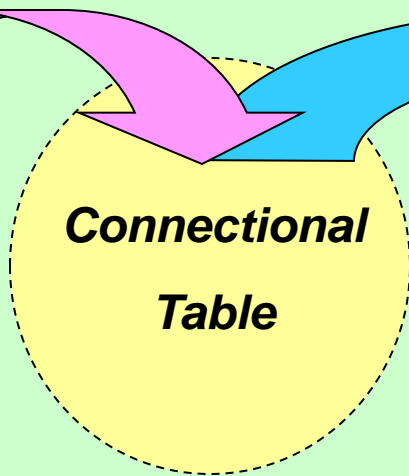
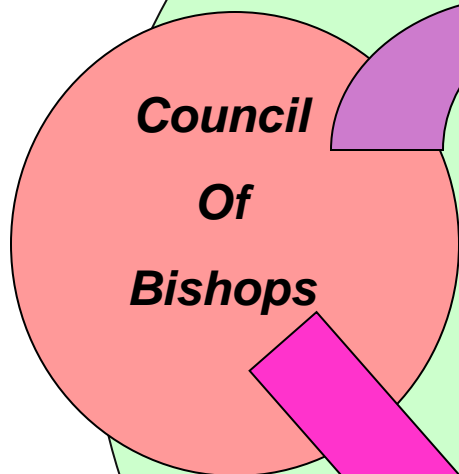
**General
Conference**



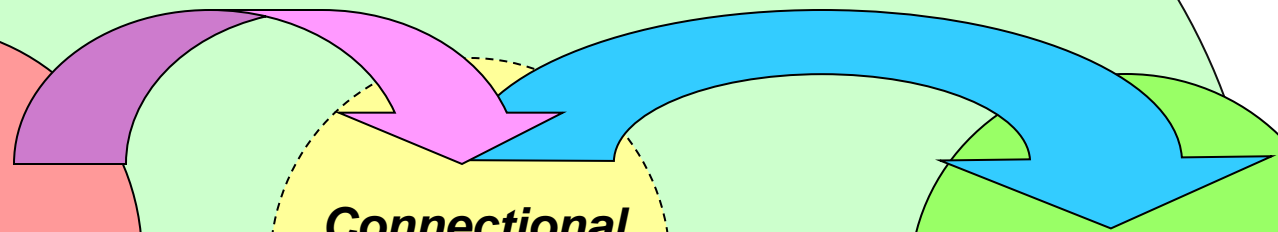
Vision – Mission – Money



Annual Conferences and Local Churches



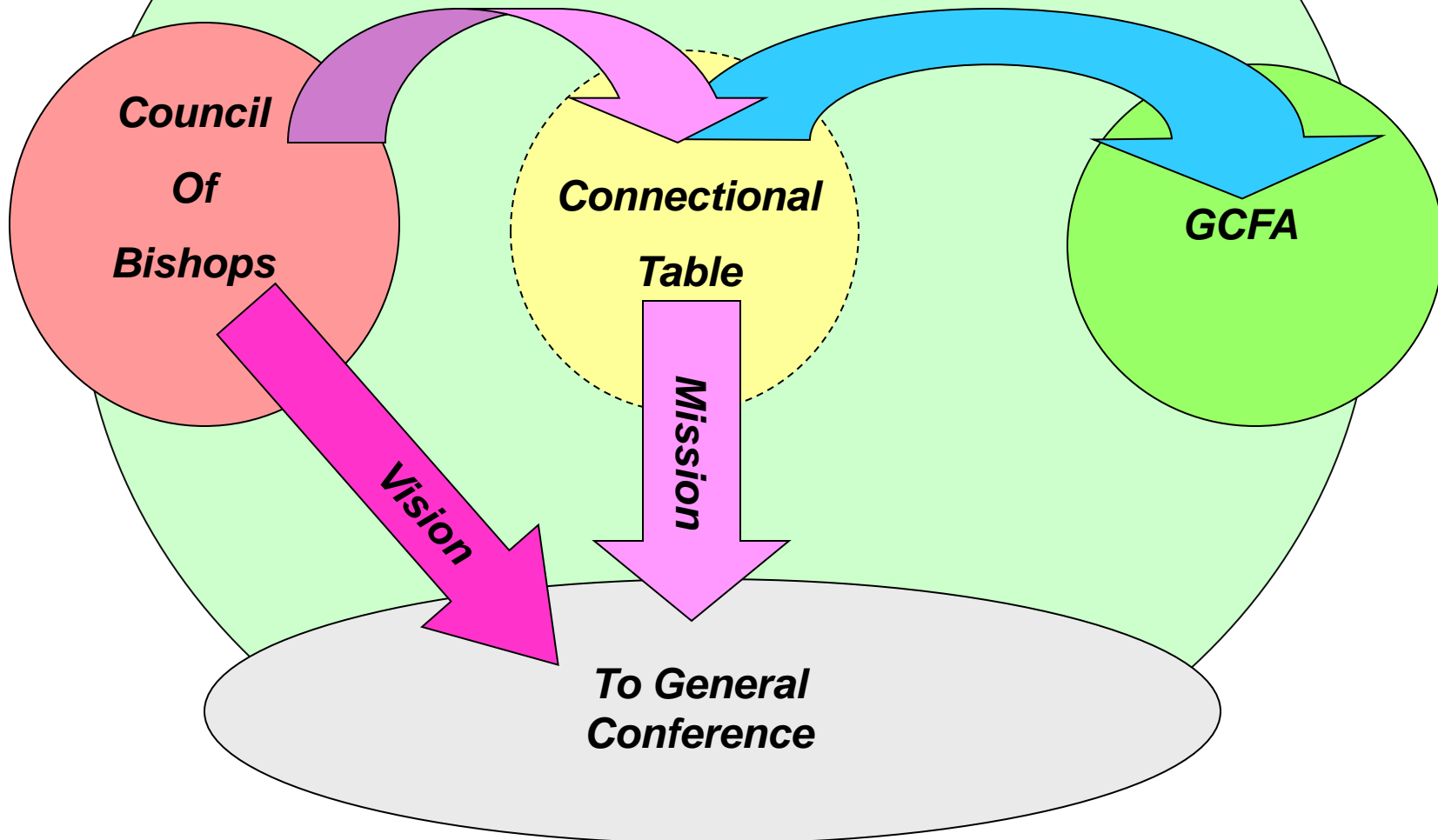
**To General
Conference**



Vision – Mission – Money



Annual Conferences and Local Churches



**Council
Of
Bishops**

**Connectional
Table**

GCFA

Vision

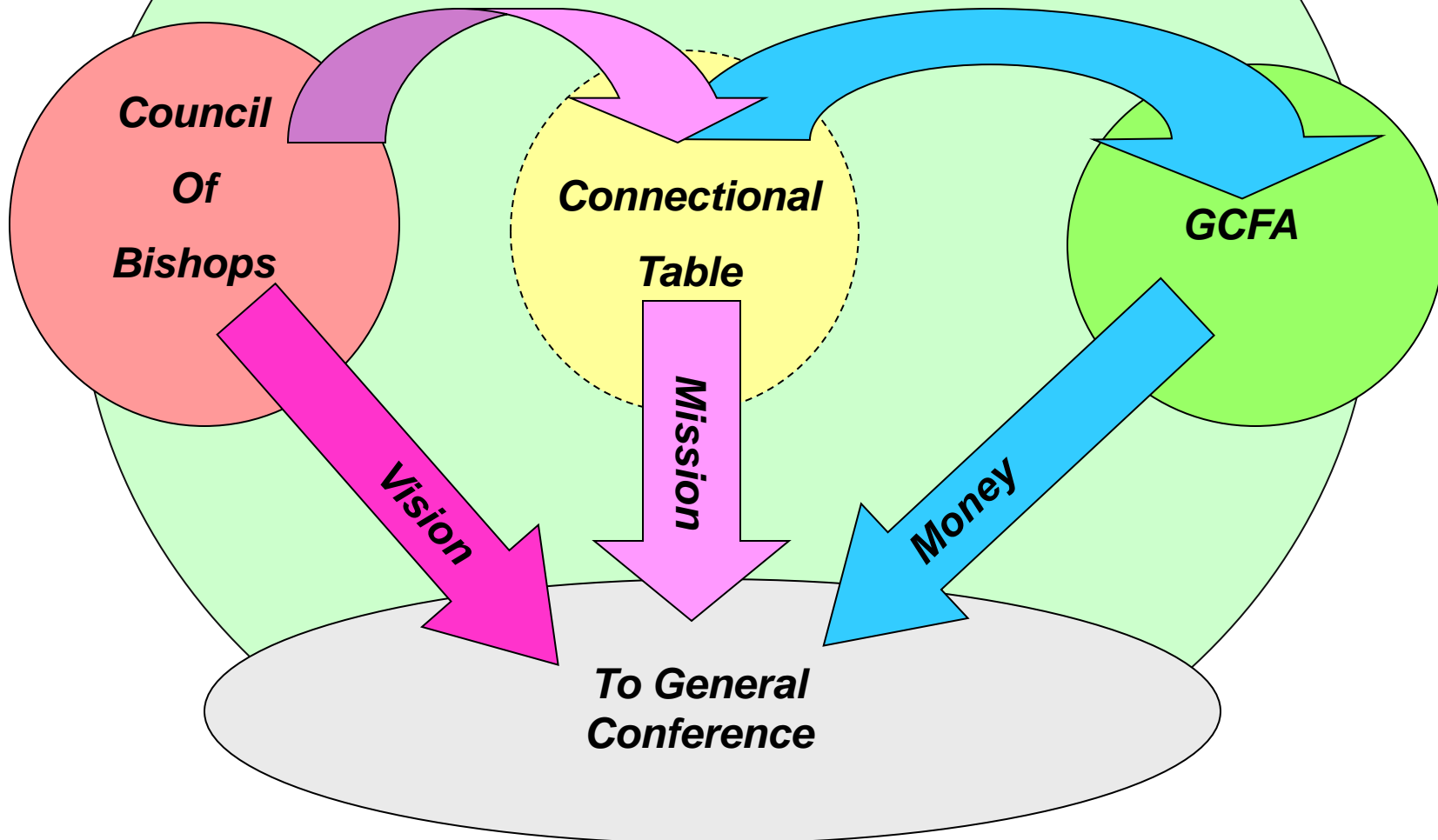
Mission

**To General
Conference**

Vision – Mission – Money



Annual Conferences and Local Churches



Vision – Mission – Money

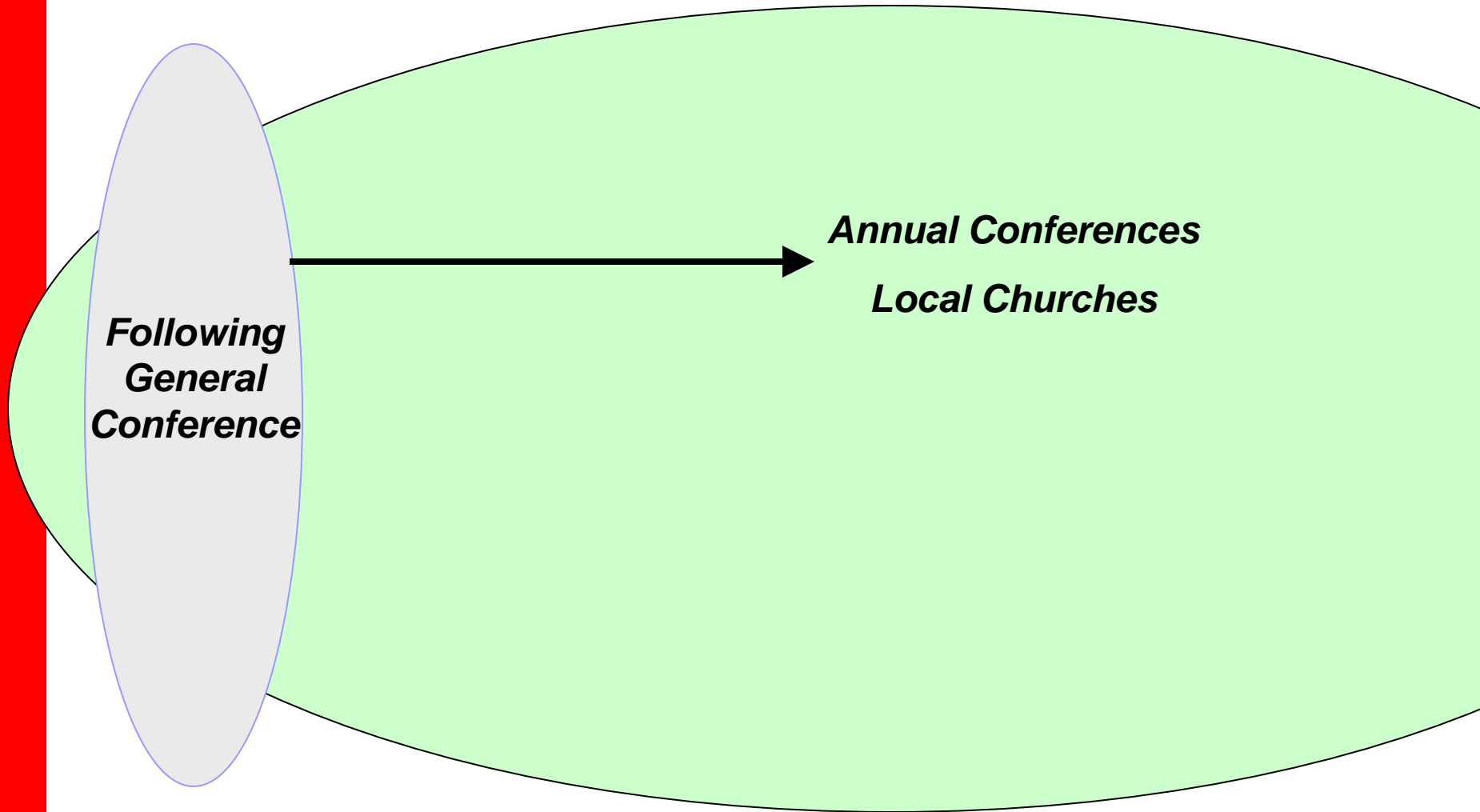
Aligned for Making Disciples



***Following
General
Conference***

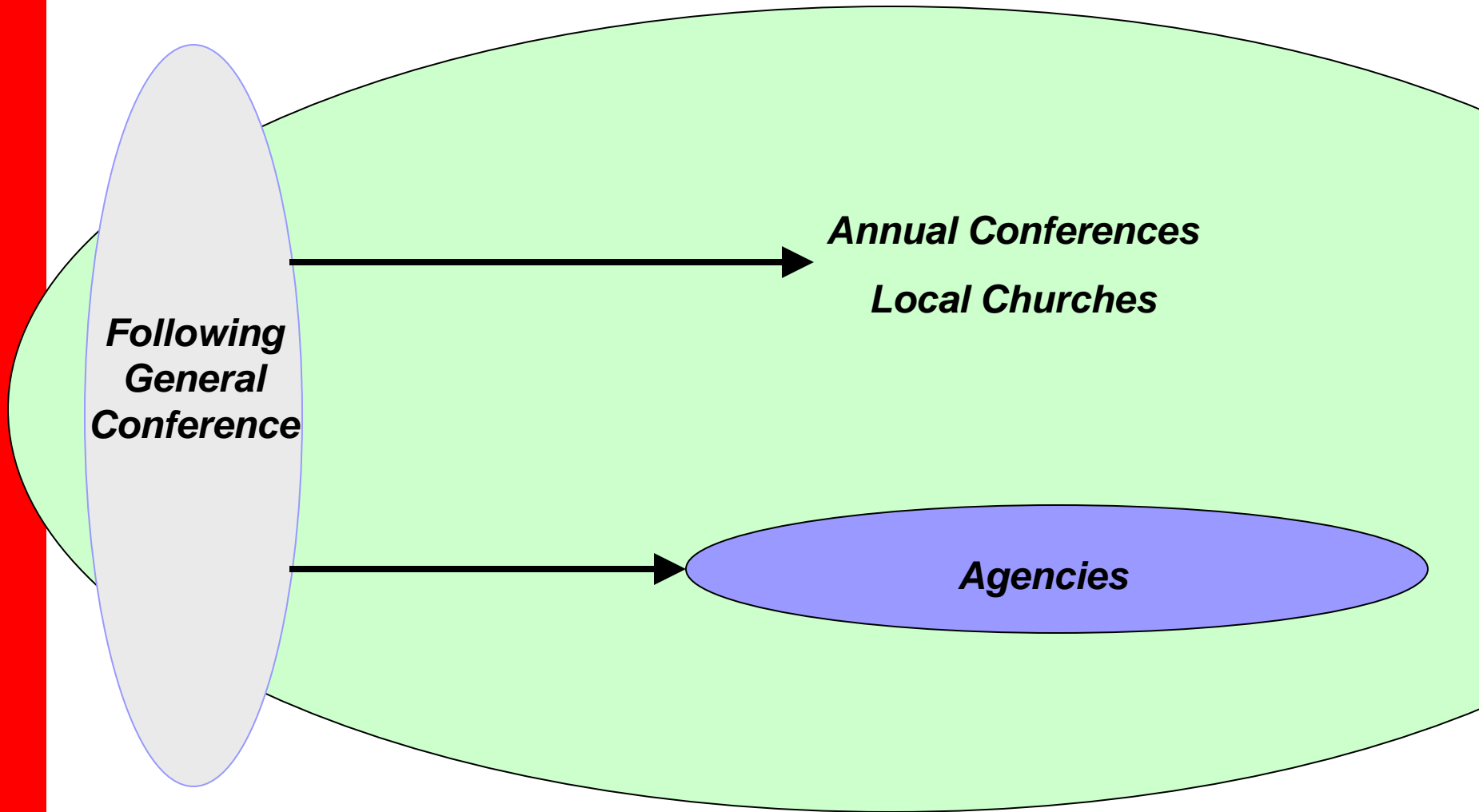
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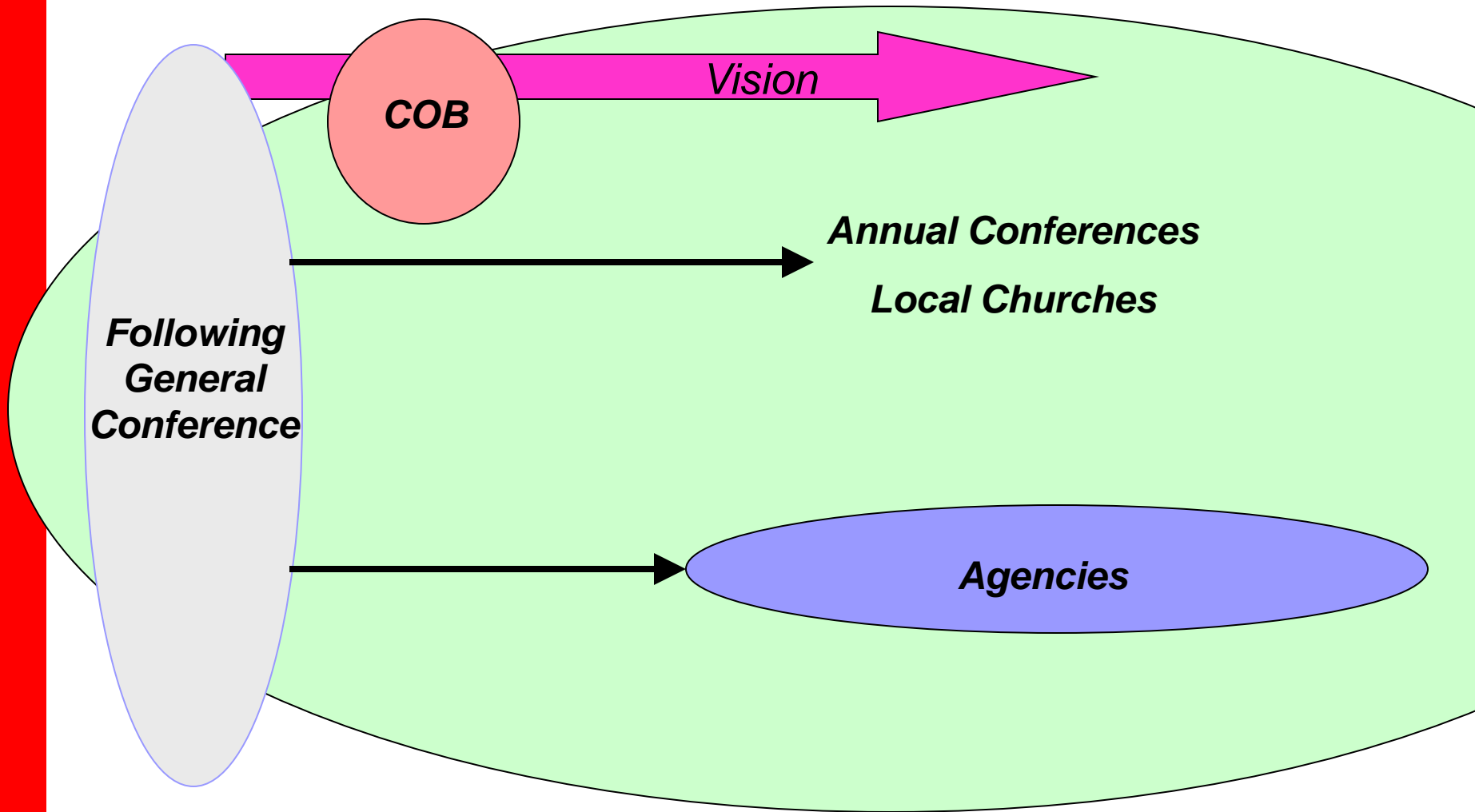
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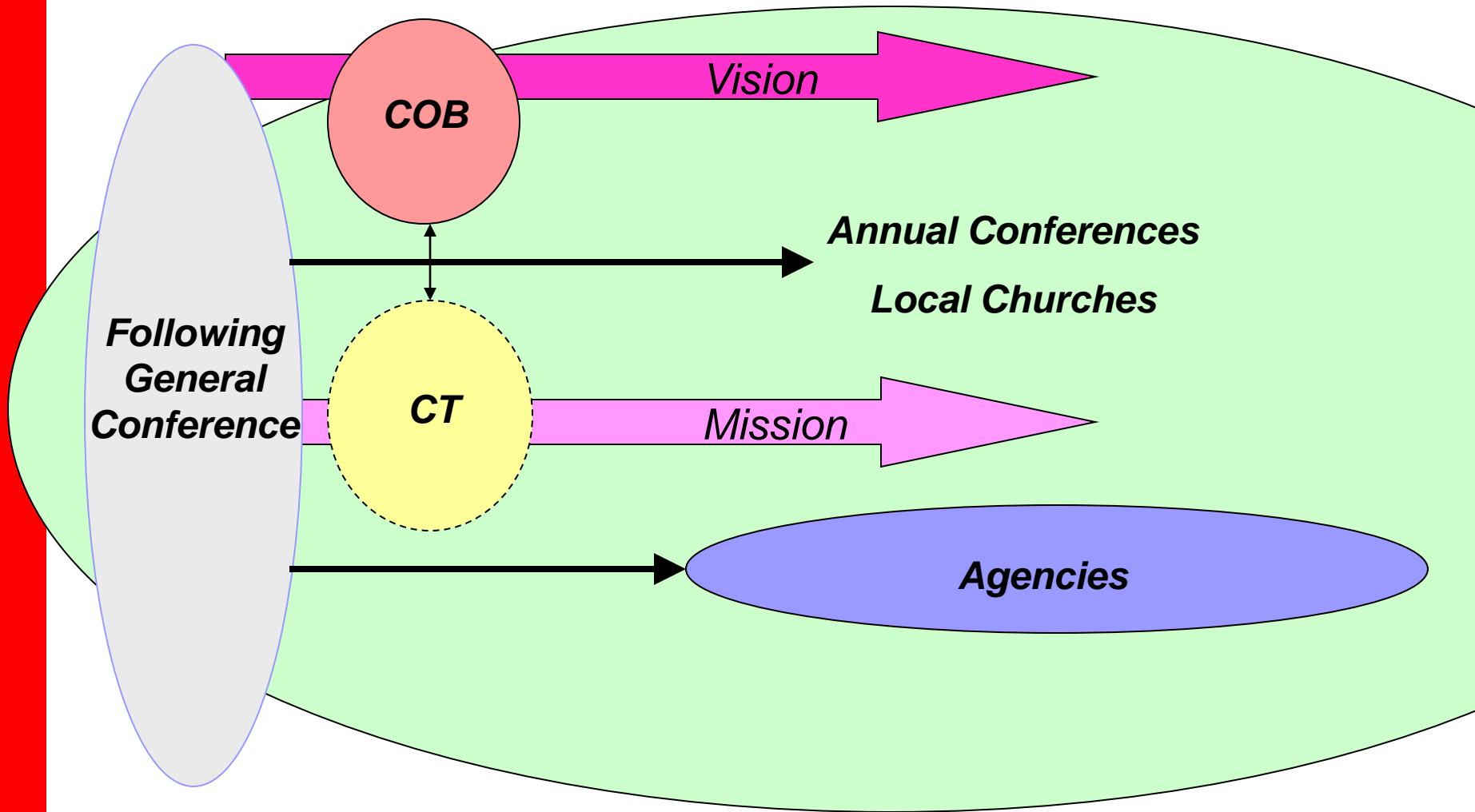
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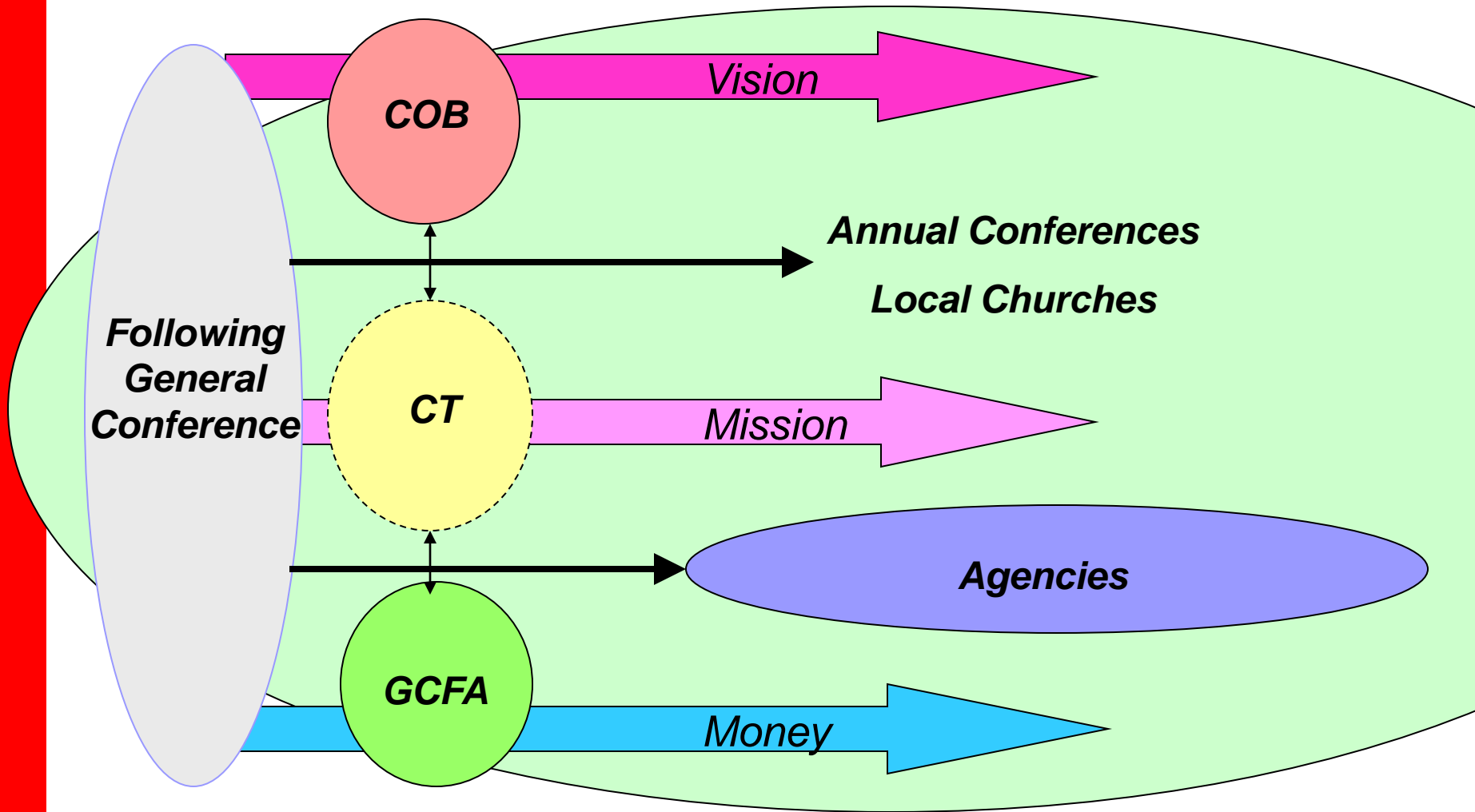
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Aligned for Making Disciples



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