

The Rabbit & The Elephant (metaphor)

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Posted by [Nathaniel Francis](#)
12 May 2018 02:30 PM

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One of the most interesting books that I have read on the nature of Church is the [Rabbit & the Elephant](#). In that book, the authors use the Elephant as a metaphor for corporate church: a large, single organism with many different parts, but essentially a whole, huge, lumbering creature. In contrast, the Rabbit is used as a metaphor for the small group: a small, docile creature that has a short life, but procreates vigorously.

I would recommend the book to anyone interested in the nature of relational spirituality.

I have found these metaphors to be very useful both in my own mind and in communicating relational spiritual dynamics with other people. I will continue to use them extensively.

In summary:

The Elephant is a metaphor for the corporate church.

The Rabbit is a metaphor for the small group.

Tags: [communication](#), [relational spirituality](#)

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