



The Radical Middle

• Definition

- The Radical Middle means holding tension between the Word and the Spirit
 - Word
 - Knowledge (head) based
 - The Bible is the one true foundation
 - One interpretation based on the author's original intent
 - Biblical doctrine expressed in creeds and other church writings
 - Closed ended/structured
 - Spirit
 - Heart based
 - Spiritual gifts and manifestations
 - God speaking to individuals
 - Open to interpretation
 - Open ended/unstructured
 - Satan attempts to drive churches to the “poles” and create imbalance

**Dead Orthodoxy/
Institutionalism**



Radical Middle

**Sectarian/
Cultism**

• Some “Poles”

Kingdom not yet

1 Corinthians 6:9

Divine sovereignty

John 15:16

Decently and in order

1 Corinthians 14:40

Will of God as a general calling

Ephesians 1:11

Saved by faith, not works

Ephesians 2:8-9

Standing for truth

Jesus

Head, word, reason

Evangelism

Planning

Organization, wineskin, kings

Leaders

Kingdom already

Matt 11:12, 12:28

Human responsibility

Revelation 3:20

Everything all the time

1 Corinthians 14:26,31

Will of God as specific calling

1 Timothy 1:18

Faith without works is dead

James 2:14-17

Standing for unity

1 Timothy 2:1-2

Heart, spirit, experience

Nurture

Being Spirit-led

Organism, wine, prophets

Charismatic itinerants

* Many of the ideas for the material in this handout come from the book “The Quest for the Radical Middle” by Bill Jackson.