

# PLANNING QUESTIONS FOR DEFINING YOUR NEW MINISTRY

***For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew  
in Christ Jesus, so that we can do the good things  
he planned for us long ago. Eph. 2:10***

## 1. What Is Our Purpose?

*What do you believe God wants to accomplish with your ministry idea? Write out what you believe to be the purpose of this ministry.*

*Which of the following ministry purposes<sup>1</sup> best represent our ministry?*

- o **Believing** – Helping new believers with first steps*
- o **Belonging** – Guiding people to connect in a meaningful way in the body of Christ*
- o **Becoming** – Growing in character and a deeper understanding of God.*
- o **Birthing** – Learning to communicate the Good News and participating in God's Kingdom plan*
- o **Being/Worship** - Celebrating God's presence and being His people*

***Primary Purpose:***

*Is there a secondary purpose?*

## 2. Who Do We Serve?

- o **Dis-Connected**- People outside our body*
- o **Community**- Occasional Attenders*
- o **Crowd**- Weekend Attenders*
- o **Congregation**- Those committed to **Attendance***
- o **Committed**- Those committed to **Growing***
- o **Core**- Those committed to **Serving***

***Primary Target:***

***Secondary Target:***

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**3. What Are Their Needs/What Services Will We Offer?**

What are the needs of the target group we want to serve? (Rank in order of priority.)  
o \_\_\_ **Spiritual** needs,                      o \_\_\_ **Physical** needs,                      o \_\_\_ **Emotional** needs,  
o \_\_\_ **Intellectual** needs,                      o \_\_\_ **Relational** needs

Which of these needs should our ministry focus on?

What kinds of services could our ministry provide for these needs?

**4. How Will We Provide Those Services?**

*What will be our ministry strategy for providing services for the needs of our targeted group?*

*What will be our operational plan?*

*What is our **step-by-step** process for idea for making this idea into a ministry reality?*

**5. How Will The Ministry Be Led?**

*What type of leadership qualities and skills will be required to lead our ministry?*

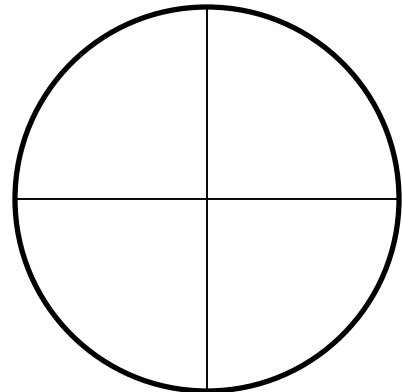
*What is the process for identifying and assimilating ministry leaders, each fulfilling a specific purpose related to the ministry's mission?*

**6. What Kind Of Team Is Required?**

*If you were to break the responsibilities of this ministry into four areas how would you label those?*

*If each area of responsibility represented a different person what gifts/abilities would they need?*

*As you look now at the four areas and the abilities necessary, take some time to pray. Are there names that come to mind that God might raise for those roles?*



## **7. What Kind of Training Is Needed?**

*What training is/needs to be available for team members to begin to function?*

*What ongoing training may need to be provided and how/when will that be done?*

*(It is generally recommended that some orientation/basic training be done in preparation for the launch of a ministry. More extensive training should come after a few months of active ministry. After gaining experience the training will be more valuable.)*

## **8. What Kinds Of Support Will Be Required For This Ministry?**

*What type of support services/facilities will our ministry team need?*

*What are the budget/financial needs to get our ministry started (trial period)?*

*What are the budget/financial needs to sustain our ministry?*

*How can we (the team) find the money needed to support this ministry?*

## **9. How Will The Group Communicate...**

- \* With each other?
- \* With it's leadership?
- \* With other ministries?
- \* With church staff?
- \* With the church at large?
- \* With who it is trying to serve?

## **10. What Will Be The Process For Feedback and Evaluation?**

*How will we know if we are doing well? Where do we get this feedback? How will success be measured?*

*o From who we serve      o From Pastor/Church Staff Review      o From the ministry leadership team*  
*o Monthly Check-Ups      o Quarterly Reviews      o Annual Reports*

## **11. How Will The Team Be Spiritually Cared For?**

*How do we ensure spiritual growth and health of our team? What is the process and structure for providing care of team members' personnel needs?*

*One-on-one meetings to determine:*

*o Time commitment                      o Family matters                      o Quiet Time*  
*o Vocation vs Ministry demands      o Small Groups/Accountability Relationships*

*Support within the team: o Prayer              o Study              o Fellowship*

## 12. What Is Our Vision For Growth And Expansion?

*What is our vision for growth? What is our “dream” 2 years from now?*

*On the way to our 2-year “dream”, what must our ministry look like in 1 year?*

*How will we expand our ministry?*

*o New Groups o New Services o New Activities o Other*

*What would that look like?*

*List and Explain:*

### SIX STAGES IN STARTING NEW MINISTRIES

*o Qualification Stage – Does God give this shape through the planning process?*

*o Introduction Stage – Talking to the right leaders to begin the process.*

*o Leadership Development Stage – Beginning to build the team.*

*o Trial Stage – Testing the idea on a limited basis.*

*o Recruitment Stage – Gaining feedback on the trial, expanding awareness.*

*o Public Launch Stage – Pulling back the curtain.*