

MY CHURCH GAME PLAN



“HOW WELL DOES MY CHURCH UNDERSTAND?”

MY CHURCH GAME PLAN

WHERE DO YOU START?

1. S.G. TOP 10 S.G.M. COMMITMENTS

1. I will move slowly.

Only simpletons believe everything they're told! The prudent carefully consider their steps. The wise are cautious and avoid danger; fools plunge ahead with reckless confidence.

Proverbs 14:15-16 (NLT)

2. I will regularly check my motives & evaluate my heart.

Leaders who know their business and can keep a sharp eye out for the shoddy and cheap, for who among us can be trusted to be always diligent and honest? Switching price tags and padding the expense account are two things GOD hates. Young people eventually reveal by their actions if their motives are on the up and up.

Ears that hear and eyes that see— we get our basic equipment from GOD!

Proverbs 20:8-12 (Msg)

3. I will steer clear of the numbers game.

If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them wanders away, what will he do? Won't he leave the ninety-nine others on the hills and go out to search for the one that is lost?

Matthew 18:12 (NLT)

4. I will not criticize the past.

No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, ...

Philippians 3:13 (NLT)

5. I will avoid the comparison trap.

Pay careful attention to your own work, for then you will get the satisfaction of a job well done, and you won't need to compare yourself to anyone else.

Galatians 6:4 (NLT)

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6. I will focus on priorities.

Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses? Jesus replied, "You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: Love your neighbor as yourself." The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.

Matthew 22:36-40 (NLT)

7. I will pace myself.

Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that he has promised.

Hebrews 10:36 (NLT)

8. I will serve.

Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Matthew 20:26-28 (NIV)

9. I will be a learner.

Get wisdom; develop good judgment. Don't forget my words or turn away from them.

Proverbs 4:5 (NLT)

Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble.

Proverbs 13:20 (NLT)

10. I will pursue contentment.

I am not telling you this because I need anything. I have learned to be satisfied with the things I have and with everything that happens.

Philippians 4:11 (NCV)

MY CHURCH GAME PLAN

2. UNDERSTAND THE CHURCH'S SMALL GROUP HISTORY AND TRIGGER POINTS.

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3. BEGIN PRAYING FOR RESPONSIVENESS OF YOUR CHURCH

“WHO” question

“WHEN” question

“WHAT” question

MY CHURCH GAME PLAN

Action Learning Plan for _____ Church Name _____ January 2009

What's your church's plan...

| PURPOSE | DREAM | <u>OBSTACLE</u> <u>BARRIER</u> | ACTION |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------|
| ... For Connecting (Fellowship) | | | |
| ... For Growing (Discipleship) | | | |
| ... For Serving (Ministry) | | | |
| ... For Reaching (Evangelism) | | | |
| ... For Worshipping (Worship) | | | |

MY CHURCH GAME PLAN

FELLOWSHIP

| ASPECT OF FELLOWSHIP | CRAWL | WALK | RUN |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Connecting People | <p><i>Individual strategy:</i> Have a one by one plan to get people connected into groups.</p> | <p><i>Connection strategy:</i> For those already attending your church, hold an event to connect the unconnected into a new or existing group.</p> | <p><i>HOST strategy:</i> Pick a time on the church calendar to do a church wide campaign such as 40 Days of Purpose or Community. Think of even repeating 40 Days of Purpose if it's been awhile.</p> |
| Influencing Your Church Culture | <p><i>Form a Small Group Team:</i> Start to rally a group of people around you so that you are not championing small groups on your own. These people can be volunteers who have the same passion as you.</p> | <p><i>Be an influencer:</i> Whether in your church as members or on the church staff build relationships with those people who hold a stake in where the church is headed. Remember, relationships build trust which allows you to speak truth.</p> | <p><i>The Senior Pastor:</i> Build a relationship with your Senior Pastor or senior leadership in the church. I know this sounds funny, but take them to lunch, build a relationship before you sell your passion of groups. Seek to understand before you want to be understood.</p> |
| Communicating the Value of Groups | <p><i>Touch points:</i> Make sure you're doing the basics of church announcements about groups, plugs from the teaching pastor, bulletin presence, web presence, and a small group table after the services for someone to be able to chat to a real person.</p> | <p><i>Testimonies:</i> Have testimonies in the service of people who God has changed their lives through small groups. Remember the pastor is the salesperson and the testimony is the satisfied customer... you need both.</p> | <p><i>Timely sermon series on calendar:</i> If and when you have the relationship, see if you can speak into a sermon series focused on groups or strategically connecting people at seasonal times (i.e January—New Year Groups; Mother's Day—New Moms Groups; Father's Day—New Dad's Groups, etc...think like Hallmark!</p> |
| Measuring your Progress | <p><i>Track Hosts:</i> Track Hosts with a spreadsheet (like Excel) in a database to know the Leaders.</p> | <p><i>Track Members:</i> Track the Hosts and members of groups to know who is connected.</p> | <p><i>Track Development:</i> Track the details of the groups to know the developmental next steps of individuals and groups.</p> |

MY CHURCH GAME PLAN

DISCIPLESHIP

| ASPECT OF DISCIPLESHIP | CRAWL | WALK | RUN |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Small Group Member | <p><i>Model a Purpose Driven Life:</i> Use the Spiritual Health Assessment and Spiritual Health Planner on your life first. Let people see the change in you before you ask them to be a better disciple... it's called modeling.</p> | <p><i>Implement the Spiritual Health Assessment and Planner in the small group community:</i> Get all the Hosts to model and use the Spiritual Health Planner and bring it to their small group members.</p> | <p><i>Implement Spiritual Partners in the small group community:</i> Get every small group member to set up Spiritual Partners so that no one stands alone in life.</p> |
| Small Group Host and Community Leaders | <p><i>Curriculum strategy:</i> If curriculum shapes groups, then be intentional about what you want them to study. Have the first, second and third year of suggested curriculum that would help their groups to be healthy.</p> | <p><i>Leadership pathway:</i> Every Host and Leader needs to know where you want them to go, developmentally and spiritually; so make sure you give them the path you want them to take. At Saddleback, we use the Small Group Leadership Development Pathway so everyone is clear.</p> | <p><i>Flattened infrastructure:</i> Span of care of your groups will make or break your Small Group Ministry AND set you up to retain new groups or lose them. What's your infrastructure going to look like and what are you going to ask Hosts to become and Community Leaders to do?</p> |
| Small Group Meeting | <p><i>Balanced:</i> What do you want to grow your people into? Each Host needs a clear picture of what that looks like. At Saddleback, it's someone who is balancing the purposes in their heart.</p> | <p><i>Becoming:</i> Discipleship doesn't stop with the individual. We need a value of discipling our Hosts to disciple people.</p> | <p><i>Being:</i> In today's culture it's all about "doing". To grow our people, they need to be exposed to spiritual disciplines, nurturing their soul, developing character, etc.</p> |
| Small Group Tools and Resources | <p><i>Surveys:</i> Use surveys to learn and know how well you are helping the people to grow spiritually.</p> | <p><i>CLASS system:</i> Implement the CLASSes (101-401) to help your groups understand the purposes.</p> | <p><i>Experiential:</i> Quarterly expose groups to a solitude exercise or prayer walking as a way to develop discipleship.</p> |

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MINISTRY

| ASPECT OF MINISTRY | CRAWL | WALK | RUN |
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| Serving in the Group | <p><i>Round out the Leader:</i> Set a goal that is simplistic but developing. Such as if you have 10 Hosts, pray for 10 Future Hosts to be developed.</p> | <p><i>Roles for everyone:</i> Every person gravitates toward one of the biblical purposes. Set a goal that every group “informally” has the purposes owned in the groups. Don’t bog it down with reporting, but trust the Host.</p> | <p><i>Rotate leadership:</i> Through subgrouping, give people in the group the opportunity to lead a small portion of the study. Good Leaders are always developed in the groups not the classes.</p> |
| Serving in the Church | <p><i>In the individuals:</i> Through a study or each one going to CLASS 301, help each person in the group know their SHAPE and where they are using their giftedness in the church.</p> | <p><i>In the groups:</i> Have each group own caring for the basic needs of the group (i.e. shared babysitting to enhance the couple or single parent; someone sick, take them to the doctor; team up to help someone with a task they need done at their house, etc.). Have groups learn the value of serving the body together (i.e. helping the church out at Easter, do a task for the church as a group, etc.).</p> | <p><i>In the church:</i> Help your church learn how to celebrate servant hood. It doesn’t have to be fancy, but it needs to be done. Gratification is the fuel for servant hood. Honor those who volunteer.</p> |
| Providing Opportunities | <p><i>Spontaneous opportunities:</i> These are ways to serve the church family in the community at anytime on any day. For example, rake leaves for an elderly member of your church, watch the kids of a single mom so she can go shopping, or bring a meal to a widow.</p> | <p><i>Seasonal opportunities:</i> These are ways to serve the church family during special events like Christmas and Easter.</p> | <p><i>Short-term opportunities:</i> These are ways to serve the church family on campus during weekends.</p> |

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EVANGELISM

| ASPECT OF EVANGELISM | CRAWL | WALK | RUN |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Personal P.E.A.C.E. | <p><i>Map your neighborhood:</i> Challenge each group to map their neighborhood; label who lives in each house and their spiritual temperature. Then have them pray for their neighbors as they would pray for their family.</p> | <p><i>Outreach event:</i> This is as simple as challenging the groups to be like Jesus — hang out with those who don't know the Lord (Mark 2:15-17). Exposure to nonbelievers is an education beyond a study in your small group. What event could your Small Group Ministry host or go to?</p> | <p><i>Share your faith:</i> From having groups practice writing their testimony to sharing it with the group — it's the old statement "practice makes perfect", so why not use the group time to practice. Then comes the prayer time to have God open an opportunity for people to share what they are practicing!</p> |
| Numerical Growth | <p><i>Group growth:</i> Let groups grow as large as they can by sub-grouping and honoring ratios of 1:10. Make a list of who they could invite to the next study.</p> | <p><i>New group growth:</i> Plan on the calendar when you want to launch new groups off a weekend message. Make sure you target new Hosts before the launch.</p> | <p><i>Exponential growth:</i> What's a goal for new groups that you are comfortable with, then add a zero and start the journey of faith with God on how He is going to make that happen. Our 40 Days of Purpose Kit will help you plan and meet this God goal.</p> |
| P.E.A.C.E. Strategy | <p><i>Introducing P.E.A.C.E.:</i> Have groups own an Unreached People Group or area of the globe to pray over, learn about and maybe some day visit.</p> <p>For more information see link http://www.saddlebackfamily.net/peace/ or call 949-609-8400 or email peace@saddleback.net</p> | <p><i>Local P.E.A.C.E.:</i> Have your groups work with your Missions Team to help do P.E.A.C.E. in your local community. This could be a one time project, but helps the group reach out together.</p> <p>For more information see link http://www.saddlebackfamily.net/peace/ or call 949-609-8400 or email peace@saddleback.net</p> | <p><i>Global P.E.A.C.E.:</i> This is where small groups link up with other small groups to travel together to do P.E.A.C.E. overseas.</p> <p>For more information see link http://www.saddlebackfamily.net/peace/ or call 949-609-8400 or email peace@saddleback.net</p> |

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WORSHIP

| ASPECT OF WORSHIP | CRAWL | WALK | RUN |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Weekend Alignment | <i>Senior Pastor buy in:</i> Find out where your pastor is with small groups as the delivery system for health in your church. From that point you know where to start your prayer and relational building to help bring Acts 5:42 to your church (Temple Courts—Weekend Services and House to House—Small Groups). | <i>Program alignment:</i> List out the programs you have on the weekend and throughout the week and see what “is” and “isn’t” aligned to bring health and balance through groups. What steps need to be taken to help your church people know the system for health? | <i>Confessional preaching:</i> If we want our people to be real, it needs to start from the top. People are more endeared to us through our weakness than strength. Pray for the pastor to use personal experiences through his small group in his messages so people see him as a real person verses someone to put on a pedestal. |
| Loving God | <i>Prayer Team:</i> Get a group of people who believe in the power of prayer to intercede with you for the obstacles that are before you. | <i>Engage groups in the presence of God:</i> Give your group leader good books to read such as The Pursuit of God by Tozer and Desiring God by Piper for spiritual development. | <i>Testimonies in services of “God moments”:</i> Have a testimony from a group on a “God Moment”. The super-natural isn’t all signs and wonders, but so often we are scared to share what God is doing in those “God Moments”. Be professional, but be real about what God has done. |
| Your Surrender and Call | <i>Absolute surrender:</i> What does God want you to surrender? We all have an achilles heal. What will bring you closer to God as the Point Person for Groups which will in turn bring you closer to the cause? | <i>Your call:</i> Go back to John 21:15ff and read this passage. To do Small Group Ministry takes a “calling” to a church. What will help remind you that your “calling” wasn’t a mistake? | <i>Stay focused:</i> We all have 168 hours a week. We all pour 40+ hours a week into our ministry. Are you using your hours the best way possible as the Point Person and the primary support for Small Group Ministry at your church? Just for fun, take an accounting of your hours. Where are they going? Are they spent on groups? Are they used the most strategically? |
| Worship | <i>Weekend:</i> Have small groups sit together at the weekend services regularly. | <i>Group:</i> Have a night of worship to bring groups together for corporate worship. There doesn’t have to be a sermon, but time to reflect on the God. | <i>Experiential:</i> Quarterly expose the Small Group Ministry to experiences such as communion, foot washing, nailing sins to a cross, etc. |

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Did You Know...?

68 % of employed adult Americans surveyed said an incentive program would cause them to set, and then work toward, job-related goals. 70 % of employees who planned to make job-related resolutions say those goals include increasing workplace productivity, while 52 % want to improve their attitudes. 69 % of employees setting goals say an ongoing company-sponsored incentive program would keep them motivated throughout the year.

Source: American Express Incentive Services

The Ten Commandments of Goal Setting

-By Gary Ryan Blair

Commandment #1: Thou Shall Be Decisive!

The difference between what one person and another achieves depends more on goal choices than on abilities. The profound differences between successful people and others are the goals they choose to pursue. Individuals with similar talents, intelligence, and abilities will achieve different results because they select and pursue different goals.

Commandment #2: Thou Shall Stay Focused!

Focus creates a powerful force: goal power. The moment you focus on a goal, your goal becomes a magnet, pulling you and your resources toward it. The more focused your energies, the more power you generate. There is a seismic shift in performance that takes place when you move from decisiveness to focus.

Commandment #3: Thou Shall Write Down Thy Goals!

Writing challenges thought. When you write a goal, you actually see what you're thinking. You have a target to aim for... something that takes shape and grows legs. By writing your goals, you take a step toward achieving them. Goals not written down fall victim to the "out of sight... out of mind" phenomenon!

Commandment #4: Thou Shall Plan Thoroughly!

You can virtually guarantee your success in any endeavor if you know who you are, what you want, where you are going, how you will get there, and what you will do once you arrive. Planning before you act helps you to do things better, faster, and cheaper!

Commandment #5: Thou Shall Involve Others!

It is your prime responsibility to acquire useful knowledge from others and to apply it appropriately. You don't have to reinvent the wheel. It behooves you to do your homework, to read, and to converse with others who have first-hand knowledge based on actual experience. Shortening your learning curve saves buckets of blood, sweat, tears, time, and money.

Commandment #6: Thou Shall Welcome Failure!

People are naive about the benefits of failure. Wrongly founded assumptions about failure replace potentially accurate assessments of what is necessary to achieve success. Failure, which spends much of its life in the gulag of public perception, is, by all measures, essential to success.

Commandment #7: Thou Shall Take Purposeful Action!

In real estate, it's location, location, location. In goal-setting it's action, action, action! You can't just stick out your thumb and hitchhike your way to success. You've got to roll up your sleeves and do the work that needs to be done. The acid test of goal setting is purposeful action.

Commandment #8: Thou Shall Inspect What Thou Expect!

The purpose of measuring performance and inspecting expectations is to improve performance. You must know how you are performing the "must do" actions necessary to achieve your goals. Inspecting expectations allows you to know what you are looking for before you actually see it!

Commandment #9: Thou Shall Reward Thyself!

A goal, once achieved, symbolizes commitment, concentration, and courage, and it deserves to be rewarded. A reward provides an effective but uncomplicated means of reinforcing the actions most important to success. Rewards are reminders of our potential for achievement. We should reward ourselves daily for small accomplishments; this simple act becomes fuel for future achievement.

Commandment #10: Thou Shall Maintain Personal Integrity!

Personal integrity is the countdown clock of your goal. It starts ticking the second you begin and stops when you achieve the goal or quit. The "Promised Land" is for those who exercise personal integrity.

Personal integrity means maintaining a commitment to your commitment. It's about setting a goal and keeping your promise to achieve it...end of story!