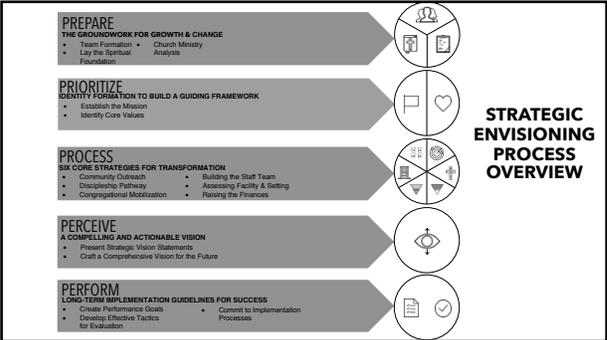


Developing a Biblical Mission for Your Ministry

THE FELLOWSHIP || EASTON, MA



Implementation

This mission material provides much of the information that the **Communication Implementation Team** needs to make sure that the church's mission is regularly communicated to its people.

Overview

THREE CRITICAL QUESTIONS

- Where are we?
 - Church Analysis
 - Core Values
- Where do we want to go?
 - Mission
 - Vision
- How will we get there?
 - Strategy

Mission Quiz

1. Do you have a contagious, biblical mission that serves as a compass to navigate your church through change?
2. Do you habitually consult your mission when making any and all decisions that affect the future of your church?

Mission Quiz

3. If I visited your church this Sunday and asked several people what is the mission of your church, what would their answer be?
4. What is success? How do you measure success? Are you a successful church?
5. What is **God's will** for your church? How do you know?

What You Said

21 responses to the question:
"What is the Church's mission?"

"Building up one another for work of Christ in the world."	13 Respondents
The Great Commission or a modified version such as "be witnesses"	6 Respondents
"To know and make him known"	1 Respondent
"Equip saints for work of ministry"	1 Respondent

- ### Session on Mission
- In this session we will:
- Discover why a mission is so important.
 - Learn the definition of a mission.
 - Identify the Church's mission.
 - Critique several mission statements.
 - Develop/Embrace a mission statement.
 - Learn ways to communicate your mission.

Mission Question

FUNDAMENTAL QUESTION

What is **God's mission mandate** for your church?

Importance of a Mission

Importance of a Mission

You'll never do ministry that really matters until you clearly articulate what matters.

Importance of a Mission

"What matters is not the leader's charisma. What matters is **the leader's mission**. Therefore, **the first job of the leader** is to think through and define the mission of the institution."

Peter F. Drucker, Managing the Non-Profit Organization, p. 3

Importance of a Mission

Colin Powell says:

"Great leaders articulate what the mission is... And they articulate that in a simple way. Then the question becomes, 'Does the leader believe in the mission so much that he or she will pursue it selflessly?'"

Brian Duffy, "The Kid of No Promise,"
U.S. News and World Report, Oct. 31, 2005, p. 36

Importance of a Mission

1. Dictates the ministry's direction.
2. Formulates the ministry's function.
3. Focuses on its future.
4. Provides boundaries for decision making.
5. Inspires ministry unity.

Importance of a Mission

6. Enhances ministry effectiveness.
7. Provides the church with its focus.
8. Facilitates evaluation.
9. Defines success.

Definition of a Mission

Definition of a Mission

- What it's not
- What it is

Definition of a Mission

PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

The mission of the church is **not** the same as the purpose of the church.

The purpose of the church is to glorify God.
(Rom. 15:6, 1 Cor. 6:20, 10:31)

Definition of a Mission

	PURPOSE	MISSION
Question	Why do we exist?	What are we supposed to be doing?
Scope	Broad	Narrow
Intent	To glorify God	To make disciples
Focus	God	Man
Usage	External	Internal/External

Definition of a Mission

What a Mission Is

- A mission is a brief biblical statement of Christ's mandate for your church.
- The mission is an "umbrella statement" (all biblical commands fit under it).
- The mission is **brief** - "short." How short?
 - Short enough to fit on a T-shirt (Drucker)
 - Short enough to be memorable
 - The Bible even used ONE WORD mission statements!

Definition of a Mission

Question:
What is Christ's will for your church (His **mandate**)?

Answer:
The **Great Commission**
(*Matt. 28:19-20; Mk. 16:15; Luke 24:46-48; Acts 1:8*)

But what is the Great Commission?

The Great Commission

Mat. 28:19-20 - Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you.

The Great Commission

- Mark 16:15 - Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.
- Luke 24:47-48 - repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things.
- Acts 1:8 - you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

The Great Commission

Scripture	Who	What	To Whom	How	Where
Mt.28:19-20	Disciples	"Go, make disciples!"	All Nations	Baptizing and teaching	—
Mk. 16:15	Disciples	"Go, preach good news!"	All Creation	—	All the world
Lk. 24:46-48	Disciples	"(Be) witnesses!"	All nations	Preaching	Beginning from Jerusalem
Acts 1:8	Disciples	"Be witnesses!"	—	With power	Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, etc.

Definition of a Mission

GREAT COMMISSION

- Three of the four Great Commission passages clearly mandate/emphasize evangelism.
- "Go, preach good news (gospel)!" (Mk. 16:15)
- "(Be) witnesses!" (Luke 24:46-48)
- "Be witnesses!" (Acts 1:8)

Definition of a Mission

What about the Matt. 28:19-20 passage?

It also **emphasizes evangelism but adds edification** (Christian growth).

"Go and **make disciples** of all nations, **baptizing** (evangelism) them and **teaching** (edification) them to obey everything ..." Matt. 28:19-20

Definition of a Disciple

The Mission Mandate: "Make disciples!"

But what is a disciple?

Disciple Quiz

DIRECTIONS

On the next slide in your handout is a Quiz. Mark the statements as True or False on that slide.

Disciple Quiz

1. A disciple is a growing Christian. ____
2. A disciple is a Christian, but a Christian may not be a disciple. ____

Disciple Quiz

CONCLUSION

A disciple is a Christian!

He/she may or may not be a *growing* Christian.
(Acts 6:1-2, 7; 9:1, 26; 11:26; 14:21-22; 15:10; 18:23; 19:9.)



Disciple Quiz

A disciple is a Christian!

“. . .The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.”

Acts 11:26



Disciple Quiz

A disciple is a Christian!

“They preached the good news in that city and won a large number of disciples.”

Acts 14:21



Disciple Quiz

So, disciples are Christians. But...

What is discipleship?



Discipleship Quiz

DIRECTIONS

On the next couple of slides in your handout is another Quiz. Mark the statements as True or False on the slides.



Discipleship Quiz

1. Discipleship is important and should be one of the ministries in the church. ____
2. The only way to disciple a person is for a more mature Christian to take that person under his/her wing and help them to grow in Christ. ____
3. Pastors should focus primarily on discipling those who are serious about Christianity. ____



Discipleship Quiz

4. Discipleship involves the edification of the saints, not the evangelism of lost sinners. ____
5. Discipleship is accomplished by a few in the church who are trained to disciple those who are serious about their commitment to Christ. ____
6. We first win people to Christ and then disciple them. ____

Definition of a Discipleship

DISCIPLESHIP

- The most common definition: Discipleship is Christian growth (through Bible study and more).
- Examples?

Definition of a Discipleship

DISCIPLESHIP = EVANGELISM

- Discipleship involves evangelism.
- Biblical Evidence: Acts 6:1-2, 7; 9:1, 26; 11:26; 14:21-22; 15:10; 18:23; 19:9.

Definition of a Discipleship

DISCIPLESHIP = EDIFICATION

- “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, . . . teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” Matt. 28:20
- “Then Jesus said to his disciples, ‘If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.’” Matt. 16:24

Definition of a Discipleship

DISCIPLESHIP SUMMARY

Discipleship = Evangelism + Edification

Belief in Christ	Growth in Christ
Make disciples	Mature disciples
Present Christ	Pursue Christ

Definition of a Mission

The Mission Question

Will you be a church with a mission statement or will you be a church on mission?

What’s the difference?

Kinds of Missions

Kinds of Missions

Correct vs. an Incorrect Mission

1. The mission is to teach the Bible?
2. The mission is to take care of people?
3. The mission is to worship God?

Kinds of Missions

Correct vs. an Incorrect Mission

4. The mission of the church is to serve?
5. The mission is to feed the hungry?
6. The mission of the church is to keep everyone happy?

Kinds of Missions

Correct vs. an Incorrect Mission

The mission is to make disciples!

Development of a Mission Statement

Development of a Mission

FOUR STEPS

Step 1: Determine the Church's mission.

- It's the Great Commission (Mt. 28:19-20).
- (It must be at the core of the statement.)

Development of a Mission

FOUR STEPS

Step 2: Articulate the mission in writing.

- Write it down.

Development of Missions

FOUR STEPS

Step 3: Clarify and simplify your mission (mission clarity)

- Use language everyone can understand & is biblically accurate.
- Avoid unfamiliar biblical terms: disciple, glorify, holy, kingdom, etc. ("Christianeze", church talk).
- Use terms that are memorable

Development of a Mission

Step 3: Clarify and simplify your mission (cont'd)

AN EXAMPLE

"Our mission is to turn lost people into Christ's disciples."
or

"Our mission is to turn lost people into fully devoted followers of Christ."
Willow Creek

Development of a Mission

FOUR STEPS

Step 4: Keep it short and simple.

- Say more by saying less!
- How short? Drucker: "Short enough to fit on a T-shirt!"
- Short enough to fit on a business card
- Why? To remember it!



"And that, in a nutshell, is our mission statement. Any questions?"

Development of a Mission

"The mission of Dallas Seminary as a professional, graduate-level school is to prepare men and women for ministry as godly servant leaders in the body of Christ worldwide. By blending instruction in the Scriptures from our doctrinal perspective with training in ministry skills, the Seminary seeks to produce graduates who do the work of evangelism, edify believers, and equip others by proclaiming and applying God's Word in the power of the Holy Spirit."

Development of a Mission

"The mission of Dallas Seminary as a professional, graduate-level school **is to prepare men and women for ministry as godly servant leaders in the body of Christ worldwide.** By blending instruction in the Scriptures from our doctrinal perspective with training in ministry skills, the Seminary seeks to produce graduates who do the work of evangelism, edify believers, and equip others by proclaiming and applying God's Word in the power of the Holy Spirit."

Development of a Mission

"We exist to prepare godly servant leaders for the ministry of the Scriptures worldwide." (14)

(Short enough to fit on a business card!)

Development of a Mission

OPTIONS

- If you have a mission statement (you do!):
 - Critique/correct it
 - Start over
- If you don't have a mission statement:
 - Adopt an existing one
 - Tweak an existing one
 - Create one

Development of a Mission

SAMPLE MISSION STATEMENTS

- Directions: Critique each and mark the ones you like. Circle the number of the one you like best. (The one that "grabs" or excites you.)

Development of a Mission

CRITERIA FOR CRITIQUE

1. Is the Great Commission at its core? (Both: evangelism + edification)
2. Is it biblical?
3. Is it clear? (Understandable?)
4. Is it short & simple: T-shirt Test/Business Card Test? (Memorable?)

Development of a Mission

1. Our mission is to turn irreligious people into fully devoted followers of Christ."
Willow Creek Community Church
2. "Connecting people in authentic relationships that lead to spiritual transformation"
Watermark Community Church

Development of a Mission

3. "Our mission is to grow people into completely committed Christ-followers."
Harvest Church, Billings, Montana
4. "Our mission is to patiently pursue persistently prodigal people."

Development of a Mission

5. "We exist to help people discover Jesus and find their place in His story."
Discovery Church, Bristol, TN

6. "To take all people on the journey of following and becoming more like Christ."
City of Refuge Church, Houston, TX

Development of a Mission

7. "Making God known by making disciples who are changed by God to change their world."
Pantego Bible Church

8. "Our mission is to fulfill the Great Commission through the Great Commandment."
Saddleback Valley Community Church

Development of a Mission

9. "Our mission is to follow and make followers of Jesus Christ."
Emanuel and Jelena Ralevic, Luka Batinic

10. "Our mission is to passionately follow and make followers of Jesus Christ."
Kirby Memorial Baptist Church

Development of a Mission

11. "Our mission is that every man, woman, and child in greater Austin hear the gospel from the lips of someone at Hill Country Bible Church."
Hill Country Bible Church

12. "Our mission is to develop all people into fully functioning followers of Christ."
Grace Brethren Church

Development of a Mission

13. "... to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ."
North Point Church-Stanley

14. "We exist to protect and defend the 1611 version of the Bible."
Huisache Baptist Church

15. "Sharing Christ•Building believers"
Lake Pointe Church

Development of a Mission

16. "Know - Follow - Share Jesus Christ"
Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, TX

17. "To Make, Mature, and Multiply disciples of Jesus."
Tate Springs Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, TX

Development of a Mission

18. "Reach•Build•Release, to make Christ known"
Greater Deliverance, Inglewood, CA

19. "Knowing the Savior & Making Him Known"
Abiding Savior Free Lutheran Church, SD

Development of a Mission

1. Which mission statements did you like?
2. Of these - which one do you like the most?

Development of a Mission

TIME-OUT: GUT CHECK QUESTIONS

1. What is The Fellowship supposed to be doing?
2. What is The Fellowship actually doing?
3. Why is The Fellowship not doing what you are supposed to be doing?
4. What will it take for you to change and do what you are supposed to be doing?

Development of a Mission

"Building up one another in love for the work of Christ in the world."

Development of a Mission

CRITERIA FOR CRITIQUE

1. Is the Great Commission at its core?
(Both: evangelism + edification)
2. Is it biblical?
3. Is it clear? (Understandable?)
4. Is it short & simple: T-shirt Test/Business Card Test?
(Memorable?)

Development of a Mission

OPTIONS

- If you have a mission statement (you do!):
 - Critique/correct it
 - Start over
- If you don't have a mission statement:
 - Adopt an existing one
 - Tweak an existing one
 - Create one

Definition of a Mission

The Mission Question

Will you be a church with a mission statement or will you be a church on mission?

What's the difference? Ownership!

Communication of the Mission

Communication of the Mission

1. First, you must communicate your mission to the congregation or the mission may not happen!
2. So the question is, "How will you communicate your mission?"
3. Answer: You need a plan.

Communication Plan

1. What should be communicated?
2. Who should communicate it? (Pastor, staff person, team, congregation, etc.)
3. Who needs to know (church, staff, etc.)
4. When? (Immediately, one month, two months, etc.)

Communication Plan

5. How? (Sermon, announcement, bulletin, web site, newsletter, etc.)*
6. Where? (Worship, Sunday school, New Members Class, etc.)
7. How often? (Regularly, monthly, quarterly, annually, etc.)
8. Why? (Builds congregational trust!)

Communication of the Mission

WAYS TO COMMUNICATE MISSION

- Your life
- Word of mouth
- Preaching/teaching
- Website
- Business cards
- T-shirt
- Flyers on windshields

Communication of the Mission

WAYS TO COMMUNICATE MISSION

- __ Banners
- __ Logo
- __ Song
- __ Creative Videos
- __ Congregational recitation
- __ Visitor's class
- __ New member's class

Communication of the Mission

WAYS TO COMMUNICATE MISSION

- __ Framed document mounted on a wall
- __ Information station
- __ Pencils, coffee cups, etc.
- __ Wrist bands
- __ Bulletins
- __ Newsletters
- __ Wallet-scrap of paper

Questions?