



### BEFORE YOU START

Begin by working through a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) exercise. SWOT is a helpful analytical framework to get your mind and heart in the right place as you begin. Answer the following questions with your team.

What are the strengths of your ministry?

What are the weaknesses of your ministry?

What opportunities do you have before you?

What are the threats to the fruitfulness of your ministry?

What are you hoping to change?

## 1 TIMELINE

Use this timeline to plan important events and keep up on important dates. Fill in the next 5 months in the rectangles below the timeline.  
 What are events you are planning? • What outreaches do you need to make note of? • Are there any conferences you want to attend? • Do you have any deadlines that need to be remembered? • Do you need to make note of any funding projects or appeals? • Are there any leadership meetings you need to schedule?



## 2 MEET NEW PEOPLE

As we think about advancing our ministry's events and programs, we need to be sure we consider the ways we will meet new people. This could be about meeting new non-Christians for evangelistic reasons, new team mates for leadership reasons, new microchurch members for growing your microchurch, new potential donors for funding reason, etc. Use the space below to describe the ways you'll set out to network.

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- ②
- ③
- ④
- ⑤

Need more ideas? Here is a list of ideas that might help:

- start going to a coffee shop and talking to the regulars*
- join a gym and introduce yourself to those who go at the same time as you*
- prayer walk the same area frequently and see if God moves you in some direction*
- join a club*
- find a pick-up game somewhere in the city*
- start networking at work*
- visit the same park frequently and talk to the regulars*
- attend small groups*
- attend morning breakfasts*
- business lunches*
- other church events*

## 3 CHECK-IN

It is important to find another leader or elder to keep you accountable as you set out to see your plans through. Who will be your community of peers to hold you accountable to seeing through this plan?

When will you check in with this person or people?

# 4

## GOALS

Use this place to write out your goals for the semester. Be sure to begin and continue through this time prayerfully, ask Jesus along the way to guide your heart and mind as you think and discern how to carry out your goals. Try dividing your goals into categories (i.e. outreach, discipleship, funding, training). Be sure to make your goals SMART. This means you need to make them:

S - Specific (not 'Do outreach' but 'Reach out to the baristas at Starbucks')

M - Measurable (not 'Mentor people' but 'Mentor 2 new potential leaders')

A - Assignable (not 'Send thank you cards,' but 'Sarah will send thank you cards')

R - Realistic (not 'Share the Gospel with my entire neighborhood' but 'Share the Gospel with the 5 houses on my street')

T - Timely (not 'Start the new program,' but 'Start the new program by May')

**End your time prayer.** Ask Jesus if any of these need to be removed or changed. Prayerfully review what you have written down.

# 5

## TO-DO LIST

Based on all the goals you just created, create a to-do list to help you accomplish them.

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# 6

## PRAYER PLAN

We plant our churches in the physical and work in the world, but we also wrestle "against rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places." (Ephesians 6:12) If we want to see victory and fruit in our ministries, we must be praying without ceasing. (1 Thess. 5:17) What is your plan to pray through this coming season?