



start something

Get started with your new idea

BEFORE YOU START

Summarize your idea here.

How did you come up with this idea?

If you have a name for your microchurch, write it below.

If you have a team, list each person below.

As you begin this time, spend some time in prayer and listen to what God might be saying. Place your notes below.

1

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?

2

MISSION FIELD INVENTORY

Continue to develop your new idea by thinking through your missional context.

1. Who/Where do you feel called to?
2. What needs/problems do you see around you?
3. What are the underlying causes to these problems?
4. What ways could you address and respond to these needs?
5. Could you see any possible negative impact to the response you’re approaching?
6. What resources would you use? (ie bible study methods, programs, etc.) Some you may already have, some may need to be borrowed, some may need to be developed.
7. Who else is working in this field? What would a partnership look like?
8. How will you know when you have accomplished what you’ve set out to do?
9. If our microchurch ceased to exist, our mission field would be worse off because...

3

VISION STATEMENT

Now, develop a statement that will help guide you along your future decision making.

1. A vision statement is your desired end-state. It's a one-sentence statement describing the clear and inspirational long-term desired change resulting from an organization or program's work. Look over the following examples and notice aspects you like, dislike, trends between a few or multiple statements, sentence structures, etc. Generate some ideas from them.
2. Think through any scripture that might help guide your creative process and direct you towards where you should go.
3. Consider any words that definitely need to find their way into your vision statement.
4. Start by placing a vision statement prototype below. Then, have your team prayerfully review, searching for the right phrasing until the vision statement resonates to each person on the team.

Oxfam: A just world without poverty (5 words)

Human Rights Campaign: Equality for everyone (3)

Alzheimer's Association: Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's (7)

Habitat for Humanity: A world where everyone has a decent place to live. (10)

San Diego Zoo: To become a world leader at connecting people to wildlife and conservation. (12)

The Nature Conservancy: Our vision is to leave a sustainable world for future generations. (11)

In Touch Ministries: Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ to people in every country of the world. (14)

World Vision: For every child, life in all its fullness; Our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so (19)

Teach for America: One day, all children in this nation will have the opportunity to attain an excellent education. (16)

Cleveland Clinic: Striving to be the world's leader in patient experience, clinical outcomes, research and education. (14)

WWF: We seek to save a planet, a world of life. Reconciling the needs of human beings and the needs of others that share the Earth... (25)

Save the Children: Our vision is a world in which every child attains the right to survival, protection, development and participation. (18)

Kiva: We envision a world where all people – even in the most remote areas of the globe – hold the power to create opportunity for themselves and others. (26)

Boy Scouts of America: To prepare every eligible youth in America to become a responsible, participating citizen and leader who is guided by the Scout Oath and Law. (24)

charity: water believes that we can end the water crisis in our lifetime by ensuring that every person on the planet has access to life's most basic need — clean drinking water. (28)

Clinton Foundation: To implement sustainable programs that improve access worldwide to investment, opportunity, and lifesaving services now and for future generations. (19)

Special Olympics: To transform communities by inspiring people throughout the world to open their minds, accept and include people with intellectual disabilities and thereby anyone who is perceived as different. (28)

Creative Commons: Our vision is nothing less than realizing the full potential of the Internet — universal access to research and education, full participation in culture — to drive a new era of development, growth, and productivity. (33)

Amnesty International: Amnesty International's vision is of a world in which every person enjoys all of the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments. (31)

4

THINK THROUGH YOUR STRATEGY

It is important to have an idea of where you're going to go and how you plan to get there. Work through the following questions to come up with a strategy.

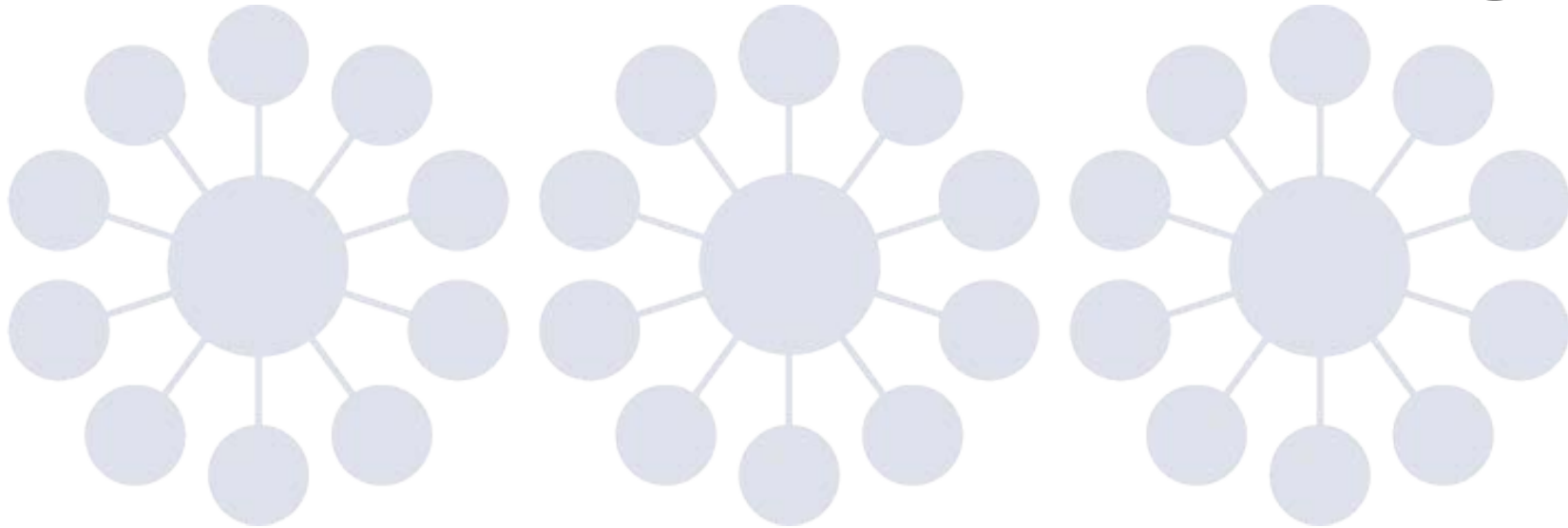
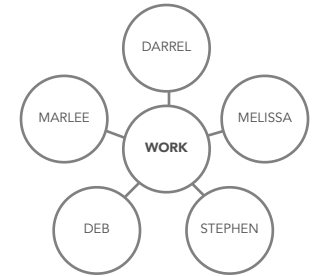
1. Where is your ministry right now? What systems/plans/elements do you have in place (ie small group meeting, small business, etc)?
2. Where do you want to go? What do you want to achieve? What is your dream for the context your serving in? What is your vision? If your ministry field/context could be called "perfect" what would it look like?
3. What sort of things do you need to set in place to get you where you'd like to be?
4. From what you learned from Step 1, what is the best way to reach/serve this group of people/place?
5. What are the values you want to pass along?
6. How will you best go about passing on these values?
7. What sort of elements (small groups, large groups, events, 1-on-1 meetings, programs, resources, etc) do you plan on utilizing to achieve your vision?
8. Write a brief but thorough paragraph describing your method and strategy for reaching this group of people. Be sure to make it clear how you plan to grow your microchurch and work toward your vision statement.
9. How is your ministry different from others that are similar?

5

NETWORK MAPPING HELP

Take a moment to work through to complete this exercise to begin identifying some partners and members of your ministry.

- Start by thinking through the different places you are connected to (work, coffee shop, sports league, etc.)
- Map out the people in those settings who might be interested in hearing about this church plant.
- Consider the people they might be connected to who you don't personally know.
- Try to stay away from people who are already serving with a current community or microchurch.



6

PROGRESS

Identify where you are on this rough timeline. This should help you see where you are, what you've already accomplished and where you might need to go next. Place yourself and then come up with your next moves.

