

## PLANNING FOR RESULTS

### Materials:

- 3M Stick-up poster
- 3X5 Sticky notes
- Plenty of pencils or pens to go around

### 1. DETERMINE DIRECTION

#### FOR THOSE WHO DID PRAYER WALKS OR DRIVES:

If you have recently participated in one or more prayer walks or drives, review the things you noticed and prayed about. Remember your walk or drive. Where did you go? What did you see? **Write each thing that comes to mind on a separate sticky note.**

- What captures your attention?
- What people?
- What tragedies or losses?
- What tensions or conflicts?
- What's happening in local government?
- What about community organizations?
- The school system?
- The elderly?
- The poor?
- Those of another ethnic background?
- What jumps out at you?

#### FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT RECENTLY PARTICIPATED IN A PRAYER WALK OR DRIVE:

Take a mental tour of your community.

Take ten minutes, and in mind's eye, drive down the streets of your town or the roads of your rural area. Do it specifically.

Visualize driving or walking in a loop that starts at your home or church and then returns to your starting point.

Write down the streets or roads you're traveling. What comes to mind as you think about this? **Write each thing that comes to mind on a separate sticky note.**

- What people?
- What tragedies or losses?
- What tensions or conflicts?
- What's happening in local government?
- What about community organizations?
- The school system?
- The elderly?
- The poor?
- Those of another ethnic background?
- What jumps out at you?

## **2. FIND COMMON THEMES**

Answer the question: "What can we do to address this need?" Now, all of you

1. **Stick** the notes to the larger sheet and take it to the wall.
2. **Rearrange** the notes according to themes that emerge work together...talk.
3. **Write** those themes across the top of the page and move all the sticky notes that apply under each theme.
4. Do any of the themes have more notes than others? What might that tell you about the leading of the Holy Spirit in your group?
5. **Discuss** the results and expand your understandings by asking each other to clarify the proposed solutions.
6. **Agree** upon a length of time you will take in each of your upcoming leadership meetings to review and ask the question: "What might ministry look like in this or these areas?" Between now and then, make a commitment to think and pray each day about the direction your ministry should take in that area.
7. **Next meeting:** Do the sticky notes again to see what has changed or what progress you've made in your thinking.
8. When you have narrowed the conversation to the one most prominent issue that you believe should be addressed and you have one or more good approaches, then go to the **action planning stage** (Next Page).

**Note: You may need to go through this process several times to allow the Lord to give clarity to your leadership team.**

### 3. ACTION PLANNING

The preceding exercise may need to be done several times over a period of months in order to learn what God is saying to your leadership team about the direction you should take. Once you are settled on a general plan, more specific plans need to be put in place. This simple tool will help you progress in clear, efficient ways.

Our Task or Final Goal is:

Task	Who Does It?	By When?

Once you have decided on a possible course of action, do a **SWOT Analysis**:

**S**trengths – What’s good and strong about the idea?

**W**eaknesses – What’s not as good or weak about the idea?

**O**pportunities – What opportunities will this course of action create or offer?

**T**hreats – What negative impacts might result?

Then, adjust your goal and/or tasks accordingly.

**Evaluation**

*Action Plan Evaluation*

Observations and Reflection

1. Expected results (goals):

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2. Significant “wins”:

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3. Obstacles encountered:

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4. Lessons learned:

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5. Changes needed:

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6. Next steps:

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