

Goal Setting: Strategic Action Planning Ministry

Philippians 3:13 through Philippians 3:14 (NKJV)

¹³Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

“Many people fail in life, not for lack of ability or brains or even courage but simply because they have never organized their energies around a goal.”

- Elbert Hubbard

Why Goals Are Important to Ministry

Ministry without goals:

Our future is not well defined.

We lack direction.

We have success but no progress.

We fail to reach our full potential

Ministry with good goals:

Our commitments affect our future.

We have clear targets.

We build by compounding tasks.

God causes us to exceed our potential.

Steps in setting goals

1. Pray. God has a plan for the church. We must rely on him to give us the plan and give guidance throughout the plan.
2. Review your purpose. Any goal that isn't in line with your purpose should be thrown out. Otherwise you will be doing "goodly things" instead of "Godly things". Focus. Alignment.
3. Reconcile your commitment level. Reaching your goals will cost you something. Leaders who are not willing to serve are hard pressed to get others to serve.
4. Make it big. Goals should never be limited by your abilities. Every goal should have room for God to work and room for others to join in the work.
5. Write it down. Write your goal in detail. Read it back to yourself aloud. Seek the counsel of others. Refer back to it often. Revise it when necessary as you get clarity.

