

Discipleship Driven Evangelism Process Countdown Schedule

Eighteen Months to One Year Prior to Evangelistic Series:

1. Begin Casting Vision by sharing the ***Revelation of Hope*** discipleship driven process and approach to evangelism and ministry.
 - a. Share the basics dynamics, concepts, etc., related to a discipleship based evangelism series.
2. Meet with the church in order to help start vision casting with church leaders and leadership training initiatives.
 - a. Evangelist meets with the local church leadership to share evangelistic vision and discipleship based ministry process.
 - b. Evangelist preaches on Sabbath and meets with church for afternoon fellowship of vision casting and Q & A.
 - c. Share the Countdown Process, PowerPoint presentations on Revelation of Hope Philosophy and Approach, etc.
 - d. **Pastor and local leadership begin meeting regularly as a leadership team to cast vision, train and track progress.**
 - e. Local leadership needs to lead the church in the process of vision casting to develop a mission statement and core values based on “purpose driven” and “discipleship driven” church principles.
3. Cast vision of “Discipleship Driven Evangelism” as a life-cycle of ministry and community outreach involving members in a lifestyle of relational ministry and service.
 - a. Encourage the church board and leadership team to read the Booklet ***“How to Set Up an Evangelization and Discipleship Cycle in Your Church”*** by James W. Zackrison. (This material explains how the discipleship concept fits together with evangelism for holistic church growth.)
4. Utilize the ***“Spiritual Body Building”*** concept/materials along with the leader’s guide and participant work books in a process to get them started in learning basic spiritual disciplines and gift-based ministry.
5. Encourage the church to do a ***“40 Days of Spiritual Experience and Discovery”*** event in the church.
 - a. Read and Study ***“Experiencing God”*** or other spiritual discipleship material together.
 - b. Do a ***“Spiritual Gifts” discovery process*** in the local church using the ***“Connections”*** materials or others available from ***Advent Source***.
 - c. Balance this process with the concepts in the book “What’s so Spiritual About Spiritual Gifts” and a study from the chapter on talents in “Christ’s Object Lessons” by Ellen White.
 - d. This is not just for the purpose of learning one’s ‘spiritual gift’ but to help members get motivated to get involved in service and ministry for the Lord.
6. **Introduce the Natural Church Development (NCD) Concept/Process** to your leadership team and church.
 - a. Do the survey and identify the churches “minimum factor.”
 - b. Begin a process of addressing and improving the churches “minimum factor.”

7. **Begin Holistic Small Group leadership training and launch Small Groups ministry with the “40 Days” event.**
 - a. Train Holistic Small Groups leadership utilizing the *“Small Groups for the End Times”* book and the *“Leading Life-changing Small Groups”* training manual.
 - b. A **great resource** is also found at www.growthgroups.us Go to “Downloads” then “Growth Groups” then “Training Manual.” They also have the entire in depth training process on audio MP3 files for download.

8. **Begin developing creative new ministries** based on the local churches vision/mission statement and objectives to build bridges into the community and to people’s lives in order to establish redemptive relationships while utilizing and activating the members of our congregations in meaning service and outreach.
 - a. Train members for ministry and outreach in the community.
 - b. Utilize the *“Friend 2 Friend”*, *“Just Walk Across the Room”* or other friendship/relational based ministry curriculum to help members to learn to share Christ in an intentional yet natural “lifestyle” manner with their neighbors, friends and acquaintances.
 - c. Began a mid-week “Soup and Salvation” training and ministry process.
 - d. Use proven training materials such as: *“Becoming a Contagious Christian”*.
 - e. Utilize **Outreach Inc** approaches to ministry and advertising for the community such as the **New Mover Outreach** Program and **Faith in Action** ministry concept.
 - f. Begin doing “Servant Evangelism” and other creative and culturally related ministries in the community.

9. Follow-up to see that the church address the issues relative to the churches “minimum factor.” Focus on ministries which relate to the needs involved – such as Holistic small groups, loving relationships, etc.

10. **Begin to rethink the Sabbath School program or process in the local church.**
 - a. Utilize resources such as *“Reinventing Your Sabbath School”* in order to create a warm inviting and redemptive dynamic to the Sabbath school program in the local church.
 - b. Train teachers how to utilize a “small group” learning dynamic to S.S. classes.

11. Cast vision for and begin **Health ministry outreach** such as: **CHIP, Lifestyle Matters** and/or **Living Free** programs.
 - a. Utilize local church professionals and others who are “friends” of the church.
 - b. Start a Health Ministry “Supper Club” or other ongoing fellowship to educate and form meaningful relationships with members of the local community.

12. **Begin developing and working an active “Interest File”** with names and information relating to those who are engaged in ministries of the church (Bible Study Interests, Health event participants, etc.

13. Discern whether the churches will need to go through a *“Peace Maker”* Reconciliation process.

14. **Begin training for a Bible Study Teams outreach in the community.**
 - a. Utilize the **Lay Evangelism training** for developing B.S. teams available from Personal Ministries Dept. or other source.

15. Pastor and local leadership should begin searching for a meeting Hall most suitable for the series, perhaps a venue that has been used for other community based ministry. (See other materials on hall specifics, etc.)

One Year or 12 Months:

1. Start with and follow steps above if these haven't been addressed previously.
 - a. If the church has not yet developed a structured plan for an evangelism ministry cycle you might want to utilize the Amazing Facts process entitled "The Empowered Church"
 - b. This is an excellent tool to provide the needed structure and guidance for the church ministry leadership team.
2. See if the church has planned to hold a Revival Series in the church.
3. **How is the Church's Sabbath School experience?**
 - a. Encourage them to initiate new Sabbath School process in local church utilizing resources such as "**Reinventing Your Sabbath School**" or the "**Sabbath School Action Groups**" process in order to create a warm inviting and redemptive dynamic to Sabbath school program in the local church.
4. Have you utilized the "**Friend to Friend**" "**Just Walk Across the Room**" or other friendship/relational based ministry curriculum or process which reflect the local churches mission/vision and strategic planning?
5. **Continue to activate and train members in Servant evangelism ministries.**
6. **Continue other organized outreach and ministry in the community.**
 - a. Health Ministries such as the CHIP program or Living Free series?
 - b. Other events such as Concert Series and any other practical and creative **Community Connected** outreach ministry leading up to the evangelistic series.
7. **As many people as possible should now be in the process of being trained in servant leadership, practical ministry and lifestyle evangelism.**
8. **A compelling emphasis needs to be provided to the church from the pulpit on salvation and grace so that the church becomes a "warm" and "safe" place to worship and fellowship with an atmosphere of acceptance and forgiveness.**
 - a. Choose and train Greeters who understand the gospel and have an experience with Christ and who know how to greet people in a professional and friendly manner.
9. **Make certain a Hall has been secured where the series will take place. Get a signed contract and post a deposit.**

Nine to Six Months:

1. **Prepare Evangelism Budget** (Evangelist working with pastor and church board)
 - a. **Decide on advertising strategy**
 - b. Pastor, Treasurer, Conference Evangelism Director and Evangelist sign budget.
 - c. Choose personnel for various ministry options related to evangelistic series such as: Children's program coordinator and staff, greeters, row hosts, etc.
2. **Pastor and local leadership needs to promote** the upcoming evangelistic series with positive and contagious enthusiasm each Sabbath.

3. **Mail Bible Study outreach cards into the community.** Follow-up and start Bible Studies.
4. What about other “Culturally Connected” ministry options for target groups. Are they happening? What percentage of the members are involved in training and ministry?
5. **How are the Sabbath worship experiences going?**
 - a. Discuss this with local leadership team.
 - b. Introduce new practical approaches to meaningful and relevant Sabbath worships?
6. Do an evaluation of various ministries such as small groups, Sabbath School classes, etc. *Change or stop that which is not working and absorbing time and energy. **We evaluate what we value.***
7. Plan a “Visitors Sabbath” worship experience centered on some special theme.
 - a. Invite the guests to answer a survey.
 - b. Mail post card invitations to the local neighborhood.

Three Months to Series Start:

1. **Choose staff for various ministry options directly related to evangelistic series such as:** Children’s program coordinator and staff, greeters, row hosts, etc. Make sure that preparation is proceeding.
2. **Host a Prayer and Fasting Sabbath event with the purpose of gathering names from members and interest file.**
 - a. Put names on list and pray systematically for interests and individuals that members are committed to inviting to the meetings utilizing the *“Final Events”* DVD and RSVP Tickets.
 - b. Have the Pastor preach “Operation Andrew” related sermon on Sabbath as they continue to promote the upcoming series and encourage members to participate in ministry and prayer.
3. Begin a serious and organized **Prayer Warrior Ministry** that focuses on the coming evangelistic series.
 - a. Utilize Ron Halverson’s Prayer Warriors book and process. Also available on DVD.
4. **Does the church have a warm and inviting, ministry focused atmosphere where members are serving and experiencing Christ in a fresh and loving manner?**
5. Give needed attention to the physical appearance of the local church facilities.
 - a. Does the church need painting.
 - b. Is the Baptistry clean and in good working order?
 - c. Does the church have good baptismal robes?
 - d. Is the parking lot surface in good shape and well lighted?
 - e. Is the church sanctuary and fellowship hall clean and carpet in good appearance?

One Month to Series Start:

1. **Send the personal letter to members reminding them about the special Prayer and Fasting Event on Sabbath.**
 - a. Pray for the Community, Advertising and Interests to be invited by members in personal ministry.

2. **Share with the church the Series Promo on PowerPoint** in order to encourage and mobilize the members to visit all interests from prayer list and Bible Studies, etc. to invite to the meetings.
 - a. Give all interests the ***“Final Events”*** DVD and ask them to review it.
 - b. Follow-up a few days to one week later and see their response.
 - c. Invite them out to the evangelistic series using the RSVP Tickets to pre-register them.
3. **Send a letter of invitation or call all pre-registered interests.**