

Vision

Understanding the vision is a key component to winning. Understanding your role in the vision is essential for winning. The Vision that Jesus gives us in Scripture gives our Mission. When we are talking about the mission in which God has called us to, we should not see it as a religious duty rather, we see it as an opportunity to join in the most important mission of all time. We have been called to be a part of God's plan for the redemption of his people. Unfortunately many Christians miss out on this because of self preservation, self interest, and the desires of this world. In Matthew 28:16-20, Jesus gives us the Mission: *to make disciples who make disciples*. So for those who are wanting to join this mission, here are some simple structure pieces that help move us forward as individuals and help move our teams and churches deeper into the battlegrounds of life.

Goals exist to glorify God by leading people to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

This is an example of stating the overarching goal of the church that I get to serve in. Our whole organization is centered and focused around the goal of glorifying God. That is the aim in which we organize events, start programs, create atmospheres for worship, engage people in service, etc.

The Goals of an individual or organization is the statement and target in which we are to hit. Some people are against setting goals because of the fear of failing. You have already failed if you have not set goals! If I'm going to hit a target, I need to know which direction the target is. Goals are setting the course in which you are setting off to endeavor towards. Failure only happens if:

1. You never set goals
2. You quit

Section Question:

What is the Goal of your life?

What is the Goal of your ministry?

What personal goals do you have?

What Kingdom goals do you have?

Strategy involves intentionally investing in others through personal relationships with a Gospel presence and purpose.

If Goals are the target, then strategy is the core principle that guides how we are going to try to

hit the target. This is the filter that can be used in every area of work, ministry, or life to know if what you are doing is of value or not in regards to reaching the goal.

Section Question:

What is guiding your decisions in time management?

What guides your thoughts on activities you participate in?

How do you make decisions about the use of money?

What is your current strategy in accomplishing the mission of God?
And...Is it working?

What needs to be changed?

Tactics involve intentionally gathering together in relational groups to grow in God's truth, live God's truth, and share God's truth together.

Tactics, or methods as some people call them, are the means in which you plan to accomplish your strategy that will meet your goals. We believe that living in Biblical communities is essential for making disciples and reaching the nations. The tactics of living in a Biblical community have taken many shapes through the years: Sunday school, after school clubs, faith rallies, prayer services, and small groups are all examples of methods and tactics. None are right or wrong, however, some accomplish the strategy and move us closer to the Goal than others - depending on our context and overall goal.

We best see this lived-out in the book of Acts where we find the Believers meeting together regularly (Acts 2:42-47). The tactic they

employed was meeting together. When they met together they set out to accomplish 3 goals:

1. Being devoted to the Apostles teaching (The Gospel)
2. Building relationships through fellowship (taking care of one another/living as the family of God)
3. Solidifying covenant relationships with each other and with God through the breaking of bread and prayer (they ate together and celebrated what God had done/was doing/will do)

The tactics of the Early Church provide a solid foundation for us to practice as well.

Understanding that the patterns and principles (tactics) presented to us in God's Word were not only for the Early Believers, but they are essential tactics for us to employ *now*. Tactics provide a mechanism for God to unleash His power in and through the Church!

Section Questions

What tactics do you currently employ in order to accomplish your goals?

What would you like to see changed?

What do you believe is working well?

What would someone outside of your church or context know about you because of your tactics?

