

How to Use the Strategic Planning Packet

WHAT IS THE STRATEGIC PLANNING PACKET?

The Strategic Planning Packet is a guide designed to empower church leaders to collaboratively develop clear, Spirit-led strategies for their congregations. This curriculum walks participants through a structured six session journey. It begins with storytelling, then moves through the following:

- Team-based planning
- Defining mission/vision/values
- Developing actionable Ministry Action Plans (MAPs)
- Refining team meeting practices
- Embedding a rhythm of review and adaptation into congregational life

WHO IS THE STRATEGIC PLANNING PACKET FOR?

- **Pastors and senior leaders** seeking to re-focus pastoral leadership with strategic clarity and collective vision.
- **Ministry teams and Avenue champions** who want to elevate team dynamics, shared ownership, and effective planning around Hope, Faith, Love, or other ministry “avenues.”

HOW TO USE THE STRATEGIC PLANNING PACKET?

- Its session-based design makes it ideal for retreat settings. Each of the six sessions includes pastor reflections, team exercises, and congregation-wide activities that guide participants through theological reflection into concrete action.
- Facilitators can adapt the content for use in annual retreats, staff meetings, or leadership training to foster ongoing alignment and ownership.
- Practical tools, like MAPs and TMAPs (Team Strategic Plans), help teams move from vision (“Where are we going?”) to mission-guided execution (“How will we get there?”), with built-in quarterly and annual reviews.



Tip

Use the guide in preparation for building your annual Ministry Action Plans and budgets. Plan to complete the guide together by the end of summer to provide enough time to articulate your insights into a MAP and budget that can be submitted to your supervisor.

THE ESSENTIALS

The Strategic Planning Packet is a tool to support the development of Spirit-led ministry strategies. It is an interactive guide designed to be used in a team setting to bring together collaborative insights that can be put into practice.