

Galvanized for Ministry



Men's Ministries

Mission Statement: "Galvanize the energy and resources of men for God, family, church, and community."

Vision Statement: "Men who love and have committed their energy and resources to God, family, church, and community."

Men's Ministries has emerged to support men in their roles as husbands, fathers, and committed Christians. Men's Ministries events leave a lasting impression on the men who attend. Men leave with a stronger commitment to God, a stronger dedication to their families, and higher dedication to share their faith with others. Embrace this ministry and by the power of God watch the men who have been on the margin come into the mainstream of church life.



Duties of the Coordinator

1. Develop and conduct on a periodic basis a wide variety of programs and activities that will meet the various contemporary needs of a diverse male constituency.
2. Encourage and facilitate meaningful spiritual, mental, and emotional growth among the men of the church.
3. Work with a small administrative committee to make plans and policy.
4. Communicate with the church secretary and pastor when scheduling programs.
5. Serve as the conference men's ministries representative to the local church.
6. When requested, assist the conference director in planning meetings that are for the benefit of all the men of the conference.
7. Communicate news of interest to men that is disseminated from relevant sources in the church's structure.
8. Mentor someone else in this ministry.
9. Report to the family ministry committee and/or church board.

Spiritual Gifts Desired

Encouragement, administration, shepherding.



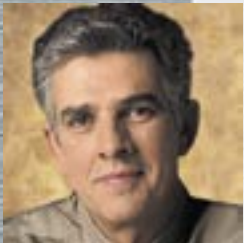
Steps to starting effective Men's Ministries in your local church

1. Start with a core group of men. The core group is the heart of effective Men's Ministries. Other men are not excluded from joining the core group. However, the core group provides a foundation of prayer, direction, and leadership for the entire Men's Ministry.



2. Focus on relationships, not programs. Plan on relationship-building types of events like men's conferences; men's special events (cookouts with an afternoon of softball, father-son campouts, father-daughter banquets); marriage and fathering seminars; witnessing-in-the-workplace seminars; men's church events (a monthly men's breakfast gathering); and men's small groups (prayer groups, Bible study groups).

3. Have clear goals. Take a profile of your men in order to find out more about the men you will be serving. The profile will identify interests and strengths among the men in the church. Develop a mission statement. Without a clearly defined purpose for this ministry, you will lose focus.



4. For men only. This does not mean that programming events with women and children are not vital to the health of families. But this does mean that certain needs of men can only be met when men gather with other men. Men talk more freely on spiritual and emotional issues when they are with just men. Effective Men's Ministries will recognize this dynamic and structure the ministry so as to provide an environment where men can share their weaknesses, struggles, triumphs, and challenges with other men.

5. Pastor-supported ministry. This ministry is pastor-friendly. The Coordinator honors the pastor's schedule and responsibilities by communicating plans and strategies and by asking for his/her input. When a pastor is actively supportive of Men's Ministries, the ministry has greater momentum and a stronger foundation. It more readily draws men together. A pastor's support and encouragement can greatly enhance the men in your church—especially if the pastor invests time and energy in a core group of lay leaders.

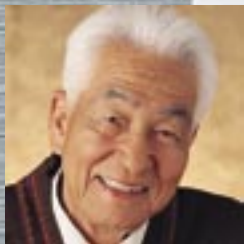


6. Ministries with flexibility and variety. Successful Men's Ministries offer a variety of entry points and opportunities for men to grow spiritually and to make relational commitments. These ministries honor and respect each man's spiritual journey, seeking ways to enhance his faith and commitment to God. Annual men's conferences and sporting events are great non-threatening entry points for a man. However, these activities by themselves will not meet the relational needs of a man or consistently challenge him to an active faith. When Men's Ministries offer enough variation to honor the different levels of spiritual maturity in all men, they effectively gather their men. Not all men will commit to prayer groups. Not all men will attend a sporting event. Not all men will commit to a small group. That's O.K. Effective Men's Ministries are flexible, accepting men where they are and providing a variety of opportunities for men to convene.



7. Avoid implementing too much too soon. Men's Ministries takes time to grow. Often, motivated and excited pastors and laypersons will develop a program without taking the necessary time to communicate the mission of the group to various levels of men's gatherings. Be careful not to force an elaborate program upon men for which they are not yet ready. Take time to build a substantial, reliable foundation that can survive the growth and the challenges that come with that progress.

Tips on developing your own mission statement for your local church's Men's Ministries



Keep in mind that your target is men.

1. Decide what you want to see happen among the men in your own life.
2. Define a plan on how you intend to accomplish this.
3. Define a method you intend to use to measure the results.
4. Finally, combine the two or three elements into one clear short sentence.

Eleven Important Needs of Men

1. Men need action.
2. Men need safety.
3. Men need to be challenged.
4. Men need to get to the point.
5. Men need to win.
6. Men need to dream.
7. Men need other men like them.
8. Men need balance in their lives.
9. Men need healing.
10. Men need freedom.

*Adapted from Men's Ministry by Steve Sonderman





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