

## Men's Ministry Common Failure Points

A robust ministry to men is based on these six steps. The common failures for each are listed below.



### STEP 1 Pastor's Vision – “Where There is no Vision – the People Parish...” – Prov. 29:18

- Pastor's vision for men's ministry is lacking in detail or is not integrated with the majority of the men in the church.
- Men's ministry is a low priority for the church because most pastors think that MM will take up too much time and money.
- Most men's ministries fail because they don't use proven practices or don't get started because of the “it wasn't invented here” mentality.
- Fear of failure: men do not want to fail.
- Many pastors are not confident in their abilities and experience to structure and execute men's ministry programs.
- Some pastors fear that the active men will take over the church and replace the pastor.
- Many pastors have concerns / fears of being totally transparent with the men.
- Unfortunately, most pastors have not received adequate training in leadership development, organizational structure, and business management. They need to know how to supplement their experience.

### STEP 2 – Men's Council – Exodus 17:11-12

- A real and transparent environment where guys can share their hearts, fears, and passions is lacking.
- Men feel left out if they can't see the pathway from brokenness to significance.
- A safe environment is not provided for men. What is said in the room must stay in the room. Safe environments need to be enforced or have a meaningful purpose.
- Men's ministries that are not relationship based are often “event- based” or just rely on what

the “good old boys” want to do.

- When men don't pray together they don't play together well. Consequently, they don't stay together. Provide ample time for both.
- MM is just a clique for the spiritually mature. It should be open to all, including those men who are broken or may be in recovery.

### **STEP 3 – Assessment – Nehemiah 2:4-8**

- The wrong people have been picked to lead the ministry – they don't have the proper skill set or spiritual gifts.
- The men's council is not working. They are committed and knowledgeable but have no bandwidth to execute on the plan.
- There is frustration about how to select the most effective model for men's ministry.
- Men's leadership is in denial about needing help with men's ministry.
- A person can be a great man of God and a great teacher but not a good men's ministry leader.
- It is rare to have a significant group of leaders serving in the church who have leadership skills above the Pastor's leadership experience.
- The men's ministry leader is mistaken in his thinking that since HE doesn't have the need for outside coaching and tools, others don't need to be equipped.
- Practical content does not exist.
- Leaders make it complicated - keep it simple.
- Men's priorities and schedules aren't considered. We ask men to do meaningless tasks and do not respect their time.
- Leaders don't know what topics would most interest the men or what they would invite a friend to become involved in.

### **STEP 4 – Action Plan – Proverbs 16:3**

- There is not enough structure to the program: what, when, where and who. Men want to know that someone has a good game plan and there is some organization to the program.
- Men's ministry leaders are focused only on the immediate plan and tasks at hand. They disregard developing longevity in the leadership team and building a leadership legacy.
- Men without a plan or vision fail. Great ministries have a one and five-year plan that provide good organizational structure and detailed program models to follow.
- A calendar of events has not been fully developed and communicated to the men.
- Little or no opportunities exist for evangelism or outreach. Without a passion for outreach, men do not become engaged.
- Men are turned off by ministries that aren't challenging, entertaining, adventurous, risk-taking, and dynamic. Have God-size vision that inspires the men to trust in Him who is able.
- Unsuccessful ministries are not multi-dimensional in nature. Develop various ministry sub-

groups of affinity alliances within the larger group. Encourager golfers, bikers, fishermen, hunters, geeks, etc. to hang out with each other and use their passions to reach the unsaved.

- Churches that do not reach out to their church body (single parents, youth, and seniors) or become involved with community benevolence programs usually become introverted and more like clubs than effective ministries.

#### **STEP 5 – Ministry Teams – Ecc. 4:9-12**

- Without a church counsel (leadership team) that is committed to the pastor's vision and setting dynamic but obtainable goals problem solving does not happen.
- Leaders of the men's ministry aren't engaging and lack an enthusiastic personality. Not enough younger spiritually-mature men to go around. Pick a man's man who is passionate about leadership and discipleship to be the coordinator.
- Leaders don't have an inventory of their men's interest, passions, gifts, talents, and skills that would provide guidance in building a team.
- Not enough time is spent in prayer and seeking God's wisdom on who the team members should be.

#### **STEP 6 – Follow-up – Proverbs 24:6**

- Fail to regularly, evaluate, modify, and re-assess the program model and activities.
- Fail to take advantage of proven resources and outside council on how to keep the men's ministry fresh and vibrant.
- Fail to maintain the Men's Ministry vision and goals. Monitor progress to ensure the ministry is achieving its goals.
- Fail to adjust to culture changes in how men communicate and leverage social media to build and maintain community.