



Before you Start a Church

Discussion Guide

Key church planting proposal topics

Discuss the following areas before you launch a church plant.

Start-up issues

1. Demonstrate a clear calling from a lead church planter
 2. Communicate an exciting vision in a compelling way
 3. Identify reasons for good church planting
 4. Demonstrate an understanding of the need for new churches
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Who is the ministry focus group?

1. Describe the ministry focus group - who are the typical people we are seeking to reach to be part of the new church?
 2. Show understanding of the communities needs
 3. Include appropriate demographics
 4. Identify the proposed location
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What kind of church will we be seeking to plant?

1. Clearly state your core values (Baptist) and guiding ideas - what the church says yes and no to- (eg a cafe church drinks coffee as a guiding idea if someone was to ask it to remove food and drink they would say no because this is a guiding idea)
 2. State and expand your mission statement
 3. Describe the churches ministry style - is it contemporary, traditional, monastic, liturgical etc.
 4. Define a ministry model - leadership style
 5. Include a ministry flow chart - how will people move from a guest to small groups and into ministry opportunities. Will you have hospitality, mission in the DNA of the church and how will you do that?
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With whom will this church be planted?

1. Describe the proposed launch team
2. Include a profile of any confirmed ministry partners
3. Define specific roles to fill - welcome, serving, car park, youth/children work, admin, worship, setup/takedown
4. Clearly identify team members needed - who can do these roles

How and when will this church be planted?

1. Outline a comprehensive strategic plan - start meeting as a small group then a launch service
2. Outline a financial plan - where you include how your plant gets funded and you will achieve financial independence
3. Include a detailed timeline for the first 18 to 36 months what is happening and when it's needed
Provide a detailed explanation of how the launch team will be gathered and the start of core team (this team becomes the long-term leadership team after the first year)