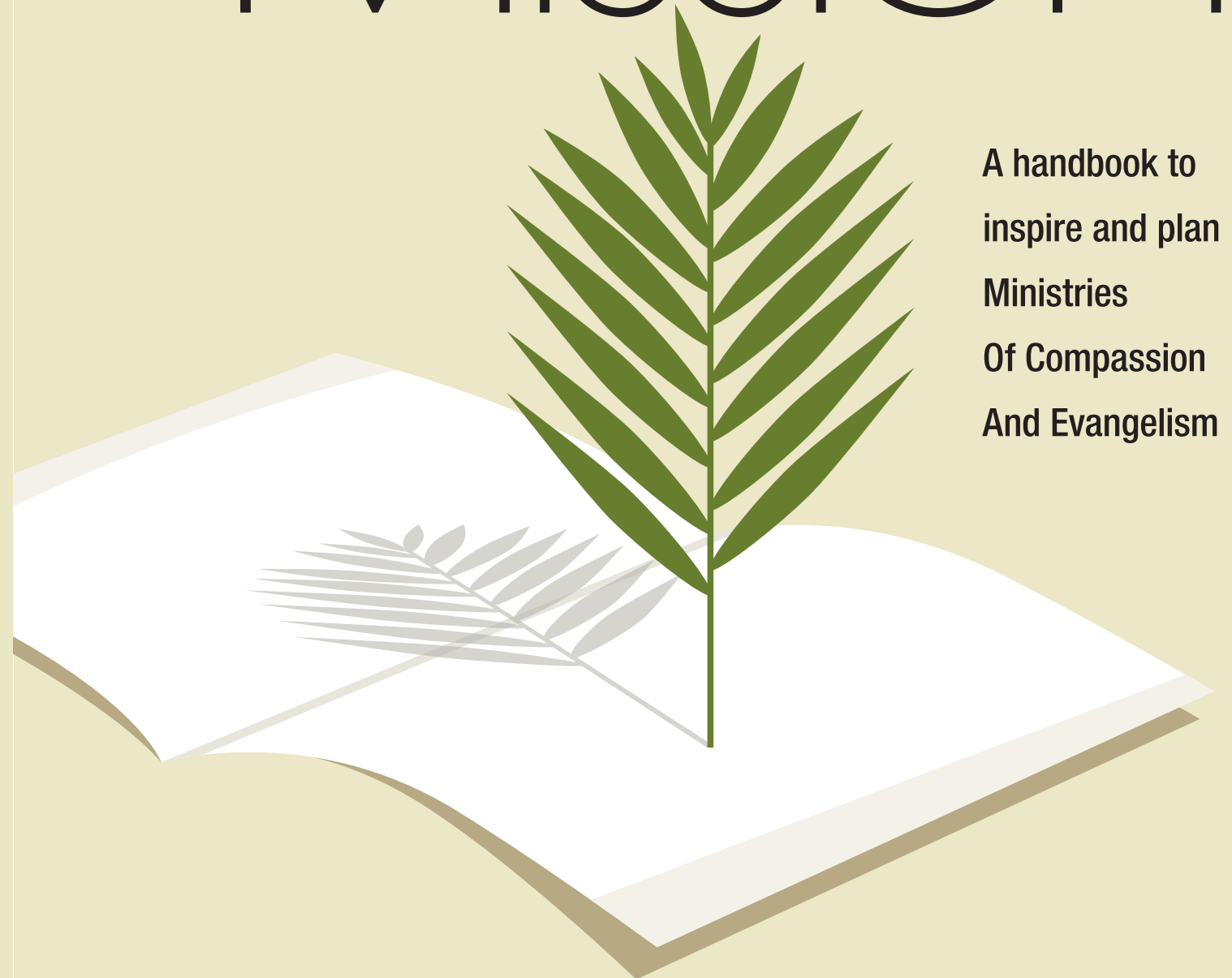


Turning Passion Into Mission

A handbook to
inspire and plan
Ministries
Of Compassion
And Evangelism



THE VISION

Most people experience acute 'felt needs' at various times in their lives. Also, everyone has innate, God infused, spiritual longings -- to know Him, to experience love, acceptance and forgiveness, and to discover true purpose in life.

Christians meeting 'felt needs' can serve as a powerful bridge to speaking the Gospel to those touched with the love of Jesus thereby addressing these spiritual longings. Imagine what that might look like.

IMAGINE:

FINANCIAL COUNSELING

♥ Tom has a "felt need". His finances are a mess. He needs some 'cheap' financial counseling. Neighborhood Church offers free financial services on Tuesday evenings from 6-9 PM. Bill, who has lots of financial experience, volunteers his time at the center. Bill is also trained and equipped to clearly and graciously discuss the Gospel with clients. The sessions are arranged on four consecutive weeks. During the second session, Bill is able to bridge from financial counsel to discussing personal values and spiritual matters. By the third week Tom is very attentive to spiritual discussions and Bill is able to fully present the Gospel. Tom comes to know Jesus as his Lord and Savior. Today, Tom is well on his way to financial recovery and spiritual growth. Because of the relationship with Bill, Tom and his family have become regular attendees at Neighborhood Church.

DENTAL NEEDS

♥ Dr. Jacobs is a dentist who has set aside Friday afternoons to serve low income, working patients who do not have dental insurance. His fees are significantly lower than normal. Dr. Jacobs considers this service as a ministry combining the compassionate use of his skills and evangelism. The patient load is reduced so he and his staff have time to talk about the relationship between faith and our physical wellbeing. This naturally leads to many opportunities to share the Gospel. Dr. Jacobs and his staff are trained and equipped to clearly share their faith and explain the Gospel.

For example, Rita (a new patient and single mother of three) came in for an exam and work on a chipped tooth. This is something she would not have done if a full fee was required. She has since brought two of her children in to see Dr. Jacobs. Although Rita has not yet responded to the Gospel, she and her children have started attending Grace Church where most of Dr. Jacobs' staff attends. Recently her twelve-year-old daughter was baptized after coming to know Jesus through the Wednesday evening program and hearing the Gospel at the dentist's office.

GIFT TO CHARITY

♥ Bill is a Christian business owner. Using a small yet conspicuous sign near the cash register, he unapologetically lets his customers know that a percentage of the revenues go to help a local community charity. Each purchase is accompanied with a small pamphlet explaining that his motivation stems from Jesus' love for mankind. This presents numerous opportunities for further conversations including the Gospel message.

These represent just three scenarios. You can undoubtedly think of many more. The possibilities of redeeming 'felt needs' (problems and stressful life circumstances that require help) as a bridge to the Gospel are endless!

...Prayer

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; those who seek find; and to those who knock, the door will be opened. (Matthew 7:7-8)

Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ. That is why I am here in chains. Pray that I will proclaim this message as clearly as I should. (Colossians 4:3, 4)

*The greatest untapped resource is the prayer of God's people. Guide the people around you to pray.

What will we do to develop a prayer ministry for team members?

What strategy will we establish to pray for those we will serve?

♥ Jesus desires to mobilize the church to make a difference in society

- *"Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, 'Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." (James 2:15-17)*
- *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)*

CONSIDER: Our young people.

They see brokenness in society but they don't see many churches responding. It is one thing to come to church and talk about a compassionate, caring Jesus. It is quite another to assertively "be" Jesus in a hurting world.

Our youth need good spiritual role models. They need exposure to Christians putting their faith into action in real life. They also need leaders who will help them tap into their passions, equipping and guiding them to experiencing God's fulfillment.

♥ Jesus wants young people to see "faith in action"

- *"As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead." (James 2:26)*
- *"But the Lord said to me, 'Do not say, 'I am only a child.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,' declares the Lord. . . . "Now, I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you . . . to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant." (Jeremiah 1:7-10)*

CONSIDER: The spiritual climate.

Spiritual hunger in our society today is fueling an awakening to God. People start their spiritual journeys at many different starting points. God desires they all come to faith in Jesus. Although it is the Father who draws people to Himself, it is through His Spirit we are empowered to witness and be part of God's Kingdom growth.

Jesus addressed mankind's hunger for God through His teachings about the Kingdom of God and how to become part of it. We need to be reminded, the early church was formed as a result of a spiritual harvest -- people coming to know Jesus.

♥ Jesus wants people to come to know and follow Him

- *“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’ (John 14:6)*
- *“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit--fruit that will last.” (John 15:16)*

IMAGINE:

MAINTENANCE CARE TO ELDERLY

♥ Hope Community Church wants to touch their neighborhood with God’s love. A nearby trailer park has about a dozen elderly residents who have trouble taking care of their property. As the church prayed, God directed them to reach out to these people.

Eight of the elderly accepted help with yard work every other week. Some needed periodic help with interior cleaning and maintenance. Families worked together to get the jobs done. Two families were assigned to each elderly resident. They either worked together or alternated visits. In this way the park residents got to know quite a few people from the church. The families also take along cookies or another appropriate snack to share with the residents when they do their work. The snack provides the opportunity to visit, to build trust and credibility. This intentional visiting provides the servers opportunity to build relationships. Serving in the trailer park allows them a natural segue to explain what is important to those attending Hope Community Church and explain the Gospel.

One year after beginning this outreach, all but one of the elderly residents has heard the Gospel clearly explained. Three of these residents have become regular attendees at Hope Community. An unexpected result has been that two other families in the park heard about what the church has been doing and have started attending Hope as well!

GROUP TRAINING:

Can you offer a 3-4 hour ‘orientation’ to new participants introducing them to the Gospel material?

** Then providing them with tools to study on their own, e.g. a student Gospel Story DVD*

INDEPENDENT STUDY:

Can participants be assigned a section to memorize each week and provide opportunities for them to put it into practice?

ONE-TO-ONE MODELING:

Is there a way for participants to shadow a mentor each week until they are proficient to share?

Can you offer an accelerated training format?

** e.g. 1-2 consecutive days to train and master the Gospel material and procedures*



...Evangelism Training for participants

What version of evangelism training will you use to train participants?

** EE International's Everyday Evangelism, XEE; Romans Road; CCC's Four Spiritual Laws; Billy Graham's Steps to Peace with God, etc.*

What adaptations (if any) are necessary and helpful for your particular situation?

Can participants go through the local church training or attend a seminar/workshop to memorize and master explaining the Gospel material?

We Experience God's Fulfillment by Helping Others

Even in this self-centered secular society there is an awakening to the needs of a hurting society and a greater intentionality in addressing those needs; a movement to help the disenfranchised and innocent victims of a broken world. Outsiders seem to know Jesus wants people to serve the poor, sick, disadvantaged, disenfranchised, and needy people in the world.

Most people feel good when they are able to help others. God created us this way. However sin and selfishness often rob us of the joy and satisfaction that come from contributing to the wellbeing of others -- especially when it becomes a way of life.

CONSIDER: Our social conscience.

♥ God instills in people sensitivity to social justice and needs

- *Good will come to him who is generous and lends freely, who conducts his affairs with justice. (Psalm 112:5)*
- *When justice is done, it brings joy to the righteous but terror to evildoers. (Proverbs 21:15)*
- *Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law, since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them. (Romans 2:14,15)*

Unfortunately many churches have simply withdrawn from the community. Most outsiders don't think of the church as crusading the cause of the poor, the sick, or those who don't seem to have it all together. And people outside the church believe the church is for "church people" and not for them. This is why we need to be taking "the church" to the community -- being the church IN the community -- rather than simply trying to bring outsiders to the church.

While today there is a growing search for truth, in many cases it is a search outside the church. We need, therefore, to perform activities that make a difference in people's lives right where they live.

IMAGINE:

TRAINING IN COMPUTER BASICS

♥ Bill and Randy are Christians and work in the internet technology department at a large company. Some time ago God gave them an idea that not only allowed them to use their skills and passion but include others in their department to find satisfaction in helping the disenfranchised too.

Bill and Randy have connections with Church of the Cross located in a poorer section of the city that has lots of kids and single mothers. Many of these kids and moms would benefit by learning computer and keyboarding skills. The company Bill and Randy work for is always upgrading equipment. Bill and Randy arranged for the replaced equipment to be donated to them for starting an after-school/evening program. Three non-Christians from their workplace also volunteered to help with the training, as well as others from Bill and Randy's church.

The Christians use these opportunities to teach computer basics and share their faith. They also have involved the pastor in reaching out to the spiritual needs of the participants. Several of the kids have begun attending activities at the Church of the Cross. The pastor and his visitation team visit the parent(s) of those who come to the technology training. Now several of these families have begun worshipping at Church of the Cross.

Also, Jackie, one of Bill and Randy's co-workers, has come to know Christ personally through her involvement at the training program. Now she and her husband, also a new Christian, are attending church with Bill and Randy. Jackie and her husband are growing in their faith and are continuing to serve the Lord by serving others!

Would the sharing of the Gospel be done by one person or several while the service is being provided?

** e.g. a dental office might have the receptionist initiate sharing through an intake interview, the hygienist picks it up from where she left off, and the dentist continues etc.*

How would you handle the immediate follow up? What needs to happen immediately... how can that be done in a very gracious and personal way?

** e.g. contact information, provide Gospel booklets, Bibles, assurance verses, Discovery Series booklets from RBC Ministries, personal or financial counseling referrals, food or other resource banks*

What can be done to continue follow up with clients?

** e.g. invitation to church, invitation to small group; something special designed for your clients, invite to a Bible Study, or offer and arrange for Bible Study in clients home*



...on site Witnessing Process

The actual witnessing process will vary depending on the type of service offered and client interaction. Sharing with pre-school age children (and their parents) will be different than sitting down in a one-on-one counseling session. Taking time to visit and talk while helping with a home repair project for an elderly person or single parent homeowner will be different from serving at a food or clothing bank. Yet each one will require a specific plan designed to intentionally and graciously share the Gospel.

SOME QUESTIONS TO GUIDE HOW THE GOSPEL WILL BE SHARED:

Will an intake form be used where questions can be asked to move towards and begin a spiritual conversation?

Sample questions related to the difference God makes in your life, e.g.

“On a scale of 1-10, how fulfilling would you say your life is? Why? If God were a part of your life, (or if you knew more about God and His plan for your life) would it move in either direction?”

** These questions leads to a discussion of the Abundant Life God desires for us and an opportunity for you to share how that happened for you.*

Sample question related to having eternal life both now and forever, e.g.

“Have you come to the place in your spiritual life where you know for certain that you would go to heaven?”

** This question leads to a discussion of how a person can know for sure and how that happened for you.*

Would there be a one-on-one interview before or after providing the service where all or part of the sharing of the Gospel could take place?

We Experience God’s Fulfillment Through Obedience

Many Christians know God has a more abundant life for them than what they have experienced. They want a different story from the one they are presently living. Some Christians express they are leaving the church because it no longer contributes to their spiritual development. Are you one of those who desire to experience more of the abundant life? Jesus desires His followers to experience abundant life through a relationship with Him and through joining Him in what He wants to do in this world.

The Bible records people who faithfully obeyed the Lord, listening and responding to the direction of God in their lives. Today there is a rekindling of radical obedience to loss of self, sacrifice, and service. Jesus takes the initiative to involve His people and to work through us, His servants, to accomplish His purposes. Jesus invites us to adjust our lives to His passions and desires to carry out His plan. His redemptive ways are often different than ours.

When your life is in the middle of God’s activity, He rearranges how you think. God challenges the preoccupation that “my needs are most important.” Your ministry to others will keep your walk with the Lord from being self-centered and self absorbed.

Encounters with God require faith and true faith often requires that we take some form of action. However, true faith needs to be in a Person -- God Himself. Our faith must be based on His Spirit living and working through us, not on human wisdom or clever methodology. Too often we look for how God is going to bless our activities. In reality it is the working of God in your life that will bring about the blessing. God’s blessing is a by-product of your obedience and experiencing Christ as He works in your life.

CONSIDER: The guidance of the Holy Spirit.

♥ Christians have the Holy Spirit prodding them to be obedient to God

- He replied, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.” (Luke 11:28)
- I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. (John 14:12)
- Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!” (Isaiah 6:8)

Although interest in institutional religion is down, interest in spirituality is up. Consistently TV documentaries and magazines feature articles and programs about Jesus. While many are turned off to the church, they are not turned off to Jesus.

The Church was never intended to exist for itself. Instead, its' purpose is to expand God's Kingdom. To be related to Jesus is to be on mission with Him. God is searching for people who will partner with Him in sharing the story of Jesus with others; people who believe they are responsible for fulfilling the Great Commission.

CONSIDER: The call to witness.

♥ **Christians know God wants to use them to bring others to Jesus**

- *Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." (John 20:21)*
- *You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit--fruit that will last. (John 15:16)*

...Other Needed Resources

What finances will we need to trust God for?

What counselors can be used for referrals?

Where can we direct people for financial counseling?

What other resources are needed?

...Technology

What equipment is required?

- For the specific service being provided?

- For communication and other needs (email, tracking, administrative, encouragement)?

How/where will they be acquired?



God's Plan -- Uniting Our Passions with 'Felt Needs'

God has created each of us unique; as unique as our own DNA. He did this in part, to minister to the special needs of others. He desires to work through our strengths, the things that energize us (our passions) and what we find fulfillment in doing.

Often the plan(s) God has in mind to do through a local body of believers is directly related to their common giftedness, talents and passions (e.g. medical, construction, social service backgrounds, etc.). Through the Holy Spirit, we are enabled and equipped to accomplish God's work in these unique ways. God wants to capitalize on these passions.

He wants Christians to discover ways to take the Gospel into the 'marketplace' of life. He longs for Christians to join Him where He is already present. Christians are wrong to be satisfied in simply 'doing church' in a local building. God wants Christians to 'be the church' in the world.

CONSIDER: Our passions.

♥ God has given Christians unique passions so that they may minister to different needs

- *Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. (1 Cor. 12:7)*
- *Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them. (Acts 9:39)*

CONSIDER: Reaching out to those He loves.

When you accepted Jesus as Lord, you gave Him the right to reign over and redirect your activities. As Lord, He has the right to interrupt your life. Remember, however, the Lord who calls you will also enable you to do His will.

♥ Serving 'felt needs' links Christians to those who don't know Him

- *As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." (Mark 5:18-19)*
- *Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. (Acts 2:45)*

- ...praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. (Acts 2:47)

Christians sometimes have trouble 'connecting' with those who don't know Jesus. Serving others will gain a hearing and build bridges of trust strong enough to carry the Gospel. Caring for others leads naturally to opportunities to witness about Jesus. We can explain why we serve because... that is what Jesus came to do.

Serving others communicates God's love. And love changes people. However, we also need to be ready to give a clear explanation of the 'hope' they see in us. We need to have the nature of a servant (Phil. 2:5-8) and remain moldable in God's hands (Jer. 18:1-6) to explain His message.

CONSIDER: The power of the Holy Spirit who indwells us.

♥ Christians must trust the Holy Spirit to do God's will through them

- "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)
- But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8)
- I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. (Romans 1:16)

Genuine evangelism is a by-product of your love for the One who loves you most -- it's not selling your church in hopes of them discovering Jesus. Witnessing needs to flow from Christians deeply in love with Jesus. This love relationship with Jesus is more important than any other single factor in your life. It is the Lord who pursues an ongoing love relationship with us (see 1 John 4:9-10). It is out of this relationship that He carries out His work. Our methods are never the key to accomplishing God's purposes. The key is our relationship with a Person -- Jesus.

CONSIDER: Our need to be equipped to better explain the Gospel.

Many Christians struggle with fear: the fear of rejection, the fear of not knowing how to engage others in spiritual conversation and the fear of being unsure how to communicate what we have to offer in Jesus. Some think their story is not compelling enough to share. Some fear they must be a super salesperson to witness.

Many Christians need help learning how to introduce Jesus into a conversation and clearly communicate the Gospel message. In every church, God has placed evangelism 'coaches' or evangelists who are specially gifted by God to help equip believers for evangelism. But another class alone (more information) is not the answer! They need

SEVERAL SCHEDULING EXAMPLES:

Medical or dental office

- May want to serve those without medical insurance (working poor)
- May want to take an afternoon, evening, or Saturday morning each week to provide special service to them
- Will want to cut back number of patients seen to accommodate discussion of our God given spiritual dimension and sharing the Gospel

Senior Day-care Center

- May want to make the center available Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings (9:00 – 12:00 AM) to give family caregivers a needed break

Computer skills and/or Cash Register training for unwed mothers

- May want to schedule 2 hour training sessions around nap times
- Provide child care
- Work with local employment agency to assist in finding work

...Schedule

Guiding Principle: Be Available.

TIMES OF SERVICE:

Will the service you provide be full or part-time?

During the day or after-hours?

What hours of service will allow clients to come?

What hours of service will allow volunteers to serve?

practical experience. Christians need to actually break the sound barrier and talk about Jesus to others who don't yet know Him personally. They need to be intentionally exposed to various witnessing opportunities so they can learn from those experiences. Therefore any classroom training is best utilized as a 'platform' to share and discuss how they have applied new information in real life experiences.

♥ God intends the Church to train Christians in outreach and be intentional in sharing His message of redemption

- *It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. (Ephesians 4:11-12)*
- *And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. (2 Timothy 2:2)*
- *Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ. (Acts 5:42)*

IMAGINE:

THREE LOCAL MINISTRIES

♥ Crossroads Church, Church of Christ Adrian, and Northgate Chapel all fully embrace the call to fulfill the Great Commission. They know God wants them to actively and intentionally share the Gospel, trusting Him to bring the increase to His Kingdom. Each church is unique. Crossroads has attracted many who are associated with the local schools. Church of Christ Adrian has many in attendance who do construction. Northgate has a number who serve in the medical fields. Each one has been led to utilize their talents and gifts to serve and intentionally share the Gospel with those in their communities.

God inspired Crossroads to reach out to international students attending the local university. They 'adopt' new students each fall to help them feel welcomed and acclimate to a new culture. They provide informal social events to get to know others. Families invite them to their homes for simple meals and establish friendships. Crossroads also provides listeners for those who need to practice their English. Christmas serves as a natural time to introduce the Gospel and convey the real meaning of the holiday. Every year students are coming to Christ through this intentional Gospel sharing ministry. These students return to their homelands as leaders under the influence of Christ as their Lord.

Church of Christ Adrian partnered with Habitat for Humanity. They use their Gospel sharing training to explain the Good News with the new tenants and others serving on the work teams. Recently this church began to serve residents in the inner city by providing free labor for smaller home repair jobs. They partnered with a church in that section of town to connect with tenants in need. This has provided those with evangelism training ample opportunities to express why they serve others and explain

what Christ has done for them on the cross.

With Northgate's large number of medical personnel, God led them to start a non-profit medical clinic for the working poor (people with jobs but who cannot afford medical insurance). The clinic is open two nights a week and Saturday morning. It is staffed by doctors and nurses from Northgate and a sister church. They offer their services only suggesting a donation, allowing recipients the opportunity to contribute. When a new patient comes in for the first time, they complete an intake form. It includes several general questions dealing with their physical health and also a couple of spiritual questions. The clinic limits the number of appointments so there is sufficient time to talk with each patient. The doctor discusses the importance and impact our spiritual life has on our physical wellbeing. Workers then talk one-on-one with patients ready to hear the Good News. The clinic is located in the church near where many of the patients live. This makes it easier for them to get to the clinic. It also makes it easier for them to start attending the church.

All the people in Scripture were ordinary people. It was their relationship with God and His activity through them that made them extraordinary. Do not believe the lie that God is not capable of doing anything significant through you because of your imperfections. He is able to do anything He wills with a person fully dedicated to Him. Believing that nothing of significance can happen through you may say more about your belief in God than yourself. The question to ask is not "what is God's will for my life", but rather "what is God's will" and then letting Him lead you to become a part of it!

Once you know God's will, then you can adjust your life to Him. The more prayerful and intentional Christians are in sharing their faith, the more they will in their own work-a-day 'marketplace' and surroundings. How is God stirring your heart with dreams and visions of what He can do through your surrendered heart? How is God giving you a vision for outreach with others in your church?

...Location

** Guiding Principle: Be as visible as possible.*

Where would be the best place for this ministry to happen?

Will those people be able to travel to your location?

How will you address those who need help with travel?

Consider the makeup of your church. What particular skills, training, and/or giftedness has God put in your congregation making it uniquely able to address certain felt needs?

** e.g. medical, construction, social service, educational personnel*

Is there a particular age group you're seeking to reach?

** Preschool, children, youth, adult*

Where or how in your community could God direct to make an international (world) impact?

** International... students, business people, tourists, seamen, ESL needy, military, etc.*

Is there a socio-economic status you want to serve?

** Working but uninsured, welfare or unemployed, affluent, people like you*

Sample of Felt Needs

Need for:

- Food
- Clothing
- Shelter
- Small appliances
- Furniture
- Financial counseling
- General counseling
- Keyboard/Computer training
- Eye care
- Ear care
- General health care (exercise, nutrition, pharmaceutical)
- Dental care
- Chiropractic care
- Massage care
- Physical therapy
- Sr. citizen day care
- Legal assistance/counseling
- Car maintenance
- Home repair
- Foster care
- After School program/mentoring
- Pre-school day care
- Music training
- Pet care (veterinarian/day care)

Need help with:

- Drug/alcohol recovery
- Handicapped care
- Divorce recovery
- Blended family relationships
- Grief recovery (loss of a loved one)
- Literacy
- Adoption
- Orphanage
- Juvenile Detention
- Jail/Prison

Need to develop:

- Job skills employment/resume'

Need of:

- Unwed mothers (physical needs, parenting, cooking, finance, etc.)

PLANNING AND STRATEGY

The following pages are designed to help plan the “who, what, where, when, and how” strategies of your Turning Passion Into Mission ministries.

AS YOU PROCEED, SEEK THE LORD’S LEADERSHIP AND GUIDANCE:

- *Ask the Lord to just tell you what to do one step at a time, and then do it.*
- *Ask the Lord to help you. Remember, “It is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose” (Phil. 2:13).*
- *Be patient, depend on His timing, and don’t skip over the relationship to get on with the doing. He is more interested in a love relationship than what you can do for Him.*
- *God speaks in different ways (Scripture, prayer, other believers, circumstance, etc.). That God speaks is far more significant than how He speaks.*
- *Remember our faith must be in God and what He is purposing to do, not our human wisdom. Let what you believe in Him determine what you do. “Jesus looked at them and said, ‘With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God’ “. (Mark 10:27)*
- *As you take steps to obey God you will get to know Him as you experience Him accomplishing his work through you.*
- *Periodically evaluate, seeking God’s clear direction for the next step.*

Determining Your ...TARGET GROUP

** Guiding Principle: Be credible, serve with excellence, and be genuine and caring.*

What are the ‘felt needs’ in your community?

** Felt need – problems and stressful life circumstances that require help*

What ‘felt need(s)’ are the volunteers passionate to address and meet?

or

What are the needs that you are passionate about? What need(s) make you pound the table in want of addressing?