

Christian Leadership Reflections

Discussion Guide

STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

https://www.cccc.org/news_blogs/john/2011/10/17/strategic-planning-for-christian-ministries/



- 1) Have a discussion about strategy making in Scripture:
 - a) Consider Jonah and risk/threat analysis. What did he not consider or give enough weight to? What is your ministry's posture on risks and threats today? Are there initiatives you have decided not to do or never considered because they are too risky? Is there anything that you should trust God for that would let you do new initiatives?
 - b) Make a persuasive case for why Paul's plan to revisit all the churches he had previous connections with makes perfect strategic sense (Act 15:36). How open is your team to God abruptly changing your plans? Given the drastic change in plans that Paul proposed, what do you find remarkable about his companions' response (Acts 16:10)? What questions or concerns would you have had as Paul's companion? Is your team adept at group spiritual discernment? How would you go about discerning God's direction?

- 2) Talk about the role that common sense plays in planning.
 - a) How can you know that a risk is really one that God wants you to take? Or that a counter-intuitive strategy is really from God?
 - b) How can you position your team as ready for anything that God wants you to do?
 - c) What culture would you need to have?
 - d) What would have to change about your team's tolerance for risk?