

Mission Meeting Starters

When you want to start a meeting with the Mission in Mind

Genesis 1:28 / Malachi 2:15

A central purpose for procreation was God's desire for the increase of believers.

How are you in mission in and to your family?

How is your church helping family members reach each other for Christ?

Isaiah 43:18-19

If you had to predict 3 Major Changes that you think the church will be dealing with in the next 25 years, what would they be?

How could each be an opportunity for mission in your church?

Hebrews 11:1-2

Imagine your group has a camera that can take pictures 3 years into the future. What 5 photos would you hope to see that would tell you that your church was pursuing the mission of Jesus?

Acts 19:1-12

About the formation of the church at Ephesus

Imagine you are part of a team of 6 people sent to start a new church in Nairobi, Kenya. Your task? In 30 days have a new church up and running. What would be the top 10 things you would do to start a church which is reaching people there who were not previously part of a church? After creating your top 10 list, what actions that you proposed could be used right now to help your present congregation carry out the mission of Jesus in your community?

1 Timothy 1:1-5

Consider who God has given to you as God gave Timothy to Paul.

In what way has love, purity of heart, a good conscience, and faith been increased in that relationship?

What leader, member, or non-member do you build up in Christ?

Thank God for friends that build you up in Christ.

Matthew 9:35-38 & Ephesians 6:18-20

When you are moving about the day and you are led to prayer, for what do you most often pray?

How could you broaden your prayer life to reflect God's heart for people?

John 1:16

From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another.

With your team or leadership group make a list of 5 Blessings God has given your church which could be used to reach people "far from God." Then make a list of 5 Challenges that your church could pursue in the next 24 months to more closely live out the mission of Jesus to "seek and save that which was lost."

Psalm 145:1-12

There is no local church that has been in existence since the first century. Each local congregation has served a purpose and then faded out of existence.

What if your church was the exception?

What top ten qualities and ministry actions would keep your church vibrant and outreaching for the long haul?

Psalm 138:1-5

All believers are called to pray that God would raise up workers for the harvest.

What five specific harvest workers (volunteer or staff) do you need to pray for to help your congregation grow in its mission?

Psalm 146

Does the LORD open eyes, raise up, love, protect, support and thwart in your community apart from His Church?

List three ways that your worship and praise of God reflects God's movement in your community?

Pray that the Lord work His good and righteous will through you in every aspect of your life.

Psalm 118:13-17

What are you known for in your community?

What would you like to be known for?

What one step can you take this year to help make this a reality?

Romans 12:1-2

How is the Church as a golden stand of aspen in the culture?

What is Paul declaring in this passage?

How is the body of Christ (your congregation and yourself) different from the culture of your community?

What similarities are there between you, your congregation and your community?

What three things need to change in your life as a leader in order to "prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect?"

Psalm 22:22-24

Think of three people among your family and friends who do not know Jesus or are distant from him. Describe the situation of one of these people and what, in your opinion, might help him or her know Christ.

Psalm 22:25-28

Brainstorm one major unmet need in your community. Discuss how your congregation could help make a difference in that area.

Psalm 22:29-31

Talk about what your congregation's neighborhood might look like in forty years. In what ways will your congregation need to change and adapt to be a vibrant influence for Jesus in your community at that time?

Psalm 35:17-18, 26-28

What negative cultural trends bother you most these days? Discuss one way your church can counteract one of these trends on a congregational level. Discuss one way your church can counteract one of these trends on an individual member/family level.

Psalm 45:16-17

What if you had the willing people and the funds to start three new churches/ministries in a fifteen-mile radius from your church? What ministries would you start and where would they be located?

Psalm 51:10-13

Share one compelling faith lesson have you learned during your life. Name one person you wish you could share this lesson with.

Psalm 57:7-11

How is your congregation reaching out to people nationally and internationally? What is one thing you can do this year to increase your outreach to the nations?

Psalm 59:9-13

What is your church not very enthusiastic about doing, but must do to effectively proclaim the Gospel? Discuss how you can overcome the obstacles that stand in the way of this ministry step.

Psalm 68:4-6

How is your church reaching the "least of these" in your community? How can you invite the unchurched into serving others with you? Discuss how this invitation may be more appealing than (and a prelude to) an invitation to church.

Psalm 71:14-18

How are the children and youth of your congregation included in your ministry and equipped to talk to their friends about Jesus? Brainstorm one way you could reach 20% more children and young people than you are currently reaching.

Psalm 72:18-19

Imagine that it is 20 years from now and a new generation of leaders is taking over in your congregation. What young people who currently are a part of your church would fill the leadership positions? Talk about how you are preparing these future leaders today.

Psalm 78:1-7

What would you include on a "faith maturity" checklist for each member of your congregation? Talk about knowledge, actions of service, personal integrity, and personal witness.

Psalm 79:9-13

Imagine that your freedom to worship openly was taken away. How would you stay connected as a congregation and how would you step up efforts to reach your community with the Good News?

Psalm 95:1-11

What if you had only twenty-four hours to accomplish final actions of Kingdom outreach before Jesus returned? What would your top priorities be as a church?

Psalm 96:1-3

How are members of your congregation infiltrating the community? Make a list of ways your church members are involved in your community. Discuss how these connections might help expand your mission.

Psalm 102:18-22

What if God guaranteed that at least two unbelievers would be attending every worship service you have for the rest of your church's history? Talk about how this fact might affect what happens in church each week.

Psalm 111:1

What if you could do anything you wanted to do as a church except hold worship services? How would you make Christ's difference in your community?

Psalm 116:12-14

How much money does your congregation allocate for missions outside the congregation? If you had unlimited resources, what three additional areas of outreach would you fund?

Psalm 118:13-17

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1 Corinthians 12:7-10

In response to St. Paul's pleas for removal of his "thorn in the flesh", Jesus says, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Sometimes we feel inadequate to share the Gospel with those we know. How do Jesus' words help us overcome our feelings of inadequacy?

1 Corinthians 9:22

In order to share the Gospel, St. Paul was willing to adapt himself to the circumstances and people within which he found himself, without compromising the message of the Gospel. How might we need to adapt ourselves to those in our mission field, so that we might share the Gospel with them effectively?

1 Corinthians 12:7-11

St. Paul indicates that each Christian has a "manifestation of the Spirit"? What gifts for the sake of Christ's mission exist in the people in this group? Go around the circle, with each person articulating what gift or gifts they see in each of the others.

Matthew 5:14

Jesus' followers of the "light of the world". How can we, in our community, be both a light that shines upon darkness, revealing it (law) and also a light that eradicates it (Gospel)?