



## **5. MINISTRY ADVANCEMENT PLAN (MAP) OUTLINE**

A leader's guide, participant workbook, and power point overview presentation can be downloaded from our district website ([cmawdo.org](http://cmawdo.org)) under the resources / church effectiveness tool section.

### **SENSE YOUR VISION – What are you hearing from God?**

A vision is a sense of what ministry will look and feel like in advance of its completion. A vision isn't remembered through a set of exercises. Rather it is memorable through a series of experiences. Sensing God's vision is the ability to see yourself as part of His ongoing redemptive story. History now becomes 'His Story' for you! It helps you understand his intention for your church in accomplishing his specific purpose.

Before you can state your purpose you have to acknowledge that all you will ever do (to accomplish your purpose) is framed by what God has already mandated you to become. Getting a sense of God's heart for your church and community is the vision God has for you. Such a vision should ignite passion and the convictions necessary to get the job done! Without vision people perish! (Proverbs)

### **STATE YOUR PURPOSE – What is the main thing you are about?**

A purpose is a clear statement that defines the 'main thing' your church or ministry wants to accomplish. Some may call this the 'mission' of your church. A key question to ask to determine purpose is: "In light of all the needs around us, why do we exist as a church or ministry?" or "What is the main thing we are about?"

A purpose statement is like your North Star. A North Star is not a place you go but rather it is a fixed point providing direction for all your activities. It will be assumed that your purpose will be based upon Jesus' two great imperatives.

These imperatives are the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.

*"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very*

*end of the age”  
Matthew 28:19, 20*

*Great Commission -*

*“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’”  
Matthew 22:37-39*

*Great Commandment –*

## **MINISTRY ADVANCEMENT PLAN (MAP) OUTLINE – PAGE 2**

### **SELECT YOUR PRIORITIES – Where will you direct your efforts?**

Priorities help move you from a sense of general purpose to focused action. Priorities are the general areas where your efforts will be directed. A key question to determine priorities is:

“What 3-7 areas will we continue to direct our energies to in the future?”

Priorities are ongoing, non-measurable, and non-dated groupings of activities or responsibilities. One of the best ways to tell whether or not an area is a clearly defined priority is to ask:

“Could we assign a person to be responsible for this area of activity?”

If you can assign a person, on a continuing basis, to be responsible for activities in that area, you have probably identified a priority.

### **STRUCTURE YOUR PLANS – Where will you direct your efforts?**

Just as priorities flow from purpose, and purpose from a sense of the vision God has for you, plans consider the ‘specifics’ that allows purpose and priorities to happen. In the MAP cycle there are four areas related to structuring your plans:

1. Goals are measurable plans you will accomplish in the coming weeks and months. Goals should be specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and time-dated. They are called S.M.A.R.T. goal statements.
2. Outcomes are results you anticipate experiencing through completing the goal.
3. Performance Measures are tools that provide accountability to your plans; showing you whether or not you have accomplished what you set out to do!

4. Action Plans provide a step-by-step sequence of events that are planned in order to see the goal come to completion.

On an annual basis priorities and plans are revisited and revised.