Grow

MINISTRY EVALUATION GUIDE

LIVE! STEAL OUR STRATEGY

We can always benefit from the occasional evalution of our ministry strategy! Grab a few team members or key volunteers, and do this together.

1. **THINK:** Read the reflection questions we've provided. Can you answer them with clarity and confidence?
2. **RATE:** After some reflection, how would you rate your ministry strategy in each area? Are you happy with it? Unsure? Unhappy?
3. **WRITE:** In the right column, take some notes on your strengths, weaknesses, questions, and next steps!
4. **WATCH:** When you're done, watch the Steal Our Strategy training event for some help in the areas where you're unclear or struggling!

DISCIPLESHIP	Does your church have a clear definition of discipleship? How does your ministry measure spiritual growth? Are your discipleship efforts unified across all age groups and ministries? How often do you provide your group with discipleship resources? How do you know if your discipleship strategy is working?		***HOW'S YOUR DISCIPLESHIP STRATEGY?***
TEACHING	How do you decide what you will teach over the course of a year? How do you decide when to teach each topic? Is your teaching engaging and relatable for kids and teenagers? Do kids and teenagers remember (and know how to apply) what you've taught? How do you know if your teaching strategy is working?		***HOW'S YOUR TEACHING STRATEGY?***
ENVIRONMENTS	How do you ensure your weekly ministry environment is welcoming for visitors? How do you ensure your ministry is physically and emotionally safe so spiritual growth can take place? How do you make your ministry environment fun for everyone attending? How do you know if your environment strategy is working?		***HOW'S YOUR ENVIRONMENTS STRATEGY?***
EVENTS	Why do you do the events you do? Does every event on your calendar have a clear purpose? Do the events on your calendar vary in their required investment of energy, budget, and time? Do you have an organized system and detailed checklists for planning events? How do you know if your events strategy is working?		***HOW'S YOUR EVENTS STRATEGY?***
VOLUNTEERS	Do volunteers enjoy serving in your ministry? Do you have a clear process for recruiting and screening new volunteers? Are volunteers being regularly trained, encouraged, and equipped? Are they regularly making appropriate connections with kids or teenagers? How do you know if your volunteer strategy is working?		***HOW'S YOUR VOLUNTEER STRATEGY?***
FAMILIES	What are you doing to engage and support families in your church? What about families in your community? How do you request and respond to feedback you receive from parents and guardians? Are parents being regularly trained, encouraged, and equipped? How do you know if your family ministry strategy is working?		***HOW'S YOUR FAMILY STRATEGY?***
PLANNING	How far in advance do you plan your ministry calendar? Who do you invite into your ministry planning process? Which aspects of your ministry strategy distract from, or compete with, each other? How could your ministry calendar be more aligned with other ministries? How do you know if your planning strategy is working?		***HOW'S YOUR MINISTRY PLANNING STRATEGY?***

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FREE RESOURCE! LEARN YOUR MINISTRY STRENGTHS (AND HOW TO GROW!)

As ministry leaders, **we don't always have time to pause and reflect.** But even if those moments don't happen very often, we've probably all had a moment when we looked around at everything that keeps us so busy and wondered...

- "Why doesn't it seem like this is working?"
- "Why isn't my group more engaged?"
- "Why can't I get my volunteers to show up?"
- "Why don't parents seem to care?
- "I feel like something's wrong, but I'm not sure what it is."
- "Do I just need a nap? Or do we need a different strategy?"

It's not always easy to know when your ministry efforts are working—and when they're not. So, our team put together a **handy little ministry assessment tool** that we think will help. It comes with...

- **Thought-provoking questions** for you to think about and discuss.
- **A holistic approach** to help you evaluate all areas of your ministry at once.
- **A seven-part structure** that will help you identify the areas where you're doing great—and help you focus on the areas where you need a little help.
- Space to **rate your ministry** in all seven areas and **take notes** about what you want to shift.

This tool is designed to help you start a conversation about what's working in your ministry—and what's not.

Oh, and hey! Here's an extra word of encouragement for you today.

None of us are good at *everything* in ministry, so admitting you have a weak spot is okay. You're not good at everything (neither are we) and don't *have* to be good at everything.

But as a leader, you've got to know what you're not good at so you can put systems (or even other people) in place to help you improve in the areas where you're growing. **Your job as a leader is to *identify* the problems in your ministry so you can *address* them—**but to do that, you're going to need honesty.

- **BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF.** Like, ruthlessly honest. Not what you *wish* your ministry were like or what the *end goal* is. Be honest about the weak spots in your ministry *right now* and your own personal leadership.
- **ASK OTHERS TO BE HONEST WITH YOU.** Ask people you trust to give feedback on you and your ministry so you can identify potential problems. Talk to co-workers and mentors. Talk to volunteers. Talk to parents. Talk to your group, too! Ask them to help you identify your weakest areas and really listen.

Wherever those problem areas are for you, please don't be discouraged. It means you're one step closer to diagnosing and solving the source of your attendance problems and making your ministry healthier overall. **This part of the process requires humility and courage. It's not always fun, but it's worth it.**

When we're not sure if our ministry strategy is working, the first step is to **identify the problems.** But once we've done that, the next step is to **address those problems strategically.** It can feel overwhelming, but don't worry! We're here to help with both steps.

So, check out that **ministry assessment** so you can begin to **identify** the weaknesses in your ministry (and your strengths, too).

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Then, try a **free trial** of Grow Curriculum. We make everything you need for a whole year of ministry, including teaching content, events, discipleship activities, and more. Plus, we give you our entire strategy in seven different areas...

- Teaching
- Discipleship
- Events
- Environment
- Volunteers
- Families
- Planning

We want you to have all of the resources you need to keep growing as a ministry leader. Have fun with your **free ministry assessment!** We can't wait to hear how it helps you grow!



TRY GROW FOR FREE!

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