

STEPS TO GET GOING IN THE MASTER'S PLAN (G12)

1. Study and learn all you can about G12.
 - Read Malloy's book on "The Jesus System – Groups of 12"
 - Read Castellanos' books
 - Read Comiskey's books
 - Listen to the "Nuts and Bolts" seminar tapes from Bethany or attend one of their seminars.
 - Go to Bethany World Prayer Center's conferences in Baton Rouge, Louisiana
 - Talk to pastors who are involved with G12
 - If you can, travel to Cali, Columbia and see for yourself what God is up to with this model
 - Take your time... many pastors study it for a year or two before they commit to it. It is a huge step and it is a lot of work. At Anaheim 1st we spent a year studying it before we ever began to implement it.
 - Recognize that this is a huge commitment to change... and in some ways there is no turning back once you get going... your people won't want to turn back!
2. Go to an Encounter as a participant...not a critical analyst. Let God do whatever He wants to in your heart. Experience it first hand.
3. Pray through on it until you know that the Lord has clearly and definitely called you to do this in your church. It is not for everybody.
4. Ask a pastor who is into this vision to coach you in this. There is a lot to think about and you can save yourself a ton of time and tears by having a pastor who is out there a bit ahead of you in this model.
5. Wait until your spouse is on board. If this is God's plan then God is calling your spouse into this as well. Maybe this is God's plan for you, but the timing is not right. Wait until your spouse is excited about it. Pray until this happens.
6. Prayerfully introduce it to your board. Take your time, do it right. This vision is so profound and so pervasive that you will want proper "buy-in" by the leadership of your church. At Anaheim 1st we spent over 6 months introducing our board leadership to the vision through books, literature, personal sharing, going to a conference together (with over half of the board), meals with the board members and their spouse to share the vision, joint prayer, and much discussion.
7. Recognize that most existing churches take 3-4 years to fully implement this Discipleship Model. The successful churches will tell you that it was worth it. Take your time.
8. Avoid the use of the phrase "G12" in your public discussions. Call it The Master's Plan or The Discipleship Model or some other generic name. For some reason, some people get worked up over the phrase "G12."
9. Avoid the 5 worst mistakes that pastors make in implementing or The Master's Plan (G12):
 - Don't go back to your church and announce from the pulpit: "WE ARE GOING TO BE A G12 CHURCH AND YOU ARE ALL GOING TO BE LEADING GROUPS OF 12 – FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE!!"
This is fun, but dumb! Some pastors have really regretted taking this course.
 - Don't run out and grab 12 guys to be your disciples. Jesus wasn't in a rush to get his 12 and neither should you. Many pastors take 4-5 years to complete their 12. If you were to go out and grab 12 guys you would probably end up having to "fire" about half of them. You will probably be 18 months or more into this vision before you begin to pick your 12.

- Don't try and implement too fast! Take your time. Pray it through. Pray each step through. This is one area in church life where you pray that you won't be blown away with runaway success too soon. The sheer stress of success can kill you if it comes too quick too soon. Build your credibility with your people. Work "underground" if you have to for awhile with a few key leaders before you ever go "public."
- Don't start dismantling other ministries such as Sunday School, existing small groups, Sunday nights, etc. Find ways to work within these systems or work around them for awhile. Let The Master's Plan be something that comes up from underneath... like a mighty groundswell. Existing ministries will either move over to The Master's Plan or they will wither in time and die of their own natural causes. We expect to have some traditional Sunday School classes for the few that want and need that format... until Jesus comes. Schedule classes and courses at times when other ministries don't conflict or offer it as a Wednesday night, Sunday night, or Sunday School option.
- Don't try and do it by yourself. Work with others who are implementing this model. You will learn so much from each other. You will save yourself so much effort and hassle by working with others who are tracking after the same vision. Form a task force with key leaders who are beginning to catch the vision. Work with these leaders and listen to them.

10. Look over the materials that Bethany and others are developing. You may want to create your own or borrow heavily. You are welcome to The Master's Plan and you can adapt it anyway you want.

11. Begin to preach on DiscipleMaking principles and concepts. You can, in time, change the whole culture and tone of your church by your faithful prayers and preaching. Create "thirst" in your people for training in becoming DiscipleMakers. Tell them from the pulpit that it is God's will and His destiny for them to be involved in The Great Commission.

12. Begin to meet with key leaders regularly, weekly, and cast your vision before them. Pray for favor in their eyes and favor for the vision.

13. Have your leadership go to a conference or an Encounter with you after you have been to an Encounter. Let them be around other laymen who are excited about the vision and this methodology.

14. Pray and then pray some more.

15.

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19.

20. Pray until you know that you know that you know that it is God's divine call on your life to make Disciples that will make Disciples. If The Master's Plan (G12) is not the best DiscipleMaking methodology you know of... then implement the better plan! But get going! Make Disciples that make Disciples of our Lord Jesus!