

STRATEGIC MINISTRY PLANNING
(Core Level)
International Students, Inc.

***“May He grant your heart’s desires
and make all your plans succeed.”***
Ps 20:4 (NLT)

Module Description

Do you ever feel like you’re often doing ministry “by the seat of your pants?” Ever wonder if your ministry efforts are bearing fruit—that will last? Does what you’re doing in your corner of the ISI ministry really matter, and is it in line with the overall goals and direction of the organization? Feel like you could do better, be more productive, if you had a clear plan and a system in place to guide you? ISI’s *Strategic Ministry Planning* module will introduce you to the importance and benefits of strategic planning as well as the principles that guide the strategic ministry planning process. In this module, you will gain the knowledge, tools, and the pathway needed to build and implement an effective and rewarding strategic ministry plan.

Module Assumptions

It is assumed that individuals beginning this module have received an “okay,” or been encouraged by their ministry supervisor, to complete this training.

Module Delivery Method(s)

This is a self- or group-directed module (can be completed individually, or as a group under the direction of a ministry supervisor or field team leader).

Module Completion Process

- Complete the *Strategic Ministry Planning Quiz* and email to ISI’s [Training Department](#).
- Complete all units and submit all assignments to the Training Department or appropriate supervisor (as indicated)
- After completing all the module units, retake the *Strategic Ministry Planning Quiz* (post-test) and email to the [Training Department](#).
- After completing all of the above assignments, fill out the brief online *Module Evaluation Form*
- Module completed! Determine now your next learning module.

Submitting Assignments

To submit your *Strategic Ministry Planning Module* assignments, save and email fill out the respective form/quiz or type your answers into a Word document, which you save and email to the Training Department and/or ministry supervisor (as indicated). Please contact ISI’s [Training Department](#) if you need assistance.

What You Will Learn

This module is divided into four units, which include the following topics and objectives:

Personal Inventory/Assessment

- Identifying potential or specific behaviors/attitudes that keep you from creating and/or implementing an effective strategic ministry plan.
- Identifying the reasons or areas in which you need to develop strategic ministry planning skills.

Scriptural basis for Strategic Ministry Planning

- Identifying/understanding biblical principles related to strategic ministry planning.

Principles and Guidelines for Strategic Ministry Planning

- Understanding the purpose and principles that guide the strategic ministry planning process.

Strategic Planning Process

- Understanding the strategic ministry planning process and becoming familiar with the tools/resources to help you design a strategic ministry plan.

Designing Your Personal Strategic Ministry Plan

- Designing a strategic ministry plan that is tailored to your ISI ministry role and needs.
- Outlining a workable schedule and selecting a start date to begin implementing your strategic ministry plan

Prayer and Your Strategic Ministry Plan

- Identifying patterns of prayer for yourself, and for others who pray for you, related to your strategic ministry plan.

Materials Needed

- *Strategic Ministry Planning Quiz*
- Book/text:
Church and Ministry Strategic Planning: From Concept to Success (David L. Loudon, R. Henry Migliore, Robert E. Stevens; Publisher: Haworth Press, Inc., 1994),

or...

Strategic Planning for Ministry and Church Growth (R. Henry Migliore, Harrison House, 1988)

Availability: www.amazon.com (new & used), www.nextag.com (new), www.fetchbook.info (new), www.addall.com (new).

Note: If none of the above books seem appropriate for your situation, select another biblically-based strategic ministry planning resource/tool.

- *Strategic Ministry Planning Assignments Document*
- *Faith Goals* form

Unit One—Introduction to Strategic Ministry Planning

Objectives:

- Assess your current knowledge of the strategic planning process and where you could become more effective in developing and implementing an effective strategic ministry plan.
- Identify potential or specific behaviors/attitudes that keep you from creating and/or implementing an effective strategic ministry plan.
- Identify the reasons or areas in which you need to develop strategic ministry planning skills.
- Identify/understand biblical principles related to strategic ministry planning.

Assignments:

- If you have not done so yet, please take a few minutes to do the brief ***“Strategic Ministry Planning Quiz,”*** which you should have received from the ISI Training Department. If you have not received the pre-module quiz, please contact the [Training Department](#) as soon as possible to request the quiz. You will have the opportunity to take this quiz again at the end of the module to check your comprehension growth and to identify any areas you may want to review for better understanding and/or further skill development.
- Consider what you could gain/learn from this module. Are there specific areas where you want God to change your heart or your actions? Write those down so that you can pray for them regularly. Consider asking one or two trusted friends to also pray for your need.
- Is there a certain behavior(s) related to your ministry responsibilities that you know you need to start or stop immediately? Write that/those down and pray for God to help you make any necessary change(s).
- Write down any questions, concerns, or needs you have regarding “strategic planning” and track these as you go through the module. If your questions/concerns/needs have not been answered by the conclusion of the module, please contact ISI’s [Training Department](#) for further assistance.
- If you are married, consider discussing your ISI ministry role/responsibilities in light of this module with your spouse to get his/her input. If you are not married, consider getting input from a trusted, godly, and wise friend or coach.

Unit Two—Purpose, Principles and Process of Strategic Ministry Planning

Objectives:

- To understand the purpose and benefits of strategic ministry planning
- To understand the principles that guide the strategic ministry planning process
- To understand the strategic ministry planning process

Assignments:

- Read: ***Strategic Planning for Ministry and Church Growth*** (Sections: Forward, Abstract, Introduction, Chapters 1-2, 6-10), then answer the following questions.
- Write a one-sentence “mission” statement for your life.

- Write a one-sentence “vision” statement for your life.
- Identify three “core values” of your life.
- List three objectives (broad goals) you could set toward achieving your life mission & vision.
- List one strategy you could employ to help you reach your objectives.

Unit Three—Developing Your Strategic Ministry Plan

Objectives:

- To develop a strategic ministry plan that is **tailored** to your ISI ministry role and needs
- To articulate your strategic plan **implementation** schedule with **start** date

Assignments:

- Design a strategic ministry plan that is tailored to your ISI ministry role and needs (see form and sample).
- Outline a workable implementation schedule and select a start date to begin implementing your strategic ministry plan (see sample).

Unit Four—Module Wrap-Up

- If your questions/concerns/needs regarding “strategic ministry planning” have not been satisfactorily answered throughout this module, please contact ISI’s [Training Department](#) for further assistance.
- Please submit a copy of your final “Strategic Ministry Plan” to your ministry supervisor for their review/approval.
- Please retake the “***Strategic Ministry Planning Quiz***” to check your growth in strategy comprehension and identify any areas you may want to review for clarification or for further development. Once completed, please email your completed quiz (as a Word attachment) to the [Training Department](#).

***“Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity,
but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty.”***

Pr 21:5
