

Personal Ministry Plan

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- Leaders Lead!
- But, in order to lead...we have some life-long learnings to integrate.

Personal Ministry Plan

Drs. James and Molly Scott

- The Nature of your Call - Vision
- Your Spiritual Gifts – Strengths to Grow and Weaknesses to Manage
- Your Natural Abilities
- Your Values, Your Passion...What's important to you?
- What energizes you? Is there FIRE?
- What does God say to your heart? Compassion
- Searching for Spiritual Health: Rule of Life & Prayer
- Emotional Health: Finding emotional stability & growth
- Relational Health: Growing deeper in relationships
- Physical Health: Balance of work, play & exercise
- Financial Health: Wisdom with finances
- In All Things: Balance during our Life-Long Pilgrimage!

Vision/Mission/ Strategic Plan is analogous to Hiking in the Rocky Mountains:

- **Watch** every step carefully lest you fall, that is, details are important!
- **Look Up regularly** to capture the direction of your pilgrimage lest you stray from your Path.
- **Gaze around** to see the Vastness & Beauty of God's Creation so that your heart will always be filled with Wonder, Gratitude and Glory!

Elements of a Personal Ministry Plan

Key Point: “Research has revealed that people have more difficulty setting goals than they do accomplishing them once they are set. The hardest part is setting down and actually thinking about what God wants you to do with your life. The fact is, many of us have a difficult time planning, thinking – finding time for think time.”
Rick Warren

Proverbs 24:3-4 (Living Bible) ***“Any enterprise is built by wise planning, becomes strong through common sense, and profits wonderfully by keeping abreast of the facts.”*** This is simply saying it’s good sense to plan. It’s good sense to have goals in every area of your life – marriage goals, family goals, work goals, financial goals, and physical goals.

An Honest Assessment of My Present Condition

My Vision in Life - What am I passionate about?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

What progress/decline have I made in the past 18 months concerning:

1. **My Mission:** What are my guiding passions/values the past 18 months?
2. **My Plans:** What did I hope to accomplish?
3. **My Evaluation:**
 - How have I changed? Better? Worse?
 - How did I exercise and mature my passions and gifts?
 - What did I actually accomplish?
 - What did I learn?
 - What would I do differently?
 - What would I do more of?
 - What would I eliminate or diminish?

CREDO's Approach to a Personal Ministry Plan

† The Spiritual Component:

Each participant reflects on his or her interior life and relationship with God in Christ.

- ✦ Have you utilized the wisdom of a spiritual director, counselor, or “coach”?

† The Vocational Component:

Each participant has an opportunity for reflection, discernment, and planning in the professional areas of vocation, career, and work.

- ✦ Do you have a 5 year sabbatical plan?

† The Health Component:

Each participant has opportunities for reflection in the areas of physical and emotional health and well-being, stewardship of the body, and the development of a specific plan to address individual health needs.

- ✦ Do you know the warning signs of “burnout”?

† The Financial Component:

Each participant reflects on their God-given resources and how these might be best used in response to God’s call. All aspects of personal financial management are explored.

- ✦ Professionals: It is a primary responsibility of clergy leaders to know the financial status of the parish’s funding means and cycle. A parish finance committee is an essential element in a parish’s health.

† Relationship Component: (Addition – not part of CREDO)

Each participant reflects on his or her personal and family relationships. The primary issue addressed is keeping oneself healthy and balanced through health relationships, e.g., marriage, family, friends, professional acquaintances, colleagues, enemies, as well as within oneself.

† The Art of Calendar Management: (Addition – not part of CREDO)

Each participant is given an opportunity to plan their 3, 6, 9, 12, 18, & 24 month calendar. This helps determine a strategy for harvesting low hanging fruit and for planting seeds for harvest in succeeding generations.

Areas to Consider in Reviewing & Revising One's Personal Ministry Plan

Review: What is the nature of my call, my passion? (Vision?)

- What remains the same?
- What might have changed?

How have I capitalized on my Strengths and learned to managed my Weaknesses?

What are my realistic 12 to 18 month goals in the following areas:

- Spiritual Life
- Professional Gifts – What gifts can I enhance? What weaknesses can I manage better?
- Relationships: Spouse, Family, Friends, Colleagues, etc.
- Health
- Finances

Which of your primary Goals can you fit into your calendar the next 3 months in order to harvest some “Low Hanging Fruit”?

- The next 6 months?
- Before Christmas?

Scriptures of Note

- † **“Ministry is more of an Art Form than a Science.”**
Bryan Hobbs
- † **“The moment I—as a pastor—stop growing, this church will stop growing. You must always be developing and growing and becoming what God wants you to be. Learning to be a leader takes a lifetime.”**
Rick Warren
- † **“Do all this in prayer, asking for God’s help. Pray on every occasion, as the Spirit leads. For this reason keep alert and never give up; pray always for all God’s people.”**
Ephesians 6:18
- † **“Make no mistake: There is no promise of safety in Jesus’ call. As he calls us into the frightening arena, he points to the wounds in his hands and side, as if to remind us that we are afraid for good reason. It really is a dangerous world. It really does wound us. Eventually, it kills us.”**
Mark Galli, managing editor of *Christianity Today*
- † ***“In conclusion, my friends, fill your minds with those things that are good and that deserve praise: things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and honorable...And the God who give us peace will be with you.”***
Philippians 4:8-9
- † ***“You are the people of God; he loved you and chose you for his own. So then, you must clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Be tolerant with one another and forgive one another whenever any of you has a complaint against someone else. You must forgive one another just as the Lord has forgiven you. And to all these qualities add love, which binds all things together in perfect unity.”***
Colossians 3:12-14
- † **“Wise and effective leaders understand that ministry is more like a marathon than a 100 yard dash and plan accordingly.”**
Bryan Hobbs
- † **“Wise leaders see ministry as a team sport rather than a solo event.”**
Bryan Hobbs
- † **“Get rid of the sluff offs”.**
Paraphrase from Peter Drucker