

What's Most Important Right Now?

Step 1: Individually brainstorm 2 or 3 *potential* priorities

If we do nothing else in the next 3 months, we must:

Step 2: Decide on 1-2 priorities as a team

Step 3: Define the Win

1. What does success look like?
2. Where are we currently?
3. What are the obstacles in the way?

What's Most Important Right Now?

Facilitator Guide

Framing: Remind them of the Vision

- The purpose of the Leadership team- whole parish orientated and a support to Father in the implementation of the vision for the parish. In particular, the task of becoming a missional community.
- We want to teach you a process for setting and *achieving* goals to move the parish forward.

Step 1: Start them Brainstorming potential priorities to plan.

- Have them do it individually on worksheet
- Share and discuss as group
- Facilitator- look for pitfalls in brainstorming process (see below)

Step 2: Pick one priority

- They have a list of top 3 or 4
- Choose 1 to “Define the win” and fill out “planning guide”
- Generally one that they can achieve in 3 months

Step 3: Define the Win

- Choose 1 to work on to fill out planning guide
- Repeat this process for other 1 or 2 priorities on your own. Please share with facilitator or Archdiocesan coach.

Potential Pitfalls to Avoid

- **Maintenance Priorities-** gently point out if all their priorities are maintenance orientated. Maintenance may be necessary now but let's get past urgent maintenance ASAP so that you can pursue mission.
 - Ie. When climbing Mt. Everest they often die as they wait for an obstacle ahead of them to be removed.
 - This method allows you to transcend unavoidable maintenance issues quickly and effectively.
- **Too many priorities-** trying to pursue everything at once is overwhelming and unrealistic. Anything more than 2 or 3 priorities will likely end up in failure and frustration.
- **Invisible Priorities-** some things are actually priorities but end up not being acknowledged. Fish for any unspoken priorities like hiring, training, vacations...
- **Not Finishing-** encourage them to finish what they start before adding additional priorities.
- **Rigidity-** don't be ashamed to adjust priorities if and when circumstances beyond your control warrant.
- **Forgetting to Celebrate-** encourage them to offer praise and thanksgiving to the Lord and to celebrate even small wins together.