



Church Leader,

Vision is a word that's often used but rarely defined. You probably know that you should have a vision for your church, but it's so easy to get stuck in the Sunday-to-Sunday hamster wheel. Building a clear and actionable vision for your church is a process, and no PDF download is going to solve all of your problems. However, this checklist is designed to get you thinking in a visionary way.

We hope that this resource serves you well and helps you on the path to break through your barriers and maximize your impact for Christ.

Blessings,

The Malphurs Group Team

P.S. We know how lonely the ministry journey can be. Talk with one of our Guides for a [free, one-on-one session by selecting a time slot that works for you here.](#)

7 Church Vision Essentials Checklist

☐ Is your vision clear?

If we asked all of the members of your board, "Where are we going as a church? What is our vision?" would each board member answer that question the same way? If the answer is, "No," then your vision is not clear. Your whole leadership team should be able to articulate the impact you dream of having in your community and the organizational shifts that will be necessary to get there.

☐ Is your vision shared?

Not only does your vision need to be clearly articulated so that everyone understands it, it's important that most in your church share this dream with you. It's not enough that your vision be well-defined, it only has a hope of coming into being if the majority of the church (and all of the leadership) own this dream.

☐ Is your vision exciting?

If your church's vision could be copied-and-pasted from another church in another community or even a different church within your same community, it's likely not very exciting. While "see our church grow" is a noble dream, it isn't one that's likely to get anyone very excited. After all, most churches want to grow. What about your desire to grow is unique to you? How can you phrase and contextualize your dream so that it becomes caffeine for the soul?

☐ Is your vision a picture?

An effective church vision is fundamentally a snapshot of the future. It's an image of where the church wants to go. Facts and data have their place, but this isn't it. Your vision is like putting a screenshot of the beach on your computer desktop background. It's a visual reminder of where you want to be as a church.

☐ Is your vision God's future for your church?

Scripture says that man makes his plans, but the Lord directs his steps. This is true when it comes to vision, too. Be sure that ask you clarify your vision that you don't rely on your own ambitions and dreams, but that that you pursue God's direction through prayer and fasting.

❑ Is your vision something that can be?

Root your vision in reality. This might sound counter-intuitive, and it shouldn't be taken to mean that you should dream big or dream beyond what is feasible right now. You absolutely should! In fact, if it is something you can accomplish apart from God, it's not likely that it's a God-given vision. However, you can root your vision in reality by reverse-engineering what changes will be necessary to get from here to there. In our Strategic Envisioning process, we help churches build this bridge by identifying the key cultural and systemic changes within the church that are undeniably required to see the dream come true.

❑ Is your vision something that must be?

If your vision doesn't give you a holy discontent with the status quo, then your vision is weak. Your vision must be a dream that is so compelling that the pursuit of anything lesser would be an utter disappointment. Your vision should necessarily lead you to stop doing things that are holding you back and push you to take risks you wouldn't take otherwise. If your vision isn't pushing you into the unknown so that you can accomplish something greater, it isn't a good vision.

These seven questions will help your leadership think more deeply about where you are going as a church. Remember, Jesus gave us all the same direction when He commanded us to, "Make disciples!" But that simple call has radically transformed our world in thousands of different ways over the past two millennia. What radical transformation, what breakthrough, is God calling you to make in your sphere of influence? What dream is God laying on your heart? How are you pushing your church and your leadership to chase that God-given dream with all of your heart, soul, mind, strength, and resources?

P.S. Don't forget to connect with a TMG Guide for [a free, one-on-one session](#) by [picking a time slot here](#).