**Breakout Churches Game Plan**

Preliminary step if needed in your situation: ask permission of the church council or voters to pursue a study of Breakout Churches and/or to start the Congregational Assistant Program.

**One Way to Proceed**:

1. Use a Bible class hour to explain the Congregational Assistant Program
2. Gather or recruit people interested in beginning the Congregational Assistant Program
3. Use this group to study Breakout Churches and head down the road that could lead to uncovering a vision for your gospel ministry

**Another Way to Proceed**:

1. Use a Bible class hour to give an overview and explain Breakout Churches
2. Gather or recruit people interested in helping you study this
3. Use this group to study Breakout Churches and head down the road that could lead to uncovering a vision for your gospel ministry

**Next Steps**:

1. Use the discussion guide to lead the group through Breakout Churches
2. Report insights and findings to a church open forum
3. Administer the survey that asks three basic questions: 1. What brought you to our church? 2. What keeps you at our church? 3. What’s your favorite memory at our church?
4. Report the results of that survey to reveal the congregation’s niche or passion
5. Have the pastor contemplate his own niche or passion with help from others, in particular with the assistance of the group that studied Breakout Churches with him
6. Have the study group look at the needs of the community with assignments to gather information on demographics, ethnographic Interviews, talks to government officials, talks to vice principals of area schools (those dealing with discipline), talks to vendors, real estate agents, hair dressers, etc. who are your customers, what are they talking about?, talks to local pastors, churches, definitions of your parish map, ministry area, church signage, visibility, and marketing (logo etc.), and whatever else might help your analysis.
7. Have the congregation take three surveys (assessment of our ministry to members, assessment of our knowledge of Christian doctrine, assessment of our outreach ministry)
8. Follow up with every member visits in small groups in which you a) go through the surveys again and ask for direct input from the members b) use the doctrinal survey to explain how this gives us confidence to uncover and pursue our vision c) ask member input on the vision they see uncovered in the center of the Venn Diagram that includes the pastor’s passion, the congregation’s passion and the needs of the community.
9. Make plans to pursue the vision.
10. Give glory to God for allowing the congregation to move forward with this blessing.