

Strategy Minimums

Strategy is a leadership tool. Policy is a management tool

Strategy is an **intentional** plan to accomplish one's God-given **unique** role; that is, it takes into account what is special about your churches history, values, passions, skill set, philosophy of ministry, affinity groups, etc.

Strategy asks the **Key Question**:

- *What does God want to accomplish in the world through our church? Or*
- *What does God want us to do in the world?*

Without a strategy you may be efficient but you might not be effective.

Strategy deals with questions of “why” and “where” that are foundation to mobilization, supporting and sending missionaries.

Strategy flows from: Definitions → Priorities → Vision → Strategy → Policy

Strategy originates from a base of agreed upon values and priorities; however the values of the individual team members are often unstated and sometimes unclear, perhaps even to the individuals themselves.

Strategy is never static, but evolves with the changing makeup and understanding of the missions leaders. That is, your *Policies* and *Practices* can influence your *Vision* and therefore your *Strategy* and the cycle repeats.

We can't do everything so creating a strategy forces us to focus on the few key things we are best suited to accomplish; however, it is very difficult to say 'no' frequently enough (largely because of relationships, the desire to please, and the priorities of various church leaders, stakeholders, and key influencers) to be able to focus resources on a realistic effective strategy.

Unreached peoples and major countries like China and India must be considered in any serious reflection on strategy.

Developing a unique church based missions strategy takes at least 6 months if not a couple years in order to build ownership with many church leaders.