



## Strategy – *PASS the BATON*

**Who** – Church, fathers & father-figures

**What** – Encourage & equip dads to be faithful fathers

**How** – Strategy implementation through meeting, speaking and building relationships

**Why** – Engage fathers & spiritual fathers in raising a godly generation

### **FAITHFUL FATHERS:**

*Prioritize physical presence,  
Are engaged emotionally, and  
Lead spiritually by example.*

Initiative is to energize a mission for dads through a core group of men in the church armed with a strategy that encourages and equips dads to **be faithful fathers** and reinvigorates the church on the fathering front.

### **PASS the BATON**

- Strategy/framework

*Purpose-filled fathering & spiritual fathering*

- Start the movement; Core team development – **BATON**

*Activities for dads & kids*

- Keep influence & impact visible; Easy-to-engage-in activities

*Studies for dads*

- Encourage & equip through routine studies, forums

*Stay connected through the transitions*

- Mature in relationships, retreats & adventures

## Church Strategy - *To Engage Dads*

**Core Group Development** – *Encouraging & equipping dads to be **faithful fathers** ... dads that prioritize physical presence, are engaged emotionally and lead spiritually by example:*

- **Begin** – See the need to encourage & equip dads specifically in the role as a father.
  - Convey the connection between the Father and fathers
  - Create a buzz around fathering
    - Opportunity to reflect the triune nature of God – Father, Son & Holy Spirit
    - Responsibility to reflect the triune nature of God – Spiritual, physical & emotional
    - Importance, influence and impact of leading spiritually, being present physically and engaging emotionally.
  - Identify core group candidates
  - **2-points**
  
- **Assimilate like minds** – *Get the vision to encourage dads on their journey as a father.*
  - Create core group & initiate regular meetings
    - Eight to ten men, lay leaders with one or two staff that have a cross-section of gifts & demographics that match church/community
    - Establish regularly scheduled meetings – 1 or 1½ hour meeting per month suggested.
    - Build relationships & schedule kickoff event
  - **2-points** (*May take 3 – 6 months*)
  
- **Transition** – *Initiate the process to engage dads in raising a godly generation*
  - Be contagious as a core group of dads that are accountable to each other
  - Develop unique mission/vision that complements church mission/vision
  - Conduct kick-off event
    - Speaking engagement w/Rick – ‘*A Father’s Legacy is the Sum of His Choices*’
    - A fun easy-to-plug-into event for dads & kids that incorporates devotion time
  - **2-points** (*Typically within 6 months to 1 year*)
  
- **Ongoing management** – *Drive the process to engage dads in raising a godly generation*
  - Review kickoff event and build on platform/strategy in response to interests conveyed;
  - Schedule & execute next steps – Activities, Studies, Staying connected
    - Example of annual framework
      - Two to three fun, easy-to-plug-into events for dads & kids per year
      - One or two studies for dads – Sunday school series or stand-alone study for dads
      - One weekend retreat per year – for dads, father & daughter or father & son
  - Reinforce core group, strengthen/rotate add new dads to sustain ongoing management
  - **2-points** (*Typically within 1 to 2 years*)
  
- **Next step** – *Extend the strategy, broaden network as contagious Christians in community.*
  - Network of “point dads” & tangential groups of dads within the Body
    - Point dads take responsibility to represent the core group by connecting with other dads that have kids in a specific age range
    - May include coordinating unique activities and events for specific demographics
  - Community outreach
    - Core group engages with broader group of dads for opportunities in the community
  - **2-points** (*18 months to 3-years*)

**Move** from where you are **to a rating of 10** within three years. *Faithful Fathering* is typically engaged the first 18 months and available as needed beyond that.