7 Practices of Effective Ministry

Andy Stanley, Reggie Jones and Lane Jones

Mulmomah Books, 2004

p 10     Clarify the win, "It is impossible to know if you are making progress if you are not clear about your destination."

p 32     A win at church is more complicated; so knowing what a win looks like is all the more important

p 36     The tendency in business, or in the church work for that matter, is to mistake activity for progress.

p 43     Most people confuse the quantity of information communicated with the quality of implementation in the workplace.They think that the more I tell them, the better they'll do.

p 69     Clarify the win - Define what is important at every level of the organization

p 71     The church should be more determined than any other kind of organization to "clarify the win" simply because the stakes are so much higher; Eternity hangs in the balance.

p 73     Countless individuals quit working in churches every year because they simply do not feel like they are winning.

p 76     When you clarify the win, you can manage your resources more effectively.

p 81     Countless organizations paste on their walls meaningless phrases that never stick in the hearts of their leaders because the words never become part of their everyday language. If you want your leaders to buy into it, you have to keep finding creative ways to clarify the win.

p 87     Think Steps, Not Programs - Before you start anything, make sure it takes you where you need to go.

p 94     Every step should be easy.

           Every step has to be obvious

           Every step must be strategic

p 99     Narrow the Focus - Do fewer things in order to make a greater impact

p 100   If you really want to make a lasting impact, then you need to eliminate what you do well for the sake of what you can potentially do best.

p 109   You need to figure out who you are good at reaching and go for it.

          - Identify a primary target group.

          - Design each environment to do one thing.

p 119     Teach less for more - Say only what you need to say to the people who need to hear it

p 129     1. Decide what you are going to say

             2. Decide to say one thing at a time

p 132     3. Decide how you are going to say it

             4. Say it over and over again.

p 139     Listen to Outsiders - Focus on who you're trying to reach, not who you're trying to keep

p 152     To effectively listen to outsiders, you must learn their language.

p 157     Replace yourself - Learn to hand off what you do

p 158     1. You can desperately hold on to your job until someone inevitably replaces you.

             2. You can prepare someone to do what you do and strategically replace yourself.

p 160     If you fail to develop a strategy to replace yourself, you will . . .

               . . . force talented individuals to remain in the wings.

               . . . cause potential leaders to exit the organization.

               . . . stifle needed insight from valuable team members.

               . . . hinder your ability to recruit volunteers.

               . . . limit the growth of your programs and ministries.

p 163     Position Your Volunteers To Recruit

               If you can successfully inspire your existing volunteers to replace themselves, volunteerism has the opportunity to grow exponentially.

p 173     Work On It - Take time to evaluate your work - and to celebrate your wins

p 181     If you want a behavior repeated then you need to reward it. Few things are more rewarding for a volunteer than hearing his or her name shared as part of      someone's life-changing story.