Religion and Theology Capstone Project

Name

Institution

Course

Tutor

Date

Religion and Theology Capstone Project

**The ministry project being addressed**

The ministry project is about bringing young adults to church. There is a need to bring them to the young adult community in Las Vegas, Nevada, back to revival and forge ahead together in the ministry. It is high time that the young people should get tired of staying contrary to the will of God, come to the realization to understand who they are and the power they wield s children of God, and embrace what God wants for us (Sudworth, Cray & Russell, 2007). There is a need to reach out to this important group so that they are brought to rival and aligned with the will of God. After doing that, the young people can become part of the church and join various ministries. As at the moment, there are no young adults in the church, yet this is the generation that should take over in the near future. For God to restore us, we need a revival in our mind, spirit, and body that requires our full attentions emotionally, spiritually, and mentally. This is what the project will be striving to achieve. There should be full revival and restoration for the young adults, most of whom are likely to face a lot of crises in life. Therefore, the project should be tailored towards reviving and restoring the young people’s mind, spirit, and body by according them full attention emotionally, spiritually, and mentally. They will be equipped by the word of God, which will empower them and give them the desire to participate more in evangelism (Sudworth, Cray & Russell, 2007). There is a need for the young people to consistently and seamlessly be integrated into the empowered leadership core of the church. This can only be possible when these young people are followed to the grassroots and then fished out for this purpose. The service held by the young people will be a good starting point to reach the target audience, after which subsequent meetings will also be organized to review and continue with the work.

The young people are supposed to thrive in God's presence and do the work of God diligently. Before they reach this level, they should be brought on board for restoration and revival. The project should target many youths, including those in the church and those yet to join the church. Winning those who have not gotten into the church will be a very significant milestone for the project. Bringing the young people on board will entail delving deep into some of the issues faced by the young people. This will make it possible for the church leadership to come up with a framework for guidance and mentorship even after the young adults have been restored (Van der Merwe, Grobler, Strasheim & Orton, 2013). After restoration and revival, the young people are supposed to grow, and this can only be possible if they can have people they can look up to for guidance and mentorship, or rather, spiritual fathers. As such, the project will be a very good avenue, exclusively for the young adults who may be willing to walk its paths.

**Timeline to accomplish the tasks**

Some of the tasks that need to be accomplished prior to the beginning of the program include meeting with the head pastoral team and the victory group overseers so that they can help us in prayer to seek God’s intervention in the matter and give us the blessings so that we can be able to operate in the right direction. There is also the need to have a comprehensive meeting with the leaders among the young adults. The leaders who will be taken into consideration will include a young couple who will be the overall leader and oversee most of the activities to be done, and a young female and male leader. Another activity incorporated in the timeline will include brainstorming on various aspects such as the agenda, timeframe, and location. This will be the first phase of preparation and is supposed to take around one month. Planning is considered to be the most important step in doing such an initiative, as much of the success will depend on how well the activities were planned.

Another aspect that should be put in the timeframe is the mobilization of resources. Here, it is expected that the resources will come from the church kitty and the church members. The more time the church members are given to raise funds, the higher the chances that they will be able to raise more. As such, the church members will be given about two months to raise funds or mobilize the resources required to ensure the successful completion of the project.

The table below summarizes the main activities that will be included and the optimal timeframe expected for each activity. The project activities will not have to start after the initial activity is completed. Some activities can be run concurrently with others.

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| Activity | Timeframe |
| Meeting with the head pastoral team and the victory group overseers | 2 weeks |
| Meeting with the leaders among the young adults | 2 weeks |
| Assigning responsibilities to the chosen members | 1 week |
| Unveiling the program that will be followed and those that will be in charge of every aspect of the program | 1 week |
| Mobilization of resources from the church members | 2 months |
| Implementation/execution of the project | 1 month |
| Evaluation for continuous improvement/feedback | 1 week |

**Target Analyses**

With the target analysis for week 3, we had to take into perspective the goals that we were to achieve, refine them and check whether they were feasible for a situation. For the most part, we were more concerned with why we had to do this as opposed to how we were going to do it. As such, most part of this target milestone has to do with the rationale for the project. The big picture that we envisioned was a young adults service held on a set day, set time, and set time so we can create a place for the young adult community to come together as brothers and sister in Christ to equip and lead together in the fullness of God and in the fullness of what He has for us as his children. This was the ultimate goal that we had to strive to achieve jointly.

We were able to solicit the right attitudes and mindset as we approached the project's implementation phase. Many things were tailored towards making this project a success. Before the project starts, there was a need to instill some values among the major facilitators so that they could approach the project with the right mindset and with a clear knowledge of what to expect from the ground. The main ingredient to have this project come to success is unconditional love. The chances are high that young adults will be coming to the occasion broken and need restoration, but it will be the responsibility of the facilitators to love with an unconditional love just like the father’s love. As such, every facilitator is urged desire to love like the father's love no matter what. Another initiative here includes the need to hold young adults accountable, exhort them to their fullest potential in Christ, and equip them with godly principles, and have the desire to live a righteous lifestyle that honors the father.

**Why the project is important in my context**

Revival and restoration for the young people are critical as these are the people who should take the mantle for evangelism and discipleship in the future. Restoring broken spirits is very fulfilling, and this is something that I believe everyone should be pursuing. There are many vulnerable people out there; they need our hands to see the light and have hope. Young people tend to be vulnerable. This project is exclusively for young adults. Young adults need a lot of molding, and some have already experienced many difficult things in their lives. The chances are high that many young adults have lost hope in life (Van der Merwe, Grobler, Strasheim & Orton, 2013). Some have already gone through issues such as divorce or even eviction from their residential houses. Some have the burden of taking care of their siblings. As a church, it is our mandate to be a source of hope to such young people and show that they can still be people of dignity, and it is the purpose of God that they live a life of dignity as children of God. I will leave no stone unturned in ensuring that I reach such people. I take it as my initiative to restore any broken spirit. This is what God has called us to do as a church, and we are surely going to do it to the very logical conclusion.

The project is highly called for, considering the context of my church. The majority of the church members are young, whether married or single. Most of the young are part of the audience that is likely to benefit from the project. Therefore, they require direction and restoration. The young adults, who are lacking in the church, need to be sought after and brought to the church. As a shepherd of Christ, there is nothing more fulfilling and more satisfactory than winning many souls back to Christ (Williams, Irby & Warner, 2016). As part of our mission, there is a need to pursue such people as a mandate that has been bestowed upon us by Christ. There is also a need to bring them to church as part of the initiative to ensure continuity of the church. These are the people who are supposed to step in as teachers, pastors, and church leaders. By the time they will be taking these roles, they should have been exposed to the word of God and equipped with all the skills they need so that they can also equip others when they take the mantle.

The young people are supposed to be fished out to also be the fishers of men. Before they become the fishers of men, the project will help impart the essential perspectives that will help them deal with their situation before they can be able to deal with the situations of the others. There are some Christian perspectives that the Disciples of Christ, including the young disciples, are supposed to embrace. The young people who are not in communion with Christ are a lot. It should be made clear that even those who are lost have a father in heaven who accepts and loves them, even though they may not be aware of that. Our reaction to these people will be from the perspective of Christ, who does not condemn anyone because they are not in his ways. As such, I will be at the forefront by informing them that Jesus loves them and cares for them such that he may give them what they need, and that is salvation. Jesus invites his followers to collaborate with him in seeking lost people in order that they may come to know Jesus as their Savior. Only God can save a lost person, but Jesus calls on his disciples to be like Andrew, who brought his brother Peter to Jesus (Atkinson, 2008). Our ultimate goal is to bring the lost to Christ. For our target young adults, the above message ought to be made very clear.f

The project is going to help us to cultivate friendships with peers who are lost. In the context of our church, restoring the young adults will entail inculcating a relationship with us, through which they can also transition and enjoy the restoration in Christ. The young people we are going after are necessary projects for us to complete or enemies to conquer. Rather, they are people that we have been sent to deliver. Given that we love them, we seek to befriend them. Jesus Christ loved everyone who came to seek help from Him and anyone who needed deliverance from him (Cole, 2005). As such, I am intentional about cultivating friendships with the young people who need my help. We are not supposed to be friends with anyone, including the sinners, yet we are not supposed to participate in sinful behaviors.

As youth ministry workers and leaders, we seek to train and encourage young adults that not everything is lost and that there can be full restoration ahead. We model for the genuine love for those who need restoration and a commitment to even go where they are, seeking to show them the love of Jesus, and being with them in their lives, both in their sorrows and joys. Just showing up is half the battle. We also teach them to be in continuous prayer for their lost friends, knowing that God alone can open a heart to be receptive to us and to what we will share with them.

In the church, a few young adults have been there for a while, and hence the need to equip them for the next level through peer evangelism. As a church, some goals are already in place; they are tailored towards equipping the youth for their personal involvement in leading, restoration, and deliverance. The church has a few youths who are ready for these tasks and can be very instrumental in ensuring that the project comes to fruition. The project can help in accelerating the ability of these young people towards the realization of such goals. Some of the things that have already been happening include regularly challenging the youths to make new unchurched friends, planning regular events designed to help the church youths build friendships with the unchurched, encouraging and equipping your youths to have on-going "truth-based" dialogues with their unchurched friends, and equipping the youths with the ability to share the gospel (Thompson, 2017). This initiative shows that the project has been a work in progress, and some platforms have already been laid in preparing the youth for the same. The youth who are ripe will be at the forefront of this project, and they will be guiding others in the various ways that they will be approaching the target audience to restore them. The church has already been considering and encouraging the young people to imagine creative new ways to better prepare "generation next" for life and mission in a world that has dramatically changed through the four pillars of the church, namelyevangelism, edification equipping, and extensions.

There have been various youth ministry programs focused on "doing things" for the youth in a very passive, receptive model of ministry. This project is outstanding and exceptional for the church, given that it has changed the face of the ministry. In this case, the youth are instead challenged to create and launch new missional initiatives (Shepherd, 2016). The project is tailored towards reaching out to the young adult community in Las Vegas, Nevada. If well-executed, chances are high that the church will be growing in the right direction by having a strong youth base committed to sailing the word of God forward. Some of us are readily willing to carry on with these ministries and do the work better. Doing the work in a better way entails re-inventing and re-imagine our roles as Christian youth in restoring the young adult community in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The church's mission statement requires that we restore the broken spirits, walk with them, and get them to a place of healing a deliverance. The project is therefore well aligned with this mission. After getting the young adults on track, there is a commitment to walk with them to where they are destined to be. There is a need that the young adults are encouraged on a continuous basis and given moral ad physical support so that they don’t revert back to their former state. As time goes by, the church is committed to helping them get stronger and stronger up to the time they will be independent and in a position to walk with others. As a shepherd in this ministry, I will not relent in providing tools and resources to encourage and equip the young adults with the help of our personal counselor, who gives as strength all the time, the Holy Spirit.

Deeply embedded in the church's mission and vision, there has been an emphasis on using a united front of the church members to equip, train and empower a generation into the very intimate depths of Christ as well as to display his wonders to their friends and peers. We are encouraged to approach this initiative with a missional focus. The young people have been called to disciple a generation and develop a sacrificial mindset by participating in missional learning and practice (Francis & Craig, 2006). This is one of these missions, and it is set to bring major results given that the Lord is in control of every initiative that we are set to take.

The parents are also encouraged to bring up their children in the ways of God so that after they have grown up, they will deviate from them. The church has set the pace and given every stakeholder a role to ensure that the youth and the young people are brought up in the right ways. When such a project is initiated, there is support from every member. In this regard, the initiative is aligned with the church culture and teachings the church has been carrying over the ages. As for this time, the initiative is more amplified when the young people take the role of ministering and restoring their fellow young people.

Nevertheless, a project such as this one is likely to draw together a multitude of resources that are tailored towards guiding and inspiring the young people who will learn from the experiences of the senior members of living missional influences across the society. It is powerful precedence being set, which can also be said to be the call from God himself. A clear message that God can restore what has been lost and broken is sent. God wants us to be a source of hope for those who have lost hope. He knows our deepest worries and hurts and the areas where we desperately long for healing and restoration. There is a need to look for the young people and help them see the benefit of fully surrendering to God so that God will help them to have a joyous, expectant faith as he moves to restore and revive them. They ought to be helped to commit to trusting God, His ways, his plans, and his timing from the day of this occasion going forward (Francis & Craig, 2006).

In conclusion, the project entails a bold step to revive and restore the young adult community in Las Vegas, Nevada. More effort will be committed to planning to ensure a seamless implementation of the project. The planning activities here entail meeting with the head pastoral team and the victory group overseers, meeting the heads among young adults and mobilizing resources. The project is also important in my context because it is aligned with the mission of the church. For instance, there is a declining young adult membership in the church, and there are those who are ready for the next level, and the project is likely to sharpen them even better. There is also an emphasis on the need to restore the broken spirits, walk with them, and get them to a place of healing a deliverance.

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