



# Church Growth

EVENT TEMPLATES FOR  
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS



**Developed by the Church Growth  
and Revitalization Committee**

The mission of SGI is to create a culture of health that produces spiritual and numerical growth in ministers, churches, and districts in the UPCI.



# Assist local pastors in your district with church growth

The following event templates have been developed to help you plan and host engaging training events to support the overall growth and vitality of local churches.



**They provide suggested outlines for structuring a church growth training session at a camp meeting, district conference, or a stand-alone church growth conference.**

You may not think that your district needs another event on its calendar, but our committee has discovered that well-executed workshops or training summits guided by a strategy to equip, empower, and edify pastors to grow their churches are incredibly impactful and worth the investment.

Though a small percentage of pastors and church leaders may not desire to attend a church growth conference, a great majority of pastors and leaders in your district need customized training and coaching to overcome the barriers that limit them.

The Church Growth and Revitalization Committee is here to serve you and we are actively working to put practical tools and resources in your hands to facilitate new levels of growth. Please share these resources with your pastors.



Scan to gain access  
to our Church Health  
Check-Up Assessment



Scan to gain access  
to the SGI Church  
Growth video course  
on Ministry Central

# Event outline for a District Conference or Campmeeting

TWO SAMPLE SCHEDULES



# Sample schedule 1

## WITHOUT BREAKOUT SESSIONS

A day set aside for an emphasis on church growth

District ministers to speak

Can add Executive Board approved church growth speakers if desired

### SAMPLE SCHEDULES

#### **“Half Day” Sample:**

- 9:30am – 9:45am / Welcome & Worship
- 9:45am – 10:30am / Session #1
- 10:30am – 10:40am / Break
- 10:40am – 11:25am / Session #2 – Forum on Growth
- 11:25am – 12:10pm / Session #3

#### **“Full Day” Sample:**

- 9:30am – 9:45am / Welcome & Worship
- 9:45am – 10:30am / Session #1
- 10:30am – 10:40am / Break
- 10:40am – 11:25am / Session #2
- 11:25am – 12:10pm / Session #3 – Forum on Growth
- 12:10pm – 1:30pm / LUNCH (shorter lunch if onsite)
- 1:30pm – 2:15pm / Session #4
- 2:15pm – 3:00pm / Session #5

**\*Suggested topics listed on pages 11-12**

**\*List of church growth speakers approved by Executive Board on page 12**

# Sample schedule 2

## WITH BREAKOUT SESSIONS

If your facility allows for breakout sessions, there could be multiple growth topics discussed simultaneously. This is also a way to have more sessions.

### SAMPLE SCHEDULES

#### “Half Day” Sample:

- 9:30am - 9:45am / Welcome & Worship
- 9:45am - 10:30am / General Session
- 10:30am - 10:45am / Break
- 10:45am - 11:30am / Breakout Sessions
  - Breakout session 1:
  - Breakout session 2:
  - Breakout session 3:
- 11:40am - 12:25pm General Session

#### “Full Day” Sample:

- 9:30am - 9:45am / Welcome & Worship
- 9:45am - 10:30am / General session
- 10:30am - 10:45am / Break
- 10:45am - 11:30am / Breakout sessions
  - Breakout session 1:
  - Breakout session 2:
  - Breakout session 3:
- 11:40am - 12:25pm / General session
- 12:25pm - 1:45pm / LUNCH (shorter lunch if onsite)
- 1:45pm - 2:30pm / General session - Forum on growth
- 2:30pm - 3:15pm / General session

# Event outline for a stand-alone church growth conference

TWO SAMPLE SCHEDULES



# Sample conference schedule 1

One night and one day to emphasize church growth

District ministers to speak

Can add Executive Board approved church growth speakers if desired

## **SAMPLE SCHEDULE**

### **Friday Agenda:**

- 6:30pm - 6:45pm / Welcome & Worship
- 6:45pm - 7:30pm / General Session
- 7:30pm - 8:15pm / General Session

### **Saturday Agenda:**

- 9:30am - 9:45am / Welcome & Worship
- 9:45am - 10:30am / General Session
- 10:30am - 10:40am / Break
- 10:40am - 11:25am / Breakout sessions
  - Breakout session 1:
  - Breakout session 2:
  - Breakout session 3:
- 11:35am - 12:20pm / General session
- 12:20pm - 1:45pm / LUNCH (shorter lunch if onsite)
- 1:45pm - 2:30pm / General session - Forum on growth
- 2:30pm - 3:15pm / General session

**\*Suggested topics listed on pages 11-12**

**\*List of church growth speakers approved by Executive Board on page 12**

# Sample conference schedule 2

## SAMPLE SCHEDULE

### **Friday Agenda:**

- 6:30pm - 6:45pm / Welcome & Worship
- 6:45pm - 7:00pm / Keynote: District Superintendent (15 minutes)
- 7:00pm - 7:45pm / General Session
- 7:45pm - 8:30pm / Dinner on site
- 8:40pm - 9:10pm / Forum (30 minutes)

### **Saturday Agenda:**

- 10:00am - 10:15am / Welcome & Worship
- 10:15am - 11:00am / General Session
- 11:00am - 11:15am / Break
- 11:15am - 12:00am / Breakout sessions
  - Breakout session 1:
  - Breakout session 2:
  - Breakout session 3:
- 12:00am - 12:50pm / Boxed lunch on site - Forum during lunch
- 1:00pm - 1:45pm / Breakout sessions
  - Breakout session 1:
  - Breakout session 2:
  - Breakout session 3:
- 1:55pm - 2:40pm / General session

# Advance planning timeline for a church growth conference

## ONE YEAR BEFORE THE EVENT

- Name of Conference/Event
- Theme
- Theme Scripture
- Secure Date
- Secure Location
- Secure Speakers
- Participants (who is invited to attend?)
  - Pastors, Assistant Pastors, Pastoral Staff?
  - NAM Missionaries?
  - Local church leadership team (pastor approved)?

## PROMOTIONS

- Promotion Venues
  - Social media, snail mail, email, webpage
- Promotion Schedule
  - **6 months prior**
    - Save the date event post card
    - Save the date graphic on all promotion venues
  - **4 months prior**
    - Superintendent letter
  - **3 months prior**
    - Mailer with conf/event details
    - Graphic with conf details on all other promotion venues
  - **2 months prior**
    - Mailer with conf/event details
  - **1 month prior**
    - Mailer with conf/event details
    - *\*QR code can be placed on the mailer or graphic (leads to more info or registration)*

## HOTELS

- 6 months prior
- Confirm hotel locations & costs
- Block rooms
- Conference rate

## REGISTRATION

- Charge or free?
- Questionnaire for those who register (address questions at forum)
- Registration form:
  - name, address, city, state, zip,
  - ministry position,
  - Including yourself, how many will be attending in your group,
  - email address,
  - church name,
  - pastor name
  - will you be attending entire conference or Fri only/Sat only
- Response email – attached questionnaire; provided to forum participants
- Badges/lanyards (on site)

## CONFERENCE PACKET OR LINK/QR CODE TO E-NOTEBOOK

- Restaurant list
- Schedule & locations
- Campus map
- Session handouts
- Speaker bios
- Recommended reading

## RESOURCE CENTER (location on site where resources are sold)

- Credit card reader and or cash for change
- Books/resources (determine if district keeps % of sales)
- Ideas packet (forms, sample lessons, resources, etc.)
- Media sales – session recordings
- Inventory form (guest product inventory tracking)

# Suggested topics for breakout sessions

WITH RECOMMENDED  
CHURCH GROWTH SPEAKERS



# Breakout Sessions

## SUGGESTED TOPICS & SPEAKERS

### 1. EVANGELISM

- Large events
- Harvest revivals
- Outreach ideas / community events
- Personal evangelism
- Side door events
- Spanish ministry
- Deaf ministry
- Bible studies
- Prison ministry
- Children's ministry
- Prodigal ministry
- Planting and growing a daughter work

### 2. ASSIMILATION

- Guest follow-up / keeping new members
- Altar counseling
- Connecting members to ministry & congregation
- Recruiting, placement, and training volunteers
- Growing through small groups
- First impressions
- Discipleship
- Baptismal team

### 3. LEADERSHIP TRAINING

- Leadership (identifying and development)
- Creating a culture of excellence
- Volunteers (breeding ground for leaders)
- Cultivating a healthy leadership culture
- Gift assessments (identifying leadership qualities)

### 4. WORSHIP SERVICE

- Creating a Worship Experience (flow, agenda, media, stage)
- Using Technology (lighting, media, sound, etc.)
- Reducing Distractions in the Church Service
- Altar Work
- Offering Tips
- Security Team

## 5. ORGANIZATION/ADMINISTRATION

- Teamwork
- Organizing for growth (structure, org charts, planning, etc.)
- Church management systems (software, websites, etc.)
- Staffing
- Budgeting (finances & stewardship)
- Capital stewardship campaigns
- Marketing your church for growth

*\*The above are practical elements; assuming spiritual elements are already in place (prayer, worship, anointing, etc.).*

## FORUM — SUGGESTED TOPICS

- Identifying and overcoming barriers to growth (addressing common growth barriers)
- Leading a church in the 21st century (new challenges and how to overcome)
- Marketing for growth (making your community aware that you are there)
- Using technology (social media, website, streaming, etc.)
- From the parking lot to the pew (best first impression practices)
- After the first visit (effective guest follow-up)
- Getting more new people through your doors (evangelism)

## EXECUTIVE BOARD APPROVED CHURCH GROWTH SPEAKERS

- Tom Foster
- Tim Gaddy
- Ken Gurley
- Jeff Harpole
- Scott Sistrunk
- Aaron Soto
- Kenneth Stewart
- Jimmy Toney
- Derald Weber
- Karen Weber
- Tim Zuniga

### Additional Speakers

- David Bernard
- Scott Graham
- Stan Gleason
- Darrell Johns