Using Modified Nominal Group Techniques for Planning

1. Definition of the problem or situation that will be the focus of planning
2. Individual participants list activities, projects and possible solutions that will lead to improvement
3. Create a master list of all activities, projects and possible solutions suggested by all participants
4. Determine if there is a need to account for multiple organizations/committees so data can be reported by each committee as well as for the group as a whole.
5. All participants prioritize items on the master list. Weight each item 5, most important; 3, middle burner importance, and 1, least important.
6. Results are reported as a whole and by the leadership group.
7. Prioritized list guides the generation of action plans around high priority items
8. Assign accountability for each item
9. Implementation of action plans
10. Set up a monitoring function so coordinate tracking and reporting progress

**Notes on the role planning plays in moving churches from**

**What to How.**

1. Determine the “what” with online surveys; single response cards (if you could change one thing…)
2. Constraints, either real or imaginary, what keeps churches from reaching “how”
   1. Politics
   2. Empowerment
   3. Risk
   4. Trust
   5. Lack of personal resources
   6. Lack of leadership/champions
   7. Tradition
   8. Accept mediocrity; status quo
   9. Don’t recognize need for change
3. “How” is accomplished with programs; processes; tools; technical assistance
4. If “how” is implemented
   1. What happens?
   2. Is there a pot of gold at the end?
   3. Will the business/community just be happy?
   4. Will it make your vision turn into a reality?
5. Reaching “how” moves you closer to achieving excellence
6. Roadmap moving from “what” to “how” is the “plan”
7. Attack constraints with priorities; what each community wants/needs to address first