



Quick Start Your STL Strategy— Keys to Having a Successful STL Ministry

Know the function: to provide our missionaries with necessary equipment for...
“essential transportation · creative communication”

Know the mission: to see...
“souls saved · lives changed”

It all starts with you.

Strategy

One thing is for sure: if it captures your heart, you will find a way to make it a priority in your youth ministry. The following steps can help you ensure a strategic and eternally significant missions year.

1. **Preparation.** This is probably the hardest part. Here are two key items that you should focus on before presenting STL to your youth group:
 - *Prayer.* “For God so loved the world that He gave...” Giving was God’s idea first. Anything you want to do to support giving to missions has His blessing. But seek His help first and foremost. We can only do what we can and trust Him for the rest.
 - *Pastor.* Your senior pastor can be your greatest support and ally in ministry. Go to him or her first. Honor the leaders God has in place.
2. **People.** You cannot be successful by yourself. Establish a core of students and leaders, and empower them to pursue miracles. Sometimes others can influence and impact in ways you cannot. Trust your students. God speaks to them too.
3. **Presentation.** A video can be powerful. A well-crafted sermon can be effective. An illustration can be edifying. But one honest, impassioned, heart-to-heart talk with your youth group about loving the lost and sacrificing for their friends can change the entire chemistry of your youth group. Be vulnerable! Your students are looking for authenticity and purpose. Give it to them!
4. **Practice.** Rome really wasn’t built in a day. Commit to the long term. By challenging your students to sacrificially give to missions, you help them cultivate a Christian worldview and a heart for the lost. You also give them a safe environment to test their faith and believe God for more.
5. **Proof.** God is faithful. Test Him in this. Miracles will happen. Testimonies will surface. Your youth ministry will grow. And the lost will be found.

Implementation

So, now that you have the information and resources, how do you actually make Speed the Light a part of your youth ministry? How do you implement this missions strategy?

1. **Visibility.** Find ways to make the Speed the Light mission, function, and theme visible to your youth group throughout the year.



Quick Start Your STL Strategy



- Use the STL calendar. Be intentional with your STL emphasis and spotlight.
 - Use the STL resources. On this STL_Digisource there are powerful tools for you to use to launch missions giving in your church. Use the videos, graphics, missionary testimonies, sermons, slide presentations, etc., to promote missions. Be creative in your approach, and dream big.
2. **Goals.** Set quarterly and yearly goals with your students, leaders, and youth group. Kick off your goal-setting service with a STL sermon.
 3. **STL Blitz.** Launch a focused, intentional, and faith-driven missions drive. Dream big and follow the step-by-step outline for an effective missions blitz.
 4. **Offerings.** Give your students and your church the opportunity to give. Plan either weekly or monthly offerings to focus on presenting the challenge and renewing the focus on sacrificial giving.
 5. **STL Sunday.** Talk to your senior pastor about dedicating one Sunday morning service to the youth and Speed the Light. Present a challenge to the adults to come alongside the youth and help them do something great for missions. Take up an offering for STL at the close of the service. Consider bringing in a missionary, your DYD, the national STL director, or other NYM directors to preach at this service.
 6. **Fund-raisers.** There are more ways for your students to contribute than just through their personal allowance. Utilize their time, their energy, and their excitement.

