

HOW TO CANCEL “THAT THING”: A WORKSHEET

WHAT IS THE THING YOU WANT TO CANCEL?

Write it here:

WHY DO YOU WANT TO CANCEL THE THING?

Is it because you just don't like it? Is it hindering the mission? Are the resources required to do it unnecessary?

WHY HAS THE THING NOT BEEN CANCELLED YET?

Maybe you just realized it's not necessary, or maybe there's tension around The Thing.

WHAT WILL IT COST YOU TO CANCEL THE THING?

Relational capital? Actual money?

HAVE YOU HAD A CONVERSATION WITH YOUR PASTOR OR IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR ABOUT CANCELLING THE THING?

Yes / Not Yet

DO YOU FORESEE A BATTLE TAKING PLACE AROUND THE CANCELLATION?

Yes / Maybe / Not really

IF YES, IS IT A BATTLE WORTH FIGHTING?

Yes / Maybe / No

IF YOU ANSWERED 'YES' OR 'MAYBE' TO THAT LAST QUESTION, IT'S TIME TO REALLY DIG IN.

The next section of this worksheet will help you create a plan for proposing the cancellation and/or starting something new in its place.

**HOW WILL CANCELLING THE THING IMPACT YOUR MINISTRY CULTURE?
HERE ARE SOME POINTS TO CONSIDER:**

- *Who are the key people impacted by canceling?*
- *How will students respond?*
- *What conversations do I need to have before canceling?*
- *What are some positive ways our culture will be impacted?*
- *What are some potential negative culture impacts?*

**DOES THE THING NEED TO BE CANCELLED, OR CAN IT BE ADAPTED? IF YOU
CANCEL IT COMPLETELY, WILL IT BE REPLACED BY SOMETHING ELSE?**

- *If replaced, how will this new thing help our ministry accomplish the mission effectively?*
- *How will you cast vision about this new thing?*
- *A note here: avoid playing the comparison game with the canceled thing.*

IF YOU ARE STARTING SOMETHING NEW, HOW WILL YOU IMPLEMENT THE NEW THING?

- *What is the implementation timeline?*
- *Do you need to give healthy space between cancelation of the other thing with implementation of the new?*
- *What are the key conversations you need to have as part of casting the vision?*
- *What specific actions are you going to take to foster buy-in from students, parents, and adult leaders?*

PHEW, YOU DID IT. THAT WASN'T EASY, BUT NOW YOU HAVE AN OUTLINE TO WORK FROM AS YOU

Use the work you've done here to create a clear plan and to communicate well with your team.

BEN TRUEBLOOD

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STUDENT MINISTRY THAT MATTERS