## **Disability Ministries**

## Twelve Step Program for Disability Ministry

Created by Bayside Covenant Church's "Through the Roof" Ministry

- 1. Pray. Invite God into all of your thoughts, plans and actions throughout the following 10 steps.
- 2. Write a letter to decision-making pastor to share what's in your heart and on your mind.
- **3. Meet with pastor.** Many times God has prepared his heart long before you approach him. Pray for him before your meeting.
- **4. Form advisory and prayer team.** Ask pastor for referrals to people of like hearts. Include pastor or rep, special ed teacher, a parent, OT, PT, etc.
- **5. Survey** the congregation and building to assess needs. Address the needs with your pastor.
- **6. Formulate Ministry Plan** which includes mission and vision statements, potential programs, proposed budget, 3 year goals, and your Ultimate Dream Plan.
- 7. **Form** Disability Outreach Team (DOT) from those sharing your vision (may retain some from your advisory and prayer team). They will help you put plan into action.
- 8. Conduct team and relationship building via fellowship events and studies.
- 9. Identify families in need of service via survey and by talking to your pastors.
- 10. Grow programs in accordance with needs, and number of volunteers per ministry plan.
- **11. Attend** workshops and conferences, i.e., BASS, Through the Roof Summit, JAF Disability Ministry Training, THRIVE, etc.
- **12. Praise** God for His awesome provision!

Note: Be prepared to not have things go as planned. For disability ministry to succeed, you must be flexible, patient, graceful, persistent, humble, and willing to accept both correction and praise simultaneously. And don't forget to have fun!

In 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Paul counsels us to,

"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

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