

12-Month Church Launch Planner

A practical launch roadmap for church planters preparing for public services.

How to use this tool

Work through this resource with your team, coach, sending church, or board. Do not treat it as a formality. Use it to create honest conversations and clearer next steps.

Next step: Visit ChurchPlanting.com/coaching if you want experienced eyes on your plan.

12 to 10 Months Before Launch

Clarify calling, context, and support before momentum creates pressure.

Done	Action Item	Notes
☐	Complete a church planting readiness assessment.	
☐	Identify the target community and begin listening conversations.	
☐	Secure sending church or network accountability.	
☐	Draft mission, values, and disciple-making pathway.	
☐	Begin personal support or funding conversations.	

9 to 7 Months Before Launch

Move from idea to team formation.

Done	Action Item	Notes
☐	Invite and onboard a core team.	
☐	Create a simple core team covenant.	
☐	Begin regular prayer and vision gatherings.	
☐	Draft launch budget and monthly runway plan.	
☐	Map first outreach rhythms in the community.	

6 to 4 Months Before Launch

Build systems before public pressure arrives.

Done	Action Item	Notes
☐	Create guest follow-up process.	
☐	Define kids ministry safety and volunteer process.	

Done	Action Item	Notes
☐	Choose church management, giving, email, and website tools.	
☐	Plan preview services or practice gatherings.	
☐	Recruit ministry-area leaders.	

3 to 1 Months Before Launch

Test, refine, and confirm launch readiness.

Done	Action Item	Notes
☐	Run at least two preview services.	
☐	Review follow-up results within 48 hours.	
☐	Confirm volunteer coverage for launch month.	
☐	Finalize service location and signage.	
☐	Schedule post-launch discipleship and next steps.	

Launch Readiness Scorecard

Area	Ready?	Notes
Core team alignment	Yes / No / Partial	
Financial runway	Yes / No / Partial	
Guest follow-up	Yes / No / Partial	
Kids ministry safety	Yes / No / Partial	
Discipleship pathway	Yes / No / Partial	
Volunteer leadership	Yes / No / Partial	