

Ask Questions to Help Others Get Clear

Want to help others know where they are and where they want to go? Ask questions that provoke reflection, for example:

1. What's your mission?
2. To carry out your mission, what goals do you need to achieve?
3. Where are you in terms of progress on each of your goals?
4. What satisfies/concerns you about your progress?
5. What helps you achieve your goals?
6. What hinders you?
7. How can you build on your progress/minimize your roadblocks?
8. What will you do to make progress on your goals?



Want to increase productivity? Use an annual reporting tool that helps you know where you are and where you want to go. The JEMA Member Care Committee facilitated a discussion on annual reporting (see photo). Interested in participating in future discussion? Contact membercare@jema.org.

Know Where You Are and Where You Want to Go

Knowing where you are and where you want to go helps you make effective decisions:

- You're at the train station. You need to buy a ticket. How much should you spend? That depends on where you are and where you want to go. If you're in Ikebukuro and want to go to Higashi Kurume, you need a ¥260 ticket. However, if you're in Higashi Kurume and want to go to Tokorozawa, you need a ¥170 ticket.

- You're planting a church. You want the church to become independent. What do you focus on? That depends on where you are and where you want to go. If you have a Japanese pastor and a facility, but not sufficient giving, you need to focus on increasing giving. However, if you have a facility and sufficient giving, but not a Japanese pastor, you need to focus on getting a pastor.

- You're leading a school. You want your students to learn. What do you want your teachers to focus on? That depends on where you are and where you want to go. For example, imagine your goal is for 90% of your students to earn a "C" or better on applying a Biblical perspective to what they study. If 70% are earning a "C" or better, you need to focus your teachers on helping students apply a Biblical perspective.

What happens when you don't know where you are and where you want to go?

Take action: To know where you are and where you want to go, define what it takes to achieve your mission statement, transform your definition of mission achievement into goals, measure the current achievement of your goals, design action steps to achieve your goals, and track your progress.

Work smart. Today.

Michael B. Essenburg (Christian Reformed Japan Mission) serves as a coach, consultant, and trainer at Christian Academy in Japan. Time permitting, Michael works with missions.

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