

Tool #44: Counting the Cost, Looking for Treasure

Any church considering a significant new ministry investment must weigh the cost of the desired project against the potential benefits of its completion—and the risks incurred by not investing. Every holistic ministry carries a price tag, but also represents an investment. For your church's proposed ministry venture, consider both the risks and the opportunities for volunteers, all church members, church facilities, and the church's mission overall. As a group, brainstorm responses to the following:

Risks to ministry volunteers:

- Physical
- Financial
- Emotional / attitudinal
- Relational
- Spiritual
- Other

Risks to church members:

- Physical
- Financial
- Emotional / attitudinal
- Relational
- Spiritual
- Other

Risks to church facilities:

- Physical
- Financial
- Usage patterns
- Other

Risks to the church's mission:

- Outcomes
- Capacity
- Leadership
- Support
- Expectations
- Theology
- Reputation
- Partners
- Other

Opportunities for ministry volunteers:

- Physical
- Financial
- Emotional / attitudinal
- Relational
- Spiritual
- Other

Opportunities for church members:

- Physical
- Financial
- Emotional / attitudinal
- Relational
- Spiritual
- Other

Opportunities for church facilities:

- Physical
- Financial
- Usage patterns
- Other

Opportunities for the church's mission:

- Outcomes
- Capacity
- Leadership
- Support
- Expectations
- Theology
- Reputation
- Partners
- Other