***Missional Calendar***

Be intentional about developing *attractional*, *incarnational* and *invitational* ministry. Be sensitive to “receptive” and aware of the “resistant” times on the calendar of people’s lives. Churches don’t always have to plan events to get people to come to them, we can go where people already are and demonstrate God’s love in practical ways there! “W*here people congregate, we will operate.”*

**“Church” Calendar**

Spiritual holidays, especially Christmas and Easter, are still times of the year when many unchurched people are open to coming to “church.”

**“Culture” Calendar**

Secular special days Consider Super Bowl Sunday, Valentine’s Day, St. Patrick’s Day, Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, July 4th, Canada Day, Halloween and Thanksgiving as spiritual harvest opportunities.

**“Community” Calendar**

Community festivals

Area schools

City park and recreation departments

Hunting/fishing seasons

Business

**“Celebration/Crisis” Calendar**

People are more spiritually accessible in times of transition in their lives. Pay attention to birth, marriage or death announcements, those going through divorce or grief, people who have recently moved, people dealing with addiction.

**“Circumstance” Calendar**

Occasionally special things happen that are not on any of the other calendars we’ve mentioned. There may be opportunities for churches to team up for special events in their area. It’s a powerful witness to people outside the church to see different churches working together as God’s team! Churches need to be ready to mobilize their efforts quickly to make the most of these circumstances for bringing Good News to people.

If you are planting a church, be especially sensitive and intentional about launching in a receptive season of your community’s calendar. Often this is in the springtime leading up to Easter and in the fall as school begins, but pay attention to the unique dynamics of your local mission field.