



bssm

School Planting

5 tips to prepare for the launch of your school

Do you have a dream?

Do you have a dream to see the kingdom expand in your sphere of influence, city, or nation? Are you passionate about seeing individuals discover their God-given purpose to live as revivalists, but don't know where to start?

Our BSSM School Planting team meets countless individuals like you that dream of seeing lives and communities changed by the power and love of Jesus.

We believe God is using schools of supernatural ministry in this hour to see those dreams come to fruition! As leaders like you build schools that equip generations of men and women to live as revivalists, we believe “the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.” (Habakkuk 2:14)

Are you ready to respond to the call to raise up men and women who expand the kingdom? Our team is here to help! To get started, here are five tips we believe are foundational to preparing for the launch of a school that will powerfully reveal the goodness of God upon the earth!

Blessings & Favor,
BSSM School Planting

1. EMBRACE YOUR UNIQUE IDENTITY

There's no one like you and only you can fulfill the call of God on your life.

As a leader, you have gifts, callings, and dreams that make you uniquely “you.” They are a special expression of the kingdom that are designed by God to powerfully bless those you are called to lead! Indeed, there's no one like you and only you can fulfill the call of God on your life.

As you prepare to launch your school, we encourage you to pursue the vision God has given you. Your greatest success will come when you walk in the fullness of who He has created you to be as a leader!

If you feel called to equip believers to bring the kingdom to a specific sphere, such as business, education, or perhaps the arts, we encourage you to embrace that mandate! Or perhaps you have a desire to plant a missions school that will sow into the nations. Know that God longs to partner with your passion to see His goodness known throughout the world.

As you pursue your dream for your school, we encourage you to always co-labor with God who is the Master Builder. Hebrews 3:4 tells us, “Every house is built by someone, but God is the designer and builder of everything.” There is no greater wisdom than God's wisdom. He holds the perfect blueprint for your school. Our prayer is that you would build while carefully listening to His voice.

So what are you dreaming about for your school? What are your passions? What has God called you to accomplish? What is He saying in this season? Nothing is impossible!

2. FIND A SPIRITUAL COVERING

Invite the presence of trustworthy, spiritual fathers and mothers to support you and your school community

Before launching your school, we recommend finding anointed and appointed leaders that can be a strong, spiritual covering! Positioning these leaders as a source of support for your school gives you access to valuable wisdom, feedback, and accountability. When you invite the presence of trustworthy, spiritual fathers and mothers to help you and your school community, you will be covered and empowered to grow healthily.

Over the years, we have seen God faithfully provide integrous, passionate leaders to pour into school communities, providing protection and care. He desires to do the same for you! These men and women can even be a source of powerful teaching and impartation that supports the growth of your students.

If you do not have a spiritual covering, we encourage you to take time to build relationships with leaders in your region. After you have developed trust and history with them, invite them into the journey of starting your school. We encourage you not to rush the process of forming those partnerships because the Holy Spirit is not in a hurry. Allow Him to direct you to build a community full of rich, deep connections that will create a healthy school environment.

We believe it's important to mention that we have found that schools are most successful when they are an extension of what is already happening in a thriving church or ministry. We don't believe that it is impossible to start a school outside of a church setting; there are successful schools that are not directly under the covering of a church. However, we do strongly recommend that your school has a spiritual covering.

3. PURSUE STRONG COMMUNITY

Sustained revival is not created through individuals, but through family.

Sustained revival is not created through individuals, but through family! As believers, we were created to not only co-labor with God; we were created to partner with one another. If we want to be fruitful, it is so important that we remain intimately connected to the Body of Christ. We were designed to receive the fullness of life and love that relationships offer!

One of the best things you can do to prepare for the launch of your school is to think of ways you can point your students towards one another, that they would experience rich connection. What opportunities can you create for your students to develop meaningful relationships as they attend your school?

Time and time again, our team has seen true, lasting transformation in students' lives when they feel known and loved in the context of community. In fact, at BSSM, we have hired a team of pastoral leaders whose roles are to create a place of belonging and to powerfully love and champion our students.

We handpick these leaders to create a strong sense of family in our school, especially through connection groups (e.g. Revival Group, Small Group, Home Group). Under these pastors' care, our students develop meaningful relationships. Many even experience deep healing and restoration through their experience in our school community.

To give your students a transformative school experience, we encourage you to gather leaders on your team that will powerfully love and nurture the hearts of your students! Also, provide a time of connection outside regular class time that invites students to build relationships with one another and your team. This time could be a weekly meeting, monthly potluck dinner, or perhaps a quarterly retreat.

4. CREATE A RISK-TAKING CULTURE

Create a "teach and do" environment that grows and stretches your students' spiritual muscles.

Risk-taking truly opens the door to miracles, signs, and wonders! Your students will be transformed into powerful, world changers when you inspire and support them to take risks and apply what they are learning through your school. We encourage you to consistently provide hands-on training and activations that are rooted in biblical understanding. As you create a "teach and do" environment in your school that stretches your students, they will grow strong spiritual muscles!

At BSSM, we attribute our supernatural environment to cultivating a value to demonstrate risk-taking, even if it leads to failure. We know our students cannot fulfill their destinies if they remain in their comfort zones, and so we model and encourage them to take risks, even if it is extremely uncomfortable.

In preparation for the launch of your school, we recommend planning out activations that will encourage your students to apply what they are learning each day. Whether it's having small group discussions, practicing the spiritual gifts, journaling, or going on outreach, give students the opportunity to respond to teaching they receive. By intentionally creating the space for them to be activated, they will be transformed and learn how to truly partner with the Holy Spirit!

To cultivate a risk-taking culture in your school, you must first start with yourself! We encourage you to first embrace a lifestyle of being led by the Holy Spirit to take risks. As you partner with Him, you will be able to freely share the fruit of the supernatural you receive. Also, as you prepare to start your school, think about the testimonies and breakthroughs you can impart to your students that will encourage them to step out in new ways.

Remember, the Holy Spirit desires for you to continually grow and experience greater measures of His power and presence. We encourage you to cultivate a hunger for the more in your personal life, and from that place you will know how to powerfully lead and impart to your students!

5. CELEBRATE WHAT GOD IS DOING

“Do not despise the days of small beginnings.”

As you prepare to launch your school, we want to remind you, “Do not despise the days of small beginnings” (Zechariah 4:10). Even if you just have a few students in your school to begin with, God will take what you have and multiply it for His glory! And never compare your beginning to someone else’s current success. God has a special plan for you and for your school, and He will be faithful to bring it to pass.

During the first year of BSSM, we only had 37 students. Then in the second year there were 68 students, 128 in the third, and 172 in the fourth. Kris Vallotton often dreamt of the day when our school would have 300 students. Now, BSSM has over 2,000 students enrolled in three different programs and from all over the world!

We share our school’s beginning to encourage you to embrace the unique journey God has prepared for your school! Invite Him to show you how to faithfully steward what He has given you and trust Him to multiply it for His glory and renown.

We believe it’s also important to celebrate what God is doing in your students’ lives. The power of the testimony is a key to transformation in a school environment! When you invite students to share how they are growing, a financial breakthrough, or a healing miracle that occurred during an outreach, you create an atmosphere for the Holy Spirit to move again. Stewarding the expression of God’s goodness in their lives will create room for more!

SCHOOL PLANTING RESOURCES

Our team prays that you would be encouraged and full of expectancy as you begin the journey of launching your school! We invite you to discover more resources that will help you building a thriving school. To learn more, check out the individual resources below or contact our team by emailing schoolplanting@bethel.com. We would love to connect with you and support you as you begin this new, exciting journey!

School Planting Roadmap: Learn more about these topics by checking out the School Planting Roadmap on the BSSM School Planting Blog.

FMI: bssm.net/schoolplanting/blog.

BSSM Equip: Access powerful training and resources through an online platform that will equip your students to walk as revivalists.

FMI: bssmequip.com.

Equip Summit School Leaders Training: Receive training that will strengthen your school culture, leadership, and structure.

FMI: bssm.net/schoolplanting/events