## Reasons for Why our Churches are not functioning smoothly

Lack of clear, attractive, and attainable vision and mission. Lack of specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and timed goals. Lack of strategic planning: People don't know where the churches are going and what they are trying to achieve. Lack of leadership skills: Leaders lack knowledge, skills and positive attitudes. Lack of trust, love, unity, and hope between members of the churches. Lack of initiative: People do not feel their contributions can make a differences Poor communications between the leaders and the members of the churches: Members don't know what the leaders are thinking and planning. Lack of collaboration: We are not cooperating with each others. Poor teamwork: We are not working together as a team. Power struggle: Each leader wanted to boast about his/her strengths. Money: Everybody wanted to get wealth and boast about it. Pride: Everybody wanted to boast about his/her strengths and wisdom

#### What is the way forward?

The church's vision and mission must be clear, inspirational, and attainable.

The goals of the church must be specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timed.

People must be well informed about where the church is going and what it is trying to achieve.

We must establish mutual trust, love, unity, and hope between members of the church.

The church must be led by leaders who have adequate knowledge, skills and positive attitudes.

Members of the church must be aware that their contributions make great difference.

Leaders of the church must share what they are thinking and planning to do with the church members.

We must work together as a team. We must avoid power struggle and pride. We must use our money for moral purposes

#### Parental Involvement Improves Student Achievement

The parents must attend a general school meeting.

The parents must attend a scheduled parent-teacher conferences to check for academic and behavior of their children.

The parents must check the community life of their kids to see if they have good friends in school

The parents must also check the physical appearance of their kids as to what to wear and not what to wear.

Parent must check if their children participate in extra curriculum activities such as sports programs.

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#### Why kids refuse to go to school?

Kids refuse to go to school because of either these four reasons:

They are being bullied or they are having trouble getting along with peers.

They are struggling academically, as such the school is no longer an interesting place for them.

They have problems with authority for not following the rules and regulations They are experiencing some anxiety and depression.

### What do you do when your child just refuses to go to school?

Get to the heart of the issue: Spend some time talking with your child to really dig deep into the problem.

Work on solutions at home.

Meet your child where he is at and coach him forward.

Be supportive and use positive incentives. Recognize your child's progress and frame your accountability system in a positive way.

Be empowered and call the attendance office to talk to the school counselor.

# What do you do if your child is hanging out with friends that are skipping school?

Withhold privileges by restricting your child's access to the internet, phone, video games, TV or use of a family vehicle and be consistent.

Tell your child what the school's policies are regarding truancy and reiterate that you will not protect him/her from the subsequent consequences.

Do not shield your child from the consequences of his/her mistakes by making false excuses for him/her.

Try to set reasonable academic goals for your child and reward him/her when they are met.

Request the school to notify you if your child is absent

Ask your child if there are any specific reasons why he/she doesn't want to go to school.

Explore alternative solutions, such as homeschooling, encouraging your child to see a therapist, transferring your child to a different school in order to avoid bad friends, and others.