

## ***Four Simple Steps to Reaching the Military in Your Midst***

Creating a military outreach need not be intimidating. This exercise will lead you through four practical steps we have found useful in creating a practical, meaningful military outreach.

### **ABLE**

#### **A – Assess your church’s strengths.**

1. What would you say are your fellowship’s key strengths and giftings? List a few of them.
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. \_\_\_\_\_
  
2. The pastor need not be the leader and instigator of the military ministry. Do you have military retirees or others in the fellowship that might have the heart and leadership skills to lead this effort?
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_

#### **B – Benefit from Best Practices.**

3. Review the list of best practices from churches. Do some of these lend themselves to a “quick start” in your fellowship? You don’t need to plan it all at once. You can “grow” your church’s ministry slowly and intentionally over time. Starting small still gives you a chance to cast the vision and train the fellowship to think in new terms.
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_

#### **L – Love and lead your team!**

4. Developing a church ministry team for military involves identifying those with a heart to serve. Active duty members and veterans are a natural fit for this team. Then work the taskings based on need, giftings and availability. Get the team together for training and fellowship periodically.

Brainstorm! Are there people in your church who might be interested?" Ask them.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

### **E – Evaluate**

5. Periodically evaluate. "How are we doing?"

- a. Have our initiatives been well received?
- b. Are there more opportunities that we have missed—things unique to the strengths and giftings of our fellowship?
- c. Has anyone expressed interest in joining you in ministry?
- d. Are there people we should recruit for this military ministry team?

This step closes the loop on your process and leads back to step 1 – Assess.