

STAR Series

For Congregational Leaders

RESOURCEFULNESS



COMPETENCY: Resourcefulness is a ministry practice that includes focusing on action-oriented approaches, practical management, strategic problem-solving tactics, and capturing creative ideas.

Essential Resourcefulness Strategies for Young Adult Ministry

1 FOCUS ON ACTION OVER STATUS MANAGEMENT

Research from Daniel Coyle's *Culture Code* reveals that kindergarteners consistently outperform business students in building challenges because they focus on the task rather than social dynamics. Business students get caught up in "status management"—figuring out hierarchies and navigating social uncertainties—which creates inefficiency and hesitation. In young adult ministry, avoid getting stuck worrying about who's in charge or what others think. Instead, focus on trying things together and taking immediate action toward your goals.

2 WHY RESOURCEFULNESS MATTERS IN MINISTRY

Resourcefulness manifests in several ways: Efficiency helps you make the best use of available tools, time, and knowledge while avoiding wasted resources. Resilience enables you to find alternatives when plans don't work instead of giving up entirely. Innovation emerges when you think creatively within constraints—like animals finding clever ways around obstacles. Growth occurs as you become more capable of handling challenges, increasing your confidence and effectiveness in engaging young adults.

3 SEVEN STEPS STRATEGY TO COMBAT OVERWHELM

When starting new projects or feeling overwhelmed, create a list of the seven most important steps needed to reach your goal. Overwhelming situations lead to overthinking, which often results in paralysis rather than action. The seven steps strategy helps your brain stop processing endless to-do lists and provides visual clarity for tackling priorities. Apply this to recruiting young adults, forming committees, or planning events—breaking complex challenges into manageable, sequential actions.

4 "SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN" & "INTERVIEW THE EXPERT"

When facing difficult decisions between two extreme solutions, look for the "somewhere in between" option that combines the best of both approaches. For example, instead of choosing between engaging young adults or retraining senior members, involve seniors as team members to help grow young adult programs. When you need expertise you don't have, "interview the expert" by finding someone knowledgeable and asking three key questions. Don't hesitate to ask others for connections to experts—most people are willing to help when approached genuinely.



5 CAPTURE IDEAS WHEN THEY COME NATURALLY

Keep note taking equipment handy to write down ideas when they spontaneously occur during daily routines like driving, eating, or walking. Our best ideas come when our brains have time to dream and drift, not when we're forcing focus. This technique also works for engaging young adults—leave encouraging notes or event announcements on congregation mirrors or other unexpected places to catch their attention.

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ROADMAP

Curriculum Domain, Competency and Task Constellations

STAR Domain:	Listening
Associated Competency:	Relationship building and Compassion
Associated Task:	Equanimity
STAR Domain:	Young Adult Leadership
Associated Competency:	Resourcefulness and Communication
Associated Task:	Recruiting
STAR Domain:	Faith Journey
Associated Competency:	Creating Trust
Associated Task:	Spiritual formation
STAR Domain:	Culture
Associated Competency:	Adaptability
Associated Task:	Embracing failure
STAR Domain:	Intergenerational Connections
Associated Competency:	Mentorship
Associated Task:	Generational literacy and Digital literacy
STAR Domain:	Community
Associated Competency:	Authenticity and Inclusivity
Associated Task:	Managing conflict
STAR Domain:	Church Leadership
Associated Competency:	Influence and Purpose
Associated Task:	Creating buy-in
STAR Domain:	Frameworks, Programs, & Events
Associated Competency:	Learning
Associated Task:	Sticky programs and Measure and assess