



Leader's Notes

Show slide 6-1.

Remind your group that this session presents Leading Strategically, which is pictured by a trowel to build the ministry vision.

**A. Strategic Thinking.**

(Suggested Teaching Time: 10 Minutes)

**1. Defining strategy.**

- Strategy originates from the Greek word *strategia*, meaning “office of a general.”
- Strategy is usually understood to refer to higher level, longer-term choices rather than short-term, smaller decisions which are often described as tactical.
- Strategy is the systematic process to help an organization develop an intentional plan for accomplishing their mission.
- Strategy is insight about the present and at the same time, foresight about the future.

**2. Strategic thinking is essential in business and the military.**

- Military strategy refers to the high level decisions relating to the mission and the approach taken to achieve the objectives.
- Business strategy relates to choices made for a company’s position in the marketplace, which defines its distinctiveness.
- Strategy should be just as essential to ministries; such as the higher level choices and systematic processes that ministries make to achieve their God-given vision.

Show slide 6-2.

6-2

**Strategic Thinking**

1. Defining strategy.
2. Strategic thinking is essential in business and the military.

Share with your group how the church and ministry world have lagged behind the business, medical, and military world because of their lack of strategic thinking and behavior. It has reduced or hindered our credibility at times.

**The Steps of the Strategic Thinking Process**

Pray for insight → understand possibilities → identify strategic forces → match forces with capabilities → plan strategically → implement the plan → evaluate results