

18 Month Roadmap

Tips for the journey of navigating the first 18 months of being a new graduate

Perspectives: Others who have been where you are going culled these tips to help you be intentional and focused about your growth and progress. Key areas are covered: walk, work, mission, community, personal management, finances, etc. These tips are not exhaustive nor meant to be done all at once. Add. Adapt. And, tell us what works for you!



SENIOR YEAR

Ministry Skill Building

- Check out the [Surrender Pledge](#)
- Learn [how to share your faith](#) through your personal testimony, Soularium, Perspectives, and the 'Sometime' question.
- Explore [Everystudent.com](#) to learn how to answer **hard spiritual questions**
- Explore the [LifeonMission\(100% Sent\)](#) site for **stories** to inspire and after graduation **resources** to help you/friends.

Planning

- Watch the [5 Things video](#) (5 min)
 - Ask a recent graduate, a staff or your Bible study to help you make a 5 Things Plan, and invite 2-3 friends to join you in the process
 - Identify a couple of elements of ["go, do, say, and give"](#) in your Plan
 - Explore the [Decision Making Suite](#)
 - Watch the [Surrender, Servant, Steward Video](#)
 - Watch the [Future Options Video](#)
 - Fill out the [Future Options Worksheet](#) with a friend
- Work through [In-Transition Groupzine](#) articles with a group or on your own

0-6 MONTHS

Planning

- Review, update and pray through your 5 Things Plan
- Skype/Google hangout with your key 2-3 friends from your Senior 5 Things Plan once a month
- Create a written personal weekly schedule. You can use [Calendarpedia](#) or the [Passion Plan](#)
- Schedule a regular/creative time to meet with the Lord each day (use commute times)
- Add friends, family, coworkers, neighbors, etc. to your [Missional Map](#) and pray for them each week

Stewardship

- Develop a personal budget using either the [Every Dollar Budget Tool](#) or [The Crown Planner](#)
- Make a repayment plan to get out of credit card debt and student loans using one of these tools.:
 - [Crown Financial](#), [Financial Peace](#), [Quicken](#)

Community

- Create a profile on MyCru
- Watch 2 videos (2 min each) about [Finding a Good Missional Church](#)
- Seek out Cru City Staff or community in your area.
 - Ask someone you trust to recommend a good church in your area.
 - Read [Finding Christian Community After Graduation](#)
- Find a Coach or Mentor at [Truth at Work](#), [Alumni Connect](#).
- Make friends with your co-workers and take time to learn about them.
- Join your company's Facebook Group and search favorite book category for "Bible" and see who comes up. Send them a message and introduce yourself.

6-12 MONTHS

Maintenance

- Continue the steps from 0-6 months.
- Review and update your 5 Things plan
- Review In-Transition articles and your notes
- Make a [Missional Map](#) to pray neighbors, co-workers and work related needs.

Investing in Your Workplace

- Ask God to open doors and grant you favor at work.
- Consider your actions and attitudes at work- Your consistency in your walk will make your verbal witness carry more weight.
- Identify meaningful ways to encourage and invest in your co-workers. Check out these [ideas for the workplace.](#)
- Begin to invite coworkers and neighbors into biblical communities you are involved with.

Ministry Skill Building

- Purchase and go through the [210 Project](#) with your 2-3 key friends.
- Develop your Biblical convictions on dating, marriage and sexual purity.
 - [Boundless](#) has a number of resources and articles.
 - [Walking in the Light: A Study on Sexual Purity](#), distributed by The Navigators.
 - [“The Gospel and Sex”](#) by Tim Keller is a great article on a Biblical perspective of sexuality.
 - The books [Flesh](#) (for men) and [Fantasy](#) (for women) have been written to help you begin to have conversations whether with a group or individuals about sexuality.

1-2 YEARS

Maintenance

- Continue all of the above
- Review and update your 5 Things plan
- If you’ve done the 210 Project, do your SOLO day and go over your 210 MAP with 2-3 friends

Community

- Actively engage in Biblical community. Plug into a small group, volunteer at church, attend a class or study at church.
- Invest in others: Lead a small group with co-workers or neighbors, or find 1-3 people you can mentor or coach.
- Read [Tangible Kingdom Primer](#) by Hugh Halter and consider using it for small group Bible Study

Stewarding Your Finances

- Avoid credit card debt. Limit debt to home loans and occasionally a car loan if necessary.
- Managing your desires and finances well from the beginning frees you up for a lifetime of ministry
- Starting regular retirement saving in your 20’s can compound to large amounts by your 60s. Meet with a Christian financial advisor. You can check out [Kingdom Advisors](#).
- Learn how to invest your finances through an organization like [Sound Mind Investing](#)