






RECOVERY CHURCHES

 **The purpose** of this ministry is to provide a coordinated ministry of recovery to ministry-weary pastors, missionaries, ministry leaders, and the members of their families. We believe the local church is uniquely able to be an effective place for such a ministry if provisions are made for meeting the five needs that come with the traumatic experience of suddenly losing one's ministry. All five needs must be addressed to be an effective program.

Housing	— Where can we live?
Financial	— How can we pay our bills?
Friendships	— Have we lost all our friends?
Job/Career	— Where can I work now? In the future?
Personal	— What went wrong? Can we heal?

 **The goal** is to bring personal recovery growth, and renewed opportunity to serve Christ. A team of people comes alongside to assure that life begins to return to normal for the person and the family. The ability to provide the following help is required of a local church that desires to be involved.

1. Locate adequate/affordable housing for the duration of the recovery.
2. Locate employment opportunities and provide benevolent assistance as needed in order to eliminate financial stress during the healing process.
3. Create a network of friends who can play a significant role in helping the unsettled family establish new daily routines.
4. Identify individuals willing to help in the following areas:
 - ❖ Pastoral / Spiritual Growth
 - ❖ Psychological / Personal & Family Counseling
 - ❖ Financial / Budgeting
5. Provide an administrator/host to see that the process is coordinated and moving toward completion. This team leader will evaluate the progress being made and the effectiveness of the various aspects of the ministry.

 **Three phases**, Relocation, Recovery, and Redirection, are clearly discernible in each case. The time it takes to walk through each phase will vary. No two healing processes are alike. Experience suggests five steps are involved that typically take one to two years to complete.

- Step 1 — Provide housing, secure employment, establish friendships*
- Step 2 — Begin counseling, create a budget, identify additional needs*
- Step 3 — Assess and document progress*
- Step 4 — Complete counseling, expand ministry opportunities, celebrate*
- Step 5 — Explore options for the future, maintain accountability*

For more information about the Recovery Church Ministry, contact

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