



IMPACT STUDENT MINISTRY

Wagner 2019

Mission Statement:

Our mission comes directly from the Great Commission:

Jesus came near and said to them, “All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:18-20

Vision Statement:

Discipling Students to Impact their World for Christ.

Core Values:

1. Biblical Exposition – 2 Timothy 3:16-17

- a. “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”
- b. We believe that Scripture has to be the foundation for everything that we do as disciples of Christ. All Scripture is breathed out by God, fully inspired through the work of the Holy Spirit, and because of this, is 100% true and without error. All Scripture is a divine revelation about Christ and the work that he has done. Our foundation is built on the inerrant Word of God.
- c. Biblical Exposition is the process in which a disciple engages Scripture in context, using the proper hermeneutical techniques to properly expose the true meaning of the Scriptures. We also commit to properly expose the Scriptures in its entirety without overlooking difficult passages.
- d. **Baptist Faith and Message**, “The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God’s revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.”

2. Spiritual Transformation – Romans 12:1-2

- a. “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”



- b. **Salvation.**
 - i. We acknowledge that when a person becomes saved, they experience spiritual transformation. Scripture says that we have gone from spiritually dead to spiritually alive through the work of Jesus Christ. Salvation comes by grace through faith in Christ Jesus alone (Eph. 2:5-7). We know that salvation comes from Christ alone and is not a work of man but from the work that Christ did on the cross (Gal 2:16).
 - c. **Sanctification.**
 - i. Sanctification is the process that follows salvation where the believer is being spiritually transformed into the image of Christ.
 - ii. Scripture says that believers are not to be conformed to the world but be transformed by the renewing of their mind.
 - iii. This is best brought on through the process of discipleship wherein the believer engages in a small group. These groups intentionally cover 4 main areas; high-level accountability, Bible study, scripture memorization, and prayer. These groups are organic in the way they are formed and in functionality. They also are strategically structured for replicating in to new D-Groups; disciples making disciples.
 - d. **Baptist Faith and Message**, “Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.
 - i. Regeneration, or the new birth, is a work of God's grace whereby believers become new creatures in Christ Jesus. It is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit through conviction of sin, to which the sinner responds in repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace.
 - ii. Repentance is a genuine turning from sin toward God. Faith is the acceptance of Jesus Christ and commitment of the entire personality to Him as Lord and Saviour.
 - iii. Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer unto a relationship of peace and favor with God.
 - iv. Sanctification is the experience, beginning in regeneration, by which the believer is set apart to God's purposes, and is enabled to progress toward moral and spiritual maturity through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in him. Growth in grace should continue throughout the regenerate person's life.
 - v. Glorification is the culmination of salvation and is the final blessed and abiding state of the redeemed.”
- 3. Fellowship of Believers – Acts 2:42**
- a. “And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”



- b. The Greek term *koinonia* that is seen throughout the New Testament is where Christians get their understanding of communion with fellow believers.
- c. **United in Spirit**
 - i. Ephesians 4:4-6
 - 1. “There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.”
 - ii. The first form of fellowship that Scripture highlights is not the meal that Christians have or the gossip before a service at the coffee bar. Christians are firstly partners in the gospel. The fellowship that believers partake in comes from their commonality in the grace of Christ and their shared unity in the Spirit.
 - iii. 1 Corinthians 1:9 says that because of the grace of Christ that has been given, we have fellowship with the son of God Jesus, and in his Spirit (2 Corinthians 13:14) Scripture says that we have become fellow heirs in Christ (Romans 8:17; Ephesians 3:6). We have community as believers because we have been joined to the same family, The Church.
- d. **United in Community**
 - i. The second aspect of *koinonia* is the act of actually participating in community with fellow believers. God established the church to be a group, united in Christ, to build each other up (Ephesians 4:15-16).
 - ii. “Scripture commands us to be devoted to one another (Romans 12:10), honor one another (Romans 12:10), live in harmony with one another (Romans 12:16; 1 Peter 3:8), accept one another (Romans 15:7), serve one another in love (Galatians 5:13), be kind and compassionate to one another (Ephesians 4:32), admonish one another (Colossians 3:16), encourage one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11; Hebrews 3:13), spur one another on toward love and good deeds (Hebrews 10:24), offer hospitality (1 Peter 4:9), and love one another (1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 3:11; 3:23; 4:7; 4:11-12). That is what true biblical *koinonia* (italics added) should look like.”¹
 - iii. Fellowship is the act of corporately joining together in Large group, life group, and disciple group settings for the purpose of worshiping Christ, lifting each other up in the body, and growing closer to Christ.
- e. **United in Action**
 - i. Believers are also united in the commission that Christ gave as he ascended to heaven. Jesus says, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:18-20). And, “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and

¹ GotQuestions.org. "What Is Koinonia?" GotQuestions.org. December 03, 2009. Accessed August 12, 2019. <https://www.gotquestions.org/koinonia.html>.



you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

ii. This commission is to all believers and we are united in this mission to be witnesses for Christ.

f. **Baptist Faith and Message**, “A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the two ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. Each congregation operates under the Lordship of Christ through democratic processes. In such a congregation each member is responsible and accountable to Christ as Lord. Its scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

i. The New Testament speaks also of the church as the Body of Christ which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages, believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation.”

4. Kingdom Service – Matthew 10:5-15

a. “These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And proclaim as you go, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay. Acquire no gold or silver or copper for your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics or sandals or a staff, for the laborer deserves his food. And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. As you enter the house, greet it. And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.”

b. Like this command given to the apostles in Jesus’ earthly ministry, as believers, we have been commanded to do the work of God by participating in Kingdom service. From the overflow of our love for almighty God, we also are commanded to love people and to do what we can to serve them. This demonstrates the love of God to both believers and non-believers alike and prayerfully allows gospel opportunities to further the kingdom.

c. **Baptist Faith and Message**, “It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of man's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life, and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win



the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.”

5. Passion for the Lost – Romans 9:1-3

- a. “I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh.”
- b. Paul had such a passion for the lost, that he even stated that if he could be accursed so that others would come to know Christ. We know and Paul knew that it is not possible for a believer to lose their salvation or be accursed, but Paul had such a fervor for Lost people that he did everything in his power to share with them the lifesaving gospel.
- c. From the overflow of all other values on this list, a passion for those in need of Christ is produced.



The Jesus Model

Jesus taught throughout scripture in specific ways. Often, he would be approached by large crowds and he would spend significant amounts of time speaking to and teaching large crowds about the kingdom of God. This is often what modern-day Christians rely on to fuel their discipleship endeavors, but many are often left young, empty Christians with little depth in their Christian walk. Large group settings are good; however, Jesus spent significant amounts of time ministering to and discipling other types of groups.

Large groups would often get crowded, distracted, and troublesome, so often times, Jesus would retreat and speak with his small-group of 12 followers or disciples. This smaller “Life” group was used to teach and grow the disciples, but it also allowed the disciples to interact with the lessons in a more direct and smaller setting. This helped the disciples better understand the lessons that Jesus shared and gave the disciples opportunities to ask questions and fellowship with their close small group. It was within this group that Jesus also allowed his disciples to begin ministering to others by teaching, healing, and serving their area in ministry.

Additionally, Jesus often broke away from his 12 disciples to focus heavily on his “inner-circle”: Peter, James, and John. This smaller Discipleship Group was with Jesus during his transfiguration and Jesus spoke directly to them more often than his other disciples. This allowed this smaller group to be even closer to each other and, in-turn, to Jesus. This group did life together and grew in their walks with Christ.

Finally, following His resurrection, Jesus commissioned his followers to “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations.” Jesus commissioned his disciples to reproduce, making new disciples. This was a mission to impact the world with the gospel of Christ. This is only accomplished when true discipleship is practiced reproduced.

1. Large Group

- a. During this time, believers fellowship together and engage in worship of God. This can be accomplished through music, teaching, preaching, etc. This is a time where believers can gather in a corporate setting, united in common grace, to worship the one true God. Like Jesus’ ministry, the emphasis here is Scripture reading, exegetic teaching, expository preaching, and Christ-centered, Bible-based music to engage in worship.

2. Life Group/ Squads

- a. During this time, believers will split into groups of 10-12 students with 2-3 adult/college leaders. This follows the large group setting and allows students the opportunity to communicate with each other in a smaller group setting concerning the worship, teaching, preaching, etc. from the large group time. This group is not an additional time for teaching but allows students to interact with each other concerning life and Scripture. Discussion questions will be provided, but this does not mean that they must be used or answered. Again, this is an open discussion time. Leaders are present to facilitate students and keep conversation moving.
- b. These groups will also engage in gospel ministry together. Each Life Group session (8-9 weeks) will have at least one local service opportunity in which students can engage.



3. Disciple Group

- a. Robby Gallaty writes concerning D-Group, saying,
 - i. A D-Group is a gender-specific closed group of 3 to 5 believers (including the leader) who meet together weekly for the purpose of accelerated spiritual transformation. A person joins the D-Group by invitation only.
 - ii. While Life Groups exist for the purposes of community growth and fellowship, they have an underlying additional purpose (or they should have): evangelism. Life Groups are designed to reach lost people by getting them involved in the group. A D-Group, on the other hand, consists of believers who desire a deeper walk with Christ. It is not evangelistic in its form or function, but in its fruit: it makes disciples who will then go on to make more disciples.
 - iii. The format of a D-Group is not one of a teacher-student, but a round-table discussion. In their book *The Invested Life*, Joel Rosenberg and T. E. Koshy suggest that a discipleship relationship is “more personal, more practical, and more powerful. A teacher shares information, while a discipler aims for the heart; a teacher measures knowledge, while a discipler measures faith; a teacher is an authority, while a discipler is a servant; and a teacher says, ‘listen to me,’ while a discipler says, ‘Follow me.’” This blueprint, sketched by Jesus Christ through His personal example, is how discipleship is accomplished in the lives of believers and, ultimately, within the local church. When this plan is followed, those involved will participate in three dynamics that result in growth in their personal lives, as well as in the kingdom: community, accountability, and multiplication.²
- b. During this time, students will separate into small disciple groups of 3-5 with a single leader. These groups are gender specific and meet independently of Wednesday and Sunday night events. These groups are committed disciples of the gospel and commit to God and their group to meet together. The group goes through reading and journaling Scripture together in their daily quiet times and meets once a week to discuss Scripture, share prayer concerns, engage in accountability, and grow closer to Christ by lifting each other up for success.
- c. We believe that D-Groups are the unparalleled avenue for spiritual transformation. This group will have greater opportunities to engage in spiritual disciplines and allows great access for the Holy Spirit to lead students through sanctifying action.

4. Impact their World

- a. Our goal is that if a student commits to the first three steps and faithfully engages in the spiritual transformation that is produced, he/she will exit the student ministry with the tools, resources, and boldness to engage his/her immediate culture and impact those around him/her with the gospel.

² Robby Gallaty and Randall Collins, *Growing Up: How to Be a Disciple Who Makes Disciples*. (Nashville, Tennessee: B & H Publishing Group, 2013).