

In 2019, the deacons and the elders started a process to re-examine SBC's long term plan regarding all aspects of the church community.

This included worship, youth and children's ministries, adult ministries, outreach, community service, etc.



WHAT LED US TO THIS POINT?

- ☐ Need for intentional discipling
- ☐ Covid restrictions
- ☐ Staffing Changes
- ☐ Church family changes
- ☐ Opportunity

In March of 2020 we were forced into a whole new church environment with the advent of Covid and then Maddi's decision to pursue another ministry opportunity in the BC interior.



These factors caused us to carefully reflect on God's purpose and to prayerfully seek His wisdom as to what kind of church He wanted us to be.



In this past year we have all learned the value of simplicity.



We've pared our lives down to the things that truly matter. The elders and deacons believe "simple" should also define the church.

| SIMPLE CHURCH – WHAT IS IT?

- ❑ Clear focus on what we do and why
- ❑ Engagement of all church participants
- ❑ A single-mindedness on the goal of spiritual maturity



Our Purpose

- ☐ Love God
- ☐ Love Others
- ☐ Serve Passionately

The Scripture tells us that we are to...

**“Love the Lord your God with all
your heart and with all your soul
and with all your strength”.**

Deuteronomy 6:5

**This is the purpose of life, and there can be
no greater.
Everything centers on this.
This is the first and the greatest commandment.
Everything else hangs upon this.**



There is no place on earth like the gathering of the followers of Jesus to worship God.

As the church of Jesus, we make it a priority to worship together on Sundays, in celebration of our Savior's resurrection.

We come together with great anticipation – to meet with the Triune God, to focus our hearts and minds on him, to delight in him and his salvation, and to experience fellowship with God and one another.

In this past year we've studied and prayed and given much thought as to what the church does together when we gather on Sundays.

Here's what has come to us so far.

Our worship on Sundays will include:

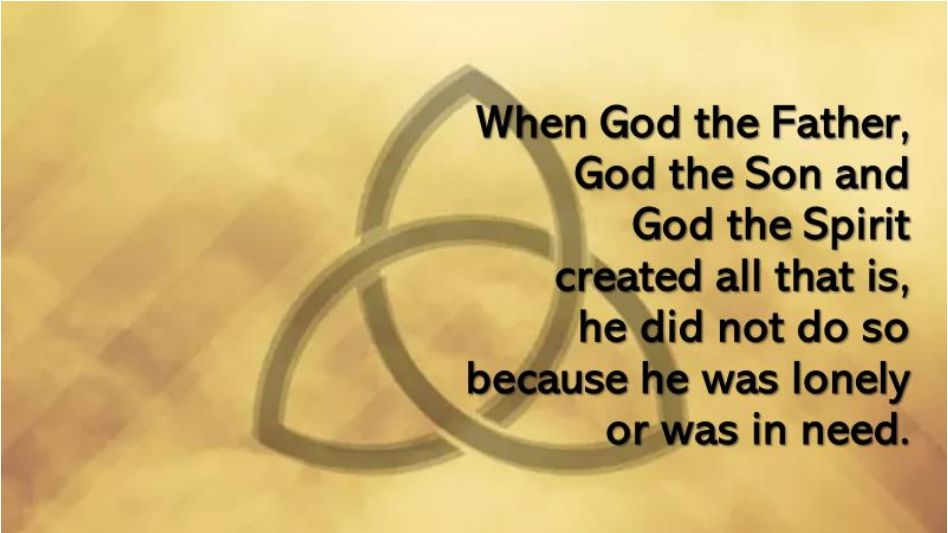
- The reading, preaching/teaching of the breathed-out and living Word of God that transforms our lives as it is obeyed
- Receiving of the bread and the cup in remembrance of Jesus
- Singing together of new songs, hymns, and enduring songs that are (a) God-focused and gospel-saturated, (b) musically beautiful, (c) simple to sing, and (d) give voice to our gratitude and praise of God
- Reciting of creeds and confessions that declare our convictions

Our worship on Sundays will include:

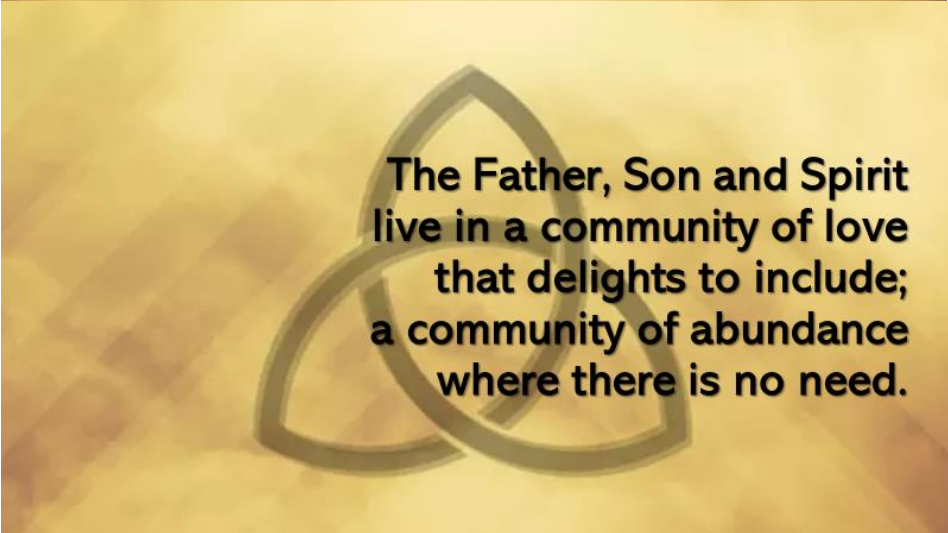
- Prayers of the people that thank God and ask for his provision in all things
- Sharing of God-stories that praise God for his experienced faithfulness
- Giving of our tithes and offerings to express our gratitude and trust in God's provision
- Spurring each other on in our faith and practice through the interaction of the Coffee and Life Connection questions
- Giving of the blessing that declares the goodness of God

God's word says that above all things we are to love God, to be responsive to him, to delight in him, to appreciate his wisdom and power, and in all things to trust and obey him.

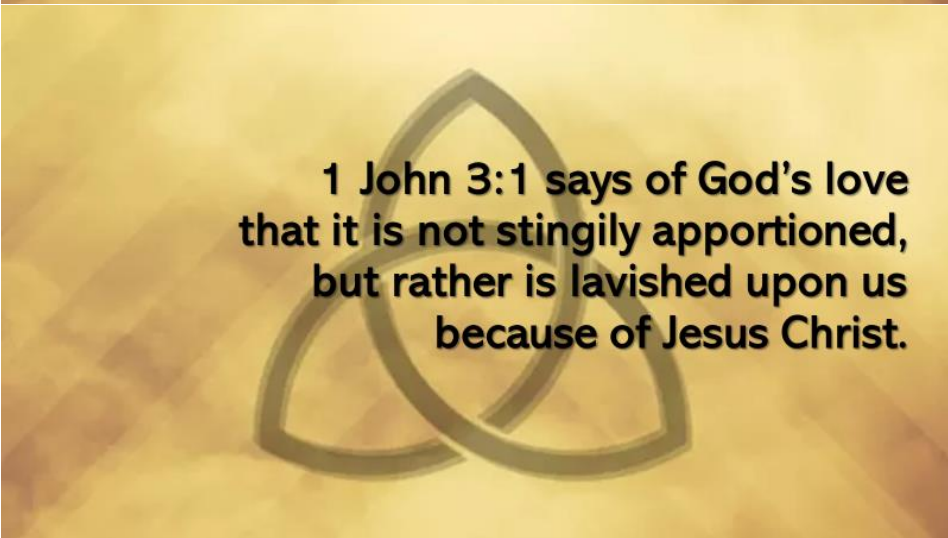




**When God the Father,
God the Son and
God the Spirit
created all that is,
he did not do so
because he was lonely
or was in need.**



**The Father, Son and Spirit
live in a community of love
that delights to include;
a community of abundance
where there is no need.**



**1 John 3:1 says of God's love
that it is not stingily apportioned,
but rather is lavished upon us
because of Jesus Christ.**




**This extravagant love is the benchmark
of how we love one another.**

**The last night of his life
Jesus told his disciples...**

**"A new command I give you:
Love one another.
As I have loved you,
so you must love one another.
By this everyone will know
that you are my disciples,
if you love one another."**

Deuteronomy 6:5



**Without question,
the Holy Spirit is the primary change-agent
who renovates our characters
as we willingly cooperate with him.**



In this process of transformation,
the Holy Spirit uses the Word of God
and proven spiritual disciplines
to convince and to empower
the follower of Jesus
to put off old habits of sin
and to put on new habits
of righteousness,
and so grow into
the likeness of Jesus.



To the achieving of spiritual maturity,
the Holy Spirit also utilizes
the influence, interaction
and input of fellow believers
to spur us on in our faith.

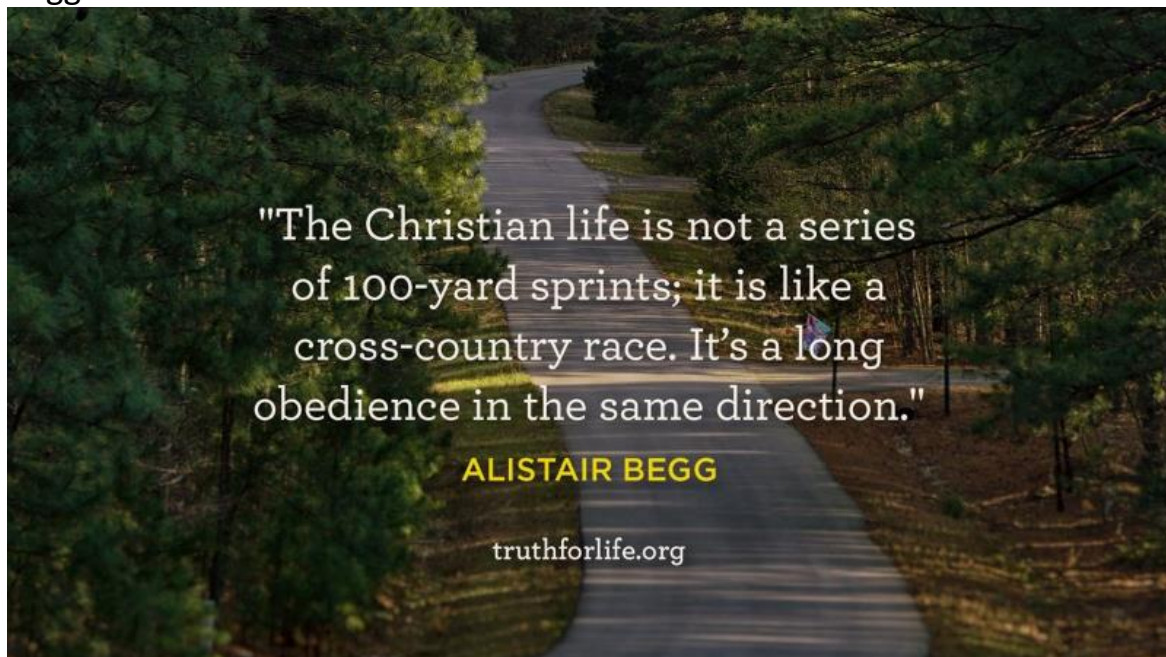
This precious fellowship is crucial
and essential in our growth
towards Christ likeness.

Remember the quote we shared with you last Sunday... made by CS Lewis?

**Every Christian is to
become a little Christ.
The whole purpose of
becoming a Christian is
simply nothing else.**

**-C.S. Lewis, Mere
Christianity**

Let me remind you of the other quote we referenced last Sunday made by Alistair Begg.



This long obedience in the same direction is something we pursue together.

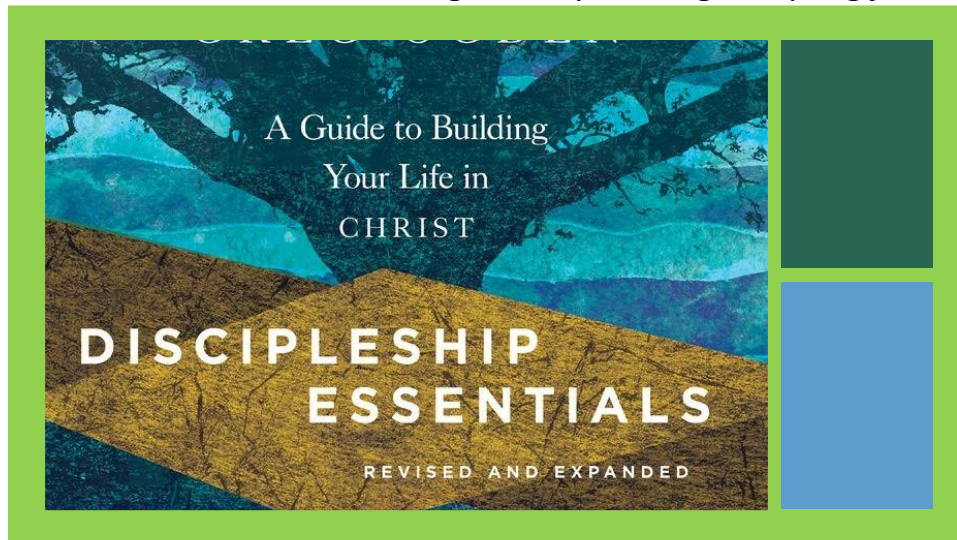
Greg Ogden says...

**“The making of a disciple
involves an intentional relationship
in which we walk alongside other disciples
in order to encourage, equip and challenge
one another to grow towards
maturity in Christ.”**

Discipleship Essentials, Greg Ogden

What the elders and deacons are proposing to the church...is that we be intentional in building our lives in Christ.

To that end we are embarking on a a year long discipling journey.



Discipleship Essential is a study done with two or three others.

A photograph of three hikers standing on a dirt trail in a desert landscape. The hiker on the left is wearing a red shirt and a hat, the middle hiker is wearing a yellow shirt, and the hiker on the right is wearing a blue shirt. They are all wearing backpacks and using trekking poles. The background features rugged, brown mountains under a clear blue sky.

The genius of triads / quads

Lives sharpening lives; a mutual learning together
(not a teacher/student relationship)

A photograph of three hikers standing on a dirt trail in a desert landscape. The hiker on the left is wearing a red shirt and a hat, the middle hiker is wearing a yellow shirt, and the hiker on the right is wearing a blue shirt. They are all wearing backpacks and using trekking poles. The background features rugged, brown mountains under a clear blue sky.

The genius of triads / quads

Purposefully relational (it's a context in which we
learn to practice love for one another –present
with; listening, encouraging)

A photograph of three hikers standing on a dirt trail in a desert landscape. The hiker on the left is wearing a red shirt and a hat, the middle hiker is wearing a yellow shirt, and the hiker on the right is wearing a blue shirt. They are all wearing backpacks and using trekking poles. The background features rugged, brown mountains under a clear blue sky.

The genius of triads / quads

An environment to speak the truth in love and so
foster wholesome accountability.

A photograph of three hikers standing in a vast, arid desert landscape. They are wearing backpacks and hats, looking towards a range of rugged, brown mountains under a clear blue sky. The terrain is dry and rocky with sparse vegetation.

The genius of triads / quads

Each triad/quad learns at their pace — the emphasis is on interacting with the truth of each lesson whether that takes 1 or 2 weeks, or longer

A photograph of three hikers standing in a vast, arid desert landscape. They are wearing backpacks and hats, looking towards a range of rugged, brown mountains under a clear blue sky. The terrain is dry and rocky with sparse vegetation.

The genius of triads / quads

The commitment to the group, and the week by week study and interaction has been proven to result in accelerated spiritual growth

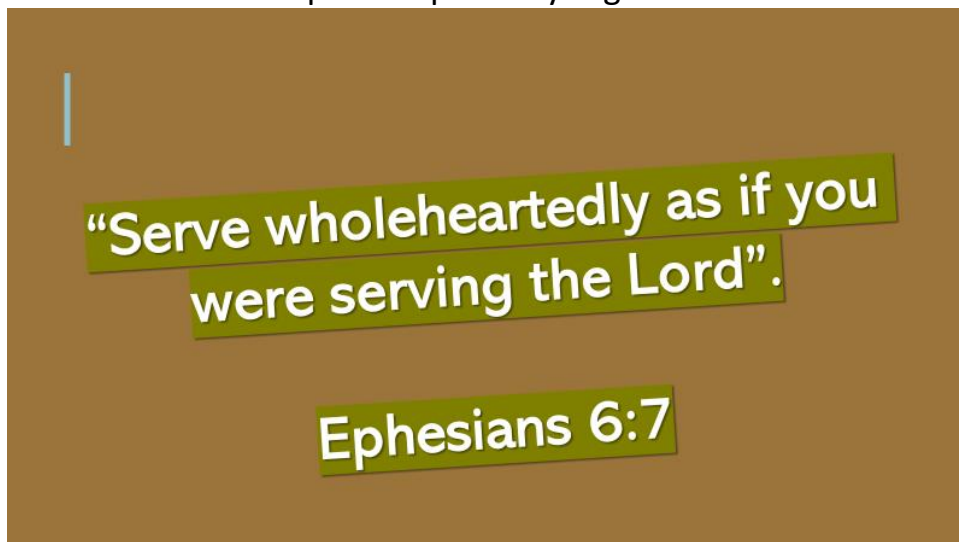
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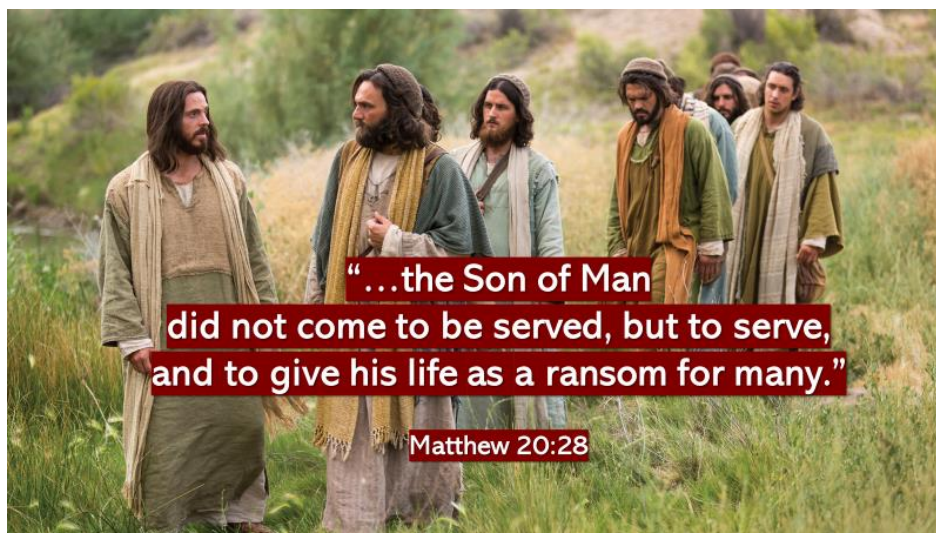
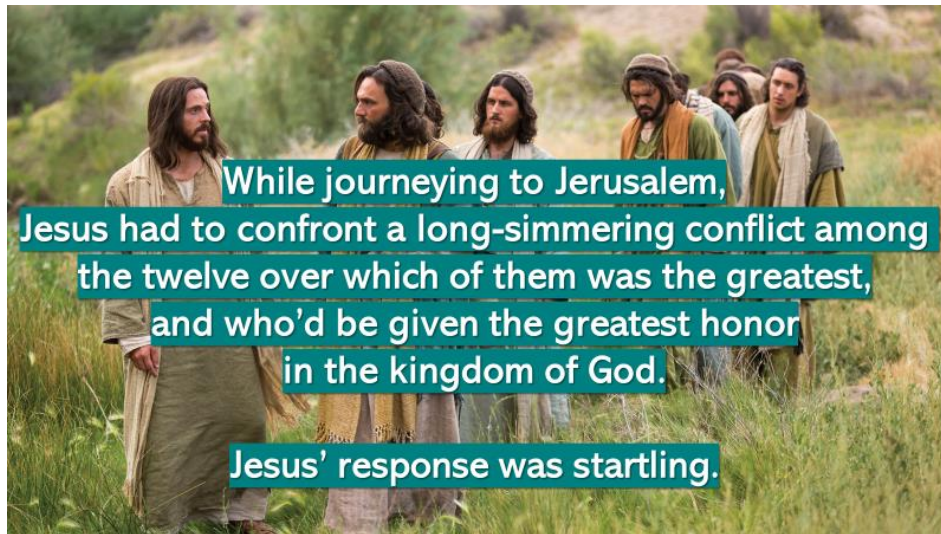
Other important details

- gender specific groups
- speak to Laura if you need help in finding a triad or quad
- books \$20 at connection desk

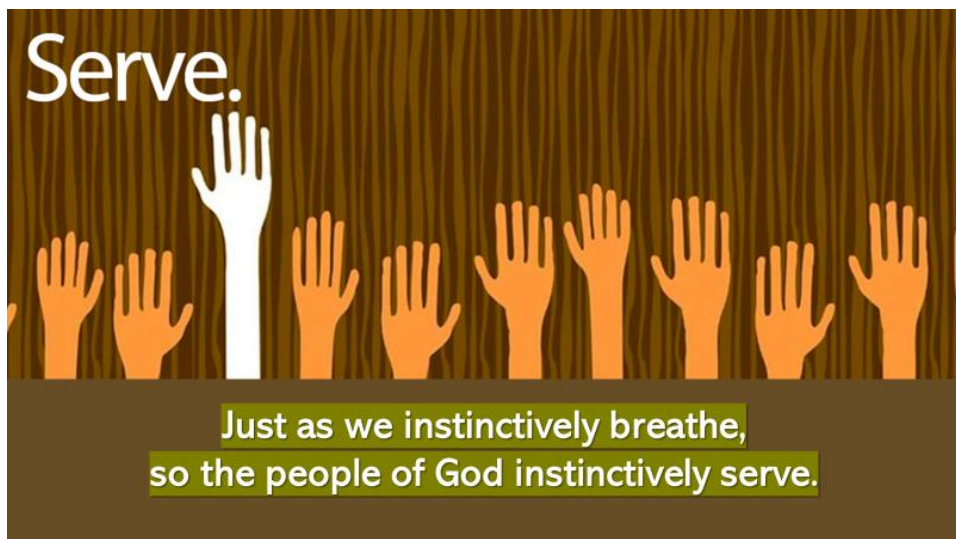


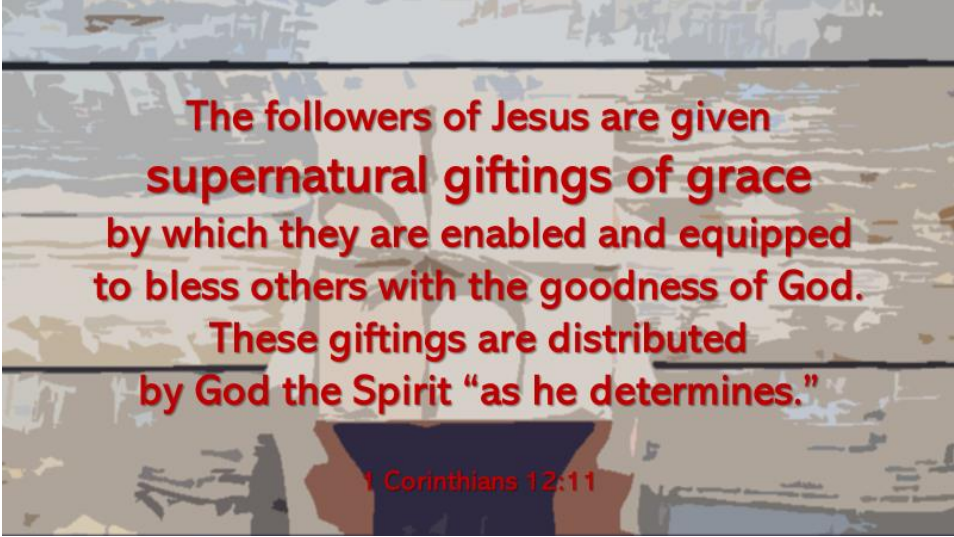
This is what the Scripture repeatedly urges us to do.





Jesus, is,
as Colossians 1:15 says,
"the image of the invisible God."





The followers of Jesus are given
supernatural giftings of grace
by which they are enabled and equipped
to bless others with the goodness of God.
These giftings are distributed
by God the Spirit "as he determines."

1 Corinthians 12:11



Every believer has a role to play,
a measure of God's grace
— to give to others.

Each and every believer
is needed in order for the church
to carry out the will of God
in the community where they live.

Our Church-Focused Serve Teams

- Worship (singers, instrumentalists, techs, greeters)
- Discipleship
- KidZone (teachers, helpers)
- SYNC Youth
- Prayer
- Elders and Deacons

Our Community Focused Serve Teams

- Grace Gardens
- Big House Breakfast

Our Gospel Proclamation Serve Teams

- Colombia Mission
- Alpha

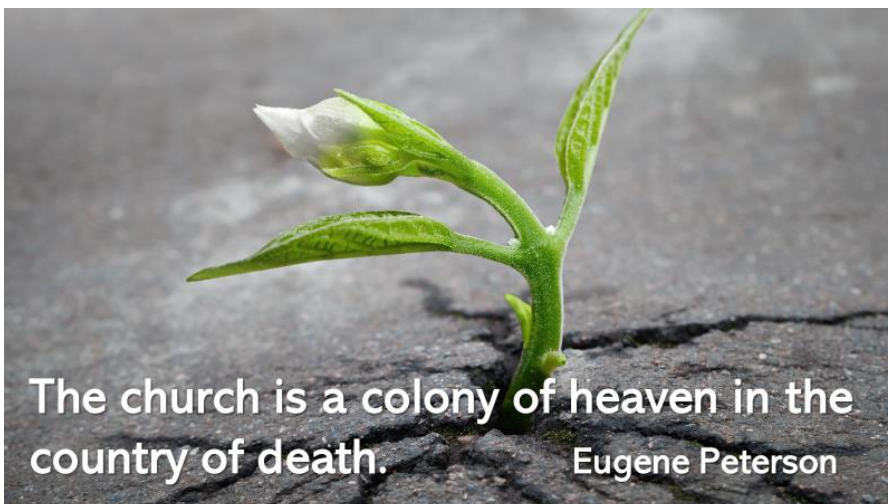
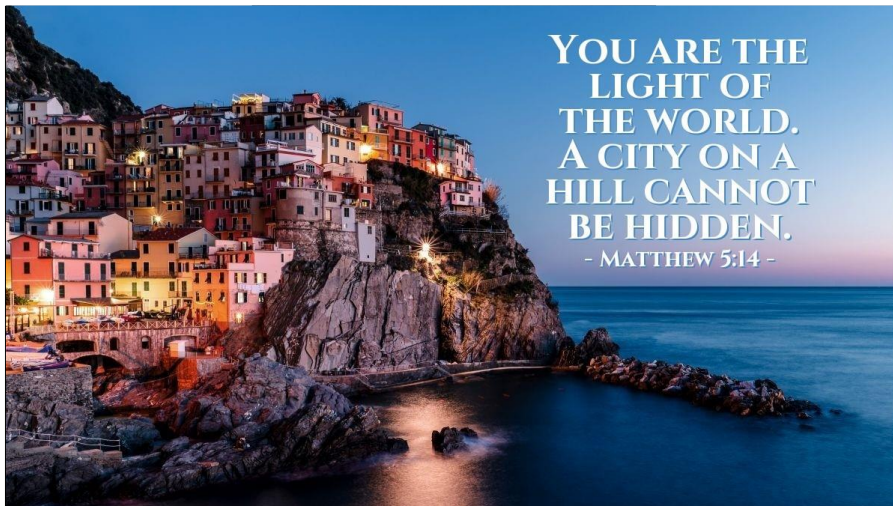
Our Essential Administrative Serve Team

- Finance (treasurers, tellers)

We understand ourselves to be the hands and feet of Jesus.
This means that it matters how we serve.
Like our Lord Jesus we are...

THIS IS WHO WE ARE

joy-filled
teachable
humble
peaceable
act for the glory of God
love others because God has loved us

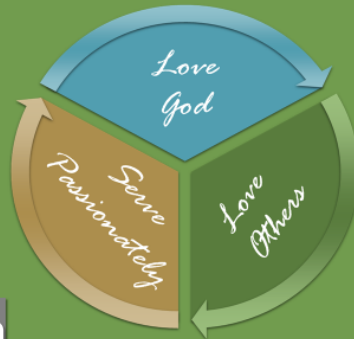


Let's summarize.



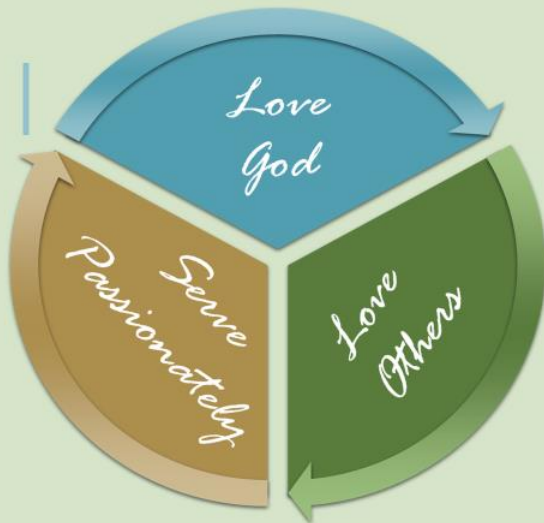
Our purpose

is to love God,
to love others, and
to serve passionately.



Our discipleship path

is to worship together on Sundays,
to spiritually grow in the context of community,
and to serve together on Jesus' behalf.



While we live here
on the earth,
this is the pursuit
of our lives.

- ☐ All of our activities will be focused on our purpose:
 - Love God
 - Love Others
 - Serve Passionately

WHAT IS CHANGING?



- ☐ All of our activities will be focused on our purpose:
 - Love God
 - Love Others
 - Serve Passionately
- ☐ Anything we add will be consistent with our purpose

WHAT IS CHANGING?



Prayers of the People



SYNC Youth

50-55



El Redil Caldas



Youth

Will you help? The Colombia Team will distribute Christmas gift boxes to needy kids in Caldas November 27-December 8, 2021.



MOTIVOS DE ORACIÓN (Reasons for Prayer)

- Debido al crecimiento necesitamos alquilar un local y los recursos para pagarlo
- A new rental and the means to pay for it
- Por la renovación de los hermanos que vienen de otras iglesias
- Spiritual renovating
- Por la restauración de los que están llegando y estaban apartados del Señor.
- Restoration of those who are coming home to Jesus
- Por más líderes.
- More leaders
- Por instrumentos para la alabanza.
- Musical instruments

