



# **Life Ministry Passion**

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## I. MISSION (WHY?):

“LIFEchange for a LIFEtime”

Leading people to become fully devoted Followers of Christ (Mat 28:18-20; Ephesians 4:11-16)

Life verse: “We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.” **Colossians 1:28**

**Christ empowered LIFE-change:**

**Change** \chānj\ verb, 1 a : to make different in some particular : alter, b : to make radically different : transform, c : to give a different position, course, or direction to

## II. MINISTRY VALUES:

- ❑ People matter to God. (Luke 15)
- ❑ Everybody is to be cared for by somebody (Acts 4:34-35; 1 Thessalonians 4:9-10)
- ❑ The church is to be externally focused (Acts 6:7; 1 Thessalonians 1:8)
- ❑ Expect the unexpected (Hebrews 11:6)
- ❑ Irrelevance is irreverence (Colossians 3:23-24, 1 Corinthians 9:22b)
- ❑ Playing it safe is risky (Luke 12:13-21)
- ❑ Nothing begins without prayer (John 16:24, Matthew 7:7-8)
- ❑ You cannot out-give God (Luke 6:38)
- ❑ Maturity does not equal conformity (1 Corinthians 12:18-20)
- ❑ Maturity is for ministry (Ephesians 4:12-13)
- ❑ It's never too late to be who you might have been (Phil 3:12-14)
- ❑ Truth is stronger than error (John 8:32)
- ❑ People must be treated gently and respectfully. (1 Peter 3:15)

## III. WHAT AM I TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH? (VISION)

- ❖ **Looking Upward** – Worshiping my Great God
- ❖ **Looking Inward** – Maturing and equipping God’s people
- ❖ **Looking Outward** – Reaching across ethnic, social, geographic and economic boundaries

## IV. HOW DO I PLAN TO ACCOMPLISH? (PROCESS)

- ❖ Equipping and maturing followers of Christ at every level of maturity (see maturity pyramid – page 8)
- ❖ Building a church of compassion that is willing to serve the least and the lost.
- ❖ Building strategic bridges between church and communities in which I live, work and play.
- ❖ Planting new churches and partnering with existing churches here and around the world

## V. WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT?

### A. "WHO I AM" VALUES

#### 1. *Accepting - Loving Every Person*

"Just as" love, regardless of location, social, economic or racial status. God has called me to love people "just as" He loves me and love others "just as" as they are, but love them too much to leave them just as they are. Every person has dignity and value in the eyes of God, no matter where they are in their spiritual journey.

#### 2. *Honest - Person of Integrity*

At every level of personal, family, organizational, financial & leadership life.

#### 3. *Faith based*

Pursuing God-sized goals in an environment of innovation and change. Without faith it is impossible to please God.

#### 4. *Truth speaking*

Speaking and proclaiming the truth regardless of the cost.

### B. "WHAT I DO" VALUES

#### 1. Worship – *Sunday Celebrations*

- a) LISTEN AND RESPOND TO PRACTICAL PREACHING
- b) OFFER PASSIONATE WORSHIP TO THE ONE WHO ALONE IS WORTHY

#### 2. Prayer Based Ministry

Nothing begins without prayer! God's house is to be a house of prayer.

- a) PRAYER NIGHTS/PRAYER WALKS/PRAYING WITH MY WIFE
- b) PRAYER EVANGELISM – ASKING EVERYONE HOW I CAN PRAY FOR THEM.

### **3. *Actively equip leaders for authentic Christian community/teams***

- a) **SMALL GROUPS ARE THE TOOL, THE WINESKINS THAT PROVIDE STRUCTURE FOR HELPING PEOPLE EXPERIENCE THE WINE, THE PRESENCE OF JESUS IN OUR MIDST. SMALL GROUPS THAT ARE OPEN TO NEIGHBORS, FRIENDS, CO-WORKERS, THE DE-CHURCHED AND THE UN-CHURCHED.**  
Connect 130% of adult congregation Sunday attendance to a small group/team
- b) **YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM – A SPIRITUALLY HEALTHY GROUP OF ADULTS WHO MINISTER TO TEENS.**
- c) **RECOVERY MINISTRY TEAM – CARING FOR THE BROKEN – CULTIVATING BEHAVIORAL PURITY THROUGH INNER TRANSFORMATION.**
- d) **SUPPORT GROUP TEAM – CARING FOR THE HURTING- DIVORCE-CARE, CANCER CARE, GRIEF SHARE.**
- e) **ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO DREAM GOD SIZED DREAMS OF WHAT THEY WOULD LOVE TO DO, IF THEY KNEW THAT THEY COULD NOT FAIL. THEN HELP THEM BUILD A TEAM AROUND THEM TO MAKE IT A REALITY.**

### **4. *Equipping Methods***

Methods are many, principles are few, methods always change, principles never do. I am committed to mobilizing for ministry and multiplying for mission (creating a Leader breeder environment). The ministry rises and falls on leaders. As the leaders go, so goes the ministry, so it becomes a high priority to invest in leaders.

- a) **LEADERSHIP TEAMS**  
Ongoing leadership training – build an ever-expanding network of leaders, where everyone is seeking to reproduce themselves into the life of another Christ follower. Success without a successor is failure. I disciple leaders to disciple others. At every level, it is about becoming a better disciple of Jesus.
- b) **TIERED - MULTI-LEVEL MINISTRY TRAINING**  
A farm system of leadership development where “everybody is cared for by somebody.” Cultivating an unlimited # of leaders in every department – children, youth, adults – “the bigger the dream, the bigger the team” – Dr. John Maxwell. I pay attention to the limits of a leader’s span of care, to prevent burnout. Whether a person rusts out or burns out, both are a loss as they are “out!”
- c) **LIFESKILL SEMINARS AND CLASSES**  
Spiritual gifts, talent and personality assessments and placement assistance.
- d) **LIFEINSTITUTE**

Advanced theological/doctrinal training – partnering with Bible colleges and seminaries.

**e) INTERN MINISTRY**

Hands on training for future pastors, Christian workers and missionaries (Our top level leaders are encouraged to serve alongside our current and future Interns. The Lead Pastor's main ministry is equipping future Christian workers, just as Jesus devoted his best time to the Twelve).

**5. *Serving – Active Ministry Teams***

A sub-set of LIFEgroup Community (Build high performing teams of fully devoted followers of Christ)

**a) WORSHIP TEAM**

**b) CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEAM**

**c) USHERING, GREETING, ASSIMILATION**

**d) PARENTING TEAM**

**e) PREMARITAL TEAM (PREMARITAL LIFE GROUPS, MENTORING COUPLES)  
MARRIAGE TEAM (MARRIAGE CONFERENCE, SEMINAR TEAM)**

**f) DIVORCE CARE TEAM**

**g) MEN'S MINISTRY (RETREAT, BREAKFASTS, MEN'S DISCIPLESHIP)**

**h) WOMEN'S MINISTRY (CONFERENCES & BREAKFASTS, PRECEPTS/BIBLE STUDIES,  
WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP)**

**i) SPORTS MINISTRY TEAM – OUTREACH (SOFTBALL, VOLLEYBALL, BASKETBALL)  
FINANCIAL TEAM – STEWARDSHIP EDUCATION – CAPITAL FUNDRAISING  
BUILDING DESIGN TEAM**

(MOST MINISTRY TEAMS ARE INITIATED BY INDIVIDUALS, NOT STAFF)

**6. *Outreach***

**a) SPECIAL WEEKENDS – TOOLS FOR MEMBERS TO ENHANCE OUTREACH**

**b) SPECIAL EVENTS/SPEAKERS**

**c) COMMUNITY BRIDGE-BUILDING EVENTS– LOCAL AND GLOBAL – SERVANT EVANGELISM  
(People come to Christ best on the arm of a trusted friend)**

**7. *Stewardship – Faith & Finances***

- a) TITHING (WEEKLY – FIRST FRUITS GIVING)
  - b) OFFERINGS – SPECIAL PROJECTS/CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT
  - c) ESTATE GIVING (LONG TERM GIVING)
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## PERSONAL LEANINGS:

1. Church health over church growth
  2. Building up the saints over reaching out to seekers
  3. Referral guests over advertisement guests
  4. Leadership discipleship over new believer discipleship
  5. Progressive growth track over random maturity options
  6. Well defined small groups over loosely defined groups
  7. Various types of small groups over a single model groups
  8. Care for those who serve over those who are served
  9. Build on strengths over repairing weaknesses
  10. Needs of the flock over needs of one lamb
  11. Maturity and giftedness over age and tenure
  12. Next generation (youth) over age and tenure
  13. Leadership new blood over leadership continuity
  14. Balance over Activity
  15. Unity over Action
  16. Submission over Position
  17. Stewardship over Risk
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## ESSENTIAL UNITY ISSUES:

- Doctrinal unity
  - Structural unity
  - Relational unity – (we are going to be nice to one another)
  - Philosophy of ministry unity – (this is the toughest to maintain)
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## FINANCIAL HEALTH:

1. Spend **less** than what is given.
  2. Giving that is spread out over **many people** (not a few).
  3. **Save** for surprises (Genesis 41:34, Proverbs 30:24-25)
    - a. Crisis
    - b. Opportunity
  4. Commitment to **impeccable** integrity in **spending** and **reporting**. (Luke 2:52, 2 Corinthians 8:20-21)
  5. **Intentional** in stewardship education (no begging).
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6. **Worship God** as the **ownder** of all. (1 Chronicles 29:11-12, Job 41:11, Psalm 24:1, Haggai 2:8)
7. **Trust God** to **provide** all that is needed. (Matthew 6:33, 2 Corinthians 9:8, Philippians 4:19)
8. **Serve God** with **contentment** of heart. (Philippians 4:11-15, 1 Timothy 6:6-10, Hebrews 13:5)
9. **Honor God** in the **management** of finances. (Matthew 25:14, Luke 16:10, 2 Corinthians 4:2)
10. **Honest** in financial **dealings**. (Leviticus 19:36, Proverbs 16:11)
11. **Designated Giving** is a **rare** exception (Acts 4:37-38)

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## MINISTRY VALUES

Values are the attitudes, priorities, paradigms, and ideas we hold dear. They are the underlying reasons for our choices. Decisions flow directly from our values. Values in the church are often unwritten, making them difficult to change. Only when values are clearly articulated can they be caught, clarified and changed.

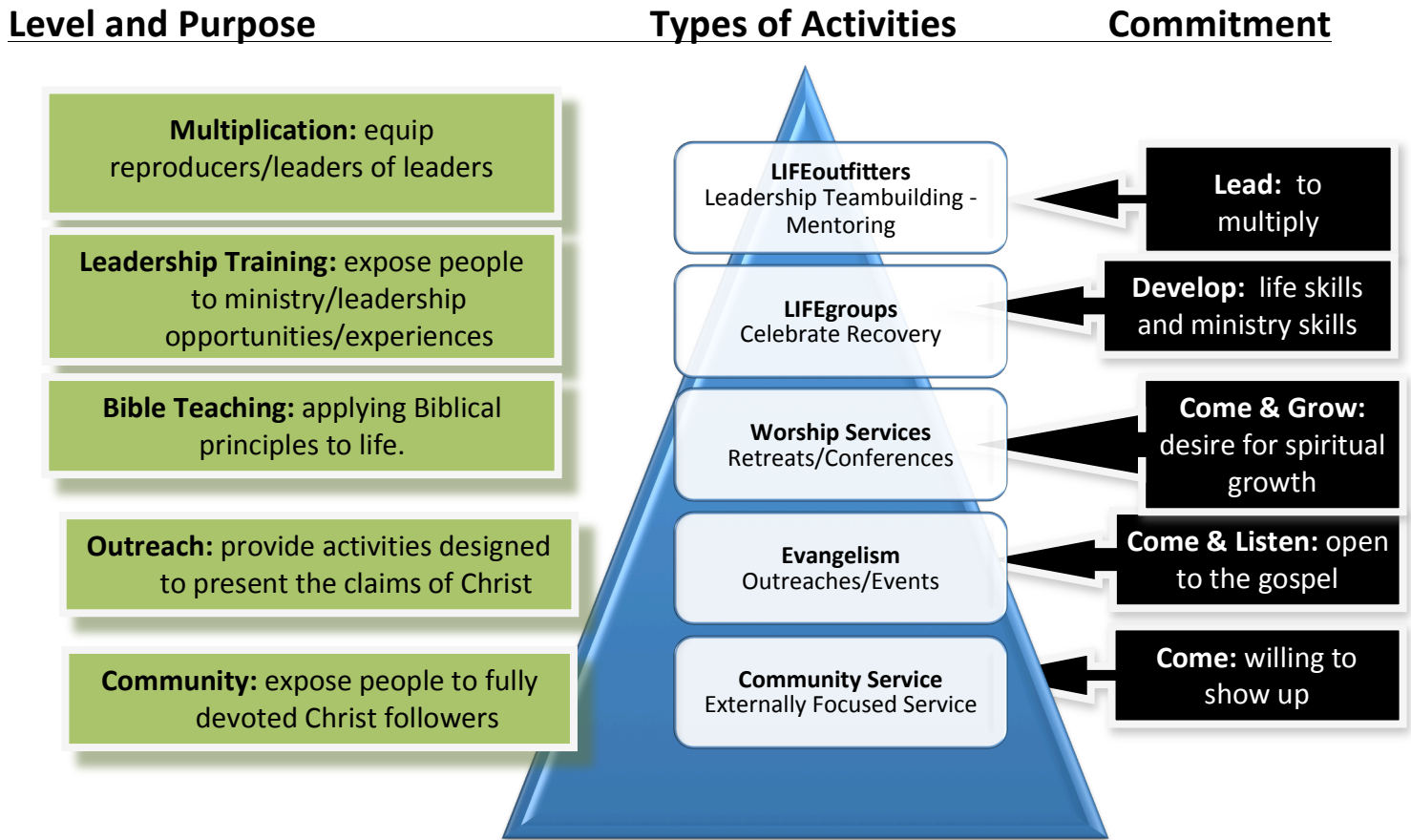
People in the church may not be able to quote the values, but if asked, they should be able to say, “Yes, that’s what we believe” or, “Sure, we do things that way.”

Values should determine the heartbeat of the church culture. When values are not clear and shared, the church will not move forward. The church will default to “we’ve always done it this way.” Just as the wandering Israelites wanted to return to Egypt, the church will return to the status quo, the path of least resistance, a faithless future.

A culture of faith-full believers will influence the acceptance of new church structures and systems. A culture of faith-full believers, that embraces “shared values” will quickly embrace new and needed structures and systems (rather than resisting needed changes).

Often the shared values and culture offer more than one viable program option. Leaders and the church who stand together on the shared values can remain unified even if the program option they desired was not chosen by the majority. Since the program was a preference of several valid possibilities, and not a violation of principle, then switching support is done with ease

# Maturity Pyramid



Commitment to building a warm, healthy spiritual environment, intentional about helping people to grow to maturity in Christ at every level of commitment.