

# **Community Bible Church**

## **Our Mission Statement**

### **OUR MISSION is to exalt Christ locally and globally.**

We do this through engaging and evangelizing the lost, and establishing and equipping believers through the gospel of Christ.

The Scriptures, which come from God (2 Tim 3:16), define our mission. In God's word we find that God does all things for His glory (Ps 19:1; Eph 1:6, 12, 14). God is supremely glorified through His Son (Matt 17:5; John 1:18; 14:9; Heb 1:3). Therefore everything we do as a church is to exalt Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit for the glory of God the Father (John 16:12-15, Phil 2:9-11; Rev 7:9-17).

Jesus Christ is supremely glorious for who He is—truly God and truly man—and for the work He has accomplished in His death and resurrection (John 1:1; Matt 28:19; Col 1:15; Heb 1:1-4; 1 Tim 3:5). Jesus was sent on a mission from the Father to be the Savior of the world (John 3:16-17). His death propitiated (appeased) the wrath of the Father and thus accomplished our justification, forgiveness, reconciliation, and adoption, giving the repentant believing sinner eternal life (Rom 3:21-26; Eph 1:1-14; Col 1:13-23; Titus 2:11-14).

It is the supreme glory of Christ and His accomplished mission that moves us to exalt Him and fulfill our mission (Eph 3:8; 1 Pet 2:9-10). A more complete explanation is found in our CBC Doctrinal Statement.

### **OUR METHOD: Making Disciples**

The way we fulfill our mission of exalting Christ is by carrying out the commission that He gave His church of making disciples who worship Jesus (Matt 28:16-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:46-49; John 20:21; Acts 1:8).

#### *What a Disciple Is*

A disciple is simply another word for a Christian (Acts 11:26). A disciple is a forgiven sinner devoted to a life of following Christ, becoming more like Him (Matt 10:24-25; Mark 8:34-38; Luke 14:25-33) and persevering in the faith (Luke 6:40; John 8:31).

#### *How to Make Disciples*

Jesus instructs us how to carry out our mission of making disciples: we are to go, baptize, and teach (Matt 28:19-20).

We *go* engaging the world and evangelizing them with the gospel message, calling people to repent and trust that Jesus died for their sins, was buried, and was raised on the third day (Luke 24:46-48). We do this in the power of the Holy Spirit locally, regionally and globally (Acts 1:8).

We *baptize* those who believe (Matt 28:19).

We then *teach* in order to establish and equip God's people in the word of God, so they can become disciple makers themselves (Eph 4:7-16).

These foundational truths fuel the methods and means as detailed below.

### **Engage a lost world**

It is the Lord's desire that "all men be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Tim 2:4). Therefore, we must not only be concerned about the people we see every week at worship service, at work, or in our neighborhoods. We should care about the many lost souls whom our church is not connected to. Therefore, we must engage those we do not know through genuine and loving relationships with them.

### **Evangelize by proclaiming the gospel to the lost**

It is not our desire to simply establish a relationship with non-Christians and make them feel comfortable in their lost state. That is not love. We want them to become disciples, worshippers of our beloved Savior (Matt 28:19). Therefore, we must evangelize by preaching the gospel (Rom 1:16).

We are to be an outreach minded church, where every member of Community Bible Church is engaged in this glorious enterprise (Matt 28:18-20; Eph 4:11-29; Col 4:5; 1 Pet 4:7-11).

### **Establish believers in the faith**

The disciple-making process is not finished when someone becomes a Christian. We must teach these disciples to observe all that Christ has commanded (Matt 28:20). We want to ensure believers are established, growing in understanding the truth and living a Spirit-filled life, so that they stand firm in what they believe.

We encourage every believer who regularly attends CBC to become a member. The ongoing disciple-making process is a mutual commitment between the church and the individual believer. A desire to be established in Christ is demonstrated by a formal commitment to the local body of Christ.

### **Equip believers to reproduce themselves in others**

The Lord desires that every Christian participate in the work of making disciples (Eph 4:11-16). Therefore, the church should equip the flock so that they can also help other Christians grow as disciples of Christ (i.e. sanctification: see CBC Doctrinal Statement). These disciples then continue the work of disciple-making through their own personal involvement in engaging, evangelizing, establishing and equipping (2 Tim 2:2).

## **OUR MEANS: Individual, Families, Church Family**

We accomplish our mission of making disciples through specific means. While structure and organization help with this endeavor, we recognize that all our efforts must flow from a genuine

Spirit-filled and Spirit-dependent life. We must be a praying church. Along with this, we must be a loving people with the love of Christ so all will know we are His disciples (John 13:35). These convictions should show themselves in how we live individually, in our families, and as a church. Each of these means are essential to carrying out our mission.

### *Individual*

We are first disciples individually: followers that love Christ because they are captivated by His person and glory. All else flows from this sincere love and affection for Him. There should be a continual maturing in Him through our own times of worship, prayer, Bible study, obedience, giving, and service. (See: Matt 5-7; 10:16-39; Mark 8:34-38; Luke 14:25-33; Rom 6; 12; Phil 2).

### *Families*

Love for God should also flow into a Christ-centered, Spirit-filled marriage and home. Husbands and wives are to love each other and joyfully fulfill the roles given to them by God. Parents are to love, train, and discipline their children in the ways of the Lord. Children are to obey their parents while in the home and honor them throughout life.

Families also have the opportunity to forge relationships with others outside the home. Family activities such as academics, athletics, or play with neighboring kids can be strategic means for fulfilling our mission.

Discipleship affects all family relationships (Eph 5:21-6:4; Col 3:18-21; 1 Tim 5).

### *Church Family*

Our church family centers on the love and worship of God, reflecting a unity found only in Christ and a commitment to mutual edification and equipping. This begins on Sundays with corporate worship, prayer, fellowship, and the faithful preaching of His Word as the elders and leaders set the tone for what life in Christ should look like.

Throughout the week we are to be regularly involved in one another's lives, admonishing, building up, encouraging, helping and loving one another. Discipleship at various levels happen in these intentional, regular times together (John 13:34-35; Rom 12:10-13; 13:8; 15:14; Col 3:16-17; Heb 3:13).

We have various ministries to promote every person's involvement in this glorious mission. Some examples include: our morning and evening worship services, adult Sunday school, children's ministry, student ministries, college and career ministries, home fellowship groups, small group discipleship, men's and women's ministries, elderly and shut-ins ministries, and various local and global outreach ministries.

We do all of this for the glory and exaltation of our triune God: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.