



# Mission, Vision & Values

## Our Church Direction

### Prime

*/praɪm/ Old English *prīm*, from Latin *prima**

*verb:* To prepare or make ready for a particular purpose or task.

*adjective:* of the greatest relevance or significance.

*noun:* the most flourishing stage or state.

# Mission

## Disciples reproducing Disciples.

Jesus gave us our mission when he said:

*“All the authority of the universe has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Now go in my authority and **make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. <sup>20</sup> And **teach them to faithfully follow all that I have commanded you**. And never forget that I am with you every day, even to the completion of this age.”*

Matthew 28:18-20 (*The Passion Translation*)

A disciple is simply someone who puts their trust in Jesus, follows His teaching, and helps others to discover Him too.

A disciple is a learner, a student, an apprentice, a practitioner. **Disciples of Jesus are people who don't just profess certain views as their own, but work to apply their growing understanding of the life Jesus showed was possible, to every aspect of their life on earth.** It leads us to becoming more loving, generous, compassionate, kind and caring, to the people around us.

Furthermore, a true disciple is committed to fulfilling the great commission that Jesus gave, to GO and MAKE disciples, making this journey about others and not just ourselves.

# Vision

To bring **growing Kingdom influence** and **transformation to every area of our lives, community and beyond.**

Jesus principal message was the good news about the **Kingdom of God**, which was capable of **transforming** everything about a person, their community and their world.

If we take Jesus' message seriously, it tells us that everything has to change. Starting with **ourselves** but flowing into **all of society**. For example, e.g. our way of doing *politics, family, friendship, education, business, media, the arts and entertainment*, our way of interacting with the environment and our way of dealing with people of other *religions*, i.e. the whole range of our human experience (what some call The 7 Pillars of Society).

We believe that God is already at work in our everyday lives. The places we live and the people we live alongside are important. In fact, these are the places and people God has **sent us** to.

**Influence** doesn't happen by extracting ourselves from the world for the sake of our values, but by bringing Kingdom values into the culture. So as a church, we want to come alongside everyday individuals, to empower and equip them to make a Kingdom difference and see our communities transformed.

## Jesus declared:

*"...the **Good News about the Kingdom** will be preached throughout the whole world, so that all nations will hear it; and then the end will come."*

Matthew 24:14 (NLT)

# Values

Our heart is that we become disciples who reproduce disciples - and see God's kingdom transform not only our lives, but also the communities we live in. Critical to achieving that and vital to the health of our church are our values, which we encourage, promote and seek to live out daily.

- D** **Determined Devotion To God** Putting God first in our lives, seeking to love and honour Him in all we do.
- A** **Activating Spiritual Disciplines** Taking Jesus as our example, we seek to put the spiritual disciplines He used into practice, such as prayer, the Word, Worship, Fellowship, Serving others and Giving our time and treasure to Him.
- R** **Relentlessly Loving People** Jesus summed up the whole of the law when He commanded us to love God and love others. He also said, "by this shall men know that you are my disciples, that you love one another."
- I** **Increasing Generosity** We believe God has been abundant in His generosity to us and that in turn He wants us to live generous lives. We seek not just to be generous with our wealth and time – but that we would be increasingly generous year on year.
- N** **Naturally Innovative** God is the master creator and He made us in His image, with the capacity to create and be creative. We want to be innovative in creating a better future for ourselves, our families, our community and future generations.
- G** **Growing Compassion** Having compassion for others is closely aligned with our value of relentlessly loving people – we know that our faith must go beyond words and be put into action – actively showing kindness, care and a willingness to help others.

# Strategy (Focus)

## Health, Equipping and Mission



The strategy we will use, will focus on three broad areas. We believe if we do these things well, they will enable us to fulfil our vision and mission.

### Health

In Body, Soul and Spirit. Committed to living out our Values. Our personal faith and trust in Jesus, which affects our daily living. Our daily practices and disciplines. Our own discipleship walk and journey. Physical, mental and spiritual health leading to health firstly in every area of our own lives, then into the community and beyond.

**Becoming the people we were created to be.**

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### Equipping

Understanding and developing our gifting, calling and passions. Developing ourselves in the context of the church body, with everyone having a part to play. Training & equipping, fellowship & leadership – at whatever level you are called and gifted at.

**Becoming the church we were created to be.**

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### Mission

Loving God and loving people. Using all we have been given to bring the reality of God's Kingdom into the lives of those around us. Seeing ourselves as "sent people". Using our gifts, talents, time and treasure to serve, lead and disciple others. Each of us taking personal responsibility and being intentional about walking journeys with lost people, discipling them along the way.

**Becoming the disciples we were created to be.**

# Strategy in Action – HEALTH



God is a God who desires that every area of our lives and His creation is **healthy** and **whole**. With this in mind we aim to create an environment where our practices, thinking, teaching and leaders are intentionally focused on health.

*Q: How are we growing?*

## Examples:

**Spiritual Health:** Living DARING Values daily, Personal Devotion, Prayer, Word, Worship, Fellowship, Church & Life Group participation.

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**Church Health:** Taking personal responsibility for playing your part. Active fellowship, participation in Life Groups & Partnership - living out DARING values and carrying the vision. Leading at whatever level you are called and gifted at.

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**Physical Health:** Encouraging good diet, exercise and freedom from sicknesses and addictions.

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**Mental Health:** Transformed by the renewing of our minds. Offering radical hospitality, compassion, welcome, hope, inclusion and community.

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**Family Health:** Working on relationships, marriages, parenting and raising children.

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**Financial Health:** Developing good patterns of stewardship, living wisely within our means, trusting God Financially, increasing generosity, taking steps of faith.

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**Community Health:** Our active participation in the 7-pillars of community (Family, Politics, Arts & Entertainment, Media, Religion, Business, Education) and with the least and lost.

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**Social Health:** Developing and helping others form good interpersonal relationships and nurturing great communication skills, empathy for others and a sense of accountability.

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**Environmental Health:** How we actively participate in caring for God's creation.

# Strategy in Action – EQUIPPING



The effectiveness of a church's mission largely depends on its ability to mobilise its people in doing God's work in the world. Our aim is to develop the Academy to its full potential and build tools, courses, teachers, mentors, leaders and teams that will enable us to **equip people for life and ministry.**

*Q. How and where are we developing?*

## Examples:

**Academy:** For training and equipping in **Leadership, Ministry Development, Creativity, Stewardship, Faith, Life Skills, Market Place, Theology.** Ministry tracks developed for specific team involvement.

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**Leadership Development:** Focusing on developing leaders who lead well and multiply.

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**Recognise Gifting:** Providing assessment tools for spiritual gifts and providing safe places and contexts to practice & develop the gifts God has given us.

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**Mentoring:** Taking an in-depth approach to understanding personal gifting, calling, strengths & passions alongside a mentor.

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**Internship:** Opportunities for those looking to take 6-12 months serving, learning and growing in a vibrant church environment. Structured training, mentoring and practical hands on experience.

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# Strategy in Action – MISSION



Jesus said, “As the Father has sent Me, I am sending you” (John 20:21). **The mission is not just a programme of the church, it defines the church as God’s sent people.**

We will focus on developing missional and discipleship tools, guides, practices, programmes, teaching, mentors, leaders and teams that will enable disciple-making, social action and missional outreach to happen at a scalable level.

*Q. Who are we reaching?*

## Examples:

**Essentials for Spiritual growth: 1-2-1:** An ongoing one-to-one discipleship framework with a mentor.

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**Discovery Groups:** For those new to faith, introductory life groups covering the basics of Christianity.

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**Volunteering:** Committed to Social Action/Justice/Outreach teams e.g. Homeless Shelter, CAP, Haven, Pebbles, Foodbank, Trafficking and more...

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**Market-place Ministries:** Encouraging and equipping people for missional activity in the places they work, study and socialise. New “**Market Place Essentials**” in development.

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**Supporting Mission:** With finance, partnership and prayer, we will continue to support mission work around the world.

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**Going on Mission trips:** Short or long-term mission trips, national and international: UK, Macedonia, Lebanon, Rwanda, India and more...

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