

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

AUGUST 20TH - 21ST, 2022 // VISION SERVICE

A SIMPLE VISION

"To lead people to Christ through authentic worship, authentic community, and authentic community service."

THE VISION STATEMENT OF GOD

As Jesus was ascending back to Heaven, He looked at His followers and shared His vision for the Church. Jesus tells us in Matt. 28:19-20 to go and **disciple, baptize, and teach** people to do all the things He told us to do.

- This is the main objective of the Church, so we must put effort into how we do this.

WORSHIP

A COMMITMENT TO CORPORATE WORSHIP

From the birth of the Church in Acts 2 through Revelation, the NT tells us to corporately worship together (Heb. 10:24-25; Mt. 16:18; 18:20; Col. 3:16; Eph. 4:11-13; Rom. 10:17).

- **Corporate worship brings us closer, activates joy, reassures us, and tunes us into focusing on God.**

A COMMITMENT TO THE WORD OF GOD

We will always have a strong commitment to expository teaching. **Studying verse-by-verse prohibits us from skipping the hard topics, and it puts the Bible in the proper context.**

- This method **helps comprehension, creates a love of the Word, and grows Christians much faster.**

COMMUNION, PRAYER, AND QUESTIONS

Every service ends with **communion** in order to bring every lesson back to Christ. This is a great time to repent and reflect.

- We offer **prayer** for anyone who may need to confess or ask for spiritual help.
- We always invite new or non-believers to ask a **pastor questions** and move forward.

NEXT

AN EASY AND INFORMATIVE NEXT STEP

On the 2nd Monday of every month, we invite anyone who is interested in learning more about The Experience to come and take a tour, hear my story, hear the church's story, and take their next step in the process.

- This is where I get to meet a lot of you, and you get to know more about this place.

DEVELOPMENT

Following Jesus (101)

- **A 7-week intro to the Christian faith that covers prayer and worship, the Bible, baptism and communion, the Holy Trinity, the church, how to share our faith, and discipleship.**

Authentic Discipleship (201)

- A 12-week group about practical and effective ways to make disciples that make disciples.

Discovery Bible Study

- A simple and effective tool to put disciple-making into practice through our app.

Experience Finance

- A free 5-week course on budgeting, debt, and how to handle money biblically.

Preparing for Marriage

- 8-week pre-marital class for engaged couples.

COMMUNITY

GOD IS COMMUNAL, AND WE SHOULD BE TOO

The Trinity shows us that God is communal. So, we're to also be in community. The church has always met corporately on the weekend and in small groups during the week.

- **Small groups foster accountability, deep discussion, friendships, intergenerational mentors, and support.**

WE WANT TO BE INTENTIONAL WITH GROUPS

We encourage people to not only be in groups but to be in and lead groups that are intentional about **reaching people, discipling, and multiplying** into more groups.

- If you want to start or attend a group, email lifegroups@experiencecc.com so we can help with training and getting people involved.

SERVING

CONSISTENT SERVING IN OUR CITY

- **5000:** homeless ministry.
- **Stepping Stones:** homeless women and children.
- **Embrace Grace:** unintended pregnancies.
- **BAR Ministry:** on the square.
- **Reclaimed:** jail ministry.
- **Nonprofit partnerships**

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THE CHURCH BODY

We do a lot outside of the church, but we also have a lot to do inside the church to serve each other and visitors.

- **Parking, Hospitality, ECCO Kids, Nursery, Emerge, Production, Medical Team, and there are many other great opportunities!**

MISSIONS

OUR STATE

- **Murfreesboro:** February 2009
- **Cannon County:** August 2017
- **Shelbyville:** August 2021
- **MIT Program:** Our residential training program to launch more churches around the state.
- **The Network:** A central hub that supports all campuses and future church plants.

OUR NATION

- **Church at the Well,** Burlington, Vermont
- **Hope Church,** Delmarva, Delaware

- **City Church,** Albany, New York

These relationships have been hard during COVID, but we feel like aiding churches in the Northeast is something we are called to do.

OUR WORLD

- **El Salvador:** King's Castle that ministers to hundreds of elementary-age kids
- **Uganda:** Tara Henson working with street kids, teaching FJ, and training pastors
- **Southeast Asia:** Toffer and Becky King
- **Eastern Europe:** EEM
- **Haiti:** Jameson and Shelby Toyo

THE BEST PROBLEM

GOD IS REALLY BLESSING OUR CHURCH

We're seeing rapid growth in all 3 campuses, but our 'Boro campus is getting tight, and our greatest concern is that facilities or parking prohibit people from hearing the gospel.

- Of the 5750 people on average coming to our churches, 4900 of those are in the Murfreesboro campus.

MAXIMIZING EVERY INCH OF THIS BUILDING

We have under 100,000 square feet for this campus, and we use virtually every inch every day of the week.

- We're **expanding the sanctuary, packing in more chairs,** asking people to **consider Saturday services, and praying about a 2nd 'Boro campus.**

PARKING PLAN

Because we have too few parking spaces on site, we use other lots around our building on the weekends.

- We have 2 buses and 2 golf carts to shuttle volunteers and congregants to and from the church. Also, the distance isn't quite as bad as it appears.

PLANTING MORE CHURCHES (ASAP!)

We hope to have a church in **Manchester** in the first quarter of 2023. Hopefully, 200 people or so will commit to that campus.

- Starting more Life Groups

We aim to start **32 new groups** by the end of this year (big push in September) with the intent of rapid multiplication in 2023.

FINANCES: HOW WE STEWARD YOUR GIVING

TOTAL FOR ALL CAMPUSES:

- 2022 Budget: **\$8.3 Million**
- 2022 Expected Income: **\$9.4 Million**
- **Total Administration:** \$2,549,052 (30.7%). Salaries and benefits
- **MIT Program:** \$378,000 (salary and benefits). 3 will plant the Manchester campus
- **Other administration:** \$311,133. Sheriff, police, CPA, maintenance, etc.
- **Ministry Expenses:** \$411,000 **Operating Costs:** \$562,936
- **Repairing things at campuses:** \$530,000. Roof, HVAC, carpet, misc. improvements
- **Woodbury Campus:** \$556,962. **Shelbyville Campus:** \$349,981. **Mortgage: \$0** (No debt, suckaz!)
- **Benevolence:** \$2,500,000 (**30% overall**). Extra \$400,000 given to monthly highlights. We hope to increase this to 50% eventually

WE HAVE SOME SUBSTANTIAL FINANCIAL NEEDS

Buying the land behind us: \$3 million for two buildings and 3 acres (we have 7.4 acres).

- **Creating more parking on Student side:** roughly \$150,000. **Planting more churches:** Since we refuse to take out a loan, we want to have the money in the bank to pay cash for space.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TO THE VISION

I don't know who gives at this church.

- Whether one believes tithing is an NT thing or not, it's impossible to argue that we shouldn't financially contribute to the mission of the church. **If we're going to advance the gospel, it will take not only time and effort but also a financial commitment.**

THE FUTURE

WE JUST WANT TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL!

Reaching this rapidly growing city through teaching the Word, serving our community, and strategically making disciples of Jesus.

- **Reaching this rapidly growing state** by planting as many churches in as many counties as we can, as fast as we can.

Reaching our spiritually declining nation by helping churches in spiritually difficult areas.

- **Reaching every nation possible** through our mission trips, full-time missionaries, and our financial contribution to global nonprofits.

WHAT NOW?

- Commit to being at church, praying, listening to God, reading the Word, and obeying what the Bible says.
- Commit to the discipleship process. It works.
- Please be patient with us as we do our best to navigate rapid growth and limited resources.

IF WE'RE TO REACH OUR CITY AND BEYOND

- We need to be **praying** for our city and for the gospel to advance in it.
- This church needs your commitment to **attend, be present, find community, give, and serve.** **There's no gimmick or trick to seeing lives changed; it is just consistent dedication to the mission of Christ.**

THIS IS ALL FOR HIS KINGDOM!

- God is blessing this community, and we are seeing amazing things happen!
- We must stay humble, diligent, focused, selfless, hungry, and expectant because **we are invited to be instrumental in God's Kingdom advancing and people's eternities changing here and all over the world!**