

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

AUGUST 27TH, 2023 // VISION

THE VISION STATEMENT OF GOD

As Jesus ascended to Heaven, He looked at His followers and shared His vision for the Church. Jesus tells us in Matthew 28:19–20 to go and **disciple, baptize, and teach** people to do everything 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 worship together corporately (Hebrews 10:24–25; Matthew 16:18; 18:20; Colossians 3:16; Ephesians 4:11–13; Romans 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 solid commitment to expository teaching. **Studying verse-by-verse prohibits us from skipping complex topics and 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** 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 invite new or non-believers to **ask a pastor questions** and move forward.

NEXT

AN EASY AND INFORMATIVE NEXT STEP

On the second Monday of every month, we invite anyone 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 many of you, and you get to know more about this place.

DEVELOPMENT

FOLLOWING JESUS (101)

A seven-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.

40-DAY FAST DEVOTIONALS

Five different fasting devotionals are available through our app.

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 weekends and in small groups during the week.

- **Life 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 fred@experiencecc.com so we can help with training and getting people involved.

SERVING

CONSISTENT SERVICE IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

Life Choices, Blue Monarch, HorsePlay Inc., Shepherd's House, Storehouse Food Pantry, Come to the Table, The Attic Outlet, Be the Bush, Haven of Hope, Miriam House, FCA, Schools, We Care, Community Cleaning Day, Independence Day Celebration, and Fall Festival

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THE CHURCH BODY

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

- **Hospitality, ECCO Kids, Nursery, Encounter, Emerge, EON, Worship/Production, Security/Medical, Prayer Team, and more!**

MISSIONS

OUR STATE

- **Murfreesboro:** February 2009
- **Cannon County:** August 2017
- **Shelbyville:** August 2021
- **Tulahoma:** November 2022
- **M.I.T. Program:** Our residential training program to launch more churches around the state.
- **The Network:** A team that supports all campuses.

OUR NATION

- **Hope Church:** Delmarva, Delaware
- **City Church:** Albany, New York
- **Garden City Church:** Beverly, Massachusetts: We plan on taking **two trips in 2024.**

OUR WORLD

- **El Salvador:** ministry to elementary-age kids. **Two trips in 2024.**
- **Uganda:** Working with street kids, teaching FJ, and training pastors. **Four trips in 2024.**
- **Eastern Europe:** EEM
- **Haiti:** Jameson and Shelby Toyo

FINANCES

HOW WE STEWARD YOUR GIVING

ACROSS ALL EXPERIENCE CAMPUSES

- 2023 Budget: **\$9,800,000**
- 2023 Projected Expenses: **\$10,400,000** (42% growth)
- 2023 Projected Income: **\$12,100,000**

BUDGETS:

- Murfreesboro: **\$5,947,411** • Cannon County: **\$737,477** • Shelbyville: **\$400,251** • Tulahoma: **\$616,872** • Network: **\$2,105,218**

- Full and part-time salaries for all campuses: **\$3,422,552 (34%)**

- Average salary for full-time: \$51,510

- Taxes: \$370,498

- Health Benefits: \$573,588

- M.I.T.: \$278,000

- Outside CPA: \$11,696

- Outreach and Benevolence: **\$2,970,000 (30%):** Individuals needing help, schools, missionary needs, ministries, nonprofits, church planting needs if necessary, etc.

THE EXPERIENCE TULLAHOMA

- **Initial Budget:** \$616,872
- **Administration:** \$282,717 (salaries and benefits)
- **Other Admin:** \$39,020 (maintenance, taxes)
- **Benevolence:** \$83,202
- **Ministry Expenses:** \$79,933
- **Operating Cost:** \$132,000 (rent, general administration)
- **Projected Giving 2023:** \$622,175
- **Giving Through July 2023:** \$390,879
- **Expenses Through July 2023:** \$775,276
- **Difference:** **-\$384,397**

BLESSING

Because we are part of a network of campuses, we have been blessed with support for our needs here in Tullahoma.

- **God has provided, and soon, it will be our time to bless others beyond our campus.**

BURDEN

The thought of someone needing the truth and not having a place to hear the Word should bother us profusely.

- We want to **serve our city, help others serve their cities, see more people come to know Jesus, and grow current believers deeper in their faith.**

WE ARE TRYING TO ADVANCE THE GOSPEL

We don't advertise or use gimmicks, waste money on production or meaningless comforts, and we are the most benevolent church we know how to be.

- **We need your help financially to provide space and resources for people to hear the gospel.**

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TO THE VISION

I do not know who gives at this church. Whether one believes tithing is an NT thing or not, it is clear that Christians should contribute financially to the church's mission.

- **If we're going to advance the gospel, it will take not only time and effort but also a financial commitment.**

BE COMMITTED

A HEALTHY CULTURE

- By depending **heavily on the Word, authentic community, and serving the city**, we are culturally in a good place to reach the lost and mature each other in our faith.
- Please consider getting involved in our discipleship process! **When we are on the same page and growing in our faith, we are more equipped to reach the lost.**

COMMITMENT ISSUES

- It is evident in our culture today that we have serious commitment issues. However, we must **commit ourselves to seeing lives changed.**
- **We must not only continue to be a Matthew 28:19–20 church (disciple, baptize, and teach), but we must also constantly strive to be the brightest light in our communities as possible!**

WHAT NEXT?

- Commit to the foundations of our faith: **attend church weekly, pray, listen, read the Word, and obey and apply the Word.**
- **Get involved in a Life Group.**
- **Find a place to serve in the church or outside of the church.**
- **Commit to praying and fasting for our city, state, nation, and world.**

YOU'RE INVITED

- **Commit to a relationship with God** by reading and applying the Word, praying, and listening to God.
- **Commit to being the Church.** There is no plan B! We are called to be the agents of change. When we commit to Jesus Christ, our lives are changed, and we can facilitate change in others.