



## **Philosophy of Ministry**

*Glorify God | Exalt Christ | Magnify the Gospel*

### **PURPOSE**

**Cross View Church exists to glorify God by exalting Christ and magnifying the gospel for the joy of all nations.**

#### **Glorify God**

The preeminent and final purpose of all people is to glorify God (Isa 42:8; 1 Cor 10:31). Every thought, every action, every motivation, and every desire should be saturated with a passion for God's glory. We glorify God through worship, which is not limited to a church service, but rather is our response to God's worthiness (Ps 18:3; Rev 4:11). The value of every conceivable thought, action, motivation, and desire can be tested by asking the question, "Does this glorify God?"

#### **Exalt Christ**

God is glorified when Christ is exalted (Ps 45:6-7; 1 Peter 4:11). To exalt Christ is to elevate Him by giving Him our most sincere praise and adoration. Jesus is co-equal with God the Father (Jn 1:1) and thus shares the right to be worshiped and magnified (Rev 5: 11-14). He is to be preeminent in all things (Col 1:18) as He is the Creator and the Sustainer (Ps 102: 25-27; Col 1:16-17). All Scripture points to Christ (Jn 5:39; Lu 24:27).

#### **Magnify the Gospel**

God is glorified when the gospel is magnified. The gospel is the most visible manifestation of God's glory (2 Cor 4:4; 1 Ti 1:11). It emphasizes the sinfulness of man while elevating the grace of God (Eph 2:1-10). The gospel both saves us (Hab 2:4; Ro 1:16) and sanctifies us (Gal 2:20). The gospel provides the only solution to our spiritual condition (Jn 14:6), and is the only source of genuine peace (Ro 5:1; Col 1:20).

#### **The Joy of All Nations**

When God is glorified the worshiper experiences complete joy and satisfaction (Ps 16:11; 67:2-4). The Great Commission is complete when every people group has heard the gospel (Matt 24:14; Rev 7:9).

### **MISSION**

**Our mission is to Proclaim Christ. Preach the Gospel. Teach the Word. Equip the Saints. Serve People.**

#### **Proclaim Christ**

Since all of Scripture speaks of Christ (Jn 1:45; 5:39; Lu 24:27), we seek to intentionally point people to Him (1 Cor 1:23; 2:2; Col 1:28; 2 Cor 4:5). We strive to proclaim Christ through our preaching, our teaching, our discipleship, our evangelism, and our counseling. In short, Christ can be proclaimed in every avenue of life. Life solutions that exclude Christ diminish His preeminence.

### **Preach the Gospel**

The means whereby God grants salvation is through the preaching of the gospel (Ro 10:14-17; 16:25). The gospel also is the means of sanctification, in other words we do not start by faith and finish by works (Gal 3:3). Teaching that promotes moralism or self-sufficiency is not in accordance with the gospel (Hab 2:4 1 Ti 1:10-11). We are commissioned to proclaim the gospel to the nations (Matt 28:19-20), and though not all will repent, God desires all people to be saved (Isa 1:18; 1 Ti 2:4).

### **Teach the Word**

God's Word is completely authoritative and sufficient (2 Ti 3:16-17). The Bible is the tool which God uses to renew us (Ps 119:11; Ro 12:1-2) and bring us to spiritual maturity (Col 1:28). The teaching and preaching of the Word is not optional, but is to be done whether it is popular or not (2 Ti 4:2). We preach God's Word expositionally in its context. In other words, we seek to draw out the correct meaning of the text, taking into consideration the natural, grammatical, and historical context. This prevents us from reading our own ideas or opinions into the Bible (2 Pet 1:19-21).

### **Equip the Saints**

Jesus gave leaders to the church for the purpose of equipping the saints for the work of the ministry (Eph 4:11-12). The church does not reserve the work of the ministry for a few "elite" individuals. The leadership of the church has no closer access to God than any other believer (1 Pet 2:5), with Christ as the sole intermediary between God and man (1 Ti 2:5). The leadership primarily equips, and the church carries out ministry responsibilities.

### **Serve People**

Jesus gave the greatest example of genuine servant leadership (Jn 13:1-20). The church ought to be known by its sacrificial service to people, putting the needs of others first (Le 19:18; 1 Cor 10:24). In fact, the greatest visual display of being a disciple of Christ is to love one another (Jn 13:34-35).

## **VISION**

**To impact individuals, our families, our community, and our world with the excellency of Christ.**

### **Individuals**

Every human being is an image-bearer of God (Gen 1:27) and thus has infinite value. We seek to impact all individuals regardless of ethnicity, socio-economic status, or any other classification.

### **Our Families**

After our commitment to God, our commitment to our families is the most important priority in our lives. We value and strive to uphold the family unit as designed by God, one man and one woman for life. Children are a heritage from the Lord (Ps 127:3). Both parents are responsible for pointing their family to Christ, with the husband having the primary leadership role (Deut 6:6-7; Eph 5:22-23; 6:4).

### **Our Community**

Our local community is our "Jerusalem" (Acts 1:8). We value the close relationships that we build with our co-workers, neighbors, and businesses within our community. We desire to minister to both the physical and spiritual needs (Jas 2:15-16) of those in Orrville and surrounding communities.

## **Our World**

The Great Commission is about making disciples of Christ among all nations (Matt 28:19-20), including our own. We have a passion for church planting in the US and around the world (Acts 1:8). Our heart is to join in the Great Commission by supporting global missions and to see people from every tribe and tongue worshipping our great God (Gen 22:18; Rev 7:9).

## **The Excellency of Christ**

The only message worth proclaiming to the whole world is the excellency of Christ (1 Pet 2:9). Every other message we could think up is second place. We seek to drive people to find their satisfaction in Christ alone.

## **VALUES**

### **God's Word**

### **The Cross**

### **Worship**

### **Holiness**

### **Relationships**

### **Service**

### **God's Word**

We value the authority, inspiration, and inerrancy of the Bible (2 Ti 3:16-17; Jn 10:35). We recognize that without God's Word, we would have no knowledge of His expectations or the gospel message (Dt 8:3; Ps 119:11; Ro 10:14-17).

### **The Cross**

We value the cross that Jesus bore for our sins and recognize its centrality to Scripture (Col 2:13-15). The cross provides the means whereby our broken relationship with God can be restored (Isa 53:5; 1 Pe 2:24). We have the opportunity to respond to the cross of Christ by our own humble sacrifice (1 Jn 3:16).

### **Worship**

We value the privilege we have to worship God. We were created for worship (Rev 4:11), and will be worshipping God for all eternity (Rev 22:3). When we worship God we experience true joy and satisfaction (Ps 16:11; 67:2-4).

### **Holiness**

We value God's supreme holiness (Isa 6:3) and recognize our charge to pursue holiness (Lev 11:44). We strive to be holy as we walk in obedience to God's law, manifesting the fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-23). We recognize that obedience is superior to sacrifice (1 Sam 15:22).

### **Relationships**

We value pursuing God-honoring relationships. They provide the avenue through which we can display sacrificial, Christ-like love to one another (Le 19:18; Jn 13:34-35). We will continue to cultivate relationships for all eternity.

### **Service**

We value the opportunity we have to mirror Christ by serving others and considering them more significant than ourselves (Phil 1:3-11). We serve people by using the gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 12:7; 1 Pe 4:10-11). We will serve God for all eternity.

## **ENABLEMENT**

**Recognizing our own insufficiency, we strive to live out our mission by the grace that God gives through the enablement of the Holy Spirit.**

### **Our Insufficiency**

Whether it is in our salvation or our daily Christian life, we are wholly inadequate to respond to God in faith and obedience (Ro 3:23; Eph 2:8-9). Apart from the gospel, our sin nature has earned us God's wrath in hell for eternity. We cannot even grow in our Christian walk on our own.

### **Grace**

We are altogether dependent upon the grace that God gives to us, and we cannot please God without His grace (Ti 2:11-14). We reject teaching that encourages us to "pick ourselves up by our bootstraps." The works of the law cannot change the heart (Pr 20:9); we need God's grace (Gal 3:2-3).

### **The Enablement of the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit, as the third person of the Trinity, is active in regeneration (Jn 3:5). He indwells believers (Ro 8:8-9), and He enables us to live in obedience to God (Gal 5:16-23). We give ourselves wholly to prayer, recognizing that it is one of the tools the Holy Spirit uses to accomplish God's will.

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