THE PURPOSE OF OUR CHURCH • ACTS 2:42-47

od's Word states that without a vision people depart from a fruitful, God given purpose. To be effective, we must have a clear understanding of our mission and what we, as a church, are called to do. (Proverbs 29:18; Habakkuk 2:2-3) We are called to:

1. REACH the lost.

- A. John 1:35-50; Acts 2:42-47.
- B. We reach the lost by presenting Jesus Christ in relevant and relational ways that would draw the non-Christian person to personally meet and receive Christ. This is also accomplished by meeting people at their point of need.

2. RESTORE those whom God brings.

- A. Luke 4:14-21 (Isaiah 61:1-3), 15:11-24; John 11:43-44.
- B. We restore broken lives by loving and accepting people as they are, for who they are. We then assist them in their freedom from bondage, hurt, torment and imbalance.

3. **EQUIP God's people for service.**

- A. Ephesians 4:11-16; 2 Timothy 2:15; John 13:3-17; Matthew 9:37-38.
- B. God's desire is that everyone experiences a meaningful place of service in the Body of Christ. We provide the tools to discover our spiritual gifts, personal style of service and passion in life and then provide opportunities to serve Christ by serving His people.
 - Our spiritual gifts and abilities, empowered by the

- Holy Spirit, tell us what we do best.
- Our personal style tells us <u>how</u> we can serve. Are you task-oriented or are you people-oriented? Are you unstructured or structured? Are you best at long term commitments or do you prefer short term projects?
- Our passion tells us <u>where</u> we can best focus our energy. It is a strong desire that compels us to make a significant difference in the Kingdom of God.
- Spiritual Gifts and the diversity found in Christ's Body-- 1 Corinthians 12; Romans 12:3-8.

4. EXTEND into His Harvest.

- A. John 4:35
- B. Matthew 28:18-20 is Christ's Great Commission to the Church to make disciples of all nations. Acts 1:8 is Christ's "missionary map," instructing us to go to Jerusalem and Judea (Riverside and the Inland Empire), Samaria (Native nations within our nation), and the ends of the earth (Missions beyond our own country).
- C. Christian Life Center's unique call is to go to people groups where the Gospel has not had a visible presence and lay a foundation of prayer for future missions work.

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We believe our highest purpose is to be a people known for His Presence as prophesied to Christian Life Center years ago...

"...There will be a move of My Spirit. Have your eyes on Me, hunger and thirst for My righteousness, for My Spirit and My word... and innumerable people will come and fall on their faces before Me. This place shall be known for My glory. This place will be known for My attendance for I will pour out My Spirit says the Lord, and you shall be known as a people of My Presence." -- Leslie Keegle, Sri Lanka National Foursquare leader