

Our vision describes how we do the mission.

Our Vision is:

To <u>creatively love</u> and <u>lead</u> people into a growing relationship with Jesus.

Our <u>strategies</u> describe how we <u>do</u> the vision.

Partnership = <u>Doing</u> life <u>together</u>.

Partnership happens when:

- Jesus calls us to <u>belong</u> to <u>Himself</u>.
- 16 ... "Simon son of John, do you love me?" "Yes, Lord," Peter said, "you know I love you." "Then take care of my sheep," Jesus said. John 21:16 (NLT)
- 5 ...For apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5 (NLT)

Partnership begins with relationship.

Jesus calls us to <u>belong</u> to a <u>Team</u>.

16 He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love. Ephesians 4:16 (NLT)

The goal of a Team:

- ...an atmosphere for us to work together.
- ...an opportunity to put others first.
- ...is to love others.

16 You did not choose me; <u>I chose you</u>. And I gave you this work: to go and produce fruit, fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you anything you ask for in my name. This is my command: Love each other. John 15:16-17 (NCV)

God has made us what we are. He has created us in Christ Jesus to live lives filled with good works that he has prepared for us to do. Ephesians 2:10 (GWT)

Make a careful exploration of who you are and the work you have been given, and then sink yourself into that. Don't be impressed with yourself. Don't compare yourself with others. Each of you must take responsibility for doing the creative best you can with your own life. Galatians 6:4-5 (MSG)

Each of you has received a gift to use to serve others. Be good servants of God's various gifts of grace. 1 Peter 4:10 (NCV)

We are cared for best, by those that know us most.

- Jesus calls us to belong to a small group.
- 20~ For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them."Matthew 18:20~(NLT)

44 And all the believers met together constantly and shared everything with each other, 45 selling their possessions and dividing with those in need. 46 They worshiped together regularly at the Temple each day, met in small groups in homes for Communion, and shared their meals with great joy and thankfulness, 47 praising God. The whole city was favorable to them, and each day God added to them all who were being saved. Acts 2:44-47 (TLB)

The goal of small groups:

- ...People to do life with.
- ...People to <u>care</u> for.
- ...People to <u>share</u> with.

Why Community is important:

- Because love is something we have to work out.
- 18 You can develop a healthy, robust community that lives right with God and enjoy its results only if you do the hard work of getting along with each other, treating each other with dignity and honor.

James 3:18 (MSG)

- Because God meets our <u>needs</u> in community.
- $1\,$ Those of us who are strong and able in the faith need to step in and lend a hand to those who falter, and not just do what is most convenient for us. Strength is for service, not status.
- 2 Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, "How can I help?" Romans 15:1-2 (MSG)

God designed the best <u>version</u> of me to be <u>developed</u> in Community.

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)-464-5754

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- · What spoke most to you from the talk on Sunday?
- From the Talk on Sunday, why would you say the strategy of partnership is important?
- Why does partnership begin with a relationship with Jesus? Explain.
- Why is being on a team and serving others important to our vision?
- How does being on a team help us live out the goals of a team?
- · How does belonging to a small group help us live out the vision?
- Discuss the goals of a small group. Why are these important to our vision?
- How do the goals of a team and a small group help us to reach the lost?
- Why do you think people have a difficult time committing to being on a team and attending a small group?

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