

Jesus says that those who belong to him will have greater love.

...love each other just as much as I love you. Your strong love for each other will prove to the world that you are my disciples. John 13:34-35

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.' The second command is this: 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.' Mark 12:30-31

Love your enemies, and be good to everyone who hates you. Luke 6:27

Does the <u>vision</u> God has given us display a greater love within us? ...go and make followers of all people in the world... Matthew 28:19 (NCV)

#### God's mission reminds us:

Jesus is with you <u>always</u>.

And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age. 175Matthew 28:20 (NLT)

#### Our Vision is important because:

Our vision unites us as a church.

Unity in the church begins to erode the moment our focus gets away from <u>Jesus</u>. And when it comes to the church, he (*Jesus*) organizes and holds it together, like a head does a body. Colossians 1:18b (MSG)

- Our vision directs us.
- Our vision inspires us.
- Our vision <u>protects</u> us.

Where there is no vision, the people perish... Proverbs 29:18 (KJV)

When church becomes just a place we attend, we become **consumers** of an experience rather than participants in the **vision**.

#### Questions our vision answers:

Why does the Quest exist?

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

Our Number one goal is your <u>relationship</u> with <u>Jesus!</u>

Relationship with Jesus is not <u>fire</u> insurance, it's <u>life</u> insurance.

Our Vision requires <u>creativity</u>.

Even though I am free of the demands and expectations of everyone, I have voluntarily become a servant to any and all in order to reach a wide range of people: religious, nonreligious, meticulous moralists, loose-living immoralists, the defeated, the demoralized—whoever. I didn't take on their way of life. I kept my bearings in Christ—but I entered their world and tried to experience things from their point of view. I've become just about every sort of servant there is in my attempts to lead those I meet into a God-saved life. I did all this because of the Message. I didn't just want to talk about it; I wanted to be in on it! 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 (MSG) ...I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some. I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings. 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 (NLT)

I, too, try to please everyone in everything I do. <u>I don't just do what is best for me; I do what is best for others so that many may be saved</u>. And you should imitate me, just as I imitate Christ. 1 Corinthians 10:33-11:1 (NLT)

Our Vision demands greater Love from us.

#### So we love **God** completely and love **people** creatively.

Jesus replied, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" Matthew 22:37-39 (NLT)

- Greater love will call us to <u>give up</u> what is important to us for what <u>benefits</u> others.
- Our Vision inspires us to <u>lead</u>.

Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ. 1 Corinthians 11:1 (NIV)

- ... You paid careful attention to the way we lived among you, and determined to live that way yourselves. In imitating us, you imitated the Master.... 1 Thessalonians 1:5-6
- We can't **lead** others where we are not willing to go.

### Another question our vision answers is:

Why should the Quest exist?

... "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone. <u>Anyone who believes and is</u> baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned. Mark 16:15-16 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but <u>whoever rejects the Son will not see life</u>, for God's wrath remains on them. John 3:36 (NIV)

The thief's purpose is to steal, kill and destroy. My purpose is to give life in all its fullness. John 10:10 (TLB)

#### The stakes are high:

- Time is short and eternity is long.
- People are living without hope.
- People/ Families are <u>hurting</u>.
- Our friends need an environment like the Quest.
- You have been given the vision, run with it.

For "Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved." But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!" Romans 10:13-15 (NLT)



# TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

## Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- · How does our vision call us to a greater love?
- In your own words how do we creatively love? How do we lead people in a growing relationship with Jesus? What is a "growing relationship" with Jesus?
- · What does it mean that the Stakes are high? Does that inspire you to act out the vision?
- · Do you believe that our friends need a church to come to like the Quest?

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Today's Talk..



**Our Vision** 

Sunday, February 5th, 2023



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