

Bethel's 'This Before That'

Matthew 6:33

July 5, 2020

Bethel Bible Church exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ by faithfully teaching, loving, and communicating God's Word.

At some point in the story of Bethel Bible Church, a decision was made to adopt this sentence as the sum and definition of why Bethel exists. To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the glory of God. Of all the reasons that you think a church should exist, this is what we agreed to – making disciples for the glory of God. In a very real sense this is what we seek first.

Let's review and dig a bit deeper on the concept of 'seeking first' as the command given by Jesus to us His disciples. Our objective this morning is to begin presenting some thoughts from our elders that will provide clear direction for what our ambition as a church will look like in the days ahead.

1. Seeking is an act of your will to pursue or search diligently to find or do something.

Jesus calls us to make a _____ to be and build His church.

2. Seeking is used frequently throughout both the Bible as a call to the people of God.

A conscious turning of God's people to God is a _____ expectation.

3. Seeking something first does establish that thing as having a priority within an order.

To make a disciple, one must _____.

Let's apply the seeking first concept to Bethel Bible Church. Given our commitment to being a healthy and obedient church that makes disciples, what should some of our priorities be? Are there any "this before that" concerns for us as a church?

The elders are recommending 5 strategic initiatives for Bethel Bible Church.

2020 Major Initiatives Bethel Bible Church

1. Leadership development – identifying, recruiting, training, and appointing godly and qualified teachers and leaders.
2. Conciliation – resolving current conflicts and training in ongoing peacemaking.
3. Develop discipleship in community – provide for growth in 1) understanding and application of scripture and 2) practice of 'one another' relationships in a highly relational setting.
4. Community outreach – developing an outward focus as a church
5. Budget restructure/redevelopment – transition from current 2 funds/budgets to a more suitable model.