



Title: Gospel. Community. Mission

Text: Various

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Intro: Who is Jesus? How should we live together? What has He called us to do? These three questions guide the vision and philosophy of ministry at CrossPointe.

1. WHO IS JESUS? [GOSPEL]

- Mark 1:14-15
- Ephesians 2:1-10

A). Helpful short summary

You must do it.

You can't do it.

Christ has done it.

In Christ, you can do it.

B). Seeing critical difference between Indicatives and Imperatives

2. HOW SHOULD WE LIVE TOGETHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE? [COMMUNITY]

- Ephesians 2:19-22

A). How are we seeking to pursue biblical community at CrossPointe? (4 primary ways)

1. When we gather.
2. Through LifePointe Groups
3. Through discipling relationships.
4. Informal relationships

B). Seeing our life together as a local church as evangelism

3. WHAT HAS HE CALLED US TO DO? [MISSION]

- 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

A). Marks of a church that not on mission

- "Missions" is merely something that funded and send a select few people to do.
- A majority of the organizational energy is spent keeping current members content.
- Good things like Bible study and prayer are viewed mostly (exclusively) as personal spiritual disciples for self-improvement.
- Vocational staff are seen as dispensers of religious goods there to serve the religious needs of the congregation.
- A sort of "us v. them" mindset exists that serves to subtly isolate Christians in a bunker mentality where the main objective of the Christian life is to avoid the spiritual contamination of the world.
- Empty religious catch phrases, stylized prayers and an unnecessary over-spiritualized jargon dominates.
- Non-Christians, if present at all at the worship gathering, would likely find the service hard to follow and not applicable to their lives and the world as they know it.

- A sense of competitiveness with other churches in the area. Growing churches that are close by are viewed with envy.
- Evangelistic efforts are usually event based and/or centered around some organized, staff or leader led program of outreach.

B). Marks of a church on mission

- The Gospel is central to the preaching and life of the church.
- Members see their individual lives as connected to the mission of the God.
- Members seek to leverage their relationships as opportunities to communicate the Gospel and point people to Christ.
- Evangelism is primarily seen as the relational opportunity of all Christians, not a program driven effort of a few.
- Groups and gatherings of the church are non-threatening places for non-Christians to come and see the Gospel taught in understandable and relevant ways that connect to real life.
- Christians are encouraged to wisely enter their culture as missionary lights for the Gospel, being equipped to understand, a) what cultural practices are common grace and should be received, b) what parts of culture are sinful and need to be rejected, and c) what cultural practices should be redeemed and adapted.