

Centerpoint's Mission & Vision

Lesson 01 of the series, "The Centered Life"

I. Centerpoint's Mission (Why do we exist?).

Centerpoint Fellowship Church exists to center lives on Christ by fulfilling the Great Commandment and Great Commission.

A. The Great Commandment: "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.' The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments." Matthew 22:37-40 (NLT)

- We offer meaningful worship experiences each week to help us love God more.

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'" Psalm 122:1 (NLT)

- We offer Connect Groups to help us love others more.

"We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us." 1 Thessalonians 2:8 (NIV)

B. The Great Commission: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)

- We use a multi-site church strategy to help each other go.

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8 (NLT)

- We intentionally reach out to sinners and baptize those who repent and place their faith in Christ.

The Pharisees and their religion scholars came to his disciples greatly offended. "What is he doing eating and drinking with crooks and 'sinners'?" Jesus heard about it and spoke up, "Who needs a doctor: the healthy or the sick? I'm here inviting outsiders, not insiders—an invitation to a changed life, changed inside and out." Luke 5:30-32 (MSG)

- We use a small group strategy to teach and counsel each other.

"Let the words of Christ, in all their richness, live in your hearts and make you wise. Use his words to teach and counsel each other." Colossians 3:16 (NLT)

C. Centering our lives on Christ is an ongoing process.

"I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us." Philipians 3:12-14 (NLT)

Life Application: A centered life is a changed / meaningful / useful life.

"All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved." Acts 2:42-47 (NLT)

II. Centerpoint's Vision (Where are we going?):

Our vision is to become a multi-site church, which multiplies leaders to form groups that will serve their communities, share the Good News of Christ and gather for worship in 1,000 locations.

A. We intentionally multiply leaders / workers.

"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others." 2 Timothy 2:2 (NIV)

Life Application: We are praying that God will bring more leaders / workers.

"The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields." Luke 10:2 (NLT)

B. We intentionally multiply small groups.

"The churches here in the province of Asia send greetings in the Lord, as do Aquila and Priscilla and all the others who gather in their home for church meetings." 1 Corinthians 16:19 (NLT)

Life Application: God is raising up ordinary people to carry out His mission.

"God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God." 1 Corinthians 1:27-29 (NLT)

C. Our goal of 1,000 locations helps us to always keep our focus "arrows out."

- Our multiplication strategy is simple:

Where is God working? > leader > group > groups > gathering > site > Where is God working next?

- Our motive is love.

"For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again... And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God." 2 Corinthians 5:14-20 (NIV)

Life Application: All Christians are missionaries.

"As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." John 20:21 (NIV)

John Schmidt / 09-13-15 / john@centeringlives.com

Discussion Questions

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's lesson on "Centerpoint's Mission & Vision" was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?
2. Discuss the following mission statements:

"We save people money so they can live better." Wal-Mart

"To be Earth's most customer-centric company where people can find and discover anything they want to buy online." Amazon

"We exist to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ by every effective means and to equip others to do the same." Billy Graham Evangelistic Association

"Centerpoint Fellowship Church exists to center lives on Christ by fulfilling the Great Commandment and Great Commission." (See Matthew 22:37-40 & Matthew 28:19-20)

How important are mission and vision statements to an organization, school, business or church? (See Amos 3:3). Does it seem clear to you what Centerpoint Fellowship Church is organized to do? Why? / Why not?
3. Read Luke 10:1-2 and 2 Timothy 2:2 then spend some time as a group discussing the importance of identifying and training leaders in our church. Why do many people assume they aren't cut out for leadership in church? What excuses can we give for letting someone else lead? Spend some time as a group praying for more workers.
4. Centerpoint's vision is to..." become a multi-site church which multiplies leaders to form groups that will serve their communities, share the Good News of Christ and gather for worship in 1,000 locations." What do the following verses say teach us about "going"?
 - Mark 16:15
 - Luke 24:47
 - John 20:21
 - Acts 1:8
5. How can you be on mission for Christ this week in your home, school, workplace and neighborhood? Discuss challenges and opportunities facing you right now. Pray for each other.
6. Who could you invite to worship, to your small group, or just meet for a cup of coffee? Many people around us need prayer, support and a relationship with Jesus.