

The Principles and Priorities that Guide the Ministries of Lakeview First Baptist Church

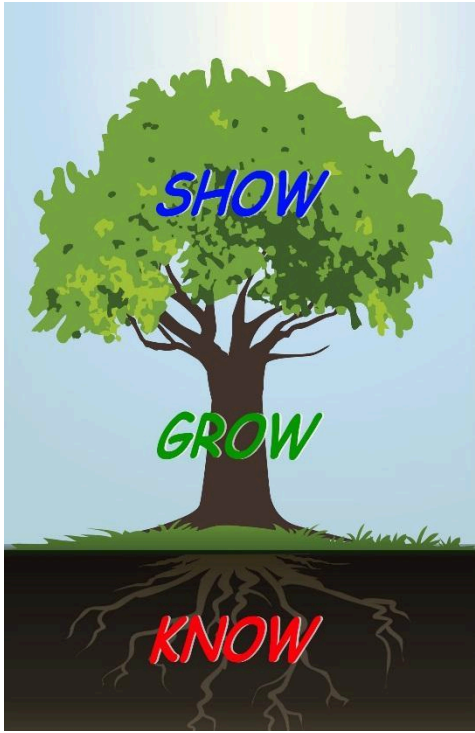
Our Mission: Glorifying God & Advancing His Kingdom

Our Mandate: Making Disciples of Jesus Christ

Our Motto: Knowing Christ & Making Him Known

Our Motive: For Christ's Love Compels Us

Our Model:

Priorities:	Paradigm:	Processes:	Practices:
<p><u>Focus: Outward</u> On Others</p> <p>To Go & Show The Lord to Others</p>		<p>By Offering Ourselves to God and Others in Faithful & Fruitful Service</p>	<p>Discovering, Developing, and Deploying Our Spiritual Gifts</p> <p>Being Empowered and Led by the Holy Spirit</p> <p>Evangelizing the Lost</p>
<p><u>Focus: Inward</u> On Ourselves</p> <p>To Grow & Become Like the Lord</p>		<p>By Cultivating Christlike Character & Conduct</p>	<p>Dying to Self</p> <p>Abiding in Christ</p> <p>Putting Off the Old Self</p> <p>Putting On the New Self</p>
<p><u>Focus: Upward</u> On Our God</p> <p>To Know & Love the Lord</p>		<p>By Pursuing Intimate Relationship with the Lord</p>	<p>Feeding on the Word</p> <p>Being Devoted to Prayer</p> <p>Practicing the Presence of Christ</p>

Our Method: Providing the ministries and resources that will help all the members and active participants in the FBC family to become mature followers of the Lord Jesus Christ

A disciple of Jesus Christ is a person who possesses a genuine, vital relationship with Him as the Savior of their soul and the Lord of their life. The reality of this relationship manifests itself in a growing, lifelong commitment to the three spiritual priorities described on the other side of this handout.

The pursuit of an intimate relationship with the Lord helps us to fulfill the first part of Our Motto: *Knowing Christ*. The cultivation of Christlike character and conduct, and the offering of ourselves to God and others in faithful and fruitful service, help us fulfill the second part of Our Motto: *Making Him Known*.

A mature disciple is an entirely devoted *follower, learner, imitator, and proclaimer* of the Lord Jesus Christ. They will reflect both the character and priorities of Jesus Christ.

A growing disciple will have a deepening commitment to the same five purposes that characterize a spiritually healthy church:

- ☐ Celebrating God through joyful and reverent Worship
- ☐ Reflecting God through passionate personal Discipleship
- ☐ Revealing God through loving Fellowship
- ☐ Serving God through gift-oriented Ministry
- ☐ Sharing God through need-oriented Evangelism

The goal of discipleship is to become Christlike and spiritually mature. Fred Smith wrote, "The mission of the church, and therefore of church leadership, is to develop mature Christians." (*Learning to Lead*, p. 161)

Paul wrote, "Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me. (*Colossians 1:28-29 ESV*)

Jesus said, "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master." (*Matthew 10:24-25 NKJV*)