

WEEK #1: ON MISSION TOGETHER

Our mission statement:

We are a exalting community of believers in Jesus Christ, redeemed by the Holy Spirit to share the Gospel and make disciples of all nations.

It is derived primarily form the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20):

18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in[a] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

In a nutshell:

OUR MISSION IS TO SHARE THE GOSPEL AND MAKE DISCIPLES

- we share the Gospel outwards to reach more and more people with the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ
- and we share the Gospel in wards, allowing it to permeate more and more of our lives.

WEEK #2: PRAYING TOGETHER

My dream for the prayer life of FACC ...

FIRST) Jesus said in Matthew 6:6, "But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you." So, I dream of FACC with many people DAILY finding a secluded place and time for personal communion with God, confessing sins, thanking God for blessings, praising Him for His perfections, asking for help, and interceding for others.



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SECOND) The Apostle Peter said in 1 Peter 3:7, "Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered." So, I dream of an FACC with all of the married couples on their knees together, praying for each other, for their marriages, for the children, for the church and for the world.

THIRD) Since the Apostle Paul said in Ephesians 6:4, "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord," I dream of an FACC with all of the families gathering with all of the children regularly to read the Scriptures and pray, and that during this time everyone would pray, from the smallest to the oldest; that this would be how the children learn to absorb the truth that prayer is essential in life.

FOURTH) Since it says in James 5:16, "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed," I dream of an FACC with dozens of small groups and many deep friendships where people are praying for each other, praying for healing, praying for reconciliation, praying for lost loved ones, praying for seemingly intractable sin, praying for endurance in the faith, and where groups and friends are uniting to pray for a cause together, and where the mission of the church is carried in prayer.

FIFTH) And since the leaders of the early church said in Acts 6:4, "we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word," I dream of an FACC where all leadership meetings, and all deacons meetings, and all ministry meetings, and all planning meetings, don't just hurry into human discussion with a token opening prayer, but linger with the Lord in a season of prayer, and soak their meetings in prayer, and then return to prayer during the meeting so that the way the work of the meeting is done is by prayer.

SIXTH) From 1 Corinthians 14, it is clear that the Bible expects us to pray out loud together as church and not just in solitude. "Otherwise, if you give thanks with your spirit, how can anyone in the position of an outsider say "Amen" to your thanksgiving when he does not know what you are saying? For you may be giving thanks well enough, but the other person is not being built up (1 For 14:16-17)." In other words, God means for us to pray sometimes so that others can hear us and say AMEN, and can be built up in faith by hearing what we pray, therefore I dream of many people coming to the regular prayer meetings, and to the special opportunities to pray, so that they can build each other up and be built up by each other's prayers.

SEVENTH) Finally, since Matthew 15 says that the essence of worship is vertical communion with God. In Matthew 15:8–9 Jesus says, "This people honors me with their lips but their heart is far from me. In vain do they worship me," tying worship to inner spirituality as opposed to a particular geographical location (like the church, or the Temple in 1st Century Judaism). Because of this, I dream of worship services in which everyone is radically, deeply, joyfully, authentically engaged with God in prayer all throughout the entire service. Praying as you come. Praying as you sing. Praying as you listen. Praying as you go.

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