



MINISTRY FOUNDATIONS



OUR PURPOSE What is our goal?

Our goal is to equip families and help students grow in Christlikeness by proclaiming the gospel to the glory of God.



OUR PRIORITY What is our source for truth?

We prioritize the Word of God because it is our only true source for truth. It is our ultimate standard for how we live the Christian life. God's Word cannot be substituted for experience, entertainment, or worldly wisdom.

God's Word alone brings...

Authority.

It is Final.

We must obey it.

Clarity.

It is Clear.

We can understand it.

Necessity.

It is Urgent.

We need it.

Sufficiency.

It is Enough.

We can rely on it.



OUR PASSION What are we excited about?

We are excited when we see students demonstrate real heart change. When God transforms a heart He gives it new, godly affections. The heart that is alive in Christ evidences itself in true, biblical love.

True love is...

Upward.

It is for God.

It worships God.

Inward.

It is for the Church.

It serves the Church.

Outward.

It is for the Lost.

It evangelizes the Lost.



OUR PLAN What is our strategy?

Preach the Word. We are committed to teaching God's Word to our students because we believe the Holy Spirit uses the Word to grow students in their love and knowledge of Christ towards maturity. We are committed to teaching the Bible in such a way that is accurate and applicable to high school and middle school students.

Prepare students for life. Our world and culture are rapidly inventing new ways to make it harder for our students to live the Christian life. Our goal is to equip and train our students for the reality that this world hates Christ, opposes Christ followers, and rejects God's Word.

Provide students with a godly community. We believe that having godly role models and godly friendships are vital for a thriving Christian life. Our student ministry strives to provide students with both. We provide godly leaders who will challenge students, invest in their lives, and give them an example of mature Christian living. We also provide opportunities for godly friendships in our small groups, games, events, and camps.

Partner with parents. We believe that parents have the biggest influence and are the best disciple-makers of their students. For this reason, we aim to partner with parents to see students grow in Christlikeness. We want to be a supplement to the disciple-making that is already going on in the home. We also desire to partner with parents at youth related events - we love when parents are small group leaders and when they team up to host fun events and activities.



OUR PRINCIPLES What is our philosophy?

Christians are called to conform every aspect of their lives to Christ. When God matures Christians, He transforms the way they think, relate, and act. For this reason, we apply a holistic approach to our engagement with students. We seek to teach the head, tend the heart, and train the hands.

Engaging students holistically includes...

Teaching the Head.

Think like Christ.

It sharpens sound doctrine.

Tending the Heart.

Relate like Christ.

It nurtures biblical community.

Training the Hands.

Act like Christ.

It strengthens service.



OUR PLACE What is our role?

We believe that God has instituted both the family and the church for human flourishing and the well-being of society. Within the family, parents are called by God to be the primary disciple-makers and instructors of truth for their students. Parents are uniquely called, positioned, and equipped to invest in the lives of their students for the sake of the gospel. The church has been created by God to proclaim the truth of Scripture and guard against error. The church is called to equip Christians for the work of ministry through the Word of God which is able to make every person prepared for what they are called to do. For this reason, student ministry is designed to come alongside and equip parents to disciple their students. Student ministry is not a replacement of parents, but an encouraging support for parents. We seek to be a supplement to the discipleship that is already going on in the home.



LEADER EXPECTATIONS

We expect our youth leaders to advance our mission through the following actions:



LOVE GOD BY LIFTING HIGH THE NAME OF JESUS THROUGH WORSHIP

- By regular personal time in the Word of God and prayer.
- By regular attendance at the main service at Bethany.



LOVE THE BODY BY BUILDING UP THE CHURCH OF JESUS THROUGH WORK

- By leading / co-leading small group discussion on a weekly basis.
- By faithfully praying for the needs of your youth and their parents.
- By regularly attending all youth leader meetings (Shepherding Huddles), so far as this is possible (Please communicate with appropriate ministry staff if you cannot attend).
 - Middle School Meetings from 8:15-9pm - 9/27, 10/25, 11/15
 - High School Meetings from 8:15-9pm - 9/13, 10/11, 11/8
- By regularly attending each Wednesday night youth group, so far as this is possible (Please communicate with appropriate ministry staff & youth leaders if you cannot attend.)
- By participating in activities / games and large group time on Wednesday nights.
- By engaging students with spiritual conversations.
- By contacting each student in your small group at least once a month. Note anyways we can care and pray for them.
- By contacting the parent(s) of students in your small group at least once a semester and talk about opportunities to lovingly shepherd that student.
- (Optional; for HS only) By participating / leading an IMPACT team (note the IMPACT packet provided)



LOVE THE LOST BY REACHING OUT TO THOSE WITHOUT JESUS THROUGH WITNESS

- By creating a welcoming atmosphere of love and friendship.
- Reaching out to students for Christ through relationships, programs, and activities.
- By challenging and encouraging students to share the gospel in their communities and schools.

We expect our youth leaders to engage students who are disruptive by:



REQUEST

Ask the student to listen to instructions / directions.



REMINDE

Prompt the student to remember what our standard is if their disruptive behavior persists.



REMOVE

Separate the student from others if their behavior is distracting and preventing others from engaging.



REPORT

Tell the Youth Minister of the situation so that parents can be notified if necessary.



*Demonstrate a gentle and loving spirit when addressing student behavior. Make the most of the situation by discussing the gospel and pointing them to Christ.