

Our Mission is to lead people to be followers of Jesus Christ.

Our mission is rooted in “the Great Commission” in Matthew 28:18-20. The word “follower” is also rooted in the call by Jesus for us to follow Him (Matthew 4:19, 9:9; Mark 8:34; Luke 14:27; John 1:43). To understand the mission, it important to ask, “How do you go about leading people to become followers of Jesus Christ?” This question is answered through our Following Jesus Strategy.

Following Jesus Strategy

1.) Know Jesus:

Receiving Christ by faith is when we meet Christ for the first time, we are born spiritually (John 3:3), and receive the Holy Spirit into our heart (Acts 2:38). Once someone has received Christ, this faith is made public (lets people know you are a Christian) through baptism (Matthew 28:19).

2.) Grow in a love relationship with Jesus:

Christianity is about having a daily, growing, practical love relationship with Jesus. Here are the foundational practices that will help someone grow in their relationship with Jesus:

Group Practices: These are practices that God has given us to grow closer to Him that are done together as the church:

▶ **Large Group Worship:** Every Sunday we come together in different worship services to sing songs to God, pray, hear the Bible taught and applied to our lives, baptize new Christians, and monthly celebrate the Lord’s Supper.

▶ **Small Group Community:** Community happens as we gather together in smaller groups. Some of these meet on Sundays and others meet on other days. Also, some meet on-campus in the church facilities and others meet off-campus in homes. In these groups, people study and apply the Bible, pray, build friendships, and serve one another.

Personal Practices: These are the practices that God has given to grow individuals in their daily lives:

▶ **Time with the Word:** God grows people, as the Bible becomes an ongoing part of their lives. This means we need to spend time in the written Word (the Bible) by reading, studying, mediating upon, and memorizing it. As we open the Bible, God will speak to us and grow us.

▶ **Prayer:** Prayer is about having a conversational relationship with God. As we schedule times of prayer, God will grow us, speak to us, and guide us in His ways.

3.) Serve as Jesus Did:

As we grow in a love relationship with Jesus Christ, He will call us to serve as He did. Jesus makes it clear that His followers are called to be servants to others (Luke 22:25-30). This service is done in the church and through the church into the community and world. Serving as Jesus did means we will serve people, our community, and our world in the following ways:

Go: Christians are called to go and make a difference wherever God leads them.

Love Others: Jesus makes it clear that we are to love others as we love ourselves (Luke 10:27).

Meet Spiritual Needs: We meet peoples' spiritual needs by verbally sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ to people who are separated from God for eternity (evangelism), praying for one another, encouraging people, and taking the Good News of Jesus to areas of the world where it has never been heard (missions).

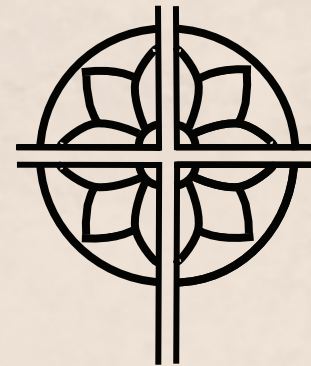
Meet Physical Needs: We are also called to meet physical needs. Jesus did this (Matthew 15:29-39). Meeting physical needs means helping those with physical, emotional, and life-skill needs.

Vision

To be a church of ordinary people
used by God in extraordinary ways.

No matter who we are, we are ordinary people saved by Jesus Christ and hopefully used by God in ways beyond our strengths, talents, and resources. This will remind us to be humble before God (we are ordinary people) and to be inspired to pray and submit to God so that He will work in and through us in ways that can only be attributed to Him.

MISSION DISCIPLESHIP STRATEGY VISION



BRENHAM'S
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH