

# OUR CORE VALUES

## (What values are most important to us?)

Core Values are the basic principles that guide our ministry and our relationships with each other at LCCC. These principles establish the culture of our team. Let's explore the 10 core values of LCCC.

1. The Bible is God's Word, and is His complete revelation for us. (1 Tim. 3:16-17). ► We will follow God's Word as our only rule of faith and practice.
2. Prayer releases God's power for ministry. (Mark 11:17; Eph. 3:16; 6:18-20; Ex. 17:8-13). ► We will be devoted to prayer.
3. Spiritual maturity is God's will for every believer. (Eph. 4:13-16; Col. 1:28-20; Matt. 28:18-20) ► We will encourage each person to take steps of commitment as disciples of Christ.
4. Relationships with other believers are a key to spiritual formation. (Acts 2:43-47) ► We will attempt to connect every attender into a small group.
5. God created the family to display His character and fulfill His purposes in the world. ► We encourage families to worship and serve together, and be the primary means for discipling children.
6. God has gifted every believer to be a minister. (1 Cor. 12:7; Eph. 4:11-13; 1 Peter 4:10) ► We will serve in our area of spiritual gifting.
7. Evangelizing the lost is God's "heartbeat." (1 Tim. 2:4; Luke 19:10; John 3:17; 2 Peter 3:9) ► We will enthusiastically proclaim the gospel both locally and globally.
8. God is glorified when His church reflects ethnic & cultural diversity. (John 17:20-21; Rev. 5:9-10; Gal. 3:28; Eph. 4:1-6) ► We will intentionally and joyfully strive to reflect the passion of Christ for all the people of the world.
9. Loving unity is foundational to an effective ministry. (Jn. 17:20-21; Eph. 4:1-3) ► We will strive for unity above personal preferences.
10. Widows and orphans are a priority on the heart of God our Father. (James 1:27; Ps. 68:5-6; 10:14; 82:3-4). ► We will align our hearts with the Father by encouraging and supporting ministries to the orphan and the widow.

# LCCC's Vision Foundations Playbook

*(As presented in LCCC's "2020 Vision" Sermon Series, June, 2013)*

We're glad you are on or exploring the "team" here at Lake City Community Church. We believe these foundations are essential to our success. Since we have members from many different church backgrounds within our congregation, we put together this "playbook" so that we can all play together as an effective team. Church is a team sport.

## Let's define our terms:

The meaning of the word "church" (Greek: Ecclesia) is: [called out ones](#)

So please remember... you don't go to church, [You are](#) the church!

1. **The church is a [family](#).** (Eph. 2:19)
2. **The church is a [body](#) or a [team](#)** (Rom. 12:4-5; Eph. 4:15-16)

## So what does winning look like?

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### NOTES:



# What unifies us as a Team? Our Mission, Vision, & Values

*"Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose." (Phil. 2:2)*

A clear understanding and agreement about mission, vision, & values is foundational to being unified and successful as a team.

## Our Mission Statement (Why do we exist?)

► **To advance God's Kingdom in Lakewood and the world by making fully-devoted followers (disciples) of Christ.**

In short, our mission is to make disciples!

*"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matt. 28:19-20)*

## So what exactly is a disciple according to the Bible?

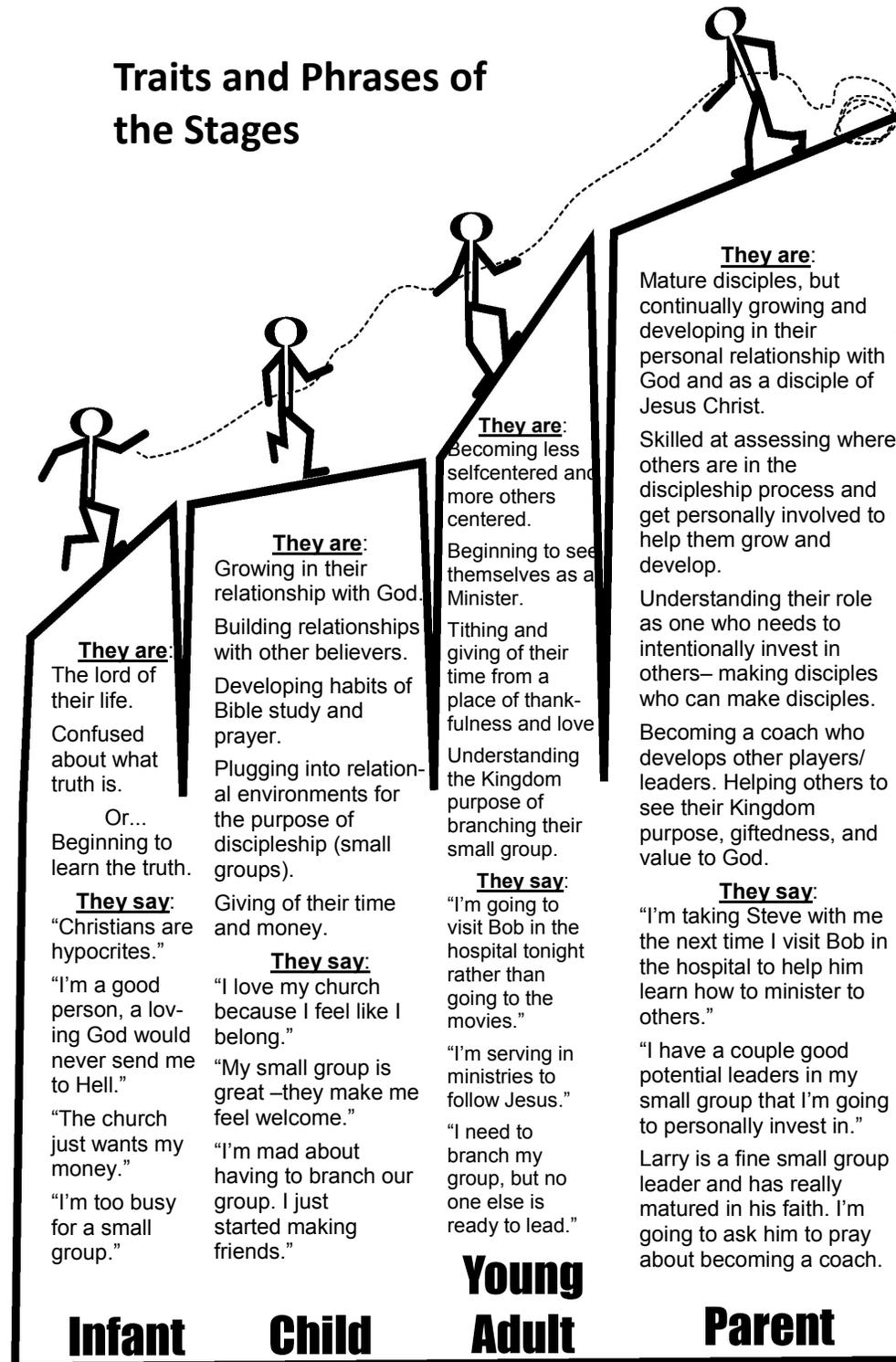
### A disciple of Jesus is:

Someone who is following Jesus. That means they have made Jesus the Lord and model of their life. (Lk. 9:23; Jn. 8:31)

Someone who is being changed by Jesus. That means they are becoming like Jesus in attitudes and actions. (Jn. 13:35; 15:8; Rom. 8:29; Gal. 5:22)

Someone who is committed to the mission of Jesus to save a lost world. (Matt. 4:19; Jn. 15:8; 2 Cor. 5:19-20)

## Traits and Phrases of the Stages



There is nothing surprising with this self-concern at the infant stage; it may be the first time they are experiencing both the love and the difficulties of Christian community.

What people in both parts of this stage need is for believers to **SHARE** the gospel and our faith in Jesus with them.

**2. Child** (1 Thes. 2:11-12)—People in the child stage are just starting to develop good spiritual habits and commitment to relationships. What people need in this stage is to **CONNECT** with the church community of a small group and a discipler that will teach and model for them what it means to love God and others.

**3. Young Adult** (Phil. 2:3-4)—People in this stage are making a big shift from being self-centered to more others-centered; becoming givers, rather than takers; putting others first. People growing in this stage are becoming more and more committed to the mission of Christ. When they walk into a room, rather than thinking, “Who is going to notice me,” they are beginning to wonder, “Who needs help; who looks lonely; how can I serve them?” They are moving into the **MINISTRY** phase of the process and need more ministry opportunities.

**4. Spiritual Parent** (2 Tim. 2:1-2)—The spiritual parent has a solid understanding of God’s Word and, in addition to making new disciples, is focused on reproducing mature disciples of Jesus by mentoring them in the Christian life. These disciples are in the **INTENTIONAL DISCIPLEMAKING / LEADERSHIP** stage. They are not only ministering, but making disciples of people around them; ready to train others to do the same.

#### POINTS TO ASSESS:

*Where are you in your maturing process?*

*Where are the people whom you know in the process? Are you assessing what they need, and taking an active role in their growth?*

*How intentional are all the church environments you’re involved with in relational discipleship? How can you add to that intentionality?*

See more about the “Traits and Phrases of the Stages” on the next page...

**We state how this Body of Jesus’ disciples will accomplish His mission with our vision statement...**

## **Our Vision (How will we fulfill our mission?)**

► ***To be a Christ-honoring community that is passionate about loving God, loving one another, and loving the world.***

Our vision statement speaks of three biblical [priorities](#)

*“Teacher, which is the **great commandment** in the Law?” And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.” (Matt. 22:36-40)*

The **priorities** of Jesus, and the priorities of fully-devoted followers of Jesus Christ, are expressed in this passage. Disciples are people who are growing in the three vital love relationships in their lives: **loving God**, **loving one another** (the church family), and **loving the world** (the *people*; not the *sin*, of the world). We will successfully fulfill our mission by being passionately devoted to Christlike love for these three.

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#### **NOTES:**

Next, please notice the word [community](#) in our vision statement! God never intended that His people attempt to do this alone. We need the encouragement and support of others to fulfill the mission of deeply and sacrificially loving God, loving one another, and loving the world. We realize there needs to be a community around to support us as we live on mission to fulfill Christ's purposes in this world.

Acts 2 gives us a summary or snapshot of what the early church looked like and explains why it was so effective in reaching out and making disciples.

*“And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.” (Acts 2:42-47)*

The entirety of Scripture points us to relationship both with God and with others. **Discipleship** happens best in **community** according to a **biblical process**. Therefore, LCCC will seek to guide believers into spiritual relationships with other Christians, where they can grow and develop in the biblical process of becoming fully mature disciples, and help others become and grow as disciples.

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## NOTES:

# The Bible's Discipleship Process

Churches need a “discipleship process” to successfully grow its people and community in discipleship. The Bible contains such a process, Here are the 4 key elements to the Bible's process.

**Key #1 - A Biblical Foundation** (Matt 7:24-27; 2 Tim 3:16, 17)

**Key #2 - An Intentional Leader: one who...**

- Is committed to following Christ, growing, intentionally investing in others, and sharing their life and faith with those who don't know Jesus yet
- Evaluates or recognizes where a person is in the process of growth
- Creates a *relational environment* that produces growth; rather than social environments, just hoping connections are made

**Key #3 - A Relational Environment: one which is...**

- Regularly occurring, among 3-18 people
- Led by a more mature disciple, using Scripture and prayer
- A place of accountability and encouragement
- Intentional to grow as disciples in **head, heart and hands**.

**Key #4 - A Reproducible Process**

The Bible speaks of the process of our spiritual lives in the same language as we use for the natural stages of human life. Everyone needs to assess where we and others are in the process, and know how to walk with others in discipleship towards the next stage.

**1. Spiritually Dead --> Infant** (Eph. 2:1-5; 1 Pet. 2:2-3)—People in the first part of this stage have not yet repented and trusted Jesus as Lord and Savior. They may completely reject God; or they may be seeking God. They may even claim to be a Christian, when in reality have not repented and placed their trust in Jesus.

Spiritual infants, people in the second part of this stage, have trusted Jesus, but haven't moved much past that point. They may be brand new believers or might be stagnant, long-time believers. Life is generally still all about them and their needs.