



vision

GROWTH GROUP STUDIES





Vision

TO BE AN **EVER GROWING COMMUNITY**
WHO LOVES THE LORD + EACH OTHER

- 1/ Based on these Acts and Ephesians passages, what types of growth were the apostles interested in? Why do you think that is?

- 2/ How does loving God and loving our neighbour summarise the whole law?

- 3/ Read John 13:34-35 - Why is it so important for us to be a loving community?

- 4/ How can we be united in Christ but still have diversity? (Rom. 12:3-8, Cf 1 Cor. 12:-31)

- 5/ How can your growth group live out the above this year?

ACTS 2:41-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

EPHESIANS 4:11-13

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

MATTHEW 22:34-40

Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: "Love your neighbour as yourself." ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.'

JOHN 13:34-35

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

Pray



mission

TO MAKE **CHRIST-LIKE DISCIPLES**
IN SOUTH EAST BRISBANE AND BEYOND

- 1/ What are the different parts of the mission Jesus gives to the disciples? (Matt 28)

- 2/ What does Paul encourage Timothy to do? (2 Tim 2)

- 3/ What role does LC have to play in people in SE Brisbane coming to faith? (Rom 10)

- 4/ Beyond evangelism, what is included in discipleship? (Col 1 and Eph 4)

- 5/ How can your Growth Group do discipleship well?

MATTHEW 28:16-20

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'

2 TIMOTHY 2:2-4

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others. ³ Join with me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴ No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his commanding officer.

ROMANS 10:9,14-15

If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved... ¹⁴ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? ¹⁵ And how can anyone preach unless they are sent?

COLOSSIANS 1:28-29

He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. ²⁹ To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.

EPHESIANS 4:15-16

Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Pray



values

BUILT ON A FOUNDATIONAL VALUE OF
BIBLICAL

1/ What does creation tell us about God? Is this enough for salvation? Why? (Rom 1)

2/ How does the word of God do the things Paul tells Timothy about in your life?

3/ If the Scriptures are God breathed, how should we treat them? (2 Tim 3)

4/ How does all scripture talk about Jesus? (Luke 24)

5/ How can you and your growth group build your house upon God's word? (Matt 7)

ROMANS 1:20

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

LUKE 24:25-27

And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, [Jesus] explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

ISAIAH 55:9-11

'As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, ¹¹so is my word that goes out from my mouth: it will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

MATTHEW 7:24-27

'Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.'

Pray



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BUILT ON A FOUNDATIONAL VALUE OF
CHRIST-CENTRED

1/ How should the description of Jesus in Colossians 1 shape our understanding of him?

2/ What does it look like to keep Christ at the centre of our lives and our worship? (Heb 12)

3/ In what ways is Christ at the centre of our salvation? (Rom 3)

4/ Is it right to say that Christ is at the centre of the Scriptures? Why or why not (John 5)

5/ What are the best ways to keep Christ at the centre of our lives individually and as church?

COLOSSIANS 1:15-20

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

HEBREWS 12:1-3

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God..

ROMANS 3:21-25

But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith.

JOHN 5:39-40

You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, ⁴⁰ yet you refuse to come to me to have life

Pray



values

BUILT ON A FOUNDATIONAL VALUE OF
LOVING

- 1/ What are the greatest commandments? (Matt 22)

- 2/ What does it look like to love like Christ in church and in our world today? (1 John 4)

- 3/ What does it mean that perfect love drives out fear? (1 John 4:18)

- 4/ Why is love so important for us Christians to cultivate in love?

- 5/ What does it look like for our church to build on the foundation of being loving?

MATTHEW 22:34-40

Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ ‘Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?’ ³⁷ Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: “Love your neighbour as yourself.” ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.’

1 JOHN 4:7-12

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: he sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

1 JOHN 4:16B-18

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. ¹⁷ This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: in this world we are like Jesus. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-7

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Pray



culture

TO LIVE THIS OUT IN A CULTURE THAT IS **INTENTIONAL, AUTHENTIC, WELCOMING, ENCOURAGING, + GRACE FILLED**

1/ What does it look like for us to be intentional in church like Paul is in this Colossians passage?

2/ How do John's words encourage authenticity of faith? (1 John 3)

3/ What does it look like to be welcoming and hospitable to people? (Heb 13)

4/ What does it look like to encourage each other against the deceitfulness of sin? (Heb 13)

5/ How do we live in freedom and yet not use our freedom to indulge the flesh? (Gal 5)

COLOSSIANS 4:2-6

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. ³ And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. ⁴ Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.

⁵ Be wise in the way you act towards outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. ⁶ Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

1 JOHN 3:17-18

If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

HEBREWS 13:1-2

Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters.

² Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.

HEBREWS 13:13-14

But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called 'Today', so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

¹⁴ We have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original conviction firmly to the very end.

GALATIANS 5:1

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

GALATIANS 5:13

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.

DUTIES OF MEMBERS

(Taken from PCQ Code)

It is the duty of Living Church Members to give faithful attendance to worship services and seek to be fully involved in the Church's life and ministry; to give their Ministers and Elders due respect, encouragement and obedience in the Lord; and to manifest a Christian spirit in all their relationships. It is also their duty to take a lively interest in the welfare of the whole Church and to contribute heartily, as the Lord shall enable them, for the maintenance of the Christian ministry, and the furtherance of the Gospel at home and abroad.

1/ Do you have any questions about these duties? Are there any that you think people would have more difficulty living out than others?

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Living Church Vision

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