



HCC Leadership Development Class- Week 4

November 12, 2020

I. Vision/Mission of HCC

- **Intro**

We long to be a gospel-centered community church in Homewood.

We want to love God, love our neighbors, and love our place.

- **Vision**

A vision is the perception of an as-yet-realized future that captivates the imagination and draws us forward to its realization...a vision is an imaginative leap into the Not Yet. (Dwell, 32)

Man in his actions and practice, as well in his fictions, essentially is a story-telling animal...I can only answer the question “what am I to do?” If I can answer the prior question, “Of what story or stories do I find myself a part of? Alasdair MacIntyre, (Dwell, 29)

Our vision is our dream. “I have a dream not I have a plan.” -MLK, Jr.

What is God’s vision? What is the vision of the Bible according to Jones?

- **Mission**

There is a rhythm of life that pulses through the Biblical vision of what it means to be human. A kind of breathing in and breathing out. An inhale and an exhale. The breathing in is our participation in the divine life. The breathing out, our participation in the divine mission. (Dwell, 12)

Where do you see this in our mission statement?

What is God’s mission? What is He up to in our world?

This examination of God’s blueprint in the garden and its realization in the new heavens and new earth allows us to draw some general conclusions about what God is up to between the garden and the city, which includes not only the rest of the biblical narrative but also what he’s doing in our own day. The rest of the story from the garden to the city is the story of the mission of God to rescue and renew his good but broken creation so that he might dwell with humanity and reign over creation in perfect peace. (Dwell, 44)

We are called to be part of God’s new creation, called to be agents of that new creation here and now. We are called to model and display that new creation in symphonies and family life, in restorative justice and poetry, in holiness and service to the poor, in politics and painting. -N.T. Wright (Dwell, 47)

Therefore...our vision/mission are wrapped up in God's vision/mission.

- **HCC Vision**

Our vision is to be a gospel centered community church in Homewood

- **Gospel Centered**

What is the gospel? Good news about what God has done for you in the life/death/resurrection of Jesus. This is the content of the gospel. The scope of the gospel is wide and the good news is that eventually God will not only redeem a people but also this world into the new heavens/new earth.

Narrow view vs. 4-chapter gospel- creation/ fall/ redemption/ restoration

What does it mean to be “gospel centered”? It means we never lose the content of the gospel...we keep the life/death/resurrection of Jesus in the window at all times. The gospel is not something we advance from...it is how unbelievers can be redeemed and it is how believers can grow.

- **Community Church in Homewood**

As we center on the gospel (inhale) we are then led into healthy relationships and community within our church family AND we are led outward to love and serve in the community.

Our community is Homewood. While we absolutely welcome all, we will focus our ministry efforts and mission to the neighborhoods around the church, in Homewood.

- **HCC Mission**

Our mission is to love God, love our neighbors, and love our place

- **Love God**- it starts with the inhale/ participation in the divine life. The first and greatest commandment is “love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength.”

- **Love your Neighbor**- as we love God (inhale) we then MUST exhale and our focus will be our neighbors...both next door and those in need. Proximity/ Priority

- **Love your Place**- a community church is a way of doing church. Our mission/ exhale flows from the model of the incarnation of Jesus. God made this world and is committed to restoring it. Our dream of shalom calls us to be “in/not of/for” the world. Life with God/ For the World.

So...everything we do as a church comes back to this vision/mission.

What about church planting?

II. Week 4- Reading List:

All the links for these readings are available on our church website!

- [What's the Difference Between Elders & Deacons](#)- by Isaac Adams
- [What are Elders & Deacons](#)- by Ricky Jones
- [Discerning and Exercising Spiritual Gifts](#), Tim Keller
- Book of Church Order- Chapters 7-9