

Life Church - Sunday September 28, 2014

The Big Picture - Part 2

(Big Picture → Mission → Spiritual Maturity)

▼ Big Picture (the motivation for our mission)

- Phase 1 - Creation: God's Project Is Launched (an act of love and self-giving)
God creates heavens & earth and creates human beings to reflect his glory into creation.
Genesis 1 - 11
- Phase 2 - The Fall: Humans rebel - God's Project In Peril
Genesis 3 - 11
- Phase 3 - Israel: A Light To The Nations - A Fix For God's Project
God's plan to fix the world begins with Abraham, continues with Israel, but ends with exile and the failure of the fix: Genesis 12 - Malachi
- ▼ Phase 4 - Jesus: God's Project Has A New Platform
Jesus' life, death, burial, and resurrection reboot God's Project. Matthew; Mark; Luke; John
 - ▼ In Christ
 - Israel's history reaches its climax.
 - The God of Israel returns to his people.
 - God's people are redefined as those who follow him.
 - God's Kingdom confronts and overcomes the world's kingdoms.
Daniel 2; Daniel 7; Revelation 11:15
 - Good News: God Has Become King!
Isaiah 52:1-10; 61:1-9; Matthew 3:1-2, 4:12-17, 23; Mark 1:14-15; Luke 2:8-11, 4:14-19, 8:1
- ▼ Phase 5 - The Church - God's Project Is Back On Track
The Church Inherits Israel's mission to be the light of the world. Matthew 5:13-16; Luke 2:25-32;
 - The Church Proclaims the Good News that Christ (Israel's King) is the world's Lord.
Acts 5:41-42, 8:12,35, 10:34-43, 11:19-21,
 - **The Church Models God's Kingdom by being to the world what Jesus was to Israel.**
We just don't stand around waiting to "go to heaven". We roll up our sleeves and get to work! John 20:19-23
 - Reclaims humanity's mission to reflect God's glory into creation.
Colossians 3:5-10

▼ **Life Church Mission (the motivation for pursuing spiritual maturity)**

At Life Church our mission is to teach people:

- to enjoy knowing Jesus without fear, inadequacy, guilt, or shame,
Acts 2:41-47; Acts 4:31-37; Romans 8:28-39; Hebrews 4:14-16; 1John 4:13-18
- to follow him together as his family,
Mark 10:23-31; Acts 2:41-47; Acts 4:31-37
- to function together as his body,
Romans 12:1-16; 1Corinthians 12; Ephesians 4:7-16
- and to work together to expand his kingdom and glorify him.
Matthew 5:13-14; Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:41-47; Acts 5:12-16

▼ **Following Jesus (this is how we pursue spiritual maturity)**

• Follow the Message

It all begins here! Once you start following Jesus you'll want to add the following:

• Family Up

As a follower of Jesus you will want to learn how to function as part of Jesus' family.

• Feature The Story

Followers of Jesus learn how to share Jesus' story and the good news of his Kingdom. They learn how to feature this story at appropriate times during their interactions with others.

• Face Your Problems

Jesus enables us to recognize and face our problems instead of running from them.

• Farm Your Land

Everyone has a slice of life that they're responsible for. At Life Church we want to help you take care of yours, whatever it is (e.g. family, job, school, etc.). Jesus wants you to be fruitful.

• Find Your Purpose

What were you created to do? Jesus wants you to know and we want to help you find it.

• Fulfill Your Ministry

Once you know your purpose it's time to give yourself to it!

▼ **Skill Development - get started doing Kingdom work**

▼ Learn to harvest people by asking questions:

John 4:1-42; Acts 8:26-40; Acts 16:11-15; Acts 19:1-7

- Figure out their stage: trust you, curious, open to change, seeking, ready to follow Jesus
- Do this for: church visitors, people you know, people you don't know
- Learn to get people started following Christ and follow them up.
- Learn to disciple people.
- Learn to facilitate a life group.