

FUTURE MINISTRY PLANS

New Life Church

4/22/2018

The board and staff are excited about the work we have been doing on the Future Ministry Plan. That work began with the board two years ago, and progressed with the congregational meetings of last fall. It has since developed into a clear

ministry process that the board and staff are working with as we develop ideas and strategies for ministry in the next several years. This letter is an update on our progress and a window into what we've been working on lately.



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Four themes developed from the congregational discussions, including 1) the desire for stories of God's great work in our lives, 2) a passion to include in community people of any demographic, 3) a challenge to move past the status quo and make the church alive, and 4) an anticipation of a com-

munity characterized by warm family connections.

These themes reflect a deep understanding we have for New Life Church to be a disciple-making church. We want to make sure that anyone who participates in the ministry of New Life clearly sees the ways they can grow as committed followers of Jesus.

The process is simple, and it follows our stated vision for New Life Church. It is this: we envision people maturing in Christ through the experience of a changed life, through the participation in a diverse community, and by serving for a radical impact.



MINISTRY PROCESS

A Path for Spiritual Growth

A clear ministry process will help us to discern what to focus on in ministry and where to place our resources of people, time, and money.

The ideas (goals and plans) for ministry we are working on centre around these three things so that our entire ministry focuses on the discipleship process. Having a clear process of discipleship allows anyone to identify ways in which they can move to greater areas of

commitment in their faith journey.

For example, while someone may have a time in their life when Jesus first became real for them ("a changed life"), they may need to mature in their sense of being part of the body of Christ ("a

diverse community"). Or a believer, who has a deep sense of being in Christ, may need to engage their faith so that the gospel can extend into the lives of others ("a radical impact").

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It's a step by step process for our faith journey that follows the prayer of Ephesians 3. Paul says he's praying for people to have a changed life that comes from Christ living in you (3:16,17). He prays that people enjoy tremendous

community by experiencing all the dimensions of Christ's love (3:18,19). And he prays that the community of Christ recognize the impact of the gospel that goes way beyond our humble service (3: 20). All for the glory of God! (3:21).

What next step could you take? Or what step do you need to re-visit?