



Prayers

This Weeks Sermon

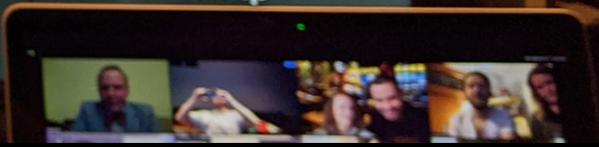
“Where we have been”

Acts 4:23-31











The Gospel
Changes
Everything





*Stories in
Stained Glass*

SUMMER SERMON SERIES

Why do we Exist?

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To honor God by helping as many people as possible become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

1. Why do we Exist?

- a. What does Scripture call us to?
- b. If we didn't exist the world would be worse off how?
- c. Why do we do what we do?

For God's Glory

In all the universe, there is nothing more important than God. God's glory is the radiance of all that He is, and is what we are created to enjoy. Therefore, all of our ministries and efforts are about glorying God and we will aim to worship God in all that we do, not just in our corporate worship alone, but through the rest of our lives as well.

"It isn't about us, it's about God."

By God's Grace

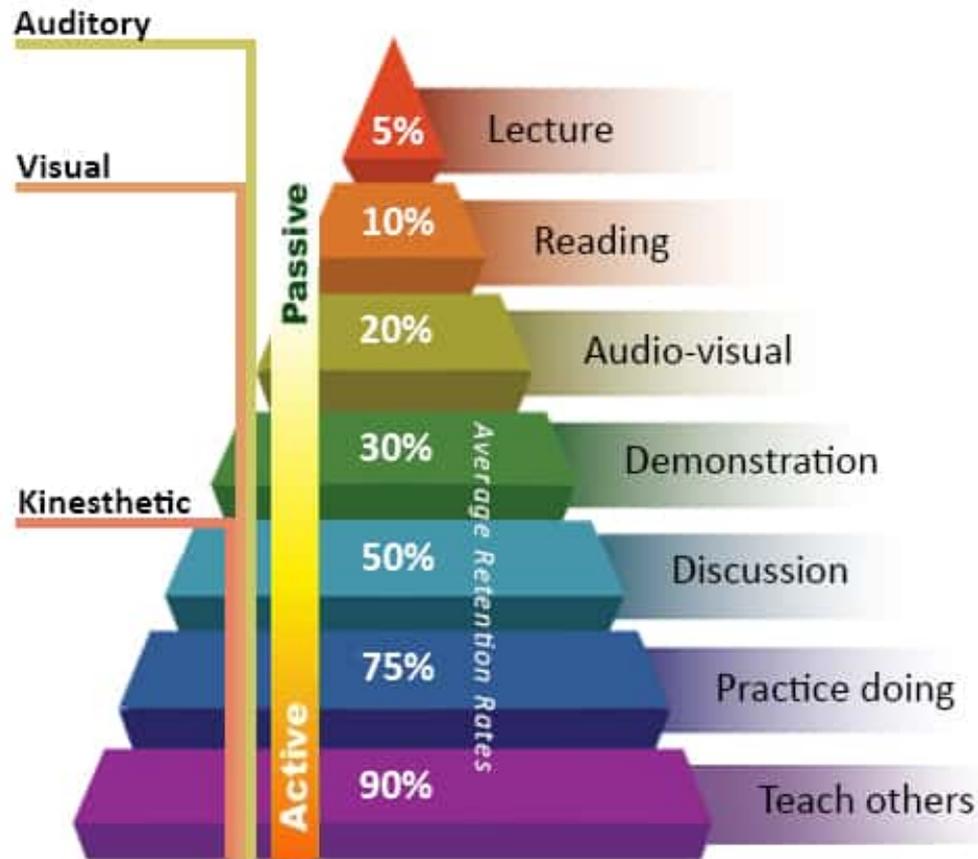
The grace of God shall permeate all that we do. We acknowledge that our only hope for a restored relationship with God is through the grace given to us at the cross of Jesus Christ. We will operate in a spirit of grace and humility, and will allow ourselves to be broken over our own sin.

"We are all poster children for grace."

Through the Truth of The Word of God

The Bible is our source of truth and our guide for living. Real life change happens only when it brings our lives into alliance with the God-inspired words of Scripture. We value teaching, preaching, studying and meditating upon God's Word.

"God's Word changes lives!"



Adapted from the NTL Institute of Applied Behavioral Science Learning Pyramid

Depending on God through the Holy Spirit.

We have no desire to have the ministry of this church be powered on our own strength. We will rely on the Holy Spirit to lead, empower, and comfort us as we eagerly learn how to personally and corporately pray and worship.

“Be a sailboat, catching the wind of the Spirit – not a speedboat, under your own power.”

Because All People Matter to God

The reason we desire to minister to others is because people, all people, matter to God. No matter how far away from God they may seem, they all matter to God (Luke 15). Therefore we will be relevant by being contemporary and removing any unnecessary obstacle to help people see Jesus Christ. We want to honor where each person is at in their personal spiritual journey, while encouraging them to go farther. We will do this all in a God honoring manner.

"People matter to God."

Therefore, We Hope to Make Disciples

Through loving relationships and the community created at Hope Community Church, we aim to make fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ who would engage in knowing Jesus Christ through study and service. We highly value the smaller groups (mentorship relationships, classes, small groups, etc.) that can help facilitate these kind of life long, authentic, God-centered friendships.

“Community is our middle name” & “Make fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ

And, Ultimately, Spread the Kingdom of God

We believe that as believers, we are on the offensive in a spiritual battle and therefore we will seek to go into the kingdom of darkness to do as much damage as we possibly can. We value kingdom of God related prayer, outreach, children's ministry, community service, church planting, and leadership development to accomplish this.

"Go into the kingdom of darkness and trash the joint."

3. What do we prioritize?

Core Values

1) Gospel Centrality – anything and everything we do needs to be thought out with the gospel at the center of why we are doing it.

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1) Gospel Centrality – anything and everything we do needs to be thought out with the gospel at the center of why we are doing it.

2) Authentic Biblical Teaching – I want to be authentic in teaching from the pulpit. Honest – I'm not the expert and I'm a sinner, a really bad one. Biblical in the way that I prep – exegetical in nature, not an opinion sharing time and based on God's Word as the final authority.

3. What do we prioritize?

Core Values

3) Authentic Biblical Community – I want to have actual community where people share their lives with one another. Not just a yacht club, real life sharing real struggles. And speaking truth into one another's lives.

3. What do we prioritize?

Accidental Values

1) We desire intimacy and therefor enjoy a smaller church,
I can see us being adverse to fast growth.

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Accidental Values

1) We desire intimacy and therefor enjoy a smaller church, I can see us being adverse to fast growth.

2) Highly educated – could be very off putting to those who didn't go to college or those who don't go on to get their masters even.

4. How do we know if we are successful?

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I think the way we know if we are reaching Lowertown is by how many people go to Hope Lowertown who are actually from Lowertown. How many people walk? I think that is a pretty easy metric to measure.

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“Where we have been”

Acts 4:23-31

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²³ On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴ When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God.

“Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. ²⁵ You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

Acts 4:23-31

“ ‘Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?
²⁶ The kings of the earth rise up
and the rulers band together
against the Lord
and against his anointed one.’

Acts 4:23-31

²⁷ Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed.

²⁸ They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. ²⁹ Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. ³⁰ Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

Acts 4:23-31

³¹ After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

Gospel Application

Pray for Boldness in Sharing the Gospel