

COLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Vision • *By God's Spirit, love and grace, making disciples of Jesus Christ*
Matthew 28:16-20

Mission • *Equipping believers to become disciples of Jesus Christ who grow in loving God, loving others and impacting the world Ephesians 4:11-13*

Core Ministry Principles

Teaching

We are convinced that the submissive response to Scripture is the basis of living as a disciple. We believe that by His Spirit God speaks to us through His word and uses it to transform us. We emphasize expository teaching where "Scripture is laid open to public view in order to set forth its meaning, explain what is difficult to understand, and make appropriate application." (Richard Mayhue in Rediscovering Expository Preaching) (John 5:39-40 and II Timothy 3:16-17)

Prayer

We are convinced that prayer is foundational, and is the highest expression of a disciple's dependence on and relationship with God. We believe that prayer is a conversation with God, not just a ritual and that it is necessary to deepen our personal walk with God. Prayer is primary in all of our ministries. (Matthew 6:7-9)

Relational Life

We are convinced that a deepening personal relationship with God is essential to being a disciple. Loving others through a life on life ministry of personal relationships is a primary way in which we help others grow deeper in relationship with God. We emphasize small group participation as an important way to mature that relationship. (Matthew 22:37-39)

Outward Focused

We are convinced that as disciples we are to invest ourselves and our resources in advancing our Lord's Kingdom. We encourage the people of this church to minister where gifted and called both in this church and outside. We are committed to being a church that equips and sends. We give ourselves away for the Kingdom. (II Corinthians. 8:1-5)

Ministry by the saints

We are convinced that ministry is to be done by the saints in the context of incarnational and relational ministry. We are committed to investing ourselves in equipping people for ministry. We emphasize leadership teams for all our ministries. (II Timothy 2:2 and I Peter 2:9)

New Covenant Living

New Covenant ministry requires relying on the Spirit, rather than placing our trust in human resources. (II Corinthians 3:4-6) We are convinced that only New Covenant ministry honors Christ and His gospel and leads to making maturing disciples. We emphasize grace in our teaching and in our ministries. (Ephesians 2:8-10)

Reaching the Lost

We are convinced that God calls His disciples to a life of actively sharing the Gospel with a lost world, through word and deed. We believe evangelism and outreach flow out of love for the Lord which translates into love for people. We encourage a missions mindset. (Acts 1:8)