



Vision and Core Values

August 1, 2010

Vision Statement: Proclaiming Christ to grow mature Christians who minister in the church and in the world.

The name, Redeemer Church, serves as the beginning of our vision statement. Jesus Christ is the Redeemer. Our primary focus at Redeemer Church is proclaiming Jesus Christ. We are committed to the Gospel message of Jesus Christ's death, burial, and resurrection to redeem a people. The Gospel is our message. With the goal of seeing people transformed by the power of the Gospel, we will preach, teach, and celebrate the Gospel.

Because of this commitment, Redeemer Church will be structured around these core values:

Worshipping God

We believe God desires to be worshiped. We believe man was made to worship God and finds greatest joy in worshipping God. We believe the church is intended to be a corporate witness of the glory and grace of God. Corporate worship is one primary way to offer this corporate witness. Redeemer Church will gather to worship God. When we gather, worship will be God-focused, theologically-rooted, Gospel-centered, and congregational in nature.

The weekly worship gathering of Redeemer Church will occur on Sunday mornings. This gathering will be simple in structure with a few basic elements: prayer, singing, Scripture reading, preaching, and celebrating the Lord's Supper and baptism. The goal of each service will be to receive and celebrate the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Because the Gospel is the greatest need of Christian and non-Christian alike, we believe Gospel-centered services will be simultaneously evangelistic and edifying for Christians. Therefore, we will encourage members to invite people to worship as an entry point into Redeemer Church.

Teaching God's Word

We believe Jesus Christ is known through the Bible, the Word of God. Redeemer Church will proclaim Christ by preaching and teaching the Scripture. Sermons will be expository in nature, primarily preaching verse-by-verse through Bible books, heavily applied to modern living, and showing the Word to be tangible for modern hearers. Sunday School classes and various small groups will teach the Bible and allow it to shape the way our lives are structured and lived. A strong knowledge of and submission to God's Word is indispensable to our vision.

On Sunday mornings, Redeemer Church will have Sunday School. Sunday School provides an opportunity to teach all ages the truth of God's Word in an age-appropriate format. Sunday School provides a venue for interaction with other people about God's Word. As needed, other small groups throughout the week will provide opportunity to go deeper into God's Word.

Discipling Believers

We believe God desires that Christians embrace the Gospel and know how the Gospel calls them to live in this world. This process of learning to follow Jesus and apply the Gospel to life is discipleship. Redeemer Church will intentionally invest in the discipleship of all believers. The structures of Redeemer Church exist to promote discipleship.

For new Christians, discipleship will be more structured and formal. We will use curricula, *Discipleship Explored* or *The Gospel-Centered Life*, and intentional investment by mature Christians. We desire to invest a year of equipping and one-on-one mentoring into new Christians.

Our weekly gatherings of corporate worship, Sunday School and Community Group (small, home based groups) will focus to further discipleship in three unique ways. The singing, praying, hearing of God's Word, and celebrating the ordinances in corporate worship are essential to discipleship. Receiving and celebrating the Gospel is the root of Christian living. Corporate worship plays a vital role in this process. Sunday School will reinforce the Gospel and its implications for life by teaching and applying God's Word. As Sunday School occurs for all ages, we are investing God's Word into people of all ages. Community Group will provide opportunity for mutual investment in one another through prayer and discussion. In the context of deepening relationship, prayer, and investing in one another, we will be striving for each other's discipleship.

Sharing Christian Community

We believe Christian community is an intentional sharing together in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and His work among us. Redeemer Church will intentionally share our lives, our struggles, and our growth in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Prayer will be a central component to this life together.

Community Groups will be the primary venue for sharing Christian community. These home-based, weekly groups will focus on care for one another, prayer for one another and mutual investment in one another.

Taking the Gospel to the World

We believe the church is called to intentionally and proactively take the Gospel into the world. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is to be clearly spoken to all people, and the fruit of the gospel is to govern how we love, serve, and respond to need around us. Redeemer Church will teach, model, and pray for personal evangelism and gospel ministry by members.

As a congregation, we will teach and model evangelism and ministry in the following manner. First, we will hold *Christianity Explored* study groups. This will be an opportunity to invite non-Christians and seekers to learn more about Christianity. Second, we will teach and equip our people for the task of personal evangelism. We will do this through Sunday School classes, men's groups, and women's groups. Third, we will hold monthly social gatherings (of men and/or women) for the purpose of inviting non-Christians and seekers to engage with Christians. Fourth, we will cultivate a culture of personal evangelism by making it a topic of conversation and prayer in Community Groups and other church gatherings.