

# **MOUNTAIN PARK CHURCH PHILOSOPHY OF MINISTRY**

**PURPOSE:** Our purpose as the people of Mountain Park Church is to Magnify Christ in making disciples by bringing people into Membership in His family, building people to Maturity in His image, equipping people for Ministry in his Church and empowering people for Multiplication (Mission) in His world.

## **The Disciple**

1. The most important aspect of our church is making disciples. A disciple is someone who has accepted Jesus Christ as Savior and is pursuing the pathway of obedience in order to become more like Him.

## **The Ministers**

2. The role of our Pastoral team is to engage with people relationally modeling what a disciple is. As Pastors they are spending priority time in prayer and ministry in the word; personally reproducing disciples; equipping, releasing, and encouraging people as they do His ministry; and keeping the vision of making disciples before all people

3. The role of our Elders, including the Pastors is to pray for, train, shepherd and spiritually lead the church, while modeling the process of making disciples.

4. The Body of Christ is a community of growing disciples who carry out the work of the ministry, which is to make disciples, while loving and serving others through meeting needs using their spiritual gifts in loving relationships.

5. All staff, policy makers, and group leaders must be growing disciples committed to the church's philosophy of ministry and are recognized by considering their character, maturity, and giftedness.

## **The Philosophy of Church-Wide Disciple making**

6. We will make the purpose of every activity of our church to produce and further develop disciples. We will evaluate every activity by its effectiveness in producing disciples, and will modify or discontinue activities that ineffectively do this.

7. We will gather in Corporate Worship to participate in celebration, adoration and unity in our growth through the instruction of the word. The primary function of our worship services will be true worship and proclaiming the Word of God.

8. We will gather in Community Groups for the purposes of fellowship, growth in the Word, caring, outreach, connection and ministry.
9. We will gather in Small Groups to develop intimacy and to grow in instruction, support, accountability and maturity in the image of Christ.
10. We will develop leadership by intentionally providing opportunities in ministry placing individuals in an apprenticing role with leaders who are both modeling and training. Our leaders will meet in Ministry Community for regular vision casting, skill development and leadership training.
11. We will plan our evangelistic outreach to include both strategic and spontaneous ways of personal and corporate evangelism. The gospel will never change, but our ways of presenting it should and will adapt to our changing culture. Evangelism (including pre-evangelism) is the starting point and indispensable catalyst to all disciple making.
12. We will seek to minimize our policy-making committees and maximize the number of persons doing ministry.

### **The Methods and Principles to Help Us Best Make Disciples**

13. We will primarily make disciples as a team, as a church, but not just as a collection of independent individuals.
14. We will challenge and train members to be ministers consistent with their S.H.A.P.E. (Spiritual Gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality and Experience).
15. We will practice reasonable accountability as an indispensable part of making disciples.
16. We will strive for excellence and relevance in our ministries as we bring glory to God.
17. We believe that God has invited us to share in His work in the world through prayer. We will to be a praying people.
18. This philosophy of ministry will be as binding as our bylaws and can be amended in the same way as our bylaws.