



OUR PHILOSOPHY (WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO)

WHY DOES 412 COMMUNITY CHURCH PREACH EXPOSITORY SERMONS INSTEAD OF TOPICAL SERMONS?

We believe that the best method of teaching the Word of God is *primarily* through expository preaching. (2 Corinthians 4:1-6)

We believe that the future of the church depends upon its love for & obedience to the Scriptures. (Proverbs 29:18)

We equate love for God with love for His Word. (1 John 5:3)

We preach God's Word. We don't hold pep rallies. (2 Timothy 4:1-3)

We recognize that God's Word is what converts sinners, sanctifies saints. (1 Thessalonians 1:5)

Everything that we value and practice flows from this REALITY- the Word of God is without error and it is powerful.

WHY DOES 412 COMMUNITY CHURCH PRACTICE COVENANT MEMBERSHIP?

We believe that the church is about God's Reputation, not personal satisfaction and growth.

Christ did not die to make us like the world. The Bible consistently distinguishes between those who are God's people & those who are not. Covenant Membership is an expression of this line between the world & God's people. Non-Christians are welcome to participate in the life of the church, but God has made it clear: There must be a distinguishing mark that separates those who are Christians & those who are not.

WHY DOES 412 COMMUNITY CHURCH SPEND SO MUCH TIME TALKING ABOUT JESUS AND "THE GOSPEL"?

We believe the Gospel is the power of God (Romans 1:16). The Gospel, the message of Jesus, reaches farther than any method of man can ever reach. The Gospel calls sinners to repent of sin and religious people to repent of religion. And it has been effective for 2,000 years.

We believe the Gospel - not mere marketing - will grow the church.

WHY IS 412 COMMUNITY CHURCH LED BY ELDERS & NOT BUSINESSMEN?

We believe the local church is to be led by a group of qualified men, called elders, who act like the Great Shepherd. (1 Peter 5:1-4)

We believe that God desires us to develop men - not CEOs or businessmen. (1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9)

WHY DOES 412 COMMUNITY CHURCH PLACE SO MUCH EMPHASIS ON EVERY MEMBER JOINING A LIFE GROUP?

We believe that faith that lasts is faith that has deep roots. Jeremiah 9:23-24

We believe the church is defined by people who are committed to the Great Commission, not by the number of people who are sitting in the seats. This means that we are more interested in deep growth, not wide growth.

We believe that it's in these small groups where mutual submission, teaching, prayer support, and accountability take place that helps one accomplish the Great Commission.

WHY DOES 412 COMMUNITY CHURCH ENCOURAGE MEMBERS TO SERVE IN A MINISTRY ON SUNDAY MORNING OR TO SERVE TOGETHER IN THE COMMUNITY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR?

We believe that the life & death of Jesus displayed an essential distinguishing mark that His Church must display: Sacrifice.

We believe that 412CC members are to live lives of sacrifice, not entitlement. A feeling of entitlement is the #1 reason people leave churches. Jesus was constantly reminding His disciples and followers that their lives were not about building a kingdom for themselves, but for the King of Kings. And this Kingdom would be built on sacrificial living and dying.

WHY DOES 412 COMMUNITY CHURCH CHALLENGE MEMBERS TO MAKE CORPORATE WORSHIP AND LIFE GROUP ATTENDANCE ONE OF THEIR GREATEST PRIORITIES IN LIFE?

We believe that the church is to be a place where individuals unite around Biblical truths and realities. This union is how God works in and through His people to accomplish His will for their lives. The sacraments of Baptism & the Lord's Supper are indicators of this New Biblical Community and God receives great joy when we express this unity together.

We believe that God's vision for our lives is Biblical Community, not trendy Individualism.

INTRODUCING PEOPLE TO GOD BY KNOWING, LIVING, & SHARING THE GOSPEL.