



RELATIONSHIPS

ACTS 11:19-26

DISCIPLES

2 TIMOTHY 2:2

IMPACT

MATTHEW 28:18-20

### VISION FOR TALLOWOOD

*Tallowood is an intergenerational, multicultural body of believers in Christ making disciples who are being transformed through Jesus Christ, making relationships in a life-giving community of sacrificial love, and making an impact on the world by sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with others.*

#### SCRIPTURE

<sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."<sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20)

#### CONCEPT

The Church exists for nothing else but to draw men into Christ, to make them little Christs.

*Mere Christianity, C.S. Lewis*

### THEMES FROM VISION 2020 PROCESS

- God has gifted each individual for their role in His unique plan for Tallowood to reach our City for Christ.
- Each of us is called to be on a path toward spiritual maturity, which results in service, missions and discipleship.
- Tallowood's location and physical resources create a major opportunity to reach our diverse neighborhood and draw people to our campus.
- New generations will engage in church if it is a place where they can meet God in a relevant manner, experience heart-felt worship and engage with authentic people.
- New ways of teaching, learning and engagement are critical for continued spiritual growth in today's multi-generational and ethnically diverse community.

*All that God is showing us is linked together with the common thread being personal spiritual growth & commitment.*

### GOAL 1: MAKE DISCIPLES

*A disciple of Jesus Christ follows Him, learns from Him, lives like Him, and leads others to do the same*

- Define a clear and intentional path to discipleship that results in equipped and capable disciples and disciple makers.
- Institute a Discipleship Ministry and add an experienced Minister to develop and lead it.
- Ministry will focus on spiritual growth through teaching and practicing the spiritual disciplines, accountability, open discussion, evangelism, stewardship and service in a small group setting.
- Staff and prepared members will initiate discipleship of first small groups. Short term goal is making equipped disciples. Long term goal will be making more disciples.
- Provide service learning opportunities and gifts training to inspire, equip, and mobilize members for service. Emphasize stewardship of time, finances, and talent.
- Develop teachers in theology, teaching skills, and application of Biblical truth.



## **GOAL 2: MAKE RELATIONSHIPS**

*We glorify God as we follow Christ's example of ministering through relationships*

- Increase opportunities for intergenerational connections through: social events, topical studies, missions, fine arts, home groups, worship service support roles, and mentorship.
- Utilize worship services and all ministries to be a warm and welcoming environment for all people, assimilating them into the ministry of the church.
- Include our international congregations in all ministry activities providing Worship Service and Sunday School times allowing them to join our existing ministries.
- Be a church where God is exalted in Christ-centered worship through creative use of story -telling, music and drama, prayer and proclamation of God's word.
- Enlist and train members to become caring shepherds for current and prospective members, encouraging the church body to minister to the church body.
- Examine all Church programs, identify needs and customize new or existing methods to meet those needs including all ethnicities (e.g. home groups, mentoring, new mission opportunities).
  - Equip, encourage and support existing and new intergenerational gatherings/Bible studies.
  - Intentionally diversify ethnicity within all of our servant leadership.
  - Provide an international focus for all of our congregations, at least monthly.
  - Utilize technology and other resources to coordinate and manage all communication. Employ an experienced Communications Director to develop Tallowood's message.

## **GOAL 3: MAKE AN IMPACT**

*We desire to make an impact for Christ in our world, using our gifts, our time and our resources*

- Develop an Intern Ministry for youth, college, and young singles.
- Worship in Action: Provide more frequent missions leadership opportunities for youth & young adults.
- Regularly and effectively take the gospel to West Houston.
  - Participate or begin some of our mission activity north of I-10 (International) and at City Centre (Next Generation).
  - Partner with other Churches or para-church organizations to leverage mission and outreach efforts at Tallowood.
- Increase exposure for the wide range of missions and evangelism activities at Tallowood where every member will have a personal role in the efforts to reach the lost and minister to those in need by utilizing a weekly missions spotlight, a quarterly Sunday School focus on missions and evangelism.
- Encourage all members to serve in at least one mission's activity each year.
  - Create a clear, comprehensive missions and evangelism plan each year, which includes no more than four major priorities for focus of annual missions.
  - Conduct a zero-based missions budget every three years and increase the budget for local efforts to 50% of the missions budget.
- Have all life-stage resources and web sites translated into multiple languages.
- Establish specific and deliberate programs and initiatives for individual growth and stewardship. This ministry would be focused on leading our Church family to discover the joy of stewardship and giving to Kingdom work.
- Develop a facilities plan for modifications, which will include renovations and new construction that will accommodate new ministries, new ideas, and new members for the next 7 years.