

Santa Rosa Bible Church: Philosophy of Student Ministry

What are our theological convictions regarding student ministry?

- The supremacy of Jesus Christ in all things (Col. 1:16).
- The sole sufficiency and authority of the Scriptures (2 Tim. 3:16).
- The ability of God alone to cause spiritual transformation (Eph. 2:8-9).
- The supplementary nature of student ministry (Deut. 6:6-7; Ps. 78:5-7).
- The intentionality of ministry programs, events and activities.

What is our purpose?

- To know Jesus Christ and make Him known (2 Cor. 5:17-21; Phil. 3:7-14).

What is our identity?

- Our identity is found in the person and work of Jesus Christ. As a result of what He has done on behalf of sinners like us, we believe that the gospel changes everything about us (2 Cor. 5:17). With that in mind, there are five identities that reveal who we are:
 - **Worshippers** - As people made in God's image (Gen. 1:26-27), we have been created worshipping. Worship is not a part of our being, it is the essence of our being. Because of this, all of life is non stop worship. Before gospel change, our lives were all about the worship of other things i.e. people (including ourselves), possessions, creation, etc. As people who have been changed by the gospel, we are now worshippers of the one true God. To that end, our students lives are now to be all about worshipping God for who He is and what He's done (Ps. 95:6-7; John 4:24; Rom. 12:1-2).
 - **Learners** - Before gospel change, our lives were spent learning about things that did not pertain to who God is and what He has done. As people who have been changed by the gospel, our desire should be to know Christ more everyday (Phil. 3:9; Col. 1:9-11; 2 Pet. 3:18). To that end, our students are to be disciples (or learners) of Christ who grow in their knowledge and love for Him and to teach others to do the same (Matt. 28:18-20; Col. 2:6-7).
 - **Family Members** - Before gospel change, we are a part of a biological family. As people who have been changed by the gospel, we are also members of God's family (Rom. 8:15-17; Eph. 2:18-19). As a result, our students are to be a group of believers who share life together by loving, caring, encouraging, admonishing, serving and stimulating each other to love and good works (Acts 2:42-46; Rom. 12:9-19; Gal. 6:2; Col. 3:12-17; Heb. 10:24).
 - **Servants** - Before gospel change, we were people who served ourselves and others with the wrong motives. As people who have been changed by the gospel, we are now servants of

Christ for His glory and our good (Rom. 6:17-18). To that end, we are to follow His example of being a servant (Matt. 20:26-28; Phil. 2:5-8). Considering this, we desire our students to love Christ by using their time, talents, and treasures to both believers and unbelievers for the sake of the growth and advancement of the gospel (John 13:12-17; 1 Cor. 12:12-13:14; Gal. 5:13).

- **Missionaries** - Before gospel change, we were people who were on a mission for the things that seemed important to us, primarily ourselves. As people who have been changed by the gospel, we are called and sent by Christ to be a people all about the gospel. To that end, our students are to be people who have been sent by Him to live and proclaim the gospel in every sphere of their lives to everyone they meet (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; 2 Cor. 5:17-21).

How do we practically live out our purpose and identity?

Gather - Because God has saved and made us a part of His family through Jesus Christ, we desire to meet together to worship Him through singing, teaching, sharing life, and encouraging each other to love God and obey His Word (Acts 2:42-46; Heb. 10:25).

Grow - Through Jesus Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit, we seek to equip, develop, and encourage students to know Him and make Him known (Eph. 4:11-16; 2 Tim. 2:2).

Give - Because Jesus Christ gave His life for God's glory and the good of others, we encourage our students to give their lives (e.g. time, talents, and treasures) for His glory and the good of others (1 Cor. 12:4-7; 1 Pet. 4:10; 2 Cor. 8:9; 9:7-8).

Go - Because of who Jesus Christ is and what He's done, we strive to honor Him by making, maturing, and multiplying followers of Him (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; 2 Cor. 5:17-21).

Administrative

- **Adult Staff** - A team of adult volunteers will be involved in each aspect of the student ministry for all our students. They will use their gifts to serve our students as well as encourage and build up the church.
- **Parent Participation** - Though we have student ministry staff, parent participation is important in all of this. Your willingness to help and encourage us is greatly appreciated.
- **Information** - The details for both middle and high school news will come primarily via email and the worldwide web (srbbible.org, Facebook, Instagram).