

Santa Rosa Bible Church: Philosophy of Student Ministry

What are our theological convictions regarding student ministry?

- The supremacy of Jesus Christ in all things (Colossians 1:16).
- The sole sufficiency and authority of God's Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
- The ability of God alone to cause spiritual transformation (Ephesians 2:8-9).
- The supplementary nature of student ministry (Deuteronomy 6:6-7; Psalm 78:5-7).
- The intentionality of ministry programs, events and activities.

What is our mission?

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

What is our identity?

- Our identity is found in the person and work of Jesus Christ. Because of what He has done for sinners, we believe that the gospel changes everything about us (2 Corinthians 5:17). With that in mind, there are five identities that reveal who we are:
 - **Worshippers** - As people made in God's image (Genesis 1:26-27), we have been created worshipping. Worship is not a part of our being, it is the essence of our being. 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 now 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 (Psalm 95:6-7; John 4:24; Romans 12:1-2).
 - **Learners** - Before gospel change, our learning was more centered on and around ourselves than on who God is and what He's done. As people who have been changed by the gospel, our desire is to know Jesus Christ more everyday (Philippians 3:9; Colossians 1:9-11). To that end, our students are to be followers of Jesus who grow in their knowledge and love for Him and to teach others to do the same (Matthew 28:18-20; Colossians 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 (Romans 8:15-17; Ephesians 2:18-19). As a result, our students are to be a group of believers who share life together by caring, encouraging, serving, and motivating each other to show love and do good to others (Acts 2:42-46; Romans 12:9-19; Galatians 6:2; Colossians 3:12-17; Hebrews 10:24).

- **Servants** - Before gospel change, we lived to serve ourselves and others with the wrong motives. As people who have been changed by the gospel, we now live to honor Jesus as by following His example of serving others (Matthew 20:26-28; Philippians 2:5-8). To that end, we desire our students to use their God-given resources (time, talents, and treasures) to serve people for His glory and the good of others (John 13:12-17; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13:14; Galatians 5:13).
- **Missionaries** - Before gospel change, our mission in life was focused on ourselves or others instead of God. As people who have been changed by the gospel, the focus of our lives is centered on seeing people reached and transformed by Jesus Christ. 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 (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21).

How do we practically live out our mission, 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; Hebrews 10:25).

Grow - Through Jesus Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit, we seek to equip, develop, and encourage students to give their lives (e.g., time, talents, and treasures) to know Him and make Him known (2 Corinthians 8:9; 9:7-8; Ephesians 4:11-16; 2 Timothy 2:2; 1 Peter 4:10).

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 (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; 2 Corinthians 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 (srbible.org, Instagram).