



1. Why Do We Exist? (Our Purpose)

To glorify God and to enjoy Him

2. What Are We Trying To Accomplish? (Our Vision)

To make and deploy mature and equipped followers of Christ¹ for the sake of family², community and global transformation³.

3. How Do We Plan To Accomplish Our Vision? (Our Mission)

- We plan to make mature and equipped followers of Christ by:
 - 1) Winsomely engaging the unchurched where we live, work and play.⁴
 - 2) Attractively exposing the unchurched to God's Word and God's people.⁵
 - 3) Sponsoring newcomers into church membership.⁶
 - 4) Disciplining members in life-on-life missional discipleship.⁷
- We plan to bring about family transformation by:
 - 1) Equipping children & youth to understand the gospel and to embrace a biblical world and life view.⁸
 - 2) Equipping singles to leverage their missional mobility and to make wise marital decisions.⁹
 - 3) Equipping marrieds to delight in their God-given roles and to fulfill their God-given responsibilities.¹⁰
 - 4) Equipping parents to develop a family plan and to shepherd their children's hearts.¹¹
- We plan to deploy our people for community and global transformation by:
 - 1) Serving people in need.¹²
 - 2) Partnering with other churches and organizations.¹³
 - 3) Planting new churches.¹⁴
 - 4) Igniting movements of disciple making churches for the renewal of the city.¹⁵

4. What Is Most Important To Us? (Our Core Values)

4.1 “Who We Are” Values

- Practicing indiscriminate love¹⁶ regardless of social, economic or racial status
- Demonstrating personal, family, organizational, financial & leadership integrity¹⁷
- Living by faith¹⁸ in Christ and attempting faith oriented goals in an environment of innovation and change¹⁹
- Speaking and proclaiming the truth²⁰ regardless of the consequences

4.2 “What We Do” Values

WORSHIP (includes prayer)

1) Worship (includes prayer)

- Corporate Worship²¹
- Family Worship²²
- Personal Worship²³

BELONG

2) Community

- Shepherding Groups²⁴ (quarterly)
- Community Groups²⁵
 - Connect Groups
 - Sunday Morning Communities

GROW

3) Equipping

- Journey Groups²⁶
- Seminars, Classes, Groups²⁷
 - X-Press Your Faith²⁸
 - LINK²⁹
 - Financial Peace University³⁰
- Leadership Training³¹

BLESS

4) Service & Mercy (Minister)

- Weekend Serving³²
- Church Ministry Teams³³
- Community Ministry Teams³⁴
- Global Ministry Teams³⁵

5) Outreach (Messenger)

- Investigative Forums³⁶
- Guest Sponsorship³⁷
- Community and Global Journeys³⁸

6) Generosity (Manager)³⁹

- Tithing (Weekly Giving)⁴⁰
- Ministry Development/Capital Campaigns (2 year giving)⁴¹
- Estate Planning (long term giving)⁴²

Footnotes

- 1 A **mature and equipped follower of Christ** is one who:
 - lives consistently under the control of the Holy Spirit, the direction of the Word of God, and the motivation of the love of Christ
 - has discovered, developed and is using his/her spiritual gifts,
 - has learned to effectively share his/her faith while demonstrating radical love that amazes those it touches,
 - gives strong evidence of being
 - ♦ a faithful member of God's church,
 - ♦ an effective manager of life, relationships and resources,
 - ♦ a willing minister to others especially "the least of these", and
 - ♦ an available messenger to non-Kingdom people, and
 - demonstrates a life striving to be:
 - ♦ gospel driven,
 - ♦ worship focused,
 - ♦ morally pure,
 - ♦ evangelistically bold,
 - ♦ discipleship grounded,
 - ♦ family faithful, and
 - ♦ socially responsible
- 2 **Mature and Equipped Family:** A mature and equipped family is one in which parent(s) or those serving as parent(s) are growing towards maturity in Christ and intentionally fostering an atmosphere in the home where each family member has the opportunity to know Jesus, be like Him, and experience His grace. In response to His unconditional love, the family is learning through obedience, joy, trials, suffering, serving, and repentance to live together in the fullness of God.

A mature and equipped family is characterized by:

- a. A husband and wife (or single mom or dad) who are mature and equipped followers of Christ, consistently growing in their dependence on Him for all things.
- b. A lifelong and thriving marriage covenant that edifies the Church in its practice.
- c. Parent(s) who accept responsibility for the nurture, discipline, and education of their children, while introducing and modeling gospel living to all others in their home.
- d. Parent(s) who readily admit their need to actively seek the covenant family of the Church to assist and equip them in this commitment.
- e. Children and youth that are growing in their own faith within the home, equipped by their parents and the covenant family through modeling and instruction to live lives of purity, wisdom, and outreach in relationships.
- f. Formal and informal life experiences seized upon to teach and prepare younger members for understanding biblical marriage, mate selection, and what constitutes a healthy family.
- g. Prayer and action to serve together outside the home by ministry to other families through sponsorship into the church, comfort and assistance in distress, and living out the gospel to the local and global community.

- 3 A community (local or global) demonstrates **transformation** when:
 - its people, in ever increasing numbers across ethnic and socioeconomic boundaries, are becoming members of Christ's body the Church, becoming passionately committed to Him engaging in Word and Deed ministry,
 - its believers' lifestyles are becoming increasingly marked by high moral standards, motivated by gospel driven faith, repentance and obedience. They are practicing indiscriminate love, demonstrating spiritual integrity in all their relationships, living by faith in Christ attempting faith oriented goals, and speaking the truth regardless of the consequences,
 - its churches increasingly work together in the unity of the Spirit, as the Body of Christ, ministering to the needs of the community, working for justice for the powerless, and reconciliation, and
 - its educational, judicial, political, business and social structures increasingly begin to reflect being in conformity with the Word of God.

- 4 To winsomely **engage** the unchurched where we live, work and play is to follow the model of Jesus and the Word of God. Jesus loved people by engaging them as He went through life (John 3, 4, etc.). Jesus interacted with those He came in contact with by asking them questions, sharing truth, or just spending time with them in their homes, the city or workplace (Luke 7:36-50, Luke 19:1-10). Paul did the same (I Thess. 2:8). God has called us to pursue hearts and be a light of the gospel to others.

- 5 To attractively **expose** the unchurched to God's Word and God's people is again to follow the model of Jesus and the Word of God. The Holy Spirit uses the Word of God and Body of Christ to reveal truth to their hearts. God has called us to be light and salt to the lost world (Matt. 5:16, Heb. 4:12, John 1:14, Phil. 2).

- 6 To **sponsor** newcomers into church membership is to lead people to follow God's Word of submitting to the authority of the church, the Bride of Christ, and to put into practice the importance of meeting together as the Family of God. Church membership is beneficial for the believer by providing accountability, spiritual encouragement, and mutual edification (Acts 2:42-47, Heb. 10:24-25, Matt. 16:18-20).

- 7 Our plan to **disciple members in life-on-life missional discipleship** will be accomplished:
 - 1) By Strategically Providing Our People With The Five Essential Ingredients for Life Change
 - Truth
 - Equipping
 - Accountability
 - Mission
 - Supplication
 - 2) By equipping leaders committed to leading discipleship teams, devoting themselves to life-on-life laboring in the lives of a few.

- 8 We plan to equip **children and youth** by cultivating a generation passionate for the gospel of Jesus and the glory of God

We will seek to do that by engaging, nurturing, and discipling children and youth so that they are deeply rooted in God's grace with growing hearts that:

- Long to know God through His Son, Jesus
- Seek to worship Him in Spirit and Truth
- Treasure His Word
- Live surrendered to Jesus
- Advance His Kingdom where they live, learn, work, and play

- 9 We will equip **singles** by engaging, mentoring, and discipling them to begin to formulate a plan for loving his/her spouse well, and to be prepared for marriage and family by thinking forwardly and writing a family plan so as to help him/her be prepared in advance to not only choose wisely when selecting a spouse, but to begin to put in place systems, even as a single adult, that will be a launching pad for him/her to build a mature and equipped family should God choose to give a spouse. Specifically we will seek to raise up healthy & missional future spouses and parents by:

- Equipping singles to choose dating/marriage partners wisely.
- Providing opportunities to be mentored and heavily emphasizing and modeling life-on-life missional discipleship
- Challenging singles to think/live/pray missionally
- Engaging in heart-level instruction to see emotional health & self-understanding in our single adults
- Sponsoring singles through Taste of Perimeter & membership consistently.

- 10 We will equip **marrieds** by engaging, mentoring, and discipling couples so that they are putting Christ at the center of their marriage. We will also plan to engage and equip married couples via:

- Monthly trans-generational community groups for young marrieds, young families, empty nesters, and people from all walks of life
- The continuation and expansion of the Young Families' retreat
- A focus on Marriage and Family Counseling
- The creation of a monthly Date Night
- By hosting marriage conferences, seminars, sermon series, and guest speakers who teach and equip on what a mature and thriving marriage looks like Biblically

- 11 We will equip **parents** by engaging, mentoring, and discipling via the following:
- We will aid in the development and testing of the family planning and assessment tool that can be used with any type of family make-up and structure
 - Continue to promote and develop Parent University for better partnership and cooperation with parents in establishing the faith of our children and launching them into adulthood with a firm foundation.
 - Using mature couples more effectively to mentor young parents
 - Coaching our life-on-life missional discipleship leaders, both in men's and women's ministry, to focus on the family and help their group members develop a Biblically-based family plan
 - By hosting parenting seminars, sermon series, conferences, and guest speakers who focus on the family
 - From Kids Town on our goal is to engage the children, youth and parents so winsomely that the entire family gets caught up in the process of discipleship becoming outwardly focused and carrying what God is teaching them to other families throughout our community
- 12 We are committed to **serving** people in need by providing volunteer resources and serving as intercessors on behalf of organizations serving the poor and marginalized in our community in order to see individuals and families experience spiritual, personal, social and economic well-being through the demonstration of Christ's love. We serve alongside organizations focused in the areas of Education, Poverty, Justice and Families who employ compassionate relief, personal empowerment and community development in order to bring about city renewal.
- 13 Through Unite!, Perimeter **partners with other churches** from various denominations and ethnicities in order to make the most kingdom impact on greater Atlanta and address some of the most pressing needs of our city. Perimeter serves alongside people in need primarily by also **partnering with non-profits and organizations** that are on the front lines of ministry and give our people an opportunity to serve with them.
- 14 Perimeter helps to provide significant funding for **church planting** in major cities across the United States. Most of our efforts are focused on metro Atlanta and north Georgia. Our current strategy is to plant one or two churches in Metro Atlanta every year through our Church Planter in Residency. Our desire is to reproduce churches in communities throughout all metro Atlanta and north Georgia that "carry" the DNA of Perimeter Church. We see this DNA as: (1) Being Gospel Driven; (2) Being Missional in Word and Deed; (3) Practicing Life on Life Missional Discipleship; (4) Celebrating the Ministry of the Laity and viewing the pastor/planter as a Leader/Equipper; and (5) Possessing a practice of Intentional Leadership Development.

- 15 We are committed to **igniting movements of disciple making churches for the renewal of the city** by serving churches in global cities as they serve and bless their cities and make disciples of Jesus (a disciple is a follower of Christ, growing in love for, and trust in, Jesus), disciples who will go and make other disciples. To see a city have a transformative encounter with the kingdom of God, we believe that it takes a collaborative and diverse movement of churches in a city, rather than a single church. (Multiple gospel-centered churches partnering together demonstrates the unity that we have in Christ)
- 16 Regarding **Love**, we believe that loving and serving Christ is the highest priority and the most satisfying experience of life, and that giving and serving are much richer life experiences than receiving and being served.
- 17 Regarding **Integrity**, we believe that the believer's responsibility is to integrate truth into every aspect of life so as to live as a bond-servant of Christ whether in the marketplace, home, social arena or church.
- 18 Regarding **Faith**, we believe that salvation is only by faith and since faith is the certainty of things unseen, it pleases God to attempt things so great for Him that they are doomed to failure unless God is in them.
- 19 Regarding **Innovation and Change**, we believe that ministry is most effective when done in the context of cultural relevance and in an environment of innovative change, while remaining faithful to the Word of God.
- 20 Regarding **Truth**, We Believe that God alone is absolute, that all truth comes from God and that the only special revelation of truth to man is God's Word, the Bible, being inspired, infallible, unchangeable and powerful.
- 21 **Corporate Worship Services** are designed for believers to worship God. We are not a "seeker service" in that we do not place our highest priority for gathering on winning seekers, but rather on equipping believers and enabling them to worship as a corporate community. However, the seeker is very important to us and thus every attempt is made to use our worship as an opportunity for the seeker to meet God. We believe biblical worship is an excellent way to expose the seeker to God's Word and God's people.
- 22 A focus on **family worship** in all of our venues via consistent and planned sermon series on marriage, parenting, family dynamics, and leadership in the home; children and youth having roles from time to time in the actual worship services (i.e. Senior high band, Kids Quest Worship Team, families leading in prayer, video of children, youth, or entire family God stories, etc...); having guest speakers or elements of worship that engage the entire family and not just the parents; keeping things on the 'edge' where technology is concerned so as to entice the entire family to want to be a part of worship; to disciple and coach families (children, youth, and adults) that worship is not just what we do on Sunday, but that it is the way we live our lives day and day out.

- 23 **Personal Worship** is the most important aspect of your walk with Jesus Christ. God is our Father and we were created to have an intimate relationship with Him. Jesus took time to pray and talk with His Father daily, and we should follow Christ's model. The most effective way to learn how to have personal worship is in a discipleship group (Josh. 1:8, Psalm 34:8, Matt. 6:33, Mark 1:35, John 15:5).
- 24 **Shepherding Groups** are groups led by elders that meet quarterly for a time of connection, fellowship and prayer. The groups consist of an elder and the families that he has agreed to shepherd in his parish. During the meeting, elders share vision, hear feedback and listen for hurts people may be experiencing.
- 25 **Community Groups**
- Connect Groups** meet once or twice per month. They are fun, relationship focused groups that gather **off-campus**, according to geographic proximity and life stage. Connect Groups are for Perimeter newcomers and long-timers, as well as friends and neighbors, to gain a greater experience of connectedness and a sense of belonging. Gatherings usually involve food, a fun topic of conversation that helps people get to know one another, or an activity.
- Sunday Morning Communities** meet weekly at the **church facilities** for the purpose of assimilating new people into the church family, establishing social relationships with others, and experiencing biblical equipping. The groups vary in programming, content and composition (often by age and stage of life).
- 26 **Journey Groups** are small groups, usually 5-7 men or women, meeting weekly with a well-qualified and trained leader for the purpose of becoming mature and equipped followers of Christ by the use of Truth, Equipping, Accountability, Mission, & Supplication. These groups provide excellent opportunities for fellowship and, in a "lite" manner, provide opportunity for service.
- 27 **Seminars, Classes and Groups** are our venues and means to equip all believers in Christ, so they can effectively live and proclaim the Gospel to others. We have many offerings which include theology, philosophy and practical ministry. We recommend every member take three strategic offerings: X-Press Your Faith, LINK and Financial Peace University.
- 28 **X-Press Your Faith** is a weekend seminar where you are equipped in how to share the Gospel in a relational and non-confrontational dialogue. Participants receive training and materials, and also easy examples of how to effectively evangelize their neighbors, co-workers and friends (Acts 1:8, Rom. 1:16).
- 29 **LINK/Intentional Living**, is a weekend workshop designed to equip you with the foundational tools you need to fulfill God's purpose for your life. Not only will you learn about your spiritual gifts, but you will also walk away with greater clarity on your values, strengths, struggles, and an action plan of how to discern God's calling in your life. Engaging, fun, and energetic, you will not want to miss taking this first step in discovering how God has uniquely created and called you for His extraordinary purposes (I Cor. 12, Eph. 4:11-16). (Currently Not Offered)

- 30 **Financial Peace University** is a strategic course to learn to use God's resources given to us for His glory. We believe we are to be wise stewards of our resources to love others and to see the Gospel proclaimed (II Cor. 8:9, 9:6-7).
- 31 **Leadership Training** is a key aspect of the momentum and movement of our church. We believe training and equipping leaders are vital to the growth of Christ's church and the impact of the next generation (Col. 1:28-29). Leadership Training involves theology, philosophy and practical ministry. Leaders need to be equipped in knowledge, character, skills and vision (Luke 2:52). We have multiple courses (i.e. #'s 28-30) that are taught on a weekend, one night, or weekly during a semester. In addition to the above courses, we train and equip leaders in outreach, prayer, shepherding, missions, discipleship, parenting, and much more.

Theological Foundations is a course of study open to all members (male and female) who are believed to exemplify the qualifications of elder or deacon found in 2 Timothy and Titus. The course runs for approximately ten weeks and takes the participant deep in exposure to the weightier issues of theology and Christian service. Evaluation and testing is given to help determine one's preparation for future pastoral and discipleship leadership.

- 32 **Weekend Serving** is a term used to describe those ministries that must take place so that our Saturday night and Sunday morning services can occur (i.e. Welcome Team, Usher Team, Kids Town, etc). These are crucial ministries that support our "worship services" and are staffed by volunteers.
- 33 **Church Ministry Teams** are small groups of believers who devote themselves to working together to serve other participants within the church. Some ministry teams serve by means of giving leadership and direction to ministries while others are comprised of those who are involved in "hands on" ministry. All team members are cared for by a shepherd.
- 34 **Community Ministry Teams** are designed to extend the love of Christ through service & prayer. Teams seek to bless their communities by serving alongside other churches, nonprofits and organizations focusing on mercy and justice issues.
- 35 **Global Ministry Teams** carry out Perimeter's global vision of igniting movements of disciple-making churches for the renewal of the city. Our teams do this by developing partnerships with indigenous church pastors and planters in strategic global cities to envision, establish, equip and empower local churches to bridge the gaps of leadership and influence for the advancement of God's Kingdom. To that end, we help our partners collaborate to develop a contextualized strategy of Life on Life Missional Discipleship that produces mature and equipped followers of Christ serving as salt and light to the least, the lost, and the channels of cultural influence. (*Matthew 28:18-20, 2 Timothy 2:1-2, Jeremiah 29:4-7, Genesis 1:28, John 1:14, John 20:21, John 17:11, Matthew 5:13-16, Colossians 1:15-20, Revelation 21:5, Revelation 21:24-26*)

- 36 **Investigative Forum (IF)** Everyone is searching for Truth. Asking hard questions. Crying out to understand the meaning of life. Searching and trying to fill that aching empty place inside their heart. In an effort to try and address these issues and questions, Randy Pope created the Investigative Forum (IF) to allow the congregation an opportunity to invite their seeking guests to explore the claims of Christ and Christianity. This unique, multi-week forum has attracted hundreds to investigate a relationship with Jesus and is a great resource as our church is equipped to be missional where we live, work and play (www.IFGod.com).
- 37 **Guest Sponsorship** - As members we are committed to building relationships with guest and to invite them to the various activities offered by Perimeter. In addition, we are committed to helping them investigate Christianity and membership here at Perimeter by inviting them to Taste of Perimeter, Inquirer's Seminar and Membership Seminar.
- 38 **Community and Global Journeys** are short term mission trips, either local or overseas, designed to give participants a cross-cultural experience enabling them to see the world from God's perspective and to participate in what He is already doing through our established partnerships. Prior training is required for a journey and all journeys are comprised of approximately 5-10 participants, led by a well-trained leader. Most participants raise their own support from interested friends and family. It is our intention that every Perimeter member participates in a Journey once every three years.
Revelation 5:9, Acts 1:8, Acts 16:6-10, 2 Corinthians 8:1-14, 2 Timothy 2:15, 1 Thessalonians 2:8-9, John 20:21, Matthew 28:18-20.
- 39 **Generosity Ministry** is committed to the clear teaching of Biblical principles of God's immeasurable generosity. "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich" (2 Corinthians 8:9). The believer's response should be no less than readying the heart to be spent for others.
- 40 **Tithe (Weekly Giving / All In)** - means seeking the will of God in all giving decisions. "Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" – II Corinthians: 7. Giving flows from the heart with thanksgiving. God owns it all. In faith, His people are called to give back to Him from what He has given to ensure the work of the Kingdom is continual.
- 41 **Ministry Development Project** is a two-year giving campaign purposed to fund key ministry areas, launch new ministry initiatives along with renovations of campus facilities.
- 42 **Legacy Planning** is a means of giving that recognizes the role of a faithful steward of God's possessions. By utilizing Legacy Giving designs and legal vehicles a person can transfer worldly wealth to the kingdom of God during their lifetime that will result in eternal rewards. The church can assist persons who desire to make these types of gifts.