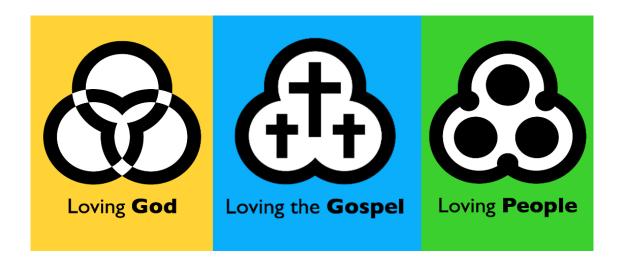


# OUR VISION:

Glorifying God through lives transformed by the gospel



# OUR VALUES

- Loving God: Glorifying God the Father as we joyfully respond to his Word, depend on Him and delight in Him.
- Loving the Gospel: Passionate about seeing the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ transforming every aspect of our lives and the lives of others.
- Loving People: Growing together by the power of God's Spirit, a blessing to the wider church and to others.

# OUR INITIATIVES

## LOVING GOD:

Glorifying God as we joyfully respond to his Word, depend on Him and delight in Him.

#### Responding to God's Word

The Bible is God's transforming word. In it the Lord Jesus Christ is revealed to us by God's Spirit. We expect God to speak to us today through his word, calling us to respond in faith, obedience and love. We emphasize studying God's word together, across every aspect of church life and with all age groups. The Bible alone speaks with final authority and is sufficient for all matters of belief and practice.

1 Peter 2:2, John 5:39, 1 Thess. 2:13, Heb. 4:12, 2 Tim 3:16-17

### Depending on God's Power

We believe that God's presence with us is at the heart of God's blessing to us. We believe that we constantly depend on God for everything we have and so we must be devoted to prayer. We are also convinced that God transforms us as we pray and uses the circumstances and sufferings of life to draw us closer to him. We express that dependence in prayer together, expecting him to work by his Spirit and responding to his work among us with thankfulness.

Rev. 21:3, Acts 2:42, 1 Thess. 5:16-18, Col. 4:2-3, Phil. 4:6-7

#### Delighting in God's Glory

As we meet together, we come together to glorify and enjoy God, and to encourage one another. As we grow in understanding of who God is and what he has done, our hearts respond to him in praise, adoration and love. What we understand about Christ with our minds must go deeper and must capture the affections of our hearts. We become like what we worship, so as we worship God we are transformed to be like him. Our times of worship together are also times where we speak God's word to one another, encouraging, challenging and strengthening one another.

Heb. 10:19-25, 2 Cor. 3:18, Heb. 3:13, Col. 3:15-16

## LOVING THE GOSPEL:

Passionate about seeing the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ transforming every aspect of our lives and the lives of others.

#### <u>Transformed By the Gospel</u>

God always accepts us on the basis of Christ's work, not ours. It is by grace that we first come to Christ and by grace that we continue to grow in Christ. We never move on from our need of the gospel; we are transformed as the gospel takes deeper root in our hearts. Grace sets us free to be honest about ourselves, confessing our sins, knowing that we do not earn a right standing with God but receive a right standing from God.

Col. 2:6-7, 1 Peter 2:2, 2 Peter 3:18, Gal. 3:1-3, Col. 1:6

### Living-Out the Gospel

Our whole life matters to God, so that whatever we do is for his glory. We want to recognise that Jesus is Lord over every aspect of our lives and that the gospel impacts everything we do. We serve God as we work and rest, in the home and at school, as we live among our neighbours and friends. We use our God given talents in whatever area of life to honour him, serve others and bless our world. We seek to stand up for truth and against injustice, equipping one another to speak boldly with respect and gentleness.

Col. 3:17, 1 Peter 3:15, 1 Cor. 10:31, Eph. 4:22-24, Matt. 5:14-16

#### Proclaiming the Gospel

We believe that the mission of the church is to go into the world with the purpose of fulfilling the Great Commission. Telling people the message of the gospel is not only a responsibility but a wonderful privilege. We seek to equip every member to be an ambassador for Christ, in whatever situation they are in. We seek to be creative, passionate and prayerful in our evangelism, winning souls by all means possible. We are committed to mobilise and equip people for mission both here in the UK and overseas.

Matt. 28:18-20, 1 Cor. 9:21-23, Matt. 9:37-38, Luke 24:44-49

## LOVING PEOPLE:

Growing together by the power of God's Spirit, a blessing to the wider church and to others.

#### **Growing Together**

God's plan is to create a new people, not simply new individual believers. Our church family is a place where we love and care for each other, speaking the truth to one another in love, so that we all grow in maturity. We delight to share with one another not only the gospel but also our lives. We grow best in authentic relationships with others, where there is openness and accountability about our struggles. We want this to be a church family where people of different backgrounds, ages and nationalities are valued.

Eph. 2:21-22, 1 Thess. 2:8, Heb. 3:12-13, Eph. 4:14-16, Acts 4:32-35

#### Multiplying Leaders

We are committed to developing and training new leaders. We want to entrust God's word to others who can teach others. We are focused not only on the leaders of today but those of tomorrow, equipping people to serve locally, nationally and internationally. We recognise that all of us are called to lead in different settings and to be examples to those who follow on after us.

2 Tim 2:2, Titus 2:3-8, Heb. 13:7, 1 Cor. 11:1, 1 Cor. 4:15-17

### Serving Others

Our care of those within our church overflows to others too. We will care for spiritual, emotional and physical needs. We do this because people are made in God's image and inherently worthy of love and care. Our acts of mercy do not simply build evangelistic bridges to the community, though our hope is that this will be one of the results. We seek to show compassion and mercy to those in need, reflecting God's heart for those in distress.

Gal. 6:10, James 1:27, Matt. 5: 43-48