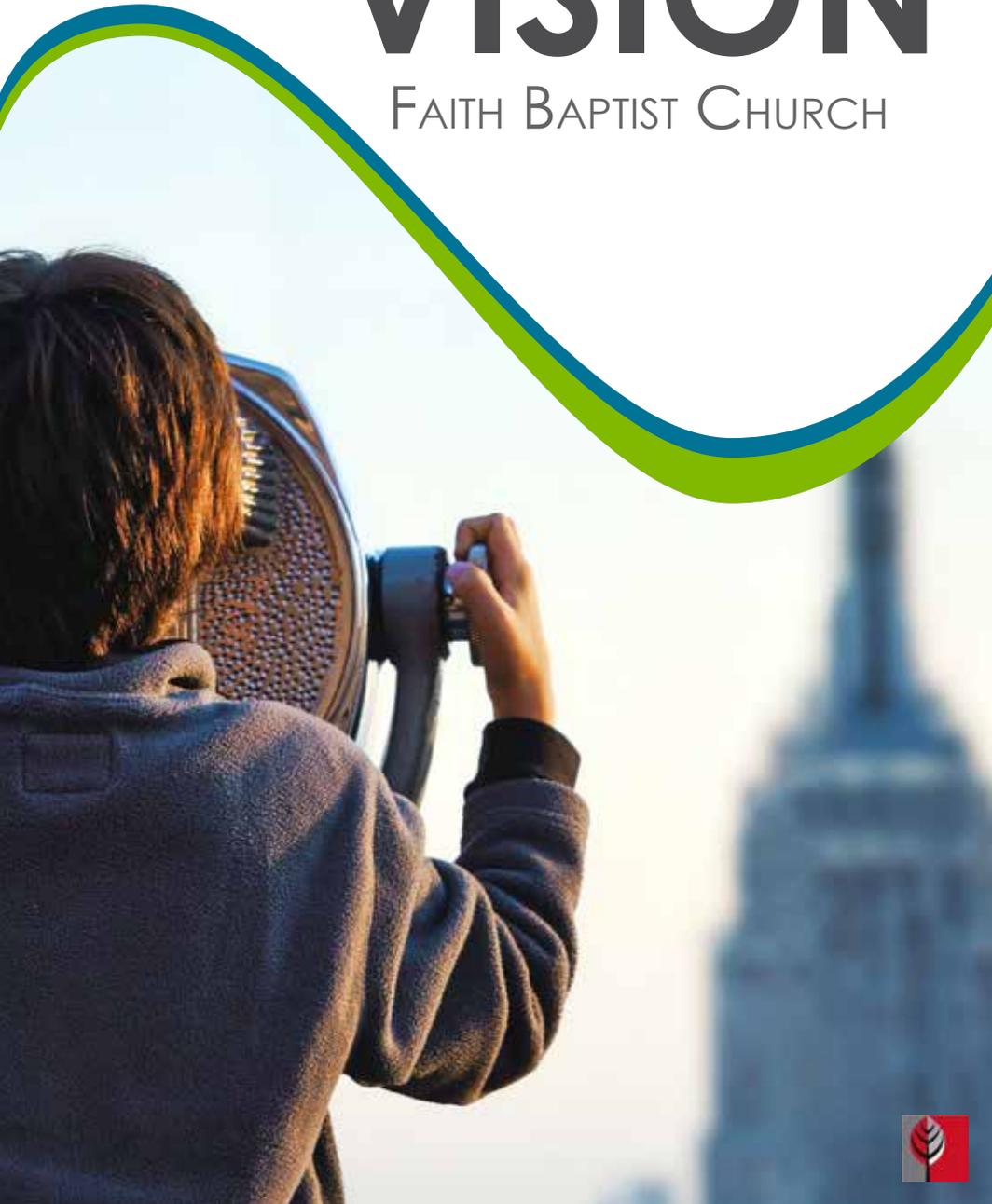


OUR
VISION
FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH





“ making more and better disciples”

- FBC Mission Statement

Here at Faith, we have
a clear vision for what
God is calling us
to do, and who God
has made us to be. This
booklet is designed to
help explain
that vision.

WEEKEND



love
surrender

T
TRANSFORMED

L
O
V
E

A large green circle containing the text 'love' and 'surrender' separated by a horizontal line. To the right, a large white letter 'T' is superimposed with the word 'TRANSFORMED' written vertically inside its stem. A white arrow points from the bottom of the circle towards the right.

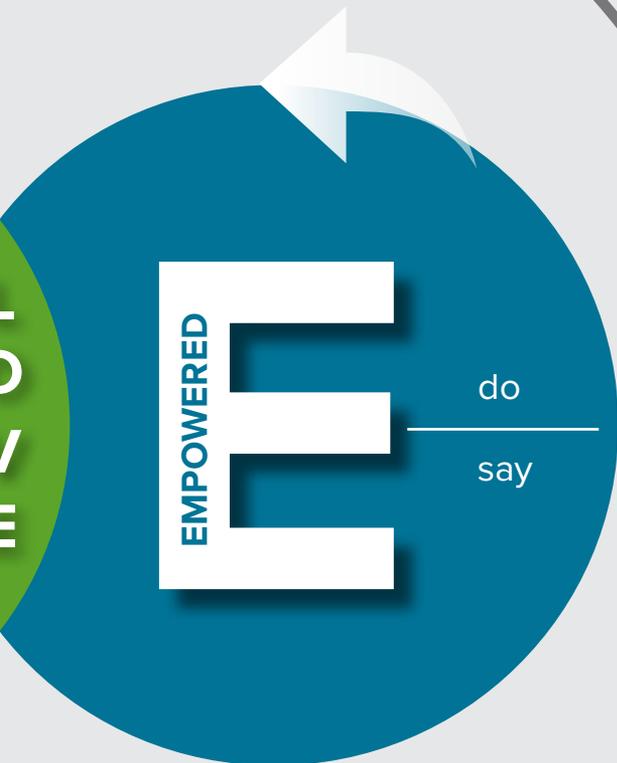
SERVING OTHERS



FAN



1
5
/
=



MILY

OUR VISION



We live to express our love for God and equip thoroughgoing followers of Jesus to demonstrate His Kingdom and make Jesus known to the world."

What does it mean to be a "thoroughgoing follower of Jesus?" That's a great question! Here is how we see it:

We believe that thoroughgoing followers of Jesus balance the "Great Commandment" with the "Great Commission".

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

Matthew 22:37-39

"Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'"

THE GREAT COMMISSION

Matthew 28:19-20a

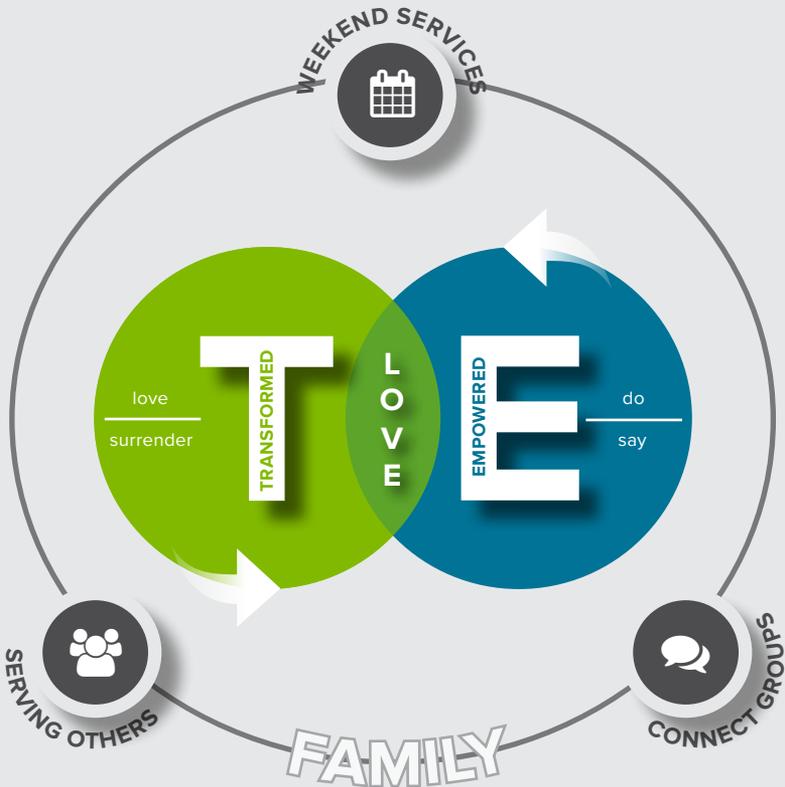
"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you."

Balancing the Great Commandment and the Great Commission points to five purposes we believe everyone who desires to be a thoroughgoing follower of Jesus needs to be living out in their everyday lives.

THE FIVE PURPOSES

1. Love God - "Love the Lord your God..."
2. Surrender to God - "...with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."
3. Love Others - "Love your neighbor as yourself"
4. Do the Works of Christ - "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of..."
5. Say the Words of Christ - "Teaching them to observe all things I have commanded you."

We use the following picture to help us remember not just what the 5 Purposes are, but how they work together in our lives.



IT STARTS WITH TRANSFORMATION

God meets us where we are - but we can't stay there!



Transformation is the work that God does in us to make us more like His Son, Jesus Christ. In His amazing love, God meets us wherever we are, regardless of what we may have done in the past. But once we have encountered the living God and we start to follow Him, He begins to change us from the inside out as we let Him. We do not stay the same! We do not continue in the same selfish and self-destructive patterns. We cannot help but be changed as we experience His grace and love in our lives. God meets us where we are - but we cannot stay there.

As we experience God and begin to understand His great love for us, we cannot help but respond by loving Him in return. As we love God, we desire to give more and more of ourselves to Him: we surrender to God. We surrender our thoughts, our time, our money, our lives to Him. Transformation is all about fulfilling the Great Commandment.



TRANSFORMED FOR A PURPOSE - EMPOWERED

Empowerment is all about fulfilling the Great Commission.

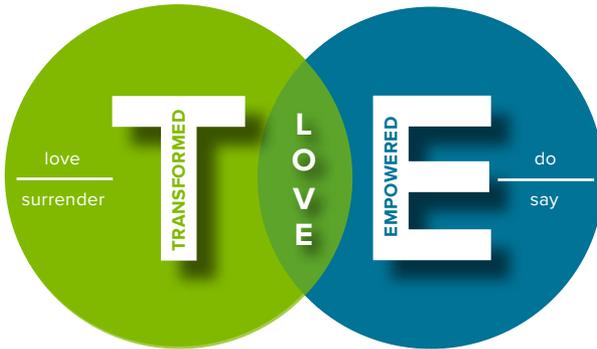
We are transformed by God, but this transformation is for a purpose. God empowers us to demonstrate his Kingdom and to make Jesus known to the world.



The empowerment we receive from God flows out of the transformation He's working in us. Empowerment is all about fulfilling the Great Commission. As we look to see what God is doing and join Him in His work, God empowers us to do the works of Christ and say the words of Christ. As we follow Jesus' example, lives are changed and people come to know God and enter into His Kingdom!

BRINGING TRANSFORMATION AND EMPOWERMENT TOGETHER

Transformation and Empowerment meet as we show God's love to others.



As we are transformed by God and become more like His Son, Jesus Christ, God shares with us His love for the world. We can't help but love others. Our love for the people of this world who don't know Jesus as well as our love for other followers of Jesus is the natural overflow of the love that God lavishes on us. It is out of this love that we act on the empowerment God has given us. Transformation and Empowerment meet as we show God's love to others.

This is an ongoing process that continues for the rest of our lives. We are transformed by God and we are being transformed by God. We are empowered by God and we are being empowered by God.

It Takes Three Loves

It takes three loves for someone to truly be transformed and empowered by God.

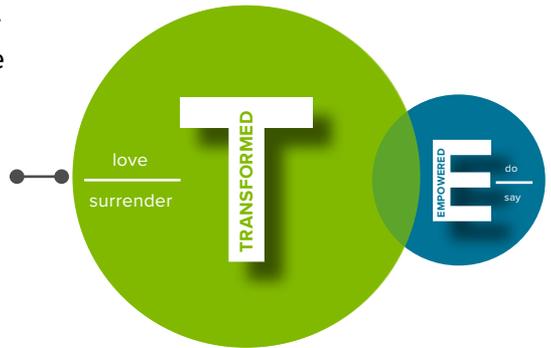


God loved us first. As we experience and come to know His love, we love Him in return. Out of the overflow of this reciprocal love for one another, God empowers us to love others. All three of these loves must be present for a follower of Jesus to be living the Transformed and Empowered life.

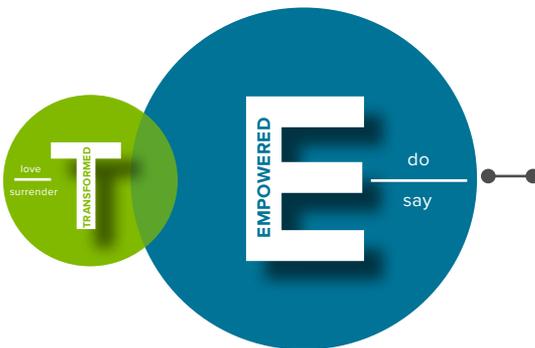
YOU CAN'T HAVE ONE WITHOUT THE OTHER

We balance the Great Commandment and the Great Commission when we live a life where we cooperate with God to balance the Transformation and Empowerment He is working in us.

When someone focuses on God's Transformation but never does anything about it, they are out of balance. This can lead to religious people who are not empowered to truly make a difference in this world. We are transformed for a purpose, to act on this transformation to demonstrate God's Kingdom and to make Jesus known to the world.



When someone focuses on God's Empowerment, but never spends any time really getting to know God, they are out of balance. This can lead to people who make a lot of noise for God but ultimately fall apart because they are not anchored in a deep abiding relationship with God.



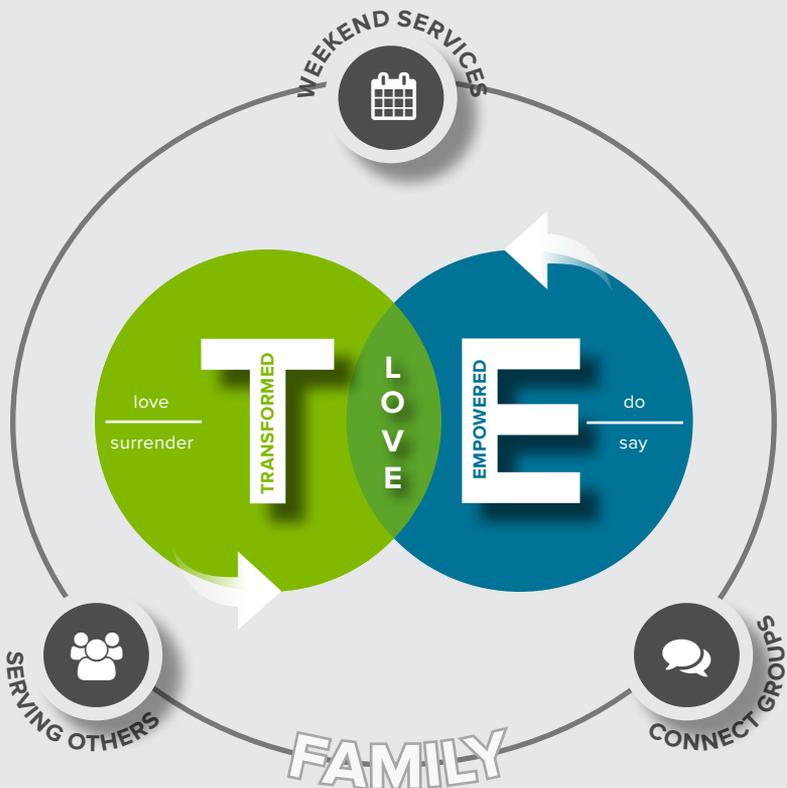
We are transformed first so that we can be empowered to demonstrate God's Kingdom and make Jesus known to the world.

You can't have one without the other!

TRANSFORMATION AND EMPOWERMENT TAKE PLACE IN COMMUNITY

We are never meant to be alone! God created the Church to live out the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. He created His church to be a large diverse group of people. That is because we need each other to be able to walk out the life that Jesus is calling us to live. This is Transformation and Empowerment, this balancing of the Great Commandment and the Great Commission, happens in the context of a local community. We cannot do it alone! There are no lone wolves in the life of God's Kingdom.

Here at Faith, this is what community looks like:



If you want to do all you can do to cooperate with God in your own transformation and empowerment, you need to do the following things:



Attend Weekend Services

- This is where you can hear the vision for the church along with everyone else.
- It is the safest place to invite your friends who don't know Jesus to attend.
- It is the best place to experience the church's unity in all of its diversity.



Join a Connect Group

- You need people who will celebrate life and encourage you during your good and bad times.
- You need people who will mourn with you and support you during the hard times.
- You need to know and be known by people who will tell you when you are about to do something really unwise.



Serve

- You need to experience putting others needs ahead of your own.
- You need to experience serving God's agenda ahead of your own.
- This is one of the best ways to show that you really believe what you say you believe.

We believe that if you attend weekend services, join a Connect Group, and serve, you'll be giving yourself the best possible chance to experience the transformation and empowerment of God here at Faith!



That's It! That's our Vision

We live to express our love for God and equip thoroughgoing followers of Jesus to demonstrate His Kingdom and make Jesus known to the world.

Thoroughgoing followers of Jesus are transformed by God. They are empowered and are being empowered by God. Our goal is to equip you to do the work that God has for you: to demonstrate His Kingdom and make Jesus known to the world!

Won't you join us in fulfilling this vision?





“ making more and better disciples”

- FBC Mission Statement

Contact Us:

☎ 320-352-5356

🔍 faithbc.org

📍 124 4th Street North
Sauk Centre, MN 56378

