

Our Mission and Core Values One Sheet

Mars Hill Community Church exists to invest our lives in sharing Jesus Christ and growing His followers.

1. Biblically Centered - Living a life defined and directed by Scripture

God has given each of us special revelation through His written Word, the Bible. The Bible is God's holy, inerrant word. God's word serves as the foundation of our life. It is essential to understanding God, mankind, history, and life in general. It is not merely a book of stories or of suggestions to regulate our behavior. It is the vision of Mars Hill Community Church that the Scriptures would become your basis for all of your decisions. You can only grow in this area if you are willing to ask yourself some hard questions: Am I studying my Bible? What areas of my life do I need to apply this biblically centered thinking to? How can I start applying what I have learned in this study?

Verses for reflection: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

2. Prayerfully Dependent - Cultivating an intimate and dependent relationship with God.

Prayer is the common thread that runs through all areas of our Christian walk. Through prayer we can pursue a relationship with God that is both intimate and dependent. Prayer helps us seek God's will in our lives, gives us an opportunity for repentance, provides us the means to make requests, and ultimately is for the purpose of knowing God Himself better. Here at Mars Hill, we place a high value on prayer both individually and corporately.

Verses for reflection: 1 John 5:14-15, James 4:2-3, Psalm 66:18, James 1:5-8

3. Relationally Connected - Developing relationships of encouragement and accountability

One of the things that people look for in a church is "good community." All of us have a deep longing for community in our lives. Nobody likes to be alone, nor is anyone at their best when they are alone. Never in the Bible do we see an individual with a "lone ranger" mentality. Unfortunately, our American culture promotes this type of mentality and lifestyle. Not only does this limit our effectiveness for God, but it can also be fatal to our personal lives. The hope of Mars Hill Community Church is to grow a body of believers that are interdependent and not independent. We need relationships that are marked both by encouragement and accountability. Fair warning though - choosing to invest in relationships can be risky and painful. However, the sacrifice is worth the benefit.

Verses for reflection: John 13:34-35, John 17:22-23, Hebrews 10:24-25, Proverbs 27:6, Proverbs 27:17

4. Ministry Minded - Discovering and employing my gifts to serve the body of Christ and the world

When most of us think of ministry, we think of the work done by pastors, missionaries, Christian conference speakers, or evangelists. Somehow in America we have the notion that the church is divided into two halves: those who “do” ministry (the pastors and staff) and those to whom the ministry is “done” (the members of the church). However, this limited idea of ministry is inconsistent with the teaching of Scripture. A proper understanding of ministry will help us find a greater fulfillment in life as we begin to see all that we do as opportunities to glorify God and serve others. At Mars Hill, we want all members to experience the power of God working through them as they use their gifts and abilities to serve others. In order to become ministry focused, we must choose the eternal over the temporal, realizing that God wants us to be a part of something bigger than ourselves. We have access to Spiritual Gifts testing that is available upon request if you need help determining how your gifting can serve the body.

Verses for reflection: Ephesians 2:8-10, 1 Peter 4:10-11, 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

5. Missionally Engaged - Seeking opportunities to share the gospel in our community and around the world

Somehow in the church (at large) we’ve made it to where spirituality is defined by how much you can withdraw from culture. However, we believe the church is called to engage the culture and the world for Jesus Christ. He has given us not only this mission, but the resources to accomplish this mission. Our job is to obey both locally and globally, both within our homes and outside them. We need to take a fresh look at our leader, Jesus Christ, and the efforts He made to spend time with non-believers. We need to seek significant non-Christian relationships, serve these individuals in practical ways, and then share our story with them.

Verses for reflection: John 17:14-19, Matthew 9:9-13, Matthew 28:19-20

6. Courageously Generous - Living as a steward of all of God’s resources

Few Bible-believing Christians, grasp the incredible joy of worship available through generosity. When we recognize that everything belongs to God and that we are His stewards, it makes it easier to let go of things the world treasures. We seek to live with an eternal perspective, not a temporary one. This requires “raising the bar” on what’s expected, living open-handed, and trusting God to provide for all our needs. Look for where God is working (both inside and outside the local church) and join Him with the resources He has entrusted to you.

Verses for reflection: 1 Chronicles 29:11-14 , 1 Timothy 6:17-19, 2 Corinthians 9:10-11