

Working Strategy at Burnside Blairbeth Church

The vision at Burnside Blairbeth Church is to be a family of passionate, wholehearted followers of Jesus who can confidently display Christ to the world around them.

This vision is of a countercultural, supportive, intergenerational family where the faith of all ages is nurtured and developed together.

To achieve this, we will intentionally cultivate three essential aspects of Christian life -

- Discipleship (individual focus) - Deepening our faith, learning and growing in our journey to know Jesus better, which we need so we can share the hope we have with others.
- Fellowship (collective focus) - How we support, encourage, comfort and challenge each other as a church family in our pursuit of following Jesus.
- Gospel Centred Mission (outward focus) - Our part in the great commission, reaching out and bringing in, always striving to make Jesus known.

Discipleship (Individual and deeper focus)

A disciple of Jesus is someone who loves and trusts Jesus and who is seeking to know Him better and obey His commands. We believe that to grow disciples is a Biblical mandate set by Jesus according to Matthew 28:16-20. In all we do, discipleship is the purpose that drives us and the goal we aim for as we seek to equip our all members of our congregation, at every age and stage to live out a Christian faith confidently in everyday life and in an increasingly secular society.

We will purposefully look to create spaces to connect all ages together around the Bible and provide opportunities for families and small groups to connect around the Bible outwith Sunday services.

Our ultimate goals are as follows:

- That we are intentionally discipling in every meeting.
- That everyone would be equipped to pray, read the Bible and grow in love for Christ and His word.

- For all ages, from the youngest to the oldest, to encounter God and continuously develop a deeper relationship with Him
- To empower all ages to live out a passionate, confident faith that will draw others to Jesus.

Fellowship (Internal and collective focus)

The focus of working on our Christian fellowship is

- to build our community of believers, so we know and love each other better
- to be a welcoming fellowship, so new members feel at home and connected quickly
- to break down any barriers – real or perceived – which harm our fellowship.

We want to be intentional in creating **accountable** relationships across the congregation, linking all ages and stages as we:–

- care for and nurture each other
- remind each other of the Gospel
- pray for each other

Gospel Centred Mission (External and outward focus)

We believe that the good news of the cross and the resurrection of Jesus is for everyone, and that we are commanded to share the good news (John 3:16, Mark 16:15). We aim to inspire and equip the congregation to confidently share the Gospel with anyone we encounter. To this end :-

- We will purposefully expand spaces for Gospel centred discussions, with differing approaches according to context.
- We will develop ways to communicate the good news to everyone around us, building our skills and confidence in sharing the Gospel of Jesus.
- We will welcome those who start attending our services into our fellowship and support them on their discipleship journey, building the body of Christ for service and witness in our community.

