

Our Vision - 3 of 4

Connect, Grow, Serve

Video - Dear God (a graduation prayer) (go to skitguys login and go to downloads)

Vision Statement:

HCF exists to **CONNECT** people to God so that they may **GROW, SERVE** God and others.

Grow- intransitive verb - to promote the development of

Maturity - Psychological Description

In psychology, maturity is the ability to respond to the environment, being aware of the correct time and location to behave and knowing when to act, according to the circumstances and the culture of the society one lives in. **Wikipedia**

To bring people to maturity in Christ

Ephesians 4:14-16

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Stuck in Infancy

Hebrews 5:11-14

We have much to say about this, but it is hard to make it clear to you because you no longer try to understand. In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

- No longer try to understand or feed yourself
- Constant use of the word - understand and apply to our life

Jesus and the Role of The Word in Maturity

Luke 8:11-15

11 "This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. 12 Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. 13 Those on the rocky ground are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. 14 The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. 15 But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

Goal is for Everyone to Be Mature in Christ

Colossians 1:27-28

To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ

Making Jesus Present

2 Corinthians 2:14-15 (New King James Version)

Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us [a]diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.

Old Way of Living

Ephesians 4:17-19

So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.

Put Off the Old and Put on the New

Ephesians 4:20-23

That, however, is not the way of life you learned when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Acting Like Jesus

Ephesians 4:25-32

Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold. Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

- **Walk in truth**
- **Deal with anger**
- **Be productive**

Acting Like Jesus

Ephesians 4:29-32

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

- **Speak Only what will benefit others**
- **Forgive like God forgave you**
- **Walk in Grace**

We Can Help to Get You Connected

- Rooted - 10 weeks of community Started May 9th
- Small Groups - Oikos Groups (intentional outward focus) Started April 12
- Missional Pathway
 - Personal Calling
 - Awaken June 25-26
 - Activate July 10
 - Corporate (church) Calling
 - Assess September 11
 - Advance October 9