

Vineyard Discipleship Schools

Core Content & Learning Objectives

Relationship with God

Understanding how to relate to and interact with God is vital to our lives. Developing a life of worship, prayer and intercession affects a disciples view and ability to follow freely.

1. Students will learn to recognize the voice of God.
2. Students will learn the true nature and character God, including His father's heart.
3. Students will learn reverence and worship based on the fear of the Lord
4. Students will pursue personal relationship and intimacy with God

The Church

The mission of God is the foundation for the mission of the church. The church is a community spawned by the mission of God and gathered up into that mission. The church is a community sent by God and we need to understand the role of the Church in God's heart.

1. Students will both understand and be able to explain the broad strokes of church history with reference to the Vineyard movement's humble place in that story.
2. Students will both understand and experience the Church's central role in God's purposes and plan with specific reference to his missional promise to Abraham to "bless the nations" through his descendants.
3. Students will discuss and answer for themselves the question(s): Why has God chosen the church as the primary expression of who He is to the world? What does that choice say about His character and purpose?

Being a Missional Person

God is a missional God. Therefore we can assume His people are a missional people. Learning to live a life of recognizing that we are "called" enhances the quality and focus of vocations, relationships and purpose on earth.

1. Students will gain a clear understanding of what God's missional purpose for the church looks like in their own lives.
2. Students will explore the relationship between God's corporate and personal call on their lives and how that relates to vocation and being a lifelong servant of His.
3. Students will explore and discuss the promise of a priesthood of all believers and how that relates to the apparent distinction between secular and sacred career paths.

Growth and Change

How do we grow and change spiritually? What is the process or principles of spiritual growth that allow us to become more like Christ throughout our lives?

1. Students will learn a theological understanding of sanctification.
2. Students will be introduced to the spiritual disciplines, understanding that they are tools, not constraints and that they are voluntary, not coerced.
3. Students will pursue the concept of Christlikeness and the implications to their daily life.
4. Students will wrestle with the spiritual tug-of-wars between:
 - Faith and works
 - Grace and law
 - Blessing and suffering

5. Students will learn from the power of testimonies; utilizing historical and contemporary stories as a sources of wisdom. They will also learn how to relate and communicate their own life's story.

Stewardship of Life & Resources

We learn that we must become effective stewards of our life and resources if we are to be effective disciples – our vocation, calling, time, money, and relationships are of primary importance

1. Students will learn that Godly stewardship recognises God's ownership of all that we are, and all that we have.
2. Students will learn of God's goodness and recognise their privilege as trustees of God's generosity.
3. Students will learn to communally steward the resources of their communities.
4. Students will recognise that God has entrusted His children with the stewardship of His Creation.
5. Students will acknowledge that our eschatology affects the way we live and how we act as stewards of creation.

Living as a leader

We are all called to some level of leading in our lives. Understanding that we have been given gifts, skills and a unique personality that needs developing is vital to talking responsibility for our lives. This is the first step to living like a leader.

1. Students will be given many opportunities to lead by serving.
2. Students will have the opportunity to learn about themselves and others through personality testing. (examples – D.I.S.C and Myers Briggs)
3. Students will be challenged to discover how the world has influenced them
4. Students will be challenged to discover how they can effectively influence the world.
5. Students will study various leadership models and principles:
 - Multiplying ministry
 - Team building
 - How to implement vision
 - Etc.

The Kingdom of God

Understanding the central message of the New Testament is vital. Jesus proclaimed that message – “The Kingdom of God is near”. Learning how to access and walk in that reality makes us effective disciples.

1. Students will learn to examine the Bible through the lens of Jesus' life and character, as expressed in the gospels.
 2. Students will develop an understanding of the Kingdom that has come, is coming, and is yet to come
 3. Students will recognise that the Kingdom of God starts with the rule and reign of the Father in their own hearts
 4. Students will understand that the Kingdom of God applies to every sphere of life
- * It is accepted amongst the school leaders that Derek Morpew's book Breakthrough is an invaluable resource in outlining a Vineyard understanding of the Kingdom of God.*

The Ministry of Jesus

Jesus was empowered by the Spirit to heal the sick, release the captives, open blind eyes and preach the good news to the poor. Jesus not only did that but He gave that ministry to the Church. Understanding and experiencing the prophetic and the power of the Holy Spirit is vital to Jesus' styled Kingdom living

1. Students will explore what it means to participate in the words and works of Jesus
2. Students will experience the Power of the Holy Spirit, gifts
3. Students will learn what it means to Be a prophetic people
4. Students will be exposed to MC510 teaching of John Wimber
5. Students will learn the power of Storytelling – relating to people, narrative theology

Embracing Diversity/Pursuing Unity

Understanding the issues of cultures, races, generations, gender, and the role of the individual and the church in breaking down barriers and bringing the ministry of reconciliation.

1. Students will learn the value of pursuing unity
2. Students will learn about Reconciliation
3. Students will learn the Tension between objective truth and embracing diversity
4. Students will learn the value of Relationship, not tolerance as a way of handling this issue
5. Students will see how Scripture versus license deals with compromise