



**Lewis
Memorial**
BAPTIST CHURCH

Our Objectives

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#1: To share the Gospel of Christ with every resident of the Tri-State area in a persuasive and understandable manner.

There is no greater responsibility given to a New Testament church than to communicate the Gospel of Christ to the lost. The importance of this task rests upon the fact that a person who dies without receiving God's salvation (made possible through the death, burial and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ), will spend eternity separated from Him in eternal torment. For the sake of men's souls, we take very seriously our duty to reach Tri-State residents with the only message that can change a person's eternal destiny. Because of the great diversity of people and backgrounds, it is extremely important that we present this message in a manner that can be clearly understood by all people and that we use the most effective means available to influence as many for Christ as possible. This includes all members of the body sharing the Gospel with others in daily life, and also serving in ministries that reach out in specific ways. We are always looking for better and more persuasive ways to spread God's love to everyone.

#2: To be the kind of New Testament fellowship where God's people can find love, acceptance, guidance, encouragement, and discipline in their pursuit of a godly life.

Godliness is not something that simply happens apart from the proper nurturing of a believer's spiritual life. Therefore, our church exists to provide the atmosphere necessary for all members to reach their full potential in Christ Jesus. We believe that this includes a balance between the following spiritual factors: love, acceptance, guidance, encouragement, and discipline. Love and acceptance produce the environment in which believers can feel safe to open up to what God wants to do in their lives, without fear of rejection. Guidance and encouragement come through the Word of God and concerned saints whose interest is to assist others in maturing in their faith. Discipline is simply the means of helping a person stay on course through compassionate, non-condemning accountability. The presence of these qualities, working together in unison, provides the spiritual framework in which the Lord can best perform His work of making a person like Himself. Each of us must be involved in maintaining these attributes in order for them to be fully realized in our fellowship.

#3: To have all our members in services, glorifying the Savior together through worship.

Worship is the heart of the Christian life and the fundamental purpose for our very existence. So important is this part of the spiritual life, that the Bible says God is "seeking" those who will worship Him. The reason is that when Christians begin to understand God and His majesty, which is the goal of true biblical worship, submission to His will and His Word is the result. While worship should take place privately in each individual's life, it is also to be something that we do corporately as the body of Christ. Heaven is the perfect example of this kind of worship, when we are all together around the throne of God glorifying Him. In anticipation of that day, we meet together weekly as God's people to lift up our Savior and believe that God is honored when all of the members are present and active in this most holy vocation. It is our desire to fill our worship center to capacity with adults, teens, and children, blending their voices and hearts together in song, praise, prayer, and preaching that recognize and exalt our great God.

#4: To reach every country of the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to send out career missionaries and pastors from our membership.

As difficult as it is to believe, there are millions of people around the world who have never once heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ and of His power to save. Our desire is to do all we can to place within the reach of every person the opportunity to know Christ as we know Him through faith in His death, burial, and resurrection. But, the question must be asked, "...How shall they hear without a preacher?" They can't, so for this reason we are asking God to reach into our fellowship and choose from among us those whom He can use in the States and on International fields to preach His glorious Gospel. Coupled with this is a willingness to financially and prayerfully assist these chosen servants as well as believers from other churches who are called of God for this purpose. We need members to seek God concerning His will for their lives, to pray faithfully for those who have been called and to give generously to our world missionary outreach.

#5: To provide practical, biblical messages and Bible study opportunities for God's people to grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord.

Once believers have trusted Christ as Savior, a desire is created within them to learn more about God, His will, and His ways and how to follow Him. Because this learning process requires understanding and applying the Bible, God wants all believers to commit to a local church where they can find assistance in this pursuit. Through the preaching of the Word, small group Bible studies, and other Scripture-learning opportunities offered by our church, we seek to communicate, in an understandable fashion, the life-changing principles of His Word, thus enabling His people to “grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord.” We make a concerted effort to present God's Word in a manner that is both relevant and applicable, while maintaining our commitment to His eternal and uncompromising Truth.

#6: To train and involve all members in using their abilities and gifts to do the work of the ministry through the local church.

Most everything in life requires teamwork to be successful and the church is no exception. Wonderfully, God has gifted each of His children with talents, abilities, and spiritual gifts that, when blended together with those of other Christians, cause the ministry of the church to flourish and bring fulfillment to the believer's life. This partnership in ministry is portrayed through a vivid word picture in Scripture used to describe the functioning of the church: a body. As a body has many different members, each working to fulfill its responsibility for the good of the whole, so the church has many members working together for the glory of God. No member is unimportant or insignificant and each plays a key role in enabling the church to do God's work successfully. It is our desire to see every member working with the leadership of our fellowship to find and hone their gifts, talents, and abilities and then to utilize the same as valuable members of God's team. Serving God through the local church with the gifts and abilities He has given is a satisfying and beneficial way to live.

Lewis Memorial Baptist Church

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