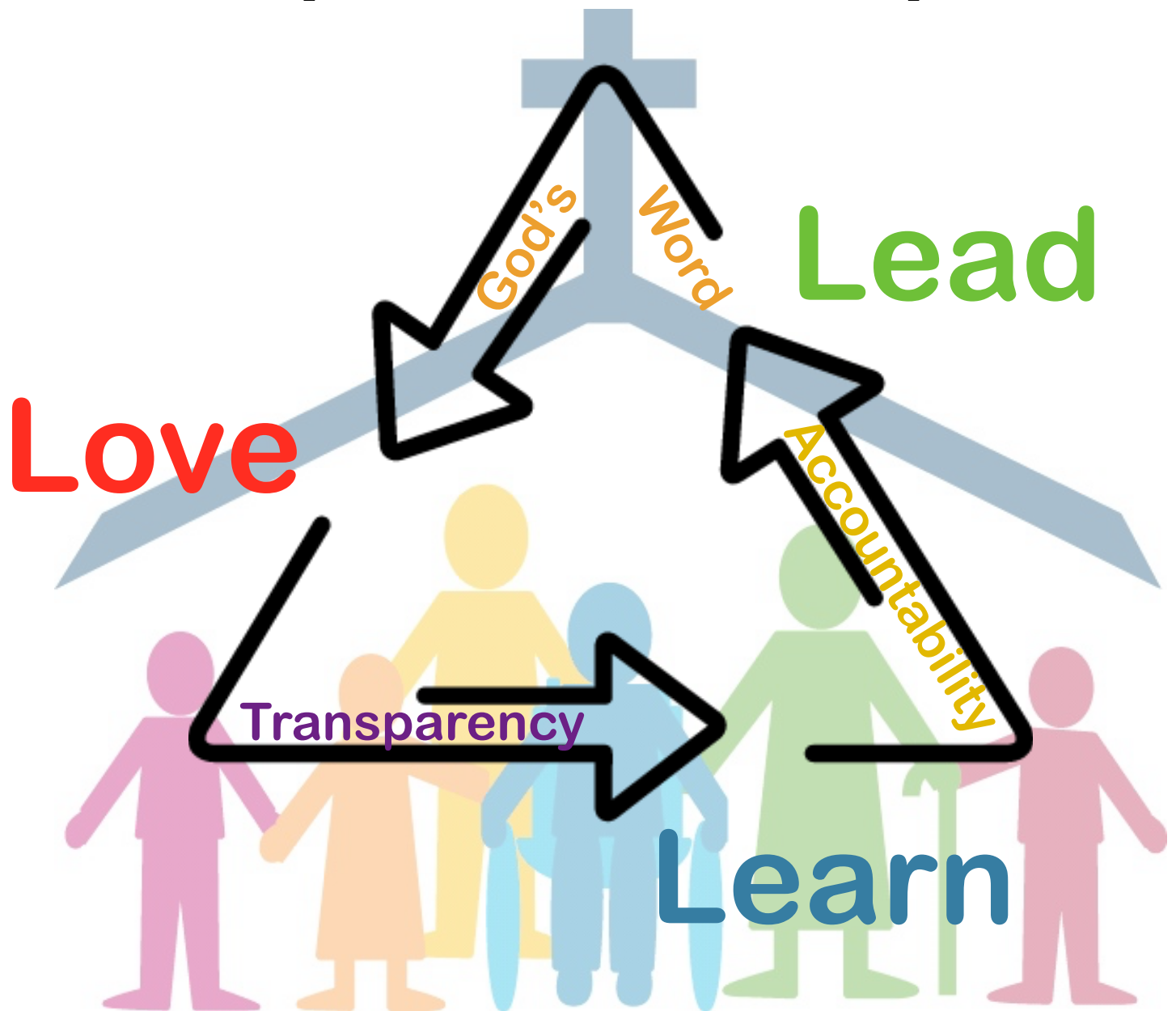


Garriott Road church of Christ

Family Ministry Plan (At A Glance)





**Strengthening
Marriages**



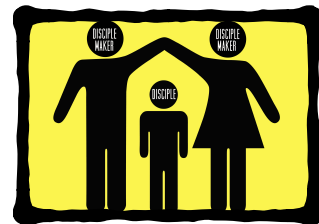
**Equipping
Fathers**



**Assisting
Parents**



**Providing
Discipleship
Opportunities**



Vision: (Where we want to get to)

To have a church culture where the church as a whole is helping our families to be equipped in raising their children to be faithful disciples and the families strive to strengthen the church by being active in their growth with God, with each other, and with the efforts of the church to reach the lost.

Mission: (The way we plan to get there)

To equip the families of our congregation to follow the plan laid out for them in God's word by: strengthening the marriages of our families; equipping the fathers to be able to lead their families spiritually; assisting the parents as they disciple their children; and providing opportunities for our families to serve & grow in their discipleship.



Strengthening Marriages

We believe that the relationship between husband and wife in a family unit is key to determining the strength of that family unit. In order to grow this relationship we want to have a class or seminar every year that is geared toward strengthening this relationship, in addition to providing marriage counseling for those who want it.



Equipping Fathers

We believe that the majority of spiritual leadership in the home should come from the father (Eph. 5:22-6:4; Col. 3:18-21). So we want to strengthen and train the fathers in the congregation so that they feel more confident fulfilling God's role for them in the family.

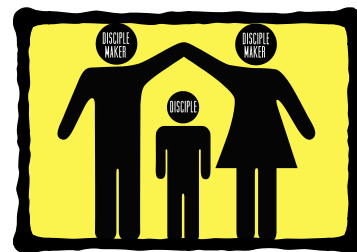


Assisting Parents

We believe that children are a blessing from God intended to be sent out into the world to serve and honor Him (Ps. 127:3-5). Preparing our children to do this makes parenting a major responsibility given by God (Eph. 6:1-4; Col. 3:20-21). We want to help our parents be equipped to get their children ready for the challenges that they will face in this world through offering materials and yearly classes or seminars.

Providing Discipleship Opportunities

We believe that God intends for the primary discipling of children to be done by their parents. However in our current culture many times this is a challenge. So as a church we want to provide some specific opportunities throughout the year where parents can engage in this process with their children.

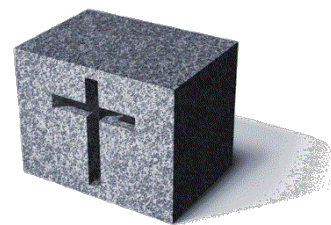


Values: (The principles that guide us)

On the surface level discipleship can be summed up in three terms: Loving, Learning, and Leading. Loving God and others. Learning to follow God's word to the best of my ability. Leading others to a deeper relationship with God. However at a deeper level there are three other concepts that drive the discipling process: Transparency, Accountability, and a Foundation of God's Word. It is our belief that holding to all six of these values will be the most beneficial in helping us achieve our vision and accomplish our mission. We commit to following these values and will strive to implement them in all that we do.

Following God's Word

As God's people we believe that the core of our discipleship is a commitment to follow God's word. We believe that God's word is truth (John 17:17) and as such God's word should serve as the foundation of all of our decisions regarding our families, our priorities, and our relationships with others.



Loving

As God's people we believe that in order for us to grow in our discipleship our love should be directed first toward God and then toward others (Matt. 22:36-40). In an effort to follow what Jesus taught about this we strive to show others with our attitudes and our actions that our love for God comes first in our lives and in the lives of our families. Then growing out of our love for God comes a love for others that again is demonstrated by our attitudes and actions towards one another.

Learning

As God's people following the instructions of Jesus (Matt. 28:18-20) we believe learning to observe all He said is a vital part of our discipleship process. Recognizing that discipleship is a life long process, we strive to develop an attitude of continuous learning, in ourselves and in our children. We do this by taking every opportunity that we can to grow in our knowledge of God's word and how to better show Christ in our lives.



Being Transparent

As God's people we recognize that in order for us to truly grow in our discipleship it requires more than just learning His word, it requires us to live according to it. We can't do this as long as we keep our struggles and sins a secret. This is why the scriptures teach us the importance of sharing our struggles and of going to our brethren when we see them struggling. We believe that being open and transparent with each other about our struggles and our sins will allow us to receive the encouragement and correction we need to live a truly Christ like life (Matt. 18:15-17; James 5:16).

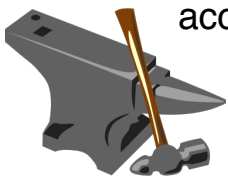
Leading

As God's people we recognize that part of our discipleship is learning to lead others to a deeper relationship with Christ (Matt. 5:14-16). Whether we are teaching them the gospel or how to live out the gospel in their lives we know that they will not need to just be told, but guided by us leading them with our own lives.



Being Accountable

As God's people we recognize that a key part of discipleship is being accountable for our choices. We know that there will be times that we will struggle to fulfill our commitments to our families, and that sometimes we will fall short of God's will. At these times we need our brothers and sisters to hold us accountable in love (Prov. 27:17; Gal. 6:1-4). We will strive to be open to correction from each other. We will also allow our brethren to hold us accountable for repentance and making the necessary changes.





In addition to strengthening our families we know that our children need peer relationships and opportunities to develop their faith independently from their parents. Here are some the opportunities that we will give them to do just this. Knowing that most of a child's discipleship and faith formation takes place in the home, please understand that these activities are meant to SUPPLEMENT what you are ALREADY DOING as a family and what we are doing as a church family. These activities by themselves are NOT enough to adequately disciple our children and are NOT meant as a replacement for role of parents in the discipleship process.

Faith Builder Activities:

Monthly Jr. Youth Group Activities



Teen Devotionals
Area Wide Teen Gatherings



Teach The Truth Commission

T 3



Vacation Bible School

Preacher Training Camp
Future Teacher Training Camp
Horizons
Church Camps

