

# VISION FORWARD

## How Did It Get So Complicated?

April 22, 2018

### The Old Testament Model vs. Jesus Model of the Church

- Sacred Places to Sacred People
- Sacred Texts to Sacrificial Servants
- Sacred Men to Accessible God
- Sincere Followers to Loving Community

Early Christians tried to assimilate Jesus' Model for the church into the Old Testament Model.

**Galatians 5: 1-6, 12 & 14** - It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. <sup>2</sup> Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all. <sup>3</sup> Again I declare to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law. <sup>4</sup> You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. <sup>5</sup> For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope. <sup>6</sup> For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

<sup>12</sup> As for those agitators, I wish they would go the whole way and emasculate themselves!

<sup>14</sup> For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Too often our traditions determine our religious realities rather than Biblical principles.

#### Jesus says

**John 13: 34, 35** - "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

#### Peter says

**I Peter 1: 22** - "...have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart.

#### John says

**I John 4: 11, 12** - Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

### Southridge Vision

Southridge Church, a community committed to seeking, sharing and serving our Savior.

### Ten Objectives to Fulfill God's Vision for Southridge

#### Seeking (Biblical)

*"Seek the Kingdom of God above all else."* (Luke 12: 31) NLT

##### 1. Intentional and Well Defined Discipleship

Continuing a path of spiritual growth for all Southridge participants from children through adults.

##### 2. Spirit Filled Worship

Creating biblically based, inspirational worship experiences that speaks relevantly and passionately to draw all participants into a greater commitment to Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

#### Sharing (Evangelical)

*"I do everything to spread the Good News and share it's blessings."*

*(I Corinthians 7: 23) NLT*

##### 3. Attraction of Unchurched

Maximizing opportunities for Southridge to draw those into our church family that do not have a church home while creating a friendly and welcoming church environment.

##### 4. Missions

Communicating the ministry that is taking place in the missions we support while initiating participation in mission service opportunities.

## **5. Communication**

Maximizing the use of the website, app, database and other media resources to maximize communication and enhance connections with individuals both in and outside our Southridge family.

## **6. Engaging the Next Generation**

Exhibiting a ministry that spiritually enriches youth and young adults, and attracts young families.

## **7. Multicultural Community**

Pursuing a leadership and congregation that reflects the diversity represented in the Kingdom of God.

## **Serving (Missional)**

*“Serve the Lord with enthusiasm” (Romans 12: 11) NLT*

## **8. Healing and Reconciliation**

Reaching out with prayer and anointing to hurting people and a broken world with the hope and healing of an amazing Savior and Lord.

## **9. Congregational Care**

Unleashing a spiritual process by which needs are communicated, prayed over, and provided for in a compassionate, comforting and encouraging manner.

## **10. Stewardship**

Understanding and using spiritual gifts while exhibiting wise financial stewardship principles.