

SUB-GROUPS FOR THE STUDY COMMITTEES

RESCUE FROM THE DARKNESS – Dealing with moral issues that lead to addiction and destruction.....

1. Topic questions for each area
 - a. What is the Biblical teaching regarding this act or behavior? Use Bible verses, stories, and contextual info that will show the passage to be relevant.
 - b. What is the latest data on this topic....impact on society, impact on schools, impact on churches, number of people affected, its growth currently, cost to society (health costs, criminal costs, family costs, etc).
 - c. Where can a person find the best up-to-date and reputable data on issues like these?
 - d. What age group is most affected and why? Is that stat true in our community?
 - e. Are there groups, churches, counselors, law enforcement, or agencies to help prevent this?
 - f. Is there help for folks dealing with this?
 - g. Should a church be involved or is this too large for direct help? Can we help through financial support of some group that is effective? If the need is volunteers, how can we enlist people?
 - h. What is our plan to become involved?

2. Topics that should be examined....
 - a. Sexual issues....
 - a. Adultery
 - b. Pedophilia
 - c. Porn
 - d. Homosexuality including gay rights movement and marriage
 - e. Youth oriented misconduct in sexual behavior including the internet
 - b. Abortion
 - c. Stem cell issues
 - d. Drug Addiction including alcohol and prescription drug abuse
 - e. Gambling – Lottery, Casino, any form
 - f. Violence in home, schools, and public sector
 - g. Spiritual ignorance, apathy, or hostility

SUPPORT FOR PARENTS

Helping parents to deal with all of the issues that are facing families today and are creating many families to disintegrate.....this would be things like....

- a. Divorce
- b. Abuse
- c. Blended families
- d. Single parenting
- e. Grandparents functioning as the “parents”
- f. Parents of teens who are drug addicts, drinkers, sexually promiscuous, etc.
- g. Parents who are the primary care giver for an aging and ill parent
- h. Course for teaching respect for authority when children are young
- i. Dealing with a special needs child – ADD, ADHD, Special needs that are physical or mental, etc.
- j. Help for parents with children battling cancer or long term illnesses
- k. Help for spouses where a spouse is dealing with long term illness
- l. Financial chaos in the home

INNOVATIVE MINISTRY

Finding niches where the church is not involved in caring for others but where we need to do research and determine if we should be involved.

- a. Providing help for boys who do not have a dad in the home.
- b. Providing training for teens and young adults who are irresponsible and need to learn “how” to live and be responsible.
- c. Providing help for the widows and widowers who have home or yard needs and no one to call to do minor repairs or work.
- d. Provide help for our Baptist agencies (and perhaps others) that care for battered women, crisis pregnancies, etc. Our role could be as simple as volunteering to answer phones during certain hours each week to painting, cooking, or transportation.
- e. Finding ways that we can do a better job of helping where the Disaster Relief teams have been working to do more for the team members and for special needs they might face.
- f. Provide materials and help for folks in hospitals, waiting rooms of clinics, care centers, retirement centers, etc.
- g. Hands on activities between Senior Adults and Young Adults in our church and from this to provide a ministry to every resident of Eagle Ridge Retirement Center.

CONFRONTING THE CULTURE

Research, define, and determine ways that our church (or any church) can and should be “effectively” engaging our culture with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We have seen over the years many methods used that alienated a culture from Christians and churches and insulated the church from the culture. How can we be “salt” that is applied to the culture to push back decay? How can we be “light” to lead them out of darkness and into God’s light? How can we have a voice in the public sector, an impact in the private sector, and an influence for Godliness in a dying culture?

Some of the areas that must be addressed....

1. Evangelism that is effective to people who are “blank” regarding any Biblical truth
2. Church “outside the walls”
3. Political responsibility of a Christian
4. Economic training and lifestyle that demonstrates the difference God can make in finances
5. Health issues that we should emulate and encourage others to do
6. Youth culture and its primary teachers....MTV, movies, internet, peers, etc.
7. Teaching a Christian world view within the church to make sure that church members understand how to take a stand on Biblical truth in changing times.

INNOVATIVE MISSION

Finding ways that we can be innovative in a changing world to be the church of the 21st century. Seek to determine methods and plans that would facilitate the lifestyle of people who no longer have Sundays free due to work schedules, or church buildings that are too small and need more space but choose not to build, or other issues that a new era raises that requires that we have a plan and are not caught by surprise....

Some things to be addressed....

1. Effective evangelism training.
2. Effective discipleship.
3. Sunday Morning Services at other times or nights during the week.
4. Church plants vs. larger buildings for worship.
5. Church service “broadcasts” to off site locations to enable us to have sites nearer to new growth areas where there is not a church building but where people could worship “in” FBCBA every week with a broadcast service.

6. Streaming
7. Texting and blog sites
8. Web site
9. Some type of site or service where people could text or call in questions about issues and get answers from a Christian viewpoint.
10. More work done with ethnic groups in Tulsa
11. More work with international students on our college campuses
12. More strategic plans for reaching children for Christ while they are children through sports, school, musical arts training, drama, etc.
13. Explore creating a Christian school
14. Find ways to get more of our people involved in deepening their knowledge through classes provided by Midwestern Seminary in our church.
15. Leadership training and development
16. Intensive and intentional Prayer ministry
17. Continually find newer and more effective ministries to men, women, and youth as the mission of the church.

INNOVATIVE INFRASTRUCTURE

Finding ways to help FBCBA be ready for the many challenges we will be confronting in the 21st century with all areas of operations....maintenance, storage, electrical power supply (wind, solar, other), water supply for property upkeep (example: should we find ways to tap our retention ponds for irrigation?), roads, building and HVAC upkeep (carpets, flooring, security, HVAC issues, etc.)

1. Property maintenance of all of our facilities – best use of dollars to keep property clean and functional. This would include equipment needs, manpower needs, maintenance schedules for large equipment, etc.
2. Roads – into and around the property....upkeep, striping, additional paving of areas, lighting, curbing, water runoff, policy for icing and upkeep thereafter, etc,
3. Power sources – wind, solar, etc. for the future
4. Water for property use for irrigation, fountains, and other uses....
5. Signage for our site
6. Plan to overhaul, rebuild, or replace HVAC units, carpeting, flooring, kitchen equipment, etc.
7. Plan to review the security of buildings and property.

CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW

Provide a plan to seek to make sure that every person has the exposure to be well equipped as a believer on what it means to face issues in our generation with a Biblical perspective. And, what are we doing (or should we be doing) to teach people the distinctive of our Baptist heritage and faith?

1. What do Baptists believe that set us apart? Where do we teach that? Should we be more aggressive in teaching it or are we moving from those distinctive?
2. What is a Christian worldview? Is it really that important?
3. What is filling the minds of people as their new “world view” since the Judeo-Christian viewpoint is past?
4. What materials should be available in the church or THE SOURCE to teach and reinforce that view point?
5. How does a world view affect young people? Adults? Home life? Political views? Business and financial decisions?
6. Where are the areas of life, and what are the signs that a Christian world view is no longer prevalent in the USA? What can a church(es) do to move to remedy that?
7. Do most Christians believe that they have a Christian world view? Do they? What would be the indicators?