

Chris Thompson M.Div., MA

3470 Nature Trail Ct, Perris CA, 92571 • (951) 230-8551 • Chris@LifeinHisHands.org

Ministry Objective

To be used of Christ to bring expository content through pastoring at a Christ-centered church that accepts the challenge of ministering and conveying the Gospel message to their community.

Education

Master of Divinity - Liberty University Baptist Theological Seminary, 2015

Master of Arts, Pastoral Counseling - Liberty University Baptist Theological Seminary, 2013

Bachelor of Science, Business Marketing - University of Phoenix, 2010

Ministry Experience

LEAD EVANGELIST/PREACHER, LIFE IN HIS HANDS CHRISTIAN MINISTRY - RIVERSIDE, CA (2013-CURRENT)

In this role, I've planted lead a ministry team to create evangelistic and expository public events. The goal is to reach the local community with Christian basic principals and allow non-church goers to ask questions in a comfortable atmosphere such as a park or coffee shop. All of our events end in an invitation to Christ. We regularly preach and attend events, festivals, and to homeless congregations.

BIBLICAL COUNSELOR; RIVERSIDE, CA (2013-CURRENT)

As a donation based Biblical Counselor I work with clients to find solutions to real life issues through the direction God has given. From marriage to depression, addiction to forgiveness, the Bible has an answer, and together we will find it and follow God's path. Areas of focus are: Marriage, Parenting, Blended Family/Step Family, Men's Issues, Stress, Guilt, Depression, Premarital Counseling, Faith and Spirituality, Understanding the Bible, and Patterns of Poor Choices.

CHRISTIAN RADIO SHOW HOST, THE LIFE IN HIS HANDS RADIO PROGRAM - 2014-2015

As host of The Life in His Hands Radio Program on KPRO AM 1570 at 7 AM Weekday mornings, I delivered a show dedicated to teaching the Good News of Jesus Christ. Each program focused on the Christian news of our day, Scriptural references relevant to our daily lives, defining terms of the Gospel, and a daily call to action.

PUBLISHER/MANAGING EDITOR, LIFE IN HIS HANDS CHRISTIAN NEWSPAPER; RIVERSIDE, CA (2013-2015)

Director of all aspects of a monthly Christian Newspaper in Southern California. Lead Christian article writer, lead proofreader, sales manager, promotions director, bookkeeper, photographer, copywriter, graphic designer, page layout director, marketing director, manager of distribution, public relations coordinator, director of editorial budgeting, and director of event coordinator for marketing and promotional purposes. We print stories about what God is doing in our communities, and distribute to locations where the community can find Jesus in our pages where they weren't expecting to find Him.

VOLUNTEER SERVICE (1994-CURRENT)

Sunday Morning Driver at Grove Community Church, Hume Lake Christian Camp Counselor, Bobby Sox Girls Softball Coach, Orangecrest Boys T-Ball Coach, Monthly Newspaper layout and Design for Yes We Can Community Newspaper, Quarterly Speaker for "Loving on Our Youth", RYFO Host Homes.

MEMBERSHIPS

American Association of Christian Counselors • Evangelical Press Association

Secular Vocational Experience

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER, MORENO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, HEMET USD (2016-CURRENT)

In this role I guide the learning and development of children ages 5-18 in the absence of a full-time credentialed classroom teacher. This position requires me to deliver leadership, follow detailed lesson plans in various subjects, keep to strict schedules, maintain safety, conduct disciplinary measures, and maintain order in the classroom in a fair and just manner.

PRINT ADVERTISING DIRECTOR, PEDDER AUTOMOTIVE GROUP (2015-2016)

Administered all print advertising for 10 automotive clients by leading and directing sales, pre-design, graphic design, ad traffic, mailing list data management, and coordination with all vendors. Met with clients weekly to manage future jobs. Leader of the graphic design production team. Saved automotive group \$40-\$50K per month and increased traffic an average of 400%

MARKETING DIRECTOR- CREATIVE DIRECTOR, THINK BIG; MURRIETA, CALIFORNIA (2015)

Director of 40-member direct mail print house, consisting of graphic designers, print house personal, and sales assistants. Tracked the effectiveness of all direct mail. Ordered all mailing lists. Sent proof and instructions to printers. Executed production for more than 40 dealerships. Maintained the constant flow of work from sales to layout, and final design to print, by leading a team of professionals.

LEAD PROMOTIONS MANAGER, AIR1 CHRISTIAN RADIO; YUCAIPA, CA (2012-2013)

Directed all efforts to build listenership throughout Southern California. Leader of the promotions staff and volunteers to create events that led to heightened interaction with listeners, and interactions with Christ. Authored commercial copy, interacted with listeners and created new local contacts, directed staff meetings, setting direction for next quarter/goals.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS REP, KAISER PERMANENTE; RIVERSIDE, CA (11/11-12/12)

Created and led internal communications using Adobe Creative Suite. Authored all newsletter content and photography while leading layout team design. Wrote press releases. Assisted with development of special media plans. Directed video content. Designed graphics for branded print media. Acted as liaison between city and KP. Approved all branded communications to ensure consistency of message.

MARKETING SPECIALIST, OMNITRANS; SAN BERNARDINO, CA (2010-2012)

Created newsletters, flyers, web banners, and coupons, and mass e-mail blasts. Managed all agency social media. Constructed written and photo content for print and electronic publications. Directed web development and management of both internal and external platforms. Monitored and evaluated social media ads. Secured print media space for specific print ads.

VOICE TALENT: RADIO PERSONALITY/AIR TALENT- BAKERSFIELD, CA, KINGMAN, AZ, PALMDALE, CA (1996-2006)

Worked in many radio stations hosting morning, afternoon, and evening programs. Managed hundreds of public events and live remotes. Public Address Announcer for Pop Warner Football, High School basketball, baseball, football, College Basketball, Volleyball, Soccer, ECHL Hockey, D-League Basketball, and Olympics 2004 West Coast Boxing Trials. Crowds from 10 to 10,000 people.

Skills

Mac, PC, Adobe Creative Cloud, Office, Google Drive, Skype, Bit.ly, WordPress, HipCricket, VolunteerSpot, Twitter, Hootsuite, YouTube, LinkedIn, Constant Contact, Directing Staff, Event coordination, Event promotions, E-mail campaign management, Graphic Design, Page layout, Social Media management, Voiceovers, Writer, Interviewing, Recruiting.

My Personal Doctrinal Statement

This Statement of Faith is the foundation to my ministry through Christ.

THE BIBLE

The Bible is the only inspired, infallible and authoritative Word of God, written by men divinely inspired, and is God's revelation of Himself to man. All Scripture is true and trustworthy.

GOD

There is one true God eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

GOD THE FATHER

God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, creatures, and the flow of human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all-powerful, all knowing, all loving, and all wise.

GOD THE SON

Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed the will of God, taking upon Himself human nature and identifying Himself completely with mankind yet without sin.

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, fully divine. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures. Through illumination He enables men to understand truth. He convicts men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He calls men to the Savior, and effects regeneration. At the moment of regeneration He baptizes every believer into the Body of Christ.

MAN

Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race.

SALVATION

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.

FAMILY

God has designed the family as the foundational establishment of human civilization. It is comprised of individuals related to one another by marriage, blood or adoption. Marriage is the joining of one man and one woman in covenant commitment.

Links:

<http://lifeinhishands.org/podcast/making-jesus-smile/>

<http://lifeinhishands.org/podcast/finding-jesus/>

<http://lifeinhishands.org/podcast/1-john-3-hope-jesus/>

My Personal Philosophy of Ministry

For me, there is no greater calling in life than to have an ongoing, growing, and personal relationship with Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior (John 5:23). I am honored to have the opportunity to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to His flock. Christ has given instructions that must be followed by the leaders He has chosen. These directives require sacrifice (Romans 12:1) and dedication. It is my prayer that I continually give all I have to the glory of Christ, and making Him known (Phil 2:14-16).

These instructions led to a healthy church body, one that can continue to grow in their faith in Jesus Christ. Both the church and the pastor must find these values as a path to gain a better understanding of the life that God has planned for them. These biblical values, all brought forth through the inerrant Word of God (2 Tim 3:16), govern my direction toward Christian living and ministry.

Prayer: A pastor and a church must start each day in prayer. As I pray for the church, I also ask for intercessory prayer from the church. To know that the church body, and its needs, is part of my prayer life is essential to continuing to grow into the leader God wants me to be to his flock. Knowing that the members and attendees of the church are bringing me to the Lord in their prayers also highlights the blessings of their kindness.

Praying without ceasing is exhorted to us by Paul in 1 Thessalonians 5:16. My prayers ask God to reveal His direction for the body of believers He has placed under my spiritual care, for the lost souls we have yet to find, and for my personal studies and ability to communicate His will to the church through His scriptures. I pray for God's work being conducted through the ministries of the church, and His hand of safety upon us (Romans 1:9; Philippians 1:3-11).

Committed to Spiritual Growth: As a pastor, each day must be layered with opportunities for spiritual growth and closeness to God. To become everything that God has created me to be, and to give to His church all that His will desires, I commit to grow in the spirit without reservation (Isaiah 61:3). This commitment also is to be made available to the church body by offering, through use of spiritual gifts, the avenues for others to grow in their faith (Phil 3:12-14).

Making Disciples: It is my responsibility, and the obligation of the church, to build up, equip, and make disciples for Jesus Christ. This is part of the process of spiritual maturity within a believer, and I have a call from God to teach, train, and send out a new group of leaders for the next generation of God's children (John 17:18; John 20:21; 2 Timothy 3:10-17).

On Mission: The church and myself as a pastor must be on continual mission to fulfill the Great Commission. With an evangelistic mindset, we must work diligently to bring people to Christ. From the pulpit to the streets, neighborhoods to the workplace, it is the main reason for the church as a whole, to work to bring lost souls to Jesus Christ. As a pastor, it is my responsibility to make sure that the proper opportunities, teaching, and training, exist to involve the congregation in evangelism (Acts 6).

Spiritual Gifts: All of God's children have been blessed with spiritual gifts for the purpose of advancing the gospel message. We are to be a light and salt to the earth by using of what God has given us. I pledge to use my gifts to glorify His kingdom, and to enrich the flock with an understanding of their own gifts. Some will excel in administration, some in children's ministries, and some in labor. All together, a church, and body of Christ must use these gifts to show to others the assurances of God's grace (Matthew 25:14-30).

Preaching, Teaching, and Exhorting: I have been called to teach and preach, and this is a call that requires exhorting others to grow in their walk (1 Thess 5:14). Not all topics of concern are going to be comfortable, but confronting sin is necessary to help others grow in their faith and step further from sin. Preaching, teaching, and exhorting members of the church, is to follow God's path as a pastor and to lead His church to His will in obedience. (Titus 2:6-8)

Living by Example: My life as a pastor is to be above reproach, an example to others, and Christlike in nature (1 Corinthians 11:1). I am to imitate those who came before me, joining in the example of Jesus, Paul, Peter, and the other disciples (Phil 3:17; 1 Cor 4:16; 1 Peter 5:3). These examples are to show others a life lived with integrity (Eph. 5:4), Godly thoughts and actions (Phil 4:8), and a defense for the faith that I have in Jesus Christ (2 Tim 3:15-16).

Counsel: It has been laid upon my heart to counsel those within and outside the church. From the marriage that is struggling, to the lonely, to the person who is battling a pattern of wrong choices, I have been called to minister in a setting more intimate than the pulpit when needed. There are many people who would speak with their pastor in person if they knew that they could. This offering is a part of allowing spiritual growth to God's children with 1-on-1 directions.

My convictions regarding:

The Role of Church Leaders:

The role of church leadership is to guide the body, relying on Christian principles. Leaders, including the Senior Pastor, must continue their walk of spiritual growth, discipleship, and dedication to bringing the message of the cross to all people within their reach. This group of dedicated Christians should come together with one goal and bring glory to God in the service they provide to the body.

The leadership of the church should be casting the vision for the church. Accordingly, the leadership should work to provide the tools to reach the goals of the vision, and the resources to guide and measure the accomplishment of the tasks needed. All goals must be obtainable and measurable, traceable, and given opportunity to succeed.

Furthermore, the church leaders are to shepherd the flock that are under their care. They need to be able to recognize areas of the Christian life that are missing a firm foundation from the growth of the church membership/attendees. These areas need to be addressed from a leadership standpoint so to fill the spiritual gaps in the life of the believers.

Discipleship:

One of the main responsibilities of the church is to train up disciples who become leaders within the church, within the community, and in the world. It is important that a church offer the opportunities for men and women to be able to come into positions that allow them to learn about serving, to serve, and eventually be able to train others.

Discipleship is the path to spiritual growth. Jesus commanded His disciples to "go out" and show compassion, love, and miracles. Before He sent them, however, He had to train them in His words and ways. Just as the church must have a developed plan for growth, the church must also have a strategy to plant, water, and grow disciples.

This blueprint will engage the hand of God, His providence over the church membership, the leadership, and the community. You cannot grow disciples without God, and He cannot grow disciples without willingness of His body of believers to teach and train those who He has chosen to raise up for His purposes. If a church is not working to make disciples, a church is not working.

Evangelism:

Evangelism is the product of discipleship, is a verb or action, and is a command of Jesus Christ to His disciples, and to the church. We must be intentional in our evangelism. We must realize that true evangelism will require us to take the gospel message outside the four walls of the church, as uncomfortable as it may be at times, and to speak with others about the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Included in the message of our evangelism must be the preaching of the necessity of the cross of Christ in our salvation, the fact that Christ rose from the dead, the fact that He is Lord of all heaven, earth, and His church, and the fact that people must believe in the truthfulness of this message. A watered-down evangelism can, at times, do more harm than good. To speak this word to our communities through intentional involvement is at the core of the Great Commission.

Church Government:

First and foremost, Christ is the head of the body, which is the church (Colossians 1:18). Everything the church does, says, sees, touches, and hears, must be done with Him, through Him, and for Him. No earthly leadership should, at any time, take authority from His sovereign nature.

This being said, His word has given the church a direction as to how best to govern His body. My convictions state that the church should be led by a man selected through prayer and blessing of the church body. This man should be entrusted with the responsibility to preach the word of God to the flock, to enlist the leadership of others, to teach biblical principles, to train up disciples, to coordinate the day-to-day activities of the church, to provide counseling, to generate the vision of the church, and to lead by example.

There must be, however, oversight from the church body in some areas of ministry functions. Honest and Christ-led leaders should be employed (either by pay or volunteer) to assist with treasury, prayer teams, children's programs, and various administrative duties. This government, if elder based or congregation based, must work for the betterment of the church to achieve biblical goals set for the body (Eph 4:11-13). The Senior Pastor should be an ex officio member of all ministries, departments, committees, and organizations within the church.

Community Outreach:

The church must be a caring neighbor in their community. Ministries for the needy, the underserved, the homeless, the imprisoned, the widowed, and the orphaned should be a part of the vision of the church. With the heart of Christ, the local church has a duty to show His kindness and love for the community, serving all groups in need. This responsibility must be planned and systematic in nature, making resources available via the spiritual gifts of the members/attendees of the church.

References:

RJ McCauley, Youth Pastor Magnolia Church
rj.mccauley@magonline.com 951-840-0592

Chris Folly, Music Director Unified Baptist Church
chrislicks@live.com. 951-283-2361

Ethel Miller, Publisher - Supervisor. Yes We Can Newspaper
ethelmiller@yeswecannewspaper.com (909) 973-2927