

G42

“The DNA”

Mission

G42 exists to mobilize Christ-followers to plant or lead missional communities that establish the Kingdom of God around the world. We aim to empower leaders who are passionate about giving their lives to Christ and His message of radical love.

Core Convictions

- There is one true God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.¹
- God reveals His nature and His purposes in the Bible which, being divinely inspired, is fully trustworthy and authoritative for training us in righteousness². We believe that all scripture points us to Christ, and we follow the scriptures to become more like Him.³
- God created humankind in His own image⁴ and called us to relate to and partner with Him in the stewardship of all creation⁵. That relationship was broken in the sins of Adam and Eve and has been broken by all since.⁶
- God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to restore all that was broken, to offer His sinless life as an atonement for all who place their faith in Him⁷. God raised his Son from the dead and made him Lord over all, to the glory of God the Father⁸.
- Jesus invites His followers, the church, to return to the partnership set out at creation, to serve Him and His purposes and to enable effective ministry that advances the Kingdom of Christ on earth⁹.
- God has given the Holy Spirit to us today, to catalyze faith in Christ¹⁰ and to empower godly living¹¹, compelling community and ministry that authentically and supernaturally demonstrates the Kingdom of God.¹²

¹ Genesis 1:1-3, John 1:1-5

² 2 Timothy 3:15-17, 1 Peter 1:20-21

³ John 5:39

⁴ Genesis 1:26

⁵ Genesis 1:28

⁶ Romans 3:23, Romans 5:12

⁷ John 3:17, 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 John 2:2

⁸ Acts 2:24, 32-33

⁹ John 17:21-26

¹⁰ John 14:26; John 15:26, John 16:13-14

¹¹ Galatians 5:16-17, 22-23

¹² 1 Corinthians 2:4-5

What is the point? - The Primary Message of Jesus, the Dream of God, and the Gospel

Q. What was the primary message of Jesus Christ?

A. The Kingdom of God is at hand¹³

Q. What is the Kingdom of God?

A. Jesus gives us many parables and stories describing the Kingdom of God. At its most simple, however, the Kingdom of God is the domain over which He reigns. Where His will is done.¹⁴ Where what He commands is followed¹⁵.

Q. What are His greatest Commandments?

A. That we love Him and one another¹⁶

Q. How do we come to love Him and one another?

A. By first realizing that He loves us.¹⁷ **We believe we were born to be loved.**

Q. How do we come to realize He loves us?

A. The Bible defines the word love by pointing us to Christ.¹⁸ We see God's love for us demonstrated principally in Christ's sacrificial death for us.¹⁹ Often, this realization process begins when we are loved by someone else who is filled with the love of God.²⁰ The Holy Spirit then works to reveal Christ to us²¹. The Holy Spirit accomplishes this work through all of creation, including scripture, nature, art, music, and personal revelation to take us deeper in our experience of God's love.²²

Q. What is the Dream of God?

A. That mankind would be reunited to Him in love and united with each other in love.²³ That the same love He has for us, might exist and grow to others,²⁴ and in this way, His glory would cover the earth as the waters cover the seas.²⁵ In a very real sense, WE ARE the dream of God when we receive His love and manifest it to others.

Q. What is the Gospel that Jesus preached and asks us to preach?

A. The Gospel of the Kingdom of God²⁶

¹³ Matthew 4:17, Mark 1:15, Luke 4:43

¹⁴ Matthew 6:10

¹⁵ Matthew 7:21

¹⁶ Matthew 22:36-40, Mark 12:28-34

¹⁷ 1 John 4:19, 1 John 4:11

¹⁸ 1 John 3:16

¹⁹ Romans 5:8, 1 John 4:10, 1 John 3:16, John 15:13

²⁰ John 17:26, John 15:9, John 13:35

²¹ John 15:26, John 16:13-14

²² Psalm 19:1, Acts 14:17, Acts 17:28, Romans 1:19-20, 1 Thessalonians 1:5

²³ John 17:21

²⁴ John 17:26

²⁵ Habakkuk 2:14

²⁶ Mark 1:14-15, Matthew 9:35

Q. What is the Gospel (Good News) of the Kingdom of God?

A. That God is love and light and in Him there is no darkness.²⁷ He is reestablishing his reign, now, on earth, to reverse all oppression²⁸ and restore love as the only law²⁹. Jesus Christ reveals who God is³⁰, and has removed every barrier between you and the God of love³¹. He came to live as an example of this way of life in love³² and be the firstborn among many who will help establish this Kingdom of love on earth³³. His sacrificial death is the ultimate sign and proof of this love³⁴, it frees us from the death consequence of our sins³⁵, and delivers us from any power the devil had over us³⁶. His resurrection is the proof that He has conquered death once and for all³⁷, and extends everlasting life to us now, and into eternity³⁸.

In light of this incredible news, be reconciled with your Father God who made you to love you.³⁹ Repent and turn away from an empty life lived for your own desires⁴⁰, and receive the abundant life found in His love⁴¹. Enter the Kingdom He is bringing to earth now, by being born again as child of God through faith in Jesus Christ, who displays this love.⁴² Let His love grow in your heart like a seed grows in the dirt⁴³, and it will overflow from within you⁴⁴. Remain in His love⁴⁵, and extend his love to everyone, even your enemies⁴⁶. In doing this, you join in advancing his Kingdom which will expand until it covers the whole earth.⁴⁷

Q. How do we enter the Kingdom of God?

A. By being “born again” through faith in Jesus Christ⁴⁸. This includes confessing His lordship over us, and choosing to become subjects of Jesus Christ the King. It also includes believing that Jesus is the exact representation of God⁴⁹, that His death for us is the proof of God’s love⁵⁰, and that His resurrection occurred as proof of His divinity⁵¹.

Q. What are we to do as subjects in the Kingdom of God?

A. Love Him with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength and love our neighbor as ourselves⁵². We are to produce the fruit of the Kingdom, which is principally love from a pure heart⁵³.

²⁷ 1 John 4:8, 1 John 1:5

²⁸ Luke 4:18

²⁹ Matthew 22:36-40, Mark 12:28-34

³⁰ John 14:9-10, Hebrews 1:2-3

³¹ Ephesians 2:14, 2 Corinthians 5:18-19

³² 1 John 3:16, Ephesians 5:1-2

³³ Romans 8:29

³⁴ Romans 5:8, 1 John 3:16, John 3:14-15

³⁵ Romans 6:23, 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 2:24

³⁶ 1 John 3:8, Hebrews 2:14-15

³⁷ Hebrews 2:14, 1 Corinthians 15:57

³⁸ John 3:16, 1 Corinthians 15:20

³⁹ 2 Corinthians 5:20, John 17:23

⁴⁰ Matthew 10:39

⁴¹ John 10:10

⁴² John 3:3

⁴³ Matthew 13:31

⁴⁴ John 7:38

⁴⁵ John 15:10

⁴⁶ Matthew 5:44-48

⁴⁷ Habakkuk 2:14, 1 Corinthians 15:23-26, Revelation 11:15

⁴⁸ John 3:3

⁴⁹ Hebrews 1:3, John 14:8

⁵⁰ 1 John 3:16

⁵¹ Romans 10:9

⁵² Matthew 22:36-40, Mark 12:28-34

⁵³ 1 Timothy 1:5

Core Values - Our core values come from the *stated* and *implied* “greatest commandments” Jesus taught us in Matthew 22 and Mark 12

1. Be Loved (by God) – We believe that we love God because He first loved us. We believe that the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ reveals the depth of God’s love for us. God is perfect love, and His plan is to expand that love on the earth. We were born to be loved!

This first core value empowers the other three, because only through His love for us, can we truly love Him back, be secure and love who He made us to be, and love others around us.

John 15:12 / 1 John 4:19 / Romans 5:8 / 1 John 4:8

2. Love God – We believe that our response to the love of God is to give our heart, soul, and mind to Him in love. We believe that loving God looks like turning away from a life done “our way”, and choosing to become like Christ.

Matthew 22:37 / Mark 12:30 / John 14:15 / Luke 10:27

3. Love Yourself – We believe that we were created in the image of God, and as sons and daughters of God, we have unsurpassable worth. We believe that as we give up our old “ego centered” self, we truly discover, and can love, our real “Christ looking” self. We walk in the confidence of Christ in us, which allows us to be at ease with ourselves, and have nothing to prove or need. From this security, we can live a life focused on God, and others.

Genesis 1:27 / Galatians 2:20 / Colossians 1:27/ Matthew 22:39/ 2 Peter 1:3-4 / Psalm 139:13-15 / Ephesians 2:10 / Philippians 4:11-13

4. Love Others – We believe that the main expression of how we love God is in how we love others. We believe that the primary mark of a follower of Christ is that we love and serve one another - including those who don’t love us. We look to Jesus as our example of servant leadership, and biblical descriptions of love, to see how we should live this in our day to day.

Matthew 22:39 / Mark 12:31 / Matthew 5:44 / 1 Corinthians 13/ John 15:12 / John 13:34 / Philippians 2:3-7

Four Steps - The four steps of living out the Core Values of the Kingdom:

- 1. Awakening** – When we learn of God’s love for us, in Christ, and choose to give our lives completely to Him. We do this by choosing Christ as our Lord, and being baptized into new life. This can also be understood as being “born again”⁵⁴.
- 2. Discipleship** – How we learn to become like Christ, live in freedom, and love ourselves and others. We develop this process by following the scriptures and learning from others who follow Christ⁵⁵. We are given his image, and through discipleship, we choose to be formed into his likeness.⁵⁶ As we walk through this process, we are also called to actively disciple others and point them to Christ.⁵⁷
- 3. Church/Community** – Where we express His love to each other in our day to day lives, and encourage each other in love⁵⁸. We do this by spending time with each other, sharing life and meals as we can, and building covenantal relationships--much like the Greek *Koinonia*.⁵⁹
- 4. Advancing the Kingdom** – How we expand God’s Kingdom to our cities and nations, by loving those who don’t know God, and reuniting them to Him. We do this by seeking to reverse the oppression of those around us, and pointing them to the God of love revealed in Jesus Christ. As they are awakened to His love, and choose Him as Lord, His Kingdom expands, and the cycle of steps begins again in a new life.

⁵⁴ John 3:3, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 4:21-25, Ezekiel 36:26

⁵⁵ 2 Timothy 3:16, John 8:31-32, 1 Corinthians 4:16, 1 Corinthians 11:1, Philippians 3:17

⁵⁶ Galatians 4:19, Ephesians 4:15, Philippians 2:12-13

⁵⁷ 2 Timothy 2:2, Matthew 28:19-20

⁵⁸ Hebrews 10:24-25

⁵⁹ Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 133:1, Acts 4:32, 1 Peter 4:8-11

Ministry Distinctives

- **We emphasize interdenominationalism.**
The main thing is to make the main thing the main thing. We are tolerant of a variety of beliefs and practices within the mainstream of Christian practice. Where there is excess, we seek to be a force for moderation.
- **We emphasize the unity of the body of Christ.**
We are ministers of reconciliation. We seek to bring pastors and churches together in ministry. We do not exalt certain gifts, but we understand that the body of Christ needs them all to be balanced.
- **We emphasize partnership through the local church.**
We aim to plant local church communities, which, while distinct, also live in partnership with existing local church bodies. We do not seek to be against anyone, but rather for the Kingdom and look to partner with and serve others where we can.
- **We emphasize discipleship over evangelism.**
We understand that Jesus did not call us to get people to say a prayer but to enter into a lifestyle. We balance boldness with love. We look for opportunities to be witnesses, but we seek to ensure follow-up.
- **We emphasize the church without walls.**
We go to those needing ministry rather than expecting them to come to us. The Church is not a building or a denomination.
- **We emphasize ministry to the poor, the oppressed, and the hopeless.**
Our ministry focus is on the lost sheep that society shuns. In a given city, we will go to that darkest and most hopeless place first.
- **We emphasize listening to God and responding.**
We believe God speaks. And when he does, we need to respond accordingly. When he says go, we go. When he says stay, we stay. We believe intimacy with the Father enhances the ability to recognize his voice: “my sheep know my voice” (John 10:27). And because we know God is the one speaking, we trust and obey.
- **We emphasize making and mobilizing disciples.**
At our core, we are a discipleship organization. Our desire is that God would use us to raise up a generation of radically committed disciples of Christ and send them out to the nations. We believe this is our part in fulfilling the Great Commission.
- **We emphasize the empowerment of people to go and grow something.**
Our programs intentionally empower participants to be part of something that matters. We want to cultivate long-term, global change in people and projects that will continue long after our work is done. We have a kingdom-of-God paradigm that is bigger than just the reach of our ministry, and we encourage participants to adopt the same mindset.
- **We emphasize people before projects.**
As a discipleship organization, we highly value people. Although projects are necessary and exciting, we make decisions with people as our primary concern. All projects should empower the people working on them as well as benefit those included in them.