

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES

Jesus is our model and goal for growth (development).

Luke 2:40, 52; Romans 8:29; Ephesians 4:15

Jesus is our model and leader for ministry (servanthood).

Matthew 9:35, 10:1,5-8, 11:1; John 20:21

People are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-28).

Whole,
Choice (Deut. 30:19; Joshua 24:15),
Intelligent,
Spirit,
Ability.

Growth is God's intention for all people (prior to and after sin). God's intentions are for growth in all aspects of life toward conformity with Christ Jesus. This includes growth spiritually, socially, physically and in wisdom regarding the first three. Jeremiah 29:11 and others.

Relationships are at the heart of our life and development.

WITH GOD
WITH SELF
WITH OTHERS
WITH CREATION

Sin has affected all relationships and all of creation, resulting in brokenness.

The Gospel is the power of God for salvation (whole). Romans 1:16.

Salvation pertains to all aspects of life.

Repentance and faith are at the heart of change. Mark 1:15.

First in importance pertains to sin and faith in Christ Jesus, second is repentance and faith regarding His word and truth in all aspects of life and society.

Jesus-style learning cycle, following Mark 1:15.

Development is an incremental process involving people's growth in understanding, choosing, cooperating, learning skills and accomplishing plans of action, towards God's intentions for them. Isaiah 28:9-10.

Critical thinking and awareness is part of development, so that people can better choose and pursue God's intentions. Isaiah 28:23-29.

Local churches are to model and proclaim God's good intentions and the gospel of Jesus Christ, demonstrating what the kingdom of God is like. Ephesians 3:10.

Development involves growth of individuals, families, groups and communities, cities and nations. There are principles and dynamics at each level which influence the others.

People need help to grow/develop. Matthew 10:8; John 20:21.

Facilitation and servant skills can be used to best help people develop.

Relief (free gifts) can be used to help people get started in development or to save them from disaster, but must be wisely blended with encouragement, love, teaching and training, challenge and other developmentally helpful services.

The development servant, in order to best serve people, should enter their lives through their culture, life and needs. (Incarnational)

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