



Our Theology of Mission

We do not have a mission of our own, we participate in the mission of God in the world. At NewHope we emphasise three aspects of our role in this mission.

Kingdom • Jesus • Disciples

Together we proclaim the kingdom of God.

God's kingdom is the range of God's effective will. It is the all encompassing, eternal and loving rule of our creator God (Ps 103:19, 1 Cor 4:20), promised through ancient Israel (Isa 9:7) and a central theme of the bible.

God's kingdom has come and is coming. The healing and righteous reign of the Creator has already arrived in Jesus Christ (the Messiah), AND it is yet to come in its fullness and all embracing supremacy (1 Cor 15:24, Luke 13:29). We are always seeking the kingdom in our daily experience (Mark 4:26-33, Matt 6:33), and waiting for it's ultimate unfolding in the new creation (Rev 11:15, 21:1-5). We pray, 'your kingdom come' (Matt 6:10).

Proclaiming the good news about God's kingdom is what Jesus did and what he instructed his disciples to do (Luke 4:43, 9:2, Matt 4:23, 10:7-8). It is what Peter (2 Peter 1:11), Philip (Acts 8:12) and Paul did (Acts 28:23,31) and so it is what we do as well. We are co-workers for the kingdom (Col 4:11).

What difference are we seeking to make?

Lives grounded in the freeing reality that there is One who is greater than 'I'.

People Affirm: There is a God who loves me.

People experience a sense of love and belonging, a relief from pretending, an emerging purpose, and true hope.

Together we make Jesus known.

Jesus opens the way for us. He rescues us from the kingdom of darkness and brings us into God's kingdom. He welcomes us, heals us, and gives us abundant life (Luke 9:11, John 10:9-10, Col 1:13). He takes away sin and reconciles the world to God (John 1:29, Heb 9:28, 2 Cor 5:18-20). Jesus' cross and empty tomb are the centre of his extraordinary story of participation in God's mission and we are invited to join ourselves to him by faith – to participate in Jesus' death and resurrection – so we can live a new life (Matt 11:29-30, John 5:24, Rom 6:4).



Jesus is our living hope. At this very moment he is both with us (incarnation) and with our heavenly Abba-Father (ascension). He prays for us, mentors us and gives us the Holy Spirit enabling us to enter fully into God's kingdom. He asks us to put our undivided trust in him – to believe he is the truth, the way and the life (John 14:6). We must be ready to give witness to our experience of his love, peace, forgiveness and joy. (1 Peter 1:3, 3:15).

What difference are we seeking to make?

Lives grounded in the Good News of who Jesus is.

People Affirm: Jesus is my saviour and Lord; my model and mentor.

People experience friendship with Jesus, purpose anchored in eternity, and genuine grace as something received and something to be offered.

Together we make disciples.

Disciples are servants in God's kingdom and learners who are being mentored by the living Lord, Jesus Christ (Matt 4:19, Rev 1:6). We practice habits of formation, inherited from centuries of tradition, that align our will and ways with God. Disciples mature into Christ-likeness (Eph 4).

Disciples form community and exercise care for each other. Together we proclaim the kingdom of God and make Jesus known (Acts 6:1-7, Eph 4:32). We go through hardships together, share blessings and build each other up in faith (Acts 14:22, Heb 10:24-25). We do good work (Matt 5:16, Eph 2:10, Phil 2:13). Jesus instructed us to make disciples and we expect the number of disciples to grow. (Matt 28:19, Acts 6:7).

What difference are we seeking to make?

Lives grounded in the Way of Jesus.

People Affirm: Jesus defines my identity, shapes my character, and gives me a pattern for loving God, others and creation.

People experience the vitality of faith and life in the Spirit, and joyfully share stories of God's work and active presence.