

## The Ministry Of The Holman Family

**Preach** the gospel.  
**Respond** to need.  
**Equip** the church.

### Mission Statement

Through strategically working in, with and through local churches, we seek to **preach** the gospel of Jesus Christ, **respond** to and meet the holistic needs of people, and **equip** the local church to do the same.

### Summary of Strategy

As one studies the life of Jesus, who is both our Role Model and our Teacher, one discovers that He did three basic things. He **preached** the Kingdom of God calling people to repentance and faith. He **responded** to the needs of those around Him. He **equipped** the disciples (later the leaders of the church). We believe that this is the true heart of making disciples of all nations. In all that we do, we will preach the gospel—but preaching the gospel is not all that we do. We will seek to respond to the holistic life needs of those around us, using that need meeting as an illustration of the love of God for them and as a means to explain the love of God to them. We will also seek to constantly develop and strengthen the local church(es) that we work with. Our goal is a multiplication of ministry in which the local church can **Preach, Respond and Equip** as well.

### Ministry In Action

If there is any one thing that differentiates the ministry of the Holmans from other ministries it is this: **We seek to respond to what God is doing at a particular moment in a specific context.** What this means is that we don't focus on one ministry.

Most missionaries, and most ministries, have an approach illustrated in the following manner. “ ‘X’ is what we do. ‘X’ is all that we do. If something other than ‘X’ needs to be done, then someone else must do it.” Other ministries set goals and evaluate themselves on the quantifiable accomplishment of ‘X’.

We do not view our ministry as a hammer and spend all of our time looking for a nail. Instead, we view our ministry as a toolbox. We seek to discern what God is doing, and then open our toolbox to discover if we have the giftedness or resources to be a part of it. Rather than having one specific goal

leading us to one unique action, we have a general goal. We want to invest all that we are into all that He is doing. We evaluate ourselves by our fruit. The question is: can we see people coming to Christ, the church growing, and lives being changed by our ministry? Our goal, which makes us different from other ministries, is not to accomplish a specific activity. It is to seek, in whatever we do, to bring glory to God.

This is how Jesus accomplished His ministry. He glorified the Father in all that He did. He also responded to what the Father was doing. Consider the ministries of Jesus and you discover that He had a very general ministry.

He had:

- an evangelistic ministry (preaching),
- a medical ministry (healing),
- a social ministry (feeding),
- a deliverance ministry (casting out demons),
- a teaching ministry (in the synagogues and open air),
- a crusade ministry (open air evangelism),
- a discipleship ministry (the 70),
- a mentoring ministry (the apostles),
- a pastoral ministry (the Good Shepherd)
- a prayer ministry (often went to pray),
- and a political ministry (confronting the Pharisees and Saduccess) just to name a few.

All the while, **His main purpose was to go to Calvary and die for the sins of the world.** He never deviated from His purpose, yet was able to do so many things that the Book of John says all of the books in the world could not contain a record of His works.

We seek to follow the example of our Lord. We fast and pray as we walk in the power of the Holy Spirit. Our goal is to discover what God is doing and then to join Him in accomplishing His purpose. Our main ministry is to develop the leadership of local churches. However, while this is our main ministry, along the way we do many other things...as many other things as we can do, limited only by our human abilities and resources. On the strategic plan side, this makes it difficult to follow the typical North American business model with a vision statement and quantifiable goals (notice that I said North American model-it is not a Biblical model). I know this because I teach pastors how to do this, and have led all three churches I pastored to develop a strategic plan. Our plan is to constantly invest ourselves in the Kingdom of God seeking to impact as many people as possible. Our measurement of success is not found in the accomplishment of a preset numerical goal per se, it is seen in our fruit

and effectiveness. Instead of seeing who we are by looking at our numerical goal in the accomplishment of “X”, one can view our **Core Values** and get a glimpse of the heart of our ministry. We seek to do as much as possible, in as many ways as possible, to help as many people as possible know Jesus. Throughout it all, we never deviate from the bedrock of our **Statement of Faith**.

## Statement of Faith

- **The Scriptures:** Verbally inspired, inerrant and infallible Word of God.
- **God the Father:** He is Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable.
- **God the Son:** Fully God yet He became Fully Man. Born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died an atoning death on the cross, was bodily resurrected and has ascended to the right hand of the Father.
- **God the Holy Spirit:** Fully God in all of His attributes, equal to the Father and the Son. He is of the same nature as They are. He calls, convicts, regenerates, fills, abides and seals the believer.
- **Satan:** One of three archangels. He chose to sin and led 1/3 of the created angels with him. He is the current 'god of this present age', and is a real and evil person. He is created, and has no final authority or power over the infinite and omnipotent Lord! He was defeated at Calvary.
- **Creation:** God created everything out of nothing. Genesis 1 and 2 are historical narratives about real people and real events.
- **The Fall of Man:** Adam chose to rebel against God, and in that rebellion all of humanity entered a fallen estate of depravity—necessitating a rebirth and a new nature.
- **Redemption from Sin:** Jesus Christ paid the penalty for all of our sins, and will completely forgive us when we, by faith alone and through His grace, trust Him.
- **Salvation:** Salvation from the penalty, presence and power of sin is found in the name of Jesus Christ alone. He is the way, truth and life. Salvation is by grace alone through faith alone.
- **The Church:** The local church is the expression of the body of Jesus Christ, and is gifted by the Holy Spirit to be capable of worship, evangelism, and training. The church is the means by which God will do His work in the world. The universal church consists of all those, from all times, who have placed their faith in Jesus Christ.

- **The Ordinances:** These point to the saving work of Jesus Christ. Baptism by immersion after salvation is an illustration of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, as well as my personal faith in Him. Communion is a memorial service calling back to the forefront of our mind the life, death and resurrection of Jesus as we seek to let Him live through us.
- **The Resurrection.** The third day after He was buried, Jesus rose from the dead in His body. One day, every person will also be resurrected in their body—some to everlasting life (those who by faith have trusted Christ), and others to everlasting wrath.
- **The Return of Christ:** Jesus will return with His church to establish a new Heaven and a New Earth. This return is imminent.
- **The Mission of the Church:** The church is to evangelize the lost in all the world, making disciples of all nations, teaching them to love the Lord with all their heart, soul, mind and spirit and equipping them to worship God and serve humanity.

## Core Values

- To know and follow Jesus Christ is the single most important thing in all of eternity. In everything that we do, the gospel will be proclaimed clearly and in a culturally relevant manner.
- The Bible is the revealed Word of God and is our sole and final authority.
- God's basic unit is the family. Strong families produce strong churches that change nations. We will seek to be and to help other families become, strong and stable homes.
- The church is the body of Christ and the Holy Spirit has uniquely gifted her to accomplish His purpose. All that we do is done in, with, through and for local churches. We seek to be actively involved in both serving and equipping the local church.
- The Kingdom of God is the purpose of our ministry, therefore we will partner with local churches and other evangelical ministries if our partnership can enable either them or us to further God's Kingdom.
- Everything is dependent upon Spirit-filled, Christ-like leadership. We will seek to disciple and equip the leaders of the church(es).
- The heart of discipleship is becoming like Jesus Christ and bearing the fruit of the Holy Spirit. Our discipleship is focused on character and life-change.
- God's truth is eternal and changeless. We are not. We will seek to constantly grow and become better both as individual followers of Christ and as a ministry. All that we do is open to change if that change will produce more fruit.
- God wants us to invest all that we are into His Kingdom. Therefore, anything that we can do and that the Holy Spirit leads us to do is our ministry. Our question, when presented with an opportunity is: "Can we help with this?" If our spiritual gifts, resources and abilities can be used to further God's Kingdom, we seek to invest them.
- We seek to be General Practitioners rather than Specialist. By this we mean that we want to constantly be open to what God is doing and how we can join Him instead of focusing solely on one aspect of ministry.

- The needs of the poor are to be met through followers of Christ. We will seek to provide for their needs both *because of the gospel* of Jesus Christ (He has told us to) and *in order to proclaim* the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- The heart of leadership is to enable and to delegate. It is more important to help things get accomplished than it is to do them yourself. Our ministry will seek to multiply our effectiveness through enabling others to impact the Kingdom of God. The more a leader grows, the more a leader accomplishes through others.