

## **Philosophy of Ministry**

We believe the most important thing is that every person affiliated with our program grows to love God with all of their heart. (Mark 12:30-31)

We believe that the influence of a young man's family is the most important influence in his life. Therefore, it is the utmost of importance that his family and our ministry work together on the same page.

We want to help our people 'fulfill their God-given potential.' We focus on the following:

- Spiritual growth (Heart and Soul)
- Academic growth (Mind)
- Growth in leadership (Strength)
- Emotional growth (Love Yourself)
- Relational growth (Love your Neighbor)

We believe 'relationships change lives.' (Mark 12:30-31)

- Relationship with God
- Relationship with others

We want to help our people 'experience scripture.' (John 11:28-36)

• Truth alone cannot be fully accepted until it is experienced

We believe no person can fulfill their full potential until they feel safe in environment and in relationship. (Mark 2:13-17; Luke 19:1-10)

We believe in investing into a child as soon as possible. The earlier we invest in a child, the greater the opportunity for success. (Proverbs 22:6)

We believe that our people could have emotional hurts that need to be healed by walking in the light. These hurts affect their ability to fulfill potential and to experience life to the fullest. (John 10:10)

- God heals through the light of his Word (Psalm 119:105)
- God heals through the light of Jesus exposing darkness by the conviction of the Holy Spirit (John 8:12; 12:35)
- God heals through the light of his people in trusting relationships (Matt 5:14)



We believe there are 4 different stages through which the young man deals with the lack of relationships with his father.

- Curiosity stage
  - Early childhood
  - "I wonder why I don't have a father around"
- Anger stage
  - Teenage years
  - o "I hate my father, and I'm glad he's not around"
- Forgiveness stage
  - Late teens/early adulthood
  - "I want to get rid of this anger in my heart. I want to be obedient to God and trust his way is better"
- Rebuilding stage
  - Early adulthood
  - "I want to learn everything that it takes to be a godly, positive man by submitting and building relationships with father-figures"
- Identity stage
  - Early adulthood and on into adulthood
  - "I want to learn how to be a son and come to accept the love of a Father who will never leave me."

We want to 'remove aloneness' through developing safe, joyful and intimate relationships. (Genesis 2:18)

- Mentor to child, Friend to mother
- Staff to child, Staff to mother
- Child to child, Mother to mother

We believe in generational curses and generational blessings. (Exodus 34:7)

• The Lord can break the cycle of a generational curse and can start a cycle of generational blessing through healing and breakthrough within a relationship with Christ.