

HILL COUNTRY CHURCH YOUTH • 6TH–12TH GRADE

What Are Some Core Principles for Our Youth Ministry?

Rooted in Scripture. Shaped by community. Growing in joy.

Our Starting Point

We often talk about core mission and purpose. **Jesus himself gives us one — straight from the Scriptures.**

When he was questioned about the greatest commandment.

01

MATTHEW 22:37-40 • ESV

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

Echoed in Leviticus 19:18: “love your neighbor as yourself.”

DEUTERONOMY 6:5 • ESV

“You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart
and with all your soul and with all your might.”

But How Do We Do That?

God himself shows us — in the very next verse of Deuteronomy 6.

DEUTERONOMY 6:6-9 • ESV

“And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”

Why We Start With Scripture

We don't worship Scripture — we worship God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

But the chief way we know and understand our Triune God is through His Word — not the only way, but the primary one.

02

Knowledge Isn't Enough

How can we better know our God in our own lives?

But we also have to apply it to our lives. The scribes and Pharisees knew the Scriptures well

03

LEVITICUS 19:17-18 • ESV

“You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.”

How we understand God shapes what we do in our own lives.

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM • QUESTION 1

“What is the chief and highest end of man?”

“Man’s chief and highest end is to glorify God, and fully to enjoy him forever.”

Our Faith Leads to Joy

FULLY TO ENJOY

We often neglect the back half of the catechism's answer. While many aspects of our faith are difficult, one aspect will outlast every struggle: joy. Our faith ultimately leads there.

1

Equipping Growth

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION • INTERNAL

Pillars of Our Ministry

Each week we study Scripture—its understanding, background, history, and theology. We also grow in our knowledge of God through other Christian leaders and apologists. That can be those in this church. We can also draw on others who have gone before us.

2

Equipping Connection

INTERNAL COMMUNITY

Pillars of Our Ministry

We are social by nature, so we build a Christian, biblical community — living out the second half of the greatest commandment: loving our neighbors as ourselves. And we want it to be a joy. You can walk through hardship and joy at the same time.

3

Loving Others

OUTWARD COMMUNITY

Pillars of Our Ministry

A practical result of growth and connection is reaching those who need the love of God — through outreach, missions, helping those in need, and visiting the elderly.

Wednesday Evenings

HIGH SCHOOL · SMALL GROUPS 7:30

Community with an alternating structure of studying particular passages and topical studies in a small group setting.

MIDDLE SCHOOL 6:30

Gathered together at the church for an evening focused on Christian community, studying God's Word, and having some fun.

Sunday Mornings

1

Exegetical Scripture

Working directly through the text of Scripture.

2

Theology & Apologetics

Theology, apologetics, and other Bible-based studies.

NURSING HOME VISIT

4th Sunday of each month
at 11:15 AM

Sept · Oct · Nov · Jan · Feb · Mar · Apr