



San Gabriel Community Church (SGCC) Global Outreach (GO) Strategy

San Gabriel Community Church has a long history of global missions involvement. Taking the Gospel that has taken hold of us to all the world has been at the heart of this church family going back many decades. Grateful for God's faithfulness in the past we are expectant of his work in the future. We give praise to God as he has been faithful to the promise of Jesus to "build his church." God continues to glorify himself in ways too numerous to count around the globe as the Gospel of Jesus is continually proclaimed and people of all the nations become his people. God's purposes are global, but he uses local churches as the means to accomplish his will. This document seeks to state what we believe to be God's specific global call upon this local church.

This document will serve to give clarity and direction to SGCC's global outreach. The *GO Strategy* will be used as a tool, along with the *Missions Policy*, by the Global Outreach Team and the SGCC Elder Board, in setting goals and allocating resources. It is designed to help communicate to the congregation and the community the passion and commitment of SGCC to the spread of God's glory to all the nations. While methods and goals may change, this document intends to express principles grounded in Scripture, which are therefore timeless and able to span cultural and historical change. However, recognizing that this document is not Scripture, and therefore not inerrant or infallible, it is subject to periodic review and revision.

*Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created. – Revelation 4:11*

God alone is worthy of all praise, glory, and honor. As grateful recipients of his sovereign grace, we delight in the task of his Great Commission, making disciples of all nations. Therefore, we will eagerly send and join with missionaries and missions agencies who share this commitment to the furtherance of God's glory through the transforming power of the Gospel. In this, we have four underlying philosophical assumptions of ministry.

Four Philosophical Assumptions of Ministry

1. Making Disciples

We affirm the priority of making disciples. When Jesus gave his Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20, he commanded us to make disciples, not simply converts or “decisions for Christ.” This requires a mindset of trusting God to do his work, his way, in his time, valuing lasting fruit over short-term results.

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been give to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded of you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
–Matthew 28:18-20

2. The Church

It is in the context of the local church where disciples are made, and where baptizing and teaching takes place. When a person becomes one of God’s children, they become identified as belonging to Christ, which is publicly demonstrated in baptism, and to his body of which he is the head. Teaching them to obey all that Jesus commanded implies a process of attaining and applying instruction toward the goal of glorifying God in Christ-likeness, and exercising spiritual gifting within the body and for its edification.

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.
– Ephesians 4:11-16

3. Prayer

We affirm the role of prayer in the work of the Great Commission. Acknowledging that the Great Commission is God’s work, that he is the Lord of the harvest, we come with a humble attitude of complete dependence, seeking his guidance, wisdom and direction. Further, knowing that it is the work of the Holy Spirit to bring someone to repentance and faith, we pray that God would prepare the way for the gospel, embolden the messengers, and soften the hearts of the unbelieving.

Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith. – 2 Thessalonians 3:1

At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak. – Colossians 4:3-4

The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. – Luke 10:2

...To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak. – Ephesians 6:18b-20

4. The Gospel Message

We seek to maintain the distinction between the Gospel message and the God-glorifying implications of the Gospel. There is much good activity and important ministry that is being done today which seeks to demonstrate love for others and values of the kingdom of God. However, although good works and changed lives must accompany true faith, and will be evident in increasing measure in the lives of true believers, we cannot confuse, or substitute the message of the Gospel, nor replace its primary place in the mandate of the church.

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures – 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory. – Ephesians 1:13-14

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” – Romans 10:13-15

Our Strategy

Our strategy has two primary components: an “at home” component, which we seek to accomplish locally through *education, integration, and mobilization*; and an “abroad” component, which we seek to accomplish globally through *strategic relationships, strategic locations, strategic ministries, and strategic stewardship*.

At Home

1. Education

We will seek to regularly educate the local body through instruction, modeling, and participation in God’s work of the Great Commission. This education will include biblical and theological foundations, strategies, and the

Gospel's current progress around the world. We will specifically highlight and promote the work of God through our supported missionaries.

2. *Integration*

We will seek to integrate SGCC's missions philosophy and strategy as defined in this document in every area of ministry, including but not limited to, adult and children Sunday school and San Gabriel Christian School (SGCS).

3. *Mobilization*

We affirm the great need to mobilize prayer and laborers. We are a church that seeks to mobilize missionaries within the body of Christ. We propose to help prepare potential missionaries through biblically based discipleship and training, internships, and short-term mission opportunities.

Abroad

1. *Strategic Relationships*

a. Agreement

Missionaries supported by SGCC are an extension of our church family and leadership. Support by SGCC implies a level of partnering that reflects a fundamental agreement on matters of doctrine and teaching. Therefore, agreement on SGCC's Statement of Faith, and GO strategy is essential and non-negotiable. Supported missionaries would be expected to embrace the same emphases as our local pastors and elders, namely, theology grounded in the sovereignty of God, corporate worship saturated with the supremacy of God, teaching characterized by the priority of exposition, relationships centered on the Lordship of Christ, leadership defined by the authority of Scripture, and outreach driven by the goal of discipleship.

b. Connection

We recognize the benefits of partnering with people of proven giftedness, including members of SGCC, and nationals in other countries who are known indirectly through existing SGCC members and missionaries. While it is our desire to send our own members, it is secondary to our desire to support people or agencies who are like-minded in our doctrinal commitments and emphases, and who can be more effective in light of their gifting, or national and cultural background.

2. *Strategic Locations*

We affirm the critical need for taking the gospel to places that are unreached and/or least reached with the Gospel. Recognizing that large portions of the world's population have not had the opportunity to hear the gospel in a way they can understand culturally, even in lands where at one time in history there may have been a thriving gospel presence, we will emphasize work in places where the need for Gospel proclamation is greatest. We also recognize that some locations

may be classified as “reached” but are still strategic because of their regional or global impact. Believing in the all sufficiency of the Almighty God, determining which location(s) will receive priority will be based on the strategy outlined herein and, not on logistical or financial considerations.

But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!’ – Romans 10: 14-15

3. Strategic Ministries

a. Planting Churches

We affirm that God has chosen to use the Church as his primary means of making disciples, proclaiming the gospel, and furthering his glory and kingdom on the earth. We therefore purpose to emphasize the priority of church planting. We recognize that there are other valuable and worthy ministries in missions, some of which we will join with financially and prayerfully, however we will continue to place a high priority on church planting activities and opportunities.

*To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.
– Ephesians 3:8-10*

b. Training Leaders

We affirm the essential need of training leaders. Recognizing the need for qualified servant leaders and the mandate to equip the saints for the work of the ministry, we will partner with ministries that also emphasize training and equipping potential church leaders.

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ. –Ephesians 4:11-12

c. Mobilizing Laborers & Developing Resources

While giving priority to the direct work of planting churches and the training of its leaders, we also recognize the important work of mobilization, primarily involving the challenging and directing of new laborers, but also including the development of material and financial resources for the task of the Great Commission.

4. *Strategic Stewardship*

We affirm the need of providing resources to accomplish the task outlined in this strategy. God's resources are limitless. However, we have been called to be faithful stewards of the financial resources that God has entrusted to us. Allocation of funds and levels of support is a tangible expression of the values, priorities, and strategies named above. As a result, the majority of the global outreach budget will be allocated to church planting and leadership development among unreached and least reached people.

I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. – Philippians 4:18

But now, since I no longer have any room for work in these regions, and since I have longed for many years to come to you, I hope to see you in passing as I go to Spain, and to be helped on my journey there by you, once I have enjoyed your company for a while. – Romans 15:23-24

The GO Strategy

San Gabriel Community Church *Global Outreach Strategy*

At home

Education →
Integration →
Mobilization →

Abroad

← Strategic Relationships
← Strategic Locations
← Strategic Ministries
← Strategic Stewardship

