**Vision Document #2 - Preaching the Gospel**

The second prong of The Well’s mission is to *preach the gospel*. This is the heartbeat, core message, and lifeblood of The Well. This is our passion, our foundational bedrock, and our aggressive investment. We put all of our eggs into this one basket – the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We consistently proclaim who Jesus is and what He has done. We preach His divine identity as the Son of God, Son of Man, Savior, God, Lord, and King. We preach His sacrifice, atonement, crucifixion, cross, and blood. We preach His resurrection, ascension, and second coming. We preach of the sinner’s surrender, repentance, self-denial, and saving faith in Christ. We preach of the believer’s new identity, adoption, forgiveness, redemption, restoration, reconciliation, and sanctification. We preach of the unhindered access and unfettered relationship with God through Jesus Christ. We preach the gift of the indwelling Holy Spirit. We promote the ability, power, grace, and divine enablement of God in every believer's life. We proclaim Him (Col 1:28).

We do not exalt human effort or ability. We do not promote better behavior, enhanced spirituality, or more religion, leading to self-righteousness, pride, or false humility. We do not teach or counsel people to do more, try harder, or perform better. We preach the gospel of “it is finished,” “beloved son/daughter,” and “My grace is sufficient for you.” We do this because the gospel promotes grace, and it confronts law and works.

The gospel is not just the starting line for a Christian; it is the center of everything we seek to be and do. We bring the gospel to every issue, all counsel, every passage of scripture, and every sermon. Nothing we say should ever promote more works, disciplines, or formulas over and apart from the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross. Teaching, discipling, or shepherding people without the power of the cross leaves them powerless to change. It promotes "holding to a form of godliness but denying its power (2 Tim 3:5)." We are not information dispensers but transformation catalysts through the preaching of the gospel.

The gospel has explosive and exponential power. It infects everything, everywhere it is injected. It has the power to produce a hundredfold where there is ripe soil. It is a treasure chest of riches and an ocean of discovery. The gospel is more than four spiritual laws, the Roman Road, the sinner’s prayer, or anything that tradition has watered it down to. It is worth a lifetime of pursuit, exploration, and radical application. It permeates and overflows out of any person who makes Jesus their primary treasure.

We preach the gospel as the solution for every problem in the universe - at a root level. Every issue comes back to man's insufficiency, but God's sufficiency in Christ Jesus. We navigate every challenge by applying the gospel. We reach every person by preaching and modeling the gospel. We grow and mature by embracing the gospel.

We guard diligently against the pressures to deviate from, set aside, move past, or graduate from the gospel. We are wide awake to the reality that Satan’s largest tactic is to muddy and confuse the gospel's message. We will faithfully and willingly preach the gospel, forsaking all others. "For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for I am under compulsion; for woe is me if I do not preach the gospel (1 Cor 9:16)." “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes (Romans 1:16).” "So we preach (the gospel), and so you believed (1 Cor 15:11)."