

STATE OF THE UNION

What does it mean to be “Jesus-Centred”?

APPETIZER: Looking Back and Looking Forward

LOOKING BACK...

10. **Attendance & Engagement!** (Strong, stable, and growing slowly)
9. **Teaching Team!** (We continue to decentralize from one voice to a robust team)
8. **Finances!** (Our generous giving continues to grow, up 5.4% from the year before)
7. **Rebrand & Web site!** (We’ve launched a new look with a new focus)
6. **Home Church & TMHU!** (Refreshing one & launched the other)
5. **Senior Pastors Dancing!** (Because it was just too funky not to include)
4. **Youth & Young Adults!** (Grateful for the work of our leaders, new and old)
3. **Compassion!** (Last year we gave away over \$600k to compassion work)
2. **Jesus Collective!** (2019 was a “pilot project” year helping us get ready to launch)
1. **GO Campaign!** (We’re raising \$6 million to help us serve others)

LOOKING FORWARD...

1. **GO Campaign** continues to advance. So far over \$800k pledged or given. Regional GO Gatherings are coming up in February and March. Check your local program for dates. Local site Vision Nights coming up over the next 6 months.
2. **TMHU** is up and running. Encouraging feedback for courses already launched. New courses being developed over the next few of years. This is going to help us grow and get the most out of Home Church and Sunday services.
3. **Kids & Youth Curriculum** finishes its first 4 year cycle this year. We will also be making it available through Jesus Collective to more churches.
4. **Jesus Collective** officially kicks off in May 2020 through launch events at The Meeting House and in the UK and release of our online platform.
5. Continued emphasis on **evangelism** through “community mapping” and Sunday series teaching us how to talk about Jesus with others (e.g., “Speaking of Jesus”) as well as series that we can invite friends to (e.g., “The Genius of Jesus”).

DINE IN: The Bible Points to Jesus & Jesus Points to God

OUR VISION: To introduce spiritually curious people to the *Jesus-centred* life through a movement of *Jesus-centred* churches.

VS _____-centred

Matthew 5:17; 7:24-27; 17:5; 24:35; 28:16-20

Luke 24:27

John 1:1-18; 5:38-40; 8:31-32; 12:44-46; 14:6-7, 23; 15:26

Galatians 5:14

Ephesians 4:3, 11-16

Hebrews 1:1-3; 12:1-2

1 Peter 1:21

Colossians 1:15-20; 2:1-17

TAKE OUT: Being A Jesus-Centred Christian

A Jesus-centred Christian will accept Jesus as Lord, which means Jesus shows God to us, interprets Scripture for us, unites us as family, and teaches us how to live the love we were created for.

1. **Jesus shows us our clearest picture of God’s heart.**
(Therefore we celebrate and share the good news that God is like Jesus.)
2. **Jesus is our interpretive lens to understand all of the Bible.**
(Therefore we read the Word of God in print to get to know the Word of God in Person.)
3. **Jesus makes all his followers family, so we can approach Christian differences as opportunities to learn rather than divisive fault lines.**
(Therefore we make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.)
4. **Jesus teaches us, through his words and example, what it means to be made in the image and likeness of the God who is love.**
(Therefore our faith in Jesus leads us to follow Jesus by loving others as we love ourselves.)

Home Church Questions

HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic – in one Large Group]

1. We're eager to hear from you! Thanks for participating in this State of the Union Conversation! After reviewing our State of the Union video update...
 - a. **LOOKING BACK:** What are you most grateful for looking back over our Top Ten List of 2019.
 - b. **LOOKING FORWARD:** What are you most excited about as we look forward into 2020?
 - c. **QUESTIONS:** Do you have any questions for our senior leaders?
 - d. **COMMENTS:** Do you have any words of encouragement you want to send to our senior leaders?

HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture – in Discussion Groups]

2. Divide into three groups. One group take the synoptic gospel passages (Matthew and Luke), one group take the Gospel of John passages, and one group take the epistles. Study, discuss, and take notes. Then come back together and share your reports on what these passages teach us specifically about being Jesus-centred.

HUDDLE [Making it Personal and Praying Together – in Huddles]

3. For each of the four TAKE OUT points, talk about practical ways you can or do live this out in your lives. Inspire, encourage, and challenge one another in these practices and disciplines. For an added challenge: write down one new thing you want to do this week, pray for one another, and remember to ask each other about it next week.