



# The Vision for Solomon's Porch Church

A Real, Responsive, and Redemptive Community

**Real** – we are a community that seeks to be real with God, others, and ourselves. We want people to have a place where they can be open and honest about where they are at, yet seeking to live in the power, grace, and forgiveness of the living God.

**Responsive** – we are a community that responds to the needs of one another and will reach out in love to those we have just met. Meeting the real needs of people takes us into our community and into the world because of the love we have experienced through Jesus.

**Redemptive** – we are a community that seeks out people and institutions that are broken and hurt in order to bring healing, hope, and restoration. Our mission is to participate with Jesus in the reconciliation of all things through love, truth, creativity, passion, and the determination to never give up in the face of difficult challenges. We believe in the God of the second, third, and fourth chance.

## Vision Statement

Those who gather at Solomon's Porch are passionate followers of Jesus who love and glorify God through authentic worship, the sharing of His redemptive story, selfless service, real community, and becoming more like him through the Spirit's power.


## Vision Description



**Authentic Worship is our loving response to God's loving actions on our behalf.**

Our God is holy, loving, forgiving, and desires a deep and intimate relationship with his people. The only response to such a person is passionate and loving worship. In order for people to authentically respond to God, we provide various opportunities to interact with Him. Worship can be acts of service, love, praise, obedience, gratitude, giving, or music, and we seek to provide an environment where these can be experienced in creative and meaningful styles.

We are a community that seeks to worship the risen Christ, the Father, and the Spirit in authentic and sincere ways. They are to be at the center of our worship, our callings, our service, our families, our day-to-day lives, and our community. We want our times of worship to be passionate and personally engaging for everyone, but also providing space for those who are in the midst of difficult circumstances to be honest before God. We also want to provide an environment that is safe for those who are at different stages in their relationship with God and will provide the space for this to occur. It is our sincere desire to be a community that is not judgmental where one may come and heal from difficult circumstances and not be pressured into worshipping as others see fit.

 **The sharing of His redemptive story is the telling and modeling of God's mission of reconciliation for all of creation.**


We must share the good news of God's radical love and forgiveness with all people, in all cultures, and in every level of society locally, nationally, and internationally. This means that we seek to bring the power and creativity of the gospel into all settings in order to transform people, culture, and systems with the selfless love of God. At the same time, we need to bring the truth and love of God into every venue of life. No matter what we do, it ought to be done in the power and grace of Jesus so that others will see a real difference in our lives.

It is our mission to provide a voice for the voiceless, help for the homeless and support for the parentless, hope for those with no hope, and befriending the friendless in order that God's presence and love would be made known to all. Even though we have a message to give, we also want to be a people and a place where individuals can be heard, ask honest and difficult questions, and have the space and time to approach God in a safe environment.

 **Selfless service is loving actions towards others because God first loved and redeemed us.**

Since we have received so much from God, our natural response is to share his love and grace with others. We have been given the ultimate examples and commandments from Jesus to love and serve others to the point of great personal and communal sacrifice. As needs are brought to our attention, we seek to be a community that is known for responding in a loving, redemptive, sacrificial, and just manner that respects the dignity and beliefs of others.

We want our people to discover their talents and passions in order to use them in ways that glorify the living God. Too often people serve out of guilt or obligation, but it is our hope that each person will be given the support and encouragement needed to truly identify God's call for service in order to respond to the real needs of our brothers and sisters and the community in which we live.

 **Real community is the development of a deeply nurturing, authentic, and loving group of people that meets one another's actual needs.**

In all of our interactions, we urge people to gracefully and sensitively encourage, support, confront, and help one another become more like Christ. It is our intent to create an environment where trust can be restored for the betrayed; people are not judged, but encouraged to grow; sins are addressed, confessed, and forgiven; mistakes are simply a part of life and help us to grow; and where all sorts of hurts are healed through love, grace, and time.

As a community, we strive to be real with God, others and ourselves. Authenticity is highly valued at Solomon's Porch and we want our relationships to be built on honesty, transparency, and the Scriptures. Open and vulnerable people will occasionally hurt one another, but our community seeks to develop an environment that is safe, humble, gracious, and willing to forgive.

 **Becoming more like him through the Spirit's power is the journey of reflecting Jesus in our words, thoughts and actions.**

One of the goals of the Christian community is to help people become more like Jesus. At Solomon's Porch we seek to develop disciples who are being transformed into the image of Jesus Christ through the Christian disciplines, dependence on God's Spirit, a life of obedience to the Scriptures, humble and loving service to others, and faithful involvement and worship in Christian community.