

**THE ORIGINAL VISION OF CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**BY WILLIAM DWIGHT MCKISSIC, SR.**  
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“And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.” (Acts 11:26c).

God wants to establish a mature church, which will develop mature people, who will go make mature disciples, who will be difference makers marked with maturity, impacting God’s Kingdom.

The greatest example of a mature church throughout the annals of church history is found in the Book of Acts—namely, The Church at Antioch. The vision of Cornerstone Church is directly inspired and influenced by the first Gentile congregation in the history of the Christianity—The Church at Antioch of Syria. What parallels are there between The Church at Antioch and the vision God has given for the Cornerstone Church?

- I. The Church at Antioch Was A Discipling Congregation (Acts 11:25-26):  
“they assembled...and taught a great many people.”
- II. The Church At Antioch Was A Growing Congregation (Acts 11:21):  
“the hand of the Lord was with them.”
- III. The Church At Antioch Was A Connected Congregation (Acts 11:22-26):  
“news...came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas...to go as far as Antioch...Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul...when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch”
- IV. The Church At Antioch Was Founded Through Joint Efforts of Men From Europe and Africa (Acts 11:19-20):  
“men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who...had come to Antioch”
- V. The Church At Antioch Was A Sacrificial Giving Church (Acts 11:19; 27-30):  
“Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea” (29).
- VI. The Church at Antioch Was A Spiritually-Gifted, Spiritually-Led Church (Acts 13:1; 11-27):  
“certain prophets and teachers”; “prophets came from Jerusalem”
- VII. The Church At Antioch Was A Male-Led Congregation (Acts 13:1; 2:17):  
“Barnabas, Simeon...Lucius...Manaen...Saul.”
- VIII. The Church At Antioch Was A Multi-Racial Led Congregation (Acts 13:1):  
“Niger” and “Cyrene” were African countries.

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- IX. The Church At Antioch Practiced Spiritual Disciplines (Acts 13:2-3):  
“and fasted...having fasted”
- X. The Church At Antioch Was A Spirit-Led Church (Acts 13:2):  
“The Holy Spirit said...”
- XI. The Church At Antioch Was A Worshipping Church (Acts 13:2):  
“As they ministered to The Lord”
- XII. The Church At Antioch Was A Missions-Driven Church (Acts 13:2-3):  
“Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them...they sent them away.”

Those outside of the faith observed the maturity level and the actions of The Church at Antioch and literally called them “Christians” because their behavior and beliefs were reminiscent of Christ. Does anybody look at your actions and attitude and listen to your conversation, and it reminds them of the life of Jesus Christ? They practiced a mature faith. They were disciplined by a mature church. They were led by mature leaders, and many were added to the Kingdom because of the genuineness and maturity of their faith.

What is the Vision of Cornerstone Church? God planted this church, connected by roots to the Tate Springs Church in order to **Move Men and Women Toward Maturity with A Kingdom Disciple-Making Focus , whose Core Values are:**

- Developing a Multi-Regional and Multi-Racial Kingdom-Focused Congregation
- Discipling and Developing Believers to Impact the World for the Expansion of God’s Kingdom
- Engaging in Biblical and Demonstrative Praise and Worship (John 4:24)
- Preaching Text-Driven, Prophetic, Felt-Need Messages
- Engaging in Aggressive and Innovative Evangelism and Missions Across the Street and Around the World
- Ministering to Specific Needs of the Fatherless and Youth
- Meeting practical needs representing God’s Kingdom “till He comes.”

What the world needs now is mature men and women, who can help mature other men and women.

**HOW TO REACH THE MASSES MEN OF EVERY BIRTH FOR AN ANSWER JESUS GAVE THE KEY, AND I, IF I BE LIFTED UP FROM THE EARTH, I’LL DRAW ALL MEN UNTO ME!**

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**THE VISION FOR CORNERSTONE CHURCH  
2017-2027**

**TO REACH AND DISCIPLE 3000 CONVERTS; DEVELOP THEM TOWARD SPIRITUAL  
MATURITY, AS EVIDENCED BY:**

- **DISCIPLING OTHERS;**
- **MAKING WISE DECISIONS CONSISTENTLY; AND**
- **MANAGING THEIR LIVES AND HOUSEHOLDS EFFECTIVELY.**

**(Mark 1:17; Colossians 1:27-29; Luke 6:40; Hebrews 5:12-14; I Timothy 3:12)**