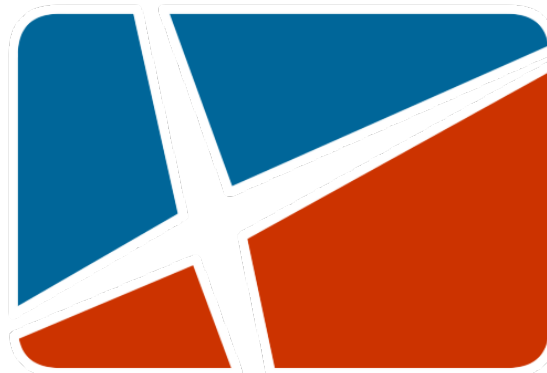


# Vision Overview

## 2014-2020



**MOUNT ISA**  
**BAPTIST CHURCH**

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local church, regional footprint, global impact

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. It's Biblical

Strategic thinking and acting or strategic planning can be found in the Bible; it is biblical. Some examples are:

- Moses' father-in-law, Jethro, challenging him to think and act strategically (Exod 18)
- Joshua's leadership (Josh 6:1-7, 8:3-23, 10:6-9)
- Nehemiah's revitalisation of Jerusalem (Neh 3-6)
- God's wisdom and role in planning (Prov 14:15, 15:22, 16:3-4, 16:9, 19:21, 20:18, 21:30)
- The mission of Christ's church (Matt 28:19-20, Mark 16:15)
- The geographical strategy and direction of Christ's church (Acts 1:8)
- The Holy Spirit's strategic use of the church to implement His mission (Acts 13:1-21:26)

However it is important to note that God's purpose will prevail regardless of our plans. (Prov 19:21, 21:31, John 15:5, Zech 4:6)

## 1.2. Purpose

- To discover the churches strengths, limitations, and weaknesses
- To build on ministry's strengths and minimise weaknesses
- To facilitate congregational communication and build the congregation's trust
- To understand and implement spiritually healthy, Christ-honouring change
- To encourage and promote spiritual revival
- To discover and articulate ministry core values
- To develop and communicate our God-given mission
- To develop and articulate an inspiring, compelling vision
- To understand and relate more effectively to the community
- To develop a disciple-making process for the entire church
- To assess, recruit, and develop a strong staff team
- To mobilise the congregation to serve and do the work of the ministry
- To make wise decisions about facilities and their location
- To inventory and assess current giving
- To explore new streams of giving to increase current income
- To design a stewardship strategy to help people be good stewards of their finances
- To analyse and evaluate the church's budget, looking for ways to best handle congregational finances
- To raise additional funds and direct capital funding projects
- To know how to implement the entire strategic plan
- To regularly evaluate and improve the church's ministries
- To empower the governing board and pastor to lead with excellence
- To build a lay and staff leadership development process
- To develop a marketing strategy that will best position the church in the community to glorify God

## **2. Mission**

### **What we are supposed to be doing.**

A mission is a broad, brief, biblical statement of what the ministry is supposed to be doing (making disciples).

### **Mission Statement**

“A local church with a regional footprint and a global impact.” (Acts 1:8)

### **3. Vision**

The church's vision is what the church will look like in the next five to ten years of its life as it accomplishes the mission.

#### **Vision Statement**

Mount Isa Baptist Church will be an equipping centre where every Christian can be developed to his or her full potential for ministry. This development will come through creative, inspiring worship, teaching that is Biblical and relevant to life, vital, supportive fellowship, and opportunities for outreach into the community in service and evangelism. We envision becoming a church of small groups where our people model Biblical community: a safe place where we accept one another and are accepted, love and are loved, shepherd and are shepherded, encourage and are encouraged, forgive and are forgiven, and serve and are served.

We aim to advance the Kingdom of God through the practical out-working of the Gospel. As a result the North-West Queensland region will be different in the next seven years, with the Christian influence being increasingly felt in homes, businesses, education and politics. We further intend to multiply our regional and worldwide ministry by planting churches, by preparing our people for leadership roles in vocational ministries and para-church groups, by sending out missionaries, and by becoming a resource centre and model for Queensland and the nation.

## 4. Core Values

Core values "...empower and guide the church as it pursues its mission and vision." (Malphurs 2013)

Core values are the constant, passionate, Biblical core beliefs that go deep and really, truly empower and guide our ministry.

Mount Isa Baptist Church has:

- **A commitment to relevant Bible teaching** - we believe that the Bible is God's inspired Word, the authoritative and trustworthy rule of faith and practice for Christians. The Bible is both timeless and timely, relevant to the common needs of all people at all times and to the specific problems of contemporary living. Therefore we are committed to equipping Christians, through the preaching and teaching of God's Word, to follow Christ in every sphere of life
- **A commitment to prayer** - we believe that God desires His people to pray and that He hears and answers prayer (Matt 7:7-11, James 5:13-18). Therefore the ministries and activities of this church will be characterised by a reliance on prayer in their conception, planning, and execution
- **A commitment to small groups** - we are committed to small group ministry as one of the most effective means of building relationships, stimulating spiritual growth, and developing leaders
- **An appreciation for creativity and innovation** - in today's rapidly changing world, forms and methods must be continually evaluated, and if necessary, altered to fit new conditions. While proven techniques should not be discarded at a whim, we encourage creativity and innovation, flexibility and adaptability. We are more concerned with effectiveness in ministry than with adherence to tradition
- **A commitment to excellence** - we believe that the God of our salvation deserves the best we have to offer. The Lord Himself is a God of excellence, as shown by the beauty of creation, further, He gave the best that He had, His Son, for us (Rom 8:32). Paul exhorts servants, in whatever they do, to "...work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men" (Col 3:23). Therefore, in the ministries of Mount Isa Baptist Church we will seek to maintain a high standard of excellence to the glory of God. This will be achieved when every person is exercising his or her God-given spiritual gift to the best of his or her ability (1 Cor 12)
- **A commitment to growth** - although numerical growth is not necessarily a sign of God's blessing, and is not a sufficient goal in itself, we believe that God desires for us to reach as many people as possible with the life-changing message of Jesus Christ. Therefore we will pursue methods and policies which will facilitate numerical growth, without compromising in any way our integrity or our commitment to Biblical truth

## 5. Strategy

The strategy accomplishes the church's mission and vision and includes five key elements or steps: reaching out to the community, making mature disciples, building a ministry team (congregation, staff, and possibly a board), assessing the ministry's setting (location and facilities), and raising the necessary finances to carry out the mission and vision.

The Strategic Leadership Team will be working on strategies that will sit under these 5 key areas.

- 5.1. Encouraging Community Outreach
- 5.2. Disciple Making Process
- 5.3. Ministry Team Formation
- 5.4. Church Setting (Location and Facilities)
- 5.5. Financial Stewardship

# Bibliography

Malphurs, A. (2013). Advanced Strategic Planning. Grand Rapids, Baker Publishing Group.