

VISION, VALUES & CULTURE



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR



St Philips

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VISION

MATT22 exists for Kingdom Transformation in Odd Down. It is St Philip's vehicle for loving our neighbours and for releasing our congregation into compassion ministry.

MATT22 is not about church growth – it is about loving our neighbours. We have authority to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, look after widows and orphans; heal the sick and bring people to freedom in the name of Jesus and through the ministry of the Spirit.

We seek to meet need and demonstrate the love of Jesus.

MATT22 is a 'futures ministry': it aims to activate God's promise of hope and a future for those who have no hope for their future.

It also seeks to establish a legacy for the next generation at St Philip's, for whom - we pray - Kingdom ministry in Odd Down and the city of Bath will be an essential and active part of their faith.

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11



3 PRINCIPLES

PARTNERSHIP

MATT22 advances through partnerships with Christian organisations. This is essential to the ministry being connected to the community and the wider compassion ministries in the city. It is also necessary because St Philip's resources are limited. Partnership allows us to reach beyond our own capacity.

PROXIMITY

MATT22 requires us to know our neighbours. How can we love them in a transforming way if we don't know them?

It is a relational ministry, not a charity. All MATT22 initiatives, therefore, place us shoulder-to-shoulder with those in need. They also take us out of the church and connect us with the community.

POWER

MATT22 is not an extension of the welfare state. It is a Kingdom Transformation ministry. We seek to go beyond mere charitable deeds or 'bread alone'.

The culture of MATT22 reflects our desire to see the Kingdom break through in supernatural ways. Prayer, expectation and the ministry of the Spirit are essential to MATT22.

MATT22 must have fire under it. The ministry runs on the fuel of prophetic prayer and Spirit-filled worship.



R.I.M.S.

Every MATT22 initiative reflects four key aspects:

RELATIONAL

The MATT22 logo represents two people standing shoulder-to-shoulder at the threshold of someone's home. This reminds us that our ministry is not remote. It isn't aid, it's Kingdom.

INTENTIONAL

MATT22 is driven by the Spirit but shaped around a clear strategy that aims to hold each initiative to the ministry's vision, values, culture and strategic goals.

MISSIONAL

There are no spiritual strings attached to MATT22. It is not a vehicle for evangelism; it is a vehicle for love.

However, as a Kingdom Transformation ministry, we love our neighbours in a way that points them to Jesus. He is the answer for every need, every heartache and every disfunction.

MATT22 is about Jesus' sovereignty over Odd Down.



R.I.M.S.

SUPERNATURAL

According to Ephesians, the church is a supernatural body with legislative authority and jurisdictional power. We contend for, and expect, demonstrations of God's goodness through us in answered prayer and miracles.



3 ACTIVITIES

MATT22 focuses on three activities:

EMERGENCY

Immediate relief from accute need:

- Food Provision - Genesis Food Bank Hub
- Fuel Security
- Financial Distress

EMPOWERMENT

Addressing the causes of poverty, not just the symptoms. We hope to be able to offer (or signpost to) resources such as:

- Debt Advice
- Citizens Advice
- Addiction Support
- Counselling and Mental Health
- Job-Seekers Advice
- Courses and Classes
- Isolation Relief
- Holistic restoration in the power of the Holy Spirit through prayer ministry at St Philip's



3 ACTIVITIES

EMPLOYMENT

We believe that employment is the best route out of poverty.

We aspire to signpost and eventually initiate job-creation opportunities through MATT22.



CULTURE

MATT22's culture reflects St Philip's culture. MATT22 volunteers are ambassadors of the culture.

**'To pursue God until
heaven overflows through us'**

MATT22 is a ministry not unto Odd Down but unto the Lord. If we go after Him, His Spirit will overflow through us into Odd Down.

**May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace
as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with
hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Presence and the pursuit of God

Proximity to our neighbours is never separate from our own proximity to God.

MATT22 flows from discipleship; not good ideas or good deeds. We overflow from encounter. **Power is the highest of our three principles.**

We contend for power in every initiative – we stoke the fire; we keep the coals to hot. We always want MATT22 to operate out of the presence and ministry of the Holy Spirit. We therefore put highest priority on welcoming the Spirit and listening to Him before, during and after every initiative session.

CULTURE

Worship and the prophetic

Encounter reveals the Father's heart and expands our own hearts to compassion. Sessions therefore begin and end with worship and prophetic prayer. We aim to be full beforehand, so we can overflow during. We aim to carry our compassion beyond each session, remembering individuals in prayer.

Dedicated spaces in our Prayer Room record individual prayer needs; dreams and visions; and answers to prayer.

**MATT22 stands on the prophetic,
not strategy or programmes.**

Thanksgiving and Testimony

We record the names and needs of those to whom we are proximate. We invite the Spirit to speak to us about them. We pray for them in the power of the Spirit. We record the 'glory stories', knowing that:

**Testimony gives glory to God;
raises our faith;
and invites us to the next miracle.**



VALUES

MATT22 holds specific values for our 'neighbours' which influences how we deliver our ministries – from our personal conduct to our attention to detail in the physical:

BELOVED OF GOD

All people are beloved of God; created in His image; with the potential to know and love Him. We therefore love them as He loves them. As daughters and sons, we also love them as He loves us – unconditionally, patiently, compassionately, forgivingly and 'redemptively'.

Love is our highest value

INFINITE WORTH

Our guests are of infinite worth and significance to God. We therefore acknowledge that potential and never lose hope for them. As they are significant to God, so their desires and dreams are significant to Him. We care for those desires and dreams as the Father does.

DIGNITY

We want every person to be restored to their created dignity.

SALVATION

We receive full salvation (sozo) in Jesus, which means that Jesus has redeemed our minds, bodies, souls and spirits. We long for all to come to full salvation in Him.

VALUES

PARACLETE

The Holy Spirit is our model. We draw alongside those who come to us. They are not 'clients'; they are 'guests', with the potential to become 'family'.

HOLISTIC

We seek to address the deeper needs of a person, not just the presenting problem.

EMPOWERMENT

MATT22 seeks to break cycles. We aim to facilitate people to move from dependence to independence.



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR

Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” This is the greatest commandment. And the second is like it: “Love your neighbour as yourself.”

Matthew 22



St Philips