



Transforming 500 Lives

Journey's Vivid Vision for 2021-2025

Summary: "By 2025, we will become a community characterized by relationships that transform disconnected people to think and act like Jesus." (1 Jn. 2:6)

Waco is rapidly growing and the increasing number of people around us who are disconnected from God and the community of God is staggering. We are surrounded by neighbors who long for authentic relationships, who are often suspicious of religion and who want a better life. Marriages are taxed, schedules are overloaded and financial burdens are real. In the midst of it all, these families desperately long for something better.

We believe Journey is uniquely positioned to bring freedom and fulfillment into disconnected people's lives by inviting them to follow Jesus in community with the people of God. When this occurs, the Kingdom is realized and people visibly transform. Isolation is replaced with intentional spiritual relationships; restlessness is exchanged with inspiring purpose; and rebellion is traded for joyful submission to God.

Over the next four years, transforming communities will be continually launched throughout China Spring and the greater Waco area. They will form because of relational affinity, special interests or location and will become known by their care for each other and for those around them. Community Pastors will be trained, coached and shepherded regularly. Everyone will have direct access to constantly growing practical resources (Journey U: online, print & in-person) that identify specific markers for their journey (Signposts) and equip them for their path forward.

We see a future on the horizon where communities sharing stories of new life in Christ become the norm as baptisms occur on a weekly basis, marriages are restored, singles are strengthened, families in financial crisis find peace & stability, addictions are overcome, and people of every age, race and gender are renewed. By 2025, we envision five hundred lives remade as they take their "Next Steps" on the journey that include:

- "Follow" – new believers learning to follow Jesus
- "Pursuit" – community participants personalizing their pursuit of God
- "Vision" – difference-makers finding their sweet spot of serving and impacting lives.

Once a year, communities will be invited to walk with a friend or a smaller group as they consider these next steps, giving everyone an opportunity to check-in regularly on progress, be cared for and encouraged, and reassess their walk. "Next Steps" resources will be readily available (online, print & in-person) for everyone to use.

We envision this transforming movement advancing an atmosphere of excitement and innovation at Journey. New expressions of care and discipleship will appear as we are driven to discover where and how we can make a difference in the lives of other people. "Transforming Community DNA" will be regularly celebrated as stories are told of people who were disconnected from God and the community of God, who are now growing, serving, leading, and becoming a people who think and act like Jesus.