

ANDY VANDERVEER

MY HEART

Each day I am more certain that God has uniquely created, gifted, and called me to best glorify Him through the vocation of youth ministry. I have a passion to raise the bar for students of what it means to truly be a light in their worlds—to rise above the all-consuming search for peer approval that pervades our schools, and to reflect the light of Christ through a life lived more nobly. God has wired me to love meeting new people and laughing with friends. I love to have those conversations that dig deeply into what makes a particular person tick. I have a heart for sharing the gospel with lost students and for sharing my life with believers through discipleship. I have a passion to communicate God's Word clearly, concisely, creatively and applicably.



BIOGRAPHY

Raised in the D/FW metroplex, I was a mostly moral child who knew at some point I needed to give my life over to Christ. But I didn't know how to do that or what it really even meant. I thought I was waiting for some proverbial neon sign to tell me "now, you're strong enough to follow all of the rules." And then I could start "living for Christ." Soon after high school, a buddy in my garage band explained to me that it's not about what I can or can't do, but what Christ had already done. My twin brother, Joey, and I believed in Jesus and placed our trust in Him alone for our salvation, that night at band practice in the summer of 1996.

When I moved to Denton to get a graphic design degree from UNT, I began attending Denton Bible Church (DBC). It was there that I was discipled and experienced real growth. While at DBC,



I taught college and junior high Bible studies, and God brought Kristin into my life. After a year of friendship and two years of dating, we got married in 2002. Then we moved to Fort Worth for work. I worked first as a Graphic Designer and then as a Marketing Director in Dallas. Kristin stays home with the two incredible boys God has blessed us with, Logan(3) and Ian(1). My spiritual gifts are exhortation and teaching. Kristin's are administration and discernment. She complements me perfectly in life and ministry.



MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

Denton Bible Church | *To Begin August 2007*

Junior High Director

- Teach Wednesday Nights and Sunday School
- Minister to and train volunteer leaders
- Lead a small group Bible Study of students
- Assist in planning of events and direction of Student Ministries

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Metro Bible Church | 2003 – 2007

Youth Pastor

- Teach Sunday school
- Lead Sunday school worship songs
- Vision casting and organization of ministry
- Shepherd and equip volunteer leaders
- Plan and oversee various events and activities

Various Teaching Opportunities | 2003 – Present

God has graciously provided opportunities to teach the Word to some local churches and groups such as:

- Denton Bible Church
- Baptist Temple in McAllen, TX
- Hillside Community Church in Keller, TX

Fellowship of the Parks, Keller, TX | 2003

Volunteer High School Leader

- Teach Sunday school
- Teach Wednesday boy's Bible study
- Assist with various events and activities

Denton Bible Church | 1998-2002

Junior High Volunteer

- Maintain relationships with small group of 6 students
- Teach weekly small group Bible study
- Assist with skits and various activities for Sunday worship

College Life Small Group Leader

- Maintain relationships with small group of 6-8 college students
- Teach weekly small group Bible study



PHILOSOPHY OF MINISTRY

My passion as a youth pastor is to implant a vision in the hearts of students to glorify God and equip them to see that vision lived out in their lives. To this end, we implement the following means:

God's Word

2Timothy 3:16-17

"All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work."

Exegetical Teaching

At my very best, any stirring or funny story, any passionate exhortation, any top 10 list on a particular topic, that I manage to muster up out of my own wisdom and abilities...is rubbish. My best cannot change students' lives. So I rely on the life changing power of God's inerrant Word, as it is God-breathed, relevant and applicable to everyday life, even to 21st century youth. I believe the most effective way to minister to and equip students is by the exegetical explanation of Scripture.

Creativity

Joe White, President of Kanakuk Camps, once said "It's a sin to bore a kid." Though far from "God-breathed," I think it is a good point. I believe that part of the skill of teaching with excellence as unto the Lord includes explaining the Word to students in a way that is creative. If the text lends itself to a fun story, or an interactive activity, that is anchored to an evident thought in the text, then we'll do it. Following the example of Christ, the master storyteller, I endeavor through Spirit-led creativity to reveal and to explain the relevant truth inherent in God's Word.

Relationships

1Thessalonians 2:8

"Having so fond an affection for you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us."

I believe that students do not care what I know until they first know that I care. We cannot speak the truth without love. The way we love is by sharing our lives. Pursuing relationships with students out of sincere love and care facilitates the best possible environment for genuine fellowship, discipleship and life change that is rooted in God's Word. I, my wife, and my leaders do this by calling students, attending their sporting events, recitals, etc.

Leaders

Exodus 18:18

"...the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone."

I value a devoted team of like-minded servant-leaders to share in the joys of ministry with me. I acknowledge that my task is not only to minister to students, but also to invest my life into leaders—training and equipping them to lead. I value delegation and letting others lead and develop their spiritual gifts.