

Oakdale's Mission: Knowing God and Making Him Known 2015 - Engage

Oakdale has a rich and blessed heritage of holding fast to the Word of God. Over 100 years of faithfulness has led and equipped us to engage our world with the message of His love with the gifts He has blessed us with as part of the family of God.

The truth of Romans 12 is the basis for the state of the family at Oakdale and the vision for who God wants us to be.

Engage Life In Christ - vs. 1-3 - Raising Up True Disciples

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

The only acceptable response to God's saving grace and mercy in my life is a life of sacrifice to Him - a willingness to be used in any and every circumstance, not worrying about my own life, by putting Him and others first.

- We will preach only Christ and Him crucified.
- We will mark our worship time together with prayer, singing, and preaching that only brings glory to God.
- We will encourage the family of Oakdale to individually live a consistent life of prayer and time in the Word.
- We will develop more opportunities for corporate prayer, giving the family time to come together in humble intercession.

Engage In The Family Of God - vs. 4-13 - Empowering True Fellowship

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy,

with cheerfulness. Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Being devoted to one another in brotherly love, sharing all the gifts we have been given, and serving the Lord together, we show the world what it truly means to live life in the family of God.

- We will have a vibrant Small Group ministry that encourages the body to unite with others in faith.
- We will offer Word-centered Bible study, including all ages Sunday morning and mid-week.
- We will offer men's and women's Bible studies regularly throughout the week.
- We will have an impactful youth ministry for junior and senior high ages that empowers young people to walk with the Lord.
- We will raise up the next generation of men to be godly husbands and fathers.
- We will encourage discipling across the generations.
- We will equip and give opportunities for the body to use their gifts to meet the needs of the body in the various ministries of the church.
- We will intentionally raise up the next generation of leaders by making disciples who make disciples.
- We will help parents raise their children to be faithful followers of Christ.
- We will develop opportunities for our seniors to share the wealth of knowledge and wisdom they have from years of service in the Kingdom.
- We will develop a ministry through mentorship to broken and hurting families in the body.

Engage In The "Yet To Be" Family Of God - vs. 14-21 - Encouraging True Service

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by

evil, but overcome evil with good.

Showing the sacrificial and unselfish love of Christ to all by walking with those who are without Christ, we show God's love through us to a dying world.

- We will lift up missions as a major and dynamic part of our ministry.
- We will support missionaries around the world, including the 10 who have gone out from our church family.
- We will encourage a missions lifestyle by supporting short term mission trips for all ages.
- We will use groups like the Sportsmen's Fellowship, Helping Hands, and Women's Ministries to reach out and serve our world and our communities.
- We will develop our youth center as a place our young people and their friends can be exposed to the Gospel of Jesus Christ through connections with godly, caring adults and peers.
- We will support our local food pantry physically and financially.
- We will financially help those in need through the Deacon's Fund.
- We will develop outreach in our surrounding communities where we can show God's love through tangible means with the ultimate goal to bring people to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.