

Indian Hills Community Church

Philosophy for Missions

The Indian Hills Community Church (IHCC) Constitution states, “[t]he primary purpose of the Church shall be to bring glory to God by worshipping Him and ministering to the spiritual needs of man. This purpose finds expression through evangelization of the lost and the edification of believers through Bible study, prayer, worship, fellowship and service.”

As a church whose primary purpose is to bring glory to God, there is a responsibility to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and make disciples. In Matthew 28:18-20, this responsibility is described in broad terms, i.e., making disciples of “all nations.” In Acts 1:8, Christ, shortly before His ascension, told His disciples they were to be His witnesses. The scope of the mission was comprehensive – not only locally, but to the ends of the earth. At IHCC, the goal is to see God’s glory declared among all peoples, and among all nations.

Three primary areas of focus have been determined for IHCC’s engagement with missionaries, missions organizations, and others involved in the overseas training of church leaders for faithful gospel ministry. These areas of focus are as follows:

1. **Doctrine** – IHCC will partner with and promote only those individuals and groups which are in alignment with the Statement of Faith of Indian Hills Community Church. Whether an individual or group is considered to be in alignment will be determined by a steering committee made up of at least two Elders, who will make their recommendation to the Board of Elders.
2. **Methodology** – IHCC will prioritize partnering with organizations whose focus is on training local indigenous pastors. Such training may include:
 - a. Leadership training – training national men to rightly handle and teach the Scriptures, to shepherd local congregations, and to train other men in the areas of local church leadership and evangelistic outreach.
 - b. Church planting – training national men to evangelize communities and plant local, indigenous, biblically-sound churches.
 - c. Equipping the local church – training national men to encourage and equip members of their local churches to be involved in faithfully serving one another.
 - d. Support ministries – involvement in other support-type ministries that enhance the above focus on training local leaders (e.g., Bible translation, etc.).
3. **Engagement** – IHCC’s involvement and support with overseas missions-oriented individuals and groups can take various forms, including:
 - a. Financial – giving financial resources.
 - b. Human Resources – supplying and sending members of IHCC who are gifted and willing to teach or otherwise serve.
 - c. Written Resources – providing books, online resources, articles, sermon transcripts, and other resources to better equip ministry partners.
 - d. Prayer – praying (individually and corporately) for our ministry partners.
 - e. Connections – leveraging relationships and partnerships with other ministries to connect our overseas ministry partners with other potential sources of support.