### **Our New Mission & Vision Statements**

#### (1) The New Mission Statement

"Mercy Hill Church exists to Adore, Manifest, and Proclaim the glory of God as revealed in the gospel of Jesus Christ."

"The Glory of God"—The glory of God is best understood as the radiance or outshining of all His perfections. It is the beauty of all that God is put on display. The Bible leaves no room for confusion: all things that exist do so ultimately for the glory of God—to display something about Him.

"As Revealed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ"—Where do we go to see the glory of God in fullest display? Where do we go to see that God is almighty and yet gentle and kind. Where do we go to see that God is high and lifted up and yet He dwells with the lowly? Where do we go to see that God is holy and righteous and just and cannot look upon sin with favor, and yet also gracious and merciful, forgiving iniquity? This is it! The cross of Jesus Christ brings all the perfections of God, all His holy attributes, into high definition.

"Adore"—When we see it, when we truly get what God has done for us in Jesus Christ, when the veil is lifted and we see the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ, do you want to know what happens? We fall in love. As John would say: "We love because he first loved us" (1 Joh 4:19). Or to paraphrase Jesus' point in Luk 7:47: "He who is forgiven much, loves much."

"Manifest"—As I see Christ's glory as revealed to me in the gospel, and as I fall in love with Him so that I can't take my eyes off of Him, I find that I begin to look more and more like Him. This is what Paul writes of in 2 Cor 3:18: "And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord [in the face of Jesus Christ], are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another." The marring of the image of God in humanity by the first Adam is regained and perfected in Jesus, the second Adam. And as we come to see and adore Him, we start to look more and more like Him. We start to manifest the glory of God as revealed in the gospel of Jesus Christ. People may be looking at me, but they start to see Christ. And, even more, they start to see the cross.

"Proclaim"—To show you the deeds of Christ but never speak the words that will lead you to trust in Him, is like taking a glass of water up to you on the second floor of your house to quench your thirst, but failing to tell you about the fire that's spreading out from the kitchen on the floor beneath you. That glass of water won't help you with the big problem in your life. My deeds will save no one. You need His! My little glass of water is meant to draw you towards the fountainhead of His grace that can quench not only your thirst but even the fires of hell!

#### (2) The New Vision Statement

"Until that glory fills the earth as the waters cover the sea."

#### (3) Bringing the Mission & Vision Together

We turn up the volume on His glory in our own lives so that that glory would reach the lives of others. As we live this out it actually works its way back up: as we adore, manifest, and proclaim God's glory as revealed in the gospel, God may lift the veil for others to see the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. They come to adore Him, be changed by Him, speak to others of Him, and so on.

There's this dynamic that's set in motion—going out and coming back in, going out and coming back in —a sort of reverb. The amplification is multiplying, echoing, getting louder, reverberating. This is Gospel Amplification for Gospel Reverberation, until the whole earth is filled with the praise of His glorious grace!

## Gospel Amplification...



# ...for Gospel Reverberation

