

# Tech Team Vision & Overview

## Purpose

***To aid the church's worship of Christ through technology with undistracting excellence.***

## Goal

To understand how to fulfill this purpose, we must first understand why the church gathers: to magnify Jesus Christ. For him to be at the center of all that we do. To see Him exalted above everything else.

In Colossians 1, we see this glorious description of Jesus:

*"<sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation... <sup>17</sup> And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent."*

"In everything He might be preeminent." First, best, highest. And why is Jesus to be exalted to the highest degree?

*<sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. <sup>21</sup> And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, <sup>22</sup> he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him"*  
(Colossians 1:15–22)

He is God. He is to be lifted up because He came to be thrown down for our sake, making peace between us and God by His life, death, and resurrection on our behalf. God came to us, to rescue us. And, He continues to do so. So, we gather to meet with God, to worship Him, to be taught by Him, to treasure Him, to exalt Him.

And so the job of this team is to help the church do just that.

So, how do we do this? How do we aid the church's worship?

By using technology with undistracting excellence.

## Undistracting Excellence

### Undistracting Excellence

What do we mean when we say *excellence*? Whatever we think of “excellence,” we must consider what God thinks about it. We’ll start by examining “worldly excellence.”

#### Worldly Excellence

Worldly excellence is *self-empowered competence, sprouting from a self-exalting desire to honor oneself and serve the self.*

Worldly excellence is marked by...

#### Perfectionism

- Perfectionism is the errant belief and expectation that we will never make a mistake. It cultivates a breeding ground for pride to creep in and misalign our priorities.
- Perfectionism leads to...
  - Absurd expectations of others and oneself
  - Ungodly anger towards others when something goes wrong
  - Discontentment and bitterness toward others
  - A culture of fear and apprehension

#### Personal Accomplishment

- Accomplishing things is good. Rooting our identity in accomplishment isn’t. Why? Because it’s inherently self-centered - “Look what I can do.”
- An accomplishment orientation leads to...
  - A “better-than-them” mentality rooted in pride and focused on self-glory.
  - Insecurity, because I am what I do, and base my self-worth on how much I can get done and how well I can do it.
  - A comparative, combative spirit.

#### Self-promotion

- In our social media-saturated day, shameless self-promotion is the air we breathe. We’re inundated with folks acting like attention-starved toddlers screaming, “Look at me! Look at me! Look at me!”
- Self-promotion is concerned primarily with how others can serve me rather than how I can serve others.
- Self-promotion leads to...
  - Unnecessary conflict

- A willingness to push others down to get ahead
- A desire for others to fail

Worldly excellence is rooted in the character of self and belonging to the kingdom of darkness. It is inherently self-oriented.

But the gospel frees us from the restrictive cage of worldly excellence. It frees us from the prison of “I am what I accomplish.” The gospel – God became man to live and die for man to be with God – is the good news that “I am what Christ accomplished.” In Christ, you are excellent. Through Christ’s Spirit, we become what He’s already called us – excellent.

“Excellence” isn’t simply a practical pursuit to ensure we do things well. When properly understood and pursued, it is a God-honoring service to Him and others.

So, let’s talk about godly excellence.

## **Godly Excellence**

Before we define godly excellence, let’s examine why we’re to pursue it.

In Exodus 24, we find Moses and the Israelites confirming the covenant made between them and God, declaring, “All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient” ([Ex 24:7](#)). God called Moses to go up Mount Sinai to spend 40 days and 40 nights in His presence. Here, God gave Moses clear, extraordinarily detailed instructions on how to design and construct the tabernacle (and various other artifacts for worship) so that God “may dwell in their midst” ([Ex 25:8](#)). These instructions are costly and complex, requiring great skill, time, energy, and attention. After the designs are laid out, God tells Moses:

*[2] “See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, [3] and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with ability and intelligence, with knowledge and all craftsmanship, [4] to devise artistic designs, to work in gold, silver, and bronze, [5] in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, to work in every craft. [6] And behold, I have appointed with him Oholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan. And I have given to all able men ability, that they may make all that I have commanded you...”* (Exodus 31:2–6)

So God gives, through His Spirit, specific gifts to be leveraged and excellently employed so that He can be worshiped by His people – so that He “may dwell in their midst.”

We see something similar in Ephesians 4, where Paul writes:

*[11] And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, [12] to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, [13] until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ... [15] we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, [16] from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. (Ephesians 4: 11-13, 15, 16)*

You and I have been given gifts by God to be leveraged for the sake of Jesus and His church so that the church can be built up into mature manhood, the fullness of Christ. God gives gifts to serve one another so that we can see and be like Jesus.

So, this is *why* we have the gifts and talents we possess. They are gifts from God to exalt Him and serve His Bride. But how are we to leverage these gifts? You guessed it – excellently. So, let's finally define excellence.

In Colossians 3, we read...

*“<sup>23</sup> Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, <sup>24</sup> knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.” (Colossians 3:22-24)*

“Whatever you do, work *heartily*.” This word, “heartily,” means the very breath of life God put into you. Your soul. Your “heart” – your affections, emotions, and intentions. Your whole self – every part of you. Whatever we do, we give our whole self over to it.

And we're to do it as if we're doing it for the Lord (because, ultimately, we are). And notice it also says, “as for the Lord *and not for men*.” Why? Because we can cheat men. We can dupe men. We can skirt corners with men. We can have a semi-shoddy job go unnoticed by men. But not with God. God sees all. He's worthy of our whole self serving Him excellently. We give our mind, heart, and body over to the task at hand as a service to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now, godly excellence is more than just extreme competence in a skill. It's a far more encompassing concept than that. It also involves our affections and character. Check out 1 Peter 2:9:

*But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.*

“The excellencies of him” refers to the perfect perfection of God. He is perfect in His affections, character, works, and skill. All He does and thinks and wants is right. God is supremely “excellent.” He is superior to everything and everyone else. The chasm between His excellency and the highest human achievement is an ant hill to Mount Everest. And we are excellently saved so that we would proclaim His excellence.

Peter hits us with more as we consider godly excellence in his second letter. 2 Peter 1:3:

*[3] His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence...”*

When Peter uses the word “excellence,” he’s communicating more than extreme skill. These are *virtue* words. This “excellence” regards *character*. We are to reflect God’s glory and excellence in all we do.

God says far more about the affections and desires of our hearts than He does about our ability. Excellence is more about character than it is about skill. But these things aren’t isolated from one another; they are inherently related. Skill and character hold hands. For the Christian, they must grow together.

We’ve seen the living parables of extraordinarily gifted musicians, actors, artists, preachers, or leadership gurus skyrocket to fame and notoriety, only to epically fall due to moral failure. Their excellence in character did not grow with their excellence in skill. So, you love the church *excellently* by performing your task *excellently*. Heart and hands are melded together, inseparable from one another. As your affection for God grows, so does your desire to perform your task with excellence. Ultimately, this is an issue of godly character.

Additionally, excellence is a pursuit, not a destination. Once you achieve one “*level*” of excellence, another level rises in the distance. Excellence is a life-long process of cultivating the gifts God gave you and embracing the character of Christ for His glory and others’ good. Thankfully, this pursuit of excellence doesn’t rest solely on our shoulders. God has given His Spirit to sanctify us, moving us toward Christ-like excellence.

To sum it all up, here’s a definition of “godly excellence”:

**Spirit-empowered competence, sprouting from a self-sacrificial desire to honor God and serve others.**

Godly excellence is marked by...

## **Grace-Realized Proficiency**

- Grace-realized proficiency is the right understanding that we will never perfectly execute anything. We understand that, despite our best efforts, we will make mistakes. Because of this, we're free to take risks and work hard. Grace-realized proficiency is leveraging and honing the gifts God has given to bless Him and others. Because we've been given such immense mercy through Christ, we strive to be proficient in all that we do.
- Grace-realized proficiency leads to...
  - Honest expectations of oneself and others
  - Confronting mistakes with patience, grace, and kindness. It doesn't rage when we miss the mark but corrects gently.
  - A culture of freedom and confidence

## **Personal Stewardship**

- Stewardship is the wise management of the "things" God has graciously given. He's given us talents, skills, abilities, and resources that we're to leverage to faithfully reflect His nature and character, serving others.
- A stewardship-orientation leads to...
  - A desire to hone and sharpen our skills for the glory of God and the good of others
  - Humility in understanding all we have is a gift from God
  - A cooperative spirit, because we know God has given varied and diverse gifts

## **Jesus-promotion**

- Jesus-promotion is concerned primarily with how I can serve and exalt Jesus rather than how I can be served and exalted.
- Jesus-promotion leads to...
  - Peace and contentment
  - A willingness to serve others so that they can thrive
  - A desire for others to see Jesus more clearly

Godly excellence is rooted in the character of God and belonging to His kingdom of light. It is inherently God-oriented. Godly excellence is reflecting the character and work of God in our character and work. So, we pray for a genuinely loving heart towards Christ and His

church. We wholeheartedly give ourselves over to being self-sacrificially competent so that He is exalted and the church is blessed. Competence = service.

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## The “Undistracting” Part

Why “undistracting” excellence? What does this mean?

The goal of our service is the exaltation of Jesus Christ. That’s it. Our goal is for Him to take absolute center stage. We want to remove any and all distractions from this goal. Just as our *incompetence* can distract from this aim, so can “*excessive finesse*.” It can center the attention on the servant rather than the King. So, “undistracting excellence” is, as John Piper puts it, the “spiritual goal of removing obstacles from people seeing and savoring Christ.”<sup>1</sup>

We can think about “undistracting excellence” on a spectrum between “slothful incompetence” and “self-centered finesse.”

[ Slothful Incompetence ] → [ **Undistracting Excellence** ] ← [ Self-Centered Finesse ]

The degree to which our incompetence or finesse draws attention away from Jesus is the degree to which we’ve failed the assigned task. The degree to which our competence points to Jesus, we’re succeeding. *We are to remove any and all obstacles we can from people seeing and savoring Jesus.*

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<sup>1</sup> John Piper, “Have I Sinned If I Fall Short of Excellence at Work?”  
<https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/have-i-sinned-if-i-fall-short-of-excellence-at-work>

# Rhythm

## Wednesday Rhythm

- 7:30 PM
  - Training as needed

## Sunday Rhythm

- 8:00 AM Arrival & Setup
  - 8:30-9:30 AM rehearsal
    - Allows “reps”
    - Know what’s broken
    - Gives you ample time to fix it, so you’re not rushing around, stressed.
- 9:30 AM Team Meeting
- Post-service meeting

Sunday		Wednesday	
8:00 AM	Arrival & setup	7:30 PM	Training as needed  (ProPresenter, audio EQ/mixing, running cameras/live stream, etc)
8:30 AM	Live “rehearsal” (Practicing slides/live & stream audio EQ & balance)		
9:30 AM	Pre-Service Meeting		
9:50 AM	Everyone in sound booth		
9:55 AM	Go time		
11:30 AM	Post-Service Meeting		



# Expectations

## 1. Prepare for Service

- Familiarize yourself with the order/flow of the service and all notes relevant to your role
- Pray and prepare your heart and mind to joyfully serve and meet with the Lord and His church
- Showing up with a “let’s-see-how-it-goes” mentality is unacceptable

## 2. Be On Time

- Get there to get ready.

## 3. Check the List

- Walk through each element of the Procedures checklist each time you serve.

## 4. Fully Engage

- Serve with whole-self engagement. Have your hands, mind, and heart fully engrossed in your role.
- Push distractions away. You can only serve with undistract-ing excellence when you serve with undistract-ed excellence.

## 5. Communicate

- When issues arise, write it down.
- Encourage best practices to your other team members serving the following week – let them know what worked and what needs work.
- If you don’t know how to do or fix something, let the Production Manager know. Their goal is to help you serve with excellence.
- Respond to the Planning Center Blockout Request.

## 6. Be Teachable

- Remember, godly, undistracting excellence is a pursuit, not a destination. As we pursue excellence, we must embrace teachability.

## 7. Be Thankful

- To serve Jesus and His church is a privilege we don’t deserve. Don’t take it for granted.

## Values

1. **God's Word is our foundation.** We esteem and herald His Word above every other word. We feast upon it, meditate on it, and obey it. ([Matt 4:4](#); [Heb 4:12](#); [2 Tim 3:16-17](#); [Ps 19](#); [Col 3:16](#); [James 1:22](#))
2. **We love, worship, and follow God above everything else through Christ by the power of the Spirit.** Jesus is the epicenter around which our life and ministry revolve. ([Matt 22:37](#); [Matt 15: 8-9](#); [Luke 24: 27](#); [Col 1:15-23](#); [Psalm 34:1-3](#))
3. **Our identity is in Christ.** Our worth is in simply being His, not in our skill, position, or role. We're unfinished, but we rest in the finished work of Jesus. ([Eph 1: 1-14](#); [Eph 2:1-10](#); [Col 1:21-22](#); [Phil 1:6](#))
4. **We're servants, not stars.** We strive for fruitful faithfulness, not fame. Jesus, not us, is to be exalted. ([Phil 2:3-11](#); [John 3:30](#); [Prov 16:18](#))
5. **Leadership is service, not status.** We lead from and in the trenches with dirty fingernails, not on pedestals. ([Matt 20:26-28](#); [John 13:1-17](#); [1 Cor 4:1-2](#))
6. **Relationship over rivalry.** We're co-laborers, not competitors, for the glory of God. We celebrate the wisdom of God in placing us on mission together. ([Rom 12: 3-8](#); [Eph 4:1-7](#); [Eph 2:11-22](#))
7. **Character trumps competence.** Who we are matters more than what we do. ([1 Pet 1:13-16](#); [Titus 2:7](#); [1 Tim 3:1-13](#))
8. **We pursue undistracting excellence** in our skill and character for the glory of God. ([Col 3:23-24](#); [1 Cor 10:31](#); [Ex 25-28](#); [Ps 33:3](#); [2 Pet 1:5-8](#))
9. **Our gifts are our cross, not our platform.** We relinquish them for the glory of God and the blessing of His church. ([Eph 4:7-16](#); [Rom 12:3-8](#); [Matt 25:14-30](#))
10. **"Success" is ultimately defined by faithfulness to Christ**, not by the applause or criticism of man. ([1 Cor 4:1-5](#); [Matt 25:21](#))