

VINTAGE GRACE



“Having everything the world has to offer, who will help those who realize having everything is really not everything?”

- JEFF KREISER
(THE ACTS GROUP)

“El Dorado Hills needs a gospel presence and having been a part of Drew's life for years, I am confident they will get it with Vintage Grace. He is uniquely gifted and ready for this new chapter of his life and has the vision and team in place to be a light and have a huge impact in reaching these people.”

- DAVE TALLEY
(BIOLA UNIVERSITY)

[COMING SOON TO EL DORADO HILLS]

I am very excited for the launch of Vintage Grace. Drew Sodestrom is a great leader, pastor, and follower of Jesus. He and his church will be an incredible blessing to the El Dorado Hills community. Looking forward to working with him and so glad he is in the neighborhood.

- DOUG ROUSH
(LAKESIDE [A NEIGHBORING] CHURCH)

the WHY'S
PG. 5

how YOU can
get INVOLVED
PG. 15

PARTNERSHIP PLAN

A LETTER FROM DREW.

I remember the first time our denomination approached us about church planting... it was almost 2 years ago now. They shared a compelling argument for the need of more healthy churches all over the world—specifically mentioning the suburbs of Sacramento. But my simple reply was "No Way!" To which they said, "What are the odds?" I responded, "2%, and my bride is 20% behind me, so around NEGATIVE 18!"

I had a dream job as an associate pastor in beautiful Orange County, California, I was an adjunct professor at Biola University, had the privilege of traveling and speaking at conferences, and was one of the preaching pastors at our church. I was at a church I loved, and a church that, in spite of knowing me well, loved me. In the seven years of ministry at RCC, I saw God work in amazing ways through a community of faith that believed there was more Joy in Jesus than anything else the world had to offer and was committed to pursuing Him and that Joy above all else. Lives were being transformed, and I was able to be a part of it. My life was being transformed, and I was happier than I had ever been--IN CHRIST!

That's when it clicked. I wanted that joy-filled community for others. My life in the seven years at RCC wasn't perfect, or even close, by the world's standards. Four of those seven years were filled with cancer treatment as my son battled cancer twice! But the Joy of Christ and His amazing Bride, which surrounded us like an army, changed our lives forever. Now, our greatest hope is to share this type of community where Christ, community, joy, and scripture meet perfectly, in El Dorado Hills.

It took over a year between Sept. of 2011 when that first conversation happened and when we finally said "Yes" to church planting—perhaps evidence of my slow learning. With excitement, we know we have found a community to dive into. A new joy-filled community of faith will be planted on the north end of town, where there are currently no churches, in this city that mirrors the community we left in Orange County.



We believe we have been ushered by Christ, at the right time, with the right team to be a part of a special movement of God in this area! Thank you for prayerfully reading this and joining with us in what God is doing!
Grace and Peace to you!

Drew Sodestrom



VINTAGE GRACE 

WHAT IS VINTAGE GRACE?

VINTAGE: adjective - Of high quality, especially from a past time period when something was originally produced or existed.

GRACE: verb - Unmerited favor... any and everything we receive because all we truly deserve is death.

ROAD MAP.

03. Why Plant/The Plan
04. Vision
05. The Whys
06. Who We Are
07. [3]
08. Who we are Reaching/Target Family
09. What does VG Value?/r1
10. r2
11. r3
12. How we will Gather
13. Key Milestones
14. What does Success Look Like?
15. The Cost
16. Get Involved



WHY PLANT?

“The vigorous, continual planting of new congregations is the single most crucial strategy for 1) the numerical growth of the body of Christ in any city, and 2) the continual corporate renewal and revival of the existing churches in a city. Nothing else--not crusades, outreach programs, para-church ministries, growing mega churches, congregational consulting nor church renewal processes--will have the consistent impact of dynamic, extensive church planting. This is an eyebrow raising statement. But to those who have done any study at all, it is not even controversial.”
-Tim Keller, “Why Plant Churches?”

- According to Dr. Charles Arn, president of Church Growth, Inc., “The United States of America remains the third largest unchurched nation in the world!” and “In America we are closing 7 more churches a day, than we are opening!”
- According to world-renowned evangelist, Billy Graham, about 75% of all those who consider themselves Christians and regularly go to church are really not Christians.

THERE IS CLEARLY A NEED FOR THE CHURCH IN AMERICA TO GROW IN QUANTITY AND QUALITY, AND THIS NEED IS EVERYWHERE! BEYOND THE BASIC NEED FOR MORE CHURCHES, I ALSO HAVE A PASSION FOR SEEING MORE JOY-FILLED CHURCHES, MADE UP OF JOY-FILLED INDIVIDUALS.

To explain further, I have never met anyone who does not want to be happier than they are right now. I’m convinced this “pursuit of happiness” is a gift from God, for the purpose of us seeking to fill that need, and find it in HIM. John Piper says it best when he states, “God is most glorified when we are most satisfied in Him.”

THE PLAN.

So here’s the challenge...

The GOOD news: People want to be happy and it’s complete attainable through Christ. The supply is limitless and the demand is high!

The PLAN: God’s number one plan for evangelism is revealing this sustaining joy through His people- the Church (Ephesians 3:10). This Church (joy-filled community of faith) is made up of joy-filled individuals. This is why Jesus told His disciples to abide in Him, so their joy may be complete and full (John 15:11). Therefore, Christians should be the happiest people in the world because they understand who they are (sinners) and what they deserve (hell), and they understand what God’s gift (grace) of the cross is (heaven and joy). Christians don’t need to ignore the pain of this life, which happens often; but the pain should never take away from the joy they have in being sons and daughters of the living God.

The BAD news: Most Christians I know aren’t really that happy, and thus the Gospel doesn’t ever look like very good news to a world looking for happiness.

OUR VISION.

Our vision at Vintage grace is “to build **joy-filled communities** of faith whose very existence inspires individuals to live an abundant Christian life, made up of three key relationships: a deepening relationship with God (r1), a life-changing relationship with other believers (r2), and an engaging relationship with those yet to believe (r3).”

As I have served the past 7 years at Richfield Community Church (RCC), I have actually experienced a **community of faith** that is happy. They aren't ignorant. They don't ignore the pain and junk of this life. They are, however, trusting God and experiencing the sustaining joy that is only available through His Son. It was in sharing my RCC experience, and it's uniqueness, with a few other senior pastors that it finally clicked for me: if I really want to reproduce what I have experienced at RCC, the best and most effective is to plant it from the ground up.

RCC is a church that believes in the joy of Jesus, has a passion for the Word of God, and helps other become self-feeders who are **transformed in the context of community**. It is this sort of church “DNA” that we hope to reproduce in our plant of Vintage Grace. But note our vision is not to simply build ‘a’ joy-filled community of faith, but rather joy-filled communities (PLURAL) of faith. We hope to be a part of a Church planting movement in the greater Sacramento area and are convinced that this is the most effective way to share the message of joy in Jesus. Vintage Grace will start with a few (3-12-30) and share it with anyone who wants to receive it.



THE WHYS.

{WHY PLANT IN SACRAMENTO}

Sacramento is the capitol of California, one of the largest and most influential states in our great country. It is not only a growing city (500,000 people), with growing needs, but also has a HUGE growing suburb population (2.5 million) that started with the Gold rush (1839) and has continued with people moving there with hopes of a better life and future prosperity.

As for the Church of Sacramento there is a great collaboration amongst the pastors within the community who have all recognized the need for more gospel centered, bible preaching, Christ living churches. They have rallied together in the hope of having a unified Gospel voice for the millions of people looking for joy in all the wrong places. Sacramento doesn't just need a church plant, it needs a church plant movement and that is what Vintage Grace plans to be a part of.

{WHY START IN EL DORADO HILLS}

El Dorado Hills is one of the many suburbs of Sacramento, but very well may be the most affluent one of the bunch. EDH is a bedroom community of Sacramento located 22 miles east of the city. Almost 30% of people commute over 45 min. into the city to work on a daily basis; but have chosen to set up residence in EDH. This is because EDH has become one of the best places to raise a family in America (consistently in the running for CNN annual "Best places to live"). They boast one of the best school districts in the state, and safest communities with great options for family fun including lakes and mountains. This is a unique community where almost 80% of the households are married; and families are worshiped. This white-collar community is filled with Sacramento's finest leaders and influencers, and we simply desire to influence the influencers with the love of Christ and true joy offered in Him.

In spite of this city being the place where people with everything live, they still seem to be missing and lacking something. Currently there are only 5 protestant churches in EDH with approximately 15-17% of the people attending a worship service on a Sunday morning. Vintage Grace desires to come into this community and be a part of the great commission in this place.

{WHY US IN EL DORADO HILLS}

As we've come to understand, proclaiming the Gospel in white-collar communities like these can be very difficult because the residents have very few "felt needs." But there is a great need for freedom and release from materialism and the bondage of the affluent rat race that so easily entangles us. They also need relationships. They need relationships that point them towards Christ. These communities are not immune to cancer, unemployment, marriage struggles, and the other pains of life that conflict with every human being's deep desire for joy and happiness. And it is in these moments that people are most open and receptive to the Gospel.

As a family, we know what it's like to live in abundance, and we know what it's like to live when abundance is meaningless (like in the midst of cancer for our oldest Son, diagnosed on 4/1/09 and again on 12/1/10 - but alive and doing well!!!). And we also know that it's not the six-figure income, white picket fence, or even healthy kids that make us happy. It's Jesus. What we hope to bring to El Dorado Hills is a testimony of what life in Christ can be—something that no amount of affluence can provide.

WHO WE ARE { 3 - 12 - 30 }

We started praying for **3 staff members, 12 lay leaders, and 30 members**. While these numbers — 3-12-30 — are not magical, they have been intentionally prayed over and are rooted in the wisdom of Jesus and David. Jesus had 12 disciples who were committed to the work of the Messiah, but had 3 — Peter, James, and John — that seemed to be His closest disciples. We also know, by reading 2 Samuel 23, that David had 30 mighty men of valor who not only defended and built the Kingdom of Israel, but had different gifts and strengths that met the specific needs of the nation and glorified God.

1

Primary leader of the Church: **JESUS**



3

For the Vintage Grace team, we have **3 staff members** — a full time Lead Pastor a Family Pastor and part-time Youth Pastor.

We currently have **six key leadership couples** who are all in the midst of training and preparing to be Life Group leaders as well as our key ministry leaders. All of these leaders will be saturated in Scripture, transformed in community, and committed to Vintage Grace's vision that there is more joy in Jesus than in anything else.

12

30

Initially **30 members** will make up our first two life groups and will serve in various ministries (Children's, Students, Worship, Outreach, Men's, Women's) throughout Vintage Grace. We currently have 24 people who have committed to and are excited about being a part of the Vintage Grace vision and core team. They will be a key part of our fall outreaches and core gatherings.

THE {3}

LEAD PASTOR { DREW SODESTROM }

Drew has many passions in life ranging from Starbucks to Bay Area Sports teams, but his biggest passion is to encourage believers to continuously grow in their walk with Christ and to share the Gospel with the lost: a concept he likes to call Ongoing Spiritual Transformation or OST – Drew also really likes acronyms. Since completing school at Biola University and seminary at Talbot, Drew has had many roles: pastor, professor (@ Biola University now William Jessup, this Fall), caterer (for Johnny Garlics and Guy Fieri), speaker (various Christian camps, conferences and schools), and coach; but none are more important to him than being Jen’s husband and a dad to Brayden, Carson, and the little princess due in October. He believes OST happens best in community and therefore works to connect all of our adults with a Life Group: an intentional community that exists to better understand God, and a place to connect with His people.



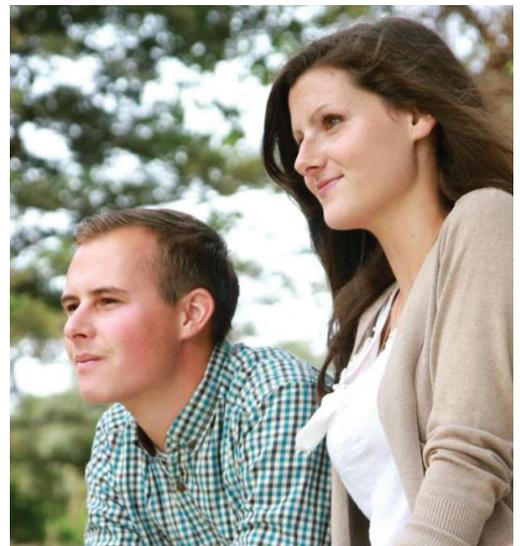
PASTOR OF FAMILY MINISTRIES { KYLE WAGGONER }

Kyle’s first passion in life was sports, and it has grown to include music, people, his family, and great food among other things. Originally from Wichita Falls TX, Kyle attended Southwestern University in Georgetown, TX and Dallas Seminary where he earned a Th.M. in Pastoral Leadership and Counseling. Kyle and his wife Bethany have been married for five exciting years and have two kids: a son, Carter, and a daughter, Avery. As a dad, Kyle’s vision is that his kids grow up seeing and understanding the character of God so that they learn to love and enjoy Jesus. That vision drives his passion to see kids at Vintage Grace encounter God in relatable ways so they build a foundation of Christ-centered faith. (Despite holding on to his North Texas sports franchises he is growing in his love and appreciation for the San Francisco Giants and 49ers.)



PASTORAL INTERN OF STUDENT MINISTRIES { CHRIS TOMES }

One of Chris’ greatest joys is seeing God work in people’s lives, which is what initially excited him about pursuing full-time ministry. He recently graduated from Biola University with a B.A. in Biblical and Theological Studies and has served and worked at different churches in California. From serving as an intern to working in a director position, he has gained insight and experience into youth ministry in unique ways. He is starting his Masters degree this Fall and is looking forward to using what he learns to bless the church and those whom he meets. His passion for the Bride of Christ is what drives him in ministry, in relationships, and in all aspects of life. Chris is getting married in October to an amazing woman named Kelsey and can’t wait to see what God has in store for the two of them as they start this new phase of life.



WHO WE ARE REACHING.



Many of the people living in El Dorado Hills are transplants from either the Bay Area or Southern California. The city of El Dorado Hills is one of the most wealthy cities in California. Most of those living in the area are accustomed to living in luxury and comfort. Incomes are high and needs are low. This lifestyle has the tendency to harbor feelings of self-sufficiency and attitudes of self-entitlement.

Recently, I met a business owner in the El Dorado Hills Area and I asked him one key question: "As people go to bed at night around here, what is the one thing that keeps them awake? What do they worry about?" He paused, and thought about it for a little while...

"Happiness," he said. "People around here want to be happy and they'll do any and everything to pursue that." After another pause he said, "but they are really lonely and crave community and a place to belong." As I left this encounter, I remember sharing with my wife Jen - this is exactly where we are supposed to be!

MEET THE { KALMA FAMILY }

Our target family is between 33-38 years old. married, considering a second or third child in the next two years, husband and wife both have a college education and have a household income of over \$140,000. They need one and a half incomes because they really live off of one and three-quarters and have debt partly resulting from the high cost of living and from a culture that promotes instant gratification. They are in some form of transition (e.g. new home, new kids, new job, new friends...) and spend a significant amount of time commuting. These families are sensitive to spirituality but not sure that Jesus is the real deal when it comes to providing them joy and happiness more than their toys and way of life. Most of the parents have had some sort of exposure to religion as a child but are now skeptical to their parents church and are consumed in raising their children in a manner that was better than their parents did.



{ THE PRIMARY CONCERNS }

LONELY

Feel disconnected from people-want community but no time for it.

LIVING IN DEBT

Love the stuff, buried by the burden of keeping up with the Jones'.

WORSHIPPING OUR KIDS

Life is consumed with giving their kids the best of everything: stuff and opportunities. They want to do better than their divorced parents did and to raise kids who are happy, moral and set up for professional success.

CHURCH BAGGAGE

Interested in Jesus and spirituality, but has yet to meet a Christian that is happier than them. They are also somewhat turned off by "grandma's church".