

Operation Impact Mission Statement

Making Christ known in our communities.

The Need

The world around us is in desperate need. Without Christ, children are growing up under the influence of crime, gang activity, dysfunctional families, and immorality. They need to know that there is hope. There is a Savior, Jesus Christ, who brings forgiveness, freedom, and a future.

The Vision of Operation Impact

Connect committed believers with their community. Disciple children in a relationship with Jesus Christ. Mobilize world-changers to stand in the gap for the next generation.

Results

Children consistently hear about Christ in their own community. Families are connected with a local church where they are receiving teaching and support from committed, caring believers. The church is inspired and equipped to effectively share the gospel, bringing God glory in their community!

The Strategy of Operation Impact

1. Connect Communities:

Operation Impact is an opportunity for local churches to expand their borders and bring the hope of Jesus directly to their communities.

Each church reaches out to their community through one to three week-long Bible Clubs and one Friday Night Celebration. The Bible Clubs are held at parks, apartment complexes, and community centers. At the end of the week a Friday Night Celebration is held at the church for the children who attended the clubs, their families, and members of the church.

2. Disciple Children:

Children are evangelized and discipled through the dynamic Bible Clubs. They are taught life-changing Bible Lessons, inspiring missionary stories, and memorable Bible verses and songs. They also enjoy snacks and games. Through each club time, children receive solid teaching about Jesus Christ and experience His love through the volunteers and teachers.

Children and their families have the opportunity to receive discipleship and encouragement that lasts far beyond the summer.

3. Mobilize World-Changers:

In the great commission, Jesus commanded His disciples to “Go.” During Operation Impact volunteers from your church and young people from all over the country have that opportunity. Each church works alongside a team of trained young people to conduct the Bible Clubs and Friday Night Celebration.

The young people who come to Operation Impact are equipped with the skills necessary to clearly communicate the gospel to the children. They are inspired to care for souls as Christ does. Through training and experience, they are empowered to evangelize and disciple children in Oklahoma and in their own communities.

Testimony

“In The Gap has demonstrated themselves as a much needed training ground for future leaders and servants in the Kingdom of God. They serve as a godly example for our children, our youth, and our adults. They have thoroughly helped Bryant Avenue Baptist Church to impact our community and beyond. Through Operation Impact children have been connected to the church which has given us the opportunity to continue to minister to families we had previously been unable to reach. At Bryant Avenue we are extremely thankful for In The Gap and their heart for the lost, and their willingness to serve.” –Pastor M. D. Hooks

We Desire to Partner with Churches and members who:

Are committed followers of Jesus Christ.

Have an eternal perspective and a desire to make a difference.

Are passionate about discipling children and adults in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Have a heart to engage their local community.

In The Gap

Our vision: In The Gap exists to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ and to equip upcoming generations to pursue moral excellence, wholeheartedly stand for what is right, and to become positive role models who will transform our community, state, and nation for generations to come.

Our mission is to train and equip youth and adults, to effectively influence children to develop character, model integrity, be positive leaders, and passionately love Jesus Christ. To learn more, visit www.inthegap.org

Operation Impact is an outreach of IN THE GAP.

Details for Operation Impact 2025

The week-long Bible Clubs for Operation impact 2025 in Oklahoma City will take place from June 16th- 20th. Your church will choose one or two locations in your community at which to conduct the clubs. These clubs will take place from 3:00-5:00 in the afternoon and 6-8pm in the evening. The Friday Night Celebration will be an additional time of celebration after club on Friday from 7pm-8:30pm.

In The Gap's Responsibilities:

Our desire is to support you in reaching out to your community so that children and their families will be evangelized and discipled.

In The Gap will:

- Communicate to church members how they can be involved in the Bible Clubs.

- Offer free training to equip church volunteers to minister to the children.

- Work with your church as you set up your clubs.

- Provide permission slips for canvassing your community.

- Provide a team of trained young people to partner with you at your clubs. These teachers will have all of the lessons prepared and will bring the needed materials for the lessons and activities.

- Help canvas on Saturday, June 14th

- Send the team to attend your Sunday school and Sunday morning service on June 15th before the week of clubs.

Conduct a team meeting with the volunteers from your church after the service on June 15th. The In The Gap team leader will pass out volunteer name tags and make sure that everyone knows where to go and how they can be a part of the clubs. At this time they will also work out the schedule for the Friday Night Celebration.

Host a prayer night on June 15th for all of the churches that will be doing Bible Clubs.

Partnering Churches' Responsibilities

Your church will:

Select a key contact who will work with In The Gap in planning for your church's outreach during Operation Impact.

Set up a group of prayer warriors who will commit to pray weekly for the outreach.

Find two ideal locations in your community for clubs to be conducted, obtain any needed permission, and select a host for each club. *2-4 volunteers are ideal for an average sized Club for maximum impact and relationship building.*

Fill out volunteer applications. **NOTE:** If a volunteer has not been screened before the week of the clubs, June 16th–20th, they will not be permitted to go to any of the Bible Clubs. However, church members do not have to fill out an application to be a part of the Friday Night Celebration at the church.

Promote the clubs. Canvas each area two weeks before the clubs start, and canvas again on the Saturday before clubs, along with the In The Gap teaching team.

Set up a meeting directly after church on the Sunday before clubs for the In The Gap team and all of the volunteers. Make sure that volunteers know when and where to meet.

Provide snacks and drinks for the children at each club. This would include napkins, cups, trash bags, etc. as needed.

Provide dinner for all those who come to the Friday Night Celebration.

Create a plan and commit to follow up with the families after the week of Bible Clubs.

In The Gap's Statement of Faith

The Bible

We believe that "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God" by which we understand the whole book called THE BIBLE; that it is inerrant in the original writing and that its teaching and authority are absolute, supreme and final. That the Holy Spirit guided the holy men of old in all that they wrote. That the 66 books

of the Bible are the written Word of God and that the Bible is divinely inspired and that its assertions are factually true in all the original autographs. That it is the supreme and final authority in all matters of belief and conduct and that its authority is not limited to spiritual, religious, or redemptive themes but includes its assertions in such fields as history and science. We believe that the final guide to the interpretation of Scripture is Scripture itself. (II Timothy 3:16; Deuteronomy 4:2, 5-6; II Peter 1:20-21)*

God

We believe in the one true God, having no beginning and no end, as revealed in the Word of God. He manifests Himself in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit – each equal and of the same essence and fullness, yet unique in their workings and ministry. (Romans 1:20; Matthew 28:19; Deuteronomy 4:35; Deuteronomy 6:4; Deuteronomy 33:27; John 17:5)*

Jesus Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Living Word of God, existing from eternity to eternity, fully God and fully man. In the fullness of time, He was sent of the Father, born of a virgin, lived a sinless perfect life, died on the cross as the vicarious substitute for the sinner, was buried, and on the third day rose bodily from the dead, the work of salvation complete in Him. He is now seated at the right hand of the Father where He makes intercession for the saints and shall return in person to this earth as Judge of the living and the dead. (John 1:1; Matthew 1:18-24; 28:18-19; John 17:5; 1 John 2:2; Galatians 3:13; Hebrews 2:9; 5:9)*

Holy Spirit

We believe the Holy Spirit convicts men of sin, calls them to the Savior, regenerates the dead in spirit, sanctifies and indwells the believer, and empowers the Christian to produce the fruits of righteousness and to live not for themselves but to the glory of God. (Galatians 3:14; Luke 12:11-12; John 14:25-26)*

Mankind

We believe that man was created in the image of God, after His likeness, as stated in the Word of God, but the whole human race fell into sin after the first man, Adam, and the first woman, Eve, sinned against God. Death (both physical and spiritual) and bloodshed entered into this world subsequent to and as a direct consequence of man's sin. Not only was his moral nature grievously injured by the fall but he totally lost all spiritual life, becoming dead in trespasses and sins, and subject to the power of the devil. "The carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then, they that are in the flesh cannot please God" (Romans 8:7-8). Therefore, he cannot see nor enter the kingdom of God until he is born again by the Holy Spirit. That no degree of reformation however great, no attainment in morality however high, no culture however attractive, no humanitarian and philanthropic schemes and societies however useful, no baptism or other ordinance however administered, can help the sinner to take even one step toward Heaven; but a new nature imparted from above, a new life implanted by the Holy Spirit through the Word is absolutely essential to salvation. (Genesis 1:26-27; Romans 5:12; Ephesians 2:1-3; John 3:3,6-7; Titus 3:5)*

Salvation

We believe that all people are separated from God because of their sins and as a result cannot see the kingdom of God, except through the new birth which takes place through repentance of sin and faith in Jesus Christ. We believe that the salvation of man comes only through grace by faith in the Person and

completed work of the Lord Jesus Christ. Salvation is expressed in the individual's recognition of their personal sin against God and of recognition of the death of Jesus Christ, and the blood He shed, as full payment for sin, and acceptance of the risen Christ as Savior, Lord, and God. Salvation is the free gift of the Father to those who believe and cannot be earned or merited by man's works. Jesus Christ became the sinner's substitute before God, and died as a propitiatory sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. That He was made a curse for the sinner, dying for his sins according to the Scriptures; that no repentance, no feeling, no faith, no good resolutions, no sincere efforts, no submission to the rules and regulations of any church can add in the very least to the value of the precious blood or to the merit of that finished work wrought for us by Him, who tasted death for every man. That His body was raised from the dead according to the Scriptures, and that He ascended into Heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God as the believer's high priest and advocate. (Luke 24:39; Acts 1:10-11; John 3:3,6-7, 16; Ephesians 2:7-9; I John 2:1; 5:13; Ephesians 4:10; Hebrews 1:3) That Christ in the fullness of the blessings He has secured by His death and resurrection is received by faith alone and that the moment we trust in Him as our Savior we pass out of death into everlasting life, justified from all things, accepted before the Father according to the measure of His acceptance, loved as He is loved and made one with Him. At the time of acceptance of Christ as Savior, He comes to dwell within the believer and to live out His life of holiness and power through him. (Hebrews 9:15; John 5:24; Romans 3:28; 4:3, 23-25; Ephesians 1:3; John 17:23; Galatians 2:20; 4:6-7; 5:16; Acts 1:8)*

Eternity

We believe that the souls of those who have trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation do at death immediately pass into His presence, and there remain in conscious bliss until the resurrection of the body at His coming, when soul and body reunited shall be with Him forever in glory. We believe that the souls of the lost remain after death in misery until the final judgment of the great white throne, when soul and body reunited at the resurrection shall be cast "into the lake of fire" which is "the second death," to be "punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power" (Matthew 5:41; Luke 16:22-28; 23:43; Romans 6:23; II Corinthians 5:8; Philippians 1:23; I Thessalonians 4:15-18; II Thessalonians 1:7-9; Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 20:5,11-15)*

The Church

We believe that the Church is composed of all those who truly believe on the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior. It is the body and bride of Christ. That every believer, whether Jew or Gentile, is baptized into the body of Christ by the Holy Spirit, and having thus become members of one another we are responsible to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, rising above all sectarian prejudices and denominational bigotry and loving one another with a pure heart fervently. That Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church which is made up of people from all people groups around the world who truly believe on the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, and that locally the church is a group of believers who are organized to worship God and to do His will. As a body of believers our calling is to worship God and witness concerning its Head, Jesus Christ. Preaching the gospel among all nations and demonstrating our commitment by compassionate service to the needs of human beings and by promoting righteousness and justice. (Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 1Corinthians 12:22-27; 1:10-13; Romans 12:4-5; Ephesians 4:3-6; 5:32; Philippians 2:1-5; Galatians 5:13-15)*

Purity

We believe that all believers in our Lord Jesus Christ are called into a life of separation from worldly and sinful practices, and should abstain from such amusements and habits as will cause others to stumble, or bring reproach upon the cross of Christ. Believers are created in Christ Jesus unto good works. "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." (Galatians 6:10; I John 2:15-16; Romans 13:14; 14:13; I Corinthians 10:31; Ephesians 2:10)*

Evangelism and Discipleship

We believe that the supreme mission of the people of God is to obey the command of Jesus Christ to preach the Gospel to every creature and to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all the things that He has commanded us. (Mark 16:15; 2 Corinthians 5:18-20; Matthew 28:18-20)*

Satan

We believe in the reality and personality of Satan, "So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world..." and that he is the adversary of both God and mankind. As Believers in Jesus Christ we also believe that we are able to resist, stand strong, and be victorious over Satan and his schemes, work, and attacks. (Genesis 3:1-5; Revelation 12:7-10; Ephesians 6:10-18; 1 Peter 5:8-9; Revelation 20:10)*

In The Gap's Child Protection Policy

What is child abuse?

Child abuse is defined as any verbal or sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, or serious physical injury that is not explained by the available medical history as accidental. Examples of sexual abuse are rape, incest, sodomy, lewd, or lascivious behavior, which includes wrong types of touching. Examples of verbal abuse are excessive yelling, berating, ridicule, or verbal assault intentionally directed at the child.*

How It Affects You

In The Gap is committed to train children how to develop character, model integrity, be positive leaders, and passionately love Jesus Christ. Because child abuse goes against God's Word and is prevalent in our society, we take extra care to avoid any appearance of misconduct and to operate with the highest level of integrity in all of our dealings with the children. In an effort to protect the children we work with and also to protect our volunteers and staff from false accusations, In The Gap has outlined the following course of action to prevent and properly deal with child abuse issues.*

Interacting with Children: Prevention Policies

Never be alone with a child, whether in a room or outside. Leave doors wide open. Do not go somewhere that could appear to be isolated. Always be within sight and in close proximity to others. Do not initiate physical contact with the children. Pray, and be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's promptings and cautions in specific situations.*

Interacting with Children: Notification Policies

All child neglect and child abuse-related matters must be reported immediately. Under no circumstances should 24 hours pass before notifying a higher authority. If you observe or have reasonable suspicion that an In The Gap staff member or volunteer, parent, guardian, neighbor, relative, or any other person is abusing a child, you are required to inform the In The Gap director, Chad Christiansen (405-420-9583) as soon as possible. If you are accused of abusing a child, call the In The Gap office immediately to report the incident (405-420-9583). In The Gap is required by law to report suspected abuse to the Child Protective Services agency (CPS). Anyone who is suspected or accused of child abuse will voluntarily relinquish or be removed from all involvement with children until the director of In The Gap considers the matter to be resolved.*

Screening Policies

IN THE GAP takes the safety of both children and volunteers very seriously. The screening policies are in place for the protection of the children and volunteers. Each volunteer must complete the following steps before coming on site at an In The Gap ministry event with children.

1. Submit an application. (Applications can be found at <https://www.inthegap.org/volunteerapplication/>) After the application has been submitted, In The Gap will review feedback from references and run a background check.
2. Give your listed references a heads up about the reference request and follow up as needed.
3. Receive confirmation that they have completed the application process.

Standards of Ministry

- § We will understand and abide by IN THE GAP's statement of faith and child protection policies.
- § We will honor those in positions of authority and respect each other's jurisdictions.
- § We will demonstrate respect for each other by keeping time sensitive commitments with punctuality and dependability.
- § We will work to resolve conflict in a biblical manner by going to the person(s) directly involved before speaking to anyone else (Matthew 18:15-17).
- § We will pursue excellence and unity by receiving the required trainings related to our responsibilities.
- § Our interactions with children will be guided by a heart of love and respect. We will treat them with kindness and dignity.

