Our Why

Our God is a God on mission. He is relentless in love, ceaselessly pursuing all people so that they could be all He intends.

God’s people (the Church) are empowered to be like Him. Through Jesus, we learn to venture beyond the familiar and status quo. To go where others will not. To risk more than is advised. To reconcile people of differing -- and often conflicting -- perspectives. To offer hope in both Word and deed. To advance the Kingdom.

Now more than ever, our city needs people of faith to be like that. People whose sights are set on things above and who are sold out on loving God and loving neighbor. No. Matter. What.

For this reason, Building Hope in the City (BHITC) was born. We hunger to reveal the heartbeat of God to a city that has largely lost its faith in church. We strive to make faith tangible on the street, in school, in the marketplace, and at home. To rebuild our city through the restoration of its people and its neighborhoods.

We believe that renewed lives will lead to a renewed city. We’re convinced that no matter their past or present, individuals who are nurtured and equipped can unleash God-centered movements. And, very often, those individuals most counted out or previously excluded, have dynamic, leadership roles to play in that process.

BHITC was founded as part of a neighborhood church on Cleveland’s Westside where we saw Jesus prove, time and again, that nothing is impossible for God. Today, BHITC engages hundreds of partners in this work annually, which includes building the capacity of faith leaders, Christian community development and affordable housing programs, refugee and immigrant integration and social enterprise ventures that create employment. For us, it’s the heart of God made practical, visible and relevant.

Those who connect with this work walk away with hope like never before. Come join the movement.

Advance the good of the city. Magnify the mission of Jesus. Unleash the capability of underestimated people.