

Sam Thigpen, Youth Pastor

Sam became a staff member in 2010 working with the contemporary worship ministry. After spending two years working with the contemporary worship department, Sam was ordained to the Gospel ministry and shortly after transitioned into the role of youth pastor. Sam has a bachelors in communications from Flagler College, and a Masters of Divinity from Liberty Theological Seminary. Sam is happily married to his wonderful wife Kelly, who is a teacher at Crookshank Elementary.

Favorite authors/preachers: I enjoy a wide range of authors and speakers, from preachers of old to the skilled communicators of today. Some of my favorites teachers and writers are Jerry Vines, David Platt, Judah Smith, and Andy Stanley.

Favorite Restaurant and Menu Item: This is a tough question because I love to eat. I like most any kind of food, some of my favorites though are local gems around town, like the Floridian, Gas Restaurant, and Back 40.

Favorite Movies: I am somewhat of a movie buff, so I have many favorite movies; it is hard for me to narrow it down to one movie. However, I will say I am big fan of the Science- Fiction genre. So, Star Wars, Lord of the Rings, and Back to the Future are some of my childhood favorites movies. My favorite TV shows, are Fringe, Lost, and Man vs. Wild.

Style of music I most listen to: I like all kinds of different music, from bluegrass to hip-hop. Some of my favorites are Shane and Shane, Band of Horses, Ben Howard, and Need to Breathe.

What do you do for Fun: I love anything to do with outdoors; my favorite things are surfing, backpacking, and rock climbing. Everyday I can spend in the outdoors enjoying God's creation is a great day!

Who do you most admire: The people whom I admire most are my parents, they have been such wonderful supporters of me. They have taught me so much about what it means to have meaningful relationships.

Favorite Scripture: Psalms 145: 8-9 "The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made."

What is Your Passion? "My passion is helping others to see the Joy that comes from having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ."