

This resource is not designed to create a membership class for you, but to give you an outline (with some content) that you can build into your own resources.

Every membership class needs to be specified to your own church culture and vision. No template can contain what needs to be covered by your church, but it can get you moving toward the creation of your uniquely designed process.

In some sections, we have left content that may be of help, but terms (members/partners) should be interchanged.

This is based off a 3-step class:

Segment #1: Our Culture (vision & values, culture of your church)

Segment #2: Our Structure/Beliefs (what we believe and how do we run)

Segment #3: Discovery (how people are gifted to serve – using S.H.A.P.E by Rick Warren)

Hope this is of help!

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The image features a city skyline at sunset, with a warm orange and red color palette. A large white rounded square is positioned in the center, containing the text 'OUR CULTURE 101' in a bold, sans-serif font. The text is arranged in three lines: 'OUR' on the top line, 'CULTURE' on the middle line, and '101' on the bottom line. The background shows several skyscrapers, some with lights on, and a body of water in the foreground.

**OUR  
CULTURE  
101**

# REQUIREMENTS

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- Attend Membership Classes (Our Culture 101 & Our Structure 201)
  - Optional (non-required for membership, but highly recommended Discovery 301 course)
- Complete Membership Application Form & Questionnaire
- Water Baptism
- Announced on a Screen Slide shown in the service

## NEXT STEPS

**[insert name of class] Class (For new believers only)**

**[insert description of whatever class you offer for new believers]**

### **Our Culture 101**

Gives basic introduction to the ministry of **[insert name of church]** and will help you understand our church culture.

### **Our Structure & Beliefs 201**

Outlines the essential habits that every believer needs to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ.

\*\*\*Once a person has completed 101 & 201 they will have completed the membership requirement.

### **Discovery 301 (optional, but highly recommended)**

Helps you discover your personality, gifts, and purpose in life—and to see how God combines your spiritual gifts, heart's desire, abilities, personality & experiences to fit for maximum impact in ministry.

## **INTRODUCTION**

We're glad you've chosen to learn about **[insert name of church]**! This class is an introduction to our church family. Since we have members from many different churches and family backgrounds, this class is designed to clearly explain who we are and what we believe.

### **Our Story**

\*\*Insert the story of your church including the following:

1. When your church opened.
2. What God has done through the years.
3. What God is currently accomplishing through your church.
4. The journey of progression of your history.

**CLASS 101**  
**SEGMENT #1**

# OUR PURPOSE

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## Why we exist

We desire to change the world and leave a legacy beyond our lifetimes by reaching each and every person we can with the message of Christ and then providing the tools necessary to help each believer become a spiritually mature disciple of Jesus Christ.

### Matthew 28:19-20

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (NIV)

## REACHING THOSE WHO NEED JESUS

The local church is the catalyst that God has chosen to fulfill this mission. As such, the role of the local church is to lead all people into a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ.

(Matthew 5:13-16, 16:17-19; Acts 2:42-27; Ephesians 1:22-23)

### Ephesians 3:10

“His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known...” (NIV)

## How to win people to Christ:

1. Accept the personal **call**.
2. Build a personal **relationship**.
3. Share your personal **story**.
4. Give a personal **invitation**.

### Acts 1:8

“ . . . and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (NIV)

#### 1. Jerusalem: OUR CITY

We reach **[insert city]**

#### 2. Judea and Samaria: OUR NATION

We reach all over the nation in many different ways.

#### 3. To the ends of the earth: OUR WORLD

We currently support over **[insert number of missionaries supported]** missionaries/ministries worldwide.

## BE A WORLD CHANGER

Changing the world sounds like a big task, but we believe that God has asked us to do this and we pursue it with all we have. Missions is not a program at [\[insert name of church\]](#)—it’s a lifestyle. We believe that we as Christ-followers are to live on mission each and every day and everywhere we go.

Beyond our daily living, we do provide some regular and planned opportunities to partner together as a church to impact our world.

**Missions Trip Teams:** Occasionally we take a global missions trip. Usually, this team consists of 10-25 people who sign up and feel called to go and serve. Our desire is that every person takes part in a missions trip during their time here at [\[insert name of church\]](#).

**Local Missions:** The need to reach the lost is just as important in our local communities as it is around the world. That is why we offer many opportunities for you and your family to serve our local communities through our local projects. Throughout the year [\[insert name of church\]](#) reaches into our communities, sharing the message of hope and the love of Christ. We are an active and recognized part of our communities and desire to grow in this each year.

## SPIRITUAL MATURITY

The purpose of our church is to provide the tools necessary to help each believer become a **spiritually mature** disciple of Jesus Christ.

### I. WHAT IS “SPIRITUAL MATURITY”?

Spiritual maturity is essential.

Romans 8:29

“For from the very beginning God decided that those who came to him . . . should become like his Son . . .” (TLB)

### II. FACTS ABOUT SPIRITUAL MATURITY

1 Timothy 4:7

“Take time and trouble to keep yourself spiritually fit.” (PHILLIPS)

1. Spiritual Growth is not automatic.
2. Spiritual Growth is a life-long journey.
3. Spiritual Growth requires commitment.

### III. UNDERSTANDING DISCIPLESHIP

Acts 11:26b

“And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.” (NASB)

Spiritual growth is BECOMING LIKE JESUS.

Ephesians 4:14-15

“...we will no longer be like children...become more and more in every way like Christ...” (TLB)

Jesus calls us to BE disciples and to MAKE disciples.

John 8:31

“Jesus said to the people who believed in him, “You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings.” (NLT)

Matthew 28:19

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.”

1. The term disciple comes from the word DISCIPLINE.
2. The more like Jesus I become, the more God can use me.

**How do I become a disciple?** - By developing the HABITS of a disciple.

Colossians 3:9-10

“...You have put off the old self with its habits, and have put on the new self...which God, its Creator, is constantly renewing in his own image, in order to bring you to a full knowledge of himself.” (GNT)

Definition of “habit” (Webster’s Dictionary):

“a behavior pattern acquired by frequent repetition; an acquired mode of behavior that has become nearly or completely involuntary; A continual, often unconscious inclination to do a certain activity, the prevailing disposition or character of a person's thoughts and feelings.”

**The habits of a disciple are:**

1. Bible study and prayer
2. Life with other believers
3. Living a Spirit-led life
4. Sacrificial giving

**Illustration:** The habits are like a FOUR LEGGED STOOL

- Each habit (leg) is needed for the stool to be steady. Take away a leg and it will not be strong and steady.

**Habit #1: Bible study and prayer (covered in-depth in class 201)**

The only way to know all God wants us to know is study, understand, and implement His Word.

2 Timothy 3:16-17



“The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right. It is God’s way of making us well prepared at every point, fully equipped to do good to everyone.” (LB)

**Habit #2: Life with other believers. (covered in-depth later in this class)**

How can a church grow larger and yet maintain close friendships?

*We believe that lifegroups are the key to making this happen.*

At [insert name of church], we believe our church must grow LARGER and feel SMALLER at the same time.

**Habit #3: A Spirit-led life (covered in-depth in class 201)**

The best life lived is one that is led by the Holy Spirit. When Jesus ascended to heaven, He promised that another would come to assist us in following His ways. This is the Holy Spirit. It is essential for every believer to learn to follow the direction and leadings of the Holy Spirit.

John 14:16

“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever.” (NAS)

John 14:26

“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.” (NAS)

**Habit #4: Sacrificial giving**

2 Corinthians 8:7

“But just as you excel in everything — in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us — see that you also excel in this grace of giving.” (NIV)

The [insert name of church] family makes the vision come to life! The vision, purpose and strategy of our church ministry is not only made possible by the commitment of our church attendees and members to invest their time and talents in ministry, but also by their commitment to Biblical giving.

**Reasons to give:**

- Giving makes me more like God

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world he gave his one and only Son.” (NIV)

- Giving draws me closer to God

Matthew 6:21

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (NIV)

- Giving is the antidote to materialism

1 Timothy 6:17

“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.” (NIV)

- Giving strengthens my faith

Proverbs 3:5, 9

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding...honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops.” (NIV)

- Giving is an investment for eternity

1 Timothy 6:18-19

“Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.” (NIV)

- Giving makes me happy

Acts 20:35

“... It is more blessed to give than to receive.” (NIV)

Proverbs 11:25

“A generous man will prosper...”

### According to Scripture, committed Christians give:

- Gratefully //** We believe that God is the source and ultimate owner of all that we have. We are so grateful for His provision that we give as a way of saying “thank you!”
- Sacrificially //** We understand that Christ gave Himself for us, and so we joyfully present all we are and have back to God as a living sacrifice.
- Proportionally //** We believe that the tithe (10%) is a long-established Biblical benchmark for each believer.
- Regularly //** We don’t just give on occasional impulse, but instead, giving for us should be a regular, planned part of our budgeting process.
- Locally //** Knowing that this church is our spiritual home, we believe that we should support the church facilities and ministries from which we derive benefit.
- Cheerfully //** We give not just to an organization, but rather to God. We should give willingly, and not under compulsion, but with a spirit of joyful worship as our resources flow out to serve others.
- Generously //** We should always approach giving with generosity. God has given so much to us and we should give back with a generous heart.

**CLASS 101**  
**SEGMENT #2**

# ONE VISION

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[Insert your own vision – below is a sample of what it could look like]

Our vision is most clearly understood when pictured as a continuous process leading towards life transformation. It is a foundation for all our new strategies and initiatives.

We strive to bring a clear understanding of why we do what we do, so that everyone can begin to live it out in their own lives. Vision helps us adjust to changes God wants to make because it provides guidance and coherence.

At [insert name of church] we believe in the power of dreaming new things. Because of this we have adapted the mentality that what we do here is an experiment (of course, this does not apply to doctrinal issues). We want to be a place where we try new things in ministry, and if they don't work, then we'll try something else. Everything that works is a win, and things that don't are just a lesson from which we learn.

## OUR VISION

We [insert name of church] participate in this mission through **ONE VISION:** [insert vision statement]

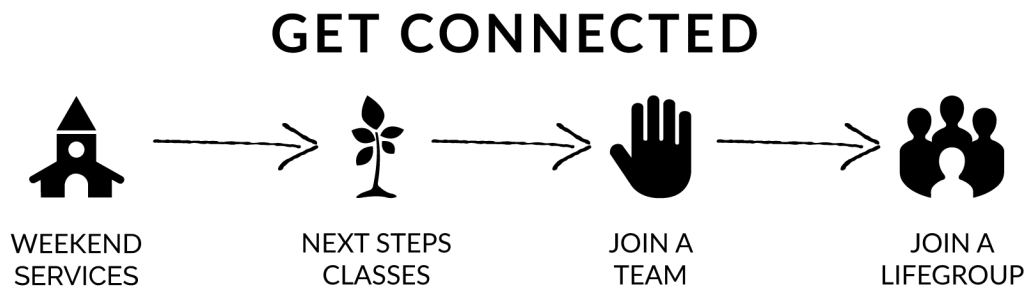
# ONE STRATEGY

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## Implementing the vision

A strategy is defined as a game plan of action to assist us in accomplishing desired outcomes. We implement our vision with a **FOCUSED STRATEGY**. Our strategy is to create intentional environments that encourage and equip people toward the following: to passionately pursue intimacy with Jesus Christ, to spend time in community with other believers, and to influence unbelievers toward saving faith in Jesus Christ. Our goal is to make every ministry environment a step towards becoming a faithful follower of Jesus.

[insert your own plan...a sample of what it could look like is listed below]



### Step 1 | Attend Weekend Services

#### Hebrews 10:24-25

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” (NIV)

#### Colossians 3:15-16

“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.” (NIV)

Weekend services challenge us with God’s truth as it relates to living a full and healthy life.

### Step 2 | Attend and Complete Next Steps

The Next Steps is designed to guide everyone at [insert name of church] through a step-by-step process from initial connection to involvement within the church.

### Step 3 | Join a Team

Serve in an area of ministry at [\[insert name of church\]](#) that fits your giftings and heart.

Mark 10:43-45

“...whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (NIV)

#### **Step 4 | Join a Lifegroup**

Acts 2:46-47

“Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” (NIV)

**This is an important step in becoming an active part of and fully experiencing the [\[insert name of church\]](#) family. We believe that the devil works best in isolation and God works best in community.**

So how can a church grow larger yet maintain close friendships? Every person has an opportunity to be a part of a LIFEGROUP.

Acts 5:42

“(They met) day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house...” (NIV)

Acts 20:20

“You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house.” (NIV)

Acts 2:42-47

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved...” (NIV)

**CLASS 101**  
**SEGMENT #3**

# OUR CORE VALUES

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[insert name of church] is a committed group of people whose passion is to live in an Acts 2 community of faith. We are specifically defined by six core values.

[insert your churches core values here]

# OUR CULTURE

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Culture is defined as “a particular set of attitudes that characterizes a group of people.” The following cultural statements are an extension of who we are:

[insert your churchs cultural statements here...some samples are listed to show an example...these are from real church cultural statements]

**LOVING** | Small things done with great love can change the world.

Matthew 25:40

“...whatever you did for one of the least of these...you did for me.” (NIV)

**REAL** | Our church should be a real place for real people.

Matthew 6:1

“Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.” (NIV)

**UNIFIED** | Staying together is how we choose to live as a corporate body. We believe in living our lives in support of one another through our actions and conversations. We are one!

1 Thessalonians 5:11

“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.” (NIV)

**EXCELLENCE** | Not unrealistic perfection, but doing our best to give our best—to represent Jesus in the way He deserves.

2 Corinthians 5:9-10



“So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.” (NIV)

**HEALTHY |** We make every effort to think, talk, plan, and live with a healthy mindset. We believe God has called us to be a spiritual hospital for those in need.

Jeremiah 30:17

“But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds,” declares the LORD...” (NIV)

## THINGS TO KNOW

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Here are some simple steps that will assist you in understanding additional processes that make us [\[insert name of church\]](#).

### How do I connect?

Website – [\[insert website here\]](#)

[\[insert name of church\]](#) App (search [\[insert name of church\]](#) in the App Store)  
- Bible reading plans, listen to sermons, church information, and more!

Facebook

- Private Group - [\[insert name of church\]](#) (Members Only)  
This is where we post prayer requests and non-public information
- Public Page – [\[insert name of church\]](#)  
This is where we post public event information

Instagram - [@\[insert handle\]](#)

e-Blast – Sign up at the bottom of the page at [\[insert where to sign up for e-blasts\]](#)

Church email – [\[insert main church email here\]](#)

Kids Media: [\[insert kids social media info here\]](#)

Youth Media: [\[insert youth social media info here\]](#)

### ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

Regardless of your age, stage or interests, we have a place for you to find community at [\[insert name of church\]](#). Throughout the year, we have many events designed for men, women, married couples, singles and seniors to be able to connect, grow and serve together. Visit [\[insert name of church\].org/sign up](#) to check up on what events are coming up. Remember to check back often, as we’re always adding new and exciting events to serve each area of interest.

[list any information about the adult ministry opportunities]

## How do we assist in the discipleship process?

### New Believers Process

We want to make a heavy investment in the lives of new Christians. This investment includes providing a Bible of their choosing, a journal for sermon notes, a new believers class called [insert new believers class name] as well as a process to join a lifegroup.

### How do I get involved in ministry?

[insert how they get connected to serve here]

### Discovery Class (SHAPE) 301

Here we will discover how your spiritual gifts, heartbeat, abilities, personality and experiences have created you and formed you for a specific fit for ministry.



**OUR  
STRUCTURE  
AND  
BELIEFS  
2011**



**CLASS 201**  
**SEGMENT #1**

# OUR STRUCTURE

The Assemblies of God in Michigan has three classifications of churches in the United States:

- **Parent Affiliated Church** PAC model of planting uses an existing “Parent” church to provide direct accountability and inspiration. This is the most flexible model we have because it can be whatever the “Parent” and “Affiliate” want it to be.
- **Network Supervised** Pastor is appointed and the Official Board is comprised of the Sectional Presbyter and the Sectional Network Supervised Board and may have a local Advisory Committee appointed by Sectional Presbyter.
- **General Council (Autonomous)** Pastor is elected by the members of the church and the Official Board is elected/appointed by local church. The church is self-governing.

[insert name of church] is a [insert what kind of church you are] Assembly of God Church

**We are a body — not a business!**

1 Corinthians 14:33,40

*“For God is not a God of disorder but of peace . . . But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.”*

Therefore, we operate on the basis of every member of the body functioning properly and in his/her proper place.

Romans 12:4-6

*“Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us...”*

**We are attempting to maintain a simple structure so we can maximize ministry and minimize maintenance to accomplish this:**

The people are the *ministers* - The Pastor and his staff are the *administrators*.

Assemblies of God Credentialing for Pastors/Missionaries (Three Levels)

- **Certified Ministers** Beginners in the Gospel ministry. Must wait one year for advancement to Licensed level.
- **Licensed Ministers** Give evidence of being called of God. Intend to devote their entire time to the preaching of the Gospel. 2 years before advancing to Ordained level.
- **Ordained Ministers** Highest level of credentials. Mature experience. Able to carry the responsibilities of a full Gospel ministry.

## Our Pastoral Staff

[insert names of the current staff here]

**Office Staff** (All office positions are part-time)

[insert names of the current office staff if any here]

## Deacon Board

[insert names of the current deacons here]

[insert your churches process...a sample has been provided below]

The Deacon Board serves in an advisory capacity to the Pastor and acts as the official board of the corporation. They determine board policies, set salaries, etc., and specific portfolios as listed. They meet once a month. They are elected for alternating [insert length of term] - year terms at the annual business meeting held in [insert month]. Each is limited to [insert length of term] consecutive [insert length of term]-year elected terms, but an individual can become eligible after [insert length of term] year. If an individual is unable to complete their current elected term, the pastor can appoint someone to replace them.

## ASSEMBLIES OF GOD LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE

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1. General Council of the Assemblies of God – Springfield, MO
  - A. Executive Officers (elected; 4-year terms)
    1. General Superintendent: Doug Clay
    2. Assistant Superintendent: Rick DuBose
    3. Secretary: Donna Barrett
    4. Treasurer: Wilfredo De Jesus
    5. World Missions Director: Greg Mundis
    6. U.S. Missions Director: Malcolm P. Burleigh
  - B. General Council Executive Presbyters (elected by Regional)
  - C. General Council General Presbyters (3 elected by each Network; 3-year term)

- D. General Council Honorary Presbyters (nominated by District; appointed by General Council)
  - E. General Council Meeting every 2 years (voting constituency; Ordained and Licensed Ministers, and one Delegate per Autonomous Church)
2. The Assemblies of God Michigan Ministry Network
- A. Executive Officers (elected; 4-year terms)
    - 1. Network Superintendent – Aaron Hlavin (Full-Time)
    - 2. Assistant Superintendent – Brad Trask (Part-Time)
    - 3. Secretary/Treasurer – Brooks McElhenny (Full-Time)
  - B. Network Executive Presbyters (3 offices; elected 3-year terms by Network; maximum of 2 consecutive terms)
  - C. Network Sectional Presbyters (12 offices; elected bi-annually by each Section; maximum 5 consecutive terms)
  - D. Network Additional Presbyters (3 offices, elected bi-annually by Network; for 2-year terms)

Network Council Meets annually (voting constituency: Credentialed Ministers; two delegates from Autonomous Churches; one delegate from Network Supervised Churches)

## EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

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[this is something that one may or may not want in their class...it is designed to be a sample letter from the pastor to the congregation...it is here as a sample to consider]

People who are a part of the same local congregation do not all share the same expectations of what “the church” should be and/or what “the church” should do. They also do not share the same expectations about the role of the lead pastor and/or members of the pastoral staff. When these expectations are not met, believers feel disappointed, and can sometimes be affected to the point that their own Christian growth suffers.

Our lead pastor would like to meet all of your expectations. However, we all know that is impossible. In order to avoid the disappointment of unmet expectations, please look over the following information. It is intended to address such issues and to serve as a foundation of understanding and unity.

**What you can expect from me as your Lead Pastor:**



### **In Leadership**

You can expect me to provide overall leadership and vision for this congregation. Administrative oversight is primarily accomplished through the pastoral staff, office staff, and department leaders.

1 Peter 5:2-4

“Shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.”

### **In Teaching**

You can expect me to consistently give Biblical teaching that is doctrinally sound and applicable to everyday life. We make other classes available on Wednesday evenings for every age level. We also have a number of “small group format” discipleship groups that meet at various times during the week.

2 Timothy 4:1-2

I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

### **In Evangelism**

You may expect me to consistently be praying for and looking for opportunities to share the Gospel with unbelievers in my sphere of influence. The goal is for each believer to be equipped to consistently share Christ within his or her own circle of relationships.

### **In Discipleship**

You may expect me to be actively and most directly involved in disciplining and nurturing the pastoral staff, office staff, and other leadership of the congregation.

2 Timothy 2:2

The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

### **In Relationships**

You may expect me (as well as my family) to have every kind and level of relationship that is experienced by other believers in the church family. These will include everything from casual acquaintances to intimate friendships. These relationships will not be static but dynamic and will change from time to time (as all relationships do).

You may expect me to love you as a brother or sister in Christ (although this may not involve personal time with each of you). Your deepest relationship needs can begin to be met through your involvement in one of our life groups, in serving on one of our ministry teams, and/or by participating in our church-wide events and activities.

### **In Pastoral Care**

This is probably where the greatest amount of expectation is felt. How can and will the lead pastor respond to me when I am emotionally hurting, find myself in the hospital, or experience a serious family need?

You can expect me to care deeply. Much of our pastoral care happens within the natural relationships within the local body and through life groups. In case of an emergency, please call the church office and someone will gladly set up an appointment.

### **What You Can Expect from the Local Congregation**

We believe that everyone has the responsibility to develop his/her own spiritual life, to discover, develop and deploy his/her spiritual gifts. We also recognize that each believer will need the help of other believers to accomplish those goals. We sincerely want to be a local church family that provides opportunities for “ministering” and “being ministered to.”

There are those who have expectations for “the church” to minister to their personal needs and are disappointed when all their needs are not met. First of all, we believe that only God Himself can meet certain needs. Secondly, we believe that the primary way “the church” (the corporate congregation) ministers to itself and others is through its individual members. This is largely accomplished through the network of relationships established as described above.

**CLASS 201**  
**SEGMENT #2**

# OUR DOCTRINE

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## 16 Fundamental Truths of the Assemblies of God

[below are the 16 Fundamentals of the AG...it would be wise to add teaching components to certain ones, bringing clarity...we did include some examples, but did not do this throughout...it would wise to do so]

- 1. WE BELIEVE...The Scriptures are inspired by God and declare His design and plan for mankind.**

### BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER

The only way to know all God wants us to know is to know His word through the studying, understanding and implementation of the Bible.

### 2 Timothy 3:16-17

“The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right. It is God’s way of making us well prepared at every point, fully equipped to do good to everyone.” (LB)

- 2. WE BELIEVE...There is only One True God—revealed in three persons...Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (commonly known as the Trinity).**
- 3. WE BELIEVE...In the Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ. As God's son Jesus was both human and divine.**
- 4. WE BELIEVE...though originally good, Man Willingly Fell to Sin—ushering evil and death, both physical and spiritual, into the world.**
- 5. WE BELIEVE...Every Person Can Have Restored Fellowship with God Through 'Salvation' (trusting Christ, through faith and repentance, to be his/her personal Savior).**
- 6. WE BELIEVE...and practice two ordinances—(1) Water Baptism by Immersion after repenting of one's sins and receiving Christ's gift of salvation, and (2) Holy Communion**

(the Lord's Supper) as a symbolic remembrance of Christ's suffering and death for our salvation.

7. **WE BELIEVE...the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a Special Experience Following Salvation that empowers believers for witnessing and effective service.**
8. **WE BELIEVE... the Initial Physical Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is 'Speaking in Tongues,' as experienced on the Day of Pentecost and referenced throughout Acts and the Epistles.**
9. **WE BELIEVE...Sanctification Initially Occurs at Salvation and is not only a declaration that a believer is holy, but also a progressive lifelong process of separating from evil as believers continually draw closer to God and become more Christ-like.**
10. **WE BELIEVE...The Church has a Mission to seek and save all who are lost in sin. We believe 'the Church' is the Body of Christ (regardless of religious denomination).**
11. **WE BELIEVE...A Divinely Called and Scripturally Ordained Leadership Ministry Serves the Church. The Bible teaches that each of us under leadership must commit ourselves to reach others for Christ, to worship Him with other believers, to build up or edify the body of believers—the Church and to meet human need with ministries of love and compassion.**
12. **WE BELIEVE...Divine Healing of the Sick is a Privilege for Christians Today and is provided for in Christ's atonement (His sacrificial death on the cross for our sins).**
13. **WE BELIEVE...in The Blessed Hope—When Jesus Raptures His Church Prior to His Return to Earth (the second coming). At this future moment in time all believers who have died will rise from their graves and will meet the Lord in the air, and Christians who are alive will be caught up with them, to be with the Lord forever.**
14. **WE BELIEVE...in The Millennial Reign of Christ when Jesus returns with His saints at His second coming and begins His benevolent rule over earth for 1,000 years. This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel and the establishment of universal peace.**

- 15. WE BELIEVE...A Final Judgment Will Take Place for those who have rejected Christ. They will be judged for their sin and consigned to eternal punishment.**
  
- 16. WE BELIEVE...and look forward to the perfect New Heavens and a New Earth that Christ is preparing for all people, of all time, who have accepted Him. We will live and dwell with Him there forever.**

**CLASS 201**  
**SEGMENT #3**

# OUR CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

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Much of this is for you to read on your own, but we will cover a few highlighted items.

[insert a description of your Constitution/Bylaws here...the purpose is to let new members know you follow those guidelines]

## MEMBERSHIP

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### The Definition of [insert name of church] Members

The official Members of this church are those persons who have intentionally gone through the process of membership, committed themselves to be part of and uphold the church family and its values, and have all the membership rights and responsibilities provided in the Constitution and by-laws.

### A look at the reasons for membership...

One of the most frequently asked questions relating to the topic of church membership is...

“Why should I join the church, anyway? After all, it makes no difference—I can still go to church and participate in all the activities without feeling tied down or committed.”

### We ask you to commit to membership for 4 reasons:

**1. A Biblical Reason:** Christ is committed to the church.

*Ephesians 5:25*...Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her.

**2. A Cultural Reason:** It is an antidote to our society.

We live in an age where very few want to be committed to anything...a job...marriage...our country. This attitude has produced “consumer religion.” Becoming a member is an unselfish decision. Commitment always builds character.

**3. A Practical Reason:** It defines who can be counted on.

Every team must have a roster. Every school must have an enrollment. Every business has a payroll. Every army has an enlistment. Even our country takes a census and requires voter



registration. Membership identifies our family.

**4. A Personal Reason:** It produces spiritual growth.

The New Testament places a major emphasis on the need for Christians to be accountable to each other for spiritual growth. You cannot be accountable when you're not committed to any specific church family. Membership is a door of opportunity—a door that leads to greater connection, growth, identity and fulfillment. Membership strengthens the believer.

**The Qualifications for Membership**

- A personal commitment of faith in Jesus Christ for forgiveness and salvation, along with evidence of a changed heart.
- Scriptural baptism by immersion as a testimony of salvation.
- Completion of the church's membership classes and/or process.
- A signed commitment of agreement with and willingness to abide by the **[insert name of church]** Membership Commitment.

**What is expected from our members?**

At **[insert name of church]** we never ask our members to do more than the Bible clearly teaches. We only expect our members to do what the Bible expects every Christian to do. These responsibilities are spelled out in the Membership Commitment.

**Protect the unity of my church**

- by demonstrating love toward others
- by refusing to gossip
- by following our leadership

Romans 14:19

Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.

Romans 15:5

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus.

1 Peter 1:22

Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart

Ephesians 4:29

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

Hebrews 13:17

Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey then so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage for you.”

#### **Share the responsibility of my church**

- by praying for the vision and purpose to be fulfilled
- by inviting the unchurched to attend
- by warmly welcoming visitors

1 Thessalonians 1:2

“We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers.”

Luke 14:23

Then the master told his servant. “Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full.”

Romans 15:7

“Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.”

#### **Serve the ministry of my church**

- by discovering my gifts and being equipped to serve
- by developing a servant’s heart
- by actively serving

1 Peter 4:10

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.

Ephesians 4:11-12

It was He who gave some to be apostles; some to be prophets; some to be evangelists; and some to be pastors and teachers to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.

Philippians 2:3-4, 7

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others... But made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

#### **Support the testimony of my church**

- by attending faithfully
- by growing in and living a godly life
- by giving regularly

Hebrews 10:25

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

1 Corinthians 16:1-2a

Now about the collection for God's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income.

Leviticus 27:30

A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

Attend Discovery 301. You'll discover more about yourself and your unique make-up of talents and gifts God has blessed you with. You'll be able to find the area you are a "10" in, and make a difference in the world as together we make it simple to find and follow Jesus!

**Discovery  
CLASS 301**

[This section is from Rick Warren's SHAPE Course...it is just a sample of what some churches use...use whatever you feel is appropriate]

# INTRODUCTION

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**What God made me to BE determines what God intends for me to DO.**

The purpose of this study is to help you discover your SHAPE for ministry. But what is that? SHAPE is a Biblically based concept that will enable you to discover for yourself how God has fashioned you to be an integral part of His eternal kingdom purposes. The five core dimensions of your SHAPE are:

**S** - Spiritual Gifts

**H** - Heart

**A** - Abilities

**P** - Personality

**E** – Experiences

This study will lead you to discover and reflect upon each area of SHAPE as it applies to you personally. Prayerfully, at its conclusion, you will have a greater sense of God's purpose for your life and your integral part in the shared ministry of **[insert church name]**. As you continue to abide in the Lord your gifts will be strengthened, your ministry will grow and so will you. However, before exploring the details of your SHAPE let's see what the Bible says about MINISTRY and YOU!



# MINISTRY

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## WHO DO WE MINISTER TO?

### **A. To God**

And while they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” **Acts 13:2**

### **B. To People**

God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them. **Hebrews 6:10**

## WHAT AREAS OF NEED DO WE MINISTER IN?

### **A. To people’s physical needs**

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. **Matthew 25:35-36**

### **B. To people’s emotional needs**

And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. **1 Thessalonians 5:14**

### **C. To people’s spiritual needs**

He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. **Colossians 1:28**

## HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO ME?

### **A. I’ve been created for ministry**

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. **Ephesians 2:10**

## **B. I've been saved for ministry**

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation. **2 Corinthians 5:18**

## **C. I've been chosen for ministry**

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. **1 Peter 2:9**

## **D. I've been equipped for ministry**

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. **1 Peter 4:10**

## **E. I've been sent for ministry**

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." **John 20:21**

## **F. I am responsible for my ministry**

So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God. **Ro. 14:12**

## **G. I will be rewarded for my ministry**

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. **Colossians 3:23-24**



# SPIRITUAL GIFTS

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Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant. **1 Corinthians 12:1**

Everyone loves to receive gifts. Can you imagine if you never unwrapped those gifts? Just leaving them in the wrapping, sitting there gathering dust year after year. I'm sure it would be a disappointment to the gift giver and a huge loss to us. Unfortunately, that's exactly what many Christians do with their God-given spiritual gifts and the whole body of Christ suffers loss with them.

## **CHARACTERISTICS OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines. **1 Corinthians 12:4-11**

- A. Spiritual gifts come from the Holy Spirit (v. 4)**
- B. Spiritual gifts are different because they serve different purposes (v. 5)**
- C. Spiritual gifts are used for God (v. 6)**
- D. We all have spiritual gifts (v. 7 and 11)**

A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.

**1 Corinthians 12:7 (NLT)**

- E. Spiritual gifts are not for my benefit, but for service**

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. **1 Peter 4:10**

- F. Spiritual gifts produce unity and maturity**

Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ. **Ephesians 4:12-13 (NLT)**

### **LISTING OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS IN THE BIBLE**

#### **Romans 12:3-8:**

- Prophesying
- Serving
- Teaching
- Encouraging
- Contributing
- Leadership
- Mercy

#### **1 Corinthians 12:7-11**

- Wisdom
- Knowledge
- Faith
- Healing
- Miracles
- Prophecy
- Discernment
- Speaking in tongues
- Interpreting tongues

#### **1 Corinthians 12:27-30**

- Apostles
- Prophets
- Teachers
- Miracles
- Healing
- Compassion
- Administration
- Speaking in tongues

#### **Others Found in 1 Corinthians**

- Giving (1 Cor. 7:7)
- Music (1 Cor. 14:26-33)

#### **Ephesians 4:11**

- Apostles
- Prophets
- Evangelists
- Pastors
- Teachers

#### **1 Peter 4:9-11**

- Hospitality

### **SPIRITUAL GIFT ASSESSMENT**

Spiritual gifts I believe I have:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

I feel I may have these gifts because:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

# HEART

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You have searched me, Lord, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you. For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. **Psalm 139:1-16**

**What are five principles we can learn about ourselves based upon this Psalm?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## **SCRIPTURAL TRUTHS ABOUT THE HEART**

### **A. God knows my heart**

And you, my son Solomon, acknowledge the God of your father, and serve him with wholehearted devotion and with a willing mind, for the Lord searches every heart and understands every desire and every thought. If you seek him, he will be found by you; but if you forsake him, he will reject you forever. **1 Chronicles 28:9**

### **B. My heart is very important to God**

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart. **1 Samuel 16:7**

**C. My heart determines what I do and say**

Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. **Proverbs 4:23**

You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. **Matthew 12:34**

**HEART ASSESSMENT**

1. What I have a heart for, or what motivates me most is:

I love to \_\_\_\_\_

I love to \_\_\_\_\_

I love to \_\_\_\_\_

2. Who I love to work with most, and the age or type of people:

3. Church issues, ministries, or possible needs that excite or concern me most are:

4. If I knew I couldn't fail, this is what I would attempt to do for God with my life:

# ABILITIES

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## TRUTHS AND MYTHS ABOUT SKILLS AND ABILITIES

**True or False: Skills and abilities are only learned in a classroom.**

Some of your most basic skills were learned at home, “in the street”, or somewhere else outside a classroom.

**True or False: All skills and abilities are learned by experience.**

There are a number of talents which seem to be inborn, or are developed very early in infancy. When people say “He just seems to have a natural talent for it” it’s probably true!

**True or False: My abilities are given to me by God.**

I have filled him with the Spirit of God, giving him great wisdom, ability, and expertise I all kinds of crafts. **Exodus 31:3**

**True or False: You will always be aware of your skills and abilities.**

You are probably using a number of talents or skills that you are not even aware of! You need some process of skill identification.

**True or False: Skills and abilities that I use at work are only usable in that environment.**

Hopefully, by the end of this class, you’ll see the fallacy of this idea. Be creative!

**True or False: Our abilities are different.**

There are different abilities to perform service. **1 Corinthians 12:6**

**True or False: Most people only have a few abilities.**

The truth is that many national studies have proven that the average person possesses from five hundred to seven hundred skills!



# PERSONALITY

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For who knows a person’s thoughts except their own spirit within them? **1 Cor. 2:11**

“Look for the uniqueness that God created in you - you are a priceless treasure. Why did you listen to those who demeaned you...and far worse, why did you believe them? No longer hide your rarity in the dark. Bring it forth.

Show the world. Strive not to walk where your brother walks, nor talk as your leader talks. Imitate no one. Be yourself. You bring value to the world. Let your wondrous personality shine through!” **Og Mandino** - *“The Greatest Miracle”*

**WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE TRY TO SERVE OUTSIDE OUR PERSONALITY?**

- A. We feel uncomfortable**
- B. It takes extra time and effort**
- C. Even with extra effort, we frequently do a less-than-wonderful job**

**PERSONALITY ASSESSMENT**

This is how I see myself (circle one for each)

	Strong		Mild		Strong	
Introverted						Extroverted
Thinker						Feeler
Reserved						Expressive
Routine						Variety
Cooperative						Competitive



**PERSONALITY PROFILE**

Circle the traits that you feel best represent you and total the number of traits after each section. We will discuss it after you finish.

**Dominant (D)/Paul**

Takes Charge  
Bold  
Self-reliant  
Determined  
Purposeful

Assertive  
Decision maker  
Firm  
Leader  
Enterprising

Goal driven  
Competitive  
Enjoys challenges  
Adventurous

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

**Influencing (I)/Peter**

Takes risks  
Fun-loving  
Visionary  
Likes variety  
Motivator

Enjoys change  
Energetic  
Very verbal  
Group-oriented  
Promoter

Mixes easily  
Avoids details  
Optimistic  
Creative

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

**Steady (S)/John**

Loyal  
Adaptable  
Non-demanding  
Sympathetic  
Even-keeled

Avoids conflict  
Patient  
Dislikes change  
Tolerant  
Thoughtful

Deep relationships  
Enjoys routine  
Nurturing  
Good listener

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

**Conscientious (C)/Thomas**

Deliberate  
Discerning  
Controlled  
Detailed  
Reserved

Analytical  
Predictable  
Inquisitive  
Practical  
Precise

Orderly  
Persistent  
Factual  
Scheduled

Total: \_\_\_\_\_



## **EXPLANATION OF RESULTS**

**Dominant (D)/Paul-** Paul, as a dogmatic, domineering, driving, demanding doer, is a good example of the 'D' personality. Before he was controlled by the Spirit he was persecuting Christians (Acts 22:4, 20) and afterwards was being persecuted (1 Corinthians 1:8,9). "Without the control of the: Spirit, he was out to destroy people and churches. Under the control of the Spirit, he was able to help people, start new churches, and write most of the New Testament. It was the same type personality that helped him move onward and upward in both causes."

**Influencing (I)/Peter-** Peter is the typical 'I' type personality – impetuous, quick to speak and act then realizing he had erred. Think of his boast about being willing to die for the Lord then denying Him three times (Matthew 26:74, 75). But when the Spirit filled all the disciples at Pentecost, it was Peter who rose to speak boldly before the multitudes (Acts 2). Just because you have failed in a situation does not mean you are a failure as a person. This personality type does not usually do well at detail, and note that Peter even dictated one of the two short letters that we have in the New Testament. (1 Peter 5:12)

**Steady (S)/John-** John is a good example of the quiet, unassuming, supportive personality of the 'S'. He refers to himself as "the other disciple" in his gospel and focuses all the glory, honor, and praise on Jesus and the other disciples. He was the only disciple not to die a martyr's death. Maybe he was so nice, quiet and unassuming that he was banished to Patmos instead of being put to death. But he wasn't perfect, for a careful reading of the gospels reveals that while Peter denied the Master openly three times, John stood by in silence.

**Conscientious (C)/Thomas-** Thomas is the 'C' personality who wants to get all the facts and analyze them before making any decisions. These people are very detailed and are seldom wrong because they are so careful. "Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nail, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." There can never be too many supporting facts; one is not enough. But the Lord did not put Thomas down, He gave him the opportunity to analyze the data and then make his decision (John 20:24-28).

# EXPERIENCES

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## SCRIPTURAL TRUTHS ABOUT EXPERIENCES

### **A. Our experiences, even the painful ones, can serve purposes for God**

Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel. **Philippians 1:12**

### **B. Jesus understands our pain and struggles**

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

**Hebrews 4:15-16**

### **C. God gives us comfort so we can comfort others**

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. **2 Corinthians 1:3-4**

## MY EXPERIENCES

### **MY SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES**

This is how and when I became a Christian, and what it has meant to me since then:

Times when I have felt closest to God, and meaningful spiritual experiences that stand out in my mind:

### **MY PAINFUL EXPERIENCES**

These are the kind of trials or problems I could relate to and encourage a fellow Christian that is going through:

**MY EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES**

Where I attended school, and my favorite subjects:

Seminars or training that have been meaningful to me:

**MY MINISTRY EXPERIENCES**

Where I have served in the past (if applicable):

	Where	Position of service	Years involved
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____

# Church Logo

## Membership Form

We are asking everyone who attends our membership classes to please complete the following form. This will enable us to include you in our weekly (e-blast, newsletter, etc.) and schedule of what is happening here (don't worry– we do not flood your inbox with information.) We also want to keep your family in our files so you will receive special mailings and other information from time to time. If there is any part of the questionnaire that you are not comfortable filling out, feel free to leave it blank.

If any information on this form should change, such as address or phone number, it is important that you let us know.

When you have completed this form please give it to the class teacher, one of the church administrative assistants during office hours, drop it off at the (welcome center/connection center), or mail it to:

Church Name

Church Address

If you have any questions, please call the church office at (church phone number) from (office hours), Monday–Friday.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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# Contact Information

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Military Service: (branch, rank, years) \_\_\_\_\_

# Basic Information

---

Do you have a personal relationship with Jesus?    Yes     No

If so, when did you begin this relationship? \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you attended (church name)? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently a member of another church? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, church name: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

## Baptism

Have you participated in Adult Believers baptism by immersion?  Yes     No

If yes, when? \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in being baptized at (church name).  Yes     No

## Send Me More Information

Kids     Worship     Life Groups     Social Media

(Church name) membership

- Production/Arts     Student (youth group)     Young Adults)
- Connection (Hospitality) Team     Community Outreach

**Additional Information**

Marital Status

- Married     Widowed     Divorced     Single     Remarried

**Children**

Please list the following information for children living at home:

**Child #1**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex  F  M

**Child #2**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex  F  M

**Child #3**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex  F  M

**Child #4**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex  F  M

**Child #5**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex  F  M

**Child #6**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex  F  M



# MEMBERSHIP

**1. Protect the unity of my church**

by demonstrating love toward others

by refusing to gossip

by supporting our leadership

**2. Share the responsibility of my church**

by praying for the vision and purpose to be fulfilled

by inviting the unchurched to attend

by warmly welcoming guests

**3. Serve the ministry of my church**

by discovering my gifts and being equipped to serve

by developing a servant's heart

by actively serving

**4. Support the testimony of my church**

by attending faithfully

by growing in and living a godly life

by giving regularly

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## NEW MEMBER LETTER

[insert date]

<Name>

<Address>

<City, State, Zip>

Dear <First Name>,

I am writing to welcome you as an official member of [insert church name]! I am delighted that you have chosen our church as your “church family” and that you have completed the membership process.

On Sunday, [insert date] we will list your name, along with the rest of our newest members, [share what your process is].

Please know that you now have full voice and voting privileges as a member. I want to encourage you to join one of our ministry teams and serve as the Lord leads.

I am grateful to be your Pastor and look forward to serving alongside of you.

God bless you!

Yours in Jesus,

Pastor [insert name]

## PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP LETTER (Baptism needs to occur)

[insert date]

<Name>

<Address>

<City, State, Zip>

Dear <First Name>,

I am writing to welcome you as an official member of [insert name of church]!

I am delighted that you have chosen our church as your “church family” and that you have gone through the membership process. We still show that you will need to be baptized to complete the process, but you are now able to serve in ministry. We will be baptizing [insert number of times per year] a year and you will need to sign up for the date you will attend. The dates are: [insert date]

If you are not baptized on either one of those dates (listed above) and are working in a ministry that requires membership, you will be asked to step down from that position until you complete the baptism requirement.

Please know that AFTER you are baptized you will have full voice and voting privileges as a member. In the meantime, I want to encourage you to join one of our ministry teams and serve as the Lord leads.

On Sunday, [insert date], we will list your name, along with the rest of our new members, [insert your process].

I am grateful to be your Pastor and look forward to serving alongside you.

God bless you!

Yours in Jesus,

Pastor [insert pastors name]

Lead Pastor