



# NEXT STEPS

*You, Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who LiFTs my head high.  
-Psalm 3:3*



# NEXT STEPS

CHURCH

ESSENTIALS

DISCOVERY

101

201

301

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## INTRODUCTION

LiFT's Next Steps is designed to help you become a fully-devoted follower of Jesus Christ. From the initial decision to find out more about the vision of LiFT Church, to a fulfilling leadership role on our team, we will provide you with a path to experience growth and fulfillment.

Next Steps is comprised of four specifically designed monthly events listed below. Each event helps you take a step towards God's plan of fulfillment for your life. Ultimately, our goal is to help you connect with a group of people where your life can touch the lives of others.

### **CHURCH 101** (First Sunday of every month)

Become better acquainted with the story, vision, and values of LiFT Church. Come to connect with others and have the opportunity to become a church member.

### **ESSENTIALS 201** (Second Sunday of every month)

Explore the essential tools and beliefs that produce a more meaningful relationship with Jesus.

### **DISCOVERY 301** (Third Sunday of every month)

Discover and understand how your personal and spiritual makeup reveals a path to your purpose. We believe God created you "uniquely you" and when we live in that, it looks best on you! Discover will lead to fulfillment in knowing how you're wired to build the Kingdom and what's the best way to use it for ministry.

**CHURCH**

101

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## INTRODUCTION

# OUR HOPE FOR YOU

Today at Church 101, our hope is to give you a basic introduction to our church family. Since we have members from many different church backgrounds, this class is designed to clearly explain who we are and what we believe. We're glad you've chosen to find out more about LiFT Church!

## OUR STORY

Pastor Drew and Lauren have been called to lead a church since before they met. In fact, on their second phone call, he tried to warn her that if she wasn't called to be a pastor's wife, they probably shouldn't continue any further. But before he could share that, Lauren told Drew that she was called to be a pastor's wife and if he wasn't called to pastor, we probably shouldn't go any further!

At the time of planting LiFT Church, they have been in 31 years of collective ministry from media to Kid's Pastor to Worship, Youth, & Executive Pastor too. They've devoted their life and family to building the church so the name of Jesus can impact people's lives.

In 2016, the Lord starting birthing the dream in Pastor Drew of launching a church in Salisbury called LiFT Church. He started writing out all the Lord was speaking to him for the next two years. A church that introduces you to the greatest lift in life - Jesus Christ. A church that can be a beacon of light to the Eastern Shore and the hope for humanity here.

Jesus came to seek and save the lost. What if we gave Him a church that was dedicated to the same thing? What if heaven began to brew right here on earth? What if we became a feeding place for the hungry? A well for the weary? A place of belonging for the lonely? A healing place for the hurting? What if we built something that was bigger than ourselves; something that would last; even last for an eternity? What if we made a difference so big that we began to ransack hell and build heaven? That is the hope of His church! This is the plan of God here in Salisbury.

There are 400,000 people in the Salisbury-Metro area and 62.5% of them don't have a church home. That's a quarter of a million people! It is our heart to shrink that number by lifting up Jesus over the city.

LiFT Church launched January 27, 2019 with a hundred amazing and faithful members who joined, prayed, gave, and invited so that LiFT could impact Salisbury and the whole Eastern Shore! There were 550 people in attendance and 42 salvations that morning! We hope you'll join our church and help us write a new chapter in touching the people of this area with the love of God in a way we didn't even see coming!

# OUR PURPOSE

**LiFT Church exists to LiFT the One who is LiFTing us up.**

We do this in 3 succinct ways:

**1. \_\_\_\_\_ LiFTs**

We strive to walk in humility knowing He will LiFT us up in better ways than we can on our own.

*James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he **will** LiFT you up.*

**2. \_\_\_\_\_ LiFT**

We strive to LiFT up the name of Jesus everywhere we go in our day-to-day lives.

*John 3:30 - He must become **greater**; I must become less.” (Fun Fact: this is why our “i” in LiFT is always lowercased as a reminder of decreasing while increasing Him)*

**3. \_\_\_\_\_ LiFT**

We work to LiFT the name of Jesus in others’ lives through discipleship & society’s structures to see redemption for all people groups

*Matt 25:34–46 - “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. 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.’”*

# OUR VALUES

**1. We love \_\_\_\_\_ it on.**

This value guides our heart to live life open-handed, generous, future-minded, and with a calling on our heart. Our favorite metrics are salvation and baptisms which is one way of measuring our effectiveness in passing it on.

**2. We are getting \_\_\_\_\_.**

This value guides our heart to love beyond our preferences and embrace one another with the love of Jesus. Our hope is to see racial and generational diversity at every level of our church and experience.

**3. We’re \_\_\_\_\_ life.**

This value guides our heart to laugh beyond our struggles and stand on the spirit of joy which is our strength. We seek to lift one another from an overflow within us of

love, encouragement, positivity, and honor! We endeavor to have the mind of Christ, and approach life with an attitude of humility and an atmosphere of fun.

**4. We are \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ .**

This value guides our heart to live as servants of God who are regularly laying down our lives to reach the lost. It also reminds each member of the influence we carry as leaders which we use intentionally to build the Kingdom. We are led by leaders who serve and are committed to lifelong learning to sharpen our skills for God's use.

**5. We are \_\_\_\_\_ driven and \_\_\_\_\_ driven.**

This value guides our heart to seek encounters with the presence of Jesus in every experience. Simultaneously, this value guides our heart to live our lives on purpose for the expansion of the Kingdom of God.

## **GOD'S PROMISES FOR MY LIFE**

The God of the universe has made you some big promises. He made them first in the Old Testament:

*"Therefore, say to the Israelites: 'I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians.'" Exodus 6:6-7 (NIV)*

These promises remain at the core of His heart and have never changed. They are the key to your fulfillment and his plans for you.

- **"I will bring you out."** \_\_\_\_\_.
- **"I will free you from being slaves."** \_\_\_\_\_.
- **"I will redeem you."** \_\_\_\_\_.
- **"I will take you as my own people."** \_\_\_\_\_.

At LiFT Church, we organize ourselves around these four promises.

## **I. SALVATION – \_\_\_\_\_**

We consider reaching people one of our greatest responsibilities. Our weekend experiences serve people at all stages in their spiritual journey but are primarily geared toward the lost and unchurched.

**Our Weekend Experiences focus on four values:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_.

*(in Spirit) "You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind..." Luke 10:27*

(in truth) "I was glad when they said to me, let us go into the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1 (NKJV)

2. \_\_\_\_\_.

"But if an unbeliever or someone who does not understand comes in...he will be convinced ...So he will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, 'God is really among you!'" 1 Corinthians 14:24-25 (NIV 1984)

3. \_\_\_\_\_.

"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." Ephesians 4:11-12 (NIV 1984)

"We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." Ephesians 2:10 NASB

4. \_\_\_\_\_.

"Anyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. But who can ask them to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?" Romans 10:13-14 (LB)

## WHAT CAN I DO?

1. \_\_\_\_\_.

"Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.'" Matthew 9:37-38

2. \_\_\_\_\_.

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For 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, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. Rom 12:3-8 NIV

3. \_\_\_\_\_.

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:19-21 (NIV 1984)



## II. FREEDOM – \_\_\_\_\_

Real life change happens in the context of relationships – small groups. In the Bible, they worshipped in the temple but ministry happened house to house.

*“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.” Acts 20:20*

### **SMALL GROUPS PROVIDE THREE THINGS:**

1. **A place to** \_\_\_\_\_.

*“...yes, whatever a person is like, I try to find common ground with him so he will let me tell him about Christ and let Christ save him.” 1 Corinthians 9:22 (LB)*

2. **A place to** \_\_\_\_\_.

*“We know what real love is because Christ gave up His life for us. And so we also ought to give up our lives for our Christian brothers and sisters.” 1 John 3:16 (NLT)*

3. **A place to** \_\_\_\_\_.

*“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.” Proverbs 27:17*

### **HOW SMALL GROUPS WORK**

Our small groups primarily center around serve teams on Sunday mornings. We will be launching small groups “beyond the Sunday” in August of 2019. It is in these small groups that we have a place for you to connect, grow, and discuss the issues and challenges of life. Small groups are also where we pray, care for one another, and are missed if we don’t show up! There will be opportunities to connect with a serve team at the completion of Week 3.

## III. RESTORATION – \_\_\_\_\_

Next Steps offers the information and experiences necessary to help you discover and develop your redemptive purpose. It is designed to lead you through a step-by-step process of growth and leadership.

*“Let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity.” Hebrews 6:1 (NIV 1984)*

## LiFT Next Steps

1. \_\_\_\_\_.

This class is a basic introduction to the ministry of LiFT Church and will help you understand church membership. Church 101 is held on the first Sunday of every month.

2. \_\_\_\_\_.

This class develops the essential habits that every believer needs to become a fully-devoted follower of Jesus Christ. Essentials 201 is held on the second Sunday of every month.

3. \_\_\_\_\_.

This class will help you discover your personality, gifts, and purpose in life, and see how God combines them for the best fit in ministry. God's ultimate goal for your life is to make an eternal difference in the life of another person. Discovery 301 is held on the third Sunday of every month. You have completed the Growth Track when you join the Dream Team.

## IV. FULFILLMENT – \_\_\_\_\_

All of us were created by God to make a difference in the life of another person. God has a place for you where your unique abilities and passions can touch the lives of others. We believe that your life will never make sense until you find, develop, and fulfill that purpose.

*“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10*

*“However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me.” Acts 20:24 (NIV 1984)*

*“Now God gives us many kinds of special abilities...and there are different kinds of service to God (ministry)...All of you together are the one Body of Christ and each of you is a separate and necessary part of it.” 1 Corinthians 12:4-5, 27 (LB)*

### **AT LiFT Church:**

Every member is a \_\_\_\_\_. Every task is \_\_\_\_\_. Every member is a “10” in \_\_\_\_\_.

# OUR STRUCTURE

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

1 Corinthians 14:33,40

## **LiFT CHURCH GOVERNMENT**

Believers who invest their hearts, time, families, and finances in the building of a local church deserve to have confidence in church leadership. People are looking for leaders who conduct themselves with integrity and respect when making decisions that affect their lives.

### **Our church government is made up of three groups of Elders:**

**1. Guided by \_\_\_\_\_.**

Our Lead Pastor and staff are a team that oversees the day-to-day ministry and operations of the church. They serve the congregation and are responsible for the development of the spiritual life of the church.

**2. Protected by \_\_\_\_\_.**

The Trustees are five to nine members of the congregation, appointed by the Lead Pastor to oversee the finances and direct the provision of the facilities needed by the church. They provide counsel to the Lead Pastor regarding the major financial commitments of the church.

**3. Strengthened by \_\_\_\_\_.**

The Overseers are three to six pastors of respected congregations and ministries who love LiFT Church and its pastor and are willing to provide spiritual protection to the church. They may be called in to help in accountability matters relating to the Lead Pastor if requested to do so by the Pastors or Trustees and also aid in setting our Lead Pastor’s compensation.

## Church Finances

*“A tithe of everything... belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord.” Leviticus 27:30*

At LiFT Church, we practice tithing for the support of Christ’s Body, the church, as God commands. We recognize that giving 10% of our income is the Biblical standard of giving.

Many people love to give to God, but need to have confidence in the methods and purposes used by organizations to which they give. Therefore, there are a great number of people willing to give if they are able to see honesty, integrity, and genuine spiritual values reflected in the lifestyles of their church leaders.

The giving of tithes and offerings is worship to Jesus Christ and is an expression of the relationship between the individual giver and the Lord. Funds are not “income only,” they are worship, and must not be considered as a business transaction, but as an expression of gratitude toward God.

# LIFT CHURCH

## MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and being in agreement with the values and ideas presented in the Church 101 class, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the LiFT Church family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:

### 1. I will protect the unity of my church:

- By acting in love toward other members.
- By refusing to gossip.
- By following the leaders.

*“So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony, and on the growth of our fellowship together.” Romans 14:19 (Ph)*

*“Live in complete harmony with each other - each with the attitude of Christ toward each other.” Romans 15:5 (LB)*

*“Have a sincere love for other believers, love one another earnestly with all your heart.” 1 Peter 1:22 (GN)*

*“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs.” Ephesians 4:29*

*“Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.” Hebrews 13:17*

### 2. I will share the responsibility of my church:

- By praying for its growth.
- By inviting the unchurched to attend.
- By warmly welcoming those who visit.

*“To the church...we always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers.” 1 Thessalonians 1:1-2*

*“Go out into the country...and urge anyone you find to come in, so that the house will be full.” Luke 14:23 (LB)*

*“So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified.” Romans 15:7 (LB)*

### **3. I will serve the ministry of my church:**

- By discovering my gifts and talents.
- By being equipped to serve by my pastors.
- By developing a servant's heart.

*"Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you."  
1 Peter 4:10 (Ph)*

*"God gave...some to be pastors and teachers to prepare God's people for works of ministry, so that the body of Christ may be built up." Ephesians 4:11-12*

*"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus...by taking on the very nature of a servant." Philippians 2:4-5, 7 (NIV 1984)*

### **4. I will support the testimony of my church:**

- By attending church and small groups faithfully.
- By living a godly life.
- By giving regularly.

*"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." Acts 2:42*

*"Let us not give up meeting together...but let us encourage one another." Heb 10:25*

*"But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the Gospel of Christ." Philippians 1:27 (Ph)*

*"Each one of you, on the first day of each week, should set aside a specific sum of money in proportion to what you have earned and use it for the offering." 1Cor16:2 (LB)*

*"A tenth of all you produce is the Lord's, and it is holy." Leviticus 27:30*

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## OUR HOPE FOR YOU

Today at Essentials 201, our hope is to help you learn and put into practice what we believe are four essential habits of every follower of Jesus. It is through these habits that we develop a deep relationship with Christ.

*“So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.” Colossians 2:6-7*

## UNDERSTANDING BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY

*“And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.” Acts 11:26 (NASB)*

Before followers of Jesus were called “**Christians**”, they were known as disciples. As disciples, we develop a deep relationship with Christ through:

- **Bible study and prayer**

*“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching ... and to prayer.” Acts 2:42*

- **Fellowship with other believers**

*“They devoted themselves to...fellowship.” Acts 2:42*

- **Living a Spirit-led life**

*“Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the Apostles.” Acts 2:43*

- **Giving of ourselves**

*“They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need” Acts 2:45*



# Habit One: Bible Study & Prayer

*“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.” 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (LB)*

A vibrant relationship with God is sustained through Bible study and prayer.

## HOW DO I GET MORE FROM MY BIBLE?

### 1. I must \_\_\_\_\_ its authority.

We believe that the Holy Bible, and only the Bible, is the authoritative Word of God. It alone is the final authority in determining all doctrinal truths. In its original writing, it is inspired, infallible, and inerrant.

- \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Word with an open heart.

*“The earth is filled with your love, Lord; teach me your decrees.” Psalm 119:64*

- \_\_\_\_\_ to God’s word with obedience.

*“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” James 1:22*

### 2. I must \_\_\_\_\_ its truths.

- \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Word.

*“Faith comes by hearing the word of God.” Romans 10:17*

- \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Word.

*“Happy is the one who reads this book ... and obeys what is written in it!” Revelation 1:3 (GN)*

- \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Word.

*“They accepted the message eagerly and studied the Scriptures every day.”  
Acts 17:11 (Ph)*

- \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Word.

*“Guard my words as your most precious possession. Write them down, and also keep them deep within your heart.” Proverbs 7:2-3 (LB)*

- \_\_\_\_\_ on God’s Word.

*“(Those) who are always meditating on His Laws ... are like trees along a river bank bearing fruit ... they never wither and whatever they do prospers.” Psalm 1:2-3 (LB)*

### 3. I must \_\_\_\_\_ its principles.

*“Once you know these things you will be blessed if you do them.” John 13:17*

- Join a reading plan (so many available on YouVersion Bible App).
- Gather one truth from your reading to reflect on.
- Record what you learn in a journal or share it with someone.

*“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”  
James 1:22*

## TALKING WITH GOD

*“Always be joyful. Never stop praying.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17(NLT)*

Jesus exemplified a personal relationship with God through prayer that gave Him great strength. Every person who has ever been effective in service for God has developed this habit. The only way to be a healthy Christian is to spend time with God daily through prayer.

### 1. In my daily prayer time, I am:

- \_\_\_\_\_ devotion to God.

*“(Hezekiah) was successful, because everything he did ... he did in a spirit of complete devotion to his God.” 2 Chronicles 31:21 (GN)*

- \_\_\_\_\_ direction from God.

*“Show me the path where I should go, O Lord; point out the right road for me to walk. Lead me.” Psalm 25:4-5 (LB)*

- \_\_\_\_\_ in my relationship with God.

*“Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.” John 17:25-26*

## **2. Use the model Jesus gave us.**

*“One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When He finished, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray.’” Luke 11:1*

*This, then, is how you should pray:*

*“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.”  
Matthew 6:9-13*

- 1.** Connect with God \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Our Father in heaven”*

- 2.** Run to \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Hallowed be your name”*

- 3.** Pray \_\_\_\_\_ first.

*“Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven”*

- 4.** Depend on Him for \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Give us today our daily bread”*

- 5.** Keep your \_\_\_\_\_ with God and people.

*“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors”*

6. \_\_\_\_\_ against the enemy.

*“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”*

7. \_\_\_\_\_ in God’s ability.

*“For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.”*

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## Habit Two: Fellowship with Other Believers

*Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing. Instead, let us encourage one another.” Hebrews 10:25 (GN)*

God never intended for us to go through life alone. Throughout the Bible, we see the importance of being in community. In fact, authentic life-change happens in the context of relationships.

At LiFT Church, we believe our church must grow LARGER and SMALLER at the same time.

*“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.” Acts 2:46-47*

*“(They met) day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house.” Acts 5:42*

*“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.” Acts 20:20*

How can our church grow larger yet maintain close relationships?

Every member needs to be a part of a \_\_\_\_\_.

### Small Groups Provide Opportunities For:

1. \_\_\_\_\_.  
I need people to strengthen and balance the Word of God in my life.

2. \_\_\_\_\_.  
I need people who really know me.
  
3. \_\_\_\_\_.  
I need people to pray for me personally.
  
4. \_\_\_\_\_.  
I need people who will protect me.
  
5. \_\_\_\_\_.  
I need people with whom I can share my story.

*“So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.” John 13:34-35 (NLT)*

### **HOW DO I GET CONNECTED WITH A SMALL GROUP?**

Our small groups primarily center around serve teams on Sunday mornings. We will be launching small groups “beyond the Sunday” in August of 2019. There will be opportunities to connect with a serve team at the completion of Week 4.

You'll never fully experience all that LiFT Church has to offer until you connect in a small group! Small groups were vital to the first century church's growth, and they are just as vital now.

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## **Habit Three: Living a Spirit-Led Life**

*“May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.” 2 Corinthians 13:14*

Having close relationships with other people is only part of God’s plan for our lives. He desires to be our most intimate friend.

# WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

*Ruwach* – a wind, breath, a violent exhalation, blast of breath.

*Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. Genesis 1:2*

*Pneuma* – a current of air, blast of breath, a strong breeze.

*“The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.” John 6:63 (NIV 1984)*

## 1. The Holy Spirit is a \_\_\_\_\_.

*“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever.” John 14:16 (NASB)*

## 2. The Third Person in the \_\_\_\_\_.

*“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.” John 14:26 (NASB)*

# THE HOLY SPIRIT’S ROLE IN OUR LIVES

*“Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, ‘Which,’ He said, ‘you heard of from Me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.’” Acts 1:4-8 (NASB)*

## 1. The Holy Spirit enables us to know God’s:

- \_\_\_\_\_.

*“And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever.” John 14:16 (KJV)*

- \_\_\_\_\_.

*“But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. “But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.” John 16:5-8 (NASB)*

## 2. The Holy Spirit empowers us to live with Christ like:

- \_\_\_\_\_.

*“For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.” 2 Corinthians 3:17-18 (NLT)*

*“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” Galatians 5:22-23 (NASB)*

- \_\_\_\_\_.

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8*

## 3. The Holy Spirit equips us with:

- \_\_\_\_\_.

*“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit... Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the 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 gives them to each one, just as he determines.” 1 Corinthians 12:4-11*

- \_\_\_\_\_.

*“In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will **prophesy**, your young men will see **visions**, your old men will dream **dreams**. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below... And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” Acts 2:17-21*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ for my life.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ to see the next steps.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ to effect an eternal result.

## HOW DO I LIVE A SPIRIT-LED LIFE?

1. **Remove all** \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’” Acts 2:38*

2. **Request the** \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Now suppose one of your fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?” Luke 11:11-13 (NASB)*

3. **Receive Him** \_\_\_\_\_.

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

4. **Relate to Him** \_\_\_\_\_.

*“The amazing grace of the Master, Jesus Christ, the extravagant love of God, the intimate friendship of the Holy Spirit, be with all of you.” 2 Corinthians 13:14 (Message)*

5. **Release your** \_\_\_\_\_ **with confidence.**

*“Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in gifts that build up the church.” 1 Corinthians 14:12*

---

## Habit Four: Giving of Ourselves

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16*



The Gospel is the ultimate demonstration of God's generous nature towards mankind. The Bible consistently teaches that God blesses us so that we may bless others.

## AREAS OF GIVING (T4)

1. **Give of our**\_\_\_\_\_.

*"Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil." Ephesians 5:15-16 (NASB)*

2. **Give of our**\_\_\_\_\_.

*"We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully." Romans 12:6-8 (NIV)*

3. **Give of our**\_\_\_\_\_.

*"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal." Matthew 6:19-20 (NIV)*

*"Yes, you should tithe, but do not neglect the more important things" Matt 23:23 (NLT)*

4. **Give of our**\_\_\_\_\_.

*"I was a stranger and you invited me in, ...I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." Matthew 25:35-36 (NIV)*

## BENEFITS OF GIVING

1. **Giving draws us** \_\_\_\_\_ **to God.**

*"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21*

2. **Giving is the remedy to**\_\_\_\_\_.

*"Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us*

*with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to be generous and willing to share. In this way they may take hold of the life that is truly life.” 1Timothy 6:17-19*

**3. Giving strengthens our\_\_\_\_\_.**

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding... Honor the Lord by giving him the first part of your income, and he will fill your barns to overflowing.” Prov. 3:5, 9-10*

*“Give and it will be given to you... For with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.” Luke 6:38*

**4. Giving is an investment in\_\_\_\_\_.**

*“Give happily to those in need, and always be ready to share whatever God has given you. By doing this, you will be storing up real treasure for yourselves in heaven - it is the only safe investment for eternity!” 1Timothy 6:18-19 (LB)*

## **BIBLICAL GENEROSITY IS:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_.

*“For if the willingness is there, your gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one doesn’t have.” 2 Corinthians 8:12*

*“Each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion.” 2 Corinthians 9:7a*

2. \_\_\_\_\_.

*“...for God loves a cheerful giver!” 2 Corinthians 9:7b*

3. \_\_\_\_\_.

*“They gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service.” 2 Corinthians 8:3-4*

4. \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly; and whoever sows generously also will reap generously.” 2 Corinthians 9:6*

*“They gave themselves first to the Lord.” 2 Corinthians 8:5*

# ESSENTIAL HABITS OF A HEALTHY BELIEVER

Personally and Corporately

*“But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.” Psalm 33:11*

*“For when David had served God’s purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep.” Acts 13:36*

- 1. **Bible Study and Prayer:** \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2. **Fellowship with Others:** \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. **Living a Spirit-led Life:** \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4. **Giving of Ourselves:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**CHURCH**

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**ESSENTIALS**

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**DISCOVERY**

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# Our Hope For You

Today at Discovery our hope is that you take a step towards understanding how you are designed by God to be uniquely you! We do this through personality discovery coupled with the spiritual gifts God has given you which will help reveal a fulfilling path to your destiny. **Proverbs 25:2 says it is God’s privilege to conceal things and our privilege to discover them.** Together, let’s discover all that God has planned for our generation and make a positive difference for the Kingdom.

*“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.” Ephesians 2:10 (NASB)*

## THE GOAL OF THIS CLASS:

To discover how my \_\_\_\_\_ helps to reveal my \_\_\_\_\_.

To discover the amazing \_\_\_\_\_ of my life.

*“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.” John 14:12 (NASB)*

## DISCOVERING YOUR PERSONALITY

### 1. Elements that Help to Develop Your Personality

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| A. _____ History | C. _____            |
| B. Training      | D. Life Experiences |

*“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!” 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV 1984)*

# simpleDIScovery

My Personality / Leadership Style \_\_\_\_\_

## 1. Total \_\_\_\_\_

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
I am assertive, demanding, and decisive.	1	2	3	4	5
I enjoy doing multiple tasks at once.	1	2	3	4	5
I thrive in a challenge-based environment.	1	2	3	4	5
I think about tasks above others or myself.	1	2	3	4	5
I am motivated by accomplishment and authority.	1	2	3	4	5

---

## 2. Total \_\_\_\_\_

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
I enjoy influencing and inspiring people.	1	2	3	4	5
I am optimistic about others.	1	2	3	4	5
I tend to be the life of the party.	1	2	3	4	5
I think about motivating people.	1	2	3	4	5
I am motivated by recognition and approval.	1	2	3	4	5

---

## 3. Total \_\_\_\_\_

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
I thrive in consistent environments over changing ones.	1	2	3	4	5
I prefer specifics over generalizations.	1	2	3	4	5
I enjoy small groups of people.	1	2	3	4	5
I prefer being a member of a team over leading the team.	1	2	3	4	5
I am motivated by stability and support.	1	2	3	4	5

---

**4. Total** \_\_\_\_\_

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
I typically do not take big risks.	1	2	3	4	5
I love tasks, order and details.	1	2	3	4	5
I am right most of the time.	1	2	3	4	5
I comply with clearly defined rules.	1	2	3	4	5
I am motivated by quality and correctness.	1	2	3	4	5

**Highest Total**

**Highest / 2nd Highest**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

---

## DISCOVERING YOUR PERSONALITY

### D

“D”s are direct and decisive; they are risk takers and problem solvers. They are more concerned with completing tasks and winning than they are with gaining approval from people. Though the internal drive tends to make them insensitive to those around them, “D”s are not afraid to challenge the status quo, and they thrive when it comes to developing new things. They need discipline to excel, and they respond to direct confrontation. The greatest fear of a “D” is to be taken advantage of, and even despite their possible weaknesses—which include an aversion to routine, a tendency to overstep authority, an argumentative nature, and a habit of taking on too much—they place a high value on time and use their innovative thinking to accomplish difficult tasks and conquer challenges.

### I

“I”s are inspiring and impressive. Enthusiastic, optimistic, impulsive, and emotional—they tend to be creative problem solvers and excellent encouragers. They often have a large number of friends, but they can become more concerned with approval and popularity than with getting results. An “I”s greatest fear is rejection, but they thrive when it comes to motivating others. Their positive sense of humor helps them negotiate conflicts. Though they can be inattentive to details and poor

listeners, they can be great peacemakers and effective teammates when they control their feelings and minimize their urge to entertain and be the center of attention. They value lots of human touch and connection.

## **S**

“S”s are steady and more reserved. Because they are stable and predictable, they do not like change, and they thrive in secure, non-threatening environments. They are often friendly and understanding as well as good listeners and loyal workers who are happy doing the same job consistently. With an incredible ability to forgive, reliable and dependable “S”s tend to make the best friends. Their greatest fear, however, is loss of security, and their possible weaknesses naturally include not only resistance to change, but also difficulty adjusting to it. They can also be too sensitive to criticism and unable to establish priorities. In order to avoid be taken advantage of, “S”s need to be stronger and learn how to say “no.” They also like to avoid the limelight, but when given an opportunity to genuinely help others, they will gladly rise to the occasion. They feel most valued when they have truly helped someone.

## **C**

“C”s are compliant and analytical. Careful and logical lines of thinking drive them forward, and accuracy is a top priority. They hold high standards and value systematic approaches to problem solving. Though they thrive when given opportunities to find solutions, they tend to ignore the feelings of others and can often be critical and downright crabby. Verbalizing feelings is difficult for them, but when they are not bogged down in details and have clear-cut boundaries, they can be big assets to the team by providing calculated “reality checks”. The “C”s biggest fear is criticism, and their need for perfectionism is often a weakness, as is their tendency to give in when in the midst of an argument. However, they are thorough in all activities and can bring a conscientious, even-tempered element to the team that will provide solid grounding. They value being correct the most.

## **D / I**

“D/I”s are curious conclusers who place emphasis on the bottom line and work hard to reach their goals. They are more determined than they are inspirational, yet their high expectations and standards for themselves and those around them typically causes them to make quite an impact, motivating others to follow them. They have an array of interests and can become distracted by taking on too many projects. They often need to focus, prioritize, and simply slow down. Because “D/I”s thrive on activity and forward motion, they like to accomplish tasks through a large number of people.

Biblical Examples: Joshua (Joshua 1), Noah (Genesis 6-9), Sarah (Genesis 16, 1 Peter 3:6)

## **I / D**

“I/D”s are persuaders who are outgoing and energetic. They enjoy large groups and use their power of influence to attain respect and convince people to follow their lead. Sometimes they can be viewed as fidgety and nervous, but it comes from their need to be a part of challenges that have variety, freedom, and mobility. “I/D”s could benefit from learning to look before they leap and spending more time being studious and still. They make inspiring leaders and know how to get results from and through people.

Biblical Examples: John the Baptist (Luke 3), Peter (Matthew 16 and 26, Acts 3), Rebekah (Genesis 24)

## **S / D**

“S/D”s are quiet leaders who can be counted on to get the job done. They perform better in small groups and do not enjoy speaking in front of crowds. Though they can be soft- and hard-hearted at the same time, they enjoy close relationships with people, being careful not to dominate them. Challenges motivate them, especially ones that allow them to take a systematic



approach. Because this personality style tends to be determined, persevering through time and struggles, they benefit from encouragement and positive relationships.

Biblical Examples: Martha (Luke 10:38-42), Job (Job 1:5, James 5:11)

## **C / D**

“C/D”s are cautious and determined designers who are consistently task-oriented and very aware of problems. Sometimes viewed as insensitive, they do care about individual people but have a difficult time showing it. They often feel they are the only ones who can do the job the way it needs to be done, but because of their administrative skills, they are able to bring plans for change and improvements to fruition. “C/D”s have a tendency to be serious and could benefit from being more optimistic and enthusiastic. Despite their natural drive to achieve, they should concentrate on developing healthy relationships and simply loving people.

Biblical Examples: Bezalel (Exodus 35:30-36, 8, 37:1-9), Jochebed (Exodus 1:22-2:4), Jethro (Exodus 2,18)

## **D / S**

“D/S”s are attainers and achievers with an ability to persevere. They are more active than passive, but they possess a kind of calm sensitivity and steadiness that makes them good leaders. They seem to be people oriented but can easily be dominant and decisive when it comes to tasks and project planning. They strive to accomplish goals with fierce determination that comes from strong internal drive, but they could benefit from contemplative and conservative thinking as well as spending more time focusing on relationships.

Biblical Examples: Daniel (Daniel 1-6), Job (Job 1:5, James 5:11), Martha (Luke 10:38-42)

## **I / S**

“I/S”s are influential counselors who love people, and it’s no surprise that people love them. They live to please and serve, and they tend to be good listeners. Looking good and encouraging others is important to them, as is following through and being obedient. They often lack in the area of organization and can be more concerned with the people involved than they are with the task at hand. However, they can be center stage or behind the scenes with equal effectiveness, and they shine when it comes to influencing and helping others.

Biblical Examples: Barnabas (Acts 4, 9, 11-15), Elisha (1 Kings 19, 2 Kings 2-3), Nicodemus (John 3, 7, 19)

## **S / I**

“S/I”s are inspirational counselors who exhibit warmth and sensitivity. Tolerant and forgiving, they have many friends because they accept and represent others well. Their social nature and desire to be likable and flexible makes them inclined to be overly tolerant and non-confrontational. “S/I”s will benefit from being more task-oriented and paying more attention to detail. Kind and considerate, they include others and inspire them to follow. Words of affirmation go a long way with this personality type, and with the right motivation, they can be excellent team players.

Biblical Examples: Mary Magdalene (Luke 7:36-47), Barnabas (Acts 4, 9, 11-15), Elisha (1 Kings 19, 2 Kings 2-13)

## **C / I**

“C/I”s pay attention to the details. They tend to impress others by doing things right and stabilizing situations. Not considered aggressive

or pushy, they enjoy both large and small crowds. Though they work well with people, they are sometimes too sensitive to what others think about them and their work. They could benefit from being more assertive and self motivated. Often

excellent judges of character, they easily trust those who meet their standards. They are moved by genuine and enthusiastic approval as well as concise and logical explanations.

Biblical Examples: Miriam (Exodus 15-21, Numbers 12:1-15), Ezra (Ezra 7, 8)

## **D / C**

“D/C”s are challengers and can either be determined students or defiant critics. Being in charge is important to them, yet they care little about what others think as long as they get the job done. They have a great deal of foresight and examine every avenue to find the best solution; they prefer to work alone. Though they fear failure and the lack of influence, they are motivated by challenges and can often be excellent administrators. They can benefit from learning to relax and paying more attention to people.

Biblical Examples: Malachi (Malachi 4), Nathan (2 Samuel 12:1-13), Nahum (Nahum 1-3)

## **I / C**

“I/C”s are inspiring yet cautious assessors who are excellent communicators through the combination of concerned awareness and appreciation of people. They excel in determining ways to improve production. They tend to be impatient and critical, and they can also be overly persuasive and too consumed by the desire to win. “I/C”s like to work inside the box, and they could benefit from trying new things and caring less about what others think. This personality type often possesses a gift for teaching; they are generally dependable when it comes to paying attention to details and getting the job done.

Biblical Examples: Miriam (Exodus 15-21), Ezra (Ezra 7-8), Shunammite Woman (2 Kings 4:8-37)

## **S / C**

“S/C”s are diplomatic and steady, as well as detail-oriented. Stable and contemplative, they like to weigh the evidence and discover the facts to come to a logical conclusion. More deliberate, they prefer to take their time, especially when the decision involves others. Possible weaknesses include being highly sensitive and unable to handle criticism, and they also need to be aware of the way they treat others. Operating best in precise and cause-worthy projects, the “S/C” can be a peacemaker; this makes them a loyal team member and friend.

Biblical Examples: Moses (Exodus 3, 4, 20, 32), John (John 19:26-27), Eliezer (Genesis 24)

## **C / S**

“C/S”s are systematic and stable. They tend to do one thing at a time—and do it right. Reserved and cautious, they would rather work behind the scenes to stay on track; however, they seldom take risks or try new things and naturally dislike sudden changes in their environments. Precisionists to the letter, they painstakingly require accuracy and fear criticism, which they equate to failure. Diligent workers, their motivation comes from serving others.

Biblical Examples: Esther (Esther 4), Zechariah (Luke 1), Joseph (Matthew 1:1-23)

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# **OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONAL GROWTH**

**If you are a “D”** – Dominant, Direct, Task oriented, Decisive, Organized, Outgoing, Outspoken

A. Strive to listen to other people more attentively.

- B. Try to be less controlling and domineering.
- C. Develop a greater appreciation for the opinions, feelings and desires of others.
- D. Put more energy into personal relationships.
- E. Show your support for the other team members.

**If you are an “I”** – Influential, Interested in people, Witty, Easygoing, Outgoing, People oriented

- A. Weigh the pros and cons before making a decision; be less impulsive.
- B. Remember to help with tasks more.
- C. Exercise control over your actions, words and emotions.
- D. Focus more on details and facts.
- E. Remember to slow down your pace for other people.
- F. Talk less; listen more.

**If you are an “S”** – Steady, Stable, Analytical, People oriented, Introverted

- A. Consider how change is healthy. Try to change more willingly.
- B. Be more direct in your interactions.
- C. Focus on overall goals of your family or group rather than specific procedures.
- D. Deal with confrontation constructively.
- E. Develop more flexibility.
- F. Try to show more initiative.

**If you are a “C”** – Compliant, Competent, Task oriented, Goal oriented, Introverted

- A. Concentrate on doing the right things – not just doing things right.
- B. Be less critical of others’ ideas and methods.
- C. Respond more quickly to accomplish others’ goals.
- D. Strive to build relationships with other people and family members.
- E. Be more decisive.
- F. Focus less on facts and more on people.

# Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts

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

## Spiritual Gifts Are Not

### 1. 1. Natural Aptitudes, Strengths, or \_\_\_\_\_.

We all have natural abilities that we’ve learned from those around us regardless of Christian faith. Many times our natural abilities and strengths are redeemed by the Lord to become spiritual gifts.

### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ Traits.

We are all called to have character and our gifts should produce the nature of Jesus Christ in each person. A person should not say he has the “gift of peace” when we are all encouraged to develop that characteristic. Spiritual gifts offer opportunities for us to exemplify Christ.

### 3. \_\_\_\_\_ or Positions.

Spiritual gifts often lead to titles or positions but a person may have the gift without the role or the role without the gift. Regardless, we should serve whenever we are given the opportunity. Working in the area of your gifting will allow you to “be” the person that God has called you to be rather than just “doing” good things.

### 4. Self-\_\_\_\_\_.

Spiritual gifts are endowments given by God to His people for accomplishing His purpose on the earth. Spiritual gifts are given for the glory of God.

*“Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts... try to excel in gifts that build up the church.” 1 Corinthians 14:1*

## How Do I Receive Spiritual Gifts?

- A. Accept Jesus Christ as Lord of your life.
- B. Acquire faith and truth in the area of spiritual gifts.
- C. Apply yourself to learning about spiritual gifts.
- D. Ask for the Lord to give you spiritual gifts.

*“Then Jesus said to the centurion, “Go! It will be done just as you believed it would.” And his servant was healed at that very hour.” Matthew 8:13*

# SPIRITUAL GIFTS QUESTIONS

1. I like organizing services and events.
2. I enjoy starting new churches.
3. Working with my hands is fun for me.
4. I can tell when someone is insincere.
5. I pray for the lost daily.
6. Encouraging others is a high priority in my life.
7. Believing God for our daily needs is important to me.
8. Influencing others for the kingdom of God through finances is extremely important to me.
9. I look for opportunities to pray for the sick.
10. I enjoy doing the little things that others do not.
11. Having people over to my house is something I do often.
12. Spending hours in prayer for other people is very enjoyable to me.
13. Education is very important to me.
14. I tend to motivate others to get involved.
15. My heart hurts when I see others hurting.
16. I believe God will use me to enact His miracles.
17. I enjoy sharing the gospel with other people groups and nationalities.
18. I've devoted considerable time to mastering my voice and or instrument.
19. Caring for the hurting is paramount in my eyes.
20. The willful sin of others really aggravates me.
21. I enjoy serving behind the scenes.
22. I like creating outlines of the Bible.
23. God has used me to interpret a heavenly language.
24. I enjoy the book of Proverbs more than any other book in the Bible.
25. I am passionate about managing details.
26. I prefer to pioneer new ministry projects.
27. I consider myself a craftsman or craftswoman.
28. I sense when situations are spiritually unhealthy.
29. I am greatly concerned about seeing the lost saved.
30. I try to come across loving and caring.
31. Asking God for a list of big things is exciting to me.
32. I find ways to give offerings above my tithe.
33. I believe miraculous healing is for this day and age.
34. Helping others is one of my highest achievements.
35. Creating a warm and welcoming home is important to me.
36. I am burdened to pray for situations in the world.
37. People seek me out to learn more about the Kingdom of God.
38. I prefer to take the lead whenever necessary.
39. I'm very sensitive to sad stories.
40. Miracles often happen when I'm nearby.
41. Living in another country to benefit the gospel is exciting to me.
42. I desire to serve the church through worship.
43. I enjoy connecting, caring for, and coaching others.
44. Confronting someone with sin in their life is not hard.
45. It bothers me when people sit around and do nothing.
46. I share Biblical truth with others in hopes of their personal growth.
47. I pray in tongues daily.
48. When I study scripture God gives me unique insights.
49. Creating a task list is easy and enjoyable for me.
50. I am attracted to ministries that start new churches.
51. Building something with my hands is very rewarding to me.
52. I can pinpoint issues or problems before others.

53. I enjoy sharing the gospel with a total stranger.
54. I look for ways to be an encouragement to other people.
55. I trust that God has my back in every situation.
56. Making more money means that I can give more.
57. God has used me to bring healing to those who are sick.
58. Being a part of the process is fulfilling to me.
59. I tend to make total strangers feel at home.
60. People often describe me as a prayer warrior.
61. I enjoy knowing biblical details and helping others to understand.
62. I delegate responsibilities to accomplish tasks.
63. I am motivated to help those who are less fortunate.
64. I have a constant hunger to see God's miraculous power.
65. I focus a lot on reaching the world for Christ.
66. I gain my deepest satisfaction through leading others in vocal or instrumental worship.
67. I enjoy walking with someone in times of difficulty.
68. I enjoy hearing passionate and clear preaching of the truth.
69. I like to do small things that others pass over.
70. I prefer to teach the Bible topically rather than verse by verse.
71. Praying in the Spirit is encouraging and important to me.
72. When faced with difficulty I tend to make wise decisions and choices.

# SPIRITUAL GIFTS RATINGS

1 Almost Never

2 Seldom

3 Sometimes

4 Frequently

5 Almost Always

			Total	Gifts
1. _____	25. _____	49. _____	_____	A. _____
2. _____	26. _____	50. _____	_____	B. _____
3. _____	27. _____	51. _____	_____	C. _____
4. _____	28. _____	52. _____	_____	D. _____
5. _____	29. _____	53. _____	_____	E. _____
6. _____	30. _____	54. _____	_____	F. _____
7. _____	31. _____	55. _____	_____	G. _____
8. _____	32. _____	56. _____	_____	H. _____
9. _____	33. _____	57. _____	_____	I. _____
10. _____	34. _____	58. _____	_____	J. _____
11. _____	35. _____	59. _____	_____	K. _____
12. _____	36. _____	60. _____	_____	L. _____
13. _____	37. _____	61. _____	_____	M. _____
14. _____	38. _____	62. _____	_____	N. _____
15. _____	39. _____	63. _____	_____	O. _____
16. _____	40. _____	64. _____	_____	P. _____
17. _____	41. _____	65. _____	_____	Q. _____
18. _____	42. _____	66. _____	_____	R. _____
19. _____	43. _____	67. _____	_____	S. _____
20. _____	44. _____	68. _____	_____	T. _____
21. _____	45. _____	69. _____	_____	U. _____
22. _____	46. _____	70. _____	_____	V. _____
23. _____	47. _____	71. _____	_____	W. _____
24. _____	48. _____	72. _____	_____	X. _____

# Gift Definitions & Scripture References

The following contains definitions of the Spiritual gifts. While not meant to be dogmatic or final, these definitions and supporting scriptures do correspond to characteristics of the gifts as expressed in the Gifts Questionnaire.

The team list following the supporting scripture provides **suggested** teams with serving environments where the corresponding gifts can be most effective.

## **A. ADMINISTRATION**

The gift of administration is the divine strength or ability to organize multiple tasks and groups of people to accomplish these tasks. Luke 14:28-30; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Corinthians 12:28  
(A-Team, Communion Team, Kids Check-in, Setup/Takedown, Media)

## **B. APOSTLESHIP**

The gift of apostleship is the divine strength or ability to pioneer new churches and ministries through planting, overseeing, and training. Acts 15:22-35; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Galatians 2:7-10; Ephesians 4:11-14  
(Next Steps Team, Small Group Leadership)

## **C. CRAFTSMANSHIP**

The gift of craftsmanship is the divine strength or ability to plan, build, and work with your hands in construction environments to accomplish multiple ministry applications. Exodus 30:22, 31:3-11; 2 Chronicles 34:9-13; Acts 18:2-3  
(Setup/Takedown, Media)

## **D. DISCERNMENT**

The gift of discernment is the divine strength or ability to spiritually identify falsehood and to distinguish between right and wrong motives and situations. Matthew 16:21-23; Acts 5:1-11, 16:16-18; 1 Corinthians 12:10; 1 John 4:1-6  
(Next Steps Team, Kids Check-in, Outreach, Prayer Team, Security/First Responders)

## **E. EVANGELISM**

The gift of evangelism is the divine strength or ability to help non-Christians take the necessary steps to becoming a born-again Christian. Acts 8:5-6, 8:26-40, 14:21, 21:8; Ephesians 4:11-14  
(Outreach, Prayer Team, Small Group Leadership)

## **F. EXHORTATION**

The gift of exhortation is the divine strength or ability to encourage others through the written or spoken word and Biblical truth. Acts 14:22; Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 4:13; Hebrews 10:24-25  
(Dream Team Serve, Events, Greeters, Hospitality Team, Kids Check-in, LiFT Kids, Next Steps Team, Outreach, Parking Team, Small Group Leadership, Ushers, Info Center/Resources)

## **G. FAITH**

The gift of faith is the divine strength or ability to believe in God for unseen supernatural results in every arena of life. Acts 11:22-24; Romans 4:18-21; 1 Corinthians 12:9; Heb 11  
(Intercessory Prayer, All Teams)

## **H. GIVING**

The gift of giving is the divine strength or ability to produce wealth and to give by tithes and offerings for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God on earth. Mark 12:41-44; Romans 12:8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-7, 9:2-7  
(All Teams)



## **I. HEALING**

The gift of healing is the divine strength or ability to act as an intermediary in faith, prayer, and by the laying-on of hands for the healing of physical and mental illnesses. Acts 3:1-10, 9:32-35, 28:7-10; 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28

(Prayer Team, Security/First Responders)

## **J. HELPS**

The gift of helps is the divine strength or ability to work in a supportive role for the accomplishment of tasks in Christian ministry. Mark 15:40-41; Acts 9:36; Romans 16:1-2; 1 Corinthians 12:28

(A-Team, Communion Team, Dream Team Serve, Events, Parking Team, Info Center/Resources, Security/First Responders)

## **K. HOSPITALITY**

The gift of hospitality is the divine strength or ability to create warm, welcoming environments for others in places such as your home, office, or church. Acts 16:14-15; Romans 12:13, 16:23; Hebrews 13:1-2; 1 Peter 4:9

(Dream Team Serve, Events, Greeters, Next Steps Team, Hospitality Team, Kids Check-in, Parking Team, Ushers, Info Center/Resources)

## **L. INTERCESSION**

The gift of intercession is the divine strength or ability to stand in the gap in prayer for someone, something, or someplace, believing for profound results. Hebrews 7:25; Colossians 1:9-12, 4:12-13; James 5:14-16

(Prayer Team, Small Group Leadership)

## **M. KNOWLEDGE**

The gift of knowledge is the divine strength or ability to understand and to bring clarity to situations and circumstances often accompanied by a word from God. Acts 5:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:8; Colossians 2:2-3

(Outreach, First Responders, Prayer Team)

## **N. LEADERSHIP**

The gift of leadership is the divine strength or ability to influence people at their level while directing and focusing them on the big picture, vision, or idea. Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 3:1-13, 5:17; Hebrews 13:17

(All Teams)

## **O. MERCY**

The gift of mercy is the divine strength or ability to feel empathy and to care for those who are hurting in any way. Matthew 9:35-36; Mark 9:41; Romans 12:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:14

(Outreach, First Responders, Small Group Leadership)

## **P. MIRACLES**

The gift of miracles is the divine strength or ability to alter the natural outcomes of life in a supernatural way through prayer, faith, and divine direction. Acts 9:36-42, 19:11-12, 20:7-12; Romans 15:18-19; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 28

(Outreach, First Responders, Prayer Team)

## **Q. MISSIONARY**

The gift of missions is the divine strength or ability to reach others outside of your culture and nationality, while in most cases living in that culture or nation. Acts 8:4, 13:2-3, 22:21; Romans 10:15

(Outreach, Small Group Leadership)

## **R. MUSIC / WORSHIP**

The gift of music/worship is the divine strength or ability to sing, dance, or play an instrument primarily

for the purpose of helping others worship God. Deuteronomy 31:22; 1 Samuel 16:16; 1 Chronicles 16:41-42; 2 Chronicles 5:12-13, 34:12; Psalm 150  
(LiFT Kids, LiFT Worship, Small Group Leadership)

#### **S. PASTOR / SHEPHERD**

The gift of pastor/shepherd is the divine strength or ability to care for the personal needs of others by nurturing and mending life issues. John 10:1-18; Ephesians 4:11-14; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; 1 Peter 5:1-3  
(Next Steps Team, LiFT Kids, Small Group Leadership)

#### **T. PROPHECY**

The gift of prophecy is the divine strength or ability to boldly speak and bring clarity to scriptural and doctrinal truth, in some cases foretelling God's plan. Acts 2:37-40, 7:51-53, 26:24-29; 1 Corinthians 14:1-4; 1 Thessalonians 1:5  
(Prayer Team, Small Group Leadership)

#### **U. SERVICE**

The gift of serving is the divine strength or ability to do small or great tasks in working for the overall good of the body of Christ. Acts 6:1-7; Romans 12:7; Galatians 6:10; 1 Timothy 1:16-18; Titus 3:14  
(A-Team, Communion Team, Dream Team Serve, Events, Preschool/Nursery, Setup/Takedown)

#### **V. TEACHING**

The gift of teaching is the divine strength or ability to study and learn from the Scriptures primarily to bring understanding and depth to other Christians. Acts 18:24-28, 20:20-21; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:11-14  
(Small Group Leadership)

#### **W. TONGUES (and Interpretation)**

The gift of tongues is the divine strength or ability to pray in a heavenly language to encourage your spirit and to commune with God. The gift of tongues is often accompanied by interpretation and should be used appropriately. Acts 2:1-13; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 14:1-14  
(Prayer Team)

#### **X. WISDOM**

The gift of wisdom is the divine strength or ability to apply the truths of Scripture in a practical way, producing the fruitful outcome and character of Jesus Christ. Acts 6:3,10; 1 Corinthians 2:6-13, 12:8  
(LiFT Worship, Prayer Team, Small Group Leadership)

# Putting It All Together

*“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.” Hebrews 12:1-2*

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ **your feelings.**
  - A. Your gift may tie in directly with your temperament and personality. The same God who gives spiritual gifts also made up our total being.
  - B. Know your potential strengths and weaknesses.
  
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ **the opportunities.**
  - A. Look for needs.
  - B. Based upon your gifting find out where you can be useful.
  - C. Do it.
  
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ **your results.**
  - A. Your spiritual gift should work.
  - B. Gifted people get results. If you have the gift of healing, sick people will get well.
  
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_ **a small group or join a team.**

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## What is my personality type and leadership style?

\_\_\_\_\_ (D, I, S, C) \_\_\_\_\_ (People or Task Oriented)

## What are two primary spiritual gifts or natural abilities I have?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

## In what two areas am I most experienced and/or interested?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

## Based on the answers above, which team or small group do I need to connect?

\_\_\_\_\_

# Dream Teams

**A-Team (Administration):** This team utilizes their gifts of administration and organization to serve alongside Dream Team leaders to seamlessly transition new Dream Team members into serving.

**Greeters:** This friendly team loves people and makes them feel at home here at LiFT. They welcome guests with a smile, encouragement and personal touch so that hearts are open to the Gospel message.

**LiFT Kids:** This team creates an environment where children are consistently exposed to the real love of Jesus. They intentionally invest in the lives of our children through worship, videos, skits, small groups, greeting, games and more.

**LiFT Worship:** Through vocals, instruments, or audio engineering, this dynamic team prepares the way for our guests to encounter the presence of the living God.

**Hospitality:** This energetic team connects with guests by offering a hot cup of coffee and a warm welcome.

**Info/Resources:** This team connects guests to the Church community, providing resources and information on all of our current events, ministry opportunities and experiences.

**Kids Check-in:** This team welcomes families as they arrive at our LiFT Kids areas and facilitates the check-in process that ensures children are cared for effectively and efficiently.

**Next Steps Team:** As the official hosts of our Growth Track, this team greets guests as well as provides materials and assistance throughout our four classes.

**Parking Team:** This fun and enjoyable team is truly the first impression of LiFT Church! If you relish the great outdoors and enjoy telling people where to go, this is the team for you!

**Prayer Team:** This team of trained intercessors covers the weekend experiences in prayer, preparing the way for the Lord. Join this team that is blazing the trail for God in our city!

**Preschool/Nursery:** This team leads children into a real relationship with Jesus through Bible stories, worship, prayer, hands-on activities and personal interactions.

**Security/First Responders:** This unit serves to keep all our facilities safe and secure as well as being the first to respond to basic medical attention to our guests in the event of an accident.

**Setup/Takedown Team:** This team facilitates the LiFT experience by setting up before service and taking down after service.

**Small Group Leadership:** We believe that real life change takes place in the context of relationships. As a Small Group Leader, you have the greatest opportunity to connect with others, fulfill your passions, develop your gifts and live out the Great Commission.

**Technical Production:** Bring your creativity and tech savvy to this team and communicate the Word and worship through computers, lighting, and other visual elements.

**Ushers:** Prepare people for a positive worship experience by welcoming and assisting them to a seat, facilitating the offering and maintaining a distraction-free environment.

## As a member of the Dream Team, we all are called to...

1. \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ people.

People matter to God, so they matter to us.

*“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.” Philippians 2:3-4*

2. \_\_\_\_\_ relationships with my \_\_\_\_\_.

Real Life change happens... real leaders are developed... when we take a step towards intentional relationships.

*“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.” Philippians 1:3-5*

3. \_\_\_\_\_ each other.

We are a people of purpose, working together on purpose

*“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*

4 \_\_\_\_\_ the wins.

There is nothing more powerful than a life changed by Christ.

*“In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” Philipians 4:8-9, 13*

## **TO BEGIN SERVING ON THE DREAM TEAM**

1. Fill out the Dream Team Application provided at the beginning of this class.
2. Attend Church 101 & become a church member if you have not already done so.
3. After a few days, respond to the orientation from the ministry leader who will reach out to you once being added to their team.

# APPENDIX: 1

## LIFT CHURCH STATEMENT OF FAITH

### HOLY BIBLE

The Holy Bible, and only the Bible, is the authoritative Word of God. It alone is the final authority in determining all doctrinal truths. In its original writing, it is inspired, infallible and inerrant (II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:20-21; Proverbs 30:5; Romans 16:25-26).

### TRINITY

There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. These three are coequal and co-eternal (I John 5:7; Genesis 1:26; Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19; Luke 1:35; Isaiah 9:6; Hebrews 3:7-11).

### JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ is God the Son, the second person of the Trinity. On earth, Jesus was 100% God and 100% man. He is the only man ever to have lived a sinless life. He was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, performed miracles, died on the cross for mankind and thus, atoned for our sins through the shedding of His blood. He rose from the dead on the third day according to the Scriptures, ascended to the right hand of the Father, and will return again in power and glory. (John 1:1,14, 20:28; I Timothy 3:16; Isaiah 9:6; Philippians 2:5-6; 1 Timothy 2:5).

### VIRGIN BIRTH

Jesus Christ was conceived by God the Father, through the Holy Spirit (the third person of the Trinity) in the virgin Mary's womb; therefore, He is the Son of God (Matthew 1:18, 25; Luke 1:35; Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:27-35).

### REDEMPTION

Man was created good and upright, but by voluntary transgression he fell; his only hope of redemption is in Jesus Christ, the Son of God (Gen. 1:26-31, 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-21).

### REGENERATION

For anyone to know God, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential (John 6:44, 65; Matthew 19:28; Titus 3:5).

## **SALVATION**

We are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ; His death, burial, and resurrection. Salvation is a gift from God, not a result of our good works or of any human efforts (Ephesians 2:8-9; Galatians 2:16, 3:8; Titus 3:5; Romans 10:9-10; Acts 16:31; Hebrews 9:22).

## **REPENTANCE**

Repentance is the commitment to turn away from sin in every area of our lives and to follow Christ, which allows us to receive His redemption and to be regenerated by the Holy Spirit. Thus, through repentance we receive forgiveness of sins and appropriate salvation (Acts 2:21, 3:19; I John 1:9).

## **SANCTIFICATION**

Sanctification is the ongoing process of yielding to God's Word and His Spirit in order to complete the development of Christ's character in us. It is through the present ministry of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God that the Christian is enabled to live a Godly life (I Thessalonians 4:3, 5:23; II Corinthians 3:18, 6:14-18, II Thessalonians 2:1-3, Romans 8:29, 12:1-2, Hebrews 2:11).

## **JESUS' BLOOD**

The Blood that Jesus Christ shed on the Cross of Calvary was sinless and is 100% sufficient to cleanse mankind of all sin. Jesus allowed Himself to be punished for both our sinfulness and our sins, enabling all those who believe to be free from the penalty of sin, which is death (I John 1:7; Revelation 1:5, 5:9; Colossians 1:20; Romans 3:10-12, 23, 5:9; John 1:29).

## **JESUS CHRIST INDWELLS ALL BELIEVERS**

Christians are people who have invited the Lord Jesus Christ to come and live inside them by His Holy Spirit. They relinquish the authority of their lives over to him thus making Jesus the Lord of their life as well as Savior. They put their trust in what Jesus accomplished for them when He died, was buried, and rose again from the dead (John 1:12; John 14:17, 23; John 15:4; Romans 8:11; Revelation 3:20).

## **BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Given at Pentecost, it is the promise of the Father, sent by Jesus after His Ascension, to empower the Church to preach the Gospel throughout the whole earth (Joel 2:28-29; Matthew 3:11; Mark 16:17; Acts 1:5, 2:1-4, 17, 38-39, 8:14-17, 10:38, 44-47, 11:15-17, 19:1-6).

## **THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**



The Holy Spirit is manifested through a variety of spiritual gifts to build and sanctify the church, demonstrate the validity of the resurrection, and confirm the power of the Gospel. The Bible lists of these gifts are not necessarily exhaustive, and the gifts may occur in various combinations. All believers are commanded to earnestly desire the manifestation of the gifts in their lives. These gifts always operate in harmony with the Scriptures and should never be used in violation of Biblical parameters. (Hebrews 2:4; Romans 1:11, 12 :4-8; Ephesians 4:16; I Timothy 4:14; II Timothy 1:6-7; I Corinthians 12:1-31, 14:1-40; I Peter 4:10).

## **THE CHURCH**

The church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of Jesus' Great Commission. Every person who is born of the Spirit is an integral part of the church as a member of the body of believers. There is a spiritual unity of all believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 1:22, 2:19-22; Hebrews 12:23; John 17:11, 20-23).

## **TWO SACRAMENTS:**

**Water Baptism:** Following faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the new convert is commanded by the Word of God to be baptized in water in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Acts 8:12, 36-38; 10:47-48).

**The Lord's Supper:** A unique time of communion in the presence of God when the elements of bread and grape juice (the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ) are taken in remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross (Matthew 26:26-29; I Corinthians 10:16, 11:23-25).

## **HEALING OF THE SICK**

Healing of the sick is illustrated in the life and ministry of Jesus, and included in the commission of Jesus to His disciples. It is given as a sign, which is to follow believers. It is also a part of Jesus' work on the Cross and one of the gifts of the Spirit. (Psalm 103:2-3; Isaiah 53:5; Matthew 8:16-17; Mark 16:17-18; Acts 8:6-7; James 5:14-16; I Corinthians 12:9, 28; Romans 11:29).

## **GOD'S WILL FOR PROVISION**

It is the Father's will for believers to become whole, healthy and successful in all areas of life. But because of the fall, many may not receive the full benefits of God's will while on Earth. That fact, though, should never prevent all believers from seeking the full benefits of Christ's provision in order to better serve others.

Spiritual (John 3:3-11; II Corinthians 5:17-21; Romans 10:9-10)

Mental and Emotional (II Timothy 1:7, 2:11; Philippians 4:7-8; Romans 12:2; Isaiah 26:3).

Physical (Isaiah 53:4,5; Matthew 8:17; I Peter 2:24).

Financial (Joshua 1:8; Malachi 3:10-11; Luke 6:38; II Corinthians 9:6-10; Deuteronomy 28:1-14; Psalm 34:10, 84:11; Philippians 4:19).

## **RESURRECTION**

Jesus Christ was physically resurrected from the dead in a glorified body three days after His death on the cross. In addition, both the saved and the lost will be resurrected; they that are saved to the resurrection of life and they that are lost to the resurrection of eternal damnation (Luke 24:16, 36, 39; John 2:19-21, 20:26-28, 21:4; Acts 24:15; I Corinthians 15:42, 44; Philippians 1:21-23, 3:21).

## **HEAVEN**

Heaven is the eternal dwelling place for all believers in the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Matthew 5:3, 12, 20, 6:20, 19:21, 25:34; John 17:24; II Corinthians 5:1; Hebrews 11:16; I Peter 1:4).

## **HELL**

After living one life on earth, the unbelievers will be judged by God and sent to Hell where they will be eternally tormented with the Devil and the Fallen Angels (Matthew 25:41; Mark 9:43-48; Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 14:9-11, 20:12-15, 21:8).

## **SECOND COMING**

Jesus Christ will physically and visibly return to earth for the second time to establish His Kingdom. This will occur at a date undisclosed by the Scriptures (Matthew 24:30, 26:63-64; Acts 1:9-11; I Thessalonians 4:15-17; II Thessalonians 1:7-8; Revelation 1:7)

## **MARRIAGE**

We believe that every person is created in the image of God, that human sexuality reflects that image in terms of intimate love, communication, fellowship, subordination of the self to the larger whole, and fulfillment. God's Word makes use of the marriage relationship as the supreme metaphor for His relationship with His covenant people and for revealing the truth that that relationship is of one God with one people. Therefore God's plan for human sexuality is that it is to be expressed only in a monogamous lifelong relationship between one man and one woman within the framework of marriage. This is the only relationship that is divinely designed for the birth and rearing of children and is a covenant union made in the sight of God, taking priority over every other human relationship. (Gen. 1:27-28; 2:18, 20, 23-24; Isa. 54:4-8; 62:5b; Jer. 3:14; Ezek. 16:3ff.; Hosea 2; Mal. 2:14; Matt. 19:4-6; Mark 10:9; John 2:1-2, 11; 1 Cor. 9:5; Eph. 5:23-32; 1 Tim. 5:14; Heb. 13:4; Rev. 19:7-8)

# APPENDIX: 2

## QUESTIONS ABOUT TITHING

### What is tithing?

“Tithe” means “a tenth part.”

### What is the difference between a tithe and an offering?

A “tithe” is giving the first tenth of my income. An “offering” is anything I give in addition to my tithe.

### Why should I tithe?

- Because God commands it.  
*“A tenth of all you produce is the Lord’s.” Leviticus 27:30*
- Because Jesus commended it.  
*“Yes, you should tithe, and you shouldn’t leave the more important things undone either.” Matthew 23:23*
- Tithing demonstrates that God has first place in my life.  
*“The purpose of tithing is to teach you to always put God in first place in your lives.” Deuteronomy 14:23 (LB)*
- Tithing reminds me that everything I have was given to me by God.  
*“Always remember that it is the Lord your God who gives you the ability to produce wealth.” Deuteronomy 8:18*
- Tithing expresses my love to the Lord.  
*“Each of you should bring a gift in proportion to the way the Lord your God has blessed you.” Deuteronomy 16:17*
- God says that refusing to tithe is stealing from Him.  
*“God says ‘Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing me!’ But you ask, ‘How do we rob you?’ God says ‘In tithes and offerings ... Bring your whole tithe to My house.’ ” Malachi 3:8-10*
- Tithing gives God a chance to prove He exists and wants to bless you.  
*“Bring your whole tithe to My storehouse. Test me in this” says the Lord, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you won’t have room enough for it!” Malachi 3:10*

### What should I Tithe?

The tithe should come from the first part of what I earn.

*“Honor the Lord by giving him the first part of all your income.” Proverbs 3:9-10*

### Where should I give my Tithe?

The tithe should be given where I worship.

*“Bring your whole tithe to My Storehouse (Temple).” Malachi 3:10*

### When should I Tithe?

The tithe should be given weekly or whenever you have been “increased”.

*“On the first day of every week, set aside some of what you have earned and give it as an offering. The amount depends on how much the Lord has helped you earn.” 1 Corinthians 16:2 (LB)*

