# PEEOM growth track

## step**ONE**Become A Member

"I have come that they may have life and have it to the fullest."

John 10:10

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The Freedom Growth Track guides you to discover your redemptive purpose and live the life God created for you. The Growth Track is made up of four steps that equip you to 1) connect to the church, 2) discover the strengths of your purposeful design, 3) develop your personal leadership, and 4) use your God-given gifts to make a difference in the lives of others.

#### stepONE - Become a Member

Explore the ministry of Freedom Church and find out how to connect with our church. Step One takes place the first Sunday of every month.

### stepTWO - Discover Your Design

Dive into the details of your personality, discover your gifts, and see how your design reveals your purpose in life and your best fit in ministry. Step Two takes place the second Sunday of every month.

## stepTHREE - Develop Your Leadership

Find out what it means to be a leader at Freedom and learn how you can strengthen your character and gifting to fulfill your leadership potential. Step Three takes place the third Sunday of every month.

## stepFOUR - Join the Team

Connect to the opportunities available at Freedom to live out your purpose and serve others by using your God-given gifts. Step Four takes place the fourth Sunday of every month.

## stepONE

Become A Member



**MAIN AUDITORIUM** 

## THE FREEDOM STORY

Our church was initially started as Calvary Church over 30 years ago under the direction of former pastors Kenneth & Joan Bales and succeeded by Bill & Shelly Lickliter.

In March of 2014, Nathan & Emily Garmany and the members of Calvary Church renamed the church to Freedom Church.

Freedom Church exists to bring freedom to those needing an authentic encounter with a loving Heavenly Father. We love to help people find their God given purpose and design for their lives.

Our desire is to see His kingdom come to earth. We are a people who seek after the presence of God, we love worship, and we are a church of family culture.

Since January of 2014 Freedom has more than doubled in size and we have seen steady growth on a yearly basis. Souls are saved almost weekly and we are seeing lives transformed through our services and Connect Groups (Small Discipleship Groups).

We have a heart for those who are hurting in our city and around the world. We regularly host outreaches to bless our city and communities locally and we have a strong missions minded agenda to see the lost saved not only locally but globally.

We support close to 30 missionaries monthly and initiate yearly missions projects around the globe. We are a part of the Assemblies of God and the ARC (Association of Related Churches) and through those two organizations we support church planting globally.

We invite you to see how exciting church can be when you encounter God's presence, it absolutely will change your life.

## OUR PRAYER FOR YOU

"I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people."

**EPHESIANS 1:17-18** 

"I ask the God of our Master, Jesus Christ, the God of glory—to make you intelligent and discerning in knowing Him personally, your eyes focused and clear, so that you can see exactly what it is He is calling you to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life He has for His followers."

**EPHESIANS 1:17-19 MSG** 

## Our spiritual journey consists of four steps:

1.		

"[I pray]... that you may know Him better [personally]."

#### **EPHESIANS 1:17-18**

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you.'"

**MATTHEW 7:21-23** 

2.	
	"[I pray] that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened [focused and clear]."  EPHESIANS 1:17–18
	"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed."  JAMES 5:16
3.	
	"[I pray] that you may know the hope to which He has called you."  EPHESIANS 1:17–18
	"We have different gifts, according to the grace given us."  ROMANS 12:6
	"All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it."  1 CORINTHIANS 12:27 NLT
4.	
	"[I pray] that you may grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life He has for His followers [in his holy people]."  EPHESIANS 1:17–18
	"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."  JOHN 15:8, 11

"God has given gifts to each of you from His great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another."

1 PETER 4:10 NLT



#### FREEDOM WORSHIP TEAM

## 1.KNOW GOD

We consider reaching people who do not know God personally to be one of our greatest responsibilities. Our Sunday services are for people at all stages in their spiritual journey but are primarily designed for those who do not yet have a genuine relationship with God.

## Our Sunday services focus on four values:

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

We believe church should be enjoyable.

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go into the house of the Lord.'"

PSALM 122:1 NKJV

We	e believe church should be a place where people experience
Go	d's presence.
	"Butwhen some unbelievers or ordinary people come in, they will be convinced of their sin by what they hear. They will be judged by all they hear, their secret thoughts will be brought into the open, and they will bow down and worship God, confessing, 'Truly God is here among you!'"  1 CORINTHIANS 14:24–25 GNT
3.	
	e believe church should be a place where people learn how the Bible plies to their daily lives.
	"So Christ Himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip His people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."
	EPHESIANS 4:11-12
4.	
	e believe church should be a place where people can accept Jesus as sir Lord and Savior.
	"'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' But how can they call on Him 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 NLT** 



**COMMUNITY OUTREACH** 

#### How we share Christ with others:

"Go out into the country...and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full."

**LUKE 14:23 TLB** 

As we continue to reach people far from God, every one of us can do our part by following these four principles:

1.	Accept the personal	_•
2.	Build a personal	_=
3.	Share your personal	-
1.	Give a personal	

## In our city, our nation, and our world

"You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

**ACTS 1:8** 

In addition to our efforts during Sunday services, we are focused on reaching people in three key places designated by Jesus:

. "In Jerusalem" –

"Real religion, the kind that passes muster before God the Father, is this: Reach out to the homeless and loveless in their plight."

JAMES 1:27 MSG

The primary way we reach our cities is through our Sunday services, community outreach, and Connect Groups.

	"In Judea	and Samaria"	
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"As they traveled from town to town, they presented the simple guidelines the Jerusalem apostles and leaders had come up with. That turned out to be most helpful. Day after day the congregations became stronger in faith and larger in size."

#### **ACTS 16:4-5 MSG**

The primary way we reach our nation is by starting new churches and strengthening existing churches through the Association of Related Churches (ARC) and the Assemblies of God (AG) church multiplication network.

ARC is a church-planting organization that started with two church plants. We support ARC today as it trains, coaches, and resources hundreds of new church plants across America and abroad every year.

Learn more about ARC at arcchurches.com and the AG at ag.org.

3.	"To the ends	of the earth"	

"Jesus said to His followers, 'Go everywhere in the world, and tell the Good News to everyone.'"

**MARK 16:15 NCV** 

The primary way we reach our world is through strategic missions. At Freedom, we intentionally invest a portion of our resources in missions work all around the world with a focus on unreached people groups, children, and church planting.

Learn more at:

freedomchurchchattanooga.com/get-connected/outreach--missions/

## How you can participate:

1
Pray that we might reach people in each of these areas with the Good News of Jesus.
"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
Give your time and resources to reach people for Christ.
"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. For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be."  MATTHEW 6:19–21
3
Go to our cities, nation, and world to serve others and show people the love of God.

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!' He said, 'Go and tell this people...'"

**ISAIAH** 6:8-9



**CONNECT GROUPS** 

## 2. FIND FREEDOM

We believe life change happens in the context of relationships. Connect Groups have one simple purpose: to bring people together. God created us to live in community with others, and it is only then that we can experience the full life He intends for us.

## **Connect Groups provide three things:**

1. A place to	with others.
•	re, I try to find common ground with him out Christ and let Christ save him."
	ne. God created us for community, and e for you to connect with others, share
2. A place to	each other.
	ecause Jesus gave up His life for us. So r lives for our brothers and sisters."
others to bring support and enco	oblems become smaller as God uses ouragement to our lives. Connect others don't just know your name but your life and want to support you in
3. A place to	together.
"As iron sharpens iron, so on PROVERBS 27:17	e person sharpens another."

We believe every person is created with God-given potential to make a difference in the world. Connect Groups are a place you can grow with others to become more like Jesus and reach the potential God has put inside you.



#### **CONNECT GROUPS**

### **Freedom Church's Connect Groups Model**

We base our Connect Groups model on the early church as described in the Bible in the book of Acts. In Acts, you can read about how small group meetings in homes helped lay the foundation for tremendous growth in the first church in Jerusalem.

"Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah."

#### **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**

Freedom Church is a church of Connect Groups, not a church with Connect Groups.

#### Four things to know about Freedom Connect Groups:

#### 1. Our groups are "free market."

We want people to gather together based on things they enjoy and are important to them. Essentially, the things you are already doing in your life are the things that can make up your Connect Group! From sports groups to lunch groups, parenting groups to student groups, Bible study groups to creative arts groups, our groups are as varied as we are. All groups fall within eight hubs:

Men • Women • Marriage and Family •Students
Freedom • Prayer • Outreach • Financial

#### 2. There are three semesters every year.

Life flows in seasons, and we want to make it easy for you to be in the right Connect Group for you in each season. This is why we have new groups that start and stop three times a year in what we refer to as "semesters."



#### 3. Everyone can join a group.

Our hope is for every person at Freedom to be connected in meaningful community through a Connect Group. With so many groups to choose from, we are confident there is a group that is a great fit for you. You can search groups by topic, location, day, and time in our online Connect Groups directory at **freedomchurchchattanooga.com/get-connected/connect-groups/**. Once you find a few groups that interest you, contact the leaders to learn more and make plans to check them out in person.

#### 4. Anyone can host a group.

We believe hosting a group is simple because we all have something to offer others. Whether it's something you are passionate about, an experience you've had that can help others, or an area in which you are looking to grow, hosting a group is a great way to bring people together in meaningful community.

To learn more about becoming a Connect Group leader, attend Connect Group Leadership Training at Step Four of the Growth Track. Even if you're not sure if you're ready to host a group, we invite you to come to a training.



**FREEDOM KIDS** 

## 3. DISCOVER PURPOSE

The Freedom Growth Track exists to help you discover and develop your purpose and live the full life God created for you. The Growth Track is made up of four steps, which guide you through next steps in your journey to know God, find freedom, discover purpose, and make a difference.

"Let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity."

**HEBREWS 6:1** 

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

JOHN 10:10

#### The Freedom Growth Track

stepONE –
 Explore the ministry of Freedom Church and find out how to connect with our church. Step One takes place the first Sunday of every month.
 stepTWO –

Dive into the details of your personality, discover your gifts, and see how your design reveals your purpose in life and your best fit in ministry. Step Two takes place the second Sunday of every month.

3. stepTHREE —

Find out what it means to be a leader at Freedom and learn how you can strengthen your character and gifting to fulfill your leadership potential. Step Three takes place the third Sunday of every month.

4. stepFOUR -

Connect to the opportunities available at Freedom to live out your purpose and serve others by using your God-given gifts. Step Four takes place the fourth Sunday of every month.

## 4. MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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

"For we are God's handiwork, 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**

"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 TLB

#### At Freedom Church

We believe there is no great divide between the "ministers" and the "congregation." Everyone has something they can do to impact the lives of others in the Kingdom of God. From our perspective, every member of Freedom is a minister, every person is gifted in some area, and every task is important. Discover what you do well, and take steps to use your gifts to make a difference.

You can start by joining the Freedom Team at Step Four of the Growth Track!



FREEDOM TEAM



**PURSUIT STUDENTS** 

## FREEDOM CHURCH GOVERNMENT

As you consider investing your heart, time, family, and finances into the life of a church, it is important for you to feel confident in church leadership. Our goal in sharing the details of Freedom's government is that you will understand that our church is structured to support the values of integrity, accountability, and spiritual authority.

Our church	government is	made	up	of	three
groups of e	lders:				

1	Guided b	w			
⊥ .	Guided L	JV			

Our Lead Pastor oversees the Pastoral Staff team. This team directs the day-to-day ministry and operations of the church. These staff pastors serve the congregation and are responsible for the development of the spiritual life of the church. The Pastoral Leadership Team serve as Staff Elders.

## 2. Protected by \_\_\_\_\_

Our Trustees are 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. The Trustees serve as Non-Staff Elders.

## 3. Strengthened by \_\_\_\_\_

The Overseers are pastors of respected congregations and ministries who love Freedom Church and are willing to provide spiritual protection to the church. They may be called upon to help in accountability matters relating to the Lead Pastor if requested to do so by the Pastors or Trustees. The Overseers serve as Apostolic Elders.



**FREEDOM TEAM** 

## **CHURCH FINANCES**

"Every Sunday each of you make an offering and put it in safekeeping. Be as generous as you can. When I get there you'll have it ready, and I won't have to make a special appeal."

1 CORINTHIANS 16:1-4 MSG

At Freedom 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 for giving.

"Be sure to set aside a tenth of all that your fields produce each year."

#### **DEUTERONOMY 14:22–26**

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

#### MALACHI 3:10

Giving is one of the central themes in the Bible. Jesus talked more about this subject than Heaven, Hell, or prayer. To understand what it means to be a Christ-follower, we must also understand what it means to be a giver.

#### 1. Tithe

The tithe, or "first fruits" of our labor/income belong to God. We find this principle all through God's Word. Tithing, giving God the first 10% of our income to the local church, is the primary, practical way we acknowledge that God is first (Proverbs 3:9–10).

#### 2. Offerings

An offering is giving over and above the tithe. The Bible says that by giving generously, we are able to "take hold of the life that is truly life." You aren't really living unless you are freely giving (1 Timothy 6:18–19).

#### 3. The Gift of Giving

The gift of giving is a spiritual gift that God gives to some people (Romans 12:8). It is a Spirit-given capacity and desire to serve God by giving of your material resources, far beyond the tithe, to further the work of God.

Many people love giving to God. They want to feel confident in the organization through which they give. At Freedom, we want people to understand they are giving to God through the church, not to the church. As we openly share the honesty, integrity, and spiritual values that guide the financial practices of Freedom, we believe people can focus on what God is calling them to give and trust that He is leading our church to steward it well.

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

## **BECOMING A MEMBER**

### Freedom Church's Membership Covenant

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and being in agreement with the values and ideas presented in Step One of the Growth Track, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the Freedom Church family. In doing so, I make the following commitment to God and my fellow church members:

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

#### by:

Acting in love toward other members.

Refusing to gossip.

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 TLB**

"Have a sincere love for other believers, love one another earnestly with all your heart."

#### **1 PETER 1:22 GNT**

"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**

"Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you."

#### **HEBREWS 13:17**

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

Praying for its growth and health. Inviting the unchurched to attend. 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 TLB**

"So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified."

#### **ROMANS 15:7 TLB**

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

Discovering my gifts and talents.
Using my God-given gifts to make a different

Using my God-given gifts to make a difference in the lives of others. Developing a servant's heart.

"Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you."

#### 1 PETER 4:10 PH

"So Christ Himself gave...pastors and teachers, to equip His people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."

#### **EPHESIANS 4:11-12**

"Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus... taking the form of a bondservant."

#### PHILIPPIANS 2:4-5, 7 NKJV

4. I will support the testimony of my church by: Attending church and Connect Groups faithfully. Living a Godly life. 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 neglect our meeting together...but encourage one another."

**HEBREWS 10:25 NLT** 

"But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the Gospel of Christ."

PHILIPPIANS 1:27 PH

To read through our full **Statement of Faith** see Appendix page 72 (at the back of this booklet) or visit our website at **freedomchurchchattanooga.com/what-we-believe/** 

## **NEXT STEPS**

#### 1. Become a member of Freedom Church.

Membership at Freedom is not about adding your name to a roster; it's about connecting with the people and the vision of the church. We would love for you to be a part.

### 2. Join a Connect Group.

Browse our online Connect Groups directory at freeodmchurchchattanooga.com/get-connected/connect-groups/. Once you find a few groups that interest you, contact the leaders to learn more and make plans to check them out in person.

## 3. Complete the Growth Track.

step**TWO**Discover Your Design

step**THREE**Develop Your Leadership

step**FOUR**Join the Team



## appendix

## 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.

2 Timothy 3:16; 2 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.

1 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, 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; 1 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.

Genesis 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; 1 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.

- 1 Thessalonians 4:3, 5:23; 2 Corinthians 3:18, 6:14-18,
- 2 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.

1 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's 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; 1 Timothy 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:6-7; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31, 14:1-40; 1 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

#### Sacrements

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

**Communion:** A unique time of communion in the presence of God when the elements of bread and grape juice (as a symbol of the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ) are taken in remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross.

Matthew 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 10:16, 11:23-25

#### **Marriage**

We believe marriage is defined in the Bible as a covenant, a sacred bond between one man and one woman, instituted by and publicly entered into before God.

Matthew 19:4-6

#### **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; 1 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. Because of the fall, many may not receive the full benefits of God's will while on Earth, but that fact 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; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Romans 10:9-10

#### Mental and Emotional

2 Timothy 1:7, 2:11; Philippians 4:7-8; Romans 12:2; Isaiah 26:3

#### Physical

Isaiah 53:4,5; Matthew 8:17; 1 Peter 2:24

#### Financial

Joshua 1:8; Malachi 3:10-11; Luke 6:38; 2 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; those that are saved to the resurrection of life and those 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; 1 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; 2 Corinthians 5:1; Hebrews 11:16; 1 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; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8; Revelation 1:7

## **ANSWER KEY**

## stepONE - Become a Member

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