

OUR PURPOSE (WHY WE EXIST)

TO BRING, TO TURN, TO BUILD, TO SEND

Our reason for existence is "to bring the unchurched into a right relationship with Jesus Christ, into the fellowship of church membership, nurturing them to full spiritual maturity and productive Christian service in the world."

OUR PASSIONS (WHO WE LOVE)

GOD, THE CHURCH, THE UN-CHURCHED

We love God because He is uniquely beautiful, infinitely worthy, and supremely valuable. We love the church because it is more than a building; it is the "body of Christ" and the "brotherhood of the saints," a collection of redeemed men and women who find common ground in their love of Jesus. We love the un-churched because God loves the unchurched and He wants to use us to make His love known.

OUR PRACTICES (WHAT WE DO)

WORSHIP, MINISTRY, MISSIONS

Because we love God, we worship Him (Father, Son, and Spirit) through relevant music and engaging preaching; knowing that He alone deserves our worship. Because we love our brothers and sisters in Christ we do ministry (acts of service by the church for the church) knowing that the world will see our love for each other as proof of our love for God. We engage in missional acts of service because we know that eternity is real and really long.

Our hope is to bring the life-changing gospel of Jesus to those who don't know God, so they can experience forgiveness and spend eternity in grateful worship of God, instead of experiencing God's wrath in the eternal torment of Hell.

Built By Jesus

A Living Connection

GOALS:

- 1. To grow in relationship with God.
- 2. To grow in relationship with others.
- 3. To grow our groups and start new groups.

FACILITATOR: The questions that follow are designed to stir reflection and discussion on last week's message. Please read through them prior to your meeting, so you can be prepared to prayerfully pace your group well. And remember, a facilitator's goal is to promote increased biblical awareness, as well as individual self-awareness— a combination that with the help of the Holy Spirit, results in revelation and transformation.

ICE BREAKER: How many of you have/had a family member addicted to a substance? What was their excuse for being addicted?

REVIEW: What is the current series? Why are we doing this? What is this week's title? Why is this subject important to study?

BIBLE STUDY AND APPLICATION:

Opening Question: Why has the sinner's prayer <u>not</u> been sufficient for some to obtain salvation?

Read Matt. 11:7-9, 16-19

- 1. What had the people been conditioned to expect, regarding the coming of the Messiah?
- 2. Prior to your coming to Christ, what had you been conditioned to believe about the church, and how did that influence your response to the Gospel?

Read Matt. 13:1-9, 18-23

- 3. If the problem's not with the sower or the seed, what were the different problems with the soil?
- 4. Who were <u>your</u> sowers? And, how many seeds were planted in your life before you got it?

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27

- 5. What did it take for you to understand the value of being in a living connection with other believers?
- 6. How important is this *living connection* for you? How do you communicate that importance to others?

CLOSING PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS (refer to bulletin for details):

March 1-29 - NAC Kid's Food Drive

March 14 - Parents' Night Out, 4-8 p.m.

March 16 – Open Trustees Meeting, 6:30p.m.

March 21 – Women's Ministry, *Unwrap The Bible 2015*, 9-5p.m.

March 22 – No One Goes Hungry Ministry Meeting, 11:45-1p.m.