



THE ascent



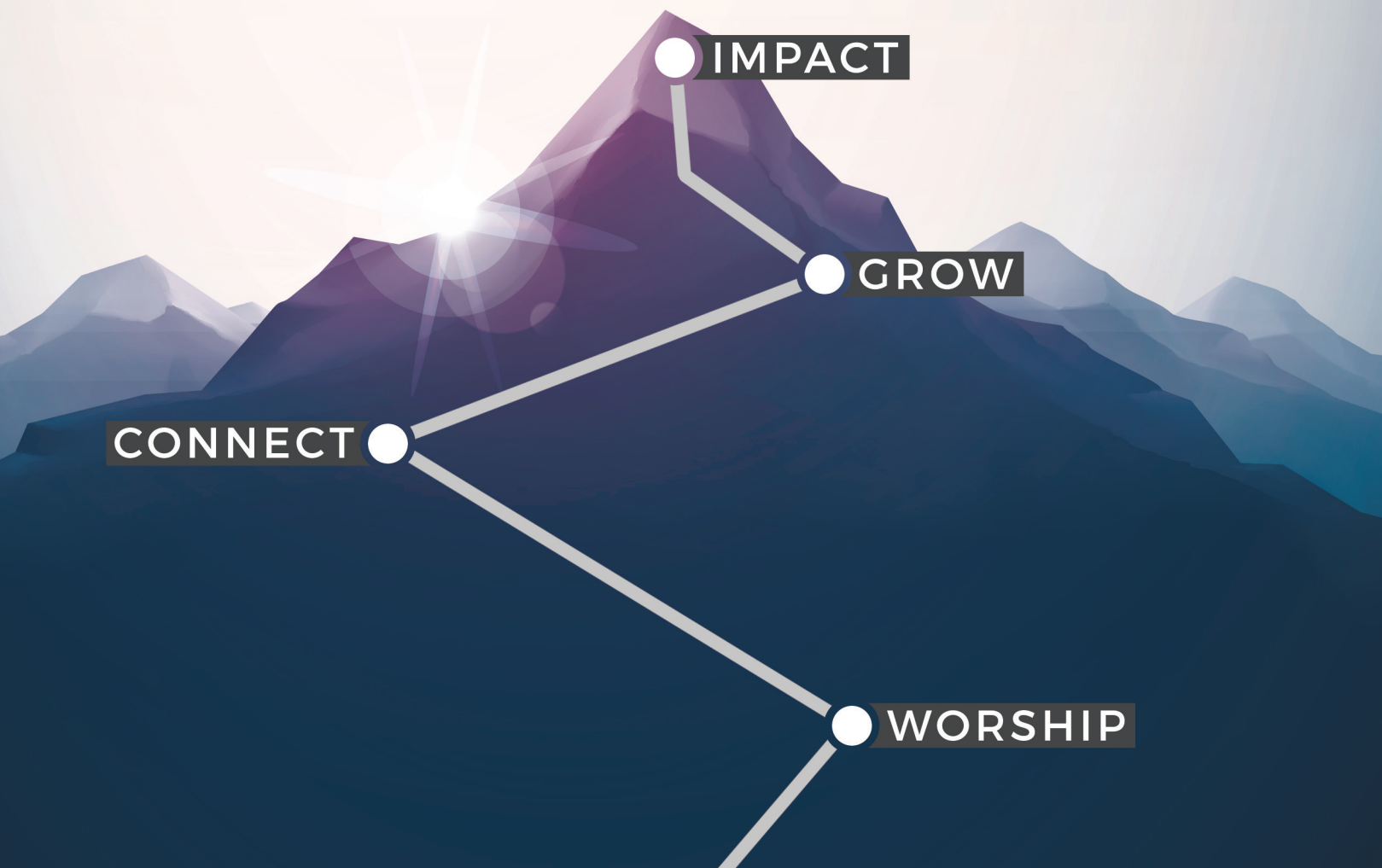
WELCOME TO THE ASCENT!

This is where you begin your Ascent with the Radiant Church family. In the following weeks, you will begin to see the heartbeat of God through his people and the leadership at Radiant Church.

By now, you have noticed the clear summary of our mission statement: **Passionate followers... impacting our world.** This statement comes from our complete mission statement: We will honor God by growing a community of passionate followers of Jesus Christ who impact their world. When you break this down, you have **WORSHIP** (We will honor God), **CONNECT** (by growing a community), **GROW** (of passionate followers of Jesus Christ), **IMPACT** (who impact their world).

The Ascent is the path to membership at Radiant Church but whether you ultimately commit to membership or not, we are confident you will find the Ascent helpful in becoming a passionate follower of Jesus Christ.

As you navigate through the Ascent, you will learn how, as a believer, you can put the Mission statement into action (**WORSHIP, CONNECT, GROW, IMPACT**). This becomes your discipleship path, your Ascent to impacting the world. As we begin our Ascent, we would like to introduce you to the mission, vision, beliefs, structure, and history of Radiant Church.



RADIANT'S MISSION

We would like you to know the mission of Radiant Church.
It tells you why we exist.

Biblical Purpose

A great commitment to the great _____ WORSHIP - CONNECT
and the great _____ will grow a great church. GROW - IMPACT

The Great Commandment

WORSHIP / CONNECT

Matthew 22:36-40 - "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

The Great Commission

GROW / IMPACT

Matthew 28:19-20 - "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Radiant Church Mission

We will honor God..

..by growing a community..

..of passionate followers of Jesus Christ..

..who impact their world.

WORSHIP

CONNECT

GROW

IMPACT

THE RADIANT CHURCH ASCENT

The Ascent is the Mission statement in action. This process will enable passionate followers of Jesus Christ to impact their world. The Ascent is a mountain-climbing metaphor we use to describe fulfilling both our Mission as well as a personal discipleship path - your Ascent.

Our Mission has four trail markers - WORSHIP | CONNECT | GROW | IMPACT

Each of us are on our own unique personal Ascent. So, although the classes are in succession, you do not need to go through them in order.

OUR VISION

What We Are Becoming

Radiant Church will be a church that is ...

R RELYING ON THE HOLY SPIRIT

- That can only be explained by the Holy Spirit's direction and empowerment
- Where signs, wonders and miracles are commonplace
- Where the fruit of the Spirit is evident, the gifts of the Spirit operate and the presence of the Spirit is manifest

A ADVANCING WITH PRAYER & PRAISE

- Full of faith in God's ability to answer prayer
- That daily cultivates a personal relationship with God
- That naturally desires to worship and pray together

D DEVELOPING SERVANT-LEADERS

- With a culture of training, empowering and releasing Christ-like leaders
- Whose leaders are known for their servants' hearts
- Sending Christ-like leaders to serve in all segments of society, the nation and the world

I INVESTING AS BIBLICAL STEWARDS

- That live as if nothing is our own
- Fully mobilized in ministry service according to our unique makeup
- That generously gives of their resources for the advancement of God's Kingdom in Colorado Springs and throughout the world

A ATTRACTING PEOPLE TO CHRIST

- Making sacrifices in order to see people become followers of Jesus Christ
- Where authentic faith & relationships lead to friendship, understanding and redemption
- Where the Gospel is presented in a culturally relevant, doctrinally pure and Biblically uncompromising way

N NAVIGATING LIFE IN COMMUNITY

- Where everyone is valued and experiences love, acceptance and forgiveness
- Where relationships are foundational
- Made up of small life-giving communities

T TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD

- Where God's Word is given final authority
- Where every member develops a Biblical worldview
- Where every member is developing Christ-like character and love

OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

What We Believe

In essential beliefs, we have unity (Ephesians 4:4-6); in non-essential beliefs, we have liberty (Romans 14:1, 4, 12, 22); in all beliefs we show charity (1 Corinthians 13:2).

Essentials We Believe

1. We believe the _____ is the inspired and only infallible and authoritative written Word of God.
2. We believe there is one _____, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
3. We believe in the deity of our Lord _____, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His substitutionary and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.
4. We believe that for the _____ of lost and sinful mankind, re-birth by the Holy Spirit is essential, repentance from sin, and acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior is the only way to come into a relationship with God.
5. We believe in the present ministry of the _____, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life; we further believe His power and gifts are available to believers today.
6. We believe in the _____ of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto everlasting life, and they that are lost unto everlasting damnation.

OUR GOVERNANCE

Radiant Church is a self-governing church that is in a cooperative fellowship with the Assemblies of God.

Radiant Church is led by our Lead Pastors who were elected by the congregation, with the support of their pastoral team and with the advice, counsel, and accountability of our seven-member board.

OUR HISTORY

Radiant Church's beginning can be traced back to 1949, when Rev. R.E. Silvers started a church in Colorado Springs named Gospel Tabernacle. In 1953, the church was granted General Council affiliation into the Assemblies of God Movement. The church, with the new name Knob Hill Assembly of God, had about 20 members.

In 1979, under the leadership of Don and Loretta Steiger, the church purchased the property on which our Central Campus is now located, and in 1980 the name of the church was changed to Radiant Church. In 1993 Radiant fostered its first church plant, Restoration Church, in Fountain, Colorado. In 2000 Radiant started a new church in the North Central Colorado Springs area called the Church at Briargate.

In April of 2006, Todd and Kelly Hudnall responded to the call of God to become the Lead Pastors of Radiant Church. After fruitful pastorates in Texas and California, they brought a fresh vision and new direction to the church. It included the new mission of honoring God by growing a community of passionate followers of Jesus Christ who impact their world. Radiant Church launched its North Campus in 2009 (moving into our own facility in 2015), and in 2014, started its Woodland Park Campus (utilizing an existing Assemblies of God church facility). Radiant Church continues to expand through new venues and new locations in order to grow more passionate followers of Jesus Christ throughout the Colorado Springs area.

Radiant Church fellowships with the Assemblies of God. We are a sovereign church, but agree to fellowship with other sovereign churches and cooperate together to advance the Kingdom. This choice by Radiant Church involves agreement on financial oversight, consistent organizational documents, and doctrine. We agree to cooperate with other churches who make this similar commitment. The Assemblies of God is the largest church fellowship in the world.

worship

Matthew 22:37 - *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind."*

John 4:23-24 - *"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."*



INTRODUCTION

GOAL of This Section

To learn how to honor God through a life of WORSHIP.

COMMITMENTS of Worship

Attend a weekly worship service.

Commit your life to Christ.

Participate in worship.

Unite in prayer.

Live a life that honors God.

OUTLINE of This Section

Commit To Christ

Honor God

Worship Services

Corporate Prayer

COMMITTING TO CHRIST

OUR PROBLEM

Of the 10 Commandments God gave Israel, the first commandment dealt with the focus of their worship.

Exodus 20:2-3 - "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before Me."

Jesus is asked what is the greatest commandment, and He quotes Deuteronomy 6:5.

Matthew 22:37-38 - "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment."

1. We were _____ to worship, serve, and obey something.

2. We are to _____ the God of the Bible.

- God is the only one _____ of our worship

Psalms 18:3 - "I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised."

- God is the only one who can _____ our deepest needs

Jeremiah 2:13 - "For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, and hewn themselves cisterns - broken cisterns that can hold no water."

- We _____ like what we worship

Psalms 115:8 (GN) - "Those who make idols will become like them, and so will those who trust in them."

Jeremiah 2:5 (NIV) - "They followed worthless idols and became worthless themselves."

1 John 5:21 - "Little children, keep yourselves from idols."

3. Sin is _____ the true God and worshipping false Gods.

Romans 1:25 - "Who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator..."

Luke 16:13 - "No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

GOD'S SOLUTION

1. Our _____ has separated us from God.

Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Jesus Christ paid the _____ for our sin and made a way for us to be restored to God.

Romans 5:8 - "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

3. We must _____ from our own way, commit our lives to Jesus Christ as our Lord, receive His salvation, and live lives that honor Him.

Acts 3:19 - "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord."

Romans 10:9 - "If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

Ephesians 2:8 - "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast."

Romans 12:1 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service."

BAPTISM & THE LORD'S SUPPER

Christ gave the church two visible symbols as reminders of our relationship with Him and His finished work. They are called ordinances - religious practices ordained or established by Jesus Himself. The two ordinances are Baptism and the Lord's Supper. In fulfilling them, Christians are reminded of an important work that has already taken place in the heart of the believer. Let's first look at Baptism.

BAPTISM

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING BAPTIZED

1. To follow the example set by _____.

Mark 1:9 - "At that time Jesus came from Nazareth and was baptized by John in the river."

2. Because Christ _____ it.

Matthews 28:19-20 - "Jesus said, 'Go then, to all people everywhere and make them my disciples, baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and then teach them to obey everything I have commanded you.'"

3. It demonstrates that I really am a _____.

Acts 18:8 - "...many of the people who heard Him believed and were baptized."

1 John 2:3 - "We know that we have come to know Him, if we obey His commands."

THE MEANING OF BAPTISM

1. It illustrates Christ's _____ and resurrection.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 - "Christ died for our sins...He was buried...and He rose again."

2. It illustrates my _____ as a Christian.

2 Corinthians 5:17 - "When someone becomes a Christian he becomes a brand new

person inside. The old life has passed away and a new life has begun!"

Romans 6:4 - *"By our baptism then, we were buried with Him and shared His death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead...so also we may live a new life!"*

Ephesians 2:8,9 - *"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith...it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast."*

WHY BAPTISM BY IMMERSION

1 Because _____ was baptized that way.

Matthew 3:16 - *"When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water."*

2 Every baptism in the _____ was by immersion.

Acts 8:38,39 - *"...both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water..."*

3 The word "baptize" means "to _____ in water."

The Greek word baptizo means "to immerse or dip under water".

4 It best symbolizes Jesus' burial and resurrection!

Colossians 2:12 (NIV) - *"For when you were baptized, you were buried with Christ, and in baptism you were also raised with Christ."*

Martin Luther - *"I would have those who are to be baptized to be entirely immersed, as the word imports and the mystery signified."*

John Calvin - *"The word 'baptize' signifies to immerse. It is certain that immersion was the practice of the ancient church."*

John Wesley - *"Buried with him, alludes to baptizing by immersion according to the custom of the first church."*

WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED

EVERY PERSON WHO HAS _____ IN CHRIST.

Acts 2:41 (NIV) - "Those who believed and accepted His message were baptized..."

Acts 8:13 (NIV) - "Simon himself believed and was baptized..."

Acts 8:12 - "But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized."

At Radiant Church, we wait until our children are old enough to believe and understand the true meaning of baptism before we baptize them.

Some churches practice a "baptism of confirmation" for children. This ceremony is intended to be a covenant between the parents and God on behalf of the child. The parents promise to raise their child in the faith until the child is old enough to make his own personal confession of Christ. This custom began about 300 years after the Bible was completed. At Radiant, we practice baby dedication but not baptism confirmation. This is different from the baptism talked about in the Bible that was only for those old enough to believe. The purpose is to publicly confess your personal commitment to Christ.

At Radiant, it is a membership requirement that every member must have been baptized the way Jesus demonstrated, even though many of us may have been "confirmed" as children.

COMMON QUESTIONS

When should I be baptized?

As soon as you have _____.

Acts 2:41 - "Those who believed...were baptized...that day!"

Acts 8:35-38 - "Then Philip began with the scripture and told him the Good News about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water, and the man said, 'Look, here is water! Why shouldn't I be baptized right now?' Philip said, 'If you believe with all your heart, you may.' The man answered, 'I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.' So they went down into the water and Philip baptized him."

There is no reason to delay. As soon as you have decided to receive Christ into your life, you should be baptized. If you wait until you are "perfect," you'll never feel "good enough"!

Is there a class?

At Radiant, we celebrate baptisms with our church family every month – typically in our worship services on the second weekend of the month. This is a highlight event for us. There is no greater reason to celebrate than when people make a commitment to Christ as their Lord and Savior. A mandatory pre-baptism class is required unless you have attended Ascent 101 – Worship.

Can my family be baptized together?

Yes, if each family member understands fully the meaning of baptism, and if each one has personally placed his or her trust in Christ for salvation, we encourage families to be baptized at the same time. This is a wonderful expression of commitment. However, it is important to remember that baptism is a personal statement of faith, not a family tradition. It is usually not wise to delay your baptism while waiting on other family members to accept Christ, particularly children. This puts an undue pressure on them and delays your obedience. Also, young children who wish to be baptized are asked to meet with our Children's Pastor for a pre-baptism conversation.

What should I wear when I am baptized?

Dark colored pants or shorts of an appropriate length and dark colored shirts are suitable for men and women. Bring a change of clothes, a towel, and a plastic bag for your wet clothes. We will provide changing rooms.

Will I have to say anything?

You will be asked to profess your faith in Jesus Christ and your commitment to follow Him, by replying with a simple “yes” when asked about your decision to follow Christ. This is a powerful way to declare your faith and trust in Christ. We encourage you to invite your relatives and friends to attend your baptism. If you are interested in being baptized in water, please contact the church office to find out when our next classes begin.

What will happen at the baptism service?

During the service a pastor will briefly explain the meaning of baptism. You will wait at the edge of the baptism pool for your turn to be baptized. You will then step into the pool, and one of the pastors will lower you under the water. Then you can leave the pool, dry off, and watch the others. You will be given a certificate of your baptism. We encourage you to invite all your relatives and friends to attend your baptism.

Special Needs?

A pastor can perform a private baptism in special circumstances.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper, also referred to as Holy Communion and the Eucharist, is an object lesson that represents great spiritual truth for believers.

1. It is a _____ act, not an elaborate ceremony.

1 Corinthians 11:23 - "For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you..."

2. It is a _____ tool to remind us of Christ and His finished work.

1 Corinthians 11:24 - "...and when he had given thanks, He broke it and said, 'Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.'"

3. It is a _____ of faith.

1 Corinthians 11:26 - "For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes."

4. It is only for those who are _____. (Mark 14:22-26)

1 Corinthians 11:29 - "For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."

HOW TO PREPARE

1 Corinthians 11:27-28 - "Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup."

1. Examining my _____. (1 Corinthians 11:27)
2. Confessing my _____. (1 John 1:9)
3. Recommitting my _____. (Romans 12:1)
4. Restoring my _____. (Matthew 5:23-24)

HOW OFTEN

Jesus never said when or how often believers should observe The Lord's Supper. Jesus initiated Holy Communion as an act of faith and reverence to be practiced by believers only. We receive The Lord's Supper during our Sunday morning worship services and special occasions, typically once a month and typically the first Sunday of each month. When we offer communion a pastor will give an explanation of the practice of Communion.

HONOR GOD

At Radiant Church, the first part of our Mission is to Honor God. We categorize this Trail Marker as **WORSHIP**. We believe this involves more than just worshiping on weekend services. Rather, it is the way we live our lives. In this way, we truly honor God by worshiping Him with our lives.

How To Honor God With Your Life

1. Live a life of authenticity and _____.

1 Peter 1:15-17 (NIV) - "But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear."

Ephesians 4:1 - "I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called."

2. Avoid activities that _____ others' consciences.

1 Corinthians 8:9 - "But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak."

3. Do _____ to the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31 - "Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

WORSHIP SERVICES

In addition to how we live our lives, we must make meeting together with God's people in a worship service a priority. However, first we must understand why we worship and why we need to come together for corporate worship.

WHY WORSHIP TOGETHER?

1. God _____ us.

Hebrews 10:25 - "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."

Acts 20:7 - "Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight."

2. Mutual _____.

Colossians 3:16 - "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."

Ephesians 5:19-20 - "Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

3. There is _____ in united worship.

Acts 4:24, 31 - "So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: "Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them,.. And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness."

4. God _____ His presence in a special way.

1 Kings 8:10-11 - "And it came to pass, when the priests came out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the LORD, so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD."

SOME WAYS WE CAN WORSHIP

1. With my _____.

Psalms 63:3 - "Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise You.

Hebrews 13:15 - "Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

Acts 16:25 - "But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.

2. With my _____.

Psalms 63:4 - "Thus I will bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name."

Psalms 95:6 - "Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD our Maker."

3. With _____.

Psalms 150:3-5 - "Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; praise Him with the lute and harp! Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes! Praise Him with loud cymbals; praise Him with clashing cymbals!"

4. With my _____.

Psalms 47:1 - "Oh, clap your hands, all you peoples! Shout to God with the voice of triumph!"

5. With my _____.

Psalms 77:6,12 - "I call to remembrance my song in the night. I meditate within my heart, and my spirit makes diligent search. I will also meditate on all Your work..."

6. With my _____.

1 Corinthians 10:31 - "Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

PRAYING TOGETHER

1. Prayer of _____.

Matthew 18:19-20 - "Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them."

2. _____ of Prayer.

Acts 4:24 - "So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: "Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them."

3. Laying on of _____.

Mark 16:18b - "...they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

James 5:14-15 - "Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven."

connect

Ephesians. 2:19 (LB) - "You are members of God's very own family... and you belong to God's household with every other Christian."



CONNECT ●

● WORSHIP

INTRODUCTION

GOAL of This Section

To learn how to CONNECT in Biblical Community.

COMMITMENTS of Connect

Complete the Ascent
Commit to Membership
Connect in a Group or a Class
Live in Biblical Community
Welcome Others

OUTLINE of This Section

The Membership Process
Biblical Community - Commit to Church Community
Connection Groups
Membership

THE MEMBERSHIP PROCESS

STEPS TO JOINING RADIANT CHURCH

1. Faithfully attend the four ascent classes.
2. Complete your Ascent Manual and Personal Profile.
3. Meet with a Connect team member to ask any remaining questions, review your personal profile and discuss ministry opportunities.
4. Participate in a New Member Reception on a weekend service.

CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

1. You must be born again with the evidence of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
2. Acceptance of the seven membership commitments, agreement with the Membership Covenant, and our statement of faith (pg. 6).
3. Christian baptism (after Born Again experience).

BIBLICAL COMMUNITY

As Christians, we have a vertical covenant with _____ and a horizontal covenant with _____.

1 John 4:20-21 - "If anyone says, 'love God,' yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen."

Matthew 5:23-24 - "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift."

REASONS COMMUNITY IS IMPORTANT

1. I _____ in God's family with other believers.

Galatians 6:10 (NIV) - "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."

Ephesians 2:19 (LB) - "You are members of God's very own family...and you belong to God's household with every other Christian."

Romans 12:5 (NIV) - "So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."

"The Christian who is not committed to a group of other believers for praying, sharing, and serving, so that he is known, as he knows others, is not an obedient Christian. He is not in the will of God. However vocal he may be in theology, he is not obeying the Lord."

- Dr. Ray Ortland

2. I need _____ to grow spiritually.

Hebrews 10:24 (PH) - "Let us think of one another and how we can encourage each other to love and to good deeds."

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, 12 (NIV) - "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up: Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

3. I need _____ to grow spiritually.

Proverbs 27:17 - "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."

Hebrews 3:13 (NIV) - "Every day...keep encouraging one another so that none of you is hardened by the glamour of sin."

Galatians 6:1-2 (NIV) - "Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

4. Christ is _____ in a unique way when we come together.

Matthew 18:20 (PH) - "For whenever two or three people have come together in my name, I am there, right among them!"

5. There is special _____ in cooperate prayer.

Matthew 18:19 (NIV) - "Wherever two of you on earth agree about anything you pray for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven."

6. Our fellowship is a _____ to the world.

John 17:21 (LB) - "(Jesus) My prayer for all of them is that they will be one heart and mind...so the world will believe you sent me."

John 13:35 (LB) - "Your strong love for each other will prove that you are my disciples."

7. I am _____ to other Christians.

1 Peter 4:10 (LB) - "God has given you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other..."

1 Corinthians 12:5, 27 - "There are different kinds of service to God...together you form the body of Christ and each one of you is a necessary part of it."

8. There are many _____ I cannot fulfill without other christians.

Serve one another - Galatians 5:13	Be devoted to one another - Romans 12:10
Accept one another - Romans 15:7	Teach one another - Romans 15:14
Forgive one another - Colossians 3:13	Honor one another - Ephesians 5:21
Greet one another - Romans 16:16	Submit to one another - Ephesians 5:21
Bear one another's burdens - Galatians 6:2	Encourage one another - 1 Thessalonians 5:11

BIBLICAL COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

1. I will accept others based on _____ acceptance.

Romans 15:7 (NIV) - "Accept one another just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."

2. I will see others' _____ and treat them as _____.

1 Peter 1:18-19 - "Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."

3. I will not judge others according to their _____.

Philippians 3:13-14 - "Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

4. I will see _____ at work in others.

Philippians 2:13 - "For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure."

5. When someone sins, I will be part of their _____.

Galatians 6:1 - "Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted."

6. I will rejoice when others _____ and weep when they _____.

Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep."

7. I will not judge others according to my _____.

Romans 14:1,4 - "Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things. Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand."

8. I will not get _____ against others or _____ about others, but will go to them.

Matthew 18:15 (TEV) - "If your brother sins against you, go to him..."

Proverbs 16:27 - "An ungodly man digs up evil: in his lips there is a burning fire."

9. I will love others enough to _____ as we grow together in Christ.

Ephesians 4:15 - "but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—"

Colossians 3:16 - "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom."

These are not a list of rules, but the lifestyle of a Christian walking in the Spirit of Christ. When we came to Christ, we died to disloyalty and now have the loyal Christ living in us.

CONNECTION GROUPS

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

As we have studied, believers need to connect together. Our desire is that everyone will have relationships in a smaller group setting where they can connect. These connection points form a network that makes our church stronger and more capable of healthy growth. The best way you can connect is through Connection Groups. Every member needs to be connected in community. At Radiant we expect every member to get connected in a group, class and/or a ministry.

SEVEN BENEFITS OF CONNECTION GROUPS

1. **Caring** _____.
2. _____ **and** _____ **fellowship.**
3. **Personal** _____ **support.**
4. **Interactive** _____ **application.**
5. **Lay pastoral** _____.
6. _____ **and** _____ **growth.**

Acts 20:20 - "How I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house."

Please refer to the Groups Booklet for a complete selection of Connection Groups currently being offered.

LEADING GROUPS

This commitment to lead a connect group demonstrates your love and care for others and your desire to see that others who join the church have a place to connect. This multiplies our ability to grow more and better disciples.

- If you are interested in leading a connect group, contact connect@radiantchurch.org for more information.

MEMBERSHIP

There are three important reasons to become a member of Radiant Church:

1. Express your _____.

Ultimately helps your commitment to God. (Matthew 22:37; Matthew 6:24)

2. Experience Biblical _____.

No "Lone Ranger" Christians. (1 Peter 2:5; Philippians 2:2)

3. Exercise your _____.

You are an important part of the Body of Christ. (Romans 12:5; Ephesians 4:11)

RADIANT MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENTS

1. _____ up your rights. (Matthew 16:24-25)

2. _____ up your ministry. (1 Peter 4:10)

3. _____ up to church. (Hebrews 10:23-25)

4. _____ up your brothers. (Romans 12:10-11)

5. _____ up your pastors. (Heb. 13:17; 1 Tim. 5:17)

6. _____ up your tithes. (Malachi 3:8-10)

7. _____ up to God. (Psalm 119:11-16; Proverbs 4:20)

WHY RADIANT MUST KEEP GROWING

1. Because God loves _____.

(John 3:16; II Peter 3:9; II Corinthians 5:14; Luke 15:3-10; Matthew 9:12-13)

2 Peter 3:9 (NIV) - "The Lord...is patient, not wanting anyone to perish, but all to come to repentance."

2. Because God commands us to _____ out.

(Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19-20; Luke 14:23)

Luke 14:23 (LB) - "Go out...and urge anyone you find to come in, so that My house will be full."

3. Because growth is God's _____.

(Colossians 2:19; Matthew 16:18; Acts)

Colossians 2:19 (GN) - "Under Christ's control, the whole Body is nourished...and grows as God wants it to."

WELCOME OTHERS

At Radiant Church we believe we honor God when we warmly welcome guests into our services. We all should be courteous, considerate, accepting, and loving toward everyone who joins us in worship. Our services will feel hospitable to our guests when we focus on the following:

Church Services

1. We speak in a _____ language everyone can understand.

1 Corinthians 14:9 (NIV) - "So it is with you. Unless you speak intelligible words with your tongue, how will anyone know what you are saying? You will just be speaking into the air."

2. We _____ what we are doing and why we do it.

3. We publicly welcome newcomers and make them feel _____ and _____.

4. We keep our facilities _____ and _____.

1 Samuel 16:7b - "For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

5. We present the Gospel in a _____ and _____ way.

Romans 1:16 - "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek."

Personal Interaction

1. _____ for those away from God to attend our services and for the Holy Spirit to touch their lives when they attend.
2. Leave your circle of relational comfort and _____ to people you do not know.
3. Be prepared with a _____, a handshake, and an encouraging word.
4. Be willing to give up your _____ (& move over) and your _____ (& park further away) for newcomers.
5. Join the hospitality _____ at Radiant Church (if it fits your SHAPE).

RADIANT CHURCH

MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior, having been baptized, and being in agreement with the Radiant Church mission, vision and faith statements, I now sense the leading of the Holy Spirit to unite with the Radiant Church family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:

1. I WILL WORSHIP GOD WITH OTHERS

- ...By faithfully participating in worship services
- ...By welcoming others
- ...By living a godly life

Hebrews 10:25 - "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."

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

Philippians 1:27 - "Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel."

2. I WILL CONNECT IN COMMUNITY

- ...By walking in covenant community
- ...By joining a group
- ...By following the leaders

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

1 Thessalonians 5:11 - "Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing."

Hebrews 13:17 - "Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you."

3. I WILL GROW IN DISCIPLESHIP

- ...By being committed to growing in Christ
- ...By developing a Biblical Worldview
- ...By developing the habits of a disciple

Ephesians 4:14-15 (PH) - *"We are not meant to remain as children...but to grow up in every way into Christ."*

Romans 12:2 - *"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."*

Matthew 16:24 - *"Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."*

4. I WILL IMPACT MY WORLD

- ...By being equipped for and serving in ministry
- ...By inviting the unchurched to attend
- ...By giving regularly

Ephesians 4:11,12 - *"And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ."*

Luke 14:23 - *"Then the master said to the servant, "Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled."*

I Corinthians 16:2 - *"On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come."*

Full Name _____
(please print)

Signature _____

Date _____

(Sign this copy in your manual. You will sign a copy at your member interview.)

grow

Colossians 4:12 - "...that you may become mature Christians and may fulfill God's will for you."

CONNECT

GROW

WORSHIP

INTRODUCTION

GOAL of This Section

To learn how to become passionate followers of Jesus Christ by GROWING in Christ.

COMMITMENTS of Grow

Commit to grow in Christ
Develop a Biblical Worldview
Become a Biblical Steward
Develop the Habits of a Disciple
Grow in Christ-like character and love

OUTLINE of This Section

Spiritual Growth
The Habit of Time in God's Word
The Habit of Prayer
The Habit of Giving

Colossians 4:12b (PH) - "...that you may become mature Christians and may fulfill God's will for you."

Ephesians 4:14-15 (PH) - "We are not meant to remain as children...but to grow up in every way into Christ."

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Romans 8:29 (LB) - "For from the very beginning God decided that those who came to him...should become like his son..."

Spiritual growth is being like _____.

Fellowship

Spiritual Growth is not a matter of keeping a set of _____ and regulations. Rather, it is a personal, intimate, daily _____ with God.

1. **God created us to love us and to enjoy a personal _____ with us.**

Jeremiah 31:3 - "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness."

2. **God delights in his children _____ Him and being in fellowship with Him.**

Revelation 3:20 (LB) - "...If anyone...opens the door, I will come in and fellowship with him and he with me."

3. **When we _____, our fellowship with God is broken.**

1 John 1:6 - "If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth."

4. **When we sin, we need to run _____ God & not _____ God. When we confess our sin to God, our fellowship will be _____.**

1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

Lordship

Spiritual Growth is not to take greater _____ of your life,
it is giving Christ more _____ of your life.

Matthew 7:21 - "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven."

1. God _____ us by creation and by redemption.
2. We are obligated to make Jesus the _____ over every area of our lives.
3. Submitting to Christ's Lordship places us in a position for:
 - Maximum _____.
 - Maximum _____.
 - Maximum _____ fellowship.
 - Maximum _____ of the Holy Spirit.
4. Surrendering to the Lordship of Christ requires:
 - Accepting God's _____.
 - Placing _____ over all in my life.
 - Giving up all personal _____.
 - Obeying Him regardless of the _____.
5. Accepting Christ's Lordship means recognizing your place as a steward:
 - God owns _____.

Psalms 24:1 - "The earth is the LORD'S, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein."

- I've been entrusted to **MANAGE** all God has given me to steward.
Time / Talent / Treasure / Temple / Testimony

- I will be held _____ for my stewardship.

Romans 14:12 - "All of us will have to give an account of ourselves to God."

- I will be _____ for the quality of my stewardship.

Matthew 25:23 - "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'"

Romans 12:1 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God - this is your spiritual act of worship."

Dependence

Spiritual Growth does not mean becoming _____ of Christ. It means becoming more _____ upon Christ.

1. Recognize my absolute _____ for Christ.

Matthew 5:3 - "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

John 15:5 - "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

2. Trust His _____ in my weakness.

2 Corinthians 12:9 - "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly in my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me."

Philippians 4:13 - "I can do everything through him who gives me strength."

3. Allow the _____ of Christ to flow through me.

Galatians 5:22 - "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."

Discipleship

Spiritual Growth is not _____ but is a _____.
This process requires spiritual habits.

Matthew 16:24 - "Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.'"

As His disciple, I must...

1. _____ myself.
2. _____ up my cross.
3. _____ Jesus.

THREE HABITS OF GROWTH

Colossians 3:9-10 - "...You have put off the old self with its habits, and have put on the new self...which God is continually renewing in his own image, to bring you to a full knowledge of himself."

Bad habits are _____ to form; _____ to live with, and hard to break.

Good habits are _____ to form; _____ to live with, and easy to break.

My goal is to _____ to the habits of a disciple, which will cause me to grow spiritually.

1. _____ in God's word.

John 8:31-32 - "If you continue in my Word, then you are my disciples indeed. And you will know the truth and the truth will set you free."

2. _____

John 15:7-8 (GN) - "If you remain in me, and my words remain in you, then you will ask for anything you wish, and you shall have it...in this way you become my disciples."

3. _____

Luke 14:33 (JB) - "None of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions."

Deut. 14:23 (LB) - "The purpose of tithing is to teach you to always put God first in your lives."

THE HABIT OF TIME IN GOD'S WORD

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (LB) - *"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 to what is right. It is God's way of making us well prepared at every point, fully equipped to do good to everyone."*

Six Ways to Receive God's Word

1. _____ God's Word.

Romans 10:17 - *"Faith comes from hearing the Word of God."*

2. _____ God's Word.

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

3. _____ God's Word.

Daniel 9:2-3 (NCV) - *"...I, Daniel, was reading the Scripture...Then I turned to the Lord God and prayed and asked him to help."*

4. _____ God's Word.

Acts 17:11 (PH) - *"...(the Bereans) accepted the message eagerly and studied the Scriptures everyday..."*

5. _____ God's Word.

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

Psalms 119:11 - *"I have hidden your Word in my heart that I might not sin against you."*

6. _____ God's Word.

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

How God's Word Can Transform Your Life

1. God's word must be made _____ to you by the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 3:6 - "The letter kills, but the Spirit gives life."

Ephesians 1:17 - "May (He) give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better."

My response: I will _____ the Lord to enlighten me.

2. God's word must be mixed with _____.

Hebrews 4:1-2 - "For we also have had the gospel preached to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because those who heard did not combine it with faith."

My response: I will _____ what God says.

3. God's word must be given _____ priority.

Joshua 1:8 - "Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."

Deuteronomy 11:18-20; 26-28 - "Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Write them on the door frames of your houses and on your gates. See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse - the blessing if you obey the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today; the curse if you disobey the commands of the LORD your God and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known."

My response: I will give God's Word _____ place.

4. God's word must be _____ upon.

James 1:22 - "Do not fool yourself by just listening to the Word. Instead put it into practice."

Matthew 5:19 - "...Whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom."

Matthew 7:24-27 - "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice, is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did

not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

My response: I will _____ what God has said.

The scripture was not written for my _____, the
scripture was written for my _____.

THE HABIT OF PRAYER

Romans 12:12 (PH) - "Base your happiness on your hope in Christ. When trials come, endure them patiently; steadfastly maintain the habit of prayer."

Four Purposes of Prayer

1. Prayer is an act of _____ to God.
2. Prayer is our means of _____ with God.
3. Prayer is opening your heart in _____ to God.
4. Prayer is joining in _____ with God.

Daily Appointments With God

1. God desires our _____.
2. God deserves our _____.
3. God delights in our _____.

How to Have a Daily Appointment with God

1. Choose the best _____.
2. Choose the best _____.
3. Choose the best _____.

STEWARDSHIP Habit of Giving

Ten Benefits of Tithing

1. God is pleased by your _____.

Malachi 3:10 - "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse..."

Leviticus 27:32 - "The entire tithe...every tenth...will be holy to the Lord."

2. God is honored by your _____.

Proverbs 3:9 - "Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops..."

3. It helps keep your _____ straight.

Deuteronomy 14:23 (LB) - "The purpose of tithing is to teach you to always put God first place in your life."

Matthew 6:21 - "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

4. Tithing makes you _____ for a blessing.

Malachi 3:10-11 - "'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 you will not have room enough for it. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit.' Says the LORD Almighty."

5. Tithing guards you from _____.

1 Timothy 6:17-18 - "Command these who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share."

6. God loves a _____ giver.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he had decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

7. Support of the _____.

Matthew 28:19 - "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..."

8. Ensures your _____ will be met.

Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

9. Helps meet the _____ of God's people.

1 Corinthians 16:1-2 - "Now about the collection for God's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. On the first day of every week, each of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made."

10. Tithing reminds us that _____ is the true owner and giver of all that we have.

Deuteronomy 8:18 - "Always remember that it is the Lord your God who gives you the ability to produce wealth."

(If you would like to learn more about financial stewardship
we recommend Financial Peace University at Radiant Church)

At Radiant Church, we believe the Truth of the Bible that everything we have is from the Lord. Stewards use everything we have for the Glory of God. This is called Stewardship. This includes our time, our finances, and our talents.

impact

CONNECT

IMPACT

GROW

WORSHIP



INTRODUCTION

GOAL of This Section

To learn how to Impact your world by serving and reaching out to others.

COMMITMENTS to make an IMPACT

Become equipped for and begin serving in ministry
Reach out to others with Christ's love and compassion
Build redemptive relationships
Invite others to church
Participate in Global Evangelism

OUTLINE of This Section

Ministry Service
Discovering Your Ministry Shape
The Great Commission
World Missions

MINISTRY SERVICE

At Radiant Church, we view ministry service as essential. We desire to assist this body of believers in realizing their full potential in Christ through discovery and development of their God-given SHAPE and in using that SHAPE in a variety of effective and fulfilling ministries.

It is this common involvement and teamwork that brings glory to God and strengthens His church.

Ephesians 4:11, 12 - "And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ"

Ephesians 4:12 (AMPH) - "His intention was the perfecting and full equipping of the saints (His consecrated people), [that they should do] the work of ministering toward building up Christ's body (the church)."

MINISTRY SERVICE REALITY

I cannot effectively serve independently of Christ. He is the _____, I am the _____. I can do nothing of significance apart from Him, but I can do all things through _____ who strengthens me.

(John 15:1-5; Philippians 4:13)

PRINCIPLES OF MINISTRY SERVICE

Ministry is using whatever God has _____ me to _____ Him and the needs of _____.

We are called to minister to _____, (Acts 13: 2), _____ (Hebrews 6:10) and to _____. (Matthew 5:13).

We minister to three areas of need:

1. _____ (Matthew 25:35, 36, 40; 10:42)
2. _____ (Thessalonians 5:14)
3. _____ (2 Corinthians 5:18; Colossians 1:28, 29)

MINISTRY SERVICE MOTIVATION

1. I will be _____ for my service. (Colossians 3:23,24; Matthew 25:23; 1 Corinthians 3:12-15)
2. My love for _____ . (2 Corinthians 5:14-15)
3. My love for _____ . (1 John 3:16)
4. Christ is _____ of my service. (Revelation 4:1-4, 9-11)

DISCOVERING YOUR MINISTRY

(Romans 12:1-8)

Step 1: Dedicate _____ . (Romans 12:1)

Step 2: Eliminate _____ . (Romans 12:2)

Step 3: Evaluate _____ . (Romans 12:3)

Step 4: Cooperate _____ . (Romans 12:4-5)

Step 5: Activate _____ . (Romans 12:6-8)

Implications from Paul's anatomy lesson: (1 Corinthians 12:1-31)

- Every member is a minister in Christ's body.
- Every member has a different function.
- Every member's ministry is important.
- Every member belongs to the others.

MINISTRY SERVICE TRUTHS

1. I have been created for ministry! (Ephesians 2:10)
A non-serving Christian is a contradiction.
2. I have been saved for ministry! (2 Timothy 1:9)
3. I have been called for ministry! (Galatians 1:15, Ephesians 4:1)
I am a minister of Jesus Christ.
I am not who I think I am.
I am not who you think I am.
But I really am who God says I am!
4. I have been gifted for ministry! (1 Peter 4:10)
5. I have been authorized for ministry! (Matthew 28:18, 19)
6. I am commanded to minister! (Matthew 20:28, Colossians 4:17)
7. I am to be prepared for ministry! (Ephesians 4:11, 12)
8. The body of Christ needs my ministry! (1 Corinthians 12:27)
9. I am accountable for my ministry! (Romans 14:12)
Ministry always functions in the context of the body. (Matthew 9:36, 37)
The immature Christian thinks the church is designed for himself/herself.
The mature Christian know that God designed the church to seek
and save a lost and dying world.

MINISTRY POLICIES

Our society has many and varied needs for which Christ is the answer. To assist in meeting these needs, members of Radiant Church are encouraged to follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit in starting new ministries.

The following policies are intended to encourage the development of healthy and varied ministries. Please keep them in mind in all phases of your ministry.

- 1. Ministries are to be self-funded.** Radiant Church desires to start as many ministries as God leads its members. However, ministries can be stifled if they are dependent upon the appropriation of limited funds.
- 2. Ministries are to be self-led.** The Holy Spirit will raise up leaders of ministries as He sees fit. For those desiring to start a ministry, the staff and leaders are able to offer advice, but cannot be held responsible to recruit.
- 3. Ministries are to be self-propagated.** When it comes time for a leader to step aside, he and his team must find a replacement with the advice of the staff and leaders. Every ministry must have a leader. If no one desires to take over, this may mean that the ministry has run its course for the present.
- 4. Ministry teams must avoid moral trouble.** As ministries of Radiant Church reflect back upon the whole body and ultimately upon Christ Himself, it is imperative that ministry teams maintain moral purity.
- 5. Ministry teams must avoid doctrinal trouble.** A wide variety of ministry strategies can be implemented without raising doctrinal questions. To maintain peace within the body, ministry teams should stay within the fundamental truths of Radiant.
- 6. Ministry leaders must be members of Radiant Church.** All who attend Radiant Church are encouraged to be involved in ministry, whether or not they are members. However, to maintain proper standards of ministry, leaders must be held accountable to the Pastoral staff of the church and therefore must be members.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

At Radiant Church, we believe in training believers for the ministry God has called them to. There are special seminars and training sessions for those involved in or preparing for ministry at different times throughout the year. Please contact the specific ministry leaders for more information on available training.

DISCOVERING YOUR MINISTRY SHAPE

Job 10:8a (GN) - "Your hands formed and shaped me..."

God has been molding and shaping you for ministry since you were born. In fact, God started uniquely shaping even before you were born! In Ministry, function follows Form!

PRINCIPLES OF YOUR SHAPE

1. The Pastors are the _____ and the people are the _____.
2. My ministry is determined by my _____!
3. The two results of discovering the ministry I have been shaped for are _____ and _____.
4. I must _____ my unique design (S.H.A.P.E.) for ministry and commit to _____ and _____ my God-given gifts and abilities in serving God and others through my church family.
5. My primary ministry best expresses _____.
6. My secondary ministry expresses _____.
7. I will _____ and begin _____ in the ministry of my church that best _____ who God made me to be.

SHAPE

“There are different kinds of SPIRITUAL GIFTS, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different WAYS OF SERVING, but the same Lord is served. There are different ABILITIES to perform service, but the same God gives ability to everyone for their service. The Spirit’s presence is shown IN SOME WAY in each one, for the good of all.” 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 (GN)

You will examine five things that shape you:

S _____ Gifts. Romans 12:4-8

H _____ . Revelation 17:17

A _____ . 1 Corinthians 12:6; Exodus 31:3

P _____ . 1 Corinthians 2:11 (LB)

E _____ . 2 Corinthians 1:4

Your ministry will be most effective and fulfilling when you are using your GIFTS and ABILITIES in the area of YOUR HEART’S DESIRE in a way that best expresses your PERSONALITY and EXPERIENCE!

Success is doing what God has made you to do!

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

The Bible lists three categories of Spiritual gifts

MINISTRY GIFTS

Ephesians 4:11-12, the five ministry offices Christ has given to the church are the:

Apostles - Sent to begin _____ churches.

Prophets - Bring a _____ to the church concerning coming events.

Evangelists - Have a strong emphasis on bringing the Gospel to the _____.

Pastors - Sent to _____ a flock (lead a body of local believers).

Teachers - Gifted to _____ and expound on God's Word.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1 Corinthians 12:7-11 Lists 9 spiritual gifts the Holy Spirit gives to the church are:

1 Corinthians 12 & 14 - These are all "AS THE SPIRIT WILLS".

Utterance Gifts

Tongues - A _____ tongue to be interpreted.

Interpretation of Tongues - The _____ of a public tongue.

Prophecy - A word from _____ for edification, exhortation, and comfort.

Revelation Gifts

Word of Wisdom - God-given _____ for a certain situation.

Word of Knowledge - God-given _____ that you would not have otherwise.

Discerning of Spirits - Ability to see into the _____ realm.

POWER GIFTS

Faith – God-given, supernatural _____ for something.

Working of Miracles – Supernatural _____.

Gifts of Healing – God’s sovereign power, operating through you to _____.

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS

Romans 12:4-8 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

1. Only _____ have a supernatural motivational gift.
2. Every Christian has at least _____ gift.
3. No single motivational gift is given to _____.
4. You cannot _____ a supernatural motivational gift.
5. The _____ decides what gifts I get.
6. The gifts I am given are _____.
7. I am to _____ the gifts God give me.
8. It is a sin to _____ the gifts God has given me.
9. Using my gifts _____ God and causes me to _____.
10. My gift is not for my benefit, but _____, to produce _____, and _____ in our church family.
11. Realize you are motivated differently than _____.

THE MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS OF ROMANS 12

Each person in the Body of Christ has at least one of the seven motivational gifts that Paul mentions in Romans 12. However, some people have more than one gift. Each member of the Body then views other people and circumstances through his or her motivational gift or gifts. People with the gift of Administration view situations through the eyes of an administrator. People with the gift of teaching see life through the eyes of a teacher.

The same is true for those with the gift of prophecy, serving, exhortation, giving, and mercy. We all see the world from our own individual viewpoint or the bent of whatever gift or gifts God has given us. Therefore, each of us will see needs that will not always be seen by those with different gifts. The tendency is to assume that everyone else sees the same things that you see and should have the same responses. This can result in becoming irritated with others for not being sensitive to needs, concerned about them, or showing the proper reaction. Thus making this lesson so important.

Romans 12:4-13 - *“For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.*

“Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: If PROPHECY, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or SERVING, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in TEACHING; he who exhorts, in EXORTATION; he who GIVES, with liberality; he who LEADS, with diligence; he who shows MERCY, with cheerfulness.

“Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.”

PROPHECY

Bible Examples - Peter, John the Baptist

Characteristics

Strengths

People with the gift of Prophecy have the ability to verbalize thoughts (no loss of words). They have a burning desire to see people totally sold out to God. They are usually very bold and frank. Their talk is straight and their standards are strict. They will not compromise (John the Baptist constantly rebuked Herod for his ungodly living). They will usually exercise any of the other spiritual gifts in the same bold, frank way. Example: healing of the cripple in Acts 3:1-8.

“A certain man lame from his mother’s womb...seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, asked for alms. And fixing his eyes on him, with John, Peter said, “Look at us.” So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. Then Peter said, “Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.” And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them-walking, leaping, and praising God.

People with the motivational gift of Prophecy have insight into the plan of God. They tend to be more sensitive and quicker to discern good or evil. Example: Peter’s exposure of Ananias & Sapphira. (Acts 5). This gift is needed to bring an awareness of things that may need to be dealt with, things that others are not typically inclined to notice. Their bold, straight talk is also needed to speak truth into the lives of others and to motivate others to be fully devoted followers of Christ.

Weaknesses

They are more sensitive to things that are wrong than those with other motivational gifts are. This may result in their being against more things than they are for, or at least it may appear that way to others. If something is partly right and partly wrong, they have a tendency to see it as all wrong. They tend to view things in extremes of either all right or all wrong. They tend to point out problems but not see the solutions to them. They have a tendency to tell all the weaknesses and faults of everything. They expect others to do the same with them and will probably accuse them of dishonesty if they do not.

They are driven by the desire to be totally open and honest. Therefore, they often share opinions that would have been better left unsaid. They have a tendency to be totally unaware of the needs and hurts of others.

Their harsh judgments that they have for others, they also have for themselves. They tend to be extremely self-critical and feel worthless when they fail. Once a person has failed, they tend to cut off fellowship with that person and sometimes persuade others to do the same. They divide people into two categories: those who are right and those who are wrong.

MERCY

Bible Examples - Luke, John

Characteristics

Strengths

People with the gift of mercy have an amazing ability to assist those in need and to show great empathy and compassion for those who suffer physically, emotionally, or spiritually. Sincere kindness and compassion is their lifestyle! They are very sensitive to the needs and hurts of others and want to help in “bearing the burdens” of those who are hurting. They also have the ability to discern the motives of others, but are more likely to discern and recognize good motives. (Luke concentrates on the widow’s two mites being “all her living”).

They are drawn to those who may be outcasts or “outsiders”. Example: Luke’s gospel focuses on the ministry of Jesus to the outcast. Luke gave the account of Jesus preaching the gospel to the poor. (Luke 4:18). He portrayed Jesus eating with publicans and sinners. He gave Jesus’ parable of the good Samaritan, the prodigal son, and the rich man and Lazarus.

This gift is a gentle, loving, comforting gift, and is one of the most needed in the body of Christ. This explains why 1/3 of those in God’s family have this special motivational gift. Mercy is vitally important for the health, growth, and effectiveness of the Kingdom.

Weaknesses

Their extreme sensitivity causes them to get their feelings hurt easily. Their feelings sometimes override their faith. They also have a tendency to base decisions on emotion rather than reason. They may become too protective of the person(s) they are caring for. Without realizing it, they often may identify too strongly with those who have been hurt. They may condemn and withdraw from people who appear insensitive to others. They have a tendency to take up offenses for those who have been hurt. If they are not discerning as to why people suffer, they may give sympathy and encouragement to those who are suffering as a direct result of violating rules and laws. The mercy person needs to be careful not to rescue people from their circumstances and possibly from what God is trying to do in their life. They find it very hard to be firm and decisive, because they do not want to hurt or offend other people. Often, this lack of firmness and decisiveness only causes greater hurt and disappointment.

SERVING

Bible Examples - Martha, Jesus, Phillip, Steven, Timothy

Characteristics

Strengths

This gift, like the gift of mercy, makes up 1/3 of the motivational gifts that have been given to body of Christ. This gift is the reason that so much is accomplished in the Kingdom of God. People with the gift of serving are not the type to sit around, plan, strategize, and contemplate for hours, days, or years. These are the precious saints who see a need, then roll up their sleeves, and get to work. They have insight into the practical needs of others and a burning desire to meet the practical and physical needs of the body of Christ. The need they see will draw them to the job that needs to be done. They are very sacrificial people with extraordinary stamina.

Weaknesses

They want the job done quickly, so they hate red tape and sometimes find it hard to work under authority. They will ask and expect others to be as dedicated and hard working as they are, especially members of their own family. They expect everyone to be like them and they do not understand why people drag their feet when there is a job to be done. A good Biblical example of this is the story of Martha and Mary in Luke 10.

They can tend to get carried away with the practical needs and forget that people have spiritual needs.

They do not usually desire public recognition, but, they deeply desire sincere appreciation from the ones whom they serve. This may cause them sometimes to work for the approval of people, therefore becoming hurt by the ingratitude of those who were helped.

It is difficult for them to say, “no” to needs. This may lead them to get involved in too many projects at the same time, which may result in neglected responsibilities at home. They will tend to wear themselves out physically if they are not careful to hear from God first on what they should and should not be doing. They can become so bent on serving others and meeting needs that they will also neglect their own spiritual need to spend time in prayer and the Word. The most important priorities can get shoved aside in order to take care of what seems “urgent.”

It is also difficult for this person to delegate jobs to others. They tend to want to do it themselves, because they feel they can do it better than anyone else can.

TEACHING

Bible Examples - Matthew, Paul

Characteristics

Strengths

The ability to clearly and accurately communicate the truths of the Bible so that people can understand and apply them in their own lives. They give clear Biblical insight dealing with life situations. The person with the teaching gift believes teaching is the basis for the Christian life.

The teacher usually tends to present material systematically in categories and insists on like thoughts being put together. Example: Sermon on the Mount, Kingdom parables, etc.

He or she genuinely loves research and will go to great pains to tie old truth with new. Example: genealogies, and the phrase, “That the scripture might be fulfilled,” are proof of this. They love word studies and use words accurately. They are painfully disturbed when people take scripture out of context to prove a point.

They have a systematic way of doing most everything and are usually very organized. He or she likes to keep daily logs to write and record everything.

Weaknesses

They have a tendency to criticize sound teaching because of technical flaws. It is difficult for them to endorse the teaching of others if they are able to spot little factual errors. The primary tool of people with the gift of teaching is their mind. They sometimes tend to rely on their knowledge more than on the Holy Spirit.

They can seem to have a certain lack of warmth in their personality. They may appear to be harsh, hard, cold, and even threatening because they are so fact oriented.

EXHORTATION

Bible Examples - Paul, Barnabas

Characteristics

Strengths

People with the gift of exhortation (or encouragement) have the special ability to encourage, comfort, challenge, or rebuke others toward right action in such a way that they respond and act. Their constant theme is, "what is impossible with men is possible with God." They see suffering as an opportunity to prove God's power. They can look beyond the present circumstances and situations to see what a person can be with God's grace.

They are practical rather than philosophical. Their faith is not mental assent but they truly believe that God's grace is sufficient.

They are very persevering as long as people are interested. Example: Paul gave up on Mark. Success is like manna; they will painfully work with interested people.

They will give specific solutions to problems as: point a, point b, and point c.

Weaknesses

They have a tendency to give advice before discerning the type of person or problem and before getting all the facts.

They tend to disqualify any teaching that neglects practical application. They also have a tendency to treat family and friends as projects rather

than people. The delight of an exhorter is to be able to successfully help people with problems but, because of this they are willing to give whatever time is required to achieve results. All too often, this cuts into family responsibilities. They assume their families will understand until they learn differently. They also can allow other people's problems to take priority over their personal time in prayer and God's Word.

GIVING

Bible Examples - Matthew

Characteristics

Strengths

They have the desire and ability to give freely, cheerfully, and sacrificially of one's money or possessions for the sake of Christ and His body. They give liberally to see the Kingdom of God advance. They see money and possessions as tools to serve God and set them aside for special use.

They show a strong interest in the people and causes they support. They are very discerning of the ability of ministries to be fruitful and effective even when other people cannot see it. They also want to have a definite part in the ministries they support.

They want to be led by God to give in answer to someone's prayer. They will refuse to be pressured to give. He or she also wants their spouse to be in agreement with their giving. The person with the gift of giving delights not only in giving gifts but they will give generous gifts (not cheap ones).

Weaknesses

They get extremely upset when they see people waste. They use their giving to motivate others to give. In the counsel of doing this, they may put excessive pressure on others to give.

If they are not careful, they can corrupt people by giving too much to them. There are people who cannot handle money.

They often have a hard time taking their hands off what they give, because they want to control how the money is spent.

They understand the need for those in their own family to work for money and to appreciate its value. In attempting to achieve these balances, they can cause their families to resent those to whom gifts are given.

ADMINISTRATION

Bible Examples - Nehemiah, James

Characteristics

Strengths

The person with the gift of administration has a special ability to provide overall vision for the body of Christ and manage others in such a way that they willingly follow and work together. They provide oversight for the vision and direction for the overall process (the big picture). These people are able to share vision effectively with others, and involve many people in the process of getting the task completed.

This person is a person of action. He or she keeps things moving toward the goal. They are gifted in organizing what they are responsible for and eager to complete the task and get going with something else.

They are able to see the abilities in others and delegate jobs and responsibilities. They are able to listen and come up with answers to problems.

Weaknesses

They have a tendency to delegate too much work to others. They sometimes fail to give proper explanations and praise to others. They may become unresponsive to suggestions and appeals from others. The person with the administration gift can also have a tendency to view people as human resources rather than human beings.

Ordinarily, they will stay on the sidelines until they are asked to be in charge of a project because they need to have the full support of those

who appoint them. However, it is difficult for them to stand by and watch mismanagement and inefficiency, and therefore, they may take charge prematurely.

They tend to show favoritism to those who appear to be more loyal. The single most important quality to them is loyalty. They want to know where they stand with each person.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR SPECIAL MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS

PROPHECY - Motivated to discern right and wrong and see the motives of others.

SERVING - Motivated to meet practical needs of people within the body.

TEACHING - Motivated to reveal and emphasize the truth in God's Word.

GIVING - Motivated to give in many ways and to motivate other to do the same.

ADMINISTRATION - Motivated to keep things moving in an orderly fashion; organization.

MERCY - Motivated to empathize and minister mercy to others.

After taking the motivational gift survey, I am pretty sure:

My primary motivational gift is _____.

My strongest secondary gift is _____.

(Record your answers on your personal profile.)

MONITORING MY HEARTBEAT

The Lord places a _____ for specific ministry on my heart and then enables me to fulfill that _____.

***Psalms 37:4** - "Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart."*

***Revelation 17:17 (NIV)** - "God has put in their hearts to accomplish his purpose..."*

Take a Spiritual EKG

The key to understanding your heartbeat is to look at where your heart has been throughout your life.

Think back and highlight some of the things you did well and enjoyed throughout your life from grade school to the present:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

(The more you can list the better. Use another sheet of paper if you need it.)

Examine these achievements for a common thread. Then ask yourself:
“What do I love to do?”

Record this on your Personal Profile.

I LOVE TO...

DESIGN/DEVELOP – I love to make something out of nothing. I enjoy getting something started from scratch.

PIONEER – I love to test and try out new concepts. I am not afraid to risk failure.

OPERATE/MAINTAIN – I love to efficiently maintain something that is already organized.

SERVE/HELP – I love to assist others in their responsibility. I enjoy helping others succeed.

ACQUIRE/POSSESS – I love to shop, collect, or obtain things. I enjoy getting the highest quality for the best price.

EXCEL – I love to be the best and make my team the best. I enjoy setting and attaining the highest standard.

INFLUENCE – I love to convert people to my way of thinking. I enjoy shaping the attitudes and behavior of others.

PERFORM – I love to be on stage and receive the attention of others. I enjoy being in the limelight.

IMPROVE – I love to make things better. I enjoy taking something that someone else has designed or started and improve it.

REPAIR – I love to fix what is broken or change what is out of date.

LEAD/BE IN CHARGE – I love to lead the way, oversee, and supervise. I enjoy determining how things will be done.

PERSERVERE – I love to see things to completion. I enjoy persisting at something until it is finished.

FOLLOW THE RULES – I love to operate by policies and procedures. I enjoy meeting the expectations of an organization or boss.

PREVAIL – I love to fight for what is right and oppose what is wrong. I enjoy overcoming injustice.

ORGANIZE – I love to bring order out of chaos. I enjoy handling, managing, and delegating all of the details to make things happen.

START UP – I love to start new works (ministries) or projects, get them running well, and train others to take it over so that I can begin another necessary work.

How To Discover Your Special Abilities

Look over your list of accomplishments again. Circle all verbs that denote actions performed while you were doing each achievement.

Now compare those verbs to the list below and check those abilities you feel you have.

26 SPECIALIZED ABILITIES

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| -Entertaining ability: | to perform, act, sing, speak |
| -Recruiting ability: | to enlist and motivate people to get involved |
| -Interviewing ability: | to discover what others are really like |
| -Researching ability: | to read, collect information, collect data |
| -Artistic ability: | to conceptualize, draw, paint, photograph, or make renderings |
| -Graphics ability: | to lay out, design, create visual displays or banners |
| -Evaluating ability: | to analyze data and draw conclusions |
| -Planning ability: | to strategize, design and organize programs and events |
| -Managing ability: | to supervise people to accomplish a task or event and coordinate the details involved |
| -Counseling ability: | to listen, to encourage and guide with sensitivity |
| -Teaching ability: | to explain, train, demonstrate, and tutor |
| -Writing ability: | to write articles, letters, books |
| -Editing ability: | to proofread or rewrite |
| -Promoting ability: | to advertise or promote events and activities |
| -Repairing ability: | to fix, restore, and maintain |
| -Feeding ability: | to create meals for large or small groups |
| -Recall ability: | to remember or recall names and faces |
| -Mechanical operating ability: | to operate equipment, tools or machinery |
| -Resourceful ability: | to search out and find inexpensive materials or resources needed |
| -Counting ability: | to work with numbers, data or money |
| -Classifying ability: | to systematize and file books, data, records and |

- Public Relations ability: materials so they can be retrieved easily
- Welcoming ability: to handle complaints and unhappy customers with care and courtesy
- Composing ability: to convey warmth making others feel comfortable
- Landscaping ability: to write music or lyrics
- Decorating ability: to do gardening and work with plants
- Others... to beautify a setting for a special event

List your specialized abilities on your PERSONAL PROFILE.

SHORT PERSONALITY GUIDE

Answer the following questions – do not dwell on the answers. Circle the one most like you. Tally your letters A, B, C, D at the bottom of the page.

1. If we were going to do a drama presentation here at Radiant (sound familiar?) would you rather be the:

- A - Director*
- B - Cast Member, preferably the star*
- C - Behind the scenes, doing sets, costumes, etc.*
- D - The audience*

2. If you could not be your first choice, what would be your second choice?

- A - Director*
- B - Cast Member, preferably the star*
- C - Behind the scenes, doing sets, costumes, etc.*
- D - The audience*

3. Do you consider yourself more:

- A - Adventurous*
- B - Inspiring*
- C - Analytical*
- D - Adaptable*

4. Are you:

- A - Bossy*
- B - Brassy*
- C - Bashful*
- D - Blank*

5. When you are in a group are you more:

- A - Talkative*
- B - Outspoken*
- C - Reserved*
- D - Friendly*

6. While in work situations at home or on the job are you:

A - Productive

B - Popular

C - Perfectionist

D - Pleasant

7. Or do you tend towards:

A - Workaholic

B - Wanting credit

C - Hard to please

D - Worrier

8. Do others say you are:

A - Confident

B - Cheerful

C - Organized

D - Peaceful

9. As a child were you:

A - Self Sufficient

B - Imaginative

C - Intense

D - Little Trouble

Number of: A's _____ B's _____ C's _____ D's _____

Now circle the highest number.

Answer key:

A - Choleric

B - Sanguine

C - Melancholy

D - Phlegmatic

SPIRITUAL VARIATIONS IN PERSONALITIES

POPULAR - SANGUINE

BARRIER TO BECOMING A CHRISTIAN

It doesn't sound like fun and you people are way too serious!

SPIRITUAL HANGUPS

Trouble with idea of holiness and purity.

Too many strict rules and commandments.

FAVORITE TYPE OF CHURCH

One with fun, action, lively choir, dancing in the aisles with tambourines.

FAVORITE HYMN & VERSE

"Oh for a Thousand Tongues"

Proverbs 17:22 - "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine."

PEACEFUL PHLEGMATIC

BARRIER TO BECOMING A CHRISTIAN

Would it mean I'd have to change?

SPIRITUAL HANGUPS

Trouble with truth and responsibility before God.

Too much emphasis on good works.

FAVORITE TYPE OF CHURCH

One with relaxed atmosphere, not dressy/demanding of the congregation.

Likes pleasant brief sermons with no mention of hell, fire, and brimstone.

FAVORITE HYMN & VERSE

"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers."

POWERFUL CHOLERIC

BARRIER TO BECOMING A CHRISTIAN

How could I give up control to some - one I cannot see!

SPIRITUAL HANGUPS

Trouble with authority of God.

Too little control of one's own destiny.

FAVORITE TYPE OF CHURCH

One with obvious order and organization.

Wants service to move right along and be practical.

Likes briefs sermons that apply to others

FAVORITE HYMN & VERSE

"Onward Christian Soldiers, Marching as to War"

1 Corinthians 14:40 - *"Do all things decently and in order!"*

PERFECT MELANCHOLY

BARRIER TO BECOMING A CHRISTIAN

I could never be perfect enough to please God.

SPIRITUAL HANGUPS

Trouble with forgiveness for those who don't deserve it.

FAVORITE TYPE OF CHURCH

One with serious liturgy and dignified presentation. Admires intellectual, spiritual, deep messages with reference to Greek derivatives.

FAVORITE HYMN & VERSE

"I was sinking Deep in Sin"

Matthew 5:48 - *"Be ye therefore perfect."*

SANGUINE:

STRENGTHS

appealing personality
talkative, storyteller
life of the party
good sense of humor
physically holds on to listener
emotional & expressive
cheerful
curious
wide-eye-/innocent
lives in the present
changeable disposition
volunteers for jobs
inspires others
makes friends easily
loves people
thrives on compliments
doesn't hold grudges
prevents dull moments

WEAKNESSES

compulsive talker
exaggerates & elaborates
dwells on trivia
scares others off
has restless energy
has loud voice & laugh
controlled by circumstances
gets angry easily
seems phony to some
forgets obligations
doesn't follow through
undisciplined
easily distracted
hates to be alone
needs to be center of stage
answers for others
makes excuses
repeats stories

PHLEGMATIC:

STRENGTHS

low-key personality
easygoing & relaxed
calm, cool & collected
consistent life
sympathetic, kind
keeps emotions hidden
all-purpose person
competent, steady
peaceful, agreeable
mediates problems
avoids conflicts
finds the easy way
easy to get along with
pleasant, enjoyable
good listener
dry sense of humor
enjoys watching people
has many friends

WEAKNESSES

indecisive
avoids responsibility
quite will of iron
selfish
self-righteous
not goal oriented
hard to get moving
discourages others
would rather watch
dampens enthusiasm
is not exciting
indifferent to plans
judges others
sarcastic & teasing
resists change
too compromising
resents being punished
stays uninvolved

CHOLERIC:

STRENGTHS

born leader
dynamic & active
compulsive need for change
must correct wrongs
strong willed & decisive
unemotional
goal oriented
sees the whole picture
organizes well
moves quickly to action
delegates work
makes the goal
stimulates activity
has little need for friends
will work for group activity
will lead & organize
is usually right
excels in emergencies

WEAKNESSES

bossy
impatient
quick tempered
can't relax
comes on too strong
inflexible
is unsympathetic
little tolerance for mistakes
doesn't analyze details
bored by trivia
demanding of others
demands loyalty in the ranks
tends to use people
dominates others
decides for others
knows everything
is too independent
may be right, but unpopular

MELANCHOLY:

STRENGTHS

analytical
deep & thoughtful
serious & purposeful
genius prone
talented & creative
artistic or musical
sensitive to others
self-sacrificing
idealistic
schedule oriented
high standards, perfectionist
orderly, organized
economical
sees the problems
finds creative solutions
makes friends cautiously
content to stay in background
needs to finish what she starts

WEAKNESSES

remembers the negatives
moody & depressed
enjoys being hurt
has false humility
selective hearing
self-centered
persecution complex
not people oriented
chooses difficult work
too much time planning
hard to please
deep need for approval
lives through others
insecure socially
critical of others
holds back affection
unforgiving
suspicious of people

EXAMINING MY EXPERIENCES

“And we know that all things God works for the good of those who love Him,”

“Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really...”

One of the most overlooked factors in determining the ministry God has for me is my past experiences, particularly my hurts and problems I’ve overcome with God’s help. Since our greatest life messages come out of our weaknesses not our strengths, we should pay close attention to what we’ve learned in the “school of hard knocks”.

GOD NEVER WASTES A HURT

He wants you to be open to ministering to people who are going through what you’ve already been through!

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - “(God)...wonderfully comforts and strengthens us in our hardships and trials. And why does He do this? So that when others are troubled, needing our sympathy and encouragement, we can pass on to them the same help and comfort God has given us!”

ON YOUR PERSONAL PROFILE, RECORD THESE EXPERIENCES:

Your Spiritual Experiences
Meaningful decisions/times with God.

Your Painful Experiences
Problems, hurts, trials that have taught you.

Your Educational Experiences
What were your favorite subjects in school?

Your Occupational Experiences
What are your most significant experiences from your job?

Your Ministry Experiences
How have you served in the past?

THE GREAT COMMISSION

Matthew 28:19-20 - "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

THE LORD HAS CALLED US TO BE FISHERS OF MEN

Matthew 4:19-20 - "'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will make you fishers of men'. At once they left their nets and followed him."

F The call to _____ Christ.

Matthew 4:19-20 - "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men."

Matthew 28:19 - "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations"

I The _____ of my life into what is eternal.

2 Peter 3:10 - "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up."

S The abundance of our own _____ blessings.

Ephesians 1:3 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ."

Genesis 12:2 - "I will bless you...and you shall be a blessing." (Abraham Principle)

H The reality of _____.

Luke 16:23-28 (NIV) - "In hell, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw father Abraham far away...So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.' He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my father's house for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'"

"There are only two kinds of people in the end; those who say to God, 'Thy will be done' and those to whom God says, 'Thy will be done.'" - C. S. Lewis

E The honor of being an _____ of God.

2 Corinthians 5:20 (GDPD) - "It is for Christ, therefore, that I am an envoy, seeing that God makes his appeal through me."

2 Corinthians 5:18-20 - "Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God."

R The _____ of introducing a person to Christ.

Proverbs 11:30 - "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise."

Revelation 22:12 (NIV) - "Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done."

LEADING A PERSON DOWN THE ROMANS ROAD

Romans ____: ____ For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

Romans ____: ____ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans ____: ____ Whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Romans ____: ____ & ____ (NIV) That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

WAYS TO FISH FOR MEN

1. Step out of your comfort zone to _____ to others.

Matthew 5:13 - "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men."

2. Develop _____.

Proverbs 18:24a - "A man who has friends must himself be friendly..."

3. Listen to _____ stories.

Luke 6:45b - "For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks."

4. Pray for them and follow the _____ promptings.

2 Corinthians 4:4 - "Whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them."

Romans 8:14 - "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God."

5. Learn to tell _____ story.

John 9:25 - "One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see."

Before Christ:

Christ:

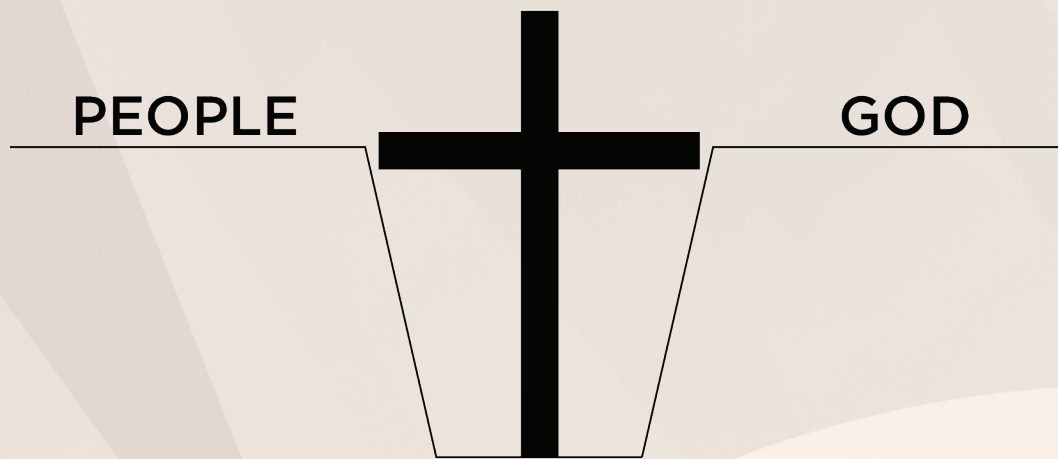
After Christ:

6. Learn to tell _____ story.

John 5:24 - "I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life."

7. _____ people to church.

Luke 14:16-23 (MESS) - "For there was once a man who threw a great dinner party and invited many...The master said, 'Then go to the country roads. Whoever you find, drag them in. I want my house full!'"



HOW TO BE A PART OF WORLD MISSIONS

1. I _____

We encourage members to adopt a country to pray for regularly throughout the year. We often have congregational concerts of prayer for our missionaries at our Fusion Prayer Service.

2. I _____

We encourage members to financially invest in world missions through a monthly faith pledge. We also invite at least one missionary to share briefly in our Sunday morning services; to encourage the church to pray for and give to missions. In addition, some of our departments of the church carry out special missions fund raising events throughout the year.

3. I _____

Radiant will also continue to give opportunities for short-term missions trips to enable members to experience a cross-cultural field for themselves. It is our desire to see world missionaries called out from within our congregation.

CONCLUSION

Now that you have completed the ASCENT classes; you have gained a comprehensive perspective of Radiant church's vision, mission, core values and strategy for fulfilling God's call upon our lives as individuals and as a church body. We want to encourage you to take some time to review the material, reflect on what God has shown you through the teaching and through your interaction with others in the classes. Then determine how the Lord is directing you and what your next step should be.

We are fully convinced from the Scripture that God's intention is for each of us to live a life of WORSHIP and to become a committed part of a local church. If you feel that the Lord has called you to be a part of Radiant church, we hope you will take the next steps toward membership. Contact us at connect@radiantchurch.org to set up a time to meet with one of the members of our church staff, to help you connect through membership and answer any questions that you may still have.

Maybe your next step is to CONNECT in a small group, where you can experience Biblical community with other followers of Christ at Radiant church. A necessary step for all of us is to continue to GROW in spiritual maturity by developing the habits of a disciple; through daily time with Him in prayer and in His Word.

Finally, we are all called to make an IMPACT in the lives of others. Perhaps your next step is to discover your SHAPE for ministry and begin serving God by serving others. Make an IMPACT by sharing your faith with others or simply inviting others to a worship service at Radiant. The ultimate goal is to bring glory to God by allowing your unique "fingerprint" to be seen in Colorado Springs and in the world. Don't sit on the sidelines. Get involved in God's mission! ASCEND!

May God Bless You and Direct You!

- Pastor Todd and Pastor Kelly Hudnall -

- PERSONAL PROFILE -

My S.H.A.P.E for Ministry

[SPECIAL GIFTS, HEART, ABILITIES, PERSONALITY, EXPERIENCE]

NAME: _____ BIRTHDATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

SPOUSE'S NAME: _____ BIRTHDATE: _____

CHILDREN'S NAMES, AGES, AND BIRTHDATES: _____

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: _____

HOME GROUP: _____

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS: _____

SPECIAL GIFTS

The special motivational gifts I believe I have (from Spiritual Gift Inventory), or visit: WWW.TEAMMINISTRY.COM

My primary motivational gift is _____

My secondary motivational gift is _____

HEART

1. What I have a heart for or what motivates me most:
I LOVE TO...
2. Who I love to work with most, and the age or type of people:
3. What I have a heart for or what motivates me most:

ABILITIES

1. My current vocation is:
2. Other jobs or skills I have experience in:
3. I feel I have these specialized abilities:
4. I have taught a class or seminar on:
5. I feel my most valuable personal asset is:

PERSONALITY

After taking the Personality Test, I found that I have a _____ personality. [Choleric, Sanguine, Phlegmatic, Melancholy]

MY SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

EXPERIENCES

1. This is how and when I became a Christian, and what it has meant to me since then:
2. Times when I have felt closest to God, and meaningful spiritual experiences that stand out in my mind:

MY PAINFUL EXPERIENCES

These are problems or trials I've experienced that help me relate to and encourage others who are going through similar experiences:

MY EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

1. Where I attended school and my favorite subjects:
2. Seminars, classes, or training that has been meaningful to me:

MY MINISTRY EXPERIENCES

Where I have served in the past [name of church, location, position of service, years involved] if applicable:

1.

2.

3.

After reviewing the Ministry Descriptions of Radiant Church, I feel I am in the best "SHAPE" for these ministries:

1.

2.

3.

- NOTES -



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