

JOURNEY INTO MISSION! Ver 22.2

Crossroads Church

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Live the Gospel / Raise Up Disciples

Please complete fill-ins on pages 17, 18 & 24

"Journey Into Mission"



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Pages 1-26 are the "Introduction." This material is generally understandable with little or no explanation.

Please read and complete these pages prior to joining our "Journey Into Mission" Class.

Highlight or mark any section for which you would like additional instruction.

Be sure to complete the fill-ins on pages 17,18 & 24.

Pages 27-42 are the material we cover together in the "Journey Into Mission" Class.

— video —

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The Birth Of Crossroads Church (a brief history) ...

In the mid 1990's God placed a vision in the heart of the new pastor of a country church 40 miles Northwest of Des Moines, Iowa. Little did he know that God had already placed the same vision in the hearts of his congregation. God prompted this pastor and his people to see that their church not only needed to grow, but also needed to give birth to a daughter church. This daughter church would be in one of the outlying communities a number of miles away. The goal of this new ministry would be to more effectively reach the unchurched people who lived there. The pastor and his people spent years in prayer and planted many seeds of faith while they waited for the Lord to bring the vision into reality.

By the turn of the millennium Pastor Ray Hoke and Bethel Church, located outside of Ogden, IA entered into talks with leaders in the Mid-America District of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church. These talks were immediately conjoined with a tremendously focused prayer effort. Within two years, the community of Perry (approximately 20 miles from Bethel) had been selected as a location where there was tremendous need for a fresh work of the Holy Spirit and the establishing of a Christ centered, outreach oriented, local church.

In 2002 a core of approximately 25 Bethel people began to meet weekly to pray for the opportunity to begin this new church, and to be used by God to reach out to the unchurched of the Perry area. Through a process of yielding themselves and their own will to the direction of the Holy Spirit, the group began to solidify in their commitment and dedication to following the Lord and stepping out in this venture of faith.

During the earliest pre-natal phases of the birth of the church many people wrestled with their commitment to this challenging mission and their willingness to allow the Lord to shape them and the direction of the new church. Following two more years of prayer, surrender and sacrifice the Lord identified pastoral leadership! God moved this pastor and his family to Perry in February of 2004. Thus began the final trimester of the pre-natal phase of the birth of the new church!

During the summer of 2004 the core group of people equipped themselves in various ministry capacities, continued to pray, and watched God at work! Four times they held a Sunday morning gathering and celebrated along with friends and neighbors who had been drawn in by the Holy Spirit. On the alternate weeks they met on Sunday evenings and in mid-week life groups for Bible study and discipleship.

On October 3, 2004 Crossroads Church was born as the first official weekly celebration and worship gatherings began to celebrate God's goodness and to teach the Word of God!

Crossroads has a distinctive flavor for ministry and has established itself as a group of believers who are committed to Christ and who love their neighbors. The people of the Crossroads family are willing to do whatever it takes to think and reach outside the box of Christendom in order to live-out their faith every day in the workplace, in the neighborhood and in their homes.

Crossroads is not a perfect church and there are no perfect people within the family. Crossroaders are serious about engaging our culture relationally in order that those we share life with might encounter the risen Christ in their own personal experience. We seek to embody meaningful, healthy, Biblical community in a culture that has a rather worn out concept of the nature of community. Crossroaders seek to introduce their friends and family to the power of a community centered in the forgiveness of Jesus Christ!



What would it be like to... ?

- ...be a part of a church family that really cares for me?
- ...not have to be perfect to belong?
- ...be myself without fear of rejection?
- ...be where I feel connected, really connected?
- ...find a place to help me develop skills to cope with life?
- ...feel my life has meaning and purpose?
- ...realize God has a purpose and a plan for my life?
- ...know I can help others with my unique gifts and abilities?
- ...understand I can make a difference in the world?
- ...know God understands me, loves me and has a future for me?





The Beginning Of A Mission!

This is the beginning of a personal and spiritual journey that we hope will be the most exciting and fulfilling you will ever be a part of. This is the Crossroads journey. This a very important step in your choice to accept God’s invitation to align your life with the mission of Crossroads.

Some of you may think this is a stopping point, a place where you have “arrived.” If you think that way you would miss as much as if you decided to fly to Florida to see Disney World, but stopped at the airport.

Think of this as a launching pad for you to grow and explore all the opportunities God has for you. Opportunities to learn more about God, for personal growth, to discover and use the gifts God has placed in you, to be a part of something bigger than yourself and to contribute to the greatest work of all: building the Kingdom of God!



Overview of the Membership Class

This material covers:

1. The Purpose, Mission, Vision and Values of Crossroads.
2. The Vision and Direction of Crossroads.
3. The Crossroads Lifestyle.

Our goal for this material is that you will deepen in your understanding of the mission God has called us to in the Crossroads family. Being an active member in this part of the Body of Christ can be very rewarding! We focus on Christ-centered unity and down-play differences of opinion.

As anyone can see, God has made everyone unique, with individual gifts and talents. Part of our ongoing commitment to you is to help you figure out how God has uniquely wired you to discover fulfillment as you minister within this body.

We believe that God loves unity within His church. It's the separate parts of the body, living and functioning together in harmony, that make up the whole. Therefore, God generously gives freedom to live and function within His Church as individuals and as a unified body.

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Romans 12:4-8 (ESV)





OUR AFFILIATION

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

We are part of a group of churches called the Christian and Missionary Alliance. The Alliance is a global movement of churches and missions works that are ALL ABOUT JESUS!

As a young man, A.B. Simpson discovered a line in Walter Marshall’s Gospel Mystery of Salvation,

“The first good work you will ever perform is to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ,”

Simpson committed his life to **“Jesus Only”** ...the anthem that also ignited an unquenchable passion in his heart to reach the lost.

In 1881 A.B. Simpson resigned a prestigious Presbyterian pastorate in New York City because his desire to minister to the flood of immigrants pouring into the city met with great opposition from the leadership of his church. Simpson set out to establish the Gospel Tabernacle, a church in the heart of NYC, where all—the poor, homeless, sick, and displaced—would be welcome.

Simpson’s ministry to New York’s immigrants caused him to wonder about the unreached masses throughout the world. It was then that he developed an insatiable burden for the worldwide evangelization of lost souls. Single-mindedly focused on this burden, Simpson began assembling like-minded people with a passion for taking the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

Simpson held evangelistic meetings and Bible studies on Sunday afternoons. He was not trying to begin a new church, just to teach the Word of God with clarity and authority. He rebuffed requests to meet on Sunday mornings and replace the churches his people were attending, until it became apparent that these gatherings had already become the church for these people.

Simpson helped form and lead two associations for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ... The Christian Alliance, and The Evangelical Missionary Alliance... both of which grew exponentially and spawned revivals in other locations along the East coast.

As thousands joined these two groups, it was decided that they could accomplish more by working together instead of working separately. In 1897, they began calling themselves “The Christian and Missionary Alliance.” They saw themselves as a society fully devoted to experiencing the “deeper life” in Christ and completing the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20).

Simpson constantly sought ways to reach hurting and unsaved people. A.W. Tozer wrote: “For thirty years [Simpson] continued to lead the societies he had formed, and never for the least division of a moment did he forget or permit the society to forget the purpose for which it was brought into being . . . ‘It is to hold up Jesus in His fullness, the same yesterday, and today, and forever!’” Simpson sought to provide Christ-Centered Fellowship, and was highly suspicious of anything resembling rigid organization.

The Christian & Missionary Alliance continues to be a spiritual association of believers who hunger to know the fullness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ, working concertedly for the speedy evangelization of the world.”





THE CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

WE'RE ALL ABOUT JESUS!

The Alliance is a Christ-centered world-wide movement of more than 6 million people. We're an Acts 1:8 family —inspired by Jesus' love and empowered by His Spirit— is passionate to bring the good news about Him to our neighborhoods and world.

We're Christ-Centered

Our Alliance family celebrates Jesus...
...the image of the invisible God, the Lord of all Creation!

“For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,¹⁰ and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.” Colossians 2:9-10 (ESV)

Our Heartbeat Is To Know Jesus As:



Savior
Acts 4:12

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” Acts 4:12 (ESV)



Sanctifier
1 Corinthians 1:30

And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption. 1 Corinthians 1:30 (ESV)



Healer
James 5:15

And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. James 5:15 (ESV)



Coming King
Acts 1:11

This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” Acts 1:11 (ESV)

Because of who He is and what He's done, we are compelled to “go!” Humbled by the open invitation He extends to us—what we call the Great Commission—we join Him in His work to restore and reconcile lost and broken people to Himself.

Read our statement of faith on page 25 for more on what we believe.

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Acts 1:8 (ESV)

We Rely On His Spirit

Acts 1:8 is in our DNA. We are convinced it is only by the Holy Spirit's empowerment that we can fully express Jesus' love, compassion, and mercy to those who do not know Him.





AFFILIATION (CONTINUED)

We Are Family

We are part of Christ’s Church—His chosen means to fulfill His purposes on earth, restoring a lost and broken world until He returns to reclaim it. A member of the Alliance World Fellowship (AWF), the U.S. Alliance is one of a network of national churches that make up our global family.

“...so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.” Romans 12:5 (ESV)

We Love Our Neighbors

In the United States, our Alliance family extends His love to everyone we meet; we walk with our neighbors through the steep challenges life brings, introducing them to the One who offers true hope. We plant churches in spiritually thirsty neighborhoods, discipling and mentoring new believers to become healthy, passionate Jesus followers. Today in our U.S. Alliance family there are:



Over
500,000
worshippers
& dialects



speaking
37
languages



in
2,000
churches

We Love Our World

Our U.S. family sends and supports hundreds of Alliance international workers who care for the sick, befriend the lonely, and introduce spiritually impoverished people to the One who releases us all from the curse of sin and the sting of death. Right now,



more than
700
U.S. Alliance Workers



serving in
70
nations





Five Purposes Of The Church

**Purpose #1: Love the Lord with all our heart
(Worship)**

**Purpose #2: Love our neighbors as ourselves
(Ministry)**

**Purpose #3: Go and make disciples
(Evangelism)**

**Purpose #4: Baptize people
(Community)**

**Purpose #5: Teach people to obey (Growth and Reproduction)
(Maturity)**

*And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."³⁸ This is the great and first commandment.³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." **Matthew 22:37-40 (ESV)***

*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." **Matthew 28:19-20 (ESV)***

*And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, **Ephesians 4:11-12 (ESV)***





Mission and Vision



Our elders spent hours searching and studying the scriptures for themselves to learn what God's Word says about the church and why it exists...

*Our **MISSION STATEMENT** is our understanding of what God expects of His Church.*

*Our vision grows out of our mission...
...as Christ-followers, living missionally we will:*



*Our **VISION STATEMENT** is a description of how we plan to accomplish our God-Given Mission.*

*We also have annual **VISION OBJECTIVES** to help us to remain focused on what God has called us to so!*

In practical terms this means that once we come to Christ we recognize our need to be intentional about growing in Christ! This growth process continues until we reach heaven!

We commit ourselves to the values of Scripture, the unity of our church family, and to helping with the work of the ministry! The Crossroads Family is God's gift to each of us!

Fully devoted followers of Christ find ways to keep on growing in their faith. When they face the temptation to become spiritually lazy, as we all do at times, the fully devoted follower stays closely connected to their brothers and sisters in Christ in order to draw on their faith and encouragement!





Values of Crossroads (What’s Most Important & Motivates Us!)

These values unify our efforts and define our distinctives.

Value 1:

We believe the Bible, the Holy Spirit and Prayer are the catalysts for transformation in individuals’ lives and in the church.

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function,⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith;⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching;⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. [Romans 12:4-8 \(ESV\)](#)

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. [2 Timothy 3:16-17 \(ESV\)](#)

For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror.²⁴ For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like.²⁵ But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing. [James 1:23-25 \(ESV\)](#)

Value 2:

We believe life-change happens best in the context of life groups.

Exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. [Hebrews 3:13 \(ESV\)](#)

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. [Hebrews 10:24-25 \(ESV\)](#)

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing. [1 Thessalonians 5:11 \(ESV\)](#)

Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another. [Proverbs 27:17 \(ESV\)](#)

Value 3:

We believe that spiritually lost people matter to God, and therefore, ought to matter to the church.

And Jesus answered them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.³² I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.” [Luke 5:31-32 \(ESV\)](#)

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. [2 Peter 3:9 \(ESV\)](#)

Value 4:

We believe the church should be culturally relevant while remaining doctrinally pure.

This is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. [John 6:39 \(ESV\)](#)

To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some.²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings. [1 Corinthians 9:19-23 \(ESV\)](#)

Value 5:

We believe Christ-followers should serve according to their spiritual gifts, with a genuine and loving spirit.

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” [John 13:34-35 \(ESV\)](#)

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. [1 Peter 4:10 \(NIV\)](#)

Value 6:

We believe Christ-followers should give their best to God in every area of life and ministry.

Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. [Colossians 3:17 \(ESV\)](#)

Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men... [Ephesians 6:7 \(NIV\)](#)

Value 7:

We believe it is normal for believers, disciples & churches to reproduce themselves spiritually.

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet...¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. [Matthew 5:13, 16 \(ESV\)](#)

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation—³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. [1 Peter 2:2-3 \(ESV\)](#)

As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.” [Matthew 13:23 \(ESV\)](#)

... what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. [2 Timothy 2:2 \(ESV\)](#)

Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God... [Hebrews 6:1 \(ESV\)](#)

He told them another parable. “The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened.” [Matthew 13:33 \(ESV\)](#)

Value 8:

We believe that who you are as a person is more important than what you do.

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. [John 15:4 \(ESV\)](#)

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. [John 15:12 \(ESV\)](#)

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus... [Philippians 2:5 \(ESV\)](#)



Why Membership Matters

Crossroads is a safe place for every person to hear the message of Jesus Christ. But proclaiming the Gospel alone doesn't make us a church. What makes us a church—not just an evangelistic organization—is that we are a *community*.

Crossroads is also a safe place for imperfect people to grow in Christ! None of us have fully “arrived.”

We have attenders and visitors, but we also have members.
People can belong to our fellowship, and they can know they're connected.

One might assume that, as long as you know Christ, what is the need for any further identification with a local church? Isn't it enough to simply call yourself a Christian and attend services somewhere regularly? What is the point of formal membership?

Three Reasons For Membership

We believe there are at least three reasons for having formal membership.

- 1) **First, we believe the concept of membership is biblical.** While the term “church member” is never used, the concept is implicit throughout the New Testament. Believers clearly identified themselves with a specific local body and were challenged to become devoted participants.
- 2) **Second, formal membership is valuable to the leaders of the church as they seek to fulfill their God-given task of shepherding.** We desire to attract visitors and spiritual seekers. We hope that will always be happening here. But at some point it is important to identify those who truly comprise the “flock” at Crossroads—the core that can be counted on to build and sustain the ministries of the church. These are also the committed “family members” who should receive priority in the allocation of church resources.

*So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone,
and especially to those who are of the household of faith.
Galatians 6:10 (ESV)*

- 3) **Finally, and perhaps most importantly, experience shows that membership benefits the individual.** In a culture where commitment is no longer highly valued, recognizable membership is an important step that moves each of us out of the vague clouds of our good intentions and into the clear light of committed participation. It presents a challenge to “step out of the stands” and publicly affirm a commitment to Christ and to a specific local body. In this sense, membership can be a significant “defining moment” in one’s lifelong discipleship journey.



“Positional” & “Participating” Membership

How exactly do you define a “member”? This is a legitimate question, and it needs some clarification, since the Bible actually describes two kinds of “membership.”

How exactly do you define a “member”? This is a legitimate question, and it needs some clarification, since the Bible actually describes two kinds of “membership.”

The Bible is full of references to the once-and-for-all union with Christ and His body, which happens at the instant of your conversion.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.¹³ For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.
1 Corinthians 12:12-13 (ESV)

(also see Ephesians 2:13-22, 4:3-6; Colossians 1:13-22)

At that moment, you become a “positional member” in the universal Church of Jesus Christ — based solely on His merit and grace. “Positional membership” is eternal and unchanging.

The Bible also urges “positional members” to continue growing by becoming “participating members” in a specific local assembly

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function. **Romans 12:4 (ESV)**

Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works... **Hebrews 10:24 (ESV)**

Obviously, you may be a “participating member” of several different local bodies during the course of your lifetime while maintaining a permanent “positional membership” in Christ’s universal Church. We can’t see the invisible bond of “positional membership”, but we can identify those who are the “participating members” here at Crossroads.

How can “participating membership” be described biblically? We attempt to summarize it in an outline from using what we call “The Five G’s.”

For those who desire to have practical gauges for spiritual growth, the Five G’s are measurable guides for spiritual and relational development.

THE FIVE G’s

GRACE

Understanding and incorporating God’s Grace into your daily life, and embracing believer’s baptism as an indicator of your faith in Christ and connection with other believers.

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. **Ephesians 2:8-9 (ESV)**

GROWTH

The ongoing evidence of a changing life and pursuit of Christlikeness.

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity.
Amen. 2 Peter 3:18 (ESV)

GROUP

Participation in the body of Christ and connection with others in significant relationships which effect life change.

Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. **Hebrews 10:24-25 (ESV)**

Encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.
Hebrews 3:13 (NIV)

GIFTS

Serving the body according to your spiritual giftedness, ability and passion.

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function,⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith;⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching;⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.
Romans 12:4-8 (ESV)

GOOD STEWARDSHIP

Honoring God with your time, talent treasure and testimony; and practicing the biblical tithe as your current minimal level of financial giving or as a goal to reach or exceed as God prospers.

Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce;¹⁰ then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine. **Proverbs 3:9-10 (ESV)**

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
Matthew 6:21 (ESV)



Family and Body

#1. The Church is a Family

“You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God...”

Ephesians 2:19 (ESV)

“...so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.”

Romans 12:5 (ESV)

Notice the Bible says “and members of God’s household.” It doesn’t say it is *LIKE* a family. It says we are a part of “God’s family.” Every Christ follower needs a church family. If we aren’t a part of it we are, at best, an orphan, or at worst, a runaway.

If a Christ follower isn’t a member of a local church, it’s like someone saying they want to play baseball but not on any team, or that they want to be a bee without belonging to a hive.

The difference between being a Christ follower and being a member of a church family is summed up in one word:

COMMITMENT.

I become a Christian by committing my life to Jesus Christ.

I become a member of a church by committing myself to other Christ followers.

This will be my church home where I’m going to give and be given to, where I’m going to serve and be served, where I will love and be loved.”



Family and Body (con't)

#2. The Church is a Body

There are many places where the Bible describes the church as a body. We are the Body of Christ!
We are a body, not a building or a business. We are an organism, not an organization.

“From whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.”
Ephesians 4:16 (ESV)

“we are members of his body.”
Ephesians 5:30 (ESV)

“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body.”
Colossians 3:15 (ESV)

“For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function,⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.”
Romans 12:4-5 (ESV)

These scriptures tell us two things.

- 1. We are individuals, yet a part of a body which depends on each part doing it's work.**
- 2. Because we are a part of one Body, we must live in peace with each other.**

Scripture tells us a hand can't tell a foot that it is less important. The liver isn't more important than the lungs. Just as the parts of our body are interdependent on each other to function and be as fit and healthy as possible, so too, the members of the church need to fully participate in the life of the church.

If you're good at teaching, you should teach. If you are handy with tools or crafts, you should find a place to use those gifts. If you're good at organizing, or singing, or accounting, or anything, it's up to you to find a place to use those gifts and abilities God has given you.

As mentioned before, the church is an organism, not an organization. You won't be forced to do anything. It's not seniority which puts you into specific tasks or functions. It's your own abilities, gifts and faithfulness in using them to their fullest.

This Body Of Christ Needs You!



The Crossroads Strategy

Every church has a strategy behind it. Some are intentional, some aren't. Some are known, some aren't. Some are effective, some are ineffective. There are many different ways to do church. None are necessarily right or wrong, better or worse. The important thing is does a church's strategy assist it in expanding the Kingdom of God? Are they making disciples of Jesus Christ? After all, Jesus told His disciples before he went back to heaven, "Go and make disciples." That is the measuring stick.

No church can appeal to everyone. If all we had were one kind of radio station, life would be pretty dull and boring. Likewise, if a radio station tried to appeal to everyone, no one would listen to it. One minute it's heavy metal, the next song is country. Then they do a talk radio format for 30 minutes, and then switch to rap. Later they play jazz or big band, followed by top 40 and then classical. It would drive the listeners nuts! The same with a church that tries to please everyone. We can't. We won't try. We try to be as appealing as possible, but, to be honest, there will be some people that just won't feel comfortable with our style. That's not wrong. That's just reality. And that's OK because somewhere there is a church they will feel comfortable in. We have to be who God called us to be!

We do things intentionally. Our goal is to reach unchurched people. So we intentionally play upbeat, contemporary music. Most unchurched people don't listen to hymns or to organ music. Our goal is that our music will pick people up and help them to experience dimensions of God that they don't even know exist. We want the music to be a drawing point. We want it to be bright, cheery, positive and God honoring! We won't appeal to everyone, but we don't have to. We focus on "intentionality" in each area of this ministry.

A major part of our strategy involves life groups. One of our core values is that "Life Change happens best in life groups." We know that on Sunday mornings we can encourage people and pat them on the back, but we also know that people need more than that. So every week we have life groups that meet to help people grow in community with other people and in their relationship with God. Except for Sunday mornings, homes are the #1 venue for Crossroads. We think this is a great thing! It allows us to deal with the issues of life in the safety, comfort and relaxed environment of a home. Growth is difficult enough on its own. We try to make the learning process meaningful and enjoyable.

Crossroads wasn't founded to take people away from other churches. We know that at least 9/10 of the people in our area never attend church. These people are the ones we are primarily here to reach... We welcome people from other churches only after encouraging them to do all they can to be at peace in their previous church, and then to move on only if the Lord is directing them to do so. When they do come to Crossroads, they need to understand that they need to embrace our mission, because our mission is our calling from God:

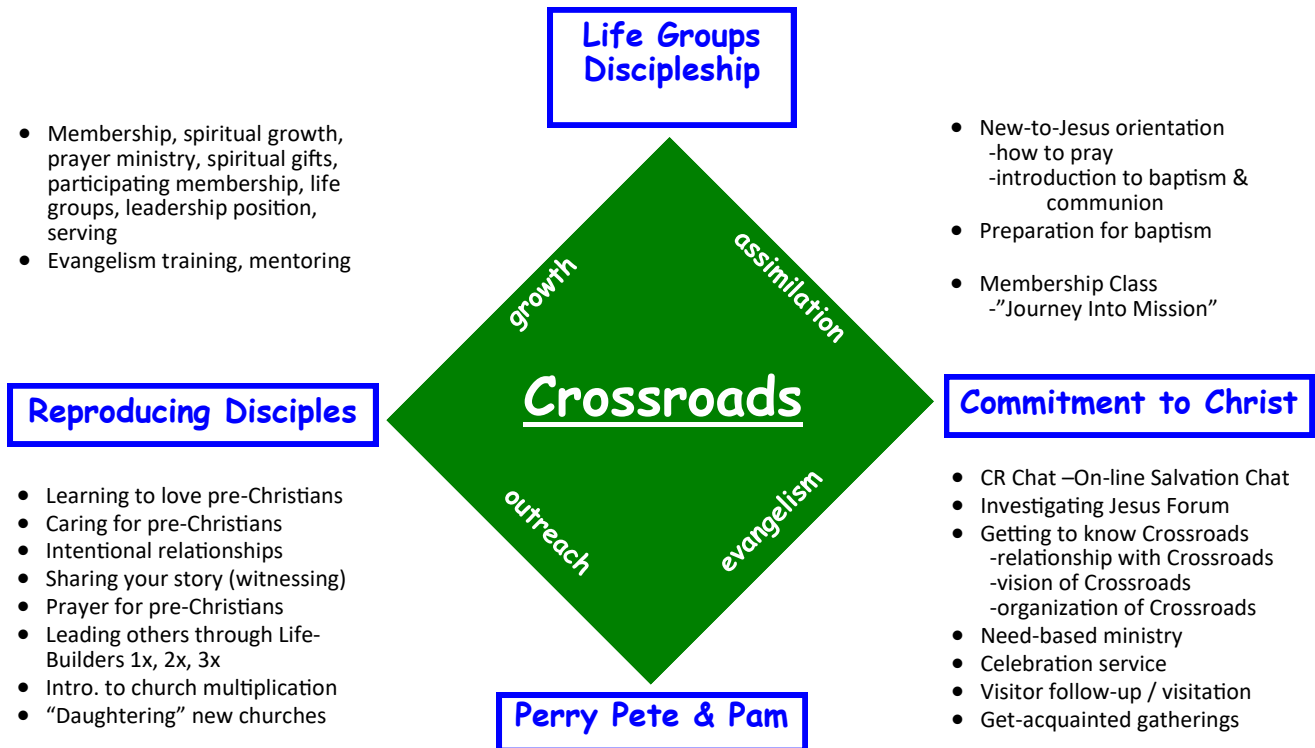
Our MISSION:

**Live the Gospel: by Loving God,
Making Disciples & Loving Our Neighbors**





The Crossroads Strategy Illustrated



Our Mission:
 "Live the Gospel by Loving God,
 Making Disciples & Loving Our Neighbors"





Salvation:

What Does It Really Mean To Be A Christ follower?

The Bible teaches there are two reasons we exist.

1. God made me to _____ me.

“The LORD appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.” [Jeremiah 31:3 \(ESV\)](#)

“...even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love⁵ he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will...” [Ephesians 1:4-5 \(ESV\)](#)

2. We are created to _____ a personal _____ with God. See Genesis 1,2,3
“I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me...” [John 10:14 \(ESV\)](#)

Knowing God produces many positive benefits in our lives.

1. A Clear _____

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. [Romans 8:1 \(ESV\)](#)

2. _____ and Peace

For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. [Romans 8:6 \(ESV\)](#)

3. The Spirit _____ for us and helps us in our _____

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. [Romans 8:26 \(ESV\)](#)

4. God works for the _____ of those who love Him

We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. [Romans 8:28 \(ESV\)](#)

5. God is _____

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? [Romans 8:31 \(ESV\)](#)

6. Awareness of the _____ we have in Christ

You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” [John 8:32, 36 \(ESV\)](#)

7. Nothing can _____ us from the love of Christ

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. [Romans 8:38-39 \(ESV\)](#)

8. Power and _____

I can do all things through him who strengthens me. [Philippians 4:13 \(ESV\)](#)





Salvation (con't)

So What's The Big Problem?

Your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.

Isaiah 59:2 (ESV)

We have a natural desire to be _____.

The Bible calls this SIN.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...

Romans 3:23 (ESV)

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1 John 1:8 (ESV)

**When our relationship with God isn't right,
it creates problems in every other aspect of our lives.**

People try many different ways to cope with their problems.

There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

Proverbs 16:25 (ESV)

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:6 (ESV)

**God Himself came to earth as a human being
to bring us back to Himself!**

*In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. **1 John 4:9-10 (ESV)***

*For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. **Romans 5:6-8 (ESV)***





Salvation (con't)

How Do I Become A Christ-Follower?

1. We become a follower of Christ, or a Christian, by admitting to God that we have fallen short of His standard and that our sin is separating us from God.

- "For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." - **Romans 3:23**
- "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." - **Romans 6:23**

2. We must believe that Jesus Christ paid the penalty for our sin when He died on the cross and rose from the dead.

- "For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit." - **1 Peter 3:18**

3. Accept that He did all that was ever necessary for us to stand before God, and transfer our trust from ourselves or from others to the Lord Jesus Christ. He has promised to receive us in spite of our sinfulness.

- "Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God." - **John 1:12**

4. Call upon Jesus.

- "But what does it say? 'The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,' that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: 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." - **Romans 10:8-10**
- "for, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'" - **Romans 10:13**

The important issue is to place our trust in Jesus for the forgiveness of sins. There is nothing magic about the following prayer, but it is a sample prayer to help you express that trust.

- **Pray this prayer:**
- "Lord Jesus, I want to know You personally. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sins. I open the door of my life and receive You as My Savior, my leader, my Lord, and forgiver. Thank you for forgiving me of my sins and giving me eternal life. Take control of the throne of my life. Make me the kind of person you want me to be. In Jesus' name. Amen."

Now What? Remember, Christianity is a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Therefore, you need to grow in your love relationship with Jesus by:

- Reading the Bible and praying each day. The Gospel of John is a good place to begin reading.
- Telling your pastor or a Christian friend about your commitment to follow Jesus.
- Finding a good church that will help you grow in your relationship with God.
- Living by faith (trust) in God and His Word which do not change, rather than by your feelings which often change with your circumstances.
- God's Word, the Bible, gives us great hope and confidence:
- "Anyone who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in his heart. Anyone who does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because he has not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life." - **1 John 5:10-13**



Baptism

4 Common Questions About Baptism:

1. Why should I be baptized?
2. What is the meaning of baptism?
3. Why should I be baptized by immersion?
4. Who should be baptized?

1 - Why should I be baptized? Three reasons to be baptized.

1. To follow the example set by Jesus.

Mark 1:9 “at that time Jesus came from Nazareth and was baptized by John in the river.” Why was Jesus baptized? In order to save him? No, he didn’t need to be saved. He was perfect. Baptism doesn’t save you. It is a symbol of obedience and it’s an example that we are to do what he has done.

2. Because Jesus commands it.

In *Matthew 28:19-20* Jesus commands his followers to “go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit...” These are the three things the church is commanded to do: Make disciples, baptize them, help them grow up. There is a certain order to this. First, you become a Christ-follower. Secondly, you get baptized. And third, you spend the rest of your life growing as a Christ follower.

3. It demonstrates that I am really a believer.

Baptism doesn’t make you a Christ follower. It just shows that you are a Christ follower. A wedding ring doesn’t make me married; it is a symbol of a commitment that I made that made me married. One day I made a commitment to my wife before God and a bunch of people and I said “I do” and I gave my life to her in front of God for the rest of my life. That commitment is what makes me married, not the ring. If I was to lose this ring, I’d still be married. This is an outward symbol of an inward commitment.

2 - What’s the meaning of baptism? Baptism does two things.

1. It illustrates Christ’s burial and resurrection.

Romans 6:4 “We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the father, we too may live a new life.” What this means, is we identify ourselves with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Through baptism, we make a public statement of our faith that our old sinful self has been buried as Jesus was buried, and we rise again to a new life in Jesus Christ just as Christ himself rose from the dead. At Crossroads we baptize the way they did in the Bible, putting people all the way under the water. It is a symbol of a burial and resurrection. Just like Jesus Christ died and was buried in the ground for three days and then rose again.

2. Baptism illustrates my new life as a Christ follower.

2 Corinthians 5:17 says, “when anyone becomes a Christ follower, he becomes a brand new person inside. The old life has past away and the new life has begun.” In the Bible, there was no such thing as a person claiming to be a Christ follower and not be baptized. It was automatic. You were baptized as soon as you gave your life to Christ.

There are several modes of baptism:

1. Some churches sprinkle a little water on your head...
2. Some pour a little water over your head...
3. Other churches put you all way under the water...

There are 4 reasons why we believe that baptism by immersion is best:

-next page-



Baptism (con't)

3 - Why should I be baptized by immersion?

1) Because Jesus was baptized that way.

Matthew 3:16 “As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water.” Jesus went down to the Jordan River. John the Baptist baptized him in a river. He set the example.

2) Every baptism in the Bible was by immersion.

Acts 8:38, 39 “Then both Philip and the Eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away.”

3) That's what the word means.

“Baptize” literally means “to immerse... as in under water.”

1) It best symbolizes a burial and resurrection.

- **Martin Luther** said, “I would have those who are to be baptized to be entirely immersed as the word imports and the mystery signifies.”
- **John Calvin** said “The word baptize signifies to immerse. It is certain that immersion was the practice of the ancient church.”
- **John Wesley** said “Buried with him, alludes to baptizing by immersion according to the accustom of the first church.”

That is the way baptism is taught in the Bible. That is the way we have chosen to do it as well. If we are to keep the Bible as the basis of our faith and practice, we are to be baptized after we understand and surrender to, and commit our lives, to Jesus Christ.

4 - Who should be baptized?

Everyone who trusts Jesus as their Lord and Savior should be baptized...

... make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. Matthew 28:19-20 (ESV)

When they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Acts 8:12 (ESV)

From these passages, we learn that once a person accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior they got baptized. If you've already been baptized since you began following Christ there is no need for you to be baptized again. However, if you haven't been baptized since you began following Christ... isn't it important to obey the instruction and example your Savior and Lord?

In Matthew 28 Jesus commanded the church to baptize those who follow Him. (above) Baptism is a symbol that you are a member of the body of Christ.

**We were all baptized into one body...
1 Corinthians 12:13 (ESV)**

There's nothing special about the water.

You can get baptized in a lake, a river, a stream, a pool, a hot tub, a bathtub or any other body of water in which you can become immersed. The water is not the holy part. What's holy is our faith in Christ! It's not where you're baptized. It's why you're baptized.

Question:

How is it possible that a private baptism (say someone being baptized at home in their bathtub) could actually be contrary to the meaning and intention of baptism?

We don't have an minimum age limit on baptism. If a child decides they want to be baptized, one of the elders would be happy to sit down and speak with the parent(s) and the child to help to explain baptism to them and help them to understand. We do not wish to withhold baptism from anyone, however, we want to make sure there is an appropriate level of understanding of what baptism is and why someone wants to be baptized.

**We also have Bible study called
“Preparing for Baptism.”**

This can be completed by individuals, families or groups.



What If I Was Baptized As A Baby?

We're glad that your parents chose to raise you in a manner that emphasizes the importance of God and spiritual things. This means that they recognize the importance of honoring God with their lives, and they would want you to honor God with your life!

We believe that followers of Jesus should honor God in every aspect of their lives... This is why we base our lives, and our practices, on the teachings of God's Word. The Bible is our source of authority in all that we teach and practice. As we read about baptism in the Bible, the teaching and the practice of the early church was that people first committed their lives to Jesus, and baptism followed as a public declaration of their new faith.

If you were baptized as a baby, you obviously weren't expressing your personal faith in God. Your parents were expressing their desire that you live your life in the knowledge, appreciation and love of God. They wanted you to share their belief that God loves you and desires to have a relationship with you.

Baptism, in the Bible, is a sign or a symbol that a person already believes in Jesus Christ as their Leader, Forgiver, Savior, and Lord. It's a public means of identifying oneself as a Christ follower and saying that your life is committed to Jesus. Baptism is also the public means of identifying with other Christ followers. It is a matter of relational solidarity among true Christians. Jesus commanded that we should be baptized for these reasons. Of course, there is also the matter of simple obedience to Jesus, since He commanded us to do it in Matthew 28:19.

Your decision to be baptized now that you've chosen to follow Jesus doesn't change/alter/or take away anything from your infant baptism. Your baptism as a believing adult is a separate event in your life. It's actually the next step in your natural progression of becoming responsible for, and "owning," your personal faith in Jesus Christ. *Your parents would want your faith journey to continue down this natural path where you choose to have a close personal faith in Jesus. And now here you are!*

Thank your parents for getting your spiritual journey started! Explain to them that you've chosen to fully embrace faith in Jesus, and to live your life for Him! Wasn't that their long term hope when they had you baptized as a baby?

Invite your family to join you and witness your baptism! They will hear you share your testimony and you can introduce them to your church family! They can share the joy and enthusiasm you have in living your life for Jesus!



Communion

What is the Lord’s Supper?

1. It is a simple act. The Bible says that at the very first communion, the Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread and broke it. He didn’t have some big elaborate ceremony, wear special costumes, vestments or burn incense and perform all kinds of fancy rituals. **The Lord’s Supper is a very simple act. He took bread and He took wine and He gave it to the people. It’s not some big elaborate ritual. When we take the Lord’s Supper at Crossroads, we don’t turn it into a big ritual... but we do recognize it’s HUGE importance!**

2. It is a reminder. “And when He had given thanks, **He took the bread and He broke it and said, ‘This is My Body, which is for you: do this in remembrance of Me.’**” The whole purpose of the Lord’s Supper is for us to remember what Jesus did on the cross.

3. It is a symbol. “**In the same way, He took the cup, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in My blood: drink it to remember Me.’**” When Jesus said, “this bread is My body and this cup is My blood,” He didn’t mean literally. When He said this, He hadn’t even gone to the cross yet. He hadn’t died yet. Obviously, **He’s talking about a symbol, not His actual blood.**

If I were to pull out my wallet and show you pictures of my wife and children, you would not be seeing my actual wife and children. Photographs are only images of different types of chemicals on photographic paper. They are not real. It is only a representation of my wife and children.

Jesus once said in the Bible “I am the door.” Does that mean He’s a piece of wood? He said, “I am the bread of life.” Does that mean He’s a loaf of bread? No. He’s giving symbolism. It is a representation just as the photos are representations of my wife and children. The Lord’s Supper is actually a statement of faith. 1 Corinthians 11:26 says, “for whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.” There is a forward look and a backward look. We look forward to the fact that Jesus is coming back and He says to do this until He does come back. And we also look back at what Jesus did on the cross. Jesus didn’t stay dead. He’s coming back again.

Who should participate in the Lord’s Supper? Only those who are already Christ followers. When Jesus offered communion he didn’t offer it to the 5,000 where he fed them with bread and fish. He only offered the Lord’s Supper to the 12 Disciples whom He knew were true Christ followers. He did not offer the Lord’s Supper to the uninformed crowds.

At Crossroads, Sunday morning gatherings include many people who have not yet chosen to follow Christ. The Lord’s Supper isn’t for pre-Christians. In fact, the Bible says that when a pre-Christians take the Lord’s Supper they bring judgment upon themselves. **We don’t wish to lead pre-Christians to against the teachings of the Bible,** so when we serve communion on Sunday morning we give very clear instructions and invite those who are not Christ followers yet, to observe the sincerity of the event, see the love that Jesus has for them, and refrain from taking the emblems when they are handed out. We encourage pre-Christians to allow this symbol of Jesus’ amazing love to be part of what eventually influences them to become a Christian and commit their lives to Jesus!. We provide them with the opportunities to begin following Jesus as their Savior!

Prepare yourself for the Lord’s Supper by first examining your heart in prayer.

- 1. Ask God to reveal to you any hidden sin or anything that is displeasing to Him.**
 - Perhaps you’re holding bitterness or unforgiveness towards someone.
 - Perhaps there is a strained relationship.
 - When you ask God to reveal to you anything that is not right with Him, He will show it to you.
- 2. Then, before taking communion, confess your sin, receive forgiveness, (if possible restore broken relationships)**
- 3. Then receive The Lord’s Supper with a clean heart.**



Overview Of Baptism & Communion

One: Why should I be baptized?

- 1 - To follow Jesus' _____.
- 2 - Because Jesus _____ it.
- 3 - It _____ that I am really a Christ follower.

Two: What is the meaning of baptism?

- 1- It illustrates Christ's _____ and _____.
- 2- Baptism illustrates my new _____ as a Christ follower.

Three: Why should I be baptized by immersion?

- 1- Because _____ was baptized that way.
- 2- _____ baptism in the Bible was by immersion.
- 3- The word “baptize” means “_____ in water”.
- 4- It symbolizes a _____ and _____.

Four: Who should be baptized?

_____ person who is a true Christ follower.

The Lord's Supper is an object lesson that represents a great spiritual truth.

What is the Lord's Supper?

1. It is a _____ act.
2. It is a _____.
3. It is a _____.





How Is Crossroads Governed?

Serving In Unity

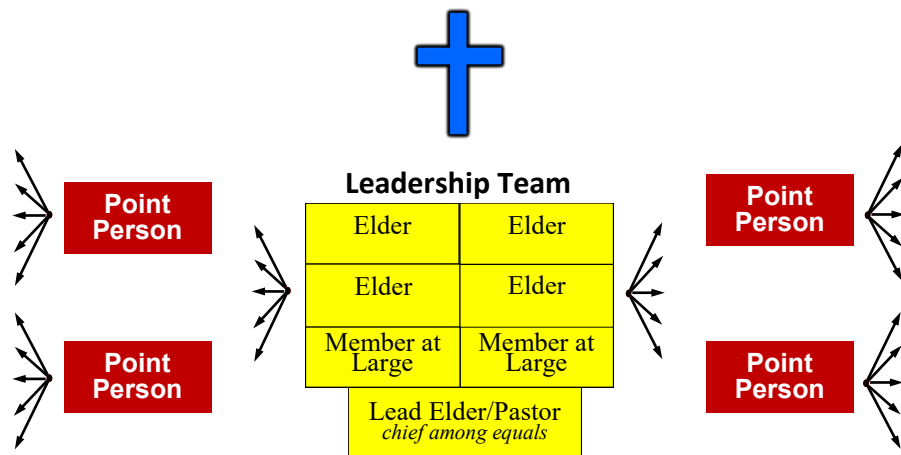
What makes Crossroads work smoothly is the humble, servant-like spirit of its leaders. Our leaders do not see it as their role to “lord it over” those in their charge, but desire to serve the body with their gifts and to build the Kingdom rather than an “empire.” All of our leaders will one day be required to give an accounting to the Lord for how sincerely and effectively they have followed the Lord’s direction for our church. For this reason, all our leaders humbly acknowledge their dependence upon the Lord to fulfill their leadership role. The members of the church sense this servanthood in action, and in turn esteem and respect those in leadership. Whether as a leader or a follower, everyone in the church is submitted to Jesus Christ, and we all consider others as more important than ourselves (Philippians 2:3). This spirit of cooperation and appreciation is one of the remarkable features of Crossroads and is one of God’s greatest blessings to our body. It is a fragile gift, however, and any person desiring to become a participating member should value and protect it.

Our Leadership Team is comprised of a majority of Elders. The Bible charges the Elders of a church with the responsibility of governing the body well. The role of “pastor” is an extension of the Biblical role of “elder.” To this end our pastors are Elders and are treated as such. The senior pastor is not in complete control, but is charged with the ultimate responsibility to lead the church in accordance with the teaching of the Bible and the direction of the Holy Spirit. To this end, the senior pastor is “chief among equals” among the Elders.

In every area of the ministry of Crossroads, the elders are responsible to be prayerfully in tune with God’s direction for our church. What they discern to be God’s direction, is the direction we go — as gladness and gratitude fill our servants’ hearts! We include members at large in the leadership process who are elected from within the membership, and who accept the spiritual responsibility and accountability that is part of Biblical leadership. Every member of the Leadership Team has a clear voice in the decision making process.

Our ministry has some areas that are overseen by a ministry Point Person. The Point Person is empowered to lead within their area according to their job description within the budget and guidelines the Leadership Team has established.

At Crossroads, ministry equals participation. Those who make the decisions about the nuts-and-bolts of a ministry are those who are involved in its operation. They come under the authority of the Elders and Leadership Team, but they are empowered to do ministry without being micro-managed so long as the process remains healthy. Whenever necessary, questions and discussions are brought to the Leadership Team or to the Elders. We like to affirm and trust the people who serve. We believe this is the way it should be!



Statement Of Faith

1. There is one God,⁽¹⁾ who is infinitely perfect,⁽²⁾ existing eternally in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.⁽³⁾

2. Jesus Christ is the true God and the true man.⁽⁴⁾ He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.⁽⁵⁾ He died upon the cross, the Just for the unjust,⁽⁶⁾ as a substitutionary sacrifice,⁽⁷⁾ and all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood.⁽⁸⁾ He arose from the dead according to the Scriptures.⁽⁹⁾ He is now at the right hand of Majesty on high as our great High Priest.⁽¹⁰⁾ He will come again to establish His kingdom, righteousness and peace.⁽¹¹⁾

3. The Holy Spirit is a divine person,⁽¹²⁾ sent to indwell, guide, teach, empower the believer,⁽¹³⁾ and convince the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment.⁽¹⁴⁾

4. The Old and New Testaments, inerrant as originally given, were verbally inspired by God and are a complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men. They constitute the divine and only rule of Christian faith and practice.⁽¹⁵⁾

5. Man was originally created in the image and likeness of God;⁽¹⁶⁾ he fell through disobedience, incurring thereby both physical and spiritual death. All men are born with a sinful nature,⁽¹⁷⁾ are separated from the life of God, and can be saved only through the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ.⁽¹⁸⁾ The portion of the unrepentant and unbelieving is existence forever in conscious torment;⁽¹⁹⁾ and that of the believer, in everlasting joy and bliss.⁽²⁰⁾

6. Salvation has been provided through Jesus Christ for all men; and those who repent and believe in Him are born again of the Holy Spirit, receive the gift of eternal life, and become the children of God.⁽²¹⁾

7. It is the will of God that each believer should be filled with the Holy Spirit and be sanctified wholly,⁽²²⁾ being separated from sin and the world and fully dedicated to the will of God, thereby receiving power for holy living and effective service.⁽²³⁾ This is both a crisis and a progressive experience wrought in the life of the believer subsequent to conversion.⁽²⁴⁾

8. Provision is made in the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus Christ for the healing of the mortal body.⁽²⁵⁾ Prayer for the sick and anointing with oil are taught in the Scriptures and are privileges for the Church in this present age.⁽²⁶⁾

9. The Church consists of all those who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, are redeemed through His blood, and are born again of the Holy Spirit. Christ is the Head of the Body, the Church,⁽²⁷⁾ which has been commissioned by Him to go into all the world as a witness, preaching the gospel to all nations.⁽²⁸⁾ The local church is a body of believers in Christ who are joined together for the worship of God, for edification through the Word of God, for prayer, fellowship, the proclamation of the gospel, and observance of the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.⁽²⁹⁾

10. There shall be a bodily resurrection of the just and of the unjust; for the former, a resurrection unto life;⁽³⁰⁾ for the latter, a resurrection unto judgment.⁽³¹⁾

11. The second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is imminent⁽³²⁾ and will be personal, visible, and premillennial.⁽³³⁾ This is the believer's blessed hope and is a vital truth which is an incentive to holy living and faithful service.⁽³⁴⁾

This Statement of Faith
may also be found at:

<http://www.cmalliance.org/about/beliefs>

^[1]Deuteronomy 6:4, ^[2]Matthew 5:48, ^[3]Matthew 28:19, ^[4]Philippians 2:6-11, ^[5]Luke 1:34-38, ^[6]1 Peter 3:18, ^[7]Hebrews 2:9, ^[8]Romans 5:9, ^[9]Acts 2:23-24, ^[10]Hebrews 8:1, ^[11]Matthew 26:64, ^[12]John 14:15-18, ^[13]John 16:13; Acts 1:8, ^[14]John 16:7-11, ^[15]2 Peter 1:20-21; 2 Timothy 3:15-16, ^[16]Genesis 1:27, ^[17]Romans 3:23, ^[18]1 Corinthians 15:20-23, ^[19]Revelation 21:8, ^[20]Revelation 21:1-4, ^[21]Titus 3:4-7, ^[22]1 Thessalonians 5:23, ^[23]Acts 1:8, ^[24]Romans 6:1-14, ^[25]Matthew 8:16-17, ^[26]James 5:13-16, ^[27]Ephesians 1:22-23, ^[28]Matthew 28:19-20, ^[29]Acts 2:41-47, ^[30]1 Corinthians 15:20-23, ^[31]John 5:28-29, ^[32]Hebrews 10:37, ^[33]Luke 21:27, ^[34]Titus 2:11-14





What Is A Missional Person?

Missional is a term we use to describe people who live for the mission God calls us to...

This mission leads us beyond ourselves.

Here's a brief written description of what we mean by being missional...
(the next few pages following this one will illustrate this for you visually)

1. Missional People know Christ as Lord, Savior, Forgiver, Leader

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12 (ESV)

2. Missional People are committed to the Biblical & missional values of the church family

3. Missional People understand & respect the needs & journey of pre-Christians

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:6 (ESV)



4. Missional People die to self

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20 (ESV)

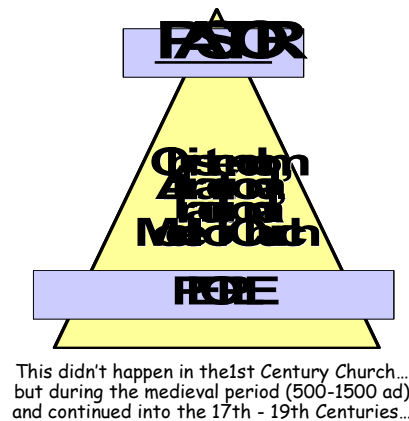
5. Missional People love and know pre-Christian people well enough to share life with them

6. Missional People prioritize their lives intentionally

7. Missional People utilize their gifts & abilities to serve others



TRADITIONAL VS MISSIONAL Models For Ministry

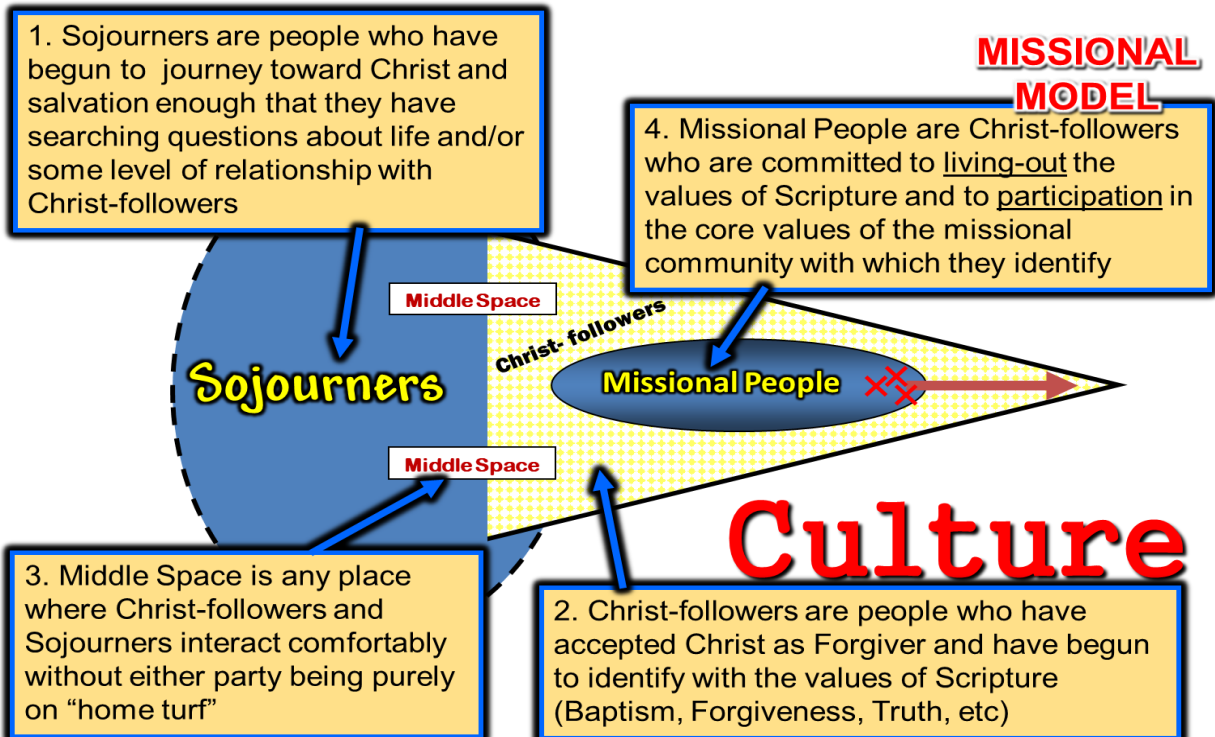
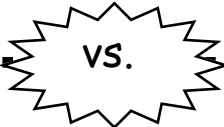


But the problem with this model is made evident by this verse from the Bible:

Matthew 5:13
 "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men."

...so we look instead at the missional model of doing church:

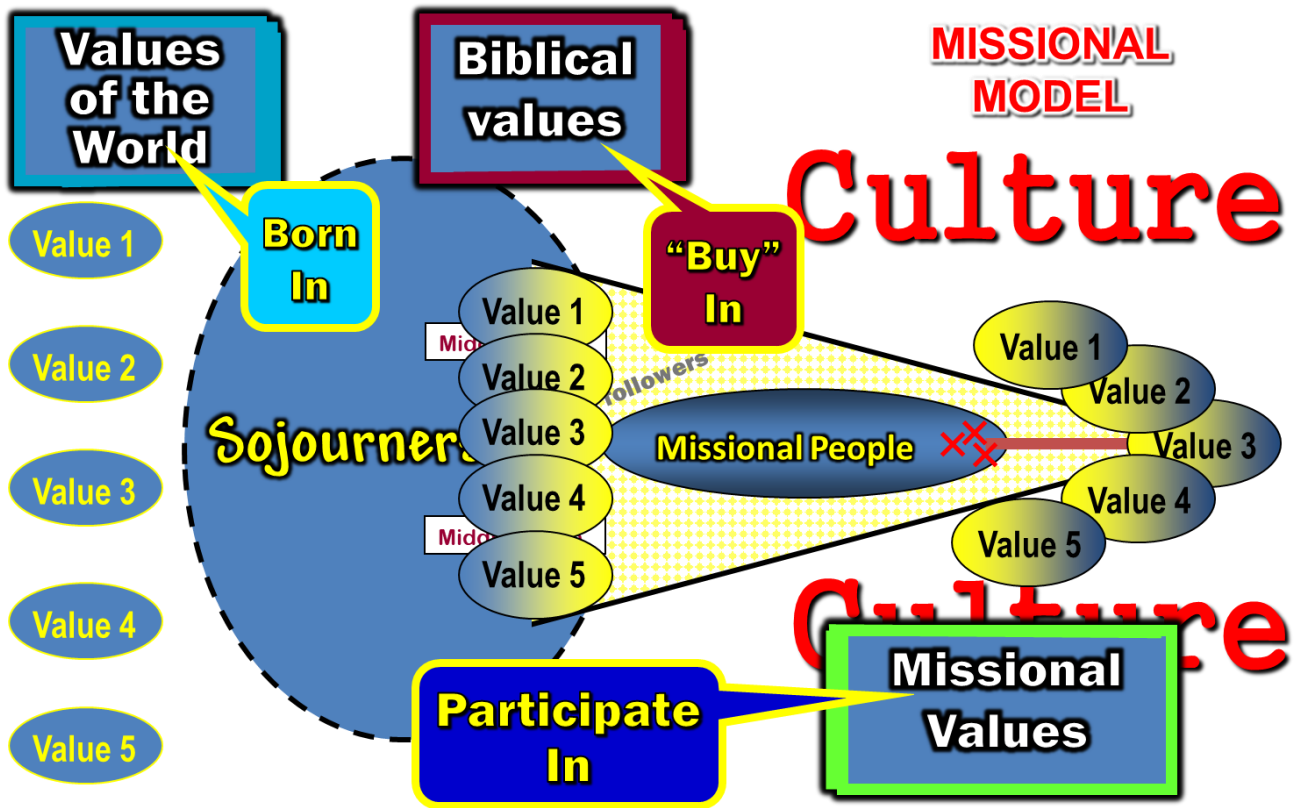
...describe the position of the triangle in this next diagram: (why is this significant?)



"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. Matthew 5:13 (ESV)



How Values Fit Into The Missional Model of Ministry



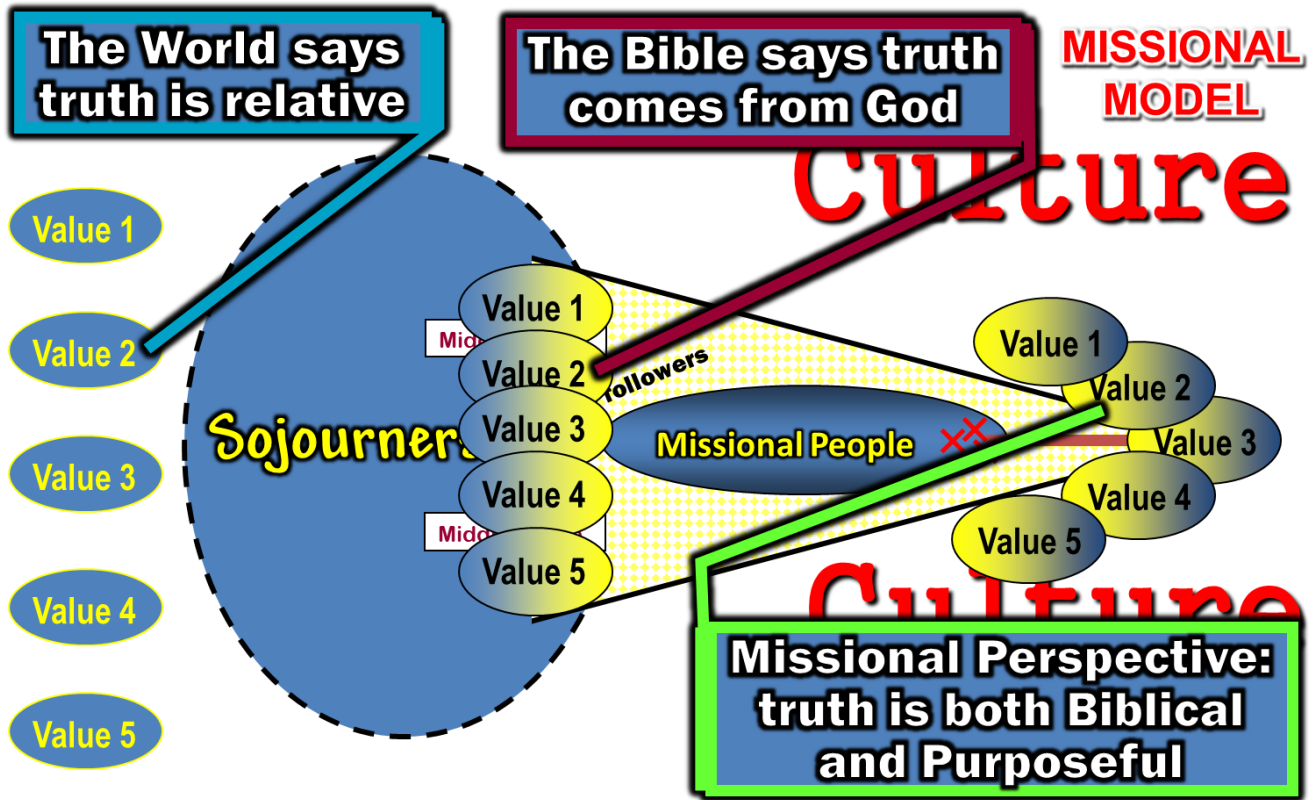
"Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. ¹⁴ For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.
Matthew 7:13-14 (ESV)





EXAMPLE: The Value of "Truth:"

Contrasting the way the world looks at values with Biblical & Missional Values...



*Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me."
John 14:6 (ESV)*

**The Real Issue Is:
Do We live-out the values we "say" we believe?**



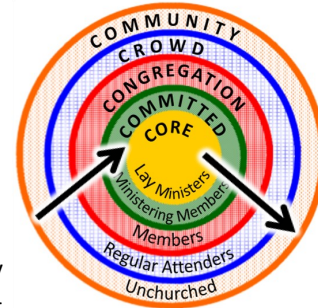


Levels of Commitment

As we see it there are basically five different types of targets, or levels of commitment toward the church. Think of them as circles within circles.

The outermost circle is called the _____.

This would be the city, or area in which we live.
This might be people who attend Crossroads occasionally.
Perhaps only a few times a year.



The next circle, inward, is the _____.

This would be people that consider themselves regular attenders at the Sunday gatherings. They might attend once to several times a month, and are beginning to recognize and appreciate the concept of Biblical and Missional Values.

The next circle would be called the _____.

These would be people committed to pursuing the path of membership. They would agree with our Statement of Faith, purpose, vision and direction, and recognize the importance of living their lives according to biblical and Missional Values.

The next circle, inward, would be the _____.

These are the people that are truly committed toward maturing in their faith in Christ and desiring to move towards full, active participation within the life of the church. They also desire to see God use them to share the love of Christ with others.

Finally, the very inner circle is the _____.

These are the lay leaders. Some examples of these people would be Small Group Leaders, and youth group leaders, Ministry Point Persons. This includes anyone who is leading a ministry or who is responsible for the operation of that ministry. This person incorporates mission into every aspect of their life and service with the church and in their family and community.

Our goal is to help move people from the outer rings to the inner. This means they are maturing, growing and developing into full, active participation in the life of the church body. The level and pace of commitment is completely up to the individual. We will never force anyone to do anything or move beyond what they want to. We try to demonstrate the joy of following Christ and cast vision for people to show them the direct personal benefits there are to being a fully active member of the Crossroads family.





Process Of Becoming A Member

TWO STAGES

The process of becoming a participating member has two stages:

1. Investigation —

The prospective member along with their life group leader, if they so desire, meets with one or more of the elders to share their story of how they became a Christ follower (testimony) and to share how and why they want to become a member of the church. The elders need to be sure that each new member understands the process of becoming a Christ-follower and of BE-ing a Participating Member.

The elder(s) will stress the importance of ongoing commitment to Life Groups and that each person’s membership is renewed annually on the basis of participation in the life of the church, specifically in Life Groups. The elder(s) will pray with and for the prospective member in the spirit of welcoming them into the membership of Crossroads!

2. Celebration —

New Participating Members are presented at a Sunday Worship Gathering so that our whole community can rejoice together.

Participating Membership is reaffirmed on the basis of faithful Life Group participation in which individuals grow spiritually and learn to serve according to their spiritual gifts. This is generally carried out in the final 3 months of the year.

Members who no longer participate in Life Group Ministry will be encouraged to reconnect with a group, and renew their commitment to growth. Those who no longer uphold the value of “Participating Membership” understand in advance that they detach themselves from the membership role.

This renewal process isn’t conducted in an arbitrary or inconsiderate manner. **Members face difficult life seasons where connection and participation are challenging... With patience and love they’d be encouraged to re-connect in some capacity. This process is not restricted by the end of the calendar year. When life is difficult, we need our connection with the body of Christ more than ever.** We want members to know they’re loved and appreciated regardless of their membership status, and that we’ll help them remain committed as members in any way we can.

Membership reaffirmation is an uplifting reminder of a SIGNIFICANT COMMITMENT that is valued by everyone who feels called to it by God!





Responsibilities of Membership

In a phrase, the main responsibility of every member of Crossroads is to participate in the life of the church by simply following Christ. We are to do as He would do, live as He would live. That which qualified you as a participating member—the Five G’s—is all that will ever be expected of you: live in Grace, commit to Growth, be in a Group, use your Gifts, and practice Good Stewardship. Its not very complicated.

Four Responsibilities

Another way to look at the requirements of membership is to break them down into the following four areas:

Responsibility #1—PERSONAL PURITY:

To bring to the church a submitted, Spirit-filled self.

Our connection with the Lord is the course of everything we have to give to others, and Jesus made it clear: “Apart from Me, you can do nothing” (John 15:5). A yielded heart is a powerful tool in God’s hands. When we become convinced that our own personal purity and spiritual maturity are the greatest gifts we can bring to each other, we will diligently seek God and submit to His Spirit daily.

Responsibility #2—RELATIONAL INTEGRITY:

To pursue honorable and loving relationships: in the family, among friends, coworkers and neighbors; and in the body.

It does no good to keep one part of our body healthy if we continually mistreat another. The unhealthy part can jeopardize the well-being (and even the very life) of the strong parts—a diseased liver will eventually stop even a healthy heart from beating. Our relational world is a lot like our physical body—we cannot afford to neglect any part of it and think it will have no adverse effect on other parts of our lives. Participating members take seriously Paul’s admonition: “So far as it is up to you, be at peace with all men” (Romans 12:18). We must pursue loving behavior with all people in our world, and reconciliation in strained relationships. Though there are times others will not allow us to make peace, we do what we can so that we can say with Paul, “For our proud confidence is this...that in holiness and godly sincerity...we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially toward you.” (2 Corinthians 1:12).

Responsibility #3—ORGANIZATIONAL LOYALTY:

To contribute to the church your time, talents, and treasure and to be responsive to the leadership God has established.

If someone is a participating member of Crossroads, that participation will be evident. Other than attending services passively, what does your calendar show about your connection to the church? Would someone watching you over the course of a typical week acknowledge you’re a “player” rather than a sideline observer? Is the church a place where you give or merely take? If everyone was involved with the same degree of passion and loyalty as you are, would this be a healthy church? Are leaders glad you’re on the team, or do you make their job harder?

continued on the next page





Responsibilities of Membership (con't)

Responsibility #4—INTERPERSONAL MATURITY:

To seek to serve more than to be served.

When Jesus washed His disciples’ feet, He not only wanted to show His love toward them... and He pointed out a profound implication of His actions...

When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, “Do you understand what I have done to you?”¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am.¹⁴ If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet.¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.¹⁶ Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.

John 13:12-16 (ESV)

Sometimes we fall into the regretful, almost infantile attitude of wanting “the church” to do more for us.

But WE are the church.

**If the church isn’t doing something,
WE’RE the ones not doing it,
and WE’RE the only ones who can make it different.**

Too often we slip into a consumer mentality—we “shop” for services we think are important. But we’re not the shoppers at a spiritual convenience store: we’re the proprietors here.

- **Stocking the shelves is OUR responsibility...**
- **“Meeting needs” is what WE do for others...**
- **In the process, we find out what Jesus meant when He said it is more blessed to give than to receive...**

***Washing feet...isn’t that the servant’s job?
No it was the Savior’s job.
And He told us it was our job as well.***





Privileges of Membership

Just as the key word “participating” describes the responsibilities of members, that word also implies that there are benefits. Specifically, being a participating member means:

1. You will have an opportunity to cast a vote to affirm the annual budget,
2. You will be given an opportunity to cast a vote to affirm the purchase of property,
3. When a new Sr. Pastor is hired you will be included in special meetings designed to understand the needs, interests and concerns of the congregation.
4. You will be a member of a family of committed Christ followers whose members have the privilege and opportunity to invest in each other.

**It is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment,
¹⁰ so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,
¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ,
to the glory and praise of God.**

Philippians 1:9-11 (ESV)

**We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as is right,
because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one
of you for one another is increasing.**

2 Thessalonians 1:3 (ESV)

- a) Participating members also receive priority for facility usage and staff member’s time (such as weddings, funerals, benevolence needs, personal support in your area of ministry, etc.).
- b) From time to time meetings or other functions are held which are for “members only.” These events are usually called to either inform the core of the church of a major concern or to garner input from the body. Therefore they are limited only to those who are participating members.
- c) Finally, most leadership positions in the church require participating membership as a prerequisite.
- d) The primary reason to become a participating member, however, is not to gain a personal advantage, but to identify ourselves with the characteristics, or marks, of biblical maturity. Since we’re all pursuing Christ, we ought to be pursuing these qualities as a way to be pleasing to Him—first and foremost.**





Financial Stewardship

Let's Look At What The Bible Says About Giving: First The Old Testament

Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High,¹⁹ and he blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth.²⁰ And blessed be God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand." Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything. [Genesis 14:18-20 \(NIV\)](#)

"A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD...³² The entire tithe of the herd and flock--every tenth animal that passes under the shepherd's rod--will be holy to the LORD. [Leviticus 27:30, 32 \(NIV\)](#)

Ever since the time of your forefathers you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says the LORD Almighty. "But you ask, 'How are we to return?'⁸ "Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings.⁹ You are under a curse--the whole nation of you--because you are robbing me.¹⁰ 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.¹¹ I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit," says the LORD Almighty.¹² "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the LORD Almighty. [Malachi 3:7-12 \(NIV\)](#)

What percentage is common to these passages? _____%

The Bible says everything is God's. This includes everything we own.
God required His people to give a tithe, 10%.

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it... [Psalm 24:1 \(NIV\)](#)

Now Let's Look At The New Testament. Do you think there will be a difference?

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.²² "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light.²³ But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!²⁴ "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes?²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?²⁷ Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?²⁸ "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin.²⁹ Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.³⁰ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?³¹ So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. [Matthew 6:19-34 \(NIV\)](#)





Financial Stewardship (con't)

Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?"¹⁷ "Why do you ask me about what is good?" Jesus replied. "There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments."¹⁸ "Which ones?" the man inquired. Jesus replied, "'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony,¹⁹ honor your father and mother,' and 'love your neighbor as yourself.'"²⁰ "All these I have kept," the young man said. "What do I still lack?"²¹ Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."²² When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.²³ Then Jesus said to his disciples, "I tell you the truth, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven.²⁴ Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."²⁵ When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and asked, "Who then can be saved?"²⁶ Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."²⁷ Peter answered him, "We have left everything to follow you! What then will there be for us?"²⁸ Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.²⁹ And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.³⁰ But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first. [Matthew 19:16-30 \(NIV\)](#)

As he looked up, Jesus saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury.² He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins.³ "I tell you the truth," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others."⁴ All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on." [Luke 21:1-4 \(NIV\)](#)

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had.³³ With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all.³⁴ There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales³⁵ and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.³⁶ Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement),³⁷ sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet. [Acts 4:32-37 \(NIV\)](#)

Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions.² So he called him in and asked him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.'³ "The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I'm not strong enough to dig, and I'm ashamed to beg--⁴ I know what I'll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.'⁵ "So he called in each one of his master's debtors. He asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?'⁶ "Eight hundred gallons of olive oil,' he replied. "The manager told him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred.'⁷ "Then he asked the second, 'And how much do you owe?' "A thousand bushels of wheat,' he replied. "He told him, 'Take your bill and make it eight hundred.'⁸ "The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light.⁹ I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.¹⁰ **"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much."**¹¹ **So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?¹² And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?¹³ "No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money."** [Luke 16:1-13 \(NIV\)](#)

In verses 10-13 Jesus gives the moral of this story. What is it?

Write answer here: _____





Financial Stewardship (con't)

In Old Testament times, God's people were required to contribute 10%, or tithes, of their income to God's work.

The New Testament seems rather silent on the actual tithes of 10%.

- Rather, the emphasis is on issues of the heart, faith and attitudes of ownership.
- It would also seem the relative silence of 10% and the emphasis on “total giving” in the New Testament would indicate that tithing is a beginners exercise, a minimum reference point that can be increased in proportion to one's income and growth in Christ.
- It's our understanding that 10% was such common knowledge and practice by early Christ-followers, that it didn't need mentioning.
- Rather, the above mentioned heart and faith attitudes were emphasized.

In comparison to today's emphasis on materialism and greed, this is a radical idea!

**Pastors and Elders at Crossroads are fully committed to, and practice, tithing!
As church leaders, we can do nothing less than embrace and model Biblical stewardship.**

**When you become a member at Crossroads, you will be committing that
the Biblical tithes represents either your current minimal level of
financial giving or as a goal to reach, or exceed, as God prospers.**

***Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down,
shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap.
For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”
Luke 6:38 (ESV)***

**Here are some other scriptures that can help you
prayerfully discern God's will in your life concerning money:**

Matthew 25:14-30, Luke 12:13-34 1 Thessalonians 4:11,12, 1 Timothy 5:8, 6:6-10, 6:17-19, Luke 6:38,
1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-15, James 2:14-18, 1 John 3:16-18, Galatians 6:6-10





Financial Stewardship (Summary)

Mature Christ followers give:

- _____ - They know Christ has given everything to them, and owns all they have.
- _____ - As we receive, we offer our "first fruits" back to God, honoring Him first.
- _____ - Claiming this church as their spiritual home, they support the ministries from which they personally benefit.
- _____ - As lead by the Holy Spirit, at times they give more than their tithe to meet special needs and support special causes.
- _____ - They give out of gratitude to God for His care for them, not under compulsion, but with an attitude of worship to God as their resources flow out to serve others
- _____ - They don't call attention to themselves or expect special favor or some advantage in the church. The true receiver of the offering is God.
- _____ - Counting on God's promise of provision, they anticipate seeing God use their gift and know He will work in their own life, including financially, as they give.





MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

Having received Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior, and being in agreement with Crossroads' statement of faith, and by-laws... I'm led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the Crossroads family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:

#1. I WILL PROTECT THE UNITY OF MY CHURCH FAMILY

- **By acting in love toward other members.**
"Live in complete harmony with each other, each with the attitude of Christ toward each other." **Romans 15:5**
"Have a sincere love for your fellow believers, love one another earnestly with all your hearts." **1 Peter 1:22**
- **By refusing to gossip.**
"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs." **Ephesians 4:29**
- **By following the leaders in light of Biblical standards.**
"Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be no advantage to you." **Hebrews 13:17**

#2. I WILL SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF MY CHURCH

- **By praying for its growth.**
"To the church...we always thank God for you and pray for you constantly." **1 Thessalonians 1:2**
- **By inviting the unchurched to attend.**
"Go out into the country...and urge anyone you find to come in, so that My house will be full." **Luke 14:23**
- **By warmly welcoming those who visit.**
"So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified." **Romans 15:7**

#3. I WILL SERVE IN THE MINISTRY OF MY CHURCH

- **By discovering my gifts and talents.**
"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." **1 Peter 4:10**
- **By having a willingness to learn, able to be equipped by my pastors to serve.**
"God gave some to be Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers, to equip God's people for works of service." **Ephesians 4:11,12**
- **By developing a servant's heart.**
"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as Jesus Christ...taking on the very nature of a servant." **Philippians 2:4,5,7**

#4. I WILL SUPPORT THE REPUTATION AND WORK OF MY CHURCH

- **By attending services and life groups faithfully.**
"Let us not give up the habit of meeting together ...but let us encourage one another." **Hebrews 10:25**
- **By living a godly life.**
"Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ." **Philippians 1:27**
"You are to abstain from...sexual immorality." **Acts 15:29**
- **By giving regularly according to the Biblical standard.**
"Each one of you, on the first day of each week, should set aside a specific sum of money in proportion to what you have earned and use it for the offering." **1 Corinthians 16:2**
"A tenth of all your produce is the Lord's, and it is holy." **Leviticus 27:30**

- **The Biblical tithe represents either my current minimal level of financial giving or is a goal to reach, or exceed, as God prospers.**
- **I have read and agree to adhere to the constitution and by-laws of Crossroads Church**
- **I agree to adhere to the Uniform Policy on Discipline, Restoration and Appeal, as found in the current edition of The Manual of The Christian and Missionary Alliance.**
- **(This policy and the by-laws are available at www.crossroads4u.net)**

Member Signature

Date

Pastor's Signature

Date



Answers for fill in the blank questions:

Page 17:

1. God made me to love me. Jeremiah 31:3 Ephesians 1:4,5
 2. We are created to experience a personal relationship with God. Genesis 1,2,3 John 10:14
- Knowing God produces many positive benefits in our lives.**
1. A Clear conscience - Romans 8:1
 2. Life and Peace - Romans 8:6
 3. The Spirit intercedes for us and helps us in our weakness - Romans 8:26
 4. God works for the good of those who love Him - Romans 8:28
 5. God is for us - Romans 8:31
 6. Awareness of the Freedom with have in Christ! - John 8:32,36
 7. Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ - Romans 8:39
 8. Power and confidence - Philippians 4:13

Page 18:

So What's The Big Problem?

We have a natural desire to be separated from God. The Bible calls this SIN.

Page 24:

One: Why should I be baptized?

- 1 - To follow Jesus' example.
- 2 - Because Jesus commanded it.
- 3 - It demonstrates that I am really a Christ follower.

Two: What is the meaning of baptism?

- 1- It illustrates Christ's burial and resurrection.
- 2- Baptism illustrates my new life as a Christ follower.

Three: Why should I be baptized by immersion?

- 1- Because Jesus was baptized that way.
- 2- Every baptism in the Bible was by immersion.
- 3- The word "baptism" means "to immerse" in water.
- 4- It symbolizes a burial and resurrection.

Four: Who should be baptized?

Every person who believes in Christ.

The Lord's Supper is an object lesson that represents a great spiritual truth.

What is the Lord's Supper? 1. It is a simple act. 2. It is a reminder. 3. It is a symbol.

Page 31:

community, crowd, congregation, committed, core

Page 36-37:

10% -no one can serve two masters

Page 39:

Thankfully, Immediately, Locally, Sacrificially, Gladly, Humbly, Obediently



"Journey Into Mission"



End of
Journey into Mission

Next Section
is the
Membership Application

Crossroads Church Membership Application

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We're thankful to the Lord that you've indicated a desire to be baptized and/or to formally join Crossroads fellowship. There is a bond of unity that exists among believers who worship Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.

Through baptism and church membership, we make public commitments to a local church (a Body of Believers) and to the Lord. This type of commitment strengthens and encourages the individual Christian and makes the church a stronger, more effective corporate Body for the Lord's use.

This application is helpful in allowing the Elders to know a little about you before you actually come in for the time of sharing your testimony with them. Remember, the elders are your friends and companions in ministry so there is no need to fear this time together. You can rest assured that your answers on this form will be treated with absolute confidentiality.

Ladies are welcome to request the presence of another woman at the meeting, if this would make the sharing time more comfortable.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Birthdate _____

Marital Status _____ Anniversary _____

Children:

Name _____ Age _____ Birthdate _____

Name _____ Age _____ Birthdate _____

Name _____ Age _____ Birthdate _____

Name _____ Age _____ Birthdate _____

Name _____ Age _____ Birthdate _____



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Page 2



1. How long have you lived in this area?
2. Where did you live before moving to this area?
3. Where were you born and raised?
4. In what churches have you held previous membership? Where are they located?
5. What is your occupation?
6. What hobbies or special interests appeal to you?
7. What else would you like to tell us about yourself?
8. Romans 3:23 says, *"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."*
Question: Do you acknowledge that you are a sinner?
9. Romans 6:23a says, *"For the wages of sin is death."*
Question: In what way does this verse say that God will deal with sin in your life?
10. I John 1:9 says, *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to purify us from all unrighteousness."* **Question: How does this verse instruct you to deal with sin in your life?**



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11. Romans 5:8 says, *“But God demonstrates His Own love for us in this: While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”*
Question: What does it mean that Christ died for you?

12. Romans 6:23 b says, *“But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”*
Question: Are you sure you’ve received the gift of eternal life by accepting Jesus Christ as your Lord & Savior?

13. Romans 10:9 & 13 says, *“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 everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord will be saved.”*

Question: Can you point to a specific time in your life when you received Jesus as your Savior? yes no

Please explain your understanding of how, when and why you believe Jesus became your Lord and Savior?

14. What changes have occurred in your life since you asked Jesus Christ to be your Savior, and what is the Lord doing in your life at this time?



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15. Have you been baptized since you asked Jesus Christ to be your Savior? yes no
- If so, when and by what mode?

- If not, are you willing to be baptized? yes no

16. We believe baptism is an outward ceremony which symbolizes the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. It's a sign that Jesus lives in your heart. It is not a means of salvation, but becomes a source of spiritual inspiration and strength as one is obedient to the Lord's command in Matthew 28:19, the Great Commission. Water baptism symbolizes the experience of being born again with Christ. It is also a public means of identifying oneself with others who also believe in Jesus. Baptism is a testimony to the world that you have chosen Jesus Christ as your Teacher, Leader, Forgiver and Lord.

Question: What does [or, what will] your experience of baptism mean to you?

17. Is there anything in your manner of living, habits or practices that might cause other people to call into question the validity of your Christian testimony? yes no *(see 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, 2 Corinthians 6:14-18, Galatians 5:13-26)*

If yes, please explain.

18. Are you now a member of any church? yes no
- If yes, please give name and address of that church.
 - If no, where did you last attend on a regular basis?



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19. Do you agree with the Doctrines and policies of the CMA?"

yes no

- What questions do you have about any portion of it?

20. Have you read the entire "Journey Into Mission" Booklet?

yes no

- Are you in agreement with the direction of Crossroads Church?
- Are you willing to participate in a Life Group?
- What questions do you have about the direction of Crossroads?

yes no

yes no

21. Have you shared in the Membership Class (Journey Into Mission)?

yes no

- If not, are you willing to?

yes no

22. Are you now a member of any oath bound secret society such as the Masonic Lodge or Eastern Star?

yes no

- If yes, which one(s):

23. Are there any interpersonal, business, or marriage relationships in your life which are broken toward which you have not, with the Lord's help, sought out every possible means of reconciliation?

yes no

- If so, please explain.



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24. Why do you want to join Crossroads?

25. What does church membership mean to you?

26. How do you expect to benefit from church membership?

27. When a person accepts Christ as his or her Savior, the Lord blesses that person with abilities and talents to equip them for service in the Church. These are called "spiritual gifts." We believe that each Christian has an on-going responsibility to utilize their spiritual gifts in one or more acts of service.

- Are you willing to serve consistently in the church according to your spiritual gifts? yes no
- In what ways might you see yourself serving within the church?

28. Membership in Crossroads Church implies an obligation to support the church by **FAITHFUL ATTENDANCE** and **REGULAR FINANCIAL SUPPORT** with the Biblical tithing being either your current minimal level of giving or the goal toward which you are moving. (*see Hebrews 10:23-25, 2 Corinthians 9:6-8*)

- Do you promise to support this church in these two ways? yes no



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29. I have read and agree to adhere to the constitution and by-laws of Crossroads Church.
(The constitution and by-laws is available at www.crossroads4u.net)

yes no

30. I agree to adhere to the Uniform Policy on Discipline, Restoration and Appeal, as found in the current edition of The Manual of The Christian and Missionary Alliance. This policy is available at www.crossroads4u.net)

yes no

31. Do you embrace the Crossroads Membership Covenant and will you sign it with your full intention of upholding it?

yes no



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