



TP nextsteps

WHAT YOU DO **NOW**

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NEXT STEPS

INTRODUCTION



The sole mission of Turning Point is so that people experience a relationship with Jesus Christ. We are a local church with a global vision. Our focus is on having a dynamic church that reaches out to the lost and hurting in our community, our nation and throughout the world with the love of Jesus Christ.

Our mission is to raise up men and women who possess an intense love for souls, who will live a disciplined life through consecration and moral purity, and who will go back into the world and impact new times with old truths.

The NextSteps Path exists to see your life's dream join together with the church's vision, allowing your God-given purpose to be fulfilled. We encourage you to take this journey with us as we begin to realize our worth, unwrap our gifts, and activate our purpose. Together we can arrive at our final destination, completing our journey and accomplishing our vision.

MISSION STATEMENT

SO THAT PEOPLE EXPERIENCE

A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST.

CORE VALUES

LIVE LIFE TOGETHER

NEVER HOLD BACK

BELIEVE THE BEST IN OTHERS

HONOR YESTERDAY, INSPIRE TOMORROW

STEP 1

FAITH

STEP 2

DNA

STEP 3

CONNECT

STEP 4

IMPACT

FAITH

INTRODUCTION



Our Hope For You

Step 1- Faith is the first of four steps on the NextSteps Path. The NextSteps Path is a four week path that will walk you through the beliefs, views and vision of Turning Point. We will also cover the DNA and culture of the church, allow you to become a member and get you plugged in to the various ministries offered here at the church.

Today at Step 1- Faith, our hope is to start you along your NextSteps Path in order to grow and learn about the church.

Now that you desire to further your walk with God here at Turning Point, we will discuss the beliefs of Turning Point and the Articles of Faith. The Articles of Faith are 13 points of biblical references that set the governing structure that we abide by as a church. These reference points not only guide Turning Point, but they also strengthen our faith and relationship in Christ Jesus as we do life together.

During this class , we will cover all 13 Articles of Faith and receive these specific teachings:

1. Understanding the Gospel of Jesus Christ- Article # 4
2. Word of Righteousness- Article # 5
3. Water Baptism- Article # 8

During Step 1 - FAITH, we will cover some steps that the church offers through Discipleship Ministry that will help you solidify your faith in Jesus Christ as you continue on this journey. The steps are:

1. Water Baptism
2. Small Groups

May you always be aware of God's presence on this journey!

ARTICLES OF

FAITH



Salvation through confession of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Acts 4:12; Romans 10:9-10; John 14:6

“Neither is there salvation in any other for there is none other under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved.” Acts 4:12

There is only one living and true God. There are three persons in the Godhead: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19; 1 John 5:7

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and Son and of the Holy Spirit...” Matthew 28:19

We believe the Holy Bible to be the inspired Word of God. 2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20-21

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.” 2 Timothy 3:16

We believe Jesus Christ, conceived of the Virgin Mary, is the only begotten Son of the Father. Jesus was crucified, buried and rose from the dead. He ascended to Heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor. Luke 1:34-35; Hebrews 7:25

“‘How will this be, Mary asked the angel, ‘since I am a virgin?’ The angel answered, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God...’” Luke 1:34-35

We believe we are justified (declared righteous under the blood of Jesus) when we repent of our sins and believe in Jesus Christ. Romans 5:1; Acts 13:38-39; 1

Corinthians 6:11; Mark 1:5

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Romans 5:1

We believe in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit with speaking in other tongues, as the spirit gives the utterance, to be the initial evidence of this experience. We believe in the operation of the nine Gifts of the Spirit and encourage our people to live so that these gifts may manifest in their lives. Acts 2:4; Acts 10:44-46; Acts 19:6; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

“And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” Acts 2:4

We believe in the freedom of worship with every form of expression being done in decency and in order, not drawing attention to oneself. We define order in our services as following the anointing of the Holy Spirit through the pastoral leadership on the stage. 1 Corinthians 14:33, 40

“For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.”
1 Corinthians 14:33

We believe in water baptism by immersion in water in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Matthew 3:11; John 14:6

“I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire.” Matthew 3:11

We believe in divine healing for the body. However, we encourage and do not condemn medical science. Acts 5:15-16; James 5:14-15

“In so much that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. There came also a multitude out of the cities roundabout unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed everyone.” Acts 5:15-16

We believe every blessing we receive from God comes through the merits of The Atonement (Jesus’ complete sacrifice for us on Calvary). Acts 1:11; Romans 5:11; James 1:16-17

“‘Men of Galilee,’ they said, ‘why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.’” Acts 1:11

We believe in the Second Coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Acts 1:10-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Revelation 1:7

“And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel...” Acts 1:10

We believe those who die outside of Christ will be punished in an eternal Hell, but those who die “in Him” shall share in His glory in Heaven forever. Daniel 12:2;

Matthew 25:46; John 5:29; Jude 1:7

“And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting contempt.” Daniel 12:2

We believe in the sacredness of marriage between one man and one woman and family commitment. We promote strong family values. Hebrews 13:4; Ephesians

5:31-33; Ephesians 6:1-4; Matthew 19:5; Leviticus 18:22; Genesis 2:24

“Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled; but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.” Hebrews 13:4

LESSON 1

GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST



FIVE CORE TRUTHS

Truth # 1: God is _____ and righteous.

Throughout the Bible there are several passages that talk about who God is.

"You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy." Leviticus 19:2

Not only is God holy but He is also a righteous Judge.

"Let the heavens declare His righteousness, For God Himself is Judge." Psalms 50:6

Truth # 2: Man is sinful and separated from _____.

The truth is that we have all messed up. We have all done things that have been displeasing to God. All of us have sinned, and it took only one sin to separate us from our God because He is holy.

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23

There is only one person who truly upholds God's standard of good.

"No one is good but One, that is, God." Matthew 19:17

Your sin has caused a separation from God. There is nothing you can do by your own ability or works that can change the fact that you have sinned and been separated from God. The Bible says you deserve to die because of your wrongdoing.

"For the wages of sin is death..." Romans 6:23

Truth # 3: God demonstrated His _____ for you through Jesus Christ.

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8

Jesus willfully shed His blood in order for you to be forgiven and cleansed. His sacrifice and death paid for all of your sins: past, present, and in the future. Jesus purchased with His blood an eternal way for you to have a continuing relationship with God the Father. Jesus dying on the cross forever settles the answer of how much God loves you and wants to be a Father to you.

“He was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.” Romans 4:25

Not only did Jesus die for your sins but three days later He also rose from the dead demonstrating God’s power to change your life and give you a new start. This is more than a fact; it is God’s declaration that He has provided a way to declare you no longer guilty but completely forgiven. And because Jesus rose from the dead, He now sits at the right hand of God as the King and Lord over all the earth.

“Christ died for our sins...He was buried...He was raised on the third day, according to the Scriptures...He appeared to Peter, then to the twelve (disciples). After that he appeared to more than five hundred others...” 1 Corinthians 15:3-6

Truth # 4: _____ is the only way to God.

This truth is the hardest one for many to accept today. There are no other “paths” or “ways” of salvation. Such beliefs are a lie. The resurrection of Jesus Christ provides us with an assurance that He is the only way. Understand that every other person who claims to speak for God or be a religious leader is still dead. But Jesus is alive and He is the only way to God.

“Jesus said to him, I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through me.” John 14:6

In another passage of Scripture, Peter boldly proclaimed:

“There is no other name given under heaven for man to be saved.” Acts 4:12

This is why it is so important that you understand that to simply be a religious person, believe in God, and do your best to serve Him is not what it means to be a Christian. It is impossible to be forgiven and in right standing with God without accepting God's son Jesus. Jesus is the way, the only way, to salvation for mankind. It was Jesus who died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins; it was Jesus that was raised by God in order for us to have a new life; and it is Jesus that we must accept and come into a relationship with if we are to truly become a Christian or follower of Christ.

Truth # 5: You must _____ Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

"But to as many who received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name." John 1:12

To repent means to change your mind or turn from something you previously believed or an act you previously performed. Such changes in your mindset and lifestyle come as a result of understanding how God has viewed your life.

Understand that God is Holy and that because of your wrong doing you deserve death and separation from Him as a punishment. You have lived in a way that God does not accept and as a result have been separated from Him. You must choose to turn from your former life of living how you wanted to. You must understand that there is no amount of work you can now do to bring yourself into a right relationship with God. You are not a good enough person to receive eternal life and therefore you need someone to save you from your condition and the punishment you deserve.

The second response after repentance is sincere faith.

“Testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.” Acts 20:21

So what is sincere faith? Sincere faith is placing confidence in God. Sincere faith is being assured that what God says concerning Jesus Christ is true; that He sent His Son Jesus to take your punishment for all the things you have done that were against God’s will for your life. Jesus was beaten, hung on a cross, died, and rose from the dead for you. This is great news! Regardless of what you have done God has made a way for you to depart from your condition of being separated from Him and come back into His loving arms.

“For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one may boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9

Sincere faith leads you to make a personal commitment and receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. This means that you will no longer live your life how you want to but will obey what Jesus Christ tells you to do. This is why God says, *“And Jesus died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.” 2 Corinthians 5:15.* You are choosing to invite Christ to come into your life as your Lord. You are giving Him your will, your life, and choosing to depart from your previous life of disobeying God’s will.

God instructs those who are willing to repent and place faith in Jesus to call upon Him (Jesus) to save them from their condition and the punishment they deserve and to confess Him as their Lord.

“That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes in Him will not be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” Romans 10:9-13

Salvation Prayer

“God, I acknowledge my sins to you. I know that I have sinned and need your grace. Thank you for loving me and extending salvation to me through your son Jesus Christ. I ask you to forgive me for my sins. I accept you as my Lord and Savior. I received the gift of salvation and I confess you as my Lord. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

LESSON 2

WORD OF RIGHTEOUSNESS



Introduction

“For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.” Hebrews 5:12-14

The writer of Hebrews is writing to a group of believers that have been Christians long enough that they should be able to teach others the basic (first) principles of Christianity.

However, not only were they unable to teach others but in fact needed someone to reteach them the first principles of the Scriptures.

Then the problem with the Hebrews is diagnosed:

1. They are still _____ in Christ
2. Therefore, they are in need of spiritual “milk” (beginner teachings)

The writer then informs us that everyone who is still a babe in Christ and in need of “milk” teachings is unskilled in the word of righteousness.

In order for you to grow from being a babe in Christ to the next stage of spiritual development you must understand and become experienced in the teaching of righteousness.

You must receive and understand the right teaching for this period in your life, which is the doctrine of righteousness, in order to grow spiritually.

RIGHTEOUSNESS

Righteousness- the ability to stand in a _____ acceptable before God being fully accepted, loved, free from fear, condemnation, and guilt. All this has now been made possible to all men through Jesus Christ. (Hebrews 10:19)

1. Righteousness is the right to have a relationship with God.
2. Righteousness is being in right standing before God.

In Romans 5, it states that when you received Christ as your Lord and Savior that you also were given _____ as a gift. (Romans 5:15-17) A gift is something you cannot earn or work for but something you freely receive.

God has given to us a gift the ability to stand acceptable before Him. You received this gift when you repented, placed faith in Christ, and confessed Him as your Lord.

Think about this:

1. You were a sinner, separated from God and not in a position acceptable before God.
2. You heard the gospel and responded by repenting, placing faith in Christ, and calling upon Him to save you and then God brought you into a position of righteousness.
 - Was it your behavior, your good works, or performance that moved you from being a sinner into this position of being righteous before God? No!
 - It was because of your faith in Christ that God freely gave you, as a gift, a position of righteousness.

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FATHER

Always remember that your relationship with the Father is based on the free gift of righteousness He made available through Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

You are _____ made righteous before God because of something you have accomplished or achieved. (Romans 4:5)

_____ in Christ, the Bible instructs us, is what God requires of those who want to be in a right relationship with Him. (Romans 5:1)

RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR EVERYDAY LIVING

“But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,” Romans 4:5

At no time during our life are we righteous before God because of our own works or deeds.

Being in a position of acceptance before Father God is never a matter of how much we have done - prayed that day, how many chapters we read in the Bible, how many people we told about Jesus, or how many church services we attended that week. (Phillipians 3:3-9)

We are only able to approach the throne of grace because of our trust in God's provision through the finished work of Christ. (Hebrews 10:19-22, Ephesians 2:13-18)

POSITION VS. BEHAVIOR

Often the difference between our position before God and the matter of our _____ gets confused. (Ephesians 1:3-6, James 4:1-10)

You must understand that this issue of righteousness has to do with your position before God and not with your behavior (good works or conduct).

1. These are two separate issues.
2. Not understanding this will keep you from growing spiritually and will affect how you view God the Father.

Your ability to stand in the Father's presence is always because of what Jesus has done for you and your trust in those facts.

WHAT ABOUT MY BEHAVIOR?

First, your behavior is of great importance as a follower of Jesus Christ. However, this importance is never connected to being righteous before God. (Galatians 2:16,21)

In 1 Peter 1:15 you are told to be _____ in all your conduct because the Lord who called you is Holy.

1. So as a child of God you are called to be holy.
2. You are to become holy in all your conduct.
 - In all your thoughts, in all your words, in all your actions
 - Becoming more holy in your conduct is a separate issue from you being righteous before God.

"Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is a sin." James 4:17

When you know you shouldn't do something or that you should do something and you do the opposite, you sin.

Sin affects our fellowship with Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. When you sin you grieve or push away the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 4:30)

Your behavior affects your _____ with Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

This is extremely important because it is only the presence of the Holy Spirit that can make you become more holy in your conduct. If you are resisting Him, then you are resisting the very one who can change you.

This also is very important because it is the Holy Spirit who makes you aware of the benefits of being righteous.

Some benefits of being righteous:

"The work of righteousness will be peace, and the effect of righteousness, quietness, confidence, and assurance forever." Isaiah 32:17

1. Assurance and confidence of being in right standing with God.
2. Quietness and rest in your heart and conscience.
3. Peace
4. Joy of your salvation. (Romans 10:17)

Therefore, when you sin deliberately you lose the awareness of or the ability to experience these benefits.

DEALING WITH SIN

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us of our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

When we sin we need to do what the Scripture instructs us to do. Use the gift of righteousness that God gave you and go before Him to confess the sin you just committed.

This is why God gave you righteousness as a gift. So that even on your worst day, or after you have messed up, you are still able to come before Him and He will accept you just the way you are.

1. So don't run from God but use the gift of righteousness to run to a loving heavenly Father and do what the Scripture says to do.
2. Confessing your sin simply means acknowledging that you were wrong.
3. If you confess, God's Word says He is faithful to forgive.
4. Know then, God will cleanse you from the wrongdoing.

This cleansing refers to removing the barrier between your intimacy with Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

1. When this happens, you will then eventually become aware again, or experience the benefits of being righteous.
2. Understand that even as you sin and confess, your position of righteousness is unchanged. You just lost the ability to be aware of, or experience and the benefits of being righteous.

Because of Jesus' finished work, even when we mess up we can come before God to repent, change our mind about what we did, and receive the forgiveness we have through the shed blood of Jesus Christ.

MAKE-UP OF MANKIND

As a human being, you are a spirit; your spirit lives in a body and has a soul which consists of your _____, _____, and _____.

You must understand that when you received Christ you received His Spirit.

1. And His Spirit came into the deepest part of your identity; He came into your spirit.
2. The Bible says that the moment His spirit came into your spirit you were born again or made alive.
 - You became regenerated or a new creation, a totally new person.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17

You became a new creation in your spirit.

1. The old you no longer exists.
2. Old things have passed and behold all things have become new.
3. And all of the new you is of God.

“And that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.” Ephesians 4:24

4. The new you has been created according to the image of God in true righteousness and holiness.
5. This happened instantaneously when you received Christ in your Spirit.

You still have the same body. You will receive a new body the day Christ returns.

You still have the same soul (mind,will, and emotions).

1. This is why you still act sometimes as if you are still the old you.
2. In the moment of temptation it is your soul that determines what you will do.
3. God did not instantaneously change your soul; He wants to change it through a process the Bible calls sanctification.
4. Your soul needs to be restored.
 - Your mind needs to be renewed. (Romans 12:1-2)
 - Your will needs to be converted (surrendered)
 - Your negative emotions (hurts) need to be healed.
5. This process is necessary in order for you to start demonstrating the person you have already become through the new birth!

UNDERSTANDING YOUR ROLE IN SPIRITUAL GROWTH

The “finished work of Christ” applies to every area of your life.

“According to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.” Ephesians 3:11-12

God has accomplished His eternal purpose through the finished work of Christ.

This means we must learn to _____ in what God has already accomplished through Christ for us.

As you rest you are to, through faith:

1. Grow in spiritual understanding. (Colossians 1:9-10)
 - You need to begin reading the letters of the Apostle Paul.
 - These were written to new creations and will help you understand your new identity in Christ.
2. Stay yielded to the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 4:30, 1 Thessalonians 5:19)
 - As you use the gift of righteousness and spend time in God's presence, the Holy Spirit will begin to point out areas in your soul or behavior that He desires to change
 - You must allow God to deal with that area in order to stay yielded.

Fulfilling all Righteousness

"Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. And John tried to prevent Him saying, 'I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?' But Jesus answered and said to him, 'Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.' Then he allowed Him." Matthew 3:13-15

This leads us to the third elementary teaching of Christ, Hebrews 6:1-2, the doctrine of baptisms, specifically water baptism.

WATER BAPTISM

As part of confessing Jesus Christ as Lord, He commands all those who choose to live for Him to be _____ baptized. Water baptism is publicly declaring Jesus is now your Lord and you have turned from the previous way of living. Water baptism should be your next step if you just accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. (Matthew 28:18-20)

The day you are water baptized you will be taught beforehand the significance and meaning of water baptism.

LESSON 3

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY



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

1. Bible study and prayer

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

2. Fellowship with other believers

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

3. Living a Spirit-led life

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

4. Giving of ourselves

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

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

HABIT ONE: BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER

"The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right. It is God's way of making us well prepared at every point, fully equipped to do good to everyone." 2 Timothy 3:16-17

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

HOW TO GET MORE FROM YOUR BIBLE

You must accept its authority.

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

1. Receive God's Word with an open heart.
"The earth is filled with your love, Lord; teach me your decrees." Psalm 119:64
2. Respond to God's word with obedience.
"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says." James 1:22

You must absorb its truths.

1. Hearing God's Word.
"Faith comes by hearing the word of God." Romans 10:17
2. Reading God's Word.
"Happy is the one who reads this book...and obeys what is written in it!" Revelation 1:3
3. Studying God's Word.
"They accepted the message eagerly and studied the Scriptures every day." Acts 17:11
4. Memorizing God's Word.
"Guard my words as your most precious possession. Write them down, and also keep them deep within your heart." Proverbs 7:2-3
5. Meditating on God's Word.
"Those who are always meditating on His Laws... are like trees along a river bank bearing fruit... they never wither and whatever they do prospers." Psalm 1:2-3

You must apply its principles.

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

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

TALKING WITH GOD

"Always be joyful. Never stop praying." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

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

In your daily prayer time, you are:

1. Giving devotion to God.

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

2. Getting direction from God.

"Show me the path where I should go, O Lord; point out the right road for me to walk. Lead me." Psalm 25:4-5

3. Growing in your relationship with God.

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

Use the model Jesus gave us.

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

This, then, is how you should pray:

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

1. Connect with God relationally.
"Our Father in heaven"
2. Run to His name.
"Hallowed be your name"
3. Pray His agenda first.
"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven"
4. Depend on Him for everything.
"Give us today our daily bread"
5. Keep your heart right with God and people.
"Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors"
6. Take your stand against the enemy.
"And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."
7. Have faith in God's ability.
"For yours in the kingdom and the power and the glory forever."

HABIT TWO: FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHER BELIEVERS

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

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

"They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." Acts 2:46-47

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

"You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house." Acts 20:20

How can our church grow larger yet maintain close relationships? Every member needs to be part of a TP Group.

Why are TP Groups important?

TP Groups provide opportunities for:

1. Bible study- We need people to strengthen and balance the Word of God in our lives.
2. Fellowship- We need people who really know us.
3. Prayer- We need people to pray for us personally.
4. Support- We need people who will protect us.
5. Outreach- We need people with whom we can share our story.

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

HABIT THREE: LIVING A SPIRIT-LED LIFE

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

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

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

Ruwach- a wind, breath, a violent exhalation, blast of breath.

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

Pneuma - a current of air, blast of breath, a strong breeze.

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

The Holy Spirit is a person.

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

The Third Person in the Trinity.

“But the helper, the Holy Spirit, whom “the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.” John 14:26

THE HOLY SPIRIT’S ROLE IN OUR LIVES

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

The Holy Spirit enables us to know God’s...

- Comfort
“And I will pray to the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever.” John 14:16
- Conviction
“But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are you going?’ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. “But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgement.” John 16:5-8

The Holy Spirit empowers us to live with Christ-like:

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

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

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

The Holy Spirit equips us with:

- Spiritual Gifts
“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit... Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he give them to each one, just as he determines.” 1 Corinthians 12:4-11
- Spiritual Direction

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

1. God's dream for your life.
2. Vision to see the next steps.
3. Biblical truths to effect an eternal result.

HOW TO LIVE A SPIRIT-LED LIFE:

Remove all barriers.

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

Request the gift of the Holy Spirit.

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

Receive Him by faith.

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

Relate to Him daily.

"The amazing grace of the Master, Jesus Christ, the extravagant love of God, the intimate friendship of the Holy Spirit, be with all of you." 2 Corinthians 13:14

Release your spiritual gifts with confidence.

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

HABIT FOUR: GIVING OF OURSELVES

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

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

AREAS OF GIVING

Give of our time.

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

Give of our treasure.

"If your gift is ... giving, give generously." Romans 12:8

"Yes, you should tithe, but do not neglect the more important things." Matthew 23:23

BENEFITS OF GIVING

Giving draws us closer to God.

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

Giving is the remedy to materialism.

"Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to be generous and willing to share. In this way they may take hold of the life that is truly life." 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Giving strengthens our faith.

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

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

Giving is an investment in eternity.

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

BIBLICAL GENEROSITY IS:

Willing

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

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

Cheerful

"...for God loves a cheerful giver!" 2 Corinthians 9:7b

Sacrificial

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

Expectant

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

"They gave themselves first to the Lord." 2 Corinthians 8:5

ESSENTIAL HABITS OF A HEALTHY BELIEVER

Personally and Corporately

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

"For when David had served God's purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep." Acts 13:36

Bible Study and Prayer: Follow along the reading plan on the TP App

Fellowship with Others: Find your TP Group

Living a Spirit-Led Life: Discover Your Purpose

Giving of Ourselves: Become a TP Dream Team Member

STEP 1

FAITH

STEP 2

DNA

STEP 3

CONNECT

STEP 4

IMPACT

DNA

INTRODUCTION



OUR HOPE FOR YOU

Today at STEP 2- DNA, our hope is to inform you of who God has called Turning Point to be as well as discover the God-given DNA He has placed inside of you.

MISSION STATEMENT

Inspiring people to live for Jesus

CORE VALUES

1. Never hold back
2. Live life together
3. Believe the best in others
4. Honor yesterday, inspire tomorrow

8 ATMOSPHERES

1. Godly Atmosphere- We honor God and His Word by living with integrity.
2. Grace Atmosphere- We believe the best about people and make forgiveness a priority.
3. Generous Atmosphere- We value others through giving.
4. Gathering Atmosphere- We are family and we do life together.
5. Generational Atmosphere- We honor those before us and inspire the ones behind us.
6. Growing Atmosphere- We build bigger people and teams with God's Word.
7. Guiding Atmosphere- We model healthy values to our community
8. Great Atmosphere- We serve God with excellence.

WISDOM

The gift of wisdom is the divine strength or ability to apply the truths of Scripture in a practical way, producing the fruitful outcome and character of Jesus Christ.

Acts 6:3,10; 1 Corinthians 2:6-13, 12:8

(TP Group Leaders, Altar Team)

PROPHECY

The gift of prophecy is the divine strength or ability to boldly speak and bring clarity to scriptural and doctrinal truth, in some cases foretelling God's plan.

Acts 2:37-40 7:51-53, 26:24-29; 1 Corinthians 14:1-4; 1 Thessalonians 1:5

(TP Group Leaders, Altar Team)

DISCERNMENT

The gift of discernment is the divine strength or ability to spiritually identify falsehood and to distinguish between right and wrong motives and situations.

Matthew 16:21-23; Acts 5:1-11, 16:16-18; 1 Corinthians 12:10; 1 John 4:1-6

(TP Kids Check-In, TPYouth Leadership Team, Altar Team)

EXHORTATION

The gift of exhortation is the divine strength or ability to encourage others through the written or spoken word and Biblical truth.

Acts 14:22; Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 4:13; Hebrews 10:24-25

(Greeters, Ushers, TP Group Leader, Worship Ministry)

PASTOR/ SHEPHERD

The gift of pastor/shepherd is the divine strength or ability to care for the personal needs of others by nurturing and mending life issues.

John 10:1-18; Ephesians 4:11-14; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; 1 Peter 5: 1-3

(TP Group Leader, TPKids Teacher, TPYouth Leadership Team)

FAITH

The gift of faith is the divine strength or ability to believe in God for unseen supernatural results in every arena of life.

Acts 11:22-24; Romans 4:18-21; 1 Corinthians 12:9; Hebrews 11

(All Teams)

EVANGELISM

The gift of evangelism is the divine strength or ability to help non-Christians take the necessary steps to becoming a born-again Christian.

Acts 8:5-6, 8:26-40, 14:21, 21:8; Ephesians 4:11-14

(Dream Team, TP Groups)

APOSTLESHIP

The gift of apostleship is the divine strength or ability to pioneer new churches and ministries through planting, overseeing, and training.

Acts 15:22-35; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Galatians 2:7-10; Ephesians 4:11-14

(TP Group Leader)

HELPS

The gift of helps is divine strength or ability to work in a supportive role for the accomplishment of tasks in Christian ministry.

Mark 15:40-41; Acts 9:36; Romans 16:1-2; 1 Corinthians 12:28

(Greeters, Ushers)

SERVICE

The gift of serving is the divine strength or ability to do small or great tasks in working for the overall good of the body of Christ.

Acts 6:1-7; Romans 12:7; Galatians 6:10; 1 Timothy 1:16-18; Titus 3:14

(Impact Team, Dream Team, TP Kids,)

MERCY

The gift of mercy is the divine strength or ability to feel empathy and to care to those who are hurting in any way.

Matthew 9:35-36; Mark 9:41; Romans 12:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:14

(TP Groups, Altar Team)

GIVING

The gift of giving is the divine strength or ability to produce wealth and to give by tithes and offering for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God on earth.

Mark 12: 41-44; Romans 12:8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-7, 9:2-7

(All Teams)

HOSPITALITY

The gift of hospitality is the divine strength or ability to create warm, welcome environments for others in places such as your home, office , or church.

Acts 16: 14-15; Romans 12:13, 16:23; Hebrews 13:1-2; 1 Peter 4:9

(TPYouth, Nursery, Usher, Greeter, TPKids)

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

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

Investigate your feelings:

1. Your gift may tie in directly with your temperament and personality. The same God who gives spiritual gifts also made up our total being.
2. Know your potential strength and weaknesses

Identify the opportunities:

1. Look for needs
2. Based upon your gifting find out where you can be useful
3. Do it

Inspect your results:

1. Your spiritual gift should work.
2. Gifted people get results. If you have the gift of healing, sick people will get well,

Invest a TPSmall Group or join a team!

MY DNA

What is my personality type and leadership style?

_____ (D, I, S, C)
_____ (People or Task Oriented)

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

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

Based upon the answers above, with what team or area do I need to connect?

CONNECT

INTRODUCTION



OUR HOPE FOR YOU

Today at STEP 3 - CONNECT, our hope is to make you aware of the importance of being connected to Jesus and the local church. In this class, we will cover all the possible connection points the church offers. You will have the opportunity to get plugged in by finding a place to serve, a group or ministry to join and complete Turning Point membership.

Being connected to the body of Christ is vital to your success in what you do. Below are three biblical perspectives of connection.

“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.” John 15:4-5

1. These words of Jesus Christ speak directly to your and me about our connection with Him. Being “In Christ” means that we are already connected to Him because He abides in us. We can do all things when we are connected to Him. Therefore, it is important to take the “NextStep” and get connected to the church so you can be used according to God’s plan for your life. Jesus qualifies you through His connection and you are able to give back to the church and those around you.

“For a good tree does not bear bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit.” Luke 6:43-44a

2. Here is some good news. A believer who is connected to God cannot bear bad fruit. Do not allow insecurity to prevent you from stepping into an area of service. It is God in you who will make an impact on those around you. As you stay connected to God, you will be used in powerful ways for God’s glory.

“For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free - and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. For in fact the body is not one member but many.” 1 Corinthians 12:12-14

3. In Christ, the body of the church has many members with different functions yet is one body. Therefore, if you choose to volunteer as a traffic team member, serve as a greeter or become a camera operator, each role is different but ultimately serves the same purpose - to live for Jesus and advance His Kingdom.

Being connected to Christ means we are connected to His Body, the Church, but we must make the intentional effort to emphasize that connection in our lives.

WHY

MEMBERSHIP



WHY JOIN

There are often misconceptions concerning church membership. Joining a church does not determine your salvation. Eternal life in heaven is only obtained through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6

Church membership may not be necessary for eternal life; however, it is biblical that you attend a local body of believers.

"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:25

We believe that church membership is vital for all believers. We believe that there are two memberships as Christians. There is the membership into the corporate body of Christ.

"Now you are the body of Christ and each one of you is a part of it" 1 Corinthians 12:27

There is also membership into the local church.

"And all the believers met together constantly and shared everything they had." Acts 2:44, Hebrews 13:17, Numbers 27:17

One of the most frequently asked questions in the church today is: "Why join the local church?"

The answer is twofold:

_____ : The Christian church is desperately lacking commitment by her people...commitment both to Christ and His Church (His Kingdom). This is reflected in the lack of tithing, ministry involvement and the practice of church hopping.

_____ : Jesus as the exalted head of the Body of Christ has delegated authority to pastors and local churches to shepherd (pastor) under Him. Therefore, it is imperative for every Christian to be a member of a local body under a spiritual covering and pastoral care.

CHURCH OVERSIGHT



DIVINE ORDER: God has a government in His Kingdom.

The authority to be the head of God's government has been given to Jesus (Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 2:6).

*"(Jesus says) all authority - all right of rule - in heaven and on earth has been given to me."
Matthew 28:18*

DIVINE ORDER: Kingdom authority on earth has been given to the church.

*"I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom... thou shall bind in heaven... and loose on earth"
Matthew 16:19*

"As thou has sent me...I also send them...(vs. 22) the glory which thou gavest me I have given them." John 17:18

GOD'S CHAIN OF COMMAND: The Church (Body of Christ)

*"...gave Him (Jesus) to be the head over the body...(vs. 23) His body, the fullness of Him"
Ephesians 1:22*

There is divine submission in the Body of Christ. Jesus is the Head and He has delegated authority to each member of His body as it has pleased Him.

Every person has a place of responsibility (John 3:27).

"...gave gifts unto men; Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers." Ephesians 4:8-11

"Now you (collectively) are Christ's body and (individually) you are members of it...(each with his own place and function)" 1 Corinthians 12:27

LOCAL CHURCH GOVERNMENT: Pastor's responsibility

"Let the Lord...set a man over the congregation" Numbers 27:16

Shepherd the flock of God (Jeremiah 23:1-4; Ephesians 4:12)

Take oversight (1 Peter 5:2; Acts 20:28)

Be the example (1 Peter 5:3)

LOCAL CHURCH GOVERNMENT: Congregation's responsibility

"That the congregation of the Lord be not as sheep which have no shepherd" Numbers 27:17

Work of the ministry (Ephesians 4:12)

Follow the example of those who have rule over them (Hebrews 13:7)

Edify itself in Love (Ephesians 4:16; 1 Corinthians 12:7, 14:12)

Obey and submit (Hebrews 13:17)

Church services are to remain sacred and not intended for solicitation.

Note: Obedience and submission are commands to each and every believer.
(Ephesians 5:21)

OUR/YOUR

COMMITMENT



Our Commitment to _____...

Preach the Word of God in an uncompromised manner.
Provide dynamic worship services.
Provide the prayers and covering of this ministry.
Minister to you and your family during times of need.
Pursue excellence in ministry.
Provide hospital and funeral visits.
Provide spiritual counseling and prayer when needed.
Give you an opportunity for your gifts to be used for service.
Offer TP Groups for building the family at Turning Point.

Your Commitment to _____...

We trust that your decision to join Turning Point in membership was made with considerable thought, prayer and prompting by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore, if you make a future decision to end your membership with Turning Point, we request that you contact the church office. You will become a part of our church family and we will bless you the day you join. We want you to stay, but we also want the opportunity to bless you if it becomes necessary for you to leave.

If we can be of any assistance to you please let us know. We are here to serve you. Thank you for joining with us. Together we can accomplish great things for the Kingdom of God.

IMPACT

INTRO



OUR HOPE FOR YOU

Today at STEP 4 - IMPACT, our hope is to highlight the impact each of you are currently making for the Kingdom today. We will also provide clear NextSteps with details and training as you move onto a team to make an impact here at Turning Point.

As we launch you out into serving and joining our teams, we want you to know how valued you are by the church from a biblical standpoint.

“Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown.”

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

Everything that you will ever do with the church does not go unseen by God. The Lord knows of the service that is being done on behalf of the Kingdom. Therefore, as you serve, do so with all of your might. Don't quit, don't give up and if you have to exit, do so in the correct way. There is a prize. You may not see it, but we do not strive to do good before men, but for God because He is the rewarder.

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which 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

You are very valuable to God. Your worth to Him was so great that He gave up His best, His only Son, for you. As you serve and give back, know that God sees value in you doing so. Yes, even you. You are precious in His sight and He loves that you are giving back to His people.

TURNING POINT
PARTNERS



AS A TURNING POINT PARTNER, WE ARE CALLED TO...

1. Connect with new people - people matter to God, so they matter to us.

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

2. Build relationships with our teams - real life change happens... real leaders are developed...when we take a step towards intentional relationships.

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

3. Empower each other - we are a people of purpose, working together on purpose

"He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ." Colossians 1:28

4. Celebrate the wins - there is nothing more powerful than a life changed by Christ.

"In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." Luke 15:10

Thank You!

We are so excited that you have decided to become a Turning Point Partner. We cannot wait to see all that God does in and through you in this next season of your life!

Fill In The Blank Answers:

Lesson 1

**Holy
God
Love
Jesus
Receive**

Lesson 2

**Babes
Position
Righteousness
Never
Faith
Behavior
Holy
Fellowship
Mind
Will
Emotions
Rest
Water**

Why Membership?

**Commitment
Covering**

Commitment

**You
Us**

CONTACT INFORMATION:

We, the leadership of Turning Point Worship Center, want you to know that we have an open door policy. There are many ways to get in contact with the staff at the church. The following are those ways:

In Person: Our office hours are Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm (Lunch break 12-1)

Phone: 912-530-7228 (Will give you the option to speak with any staff member)

Email: Office@turningpoint.cc