



HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*For those interested in being baptized or having your child baptized, you will need to attend a Baptism Seminar. This seminar is held at 11:15 a.m. on Sunday morning at Hope the week of Session Six.

SESSION
ONE

Introducing Hope & New Members Series

The Goal of our time together is to help bring individuals to a fuller understanding of the meaning of Christian commitment and church membership while experiencing warm fellowship together. Our format is that of informal group discussion. Because each participant's presence and thoughts are vital to all the others, you are urged and expected to attend all the sessions unless out of town or ill. Missing any session other than **Session One** may require that you begin again with another group.

The following is a broad outline of what we will cover:

Introduction

- Of each other - getting to know other members of the group.
- Of the series - what we will do.

A time to begin to collect our thoughts

- And a visit from an inquisitive agnostic

A look at God and ourselves

- God - who is He, and what is He like?
- Us - who are we, and what have we done?

Jesus Christ, You and the Gospel

- Jesus - who is He and what has He done?
- You - what can He do for you?
- God's provision and assurance of salvation for believers.
- The nature of Christian commitment.

Once a Christian...then what?

- Growing and bearing fruit in our relationship with God and in the Body of Christ.
- Hope's commitment to Urban and Global Missions
- Living out your "S.H.A.P.E."
- Getting involved at Hope Presbyterian Church.
- How our church is organized, and how it works.

Additionally, we want to try to deal with areas of particular concern to you - about our faith, what we believe, our denomination, and about Hope Presbyterian Church. If you have a question at any time during our time together, feel free to raise your question publicly or privately!

Sharing the Good News with a Friend

Grace

1. Heaven (eternal life with God) is a free gift.
 - Romans 6:23 - *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*
2. It is not earned or deserved.
 - Ephesians 2:8-9 - *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast.*

"This can be understood more clearly when we see what the Bible says about..."

Man (Humankind)

1. We are sinners.
 - Romans 3:23 - *For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*
 - 1 John 1:8 – *If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.*
2. We cannot save ourselves.
 - Proverbs 14:12 - *There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.*
 - Titus 3:5 - *He (God) saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.*

"This comes into sharper focus when we understand what the Bible tells us about..."

God

1. God is merciful and doesn't want to punish us.
 - 2 Peter 3:9 - *The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.*
 - Jeremiah 31:3 - *I have loved you with an everlasting love.*
2. But God is just and must punish our sin.
 - Exodus 34:7 - *Yet He does not leave the guilty unpunished.*

"The Good News is that God has solved this problem in the person of Jesus Christ..."

Jesus Christ

1. Who He is - He is the infinite God-Man.
 - John 1:1, 14 - *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. The Word became flesh and lived for a while among us.*
2. What He did -
 - He lived a sinless life (resisting every temptation).
 - He died a sinner's death on the cross (satisfying God's justice).
 - He rose from the dead (demonstrating God's acceptance).
 - He died to pay the penalty for our sins and purchase a place in heaven for us, which He offers as a free gift (1 Peter 3:18).
 - "The Great Exchange" - 2 Cor. 5:21 - *God made him (Christ) who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

"The Bible teaches that we receive this gift by faith..."

Faith - Key to Heaven

1. What it is not – Superficial belief or mere head-knowledge.
 - James 2:19 - *You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that - and shudder.*
2. What it is – Repentance - Turning from sin and self-trust. Faith - Trusting in Jesus Christ alone for eternal life.
 - Romans 3:22 - *This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.*

Commitment

1. Does this make sense to you? Would you like to receive the gift of eternal life?
2. If so, turn from your sin and self-trust, and trust in Jesus Christ alone as Savior and Lord.
3. Seek to live for Christ in your thoughts, speech, and actions.
4. Seek out other Christians and a good church to help you grow in your relationship with Christ.
5. Be confident that if you believe (trust) in Jesus Christ, you have eternal life (John 6:47).

The Stones Cry Out: **Evidence from Archaeology**

Archaeology, a relative newcomer among the physical sciences, has provided exciting and dramatic confirmation of the Bible's accuracy. Whole books are not large enough to contain all the finds that have bolstered confidence in the historical reliability of the Bible. Presented here are some of the findings of eminent archaeologists and scholars along with their opinions regarding the implication of those finds.

"It may be stated categorically that no archaeological discovery has ever controverted a biblical reference." Nelson Glueck – renowned Jewish archaeologist

"The excessive skepticism shown toward the Bible by important historical schools of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, certain phases of which still appear periodically, has been progressively discredited. Discovery after discovery has established the accuracy of innumerable details and has brought increased recognition to the value of the Bible as a source of history."

William F. Albright - American biblical archaeologist and Middle Eastern scholar, noted especially for his excavations of biblical sites

"Archaeology has in many cases refuted the views of modern critics. It has shown in a number of instances that these views rest on false assumptions and unreal and artificial schemes of historical development. This is a real contribution, and not to be minimized."

Millar Burrows – Past Chairman of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Literatures at Yale

"Where the book of Luke has been suspected of inaccuracy, and accuracy has been vindicated by some inscriptional evidence, it may be legitimate to say that archaeology has confirmed the New Testament record."

F. F. Bruce - Rylands Professor of Biblical Criticism and Exegesis at the University of Manchester, England

"It is one of the most dramatic events chronicled in the Old Testament, but for generations scholars have debated whether the Israelites' assault on Jericho was fact or myth. Over the past three decades, the consensus has gone against the biblical version. But archaeologist Bryant Wood says that the city's walls could have come tumbling down at just the right time to match the biblical account. While that does not prove that the event happened, it does give plausibility to the Old Testament version. Wood, an ancient-pottery expert now at the University of Toronto, dates the pottery found at Jericho to 1400 B.C., which is the same time some scholars date Joshua's battle. A thick layer of soot at the site, which according to radioactive carbon-14 dating was laid down about 1400 B.C., supports the biblical idea that the city was burned, not simply conquered. Finally, Egyptian amulets found in Jericho graves can be dated to around 1400 B.C. as well. Says Wood: "It looks to me as though the biblical stories are correct,"

Michael Lemonick, "Score One for the Bible," *Time*, 5 March 1990, 59.

No book is as ancient, and at the same time, as convincingly accurate as the Bible.

Adapted from: Josh McDowell, *The New Evidence that Demands a Verdict*, (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1999), 61-63.
"Authority of the Bible" by Patrick Zukeran, Probe Ministries, 1991. (www.probe.org/docs/auth-bib.html)

Prophecies Concerning Jesus

His Birth

- Born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:22-23)
- Place - Bethlehem (Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:4-6)

Palm Sunday

- Entered Jerusalem on a donkey (Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:1-11)

His Death - Isaiah 53:3-9

- He was quiet at His trial (Isaiah 53:7; Matthew 26:63)
- He was buried in a rich man's grave (Isaiah 53:9; Matthew 27:57-60)
- He was crucified among evil men (Isaiah 53:9; Matthew 27:38)

David seems to look ahead to Jesus' death - Psalm 22

- "My God, why has thou forsaken me?" (Psalm 22:1; Mark 15:34)
- They pierced His hands and feet (Psalm 22:16; Luke 24:39)
- They threw dice for Jesus' clothes (Psalm 22:18; John 19:23-24)

To think about... Since all of these prophecies were written long before Christ was born, what does this say to you about the Bible?

SESSION
TWO

GOD & US

GOD is...

- _____
- _____
(kind, caring, compassionate)
- _____
(absolutely pure)
- _____
(perfectly righteous judge)

Genesis 1:27 "So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."

1 John 4:16 "And so we know and rely on the love God has for us."

1 Peter 1:16 "...for it is written: 'Be holy, because I am holy.'"

2 Thessalonians 1:6 "God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you and give relief to you who are troubled..."

God made us, and He wants to have a relationship with us.

US...

1. We were created _____.

Genesis 1:31 "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good."

Psalms 139:13-14 "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

2. We were created in _____.

Genesis 1:26-27

Then God said, "Let us make man in our own image, in our own likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

What this looks like: According to these Scriptures, what shared characteristics do we have with God?

- _____
- _____
- _____

Isaiah 1:18 “Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord...”

Luke 10:27 “Jesus answered: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and Love your neighbor as yourself.”

Romans 2: 14,15 – “When outsiders who have never heard of God's law follow it more or less by instinct, they confirm its truth by their obedience. They show that God's law is not something alien, imposed on us from without, but woven into the very fabric of our creation. There is something deep within them that echoes God's yes and no, right and wrong.”

3. God created us for a _____: to know, glorify (honor), and enjoy God.

Ephesians 2:10 – “For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

Revelation 4:10 – “You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.”

So what’s the problem...?

1. We _____ (sinned) against God. Genesis 3: The FALL

Romans 5:12 “Therefore, just as sin entered in the world through one man, and death through sin, in this way death came to all men, because all sinned.”

Isaiah 53:6 “We are the ones who strayed away like sheep! We, who left God's paths to follow our own.”

Who walked away from whom?

Romans 3:9-10, 23 "All men, both Jew and Greeks, are under the power of sin...None is righteous, no not one...For there is no distinction to be made anywhere: everyone has sinned, everyone falls short of the glory of God."

James 4:17 "Remember, too, that knowing what is right to do and then not doing it is sin."

2. We became _____.

SIN simply means _____ or _____ wrong or failing to do all that God wants. Sin can also be a _____ of ignoring or rejecting God. It is _____ our self at the expense of God.

We inherited a sin nature that leads us to want to operate apart from God.

How do we see the presence of sin in our everyday lives?

- In our society?
- In ourselves, our motivations?
- In our relationships?

3. We are spiritually _____ from God's presence and deserving of _____.

Isaiah 59:2 "Your iniquities (sins) have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you so that He does not hear."

Romans 6:23 "Sin *pays* its servants: the wage is death."

What is the meaning of "death" as the consequence of sin?

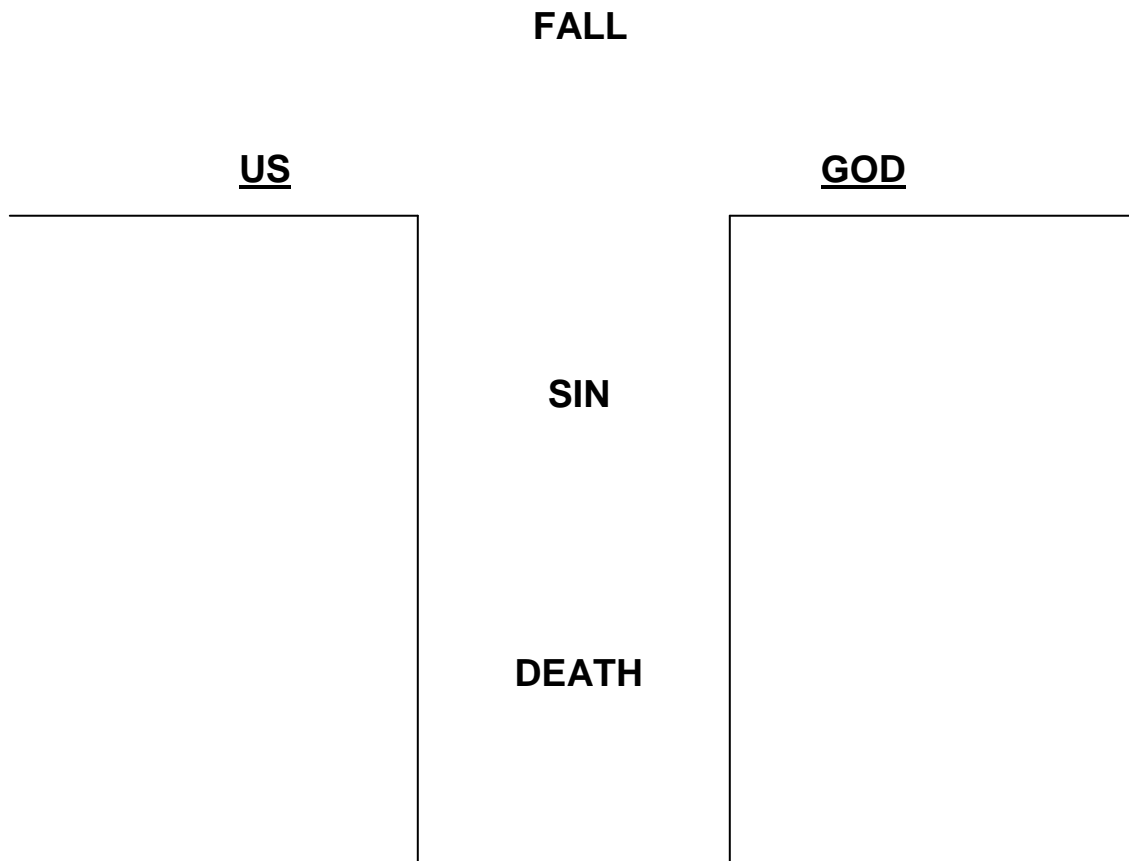
Why death? Doesn't that seem awfully harsh?

4. We are spiritually _____ (morally bankrupt).

Isaiah 64:6 "All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away."

Most people are aware of this separation and try to do things to get back to God, but it doesn't work. We are unable to undo what has happened.

What are some of the things people do to try to restore a relationship with God?



5. We are _____ and without _____.

Parable of the Lost Son (Part 1).

Jesus told this parable to a group of Pharisees and scribes who were grumbling about the kind of people Jesus was hanging around. Jesus is comparing two individuals in this parable, an older and a younger son.

Luke 15:11-16 *“By this time a lot of men and women of doubtful reputation were hanging around Jesus, listening intently. The Pharisees and religion scholars were not pleased, not at all pleased. They growled, “He takes in sinners and eats meals with them, treating them like old friends.” Their grumbling triggered this story.*

Then he (Jesus) said, “There was once a man who had two sons. The younger said to his father, ‘Father, I want right now what’s coming to me.’

“So the father divided the property between them. It wasn’t long before the younger son packed his bags and left for a distant country. There, undisciplined and dissipated, he wasted everything he had. After he had gone through all his money, there was a bad famine all through that country and he began to hurt. He signed on with a citizen there who assigned him to his fields to slop the pigs. He was so hungry he would have eaten the corncobs in the pig slop, but no one would give him any.”

1. What was the younger son thinking when he asked his father for his half?
2. Why was he leaving? What did he want?
3. Do you think he expected it to go the way it did?
4. What are the sins that this son committed?

Faith is born of need!

Jesus said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick...I came not to call the self righteous, but sinners." (Matthew 9:12, 13)

From what you know about what we have talked about, how many people are considered sick by God?

If you were not conscious of your sin, would you feel the need for a Savior? The Lost Son realized his sin and separation. How about you? Where are you with God?

- I never left home.
- I'm still enjoying my "freedom" from the father.
- I'm in the pigpen.
- I'm on my way back home.
- I've been accepted and forgiven by the father (God).

There is a solution – a cure for sin. We will talk more about that next week.

SESSION
THREE

CHRIST & YOU

CHRIST...

1. Christ is _____, who also became man.

John 1:1, 14 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning...The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

Philippians 2:6-7 "...Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness."

2. Christ died as our _____.

1 Peter 2:24 "He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed."

1 Peter 3:18 "For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God."

2 Corinthians 5:21 "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

"The Great Exchange" - Jesus took our sin and gave us His righteousness.

Why did Christ need to die? What did His death accomplish for us?

3. Christ offers His forgiveness as a _____ .

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

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

We don't deserve it, and we can't earn it.

The Parable of the Lost Son (Part 2)

Remember last week we left the lost son hungry and penniless in the pigpen. Well...

Luke 15:17-32 *"That brought him to his senses. He said, 'all those farmhands working for my father sit down to three meals a day, and here I am starving to death. I'm going back to my father. I'll say to him, 'Father, I've sinned against God, I've sinned before you; I don't deserve to be called your son. Take me on as a hired hand.'" He got right up and went home to his father.*

"When he was still a long way off, his father saw him. His heart pounding, he ran out, embraced him, and kissed him. The son started his speech: 'Father, I've sinned against God, I've sinned before you; I don't deserve to be called your son ever again.'

"But the father wasn't listening. He was calling to the servants, 'Quick. Bring a clean set of clothes and dress him. Put the family ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Then get a grain-fed heifer and roast it. We're going to feast! We're going to have a wonderful time! My son is here – given up for dead and now alive! Given up for lost and now found!' And they began to have a wonderful time.

"All this time his older son was out in the field. When the day's work was done he came in. As he approached the house, he heard the music and dancing. Calling over one of the houseboys, he asked what was going on. He told him, 'Your brother came home. Your father has ordered a feast – barbecued beef! – because he has him home safe and sound.'

"The older brother stalked off in an angry sulk and refused to join in. His father came out and tried to talk to him, but he wouldn't listen. The son said, 'Look how many years I've stayed here serving you, never giving you one moment of grief, but have you ever thrown a party for me and my friends? Then this son of yours who has thrown away your money on whores shows up and you go all out with a feast!'

"His father said, 'Son, you don't understand. You're with me all the time, and everything that is mine is yours – but this is a wonderful time, and we had to celebrate. This brother of yours was dead, and he's alive! He was lost, and he's found!'"

- A. What characteristics did the father display, that are similar to God as our Father?
- B. What was the younger son's attitude as he came toward his father's house? How had it changed?
- B. What was the older son's attitude? Are there some people who feel they deserve something from God?
- C. Which son appreciated his father's love the most? Why? Why wasn't the older son so appreciative?
- D. Which one of the sons could you most identify with and why?

FAITH: The _____ knew he didn't deserve it and couldn't earn it. He merely received the Father's love and acceptance. He _____ control.

**F
A
I
T
H**

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

WORKS: The _____ thought he deserved it and had earned it. He refused the Father's unconditional love and acceptance. He _____ in control.

WORKS: Trying to earn God's favor by performing _____.

Romans 3:20 "No one can justify himself before God by a perfect performance of the Law's demands - indeed it is the straight-edge of the Law that shows us how crooked we are."

Romans 3:28 "So it is that we are saved by faith in Christ and not by the good things we do."

Galatians 2:16 (TLB) "We Jewish Christians know very well that we cannot become right with God by obeying our Jewish laws, but only by faith in Jesus Christ to take away our sins. And so we, too, have trusted Jesus Christ that we might be accepted by God because of faith - and not because we have obeyed the Jewish laws. For no one will ever be saved by obeying them."

4. Christ offers to _____ us into His family and to be _____ of God.

Galatians 4:4-7 (TLB) "But when the right time came, the time God decided on, he sent his Son, born of a woman, born as a Jew, to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law so that he could adopt us as his very own sons. And because we are his sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, so now we can rightly speak of God as our dear Father. Now we are no longer slaves but God's own sons. And since we are his sons, *everything he has belongs to us*, for that is the way God planned."

YOU...

1. You and I must _____ our need.

Romans 3:9-10, 23 "All men, both Jew and Greeks, are under the power of sin...None is righteous, no not one...For there is no distinction to be made anywhere: everyone has sinned, everyone falls short of the glory of God."

2. You and I must _____ in faith (believe, trust).

John 3:16 Jesus said, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

John 6:47 "Truly, truly, I (Jesus) say to you, he who believes has eternal life."

How do we get it?

John 1:12 "Yet to all who receive him, to those who believe in his name, he gave the right to become children of God."

Revelation 3:20 "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me."

How much faith is needed?

Matthew 17:20 "If we have faith as a grain of mustard seed..."

How are we to respond to Christ?

- _____ (admit) your sin

1 John 1:8, 9 "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves...If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

- _____ (means: "to change your mind." To turn away from sinful thoughts, attitudes, and behaviors, and turn to Christ.)

Acts 17:30 "In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent."

Luke 13:5 Jesus speaking, "I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

Psalm 32:1-5 (Example of King David) "What happiness for those whose guilt has been forgiven! What joys when sins are covered over! What relief for those who have confessed their sins and God has cleared their record!"

"There was a time when I wouldn't admit what a sinner I was. But my dishonesty made me miserable and filled my days with frustration. All day and all night your hand was heavy on me. My strength evaporated like water on a sunny day until I finally admitted all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide them. I said to myself, "I will confess them to the Lord." And you forgave me. All my guilt is gone."

3. We must ask Christ to be our _____ and _____.

1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins to him, he can be depended on to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong."

1 Peter 3:15 "But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord (leader)."

4. The result is a spiritual _____ by the Holy Spirit, and the _____ given by the Holy Spirit to live out our God-given purpose.

2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old is gone, the new has come!"

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you received from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. Therefore honor God with your body."

Galatians 5:16 "So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature."

John 10:10 (NAS) Jesus said, "The thief comes only to steal, and kill, and destroy; I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly (a full and meaningful life)."

Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

5. The benefit is _____ of eternal life.

John 5:24 "I (Jesus) solemnly assure you that the man who hears what I have to say and believes in the one who has sent me has eternal life. He does not have to face judgment; he has already passed from death into life."

1 John 5:13 "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."

John 10:27-28 Jesus said, "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand."

Hebrews 13:5 "...God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.'"

Romans 8:38-39 "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Us

Hebrews 9:27
2 Thessalonians 1:8-9

John 14:6
1 Peter 3:18

God

1 Timothy 2:4-5
2 Peter 3:9

SIN

Romans 3:23
Isaiah 59:2

Our Response: 1 John 5:11-12
Revelation 3:20
John 10:9-10

SESSION
FOUR

Bearing Fruit...

The Goal of the Christian Life

What does God call us to do AFTER we trust in Him for our salvation? Do we simply wait until He Comes back for us? Or is there something in particular we should be doing?

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he told His disciples this story in order to illustrate what the Christian life was all about:

John 15:1-5

I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

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

What is Jesus talking about when he says "Fruit"?

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

Four Seasons in the Christian Life

(Based on Secrets of the Vine by Bruce Wilkinson)

1. _____ fruit. John 15:2
*He cuts off every branch in me that **bears no fruit.***

What are the characteristics of this season?

What does God do to those in this season? _____

How does that correspond with what you learned last week about grace?

“cuts off” = ἀρῶ = to lift up, to take away

What might that look like in our lives?

2. _____ fruit

John 15:3

*every branch that **does bear fruit***

He prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.

What are the characteristics of this season?

What does God do to move us beyond this season? _____

What might that look like in our lives?

3. _____ fruit

John 15:3-4

*...it will be **even more fruitful...***

Remain in me, and I will remain in you.

What are the characteristics of this season?

What can we do to move beyond this season? _____

What might that look like in our lives?

1. _____ fruit John 15:5
*If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear **much fruit**;*

What are the characteristics of this season?

A Biblical Mandate... To Serve the Poor and Oppressed

In September of 1988, Hope Presbyterian Church began its public ministry in the banquet hall of the Shelby Place Restaurant at the corner of Germantown Parkway and Walnut Grove Road. The church's stated purpose is the same today as it was in 1988. Hope is a church with a mission of outreach and discipleship to unchurched people in Cordova and adjacent communities. That vision for ministry has been Hope's heritage and will be Hope's future.

If that is the case, and if that is our call, why is there concern for ministry to the poor? Is Hope diluting its energy by devoting time and resources to a community many miles from our focus? If our roots and our vision and our passion lie in Cordova, why should we even consider turning our face in any other direction?

I believe that there is a distinct Biblical mandate to serve the poor and oppressed. It is commanded and modeled throughout Scripture. The mandate rings forth from the beginning. The Pentateuch is filled with admonitions to show compassion to the underclass (Exodus 22:21-27, Deuteronomy 23:15-16, and Deuteronomy 24:14-15). A beautiful expression of God's care for the poor is found in Deuteronomy 10:17-19:

For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the alien, giving him food and clothing. And you are to love those who are aliens, for you yourselves were aliens in Egypt. (NIV)

The prophets echoed this theme of compassion. The mandate comes from the very essence of the relationship between God and His people (Isaiah 41:17-20, Isaiah 42:5-7, Isaiah 58:6-12, and Isaiah 61:1-3). The Hebrew concept of "mispat", or justice, becomes a major theme of their work (Amos 5:22-24, Ezekiel 22:29, and Ezekiel 34:16). The prophet Jeremiah pens these words in Jeremiah 22:13-16:

"Woe to him who builds his palace by unrighteousness, his upper rooms by injustice, making his countrymen work for nothing, not paying them for their labor. He says, 'I will build myself a great palace with spacious upper rooms.' So he makes large windows in it, panels it with cedar and decorates it in red. Does it make you a king to have more and more cedar? Did not your father have food and drink? He did what was right and just, so all went well with him. He defended the cause of the poor and needy, and so all went well. Is that not what it means to know me?" declares the Lord. (NIV)

In the poetic books, the theme is repeated (Psalm 33:5, Psalm 36:6-9, Psalm 94:5-11, and Ecclesiastes 5:8). Of particular interest is Psalm 72. This royal psalm was prayed publicly for the reigning king. It served as a poignant reminder of his high calling:

Endow the king with your justice, O God, the royal son with your righteousness. He will judge your people in righteousness, your afflicted ones with justice. The mountains will bring prosperity to the people, the hills the fruit of righteousness. He will defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy; he will crush the oppressor. - Psalm 72:1-4. (NIV)

All kings will bow down to him and all nations will serve him. For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in his sight. -Psalm 72:11-14. (NIV)

As we move into the New Testament, I believe we see the clearest model of compassion to the poor and oppressed as we look at the life of Jesus Christ. Bishop Desmond Tutu writes, "He really scandalized them. He ate with the riffraff and the scum, those were the ones with whom he hobnobbed, because he had come to seek and to find the lost, and as a physician He was needed by those who were sick, not the whole (or those who thought they were whole and righteous)." Jesus healed the leper. He spoke with the despised. He dined with those who were outcasts. He reminded us that the poor were blessed and told us the story of a Samaritan traveler with compassion. Throughout His ministry he postured Himself with the poor. His words in Matthew 25:34-40 epitomize His theology toward the disenfranchised:

Then the King will say to those on his right, "Come, you who are blessed by my father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?" The King will reply, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." (NIV)

The epistles complete the mandate. The new church is encouraged to follow in the footsteps of the Master in compassion toward those who are less fortunate (Acts 2:43-47 and Acts 4:32-37). James delivers a call to action in James 2:14-17:

What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. (NIV)

We rejoice in a God who cares for the least of these. We bring to the poor not only physical sustenance but also the good news of spiritual regeneration. We all must understand our own spiritual poverty, apart from Christ who saves us. God has proven himself to be faithful and merciful to those on the ragged edge of life. So let us take courage and let us imitate God.

Global Outreach

Purpose Driven Mission

“and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” Acts 1:8 (NIV)

“defend the cause of the weak and the fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.” Psalm 82:3-4 (NIV)

The heart of the Global Outreach Team is driven by these two verses. Our strategic efforts are embodied in the **P.E.A.C.E. Plan**. The P.E.A.C.E. plan was established in order to come along side of what currently exists in order to create a locally mobilized contingency to directly address the 5 Evil Giants.¹ By focusing on *equipping* our volunteers and our in-country partners, the Global Outreach Team strives to contribute to communities and projects that foster re-creatable results rather than dependency.

Attacking the Global Giants thru the Global P.E.A.C.E. Plan

Global Giants	P.E.A.C.E. Plan
Spiritual Emptiness	Plant Churches
Lack of Servant Leaders	Equip Servant Leaders
Poverty	Assist the Poor
Disease	Care for the Sick
Illiteracy	Educate the Next Generation

A few facts ...

- 1.7 billion people in your world who have never had a chance to hear the gospel.
- 1.9 million pastors out of two million with little or no training.
- 3 billion people live on less than \$2.00 per day.
- 11 million children die annually because of preventable disease.
- 1 billion people in the world cannot read, write or do basic math.

*Excerpted from P.E.A.C.E. Manual

GO Volunteer Network

We are a volunteer-intensive organization. We have some of the most capable and competent volunteers in the world who give of their time, energy, creativity, gifts, resources and passions to help us GO.

GO Journey Mobilization Team

Work with this team to "Recruit, Build, and Launch" all of our P.E.A.C.E. GO Journeys.

GO Newsletter Team

Keep everyone in the GO family updated! This monthly newsletter team seeks to communicate current GO happenings.

Prayer Team

Pray for Hope missionaries, P.E.A.C.E. GO Journeys, volunteers, staff, current events and strategic initiatives.

Special Events Team

Like to plan and implement events? This team is for you! Work with others to make yearly events happen.

Missionary Care Team

Help meet the needs of missionaries around the world! Work with others to provide much needed support.

Small Business/Micro-Enterprise Teams

Are you an entrepreneur? Work with others to develop business plans and micro-loan programs for needy businesses overseas.

**For information on any of these teams please email global@hopepres.com
or Call 755-7721 X1024**

SESSION
FIVE

Toward a Better Understanding...

Presbyterians and Hope Presbyterian Church

Distinctives of Presbyterians

Church Government...

- *Presbyter* is the Greek word for Elder. Therefore *presbyterian* means *ruled by elders*.
- Not Hierarchical - Roman Catholic, Episcopalian, Methodist. Authority source is outside & above the local church.
- Not Congregational - Baptist, Independent Churches. Authority source is congregation itself.
- But *Connectional* - Presbyterian, Reformed Churches. Spiritual oversight and authority is the church *Session* (board of Elders) made up of lay-men and women, *ruling elders*, who are elected by the congregation, and *teaching elders* (ordained pastors) who are *called* by the congregation.
- Several times a year regional associations of elders and churches in the same denomination gather as a *presbytery*, which has responsibility for matters of common concern among the churches. Once a year, representatives from all the presbyteries gather for the main meeting of the denomination which is called the *General Assembly*.
- Many Presbyterian churches also have a board of *deacons*. Deacons are responsible for the caring ministry of the local church, and like other ministries serve under the authority of the *Session*.

Theology...

- Reformed Theology: Scripture is our sole authority, Saved by grace through faith in Christ alone, and Priesthood of all believers - every Christian is a minister.
- Inerrancy of Scripture
- Infant Baptism (*Baptism Seminar* next weekend)

Distinctives of our denomination: The Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC)

- See *Essentials* of the EPC in the Appendix or at website: www.epc.org.
- See *Distinctives* of the EPC in the Appendix or at website: www.epc.org.

Distinctives of Hope

1. Began as a Mission Church of Second Presbyterian Church. Second agreed to help plant Hope as a *daughter church* by...
 - Giving us core members
 - Guaranteeing the founding pastor's salary for three years
 - Providing initial dollars to help fund the ministry
 - This was not an ugly church split.
2. Hope is a church for ***unchurched*** people. We see this as our FIRST and MOST IMPORTANT priority!
 - The State of the Church Address – Craig's annual review of our values.
 - Hope is also a "Needs Oriented" Church, in that ministries grow out of members volunteering to take ownership in recognizing needs.
3. Hope is a church that is committed to fully utilizing the gifts of both men and women. Men and women actively serve as both deacons and elders at Hope Presbyterian Church.
4. Hope's unofficial motto: *A real place for real people and a real God.* It reflects our commitment to being real and making Hope a safe comfortable place for all sorts of people to approach God and experience His love and forgiveness.
5. The result of our commitment to teaching and living out grace is that *"We don't shoot our wounded."* We believe members are accountable to God's standards in ways the world is not.¹ But since Jesus never manipulated people into doing the truth without the heart change required to make it real, we don't want to manipulate by guilt. Rather we want to show the grace of the Christ, who accepts us where we are, and asks us to grow closer to Him and more like Him.

Hope Presbyterian Church exists to...

- Celebrate God's Presence...through worship sensitive to unchurched people.
- Communicate God's Word...through (a) evangelism/outreach focused on unchurched people and (b) teaching & preaching that is practical, positive and relational.
- Educate God's People...through relational discipleship in teaching settings and in Small Groups.
- Demonstrate God's Love...through a hands-on mission-oriented ministry.

¹ See "Moral Issues and Hope Membership" in Appendix – pp. 44 & 45.

Membership Has Its Privileges...

Four Requirements for Membership

1. *Commitment to Jesus Christ* as Lord and Savior and the Body of Christ by regular/faithful attendance.
2. *Commitment to praying* for the leadership of Hope Presbyterian Church.
3. *Commitment to involvement* in the life of the church outside the worship hour. *
4. *Commitment to regular giving* (totally confidential)
2 dominant biblical principles: Tithing (Malachi 3:8-10) & Cheerfulness (2 Corinthians 9:6ff)

Some of the Benefits of Membership...

1. DEACONS: All Hope member families have a deacon team who will call occasionally to see how you are doing. If you ever need help in any way, you can call your deacon.
2. LEADERSHIP: Another benefit is the opportunity to become a leader in ministry and to serve the family of Hope more significantly. You also have the privilege of voting in the election of church officers: Elders and Deacons.

****Finding a Good Fit at Hope -----
See Volunteer Ministry Opportunities
that follows the Appendix***

SESSION
SIX

Please complete and turn in your...

1. Membership Form
2. Ministry Opportunities Check List (Blue Sheet)
3. Financial Commitment Cards (Confidential)
4. "Your Feedback" Sheet

Telling your story...

How did you first come to understand what a personal relationship with Jesus Christ was all about?

When and how did your spiritual journey begin?

YOUR FEEDBACK

We would kindly appreciate your feedback concerning both the Membership Manual contents as well as the *Introducing Hope Series* experience.

What I appreciated about the *Introducing Hope* Manual:

What I would suggest before the next printing of the *Introducing Hope* Manual:

What I appreciated about the *Introducing Hope* Class:

What I would suggest when preparing for the next *Introducing Hope Series*:

Other Comments and Suggestions:

APPENDIX

How to Plan a Daily Quiet Time

One of the most encouraging results of the Introducing Hope Series is the spiritual encouragement which comes from focusing our lives on spiritual matters. This is a great time to make a renewed commitment to God and yourself to begin to spend time with Him daily.

This "Quiet Time" can be a daily means of growth and maturity in your Christian walk.

Are you willing to start with 10 minutes a day? You might say to God, "Lord, I want to make an appointment with you, starting tomorrow morning. When the alarm goes off I will roll out of bed and give you the first 10 minutes of my day. I'll call it my appointment with you!"

How to start? Find a quiet place, and there with your Bible enjoy a few minutes of solitude with God.

1 Minute: Invest the first minute preparing your heart. Thank him for a night's rest and the opportunities of a new day. "Lord, open my heart to the Scriptures. Make me alert, awaken my soul, and make me responsive to Your Word. Send your Holy Spirit to surround me with your presence."

5 Minutes: Now take five minutes to read the Bible. One of the Gospels is a good place to start. John's Gospel is a good book for getting to know the person of Christ. Read consecutively - verse after verse, chapter after chapter. Don't race, but avoid stopping to do a Bible study on some word, thought, or theological problem which presents it self. Read with a curious mind. Try a chapter or so at a time.

4 Minutes: After you have given God a chance to speak to you through His Word, you speak to him...through prayer. You have about four minutes left in which to talk to God. Remember, prayer is simply talking to God - nothing more - nothing less.

Use the following prayer guideline:

"A" doration - This is the purest kind of prayer. It is acknowledging who God is...His attributes...His characteristics...His mercy, love, goodness, power, and sovereignty. What is it about God you are learning?

"C" onfession - What is happening in your life which you need to confess to God? Have things happened recently to cause you to deny Christ? Are there relationships which need healing? Are there faults or weaknesses that need to be confessed? Talk to God about these things.

"T" hanksgiving - This is a time to express your gratitude to God. Think of specific things in your life for which to thank God: your family, your work in the marketplace, your church and your ministry responsibilities, even thank him for the hard experiences which are causing you to grow.

"S" upplication - Now is the time to "humbly make your petitions known to God." Think of the needs of others around you and talk to God on their behalf. Include friends, people with less, friends in distant places, and needs of the Faith Family. Think too, of your own needs and ask for God's guidance in your life.

Your time is up! But before you know it, ten minutes will turn to twenty minutes and then to thirty. Remember; don't become devoted to the habit...become devoted to the Savior. Covenant with God to make this "quiet time" a regular part of your life and experience the abundant life of which Christ speaks! Start today!

Moral Issues and Hope Membership

As you take a closer look at Hope Presbyterian Church, you may want to know how Hope handles difficult moral issues for those who are considering membership. The short answer is that we do it as honestly, helpfully, sensitively, confidentially, and graciously as we know how. Here's more for those who are interested.

Grace and truth

As we look at Jesus Christ, the Bible repeatedly uses two words to describe him—grace and truth.

*The Word [Jesus] became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of **grace and truth**.*

—John 1:14 NIV

*For the law was given through Moses; **grace and truth** came through Jesus Christ.*

—John 1:17 NIV

Jesus, as he walked on earth, was the embodiment of truth. He didn't pull any punches. He didn't *nice* his way into people's hearts. If something was wrong, immoral or dishonest, he said so. However, he expressed himself in a way that communicated grace to those who were open to his message. There was mercy, forgiveness and complete acceptance for those who were willing to believe and follow him.

People who struggled with moral issues flocked to Jesus; not so with the church today. Why? Perhaps because of our failure to express genuine God-like grace.

At Hope we find that one of our greatest challenges is to follow Jesus' lead by:

1. Shooting straight with people on moral issues, while
2. Speaking the truth in such a way that it's bathed in grace and expresses God's incredible love for them.

Tough issues

It goes without saying that we'll never do it perfectly, but here's how we deal with a couple of the most common moral issues that come to the forefront at Hope—sex outside of marriage and homosexuality.

Contrary to what we see all around us, the Bible makes it clear that sex was given by God to be celebrated within the context of marriage:

God wants you to live a pure life. Keep yourselves from sexual promiscuity. Learn to appreciate and give dignity to your body...

—1 Thessalonians 4:3-4 Msg

Honor your marriage and its vows, and be pure...

—Hebrews 13:4 LB

Those who follow Christ are also expected to step away from homosexuality:

...Don't fool yourselves. Those who live immoral lives, who are idol worshipers, adulterers or homosexuals—will have no share in his Kingdom. Neither will thieves or greedy people, drunkards, slanderers, or robbers. There was a time when some of you were just like that but now your sins are washed away, and you are set apart for God; and he has accepted you because of what the Lord Jesus Christ and the Spirit of our God have done for you.

—1 Corinthians 6:9-11 LB

God doesn't hold back with us on these issues. Sex was designed for marriage between a man and woman, not because God wants to limit our freedom, but because he loves us and wants us to have his best while avoiding the pain that eventually comes when sex is expressed outside of marriage. That's the short version of the truth¹; but what about the grace?

Notice that in the last passage we quoted, Paul was writing to those who had come out of some pretty shady lifestyles, including the very things we're talking about! Many had been thieves and robbers (felons!), idol worshipers, sex abusers, and drunks! As they turned to Jesus Christ, these people stepped away from their former ways of living. They weren't perfect, but they were totally forgiven and fully accepted by God—and by those in the church.

Applying grace and truth at Hope

At Hope, anyone, regardless of their beliefs or lifestyle is welcome. We want them to be here. We're a church for the unchurched. We're not asking anyone to clean up their act before coming to Hope. That's not what we're about. That's grace.

It's clear in Scripture, however, that when a person puts their faith in Jesus Christ and openly identifies with him, their faith is accompanied by a change in lifestyle. That's truth.

When a person becomes a member of Hope, they are saying, among other things, that they have put their faith in Christ and are redirecting their lives in a way that honors God. For this reason, we ask that those who are not yet ready to let go of a lifestyle clearly forbidden in Scripture, such as premarital sex, adultery or homosexuality, hold off on becoming a church member.

In the meantime, through counseling, support groups, or anything else within our reach, we'll do whatever we can to help them make a change. That's the best way we know to demonstrate both grace and truth.

Be assured that if you have a tough issue in your past or are taking steps now to overcome a problem, this will not prevent you from becoming a member of Hope. In fact, several of our church leaders have dealt with major difficulties.

If you have a tough moral issue you're dealing with, feel free to discuss it with one of our pastors. We promise to handle it sensitively, carefully, and with all the grace and truth we can muster.

Who We Are

Distinctives of the EPC

More about the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC - our denomination)

Distinctive: The EPC has set forth the basic content of the Christian faith which is essential to our beliefs in a statement called "The Essentials" which follows this document. With "The Essentials" as our reference point, the EPC permits latitude and differences of opinion on those matters not considered essential to be a Christian.

Distinctive: The Westminster Confession of Faith (in its modern language version) along with the Larger and Shorter Catechisms contains the system of doctrine to which the EPC adheres. The Westminster Confession of Faith is the system of doctrine that Presbyterian and Reformed churches have followed throughout history.

Distinctive: The EPC is fully Trinitarian - which is to say that we believe strongly in all three persons in the Godhead. As a consequence, there is a balanced emphasis on the person and work of the Holy Spirit. While affirming the priority of the fruit of the Spirit over the gifts of the Spirit in the Christian life, we also affirm that the gifts of God's Spirit are Biblically valid for today. While not Pentecostal, neither do we believe that the work of the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, should be ignored as some do or forbidden as others do.

Distinctive: Part of the genius of Presbyterianism has been the role of the Ruling Elder, the lay person, in the government of the church. When a denomination becomes "clergy dominated" it tends to lose touch with the grassroots of the church. To maintain that important balance, the EPC provides for each congregation to send two Ruling Elders for each minister to Presbytery and General Assembly.

Distinctive: The understanding of the role of women in the life of the church differs widely among the member churches of the EPC. Clearly, equally sincere Christians differ on their understanding of this issue. In the EPC, the decision to elect women as Ruling Elders or Deacons is left to the discretion of the local congregation. We believe that under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, God's people should be free to follow His leading on this important issue. Hope Presbyterian Church has women who serve in both of these important leadership roles.

Distinctive: The EPC recognizes that many things change over time. However, there are certain features of Presbyterianism that are unique and distinctive and should never change. To insure that such features are not the victims of time or circumstance, there is written into our Book of Government a section called "Limitations in perpetuity." Here are identified certain rights held in perpetuity by Christians, both individually and in congregations. These rights must always be guaranteed by the Church. These rights include the right of a local church to own property, elect their officers, etc.

Distinctive: The EPC spells out specifically the first duty of the Church. Our Book of Government reads, "The first duty of the Church is to evangelize by extending the Gospel both at home and abroad, leading others to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior." It makes clear that "good works" are not the Gospel, but the fruit of the Gospel. The statement concludes, "...the Church must never confuse its primary task of evangelism (the Gospel) with the fruit of faith (good works)." This affirmation settles for us a dispute that has caused much division in our day.

Distinctive: In our Book of Government, the EPC spells out rights reserved to a particular church in addition to those mentioned in limitations in perpetuity. The rights include the right of a particular church to own property as well as to withdraw from the EPC with its property if it so decides. It outlines other rights, such as the right to call its own pastor. This means no pastor can ever be placed over a congregation without its consent.

Distinctive: The EPC has no "per capita tax." We do not believe that one court of the Church has the right to put a "tax" with obligation on another lower court. The Presbytery or General Assembly may have a per member asking which is a voluntary contribution of the particular congregation to support the administrative and benevolence work of the Church. Gifts may always be designated.

Distinctive: The EPC occasionally speaks to issues facing our society through position papers which are initially set forth as "preliminary" and then submitted to the entire denomination for input and response. After further study, a final recommendation is made by a study committee to the General Assembly for approval. Currently, position papers exist on the subjects of the Holy Spirit, homosexuality, capital punishment, abortion, and the value of and respect for human life.

Distinctive: Perhaps the finest distinctive of all in the EPC is the spirit of love that characterizes our denomination. Our motto is "In Essentials, Unity; In Non-Essentials, Liberty; In all Things, Charity." While Reformed and Presbyterian, we believe these Distinctives set us apart as true both to our Biblical Christian faith and to our heritage. The EPC was formed out of a desire to be a Biblical denomination, not to be diverted by doctrinal arguments or socio-political issues. Our primary task remains to lift up the cross of Jesus to a lost and dying world.

The Essentials of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC)

***In Essentials.....Unity
In Non-Essentials.....Liberty
In All Things.....Charity***

All Scripture is self-attesting and being Truth, requires our unreserved submission in all areas of life. The infallible Word of God, the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, is a complete and unified witness to God's redemptive acts culminating in the incarnation of the Living Word, the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible, uniquely and fully inspired by the Holy Spirit, is the supreme and final authority on all matters on which it speaks.

On this sure foundation we affirm these additional Essentials of our faith...

We believe in one God, the sovereign Creator and Sustainer of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. To Him be all honor, glory and praise forever!

Jesus Christ, the living Word, became flesh through His miraculous conception by the Holy Spirit and His virgin birth. He who is true God became true man united in one Person forever. He died on the cross a sacrifice for our sins according to the Scriptures. On the third day He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, where, at the right hand of the Majesty on High, He now is our High Priest and Mediator.

The Holy Spirit has come to glorify Christ and to apply the saving work of Christ to our hearts. He convicts us of sin and draws us to the Savior. Indwelling our hearts, He gives new life to us, empowers and imparts gifts to us for service. He instructs and guides us into all truth and seals us for the day of redemption.

Being estranged from God and condemned by our sinfulness, our salvation is wholly dependent upon the work of God's free grace. God credits His righteousness to those who put their faith in Christ alone for their salvation and thereby justifies them in His sight. Only such as are born of the Holy Spirit and receive Jesus Christ become children of God and heirs of eternal life.

The true Church is composed of all persons who through saving faith in Jesus Christ and the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit are united together in the Body of Christ.

The Church finds her visible, yet imperfect, expression in local congregations where the Word of God is preached in its purity and the sacraments are administered in their integrity; where scriptural discipline is practiced, and where loving fellowship is maintained. For her perfecting, she awaits the return of her Lord.

Jesus Christ will come again to the earth - personally, visibly, and bodily - to judge the living and the dead, and to consummate history and the eternal plan of God. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." (Rev. 22:20)

The Lord Jesus Christ commands all believers to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world and to make disciples of all nations. Obedience to the Great Commission requires total commitment to "Him who loved us and gave Himself for us." He calls us to a life of self-denying love and service. "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." (Eph. 2:10)

These *Essentials* are set forth in greater detail in the *Westminster Confession of Faith*. To read the *Westminster Confession of Faith*, please access www.epc.org/about-the-epc/beliefs/westminster-confession/.

Please check out the EPC website: www.epc.org to read position papers dealing with specific social and theological issues, and to learn more about the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

CORE VALUES OF HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

- **We are committed to positively outrageous service**
- **We achieve the unexpected**
- **We do whatever it takes**
- **We sacrifice our wants for other's needs**
- **We are practical**
- **We cultivate a celebrative spirit**
- **We value the unchurched**
- **We show others that we are real people**
- **We don't shoot our wounded**
- **We strive for excellence**
- **We know it's all about teamwork**
- **We strive to do it right the first time**

Ten Common Objections To Christianity

1. How do you know that God exists?

Scientific research points to the order in the universe, and that it is precisely suited for human life. One of many examples of this is that even the slightest variation in the tilt of the earth's axis would result in our either freezing or burning up. This implies that a creative being (God) purposefully designed it.

Written history – both inside and outside the Bible (including Jewish, Roman, Greek, and other sources) – supports the miraculous events surrounding the life of Jesus. Examples include His fulfilling prophecies recorded hundreds of years earlier, performing miracles in broad daylight in front of both followers and detractors, and his ultimate miracle, rising from the dead three days after he was brutally put to death on a cross.

People's personal experiences with Christ also are evidence that God exists. Millions of people through the centuries have claimed that Jesus Christ has changed their lives. It is hard to account for these personal experiences in any other way than by pointing to him.

2. Don't all the religions basically teach the same things but just use different names for God?

When you look beneath the surface, you'll find out that there are major differences between the religions – even including contradictions about who God is. For example, some forms of Buddhism don't even teach that there is a god; Hinduism teaches that God exists and that everything is part of him; Christianity teaches that God exists, but that he is separate from all he has created. These are mutually exclusive definitions that cannot possibly be descriptive of the same God. In light of these contradictory views of God, not all religions can be true.

3. As long as, each person is genuinely sincere, what difference does it make what they believe?

The problem is that sincerely believing something doesn't make it true. You can be sincere, but sincerely wrong. For example, people who get on an airplane that later crash may have been sincere in their belief that they would have a safe flight, but their sincerity didn't prevent the plane from crashing. Our beliefs – no matter how deeply held – have no effect on reality.

4. Isn't it narrow-minded for Christians to think that they're right and everyone else is wrong?

It's not narrow-minded if you've look into it and found that Christianity proves itself trustworthy in ways that other religions and viewpoints do not. It is true that Christianity is exclusive, but when you think about it, all truth is exclusive. However, Christianity is also very inclusive. Anyone who desires to become a Christian by entrusting their life to Jesus Christ is able to do so. Christianity is exclusive because it is true. Christianity is inclusive because God accepts all who are willing to follow Christ.

Jesus did claim to be the exclusive way to heaven. Jesus boldly said in John 14:6, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." The question we are now faced with answering is; "Does Jesus have the credentials to support this claim?"

5. What credentials back up the claims of Christ and Christianity? Is there any good evidence to support it?

There are detailed prophecies written about Jesus hundreds of years before he was born. No ordinary person could fulfill these, but he fulfilled every one of them. (See **“Prophecies Concerning Jesus”** in Session 1)

There is other evidence, like his miracles, which have been documented...and his teachings. Jesus not only taught the highest moral standards, he also lived them. And he predicted that he would come back to life after he died on the cross...and he did it! (1 Corinthians 15:3-6).

6. What makes you so confident that the Bible is true? It has so many authors, so many translations, and was written over so many years – there must be mistakes!

Read the Bible and see for yourself. God might even speak to you through it. It is true that the Bible was written by over 40 different people, in three different languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek), over a time span of 4,000 years. But upon examination, you will see a consistency in its message from Genesis through the book of Revelation, from beginning to end. This in and of itself points to its divine origin. The reliability of the Bible is also strongly supported by history, geography, archaeology, and science.

It is also true that there are some apparent discrepancies in testimony among the different eyewitnesses. But this is because they wrote from their own perspective and purpose. The lack of “exact” agreement is not an indication of error, but rather of differing viewpoints and emphasis. For example, if two people witness a car accident from different positions, their testimony should reflect their difference perspectives in order to be credible. Also, upon comparing translations of the Bible, one would see that though different words are used, the essential meaning is consistent. If one were to compare the different translations to the oldest manuscripts (copies) of the Bible available, he would see that the reliability and trustworthiness of the Bible has been preserved through the centuries.

Finally, Jesus himself endorsed the Bible as the “Word of God” (Matthew 15:6).

7. If a loving and powerful God really exists, why doesn't he do something about all the evil in the world?

This is a difficult question that most people struggle with at times. It is important to realize though that not all evil is out there. There is evil in me and in you too. If God decided to get rid of all the evil, he'd have to destroy us as well. The existence of evil should lead us toward belief in God, not away from it. If there were no God, then there would be no standard of right and wrong. Those people, who actually believe that this is the case, are unable to consistently live it out. For as soon as they protest that someone has “wronged” them or that something is “unfair,” they betray their belief in no moral standards.

The Bible does say that God will one day judge all evil. But right now, he is patiently giving us an opportunity to turn to him and receive the forgiveness and life that he offers.

8. What about innocent people who suffer, like little children? Why doesn't God do something to help them?

This is a very important question to answer. We don't understand all the “whys” of what happens in the world, but we do affirm that God is in control and that he is there to help comfort us in our pain. The Bible is realistic about the condition of the world we live in. It is filled with suffering, hardship, evil, injustice, disease, etc. The Bible, however, doesn't just describe the problems of the world - it gives us a solution to these problems. Jesus Christ himself endured much suffering at the hands of evil men. He endured much suffering and even death on the cross unjustly because he knew very well the evil (sinful) condition of mankind. The very reason Jesus Christ came to earth and died upon the cross was to overcome evil and the suffering which results from it. The Bible does say that God will one day do away with all suffering. But for now He allows it and promises to be there to help us endure it.

Some people can even attest to the fact that God can and does use suffering to draw people into a closer relationship with himself. This is not to say God causes suffering or is the source of evil, but that he can use it

for good purposes. Perhaps instead of blaming God for suffering and evil, people should take a closer look at themselves to see who really is responsible for the evil and suffering in the world, namely us.

9. What about those who have never heard about Jesus Christ? What will happen to them?

It is quite legitimate to ask how God will judge those who have never heard of Christ. Frankly, we do not know how God will deal with those who have never heard the Gospel. But we do know five things that help us understand the issue.

- First, God is just. He will judge each person uniquely and fairly.
- Secondly, nobody is going to hell (a place of separation from God) because they haven't heard about Christ. Nobody will be eternally separated from God because of lack of knowledge or a low IQ. The only reason people are going to hell is because all life long they have told God that they can live just fine without him. G.K. Chesterton put it this way: "Hell is God's great compliment to the reality of human freedom and the dignity of human choice."
- Third, there will be many people in heaven who lived before Jesus who never heard his name. They did however, realize their need, trust the Lord, and seek to be obedient to his will.
- Next, the only reason anyone will be in heaven is because Jesus bled and died on the cross to pay the penalty for human disobedience, and rose from the dead.
- Finally, those who have heard about Christ will be held accountable for how they responded to him. To reject Christ is to reject God's offer of forgiveness and eternal life. To choose not to decide about Jesus is to reject him. God invites you to come to him, and receive his gift of forgiveness and eternal life in heaven through trusting in Jesus Christ.

10. If God cares about us and is so loving, how can he possibly send anyone to hell?

God is loving and merciful, and cares deeply about people. But he is also just, holy and morally perfect. We all stand guilty before God because we fall short of his perfection. God has mercifully provided a way to escape the condemnation we deserve. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to die for us.

The following illustration might help –

The story is told of a young woman who was caught speeding. She was brought before the judge who questioned her. "Did you break the law?" "Yes," she replied. The judge then slammed down his gavel and said, "Guilty as charged. The sentence is \$300 or 30 days in jail." The young lady began to cry because she was unable to pay the fine and did not want to go to jail.

The judge then did something amazing. He stood, took off his judicial robe, came down from his bench, walked past the young woman, took out his wallet and paid the bailiff the \$300 fine, which the woman owed. He then returned to his bench, put on his judicial robe back on, picked up the gavel and slammed it down and proclaimed, "Paid in full. You are free to go."

What would motivate a judge to do such a thing for a lawbreaker? This may seem amazing until we understand that the judge was the young woman's father. As a just judge, he was obligated to enforce the law. He would not have been just to let the crime go unpunished. Yet, as a loving father, he was free to pay the fine for his daughter and this he did.

God in very much the same way must punish the violation of his law to uphold his justice. If he were to let a crime go unpunished he would not be just. Yet as a loving heavenly Father, he was willing to pay the penalty we deserved. Christ is that payment. God in love gave His Son as payment for our sin (our violation of his just law). Jesus voluntarily died upon the cross, upheld the righteousness and justice of God and at the same time demonstrated his amazing love for us.

The questions we all need to answer are, "Will we receive God's gift of Jesus Christ or will we reject Him?" Will we accept Jesus' payment for our sins or will we try to pay the penalty on our own (resulting in death - separation from God, and hell)? The choice is ours.

For further study:

Basic Christianity, John R.W. Stott, IVP, 1971.

A classic summary of foundational Christian beliefs.

Give Me An Answer, Cliffe Knechtle, IVP, 1986, 165 pages.

A book of short answers to many tough questions about Christianity.

Know Why You Believe, Paul Little, IVP, 1988, 173 pages.

A classic book of more detailed responses to basic questions about God, Christ, the Bible, Science, Evil, and Suffering.

Mere Christianity, C.S. Lewis, Broadman & Holman.

A classic book written by a former agnostic. Presents logical and philosophical reasons for belief in the existence of God and the claims of Christianity.

More Than A Carpenter, Josh McDowell, Tyndale, 1977, 128 pages.

A short book dealing with questions about Jesus' deity and resurrection, and the reliability of the Bible. Written by a former skeptic.

Reason To Believe, R.C. Sproul, Zondervan, 1982.

The Case For Christ, Lee Strobel, Zondervan, 1998, 304 pages.

A detailed investigation into the person, work, and claims of Jesus Christ. Written by a former atheist.

The Case For Faith, Lee Strobel, Zondervan, 2000, 304 pages.

A detailed investigation into some of the most difficult and troublesome issues of Christianity. Issues like: What about the horrors in this world that seem to say a loving God doesn't exist? What about hell and unanswered prayers? What about evil—where does it come from if a good God oversees the world? If God is responsible for the church why has it been hypocritical and brutal through the ages? If God is moral then what about the slaughter of children in the Old Testament that he condones?

Answers To Fill-In-The-Blanks

Session 2:

Page 10 GOD is...

CREATOR
LOVING

HOLY
JUST

US...

1. GOOD
2. GOD'S IMAGE

Page 11

- REASON/RATIONALITY
- RELATIONAL
- MORAL

3. PURPOSE

So what's the problem...

1. REBELLED
2. SINFUL

Page 12

SIN simply means THINKINIG or DOING wrong or failing to do all that God wants. Sin can also be a SELFISH ATTITUDE of ignoring or rejecting God. It is EXALTING our self at the expense of God.

3. SEPARATED, DEATH

Page 13

4. HELPLESS

Page 14

5. LOST, HOPE

Membership Form

Full Name:							
Name You Wish to Be Called:							
Street Address:							
City and Zip:			Email:				
Home Phone:		Cell Phone:		Work Phone:			
Profession:		Place of Employment:					
Date of Birth:		Marital Status:					
Have you been baptized? (please circle) Yes No (If not, you will need to be.)							
Which service will you be attending when introduced? (please circle) Saturday at 5:30 PM or Sunday at 11:15 AM							
If married, financial pledge with spouse? (please circle) Yes No							
You must CHECK ONE of the following ways to be received into membership:							
	Profession of Faith: If you have just recently received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.						
	Reaffirmation of Faith: If you have <u>not</u> recently been an active member in another evangelical church.						
	Letter of Transfer: If you are coming to Hope from active membership in another evangelical church.						
If you checked the Letter of Transfer box, please give us contact information regarding this church so that we can obtain your letter of transfer:							
Church Name:		Phone: (If known)					
Address:			City		State		
Denomination:							
Children at Home (Only <u>one</u> parent needs to complete this portion!)							
Full Name		Name they are called		DOB	M/F	School Grade	Already Baptized?
							Y N
							Y N
							Y N
							Y N
							Y N
Membership Commitment (Please Sign)							
By the grace of God, I dedicate myself to membership at Hope Presbyterian Church and do sign this covenant in commitment to the four requirements for membership:							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior ➤ A commitment to praying for the leadership of Hope ➤ A commitment to ministry involvement in the life of the church outside the worship hour ➤ A commitment to regular giving to the church 							
Date _____				Signed _____			
For Office Use Only		Date Joined:		Date Presented:			

VOLUNTEER

MINISTRY

OPPORTUNITIES



Hi Folks,

One of the most meaningful aspects of being a follower of Christ is serving others. God has blessed us all with spiritual gifts and experiences that have shaped our lives for ministry. We are all unique individuals that have been called to serve in His ministry. We are His disciples.

We created this booklet to help you understand how God has wired you for ministry. Here you will have an opportunity to discover your **S.H.A.P.E.** (**S**piritual Gifts, **H**eart's Desire, **A**bilities, **P**ersonality and **E**xperiences). But it does not stop there!! We in turn have the computer capabilities to match your unique **S.H.A.P.E.** with the ministry opportunities that are best suited for you. We like to call it "Now What Ministries." Instead of just discovering your spiritual gifts and saying "So What?" we take it a step further. Here's how the process goes:

1. We will explain the **S.H.A.P.E.** process to you during Session 2.
2. You will need to turn in your **S.H.A.P.E.** profile (green sheet) at Session 3.
3. We collect those and run your **S.H.A.P.E.** analysis and ministry opportunity matches.
4. We give you your **S.H.A.P.E.** analysis results and Volunteer position matches back to you during Session 5.
5. You look over your results during that next week, fill out and turn in your Ministry Opportunities Check List (blue sheet) at Session 6 on page 95.
6. Should you have trouble deciding on a volunteer ministry or desire a more in-depth look into your **S.H.A.P.E.**, please let us know and we will help you.
7. Your selections to serve in ministry will be sent to the coordinator of the corresponding ministry and they will be in contact with you to assist you in getting plugged in.

Our goal at Hope is to have every member serving joyously, humbly and sacrificially in His service. We want you to be fulfilled spiritually in serving while in turn fulfilling a need in Christ's World. Know that we are here to support you. We have a Connecting Ministries Team for your guidance, direction and help through this process. They will also be contacting you by phone throughout the year to see how you are doing and to assist you in remaining connected to serving in ministry.

We hope this helps you discover the joy that comes from being called to serve in His name.

Blessings in Christ,

David Morris
Connecting Ministries Pastor
david@hopepres.com
755-7721 x1049

Donna Cash
Connecting Ministries Coordinator
dcash@hopepres.com
755-7721 x1076

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WELCOME TO THE PROCESS!!

These assessment tools are designed to help you in the process of self discovery. They are relatively simple but can have a huge impact on your life. They are meant to help you clarify how God has uniquely wired you, but that is only the starting point. Remember they are only as good as the application of your SHAPE into your life and ministry.

WHAT IS S.H.A.P.E.?

Spiritual Gifts

A special capacity for service given by God to every believer for the benefit of His Church, the Body of Christ

Heart

A God-given desire that invigorates and motivates you to meaningful ministry involvement for God’s kingdom.

Abilities

Talents and skills given by God to every human being for His glory (whether people love Him or not) that demonstrate His common grace to everyone.

Personal Style

Your natural and energized approach to life and relationships.

Experiences

Events and situations in your life that God has used to mold you into who you are.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS INVENTORY

Directions:

1. Read the traits for each spiritual gift and check every phrase that you think fits you.
2. Count the checked boxes in each category and record the total in the accompanying blank.
3. Choose your top three gifts and record on the Green Sheet (pg. 16).

GIFTS	TRAITS OR DESCRIPTIONS	TOTALS
Administration	<input type="checkbox"/> Delegates responsibilities easily <input type="checkbox"/> Organizes effectively <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys completing projects <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys planning and administrative skills <input type="checkbox"/> Successfully sets and achieves goals and objectives	___ of 5
Craftsmanship	<input type="checkbox"/> Takes pleasure in drawing/designing objects <input type="checkbox"/> Finds joy in painting or creating handcrafted objects <input type="checkbox"/> Experiences fulfillment in completing projects <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys time spent in creating beauty <input type="checkbox"/> Finds satisfaction in repairing and maintaining things	___ of 5
Evangelism	<input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys talking to others about faith in Jesus Christ <input type="checkbox"/> Challenged by the opportunity of talking to nonbelievers about the Christian life <input type="checkbox"/> Seeks out nonbelievers in a continual manner in order to share with them about Christ, <input type="checkbox"/> Takes satisfaction from sharing the Gospel message with others and persuading them to respond <input type="checkbox"/> Finds a certain pleasure in making new friends and sharing the love of Christ with them.	___ of 5
Exhortation/ Wisdom	<input type="checkbox"/> Speaks words of encouragement to those who are troubled discouraged, or unsure of themselves <input type="checkbox"/> enjoys helping others resolve difficult or complicated problems <input type="checkbox"/> Accurately applies truth to daily life in spite of crises or conflict <input type="checkbox"/> A good counselor of others feeling perplexed or guilty <input type="checkbox"/> Regularly helps others through difficulty by offering Biblical solutions which bring comfort or direction.	___ of 5

Giving	<input type="checkbox"/> Conscientiously manages money well in order to be able to give liberally to the Lord's work <input type="checkbox"/> Consistently contributes to the Lord's work out of gratitude for what He had done <input type="checkbox"/> Feels deeply moved by urgent financial needs in the work of God's kingdom <input type="checkbox"/> Is content with maintaining a lower standard of living in order to financially benefit God's work <input type="checkbox"/> Finds a certain pleasure in using financial resources to help others.	____ of 5
Hospitality	<input type="checkbox"/> Readily provides food/shelter graciously and willingly to people in need <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys having guests in the home and sharing freely with those in need <input type="checkbox"/> Making visitors and guests feel comfortable and a part of things <input type="checkbox"/> Willingly opens home to guests or strangers even when it is not convenient <input type="checkbox"/> Sees his/her home as a resource from God to share with others.	____ of 5
Intercession	<input type="checkbox"/> Prays faithfully for the needs of others without prodding <input type="checkbox"/> Prays for others when could be doing other things <input type="checkbox"/> Feels secure in the knowledge that prayers continually work miracles in own life and the lives of others <input type="checkbox"/> Knows that praying for others will bring tangible results <input type="checkbox"/> Regards prayer as a favorite spiritual exercise.	____ of 5
Knowledge	<input type="checkbox"/> Frequently discovers new truths <input type="checkbox"/> Has the confidence that insights will bring changes in the attitude and convictions of others <input type="checkbox"/> Acquires and masters new facts and principles which aid others in their growth and stability <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys reading and studying to learn more about Biblical truth <input type="checkbox"/> Distinguishes key Biblical truths and facts that benefit self and others.	____ of 5
Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys persuading other people to accomplish preset goals and objectives <input type="checkbox"/> Shows success in leading other people toward accomplishing specific tasks <input type="checkbox"/> Others follow example <input type="checkbox"/> Leads small or large groups of people in decision-making processes <input type="checkbox"/> Positively motivates others to accomplish a task.	____ of 5
Mercy	<input type="checkbox"/> Works joyfully with people who are ignored by the majority of those around them <input type="checkbox"/> Talks cheerfully and compassionately with the elderly and shut-ins <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys working with those in jails and prisons <input type="checkbox"/> Joyfully works with others who can do little if anything in response <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys doing things to comfort people during sickness or times of trouble.	____ of 5
Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Joyfully sings praises to God either alone or with other people <input type="checkbox"/> Gives others pleasure by playing a musical instrument effectively <input type="checkbox"/> Finds much pleasure in the routine practice of singing hymns and other Gospel selections <input type="checkbox"/> Knows that singing has been a spiritual encouragement to others <input type="checkbox"/> Finds pleasure in playing a musical instrument alone or with a group of people.	____ of 5
Serving	<input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys being called on to do special jobs <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys routine work at church that would seemingly bore other people <input type="checkbox"/> Experiences satisfaction in doing menial tasks for the glory of God <input type="checkbox"/> Is content to take orders rather than give them <input type="checkbox"/> Gladly responds when others express a need for help.	____ of 5

Shepherding	<input type="checkbox"/> Takes responsibility to care and nurture the whole person in their walk with God <input type="checkbox"/> Provides guidance and oversight to a group of God's people <input type="checkbox"/> Models with their life what it means to be a fully devoted follower of Jesus <input type="checkbox"/> Establishes trust and confidence through long-term relationships <input type="checkbox"/> Leads and protects those within their span of care.	____ of 5
Teaching	<input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys helping other people learn Biblical facts and principles which aid in the building up of their lives <input type="checkbox"/> Finds joy in sharing with children or adults knowledge about learning and applying God's word <input type="checkbox"/> Sees the faith of others' strengthened by teaching about Christ <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys presenting and discussing Biblical truths with others <input type="checkbox"/> Freely and effectively shares the love of Christ with children and/or adults in an effective and meaningful manner.	____ of 5
Writing	<input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys formulating thoughts and ideas into effective written form <input type="checkbox"/> Feels secure in the fact that words written will be of benefit to those who read them <input type="checkbox"/> Composes or arranges articles in an efficient meaningful style <input type="checkbox"/> Finds much pleasure in composing and writing paragraphs and stories for the edification of others <input type="checkbox"/> Feels confident that literary skill will aid others and that they will be built up and informed because of it.	____ of 5

Rank the order your top three gifts from the Spiritual Gifts Inventory.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

List your top 3 GIFTS on green sheet Pg. 77

HEART PASSION ASSESSMENT

1. You receive a phone call. The person says, "I have some good news and some bad news." The bad news is that you have just been fired from your job. The good news is that I want to give you a new job and it will be literally the job of your dreams. Describe this job and it is yours." What would you say?
2. What is it in life that really "turns your crank", "floats your boat" i.e. something that you could stay up late talking about?
3. Describe one of your most fulfilling and enjoyable achievements. What did you do? What encouragement did you get from others? How did you feel while doing it? (Remember, this is a fulfilling and enjoyable achievement. You might have won the Nobel Peace Prize but hated the process and will never do it again.)
4. Think of a famous person or a person that you know well. Write their name down and what one of their passions are. (Example: Billy Graham—Reaching people for Christ)
5. What do you think some of your friends would say about you?

God had a purpose in giving you your inborn interests. In fact, your emotional heartbeat reveals a very important key to understanding God's design and intention for your life. These heartbeats are described as passions in three different areas— Roles, People and Causes.

HEART PASSION FOR A ROLE

WHAT DO YOU LIKE DOING?

Checkmark the roles you find fulfilling. If none apply to you or you think of another one, write it down on the “other” line at the end of the assessment.

I LOVE TO...

- DESIGN/DEVELOP:** I love to make something out of nothing. I enjoy getting something started from scratch.
- PIONEER:** I love to test and try out new concepts. I am not afraid to risk failure.
- ORGANIZE:** I love to bring order out of chaos. I enjoy organizing something that is already started.
- OPERATE/MAINTAIN:** I love to efficiently maintain something that is already organized.
- SERVE/HELP:** I love to assist others in their responsibility. I enjoy helping others succeed.
- ACQUIRE/POSSESS:** I love to shop, collect or obtain things. I enjoy getting the highest quality for the best price.
- EXCEL:** I love to be the best and make my team the best. I enjoy setting and attaining the highest standard.
- INFLUENCE:** I love to convert people to my way of thinking. I enjoy shaping the attitudes and behavior of others.
- PERFORM:** I love to be on stage and receive the attention of others. I enjoy being in the limelight.
- IMPROVE:** I love to make things better. I enjoy taking something that someone else has designed or started and improve it.
- REPAIR:** I love to fix what is broken or change what is out of date.
- LEAD/BE IN CHARGE:** I love to lead the way, oversee and supervise. I enjoy determining how things will be done.
- PERSEVERE:** I love to see things to completion. I enjoy persisting at something until it is finished.
- FOLLOW THE RULES:** I love to operate by policies and procedures. I enjoy meeting the expectations of an organization or boss.
- PREVAIL:** I love to fight for what is right and oppose what is wrong. I enjoy overcoming injustice.
- OTHER:** _____

Choose your top 3 ROLES and record them on green sheet pg. 77

HEART PASSION FOR SPECIFIC PEOPLE

WHOM DO YOU LIKE TO HELP?

Checkmark the following people on whom you feel can have the greatest impact.

- Infants/Babies
- Couples
- Young Marrieds
- Jr. High Students
- Preschool Children
- Singles
- Elementary Children
- Toddlers
- College
- Sr. High Students
- Older Adults 60+
- Women
- Single Parents
- Men
- Families
- Widowed
- Young Adults (Post-College – Early Career)
- Other _____

Choose your top 3 PEOPLE and record them on green sheet pg. 77

HEART PASSION FOR A CAUSE

WHAT DO I GET EXCITED ABOUT?

Checkmark what cause(s) that get the adrenalin flowing.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> At Risk Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Grief Recovery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Relief Efforts | <input type="checkbox"/> Law & Justice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compulsive Behavior Recovery | <input type="checkbox"/> Mediation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobilizing Volunteers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Music or Art |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health and/or Fitness | <input type="checkbox"/> Parenting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evangelism | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illness Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Race |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fellowship | <input type="checkbox"/> Worship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abuse/ Violence | <input type="checkbox"/> Families/Marriage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blindness | <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce Recovery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Breast Cancer | <input type="checkbox"/> Science and/or Technology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cancer | <input type="checkbox"/> World Missions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Missions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Career Decisions | <input type="checkbox"/> Drug and Alcohol Recovery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deafness | <input type="checkbox"/> Athletics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Ethics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Sexuality &/or Gender issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Choose your top 3 CAUSES and record them on green sheet pg. 77

ABILITIES ASSESSMENT

WHAT GOD-GIVEN ABILITIES HAVE SURFACED THROUGHOUT YOUR LIFE?

Checkmark the abilities that apply to you:

- Artistic ability:** *conceptualize, draw, paint, photograph, etc.*
- Athletic ability:** *coach or participate in a sport*
- Classifying ability:** *systematize and file books, data, records, and materials*
- Cooking ability:** *prepare meals for large and small groups*
- Counseling ability:** *listen, encourage, and guide with sensitivity*
- Counting ability:** *work with numbers, data or money*
- Decorating ability:** *beautify a setting for a special event*
- Developing ability:** *improve, tinker, make better, modify*
- Editing ability:** *proofread or rewrite*
- Entertaining ability:** *perform, act, dance, speak*
- Evaluating ability:** *analyze data and draw conclusions*
- Graphics ability:** *layout, design, create visual displays or banners*
- Hobby-related ability:** *work with hands in a certain activity*
- Interviewing ability:** *talking with people and discovering what people are like*
- Landscaping ability:** *gardening and work with plants*
- Leadership ability:** *"head honcho", coordinate, cast vision, direct, lead*
- Learning ability:** *observe, practice, research, study*
- Linguistic ability:** *speak and write in various languages? What Language?*
- Managing ability:** *supervise people to accomplish a task or event*
- Mechanical Operating ability:** *operate tools or machinery*
- Musical ability:** *sing or play a musical instrument*
- Organizational ability:** *bring order and organization to people and programs*
- Planning ability:** *strategize, design, and organize programs or events*
- Promoting ability:** *advertise or promote events and activities*
- Public Relations ability:** *handle complaints and unhappy people with care and maturity*
- Recruiting ability:** *enlist and motivate people to get involved*
- Repairing ability:** *fix, restore, maintain*
- Researching ability:** *read, gather information, collect data*
- Resourceful ability:** *search out and find resources at a lower cost*
- Sewing/Needlework ability:** *work with a needle and thread or with a sewing machine*
- Teaching ability:** *explain, train, demonstrate, tutor*
- Technical ability:** *operate or repair various equipment*
- Visualizing ability:** *conceptualize, picture, dream*
- Welcoming ability:** *convey warmth, develop rapport, making others feel welcome*
- Writing ability:** *write articles, papers, letters, books*
- Other:** _____

Choose your top 3 ABILITIES and record them on green sheet pg. 77

PERSONAL STYLE ASSESSMENT

It is obvious that God does not use a cookie cutter to create people. He makes us all unique and that includes our own personal style. God loves variety and He made introverts and extroverts -- He made people who love routine and those who love variety -- He made some "thinkers" and some "feelers" and some "doers". How did He make you?

Place a checkmark next to appropriate descriptions. Add them up and double for total in each of the four boxes.
No score in any box can exceed 28 points

C	CL	TP	A
<input type="checkbox"/> Takes charge <input type="checkbox"/> Determined <input type="checkbox"/> Assertive <input type="checkbox"/> Firm <input type="checkbox"/> Bold <input type="checkbox"/> Purposeful <input type="checkbox"/> Enterprising <input type="checkbox"/> Competitive <input type="checkbox"/> Decision maker <input type="checkbox"/> Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Goal driven <input type="checkbox"/> Self-reliant <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys challenges <input type="checkbox"/> Adventurous	<input type="checkbox"/> Takes risk <input type="checkbox"/> Visionary <input type="checkbox"/> Motivator <input type="checkbox"/> Energetic <input type="checkbox"/> Fun Loving <input type="checkbox"/> Likes variety <input type="checkbox"/> Very verbal <input type="checkbox"/> Promoter <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys change <input type="checkbox"/> Creative <input type="checkbox"/> Group oriented <input type="checkbox"/> Mixes well <input type="checkbox"/> Avoids detail <input type="checkbox"/> Optimistic	<input type="checkbox"/> Loyal <input type="checkbox"/> Non-demanding <input type="checkbox"/> Even keel <input type="checkbox"/> Avoids conflict <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys routine <input type="checkbox"/> Dislikes pushiness <input type="checkbox"/> Good listener <input type="checkbox"/> Adaptable <input type="checkbox"/> Sympathetic <input type="checkbox"/> Thoughtful <input type="checkbox"/> Nurturing <input type="checkbox"/> Patient <input type="checkbox"/> Tolerant <input type="checkbox"/> Deep relationships	<input type="checkbox"/> Deliberate <input type="checkbox"/> Controlled <input type="checkbox"/> Reserved <input type="checkbox"/> Predictable <input type="checkbox"/> Practical <input type="checkbox"/> Orderly <input type="checkbox"/> Factual <input type="checkbox"/> Discerning <input type="checkbox"/> Detailed <input type="checkbox"/> Analytical <input type="checkbox"/> Inquisitive <input type="checkbox"/> Precise <input type="checkbox"/> Persistent <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduled
Total x2 = _____	Total x2 = _____	Total x2 = _____	Total x2 = _____

Transfer your totals for each box (C, CL, TP & A) to green sheet pg. 77

Chart each of these totals from above onto the graph below.

PERSONALITY GRAPH	L (C)	O (CL)	G (TP)	B (A)
30-	--	--	--	--
26-	--	--	--	--
22-	--	--	--	--
18-	--	--	--	--
14-	--	--	--	--
10-	--	--	--	--
6-	--	--	--	--
2-	--	--	--	--
0-	--	--	--	--

C = COACH You will naturally...	CL = CHEERLEADER You will naturally...	TP = TEAM PLAYER You will naturally...	A = ANALYST You will naturally...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gravitate to positions of leadership • Be decisive and quick to make decisions • Avoid chit-chat and want to “get to the point” • Have the time orientation of “let’s do it now!” • Love to overcome obstacles and take on challenges • May not see the impact of your words or criticisms on others • Says, “<i>Okay team, this is what we need to do!</i>” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make life fun! • Love to talk to others • Easily get excited and encouraged • Enjoy groups and high activity level • Avoid details, close accountability and deadlines • Have the future oriented time frame of “it’ll all work out!” • Says, “<i>Go team! We can do it!</i>” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Want to go deep in your relationships • Express tremendous loyalty to those you love • Listen attentively (and at length) to another’s problems • Be more sensitive to needs of others than other bents • Carry emotional and financial stability • Prefer stability . . . even if it means <i>peace at all costs</i>. • Says, “<i>Remember that we’re a team!</i>” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Want to do things right and by the book • Strive for accuracy and quality, not quickness • See a person’s past as a key to trusting them in the future • Want clearly defined tasks, limited risk, and an open door environment for asking questions of clarification • Be very creative in designing helpful systems, if encouraged and allowed to work at your own pace • Be so good at taking things apart, you can also take people apart and become a strong critic when wronged • Says, “<i>To be effective this team needs to follow the playbook!</i>”

EXPERIENCE ASSESSMENT

WORK EXPERIENCES

What jobs have you been most effective in and enjoyed the most? List them below

Transfer your results to green sheet

LIFE EXPERIENCES

From what problems, hurts, pains or trials have you learned that you can in turn help others?

Check all that apply to you.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abortion | <input type="checkbox"/> Depression | <input type="checkbox"/> Military Wartime Service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abuse | <input type="checkbox"/> Dysfunctional Family | <input type="checkbox"/> Miscarriage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption | <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce | <input type="checkbox"/> Orphaned |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alcoholism | <input type="checkbox"/> Drug Abuse/Addiction | <input type="checkbox"/> Prison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alzheimer's/Dementia | <input type="checkbox"/> Eating Disorder | <input type="checkbox"/> Recovery Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annulment of Marriage | <input type="checkbox"/> Extended Court Proceedings | <input type="checkbox"/> Remarried |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bankruptcy | <input type="checkbox"/> Extended Job Loss | <input type="checkbox"/> Separated and/or Restored Marriage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cancer | <input type="checkbox"/> Extended Physical Illness/Injury | <input type="checkbox"/> Suicide |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic Pain | <input type="checkbox"/> Handicapped/Disabled | <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crisis Pregnancy | <input type="checkbox"/> Homeless | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

MINISTRY EXPERIENCES

Where have you enjoyed serving in the past? Check all that apply to you.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Usher/Greeter | <input type="checkbox"/> Mentor | <input type="checkbox"/> Prison Ministry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher (Adults) | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Counselor | <input type="checkbox"/> Program/Event Coordinator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher/Helper (Youth) | <input type="checkbox"/> Coach (Baseball) | <input type="checkbox"/> Retreat Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher/Helper (Children) | <input type="checkbox"/> Coach (Basketball) | <input type="checkbox"/> Parking Cars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Training Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Coach (Soccer) | <input type="checkbox"/> Set up/ Tear down |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Host | <input type="checkbox"/> Calling Team | <input type="checkbox"/> Speaker/Trainer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen | <input type="checkbox"/> Meals Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Music (Instrument) | <input type="checkbox"/> Counseling | <input type="checkbox"/> Tape/CD Ministry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Music (Vocal) | <input type="checkbox"/> Clothing Closet | <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning Crew |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mission Trip | <input type="checkbox"/> Bus/Van Driver | <input type="checkbox"/> Office Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Missions | <input type="checkbox"/> Video | <input type="checkbox"/> ESL Ministry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tutoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Sound Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Home Construction Ministry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deacon | <input type="checkbox"/> Library | <input type="checkbox"/> Recovery Ministry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elder | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital Care | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Needs Children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drama | <input type="checkbox"/> Coffee | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small Group Leader | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Team | |

Transfer your results to green sheet pg. 77

GREEN SHEET

YOUR S.H.A.P.E. PROFILE

Name _____ DOB _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work or Cell Phone _____

Email _____ (List only if you actually check it!)

Please use only the options that are given in the assessment pages 65-75.

List your top 3 SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

List your passion for your top 3 ROLES

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

List your passion for your top 3 PEOPLE

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

List your passion for your top 3 CAUSES

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

List your top 3 ABILITIES

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

List total for each PERSONALITY STYLE

Coach _____ Cheerleader _____ Team Player _____ Analyst _____

List any WORK EXPERIENCES that you have had that could be used in God's Kingdom:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

List any LIFE EXPERIENCES that you have had that could be used in God's Kingdom:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

List any MINISTRY EXPERIENCES that you have had that could be used in God's Kingdom:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

How would you describe where you are in your Spiritual Journey with Christ right now?

Check the appropriate box.

Seeker: Seeking information about and exposure to Christianity and Christians, have not yet committed life to Christ.

New Believer: Brand new to faith and the Bible.

Growing Believer: Established in the basics of Bible study, personal devotions, etc.

Leading Believer: Vibrant relationship with Christ, established in the basics, ready to lead others toward a deeper relationship with Christ.

Are you currently serving at Hope? _____

Where? _____

PLEASE TURN IN AT SESSION 3

Any questions? Call or email David (755-7721, david@hopepres.com).

ADULT EDUCATION

LIBRARY ASSISTANT

Skills: Organizational and Classifying ability
Contact: Elizabeth Hvasta (753-5560, lizhvasta@bellsouth.net)
Description: Help stock book shelves and keep things in order.
Schedule: Flexible weekdays
Age: Adults
Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Serving

LIBRARY WEEKEND STAFF

Skills: Resourcefulness and Hospitality
Contact: Elizabeth Hvasta (753-5560, lizhvasta@bellsouth.net)
Description: Assist visitors in the Library and keep things in order.
Schedule: One service per month
Age: Adults
Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Serving, Hospitality

CARING MINISTRY

HOPE CARES TEAM MEMBER

Skills: Welcoming and Serving ability
Contact: Kay Huckabey (755-7721 x1113, Kay@hopepres.com)
Description: Assist the Caring Ministry in reaching out to those with long-term illnesses by helping a person in need. Individuals and small groups may adopt someone to transport to visits to the doctor or visit at a hospital. Assist with general household, yard work and help family members provide practical care as needed.
Schedule: Flexible as needed
Age: Adult
Spiritual Gifts: Mercy, Serving

2 BY 2S

Skills: Welcoming and Counseling ability
Contact: Shirley Mahoney, (755-7721 x1029, Shirley@hopepres.com)
Description: Visit people that are in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, hospices and at homes.
Schedule: As needed, usually during weekday hours
Age: Adult
Spiritual Gifts: Mercy, Serving, Hospitality

LAY MINISTER (INVOLVES 50 HOURS OF INTENSIVE TRAINING IN THE STEPHEN MINISTRY)

Skills: Counseling ability
Contact: Kay Huckabey (755-7721 x1113, Kay@hopepres.com)
Description: Pray for, minister to, do hospital visits, handle grief issues pertaining to loss of a loved one. Family crisis issues, sickness, divorce and marital crisis.
Schedule: As need arises
Age: Adult
Spiritual Gifts: Shepherding, Evangelism, Mercy

MEALS PROVIDER

Skills: Cooking, Driving and Welcoming ability
Contact: Kay Huckabey (755-7721 x1113, Kay@hopepres.com)
Description: Prepare & deliver meals to people in need due to illness or tragedy.
Schedule: As need arises
Age: Adult
Spiritual Gifts: Mercy, Serving, Shepherding

PRAYER WARRIOR – HOPE'S PRAYER CHAIN

Skills: None required
Contact: Shirley Mahoney, (755-7721 x1029, Shirley@hopepres.com)
Description: To pray for the Church, its leaders and specific confidential requests that are received from individuals.
Schedule: Daily – Sent via Email
Age: Adult
Spiritual Gifts: Intercession, Mercy, Serving

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

ADVENTURELAND GREETER

Skills: Welcoming and Public Relations ability

Contact: Kim Haverkost (755-7721 x1091, Kim@hopepres.com)

Description: Act as a receptionist, greeting parents and answering directional questions for visitors and volunteers. Background check required.

Schedule: Two services per month

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Serving

NURSERY VOLUNTEER—INFANTS & TODDLERS

Skills: Welcoming and Nurturing ability

Contact: Kim Haverkost (755-7721 x1091, Kim@hopepres.com)

Description: Caring for infants, crawlers and toddlers while parents attend the worship service. Background check required.

Schedule: Two services per month

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving, Mercy, Hospitality

EARLY CHILDHOOD SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR 3 YEAR OLDS - KINDERGARTEN

Skills: Greeting, child friendly personality, patience

Contacts: Kim Haverkost (755-7721 x1091, Kim@hopepres.com)

Description: Welcoming children into the classroom, caring and interacting with preschool aged children, read a Children's Bible Story and help with easy craft or coloring page all provided. Background check required.

Schedule: Two services per month

Age: Older teen to Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving, Mercy, Teaching

EARLY ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR 1ST AND 2ND GRADE

Skills: Teaching and Welcoming ability

Contact: Kim Haverkost (755-7721 x1091, Kim@hopepres.com)

Description: Teach or assist in Sunday school to first and second grade children. Teachers need to interact appropriately with parents. Teachers will be partnered with other volunteers as well. Need to coordinate efforts to maximize each other's gifts thereby providing a positive learning environment for the children. Background check required.

Schedule: Two services per month

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Teaching, Evangelism, Shepherding

UPPER ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR 3RD THROUGH 6TH GRADE

Skills: Teaching and Welcoming ability

Contact: Kim Haverkost (755-7721 x1091, Kim@hopepres.com)

Description: Teach Sunday school to third through sixth grade children. Teachers need to interact appropriately with parents. Teachers will be partnered with other volunteers as well. Need to coordinate efforts to maximize each other's gifts thereby providing a positive learning environment for the children. Background check required.

Schedule: Two services per month

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Teaching, Evangelism, Shepherding

SPECIAL KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL

Skills: Kid friendly personality and patience

Contact: Kim Haverkost (755-7721 x1091, Kim@hopepres.com)

Description: Welcoming Ability and Love of God's children. To assist in the classroom by interacting with the children, organizing materials and activities within the class. Background check is required.

Schedule: Two services per month

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving, Mercy, Hospitality

SPECIAL/CHALLENGED YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS SUNDAY SCHOOL

Skills: Welcoming ability and serving

Contact: Kim Haverkost (755-7721 x1091, Kim@hopepres.com)

Description: To assist a teacher in the class with youth and young adults with special needs. You would help organize materials and activities in the class. Background check required.

Schedule: Two services per month

Age: Older Teen and Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving, Hospitality, Administration, Mercy

SPECIAL EVENTS HELPER

Skills: Patience No particular skills necessary, yet all are useful.

Contact: Kim Haverkost (755-7721 x1091, Kim@hopepres.com)

Description: Special Events use as many talents and gifts as the people they serve. Whatever your comfort zone or talent, we will plug you in. Background check required.

Schedule: As events are scheduled

Age: Teen to adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving, Administration, Helps, Hospitality

COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY

BULLETIN STUFFER

Skills: Organizational ability

Contact: Ginny Buffaloe (766-7721 x1116, ginny@hopepres.com)

Description: Help stuff inserts into bulletin shells for the weekend services.

Schedule: Friday, 7:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m.

Age: Teens to adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving, Administration

HOPE VIDEO CREW

Skills: Artistic and Technical Ability

Contact: Clay Hutchison (755-7721 x1072, clay@hopepres.com)

Description: Assist the video team during worship services and special events, by operating cameras and graphic systems. Training provided.

Schedule: One weekend per month

Age: 15-Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Serving

CONNECTING MINISTRY

COFFEE KIOSK ATTENDANT SATURDAY OR SUNDAY

Skills: Welcoming and cooking ability

Contact: Betty Johnson (377-7446, bwjohnson@elvis.com)

Description: Making coffee and keeping condiments on hand for people attending the weekend Worship service, includes greeting and giving basic directions to folks.

Schedule: One service per month

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Serving

COOKIE BAKER

Skills: Cooking ability

Contact: Diane Ondra (755-6882, bradyboy99@aol.com)

Description: Bake cookies on Thursday morning for delivery to first time visitors.

Schedule: One Thursday morning per month.

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving, Hospitality

COOKIE DELIVERER

Skills: Driving and Welcoming ability

Contact: Diane Ondra (755-6882, bradyboy99@aol.com)

Description: Deliver fresh baked cookies to the homes of first time visitors.

Schedule: Friday or Saturday morning, once per month

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Serving

COOKIE DELIVERY CALLER

Skills: Welcoming and Organizational ability

Contact: Diane Ondra (755-6882, bradyboy99@aol.com)

Description: Call cookie delivery people and let them know of their assigned deliveries.

Schedule: Wednesday and/or Thursday night, once per month

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Serving

GREETER—SUNDAY SERVICES

Skills: Welcoming and Public Relations ability

Contact: Tana Reynolds (757-9753, tanareynolds@bellsouth.net)

Description: Greet people attending Sunday worship services by opening exterior doors or passing out bulletins.

Schedule: One Sunday service per month

Age: Teens and adults

Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Evangelism, Serving

GREETER—SATURDAY SERVICES

Skills: Welcoming and Public Relations ability

Contact: Steve Farrar (853-5316, farrars@earthlink.net)

Description: Greet people attending Saturday worship services by opening exterior doors or passing out bulletins.

Schedule: One Saturday service per month

Age: Teens and adults

Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Evangelism, Serving

I.H.S. HOST/HOYESS

Skills: Welcoming ability

Contact: David Morris (755-7721 x1049, david@hopepres.com)

Description: Host I.H.S. by welcoming people attending and providing snacks for them.

Schedule: One 6-week session per year

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Serving

PLUGIN@HOPE CARE CALLER

Skills: Welcoming and Promoting ability

Contact: Donna Cash (755-7721 x1076, dcash@hopepres.com)

Description: Telephoning members from the Hope offices to take their prayer requests, pray for them and to offer assistance in getting them better plugged in at Hope through volunteering or joining a small group. Training provided.

Schedule: One Thursday night per month

Age: Adults

Spiritual Gifts: Exhortation, Intercession, Serving

INFORMATION TEAM/SATURDAY OR SUNDAY

Skills: Public Relations and Welcoming ability

Contact: **Sundays**-Ginny Buffaloe (755-7721 x1116, ginny@hopepres.com) **Saturdays**-Clara Joe (757-2294, pqj76@aol.com)

Description: Information person; give people directions and guide them around the building to locate classes and meetings during the weekend services. Training provided.

Schedule: One service per month

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Serving

EVENTS MINISTRY

GENERAL ASSISTANCE VOLUNTEER

Skills: Counting, Decorating and Welcoming ability.

Contact: Kim Mitchell (755-7721 x1002, kimmitchell@hopepres.com)

Description: General help with major events such as ticket taking, greeting, etc.

Schedule: As needed as events are scheduled

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Serving

WEDNESDAY DINNER SET-UP

Skills: No Skills required

Contact: Dave Ruff (755-7721 x1108, dave@hopepres.com)

Description: Help during the year setting up tables and chairs for the Dinners on Wednesday nights. We provide pizza for your lunch.

Schedule: 12:00 (noon) Wednesdays during NEXT

Age: Adults & Teenagers

Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Serving

GLOBAL OUTREACH

We are a volunteer-intensive organization. We have some of the most capable and competent volunteers in the world who give of their time, energy, creativity, gifts, resources and passions to help us GO. Contact: Michelle Carrington (755-7721 x1024, michelle@hopepres.com).

COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL CHILD SPONSOR

Skills: None

Contact: Greg Spencer (756-6242, jgregspencer@msn.com)

Description: Sponsor a child by making monthly donations for the food, care and spiritual well being of a suffering child.

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Mercy, Giving

GO JOURNEY MOBILIZATION TEAM

Skills: Managing and Recruiting

Contact: Michelle Carrington (755-7721 x1024, michelle@hopepres.com)

Description: Work with this team to "Recruit, Build and Launch" all of our GO Journeys.

Schedule: As needed

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Intercession, Serving, Administration

GO SPECIAL EVENTS TEAM

Skills: Organization and Communication

Contact: Michelle Carrington (755-7721 x1024, michelle@hopepres.com)

Description: Like to plan and implement events? This team is for you! Work with others to make yearly events happen.

Schedule: As needed

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving

GO JOURNEY PRAYER TEAM

Skills: None

Contact: Michelle Carrington (755-7721 x1024, michelle@hopepres.com)

Description: Pray for Hope missionaries, GO Journeys, volunteers, staff, current events, and special needs. Pray alone, with your family, small group or during a weekly prayer hour at Hope.

Schedule: Ongoing weekly, monthly and as needed opportunities arise.

Age: All

Spiritual Gifts: Intercession, Mercy, Shepherding

GO MISSIONARY CARE TEAM

Skills: Organization and Communication

Contact: Michelle Carrington (755-7721 x1024, michelle@hopepres.com)

Description: Help meet the needs of missionaries around the world. Work with others to provide much needed support. Pray for them, communicate and encourage, send care packages, etc.

Schedule: Ongoing monthly

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Mercy, Exhortation/Wisdom, Intercession, Serving

GO JOURNEY TEAM MEMBER

Skills: None

Contact: Michelle Carrington (755-7721 x1024, michelle@hopepres.com)

Description: From building schools to building relationships, there are tons of opportunities for you to get your feet wet in missions. Being a Team Member on a GO Journey is a unique way to change your world for Christ. It's easier than you think and will change YOUR life in the process. These short-term international trips range from 7 to 14 days and will be a time where you will be stretched to be a team player, to serve and to grow in your walk with Christ. Team formation and required training will be provided.

Schedule: Team prep is up to 9 months before trip: 1-2 weeks overseas; 1 debrief meeting upon return from trip

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Any

KITCHEN MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY NIGHT AND SPECIAL EVENTS KITCHEN HELPER

Skills: Cooking and planning ability.

Contact: Jennifer Young (755-7721 x1090, jennifer@hopepres.com)

Description: Help prepare, serve and clean up with dinners on Wednesday nights and other special events.

Schedule: Cooking on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Serving and cleaning up on Wednesday evenings and special Events as scheduled.

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Serving, Helps

MEN'S MINISTRY

MEN'S BREAKFAST TEAM-BIBLES & BISCUITS

Skills: Cooking ability

Contact: Ron Rowlett (755-7721 x1041, ron@hopepres.com)

Description: Help prepare the Men's "Bibles and Biscuits" breakfast on Friday mornings or just come eat and enjoy.

Schedule: Cooking starts every Friday at 5:00 a.m., breakfast is from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 a.m.

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Serving

MUSIC/WORSHIP/ACADEMY

CHOIR PARTICIPANT

Skills: Singing ability with heart for music ministry; no music-reading necessary, but auditions required

Contact: Donna Hauth (755-7721 x1922, donnah@hopepres.com)

Description: Must sing in at least two services per weekend; must complete Introducing Hope Series

Schedule: Rehearse Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Age: Teen (age 16) to Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Music, Serving

FRONT LINE SINGER

Skills: Professional-level ability to sing and hear vocal parts, with heart for music ministry; auditions required

Contact: Donna Hauth (755-7721 x1922, donnah@hopepres.com)

Description: Must be available to sing in all Sat. and Sun. morning services; must complete Introducing Hope Series

Schedule: Rehearse prior to Sat. service: vocals separately for one hour, then with band

Age: Teen (16) to Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Music, Serving

BAND PARTICIPANT

Skills: Professional-level ability to play instrument, with heart for music ministry; auditions required

Contact: Donna Hauth (755-7721 x1922, donnah@hopepres.com)

Description: Must be available to play in all Sat. and Sun. morning services; must complete Introducing Hope Series.

Schedule: Rehearse Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m., Sat. afternoon prior to service

Age: Teen (16) to Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Music, Serving

CONCERT & WORKSHOP VOLUNTEERS

Skills: Hospitality and a heart for helping promote new Christian Artists

Contact: Johanna Barbre (755-7721 x1119, Johanna@hopepres.com)

Description: General assistance at concerts, distribute flyers and posters, book concerts, etc.

Schedule: As concerts are scheduled

Age: Teen to Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Helping, Administration, Serving, Hospitality

MUSIC STUDIO & RECORD LABEL VOLUNTEERS

Skills: Organizational and planning ability

Contact: Matthew Temple (755-7721 x1021, matthew@hopepres.com)

Description: General assistance behind the scenes, making copies of CDs, putting together press kits, making charts, maintaining various websites and promoting artists.

Schedule: Flexible

Age: Teen to Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Helping, Administration, Serving, Hospitality

RECOVERY & SUPPORT GROUP MINISTRY

CAREER ADVISOR

Skills: Interviewing, evaluating and counseling ability

Contact: Shirley Mahoney, (755-7721 x1029, Shirley@hopepres.com)

Description: Able to advise and help with issues related to job searching, resume writing and interviewing.

Schedule: Not set

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Exhortation, Leadership, Serving

RECREATION MINISTRY

ADMIN VOLUNTEERS

Skills: Computer & Office

Contact: Scott McClain (755-7721 x1034, scott@hopepres.com)

Description: Help out with data entry, photocopying, phone call and registrations.

Schedule: 1-3 hours per month.

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Serving

COACH OR SUPPORT TEAM

Skills: Athletic & Organizational Ability

Contact: Scott McClain (755-7721 x1034, scott@hopepres.com)

Description: Head Coach or Assistant Coach for Youth Teams or Support Team Parent.

Schedule: 3 hours per week for 10 weeks.

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Leadership, Serving & Shepherding

FIELD MAINTENANCE CREW

Skills: Landscaping, Field and Equipment Painting and Clean-up ability.

Contact: Scott McClain (755-7721 x1034, scott@hopepres.com)

Description: Help prepare, maintain and line fields for soccer, baseball and football.

Schedule: 1-2 Hours per week

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving

GYM SUPERVISORS TEAM

Skills: Organizational Ability

Contact: Scott McClain (755-7721 x1034, scott@hopepres.com)

Description: Supervise organized athletic activities in the gym

Schedule: Year round indoor activities, 1-3 hour events

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Leadership & Serving

SPECIAL EVENT VOLUNTEERS

Skills: Welcoming ability

Contact: Scott McClain (755-7721 x1034, scott@hopepres.com)

Description: Helping the ministry with special events, programming & coaches meetings

Schedule: Stand-by as needed.

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Leadership & Serving

WEB DESIGN TEAM

Skills: Technical, Writing and Web ability

Contact: Scott McClain (755-7721 x1034, scott@hopepres.com)

Description: Work with the recreation department to review, manage, update, and design the website. You must have strong computer skills.

Schedule: Flexible

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Knowledge, Leadership, Serving

THE STIRRING MINISTRY

STAGE SET-UP CREW

Skills: None

Contact: Phyllis Johnson (755-7721 x1066, phyllis@hopepres.com)

Description: Set the "mood" on the stage; includes set-up/break-down of candles, rugs, pottery, etc.

Schedule: Sunday, 4:30 p.m.; you determine how many Sundays per month you'd like to volunteer

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving

FOYER CREW

Skills: None

Contact: Phyllis Johnson (755-7721 x1066, phyllis@hopepres.com)

Description: Set up and break down the foyer to create an atmosphere for people to hang out and chat.

Schedule: Sunday, 4:30 p.m.; you determine how many Sundays per month you'd like to volunteer

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving

COFFEE CREW

Skills: None

Contact: Phyllis Johnson (755-7721 x1066, phyllis@hopepres.com)

Description: Set up and maintain coffee/tea kiosk during service.

Schedule: Sunday, 4:30 p.m.; you determine how many Sundays per month you'd like to volunteer

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving, Hospitality

HOSPITALITY CREW

Skills: None

Contact: Phyllis Johnson (755-7721 x1066, phyllis@hopepres.com)

Description: Greet and welcome people before, during and after the service. Assist with offering collection.

Schedule: Sunday, 4:30 p.m.; you determine how many Sundays per month you'd like to volunteer

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving, Hospitality

TARGET HOUSE (HOME FOR FAMILIES CURRENTLY RECEIVING TREATMENT AT ST. JUDE)

Skills: A big heart and loving nature

Contact: Karri Morgan (545-0213, karri.morgan@stjude.org)

Description: Assist and play with the St. Jude patients that are living at Target House with their families. (1811 Poplar Ave.)

Schedule: 2nd Thursday of each month from 7:00 until 9:00pm

Age: Older teens to Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Mercy, Serving, Hospitality

STIRRING KIDS TEACHER OR ASSISTANT

Skills: Willingness to care for children

Contact: Phyllis Johnson (755-7721 x1066, phyllis@hopepres.com)

Description: Work with children in one of three age groups; Birth-2yrs., 3-4 yr. olds, K-5th grade. All teaching materials, lesson plans, activities, crafts, etc. provided. No extra time needed during the week. Background check required.

Schedule: Sunday, 4:30 p.m.; you determine how many Sundays per month you'd like to volunteer

Age: Adult (Teacher Assistants may be teenagers)

Spiritual Gifts: Shepherding, Teaching,

STIRRING KIDS COORDINATOR

Skills: Organization

Contact: Phyllis Johnson (755-7721 x1066, phyllis@hopepres.com)

Description: Greet and direct parents and children; assist with organization. Background check required.

Schedule: Sunday, 4:30 p.m.; you determine how many Sundays per month you'd like to volunteer

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving, Hospitality, Administration

STUDENT MINISTRY AT HOPE

YOUTH VOLUNTEER/LEADER AT HOPE

Skills: Public Relations, Teaching and Athletic ability

Contact: Bret Spiegelman (755-7721 x1079, bret@hopepres.com)

Description: Working with Jr. and Sr. High students. Involving outreach to unchurched kids, Bible studies and Sunday school. We ask leaders to commit to at least one weekly event for 2 years. Background Check—We usually recruit through our relationships.

Schedule: Wednesday, Friday and Sunday nights; Sunday mornings

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Leadership, Mercy, Serving

URBAN MINISTRY - *Serving the city of Memphis*

At Hope Church we realize we have a missions opportunity in our own backyard in urban Memphis. Following are ministry opportunities that minister to a broad spectrum of these multiple inner city communities.

INNER-CITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TEACHER/AIDE

Skills: Creativity, patience/endurance, ability to plan/organize; desire to spend quality time with kids

Contact: Di Baddorf (755-7721 x1120), Di@hopepres.com

Description: Each summer Hope facilitates a VBS experience for inner-city kids.

Schedule: Various times in June & July

Age: Teen & older

Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Serving, Teaching

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY & UNIFORM DRIVE

Skills: Shopping ability

Contact: Di Baddorf (755-7721 x1120), Di@hopepres.com

Description: Each Fall we organize a school supply and uniform drive to be given to those in our schools who would otherwise be unable to come to school prepared. Hope members are encouraged to buy a new backpack and fill it with supplies for a child in a designated grade or donate money designated for this purpose.

Schedule: Designated weekends in July & August

Age: Any Age

Spiritual Gifts: Mercy, Giving, Helps

URBAN PLUNGE PARTICIPANT

Skills: Compassionate heart for the less advantaged of inner city Memphis

Contact: Di Baddorf (755-7721 x1120), Di@hopepres.com

Description: Take a missions trip in your own backyard and immerse yourself in inner city Memphis! This is an unforgettable 3-day/3-night urban exposure experience that will change the way you look at life and our city. Come and join us for this life-changing event!

Schedule: Spring & Fall each year

Age: High school-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Mercy, Serving

URBAN EMPHASIS WEEKEND & OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS

Skills: Creativity, desire for inner city ministry promotion

Contact: Di Baddorf (755-7721 x1120), Di@hopepres.com

Description: Help us by providing general assistance for outreach events such as Urban Emphasis Weekend at Hope Church, various festivals throughout the year, and other opportunities as they arise.

Schedule: Urban Emphasis Weekend/TBD, other dates as needed per event

Age: High school-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Leadership, Helps, Hospitality

JUSTICE TOUR

Skills: Desire to learn about African-American history

Contact: Di Baddorf (755-7721 x1120), Di@hopepres.com

Description: Take a 3-day journey to Selma, Montgomery, and Birmingham to walk the same path as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and others walked in the late 50s and 60s during turbulent times in our country. Come and explore the history of another culture and see first-hand the historic Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church, the Edmund Pettus Bridge and much more! Count on this being an unforgettable journey. Cost is \$150 to cover the hotel, transportation, entrance fees and a few meals.

Schedule: Summer

Age: College-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Mercy, Giving, Serving

HOPE 5K

Skills: Interest in running & assisting w/ races

Contact: Di Baddorf (755-7721 x1120), Di@hopepres.com

Description: 5K race organized and run to raise money for Rev. Rudy Howard's Luke 4:18 ministry. Committees secure sponsorships, door prizes, canvas other races with brochures, and work or run the day of the event.

Scheduled: Designated date in July

Age: Any age

Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Leadership, Giving, Serving

TREE OF HOPE SPONSOR/ADOPTOR

Skills: Desire to shop for gifts and clothing to be delivered to an inner city family during the holidays.

Contact: Di Baddorf (755-7721 x1120), Di@hopepres.com

Description: Adopt an inner city family during the Christmas season and purchase specific clothing items or toys for each member of the family. Hope small groups, families or neighbors can work together or as individuals to bless someone who might not otherwise be able to provide presents under the Christmas tree. After gifts are purchased, you have the privilege of personally delivering your presents and meeting the family.

Schedule: Late November/December

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Giving, Mercy

SCRUBS TEAM WORKER

Skills: Housekeeping

Contact: Jack Bishop (755-7721 x1027), jackbishop@hopepres.com

Description: Clean the church, including the Worship Center, classrooms, bathrooms, windows, vacuuming, emptying trash, etc. The money saved by volunteers is donated back to missions.

Schedule: Ongoing; 1-1/2 hours twice per month for 6 months

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving, Helps

ARMS OF HOPE/LE BONHEUR

Skills: Infant and/or child care

Contact: Peggy Grammer (755-4150), armssofhope1997@aol.com

Description: In 1997 Hope began a ministry relationship with Le Bonheur Hospital that involved a number of our members holding infants. That ministry continues and has now expanded to include being "Bedside Buddies" (sitting with kids while the parents take a break), volunteer staffing in one of the game rooms, and the tutoring of children in the dialysis unit.

Schedule: Ongoing as scheduled with Le Bonheur. One 3-hour session per month.

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Mercy, Serving, Helps

CLOTHING CLOSET SORTER/ORGANIZER

Skills: Ability to count and organize

Contact: Doris Kessler (624-5125), dkessler01@bellsouth.net

Description: Hope maintains a clothing closet to help those in need of basic clothing necessities.

Schedule: Ongoing - 2nd and 4th Monday Mornings

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving, Helps

KNITTING 4 HOPE

Skills: Knitting or crocheting experience or desire to learn

Contact: Di Baddorf (755-7721 x1120), Di@hopepres.com

Description: Gather with others to knit and crochet, socialize and assemble blankets for the Hope House families.

Schedule: 1st Tuesday of each month 4:30-6:30pm

Age: Any age

Spiritual Gifts: Serving, Giving, Mercy, Craftsmanship

QUILTING FOR NEEDY BABIES

Skills: Sewing experience or desire to learn

Contact: Di Baddorf (755-7721 x1120), Di@hopepres.com

Description: Putting together quilts for needy babies born at Methodist Hospital North.

Schedule: 3rd Thursday night of each month and 3rd Friday morning of each month at Hope Church.

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Craftsmanship, Mercy, Serving

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TEACHER/AIDE

Skills: Creativity, patience/endurance, ability to plan/organize; desire to spend quality time with kids

Contact: : Di Baddorf (755-7721 x1120), Di@hopepres.com

Description: Get ready for an exciting adventure with inner city kids as we explore God's Word, play games, sing songs and make crafts together! The kids look forward to VBS each year and it's impossible to not be moved as you work side-by-side with our students!

Schedule: June

Age: High school-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Knowledge, Leadership, Evangelism, Serving, Shepherding, Teaching

Oasis of Hope Ministry - *Serving one neighborhood in North Memphis*

In 2002, Hope Church founded the ministry *Oasis of Hope* to partner with one, specific inner-city neighborhood north of downtown. Today hope is spreading across this community thanks to God and the genuine efforts of many volunteers. Life-on-life relationships are being built and hearts and lives are being changed because of this "oasis."

Developing Young Christian Leaders—must have a passion for youth & a desire to lead/influence/serve positively

ADOPT-A-CLASS AT CALDWELL ELEMENTARY

Skills: Creativity, patience, desire to throw parties

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: Small groups, families, co-workers, or friends unite to sponsor an elementary class by providing basic school parties such as Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentines Day, and the End-of-the-year party. This is an easy way to get to know some great kids and be an example of Christ to them. The purpose of this ministry is to provide encouragement to teachers and motivation for students. The number of volunteer events is five for the year (at least two group members at each party) or you can choose to be there more often assisting your sponsored classroom teacher or tutoring kids in the class.

Schedule: Various times during the school year

Age: High school-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Leadership, Serving, Hospitality

CALDWELL ELEMENTARY TUTORING

Skills: High school diploma helpful, good communication skills, enthusiasm, patience

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: We just need YOU ... not your college degree! The only credentials you need is a desire to see a child succeed in education! All tutors must pass a background check and go through a brief training. This one-on-one time is priceless and you will be hooked once you get started!

Schedule: Wed & Thurs 11:30 am-1:30 pm during the school year

Age: High school-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Leadership, Mercy, Serving, Shepherding, Teaching

CALDWELL LEARNING CENTER TUTORING

Skills: High school diploma helpful, basic computer skills, good communication, enthusiasm, patience

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: Help a child do research for a school project, assist them with their homework, reinforce reading/math skills, share Bible verses, or just play games!

Schedule: Wed & Thurs 2:15-4:00pm during the school year

Age: High school-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Leadership, Mercy, Serving, Shepherding, Teaching

READ 2 SUCCEED (R2S) AT IN THE CUT

Skills: High school diploma helpful, good communication skills, enthusiasm, patience

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: This ministry is a one-on-one reading enrichment program for Caldwell elementary students in grades K-5. R2S encourages a child to read through building positive relationships with committed adult readers. Tutor an elementary child in reading, share Bible stories or songs, and just love on 'em!

Schedule: Mon & Wed 4:00-5:00pm during the school year

Age: High school-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Leadership, Mercy, Serving, Shepherding, Teaching

BIBLICAL INSTRUCTION FOR CHILDREN

Skills: Ability to invest in & connect w/ kids & have an understanding of the Bible

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: Children in our after-school programs (Caldwell Learning Center Tutoring and Read 2 Succeed - see below) not only get educational encouragement, but spiritual as well!!! Each time we meet with them we share a Bible story, a verse and prayer. These are not traditional Bible studies, but rather interspersed Biblical instruction woven into the time they spend with us. Your heart will surely be moved when you get to know these precious kids!

Schedule: Various times throughout the school year

Age: High School-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Knowledge, Leadership, Evangelism, Mercy, Serving, Shepherding, Teaching

BIBLE CAMPS

Skills: Creativity, patience/endurance, ability to plan, organize and spend quality time with kids

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: Volunteer your time to assist with camp & help give an inner city teen the opportunity to get out of the city and away from the noise of their everyday lives that distract them from God!! For many kids, this camp will be the first time they've gone beyond the city limits and will get to experience such a getaway!

Schedule: Various times throughout the summer

Age: High school-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Knowledge, Leadership, Evangelism, Serving, Shepherding, Teaching

SPORTS OUTREACHES

Skills: Some athletic &/or coaching ability, planning & managing skills, ability to encourage & guide teens

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: Oasis of Hope provides volunteer coaches for the summer youth baseball program for kids between the ages of 6-15. We are also seeking to form teams again for basketball & soccer as well. Being a part of a team not only teaches the skills of the game, but also demonstrates teamwork, commitment, good sportsmanship and allows us the opportunity to make a positive difference in a young person's life.

Schedule: Various times throughout the year

Age: College-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Knowledge, Leadership, Evangelism, Serving, Shepherding, Teaching

FOOTBALL CAMP

Skills: Some athletic ability, desire to listen, encourage & guide teens

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: Oasis of Hope hosts the Manassas High School football team to attend a 3-day camp based out of Hope Presbyterian Church. Our volunteers then have the incredible chance to not only improve the boys' physical game play, but more importantly their spiritual game. Bible studies, prayer and one-on-one attention are interspersed into their athletic training. It's an awesome platform that allows our volunteers to provide positive role models, Biblical instruction, teamwork, and the guy-time they've been missing in their lives. Please volunteer your time or sponsor a football player for \$50 today (and then come and cheer them on during a game in the Fall!)

Schedule: First weekend in August

Age: College-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Leadership, Evangelism, Serving, Shepherding, Teaching

YOUTH MINISTRY

Skills: Willingness to invest time, energy, patience & love into the lives of inner city teens

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: Dramatically impact the lives of those in the pivotal teenage stage of life at Humes Middle and Manassas High Schools by spending time with them.

Schedule: Ongoing

Age: College-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Leadership, Evangelism, Mercy, Serving, Shepherding, Teaching

Empowering Neighborhood Adults —*must have a passion for inner city adults & a desire to lead/influence/serve positively*

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Skills: Ability to invest in & connect with men; have an understanding of the Bible

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: Men from our neighborhood meet weekly to be discipled and to learn more about the Bible by simply reading God's Word together and dialoguing about its' meaning and how it applies to their lives. Relationships are built and friendships are made.

NOTE: We are seeking to offer more opportunities for Biblical discipleship. Would you like to help?

Schedule: Tues 8:30-10:00am

Age: Adult Men

Spiritual Gifts: Knowledge, Leadership, Evangelism, Mercy, Serving, Shepherding, Teaching

Community Events

Several seasonal events are held in the Oasis' neighborhood that require volunteers from both inside and outside of the community. Helping to plan, promote and carry out such events provides experience in working with people, being responsible, following through with tasks, and establishing a sense of pride. It also plants the seeds for relationships to develop and grow through working and playing together!

- **EASTER EGG HUNT**

Skills: Event planning, passion for children, organization, patience

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: Neighborhood children are invited to come to a massive outdoor egg hunt and celebration that includes carnival-like games, candy and lots of fun!

Schedule: Saturday before Easter (March/April)

Age: High school-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Music, Serving, Hospitality

- **FALL FESTIVAL**

Skills: Event planning, organization, patience

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: As a kick-off to the new season, local residents assist in throwing a Fall party on the lawn with games, barbeque and great music. It's a beautiful time of year to get out and enjoy the weather and get to know the neighborhood residents in this fun, casual atmosphere. The more the merrier!

Schedule: Designated Saturday in October

Age: High school-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Leadership, Evangelism, Music, Serving, Hospitality

- **THANKSGIVING BASKETS**

Skills: Desire to collect and collate food into baskets

Contact: Tom Harrison, tomecuador@bellsouth.net

Description: Providing a delicious Thanksgiving feast by helping to gather and assemble holiday baskets for a family who wouldn't be able to afford one is incredibly rewarding! Join us! We want you to know how awesome it feels to give in this way!

Schedule: Designated date in November

Age: All ages

Spiritual Gifts: Mercy, Giving, Serving, Helps

PERSONAL FINANCE COACHING

Skills: Background or basic knowledge in household budgeting and record keeping

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: We need adults who understand the basic concepts of personal finance to help address the areas of budgeting, debt reduction, savings, investing, and banking. This ministry is more about sitting down with people, developing relationships, and helping them with their basic financial practices than it is about higher level investing/banking. Don't be intimidated! If you can balance a checkbook and keep tabs on your own bills, you can assist others in doing the same.

Schedule: Ongoing

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Knowledge, Leadership, Mercy, Shepherding, Teaching

HEALTH EDUCATION

Skills: Medical background

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: Help improve the general health habits of community residents through education and awareness. Various outreaches are incorporated into our other programs (such as teaching healthy eating habits to our kids at the Bickford Community Center). We need your help to assist in developing this component of our ministry to a more comprehensive degree. Doctors, dentists, dieticians, nurses, or anyone in the health/medical field, we especially need you!

Schedule: Ongoing

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Knowledge, Craftsmanship, Leadership, Mercy, Serving, Teaching

EMPLOYMENT AND GED SUPPORT GROUP

Skills: High school diploma, patience

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: One of the most frequent requests we get is to offer classes to help adults achieve their GED. We have recently started a pilot-program. We'd love to match up mentors with each student to provide encouragement, positive role modeling, and assistance as needed.

Schedule: Various times throughout the year

Age: College-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Knowledge, Leadership, Mercy, Serving, Shepherding, Teaching

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)

Skills: Interest in personal finance, people-friendly, patient

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: Each year volunteers are trained to help neighborhood residents file their taxes at no charge. No accounting experience is necessary; we'll train you! This is a tangible and practical ministry that is greatly appreciated by those who take advantage of it.

Schedule: January-April 15, Tues 5:30-7:00pm & Sat 10:00am-1:00pm

Age: College-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Knowledge, Leadership, Serving

HOPE HOUSE & BEARWATER CREEK APARTMENTS

Skills: Some carpentry skill, heart to serve

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: Boarded up and vacant homes become a magnet for drug and gang activity. We have a huge need for quality, affordable housing in our community that helps families transition from renters to owners in an empowering way and revitalizes the community. Come make a difference with us by assisting with building new homes and rehabbing dilapidated properties, or provide lunch for all the workers! There are things needing done for all ages and skill levels!

Schedule: Spring and Fall

Age: High school-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Craftsmanship, Leadership, Serving

OASIS TOYSTORE

Skills: Sales, Accounting, Managerial, Customer Service &/or Inventorying skills

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: Deliver a joyful Christmas to families in need! Work side-by-side with the local residents we train and employ to run our toy store, or donate toys or money and you will surely bring smiles to many children. Parents get the joy of providing a Christmas for their families through the discounted name-brand toys. This volunteer opportunity will really get you in the holiday spirit and is a blast!

Schedule: December

Age: High school-aged & older

Spiritual Gifts: Leadership, Mercy, Serving

BICKFORD SENIOR CITIZENS' PROGRAM

Skills: Love for the elderly, patience

Contact: Terrice Thomas (755-7721 x1115, terrice@oasis-of-hope.com)

Description: Seniors in our neighborhood are thriving with daily activities, programs and social services being offered at the Bickford Community Center! Men and women ages 60 and older gather each weekday to participate in a free daily lunch; free transportation to/from the Bickford Community Center as well as doctor appointments; daily events such as organized games, seminars pertaining to the elderly, ceramics, exercise classes, field trips, quilting, Bible studies, computer lab hours; and social services such as assistance in applying for utility bill scholarships, tax help and winter weatherization of homes needing repair. If you have a heart for the elderly, come and join us! You will surely be loved and appreciated!!

Schedule: Monday-Friday 8:30am-1:00pm

Age: Any age welcome

Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Evangelism, Mercy, Serving, Hospitality

WEEKEND SUPPORT MINISTRY

~~CD KIOSK ATTENDANT—NO NEED AT THIS TIME~~

Skills: Technical

Contact: Diane Cressman (755-7721 x1902, diane@hopepres.com)

Description: Work the CD kiosk at the info desk before and after one service per month. Duplicate sermons on CD and sell them. Provide answers to questions and give basic directions within the building.

Schedule: 1 service per month

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Knowledge, Serving

OUTSIDE CONEHEAD

Skills: Welcoming and organizational ability

Contact: Mack Oates (755-7721 x1040, mack@hopepres.com)

Description: Assist in directing traffic in the parking lot and directing cars to open parking spots.

Schedule: One Sunday per month 8:30 a.m. until 12:45 p.m.

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving

INSIDE CONEHEAD

Skills: Counting and organizational ability

Contact: Mack Oates (755-7721 x1040, mack@hopepres.com)

Description: Help direct, usher and count attendance during the weekend services.

Schedule: One service per month

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving, Hospitality

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

WOMEN'S SPECIAL EVENTS VOLUNTEER

Skills: None

Contact: Pam Bramlage (755-7721 x1905, pam@hopepres.com)

Description: Daytime and Nighttime hours; a variety of opportunities-decorating, selling tickets, greeting, sorting items and clean up. We also need "take charge" type people to *head up* projects or tasks areas for events.

Schedule: 2 weeks prior to scheduled events and the day or night of the event.

Age: Adult

Spiritual Gifts: Serving, Hospitality

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES CHECK LIST

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _____ Work or Cell Phone _____
 Email _____ *(List only if you actually check it!)*

Please check the boxes of the volunteer ministry opportunities that you are interested in serving.

ADULT EDUCATION

- Library Assistant
- Library Weekend Staff

CARING

- Hope Cares Team Member
- 2 BY 2'S
- Lay Minister-Stephen Ministry
- Meals Ministry Provider
- Prayer Warrior/ Hope's Prayer Chain

CHILDREN-ADVENTURELAND

- Adventureland Greeter
- Nursery -Infants & Toddlers
- Early Childhood SS 3 & 4 y/o's
- Early Elem. SS - 1ST & 2ND Graders
- Upper Elem. SS 3RD-6TH Graders
- Special Kid's SS
- Special/Challenged Youth & Young Adult SS
- Special Events Helper

COMMUNICATIONS

- Bulletin Stuffer
- Hope Video Crew

CONNECTING

- Coffee Kiosk Attendant-Saturday
- Coffee Kiosk Attendant-Sunday
- Cookie Baker
- Cookie Deliverer
- Cookie Delivery Caller
- Greeter—Sunday Services
- Greeter—Saturday Services
- I.H.S. Host/Hostess
- PlugIn@Hope Care Caller
- Information Team-Sunday
- Information Team-Saturday

EVENTS

- General Assistance Volunteer
- Wednesday Dinner Set-up

GLOBAL OUTREACH

- Compassion Int. Child Sponsor
- GO Journey Mobilization Team
- GO Special Events Team
- GO Journey Prayer Team
- GO Missionary Care Team
- GO Journey Team Member

KITCHEN

- Wednesday Kitchen Helper

MEN

- Men's Breakfast Team

MUSIC/WORSHIP/ACADEMY

- Choir Participant
- Front Line Singer
- Band Participant
- Concert & Workshop Volunteers
- Music Studio and Record Label Vols

RECOVERY & SUPPORT

- Career Advisor

RECREATION

- Admin Assistant Volunteer
- Coach or Support Team
- Field Maintenance Crew
- Gym Supervisors Team
- Special Event Volunteers
- Web Design Team

THE STIRRING

- Stage Set-up Crew
- Foyer Crew
- Coffee Crew
- Hospitality Crew
- Target House Volunteer
- StirringKids Teacher or Assistant
- StirringKids Coordinator

STUDENT MINISTRY AT HOPE

- Youth Volunteer/Leader

URBAN

- Inner-City VBS Teacher/Aide
- Back to School Drive
- Urban Plunge Participant
- Urban Emphasis Weekend/Events
- Justice Tour Excursion
- Hope 5K
- Tree of Hope Sponsor/Adopter
- SCRUBS Team Worker
- Arms of Hope LeBonheur
- Clothing Closet Sorter
- Knitting 4 Hope
- Quilting for Needy Babies

OASIS OF HOPE

- Oasis VBS Teacher/Aide
- Adopt-A-Class at Caldwell Elem.
- Caldwell Elem. Tutoring
- Caldwell Learning Center Tutoring
- Read to Succeed at In the Cut
- Biblical Instruction for Children
- Bible Camps
- Sports Outreaches
- Football Camp
- Youth Ministry-Urban
- Men's Bible Study
- Community Events
- Personal Finance Coaching
- Health Education
- Employment and GED Support
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance
- Hope House & Bearwater Crk. Apt
- Oasis Toy Store
- Bickford Senior Citizens' Program

WEEKEND SUPPORT

- CD Kiosk Attendant—No Need
- Inside Conehead
- Outside Conehead

WOMEN

- Women's Special Event Volunteer

Please Turn at Session Six

