

Welcome!

- ✓ ***Grab a cup of coffee and breakfast.***
- ✓ ***Say hello to someone you don't know.***
- ✓ ***We'll gather at 10:20am.***

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Preparing our Hearts for Worship

Psalm 117:1-2

*“Praise the LORD, all you nations; extol him,
all you peoples. For great is his love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.
Praise the LORD.”*



GOOD NEWS

101

Overview

1. Why are we here? (Purpose / Vision)
2. What are we all about? (Mission)
3. What do we believe? (Beliefs)
4. What do we do? (Behaviors)
5. What is the Good News? (Motivation)

Vision & Verse

Vision – to experience and express LOVE from God to others

- **Verse** – *“The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.”*
– Galatians 5:6b

Mission

Mission – to connect with people and build relationships through community workshops, neighborhood-focused ministry, serving local needs, mentoring, and worship.

The Good News

Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation.

- Colossians 1:21-22

GNC Beliefs

1. I'm really broken and I need help.
2. Jesus is perfect and He is my help.
3. Jesus is the only way to healing in my relationship with God.
4. The Holy Spirit is my power to live as a follower of Jesus.
5. God calls me to submit to His authority and serve His Church

Submission (def):

to **yield** oneself to the authority or will of another;
to permit oneself to be **subjected to** someone or
something; willful obedience to another; **humility**

Benefits of Submission

1. Protection
2. Help
3. Freedom
4. Rest
5. Growth

To whom should we submit?

1. Spouse
2. Children to parents
3. Government authorities
4. Boss at work
5. Jesus and His Church

Church Family

“Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.” – Hebrews 13:17

Church Leaders

Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. – Acts 20:28

Motivation for Submission

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters,
in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a
living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is
your true and proper worship. – Romans 12:1

“Humble Submission (Part 2)”

1. Benefits of Submission to the Church
2. Components of Submission

Benefits of Submission

Safety net of care from your spiritual family

- Elder Shepherding
- Deacon Care
- Committed Community

Loneliness

“God does not intend for you to be lonely and isolated. Loneliness has been described as ‘a homesickness for God.’ God created you for community – calling you into a loving relationship with him and with other human beings.. who know and love God. We are called to be a community where many lonely, isolated people find love and forgiveness – a community of the people of God.. This is the answer to loneliness.” – Nicky Gumbel

Unbelief

“One of the remedies to unbelief is community where we ‘encourage one another daily’ (Hebrews 3:13). This is why it is so important to be part of Christian community, spending time with other Christians, encouraging one another and building up your faith. Church is not an organization you join; it is a family where you belong, a home where you are loved and a hospital where you find healing.” – Nicky Gumbel

Support

“God never intended you to fight your battles alone. He called you to be a part of a strong, healthy, vibrant, growing community of his people... The community of Jesus is the most wonderful community on earth. It is ‘held together by love’ (Hebrews 14:1, MSG).”

– Nicky Gumbel

Components of Submission

Trust + Humility + Commitment

Commitment

Commitment says,
*“You can be yourself (broken, blemished,
messed up, fearful, anxious, angry, insecure
self), and I’m not going anywhere.
I’m here for you.”*

Beauty of Submission

Submission is a beautiful act of humility, trust, and courage. When people in the Church submit to the authority of the Church, they are trusting that, as they submit, the Church will care for them as would a loving parent. When a child is hurt, discouraged, sad, or wounded, they know that they can run to their loving parent, climb up in their lap, and be embraced with love.

Beauty of Submission

“Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should **restore that person** gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. **Carry each other's burdens**, and in this way you will **fulfill the law of Christ**. If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves.” – Galatians 6:1-3

Quote

“You can’t have God as your Father if you don’t have the church as your Mother.” – Cyprian

The Blessing

2 Thessalonians 3:5, 16

*May the Lord direct your hearts into
God's love and Christ's perseverance,
and may the Lord of peace himself give you
peace at all times and in every way.
The Lord be with you all.*