



JOIN THE TEAM CLASS

Gospel & Baptism

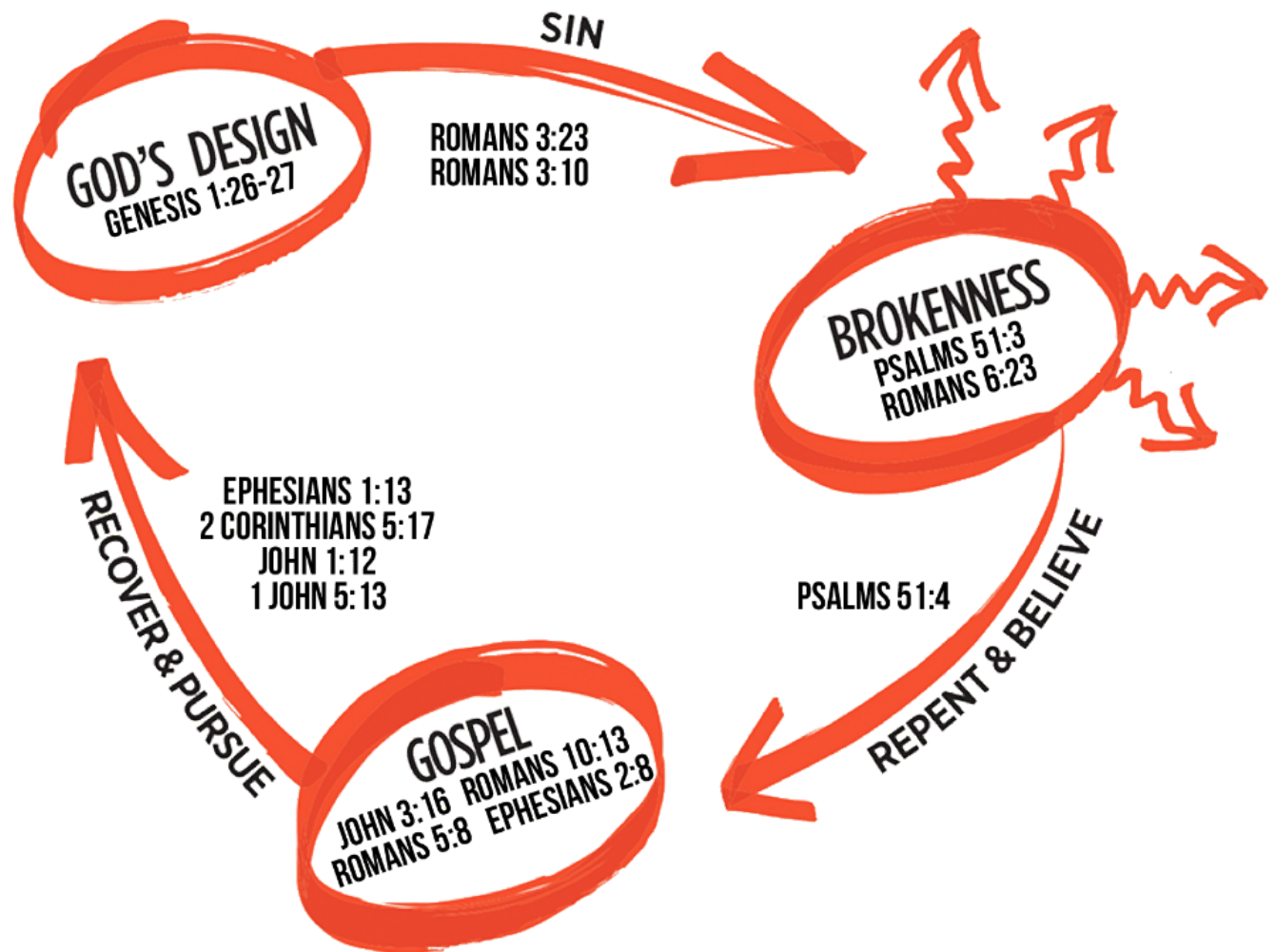
Expectations

Values & Maturity Statement

Expectations Explained (Time / Talents / Treasures)

Membership Covenant

NEXT STEPS



What should I do?

*My life is broken - I recognize it's because of my sin. I need you
I believe Christ came to live, and die and was raised from the dead - to rescue me from my sin.
Forgive me, I turn from my selfish ways and put my trust in You.
I know that Jesus is Lord of all. I will follow Him.*

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

"For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." (Romans 10:13)

What's next?

Connect
Grow
Serve



WHAT IS THE MEANING OF BAPTISM?

- It illustrates Christ's burial and resurrection.

"Christ died for our sins... He was buried... and He rose again."

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

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

- It illustrates my new life as a Christian.

"When someone becomes a Christian he becomes a brand new person inside. The old life has passed away and a new life has begun!" --2 Corinthians. 5:17

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

- Baptism doesn't make you a believer - it shows that you already believe. Baptism does not "save" you, only your faith in Christ does that. Baptism is like a wedding ring - it's the outward symbol of the commitment you make in your heart.

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

WHY BE BAPTIZED BY IMMERSION?

- **Because Jesus was baptized that way.**

"As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water."

--Matthew 3:16

- **Every baptism in the Bible was by immersion.**

"...then both Philip and the man went down into the water and

Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water..." --Acts 8:38-39

- **The word Baptize means "To dip under water".**

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

It best symbolized a burial and resurrection!

- **The founders of denominations agree:**

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

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



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

WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

- **Every person who has believed in Christ.**

"Those who believe and accepted His message were baptized..." --Acts 2:41

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

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

WHEN SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

- As soon as you have believed.

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

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

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

Crossroad Values & Maturity Statement

- **We are actively engaged in our community as an active neighbor & citizen (INCARNATION)**
 - I hang out here
 - I have relationships with neighbors
 - I feel & care about what's going on in my community
 - I'm a regular in the local businesses & events
- **My faith & relationship to Christ is clearly a priority & has impacted my values & decision making (DISCIPLESHIP)**
 - I meditate & communicate with God regularly in prayer
 - I read & study the Scriptures as a means to grow deeper in my knowledge & relationship to Jesus
 - Decisions about my time & money are made keeping my faith in mind
- **My faith is a personal pursuit of & response to the grace of Jesus, not a psuedo-spiritual means to modify my behavior (GRACE)**
 - I understand Jesus' gospel of grace. That we are invited to respond to the NEWS of Jesus' saving work on the cross. We do not earn right-standing with God, nor do we seek to maintain right-standing with God by "behaving"
 - I seek to view people with eyes of grace - not judging them based on their differing lifestyles. I am not the morality police. I don't expect people to "clean themselves up" before I can connect with them. I can connect & befriend people who are vastly different from me
- **I am intentional about cultivating community in my life and in those around me (COMMUNITY)**
 - I have relationships in my life that give me life/energy, hold me accountable, & spur me forward
 - Not only am I "receiving," but I regularly invest in others to help them grow as well
- **I live out my faith publicly with wise discernment of people's negative perspective on Christians & the shortcomings of Evangelicalism in America (PUBLIC FAITH)**
 - I can and do talk about my faith in Christ regularly - both with Christians & non-Christians
 - I am aware & sensitive to the myriad of polarizing issues affecting my community and how they view "Christians"
 - I am aware of the difficulties people have in opening up with Christians. I see their hesitations as valid
 - I deeply want everyone I know to put their faith in Christ. Although, this desire does not prevent me from having genuine friendships with non-Christians. Yes, I am praying & intentionally look for ways to share my faith with them and I am intentional about creating a safe space for them to converse about spiritual matters with me if they want. I do not force the issue.
- **My heart breaks for the social injustices in our world including oppression, systemic racism, hunger & homelessness, sexism, trafficking, etc. (SOCIAL JUSTICE)**
 - I have a growing awareness of the myriad of social issues that plague our world.
 - I am "in the fight" somehow seeking to join God in His work of redemption in this world. This is evident in my schedule & bank statements
 - I serve for the sake of bringing renewal, it is not a "means" to the end of evangelizing. Service is not transactional.



Launch Team Expectations Explained September 2017

OUR MISSION

I understand that our mission is based on the Greatest Commandment & the Great Commission (Matthew 22:37-40 & Matthew 28:18-20). This is not a new idea. This is our purpose as laid out by Jesus - both as individuals & as a church.

It is my purpose to love God & to love my neighbor as myself.

It is my purpose to make disciples of all nations.

The church is a group of people who gather today in unity for these purposes.

Therefore, as a faith community, our purpose is the same.

Together we love God, love our neighbors, & multiply Christ-followers.

We want to see this here & now where we live in Jersey City.

TIME

I understand that my presence during Sunday Services, small group gatherings, & other Crossroad activities is the primary way I fulfill my role as a member. I'm aware that when I am absent, I am naturally leaving a gap that the other members will need to fill. This is especially true at our current size. My primary service as a launch team member is to be present and on time.

TALENTS

From the very conception of this church, we have always had a DNA of service. Serving is an undeniable aspect of our church culture, whether it's serving on our ministry teams, service projects, & alongside other neighbors at local community groups. God has built me with a specific S.H.A.P.E and I will make myself available to meet the needs of our community & our city. This is what God calls me to do.

TREASURES

I understand that it takes money to launch this church. Events, supplies, facilities, staffing & etc - it all takes money. So in commitment to this mission, I will invest financially by giving regularly. Furthermore, I understand that we are merely stewards. All that we own, including the money we've earned, ultimately belongs to Him. Still, God only calls us to bring back 10% of our earning as His - the tithe. I also understand that He calls me to give cheerfully. I will consider all these as I execute my giving plan.

MISSION

Pastor Paul is the Lead Pastor of this church start up, but I understand that I am called to this mission just as he is. Not only is the responsibility of this mission on Paul's shoulders, it's on mine too. I don't take this responsibility lightly. I will do all that I can to grow in loving God, loving my neighbor & making disciples. We are united in this mission, therefore we are also united in the responsibility & execution of it.

COMMITMENT

We naturally invest in & prioritize the things we value most. When we're excited to catch a movie, we show up on time. When we want to eat good food, we pay for it. When we believe in a project, we willingly put in the work necessary.

I understand that it will take committed, driven members to launch this church. This "church membership" requires a deeper commitment than typical church membership. There's no hiding here. I fully understand that it will require more of my time, heart, energy, & finances to establish this church. Deeper commitment & investment means deeper steps of faith & deeper experiences of God.

I'm joining my heart and trusting God together with this community.

I'm putting my faith into action.



2018 Membership Covenant

"Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and been baptized, and being in agreement with Crossroad Community Church's statements, strategy and structure, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the Crossroad Church family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:

I will protect the unity of my church

...by acting in love toward other members

...by refusing to gossip

...by following the leaders

"So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony, and on the growth of our fellowship together." Rom. 15:19 (Ph)

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

"Have a sincere love for your fellow believers, love one another earnestly with all your hearts." 1 Peter 1:22 (GN)

"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of our mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs..." Eph. 4:29

"Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be no advantage to you." Heb. 13:17

I will share the responsibility of my church

...by praying for its growth

...by inviting the unchurched to attend

...by warmly welcoming those who visit

"To the church...we always thank God for you and pray for you constantly." 1 Thess. 1:2

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

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

I will serve the ministry of my church

...by discovering my gifts and talents

...by being equipped to serve by my pastors

...by developing a servant's heart



"Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you..." 1 Peter 4:10 (Ph)

"God gave...some to be pastors and teachers to prepare God's people for works of ministry, so that the body of Christ may be built up..." Eph. 4:11-12

"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Jesus Christ...who took on the very nature of a servant..." Phil 2:3-4, 7

I will support the testimony of my church

...by attending faithfully

...by living a godly life

...by giving regularly

"Let us not give up the habit of meeting together...but let us encourage one another." Heb. 10:25

"But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the gospel of Christ." Phil. 1:27 (Ph)

"Each one of you, on the first day of each week, should set aside a specific sum of money in proportion to what you have earned and use it for the offering." 1 Cor. 16:2

"A tenth of all you produce is the Lord's, and it is holy." Lev. 27:30

Covenant Demonstrated:

I commit my TIME & TALENTS

...I will attend to participate

...I will attend to serve

I commit my TREASURES

...I will return tithes to the Lord through Crossroad Community Church

...I will give offerings as God leads me

Crossroad's mission is my MISSION.

...I will actively share the Gospel

...I will be discipled and I will disciple at the same time

I have put my faith in Jesus as my Lord & Savior

My Spiritual Birthday: _____

I have gone public with my faith in Christ by taking the step of Baptism.

Believers' Baptism Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Signed: _____ Date _____