

NEWLIFECHURCH

GROWTH TRACK

JOIN

JOIN  DISCOVER  DEVELOP  ENGAGE 

INTRODUCTION

The New Life Church Growth Track guides you to discover your redemptive purpose and live the life God created for you. Growth Track is made up of four steps that equip you to: **1)** connect to the church, **2)** discover the strengths of your purposeful design, **3)** develop your personal leadership, **4)** use your God-given gifts to make a difference in the lives of others.

StepONE
JOIN 

Explore the ministry of New Life Church and find out how to connect with our church. Step One takes place the first Sunday of every month.

StepTWO
DISCOVER 

Dive into the details of your personality, discover your gifts, and see how your design reveals your purpose in life and your best fit in ministry. Step Two takes place the second Sunday of every month.

StepTHREE
DEVELOP 

Find out what it means to be a leader at New Life and learn how you can strengthen your character and gifting to fulfill your leadership potential. Step Three takes place the third Sunday of every month.

StepFOUR
ENGAGE 

Connect to the opportunities available at New Life to live out your purpose and serve others by using your God-given gifts. Step Four takes place the fourth Sunday of every month.

THE NEW LIFE STORY

New Life Church held its first Sunday service on Easter in 1999. Pastor Ed and Debra Cook along with Jim and Christine Mann launched the church with the goal of bringing to Denton, Texas a biblically based, Spirit-filled church. The first services were held at Texas Woman's University. Not long after, we moved to the North Lakes Recreation Center.

In 2005, New Life opened a second campus at Robson Ranch in Denton. That same year, the congregation was joined by Pastor Jeff Fairchild and Living Stones Fellowship. New Life opened her beautiful 40-acre campus on Milam Road in 2007.

We have the same passion for following the Lord today as we did in 1999. We invite you to see for yourselves just how exciting and fulfilling church can be when we grow and go together.

We want you to belong...



OUR PRAYER FOR YOU

“I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people.” **EPHESIANS 1:17-18**

OUR VISION AT NEW LIFE CHURCH

GROW GO TOGETHER

As we Grow and Go, Together, we believe that God has us on a spiritual journey that is comprised of four stages.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

1 | KNOW GOD

"[I pray]... that you may know Him better [personally]."

EPHESIANS 1:17-18

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you.'"

MATTHEW 7:21-23

We consider reaching people who do not know God personally to be one of our greatest responsibilities. Our Sunday services are for people at all stages in their spiritual journey but are primarily designed for those who do not yet have a genuine relationship with God.

OUR SUNDAY SERVICES FOCUS ON FOUR VALUES

1. A place to _____ with others.

We believe church should be enjoyable.

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go into the house of the Lord.'"

PSALM 122:1 NKJV

2. A place to _____ God.

We believe church should be a place where people encounter God and experience his presence.

"But...when some unbelievers or ordinary people come in, they will be convinced of their sin by what they hear. They will be judged by all they hear, their secret thoughts will be brought into the open, and they will bow down and worship God, confessing, 'Truly God is here among you!'"

1 CORINTHIANS 14:24-25 GNT

3. A place to get _____.

We believe church should be a place where people learn how the Bible applies to their daily lives.

*"So Christ Himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip His people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up." **EPHESIANS 4:11-12***

4. A place to _____ to God.

We believe church should be a place where people are directed by God to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' But how can they call on Him to save them unless they believe in Him? And how can they believe in Him if they have never heard about Him? And how can they hear about Him unless someone tells them?"

ROMANS 10:13-14 NLT

HOW WE SHARE CHRIST WITH OTHERS

"Go out into the country...and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full."

LUKE 14:23 TLB

Part of our role as Christians is to share the good news about Jesus and to tell others of his love for them. As we continue to reach people far from God, every one of us can do our part by following these four principles:

1. Accept the personal _____

2. Build a personal _____

3. Share your personal _____

4. Give a personal _____

2 | FIND COMMUNITY

"[I pray]... that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened [focused and clear]."

EPHESIANS 1:17-18

"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed."

JAMES 5:16

We believe life-change happens in the context of relationships. Life Groups have one simple purpose: to bring people together. God created us to live in community with others, and it is only then that we can experience the full life He intends for us.

LIFE GROUPS PROVIDE THREE THINGS

1. A place to _____ with others.

"Yes, whatever a person is like, I try to find common ground with him so he will let me tell him about Christ and let Christ save him."

1 CORINTHIANS 9:22 TLB

We were not made to do life alone. God created us for community, and Life Groups provide a place for you to connect with others, share life, and grow in faith together.

2. A place to _____ each other.

"We know what real love is because Jesus gave up His life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters."

1 JOHN 3:16 NLT

When we do life together, our problems become smaller as God uses others to bring support and encouragement to our lives. Small Groups become a place where others don't just know your name but care about what is happening in your life and want to support you in your spiritual journey.

3. A place to _____ together.

"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."

PROVERBS 27:17

We believe every person is created with God-given potential to make a difference in the world. Small Groups are a place you can grow with others to become more like Jesus and reach the potential God has put inside you.

NEW LIFE CHURCH LIFE GROUPS MODEL

We base our Life Groups model on the early church as described in the Bible in the book of Acts. In Acts, you can read about how small group meetings in homes helped lay the foundation for tremendous growth in the first church in Jerusalem.

"Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah."

ACTS 5:42

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

ACTS 20:20

5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT LIFE GROUPS AT NEW LIFE

1. SOME GROUPS ARE “FREE MARKET”

We want people to gather together based on things they enjoy and are important to them. Essentially, the things you are already doing in your life are the things that can make up your Small Group! From Bible study to gaming, parenting to student groups, sports to creative arts groups, our groups are as varied as we are. Choose a group based on location, day of the week, childcare needs, or interest:

Men • Women • Marriage and Family • Students • Freedom • Prayer • Outreach • Financial

2. THERE ARE THREE TRIMESTERS EVERY YEAR FOR “FREE MARKET GROUPS”

Life flows in seasons, and we want to make it easy for you to be in the right Small Group for you in each season. This is why we have new groups that start and stop three times a year in what we refer to as “semesters.”

Winter/Spring – 13 Weeks | Summer – 6 Weeks | Fall – 13 Weeks

3. OTHER GROUPS ARE ONGOING. WE REFER TO THESE AS LIFELINKS GROUPS

The aim of these groups is to “do life together” by having fellowship, eating together, praying together, encouraging each other, and learning together.

4. EVERYONE CAN JOIN A GROUP

Our hope is for every person at New Life to be connected in meaningful community through a Small Group. With so many groups to choose from, we are confident there is a group that is a great fit for you. You can search groups by topic, location, day, and time in our online Small Groups directory on our website or app. Once you find a few groups that interest you, contact the leaders to learn more and make plans to check them out in person.

5. ANYONE CAN HOST A GROUP

We believe hosting a group is simple because we all have something to offer others. Whether it's your passion, your experience, or an area of growth for you, hosting a group is a great way to bring people together in meaningful community.

To learn more about becoming a Life Group leader, attend Life Group Leadership Training in Step Four of the Growth Track. Even if you're not sure if you're ready to lead a group, we invite you to come to training.

3 | DISCOVER PURPOSE

THE NEW LIFE GROWTH TRACK EXISTS TO HELP YOU DISCOVER AND DEVELOP YOUR PURPOSE AND LIVE THE FULL LIFE GOD CREATED FOR YOU.



"We have different gifts, according to the grace given us."

ROMANS 12:6

"All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it."

1 CORINTHIANS 12:27 NLT

"[I pray]... that you may know the hope to which He has called you."
EPHESIANS 1:17-18



GROWTH TRACK IS MADE UP OF FOUR STEPS—JOIN, DISCOVER, DEVELOP, AND ENGAGE—THAT WILL HELP GUIDE YOU THROUGH YOUR JOURNEY.

"Let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity."
HEBREWS 6:1

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."
JOHN 10:10

4 | BECOME A MEMBER

"[I pray]... that you may grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life He has for His followers [in his holy people]."

EPHESIANS 1:17-18

"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."

JOHN 15:8, 11

"God has given gifts to each of you from His great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another."

1 PETER 4:10 NLT

We were all created by God to make a difference in the world around us. God has a place for you where your unique abilities and passions can impact the lives of others. We believe your life will never make sense until you find, develop, and fulfill your purpose.

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

EPHESIANS 2:10

"However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me."

ACTS 20:24

"Now God gives us many kinds of special abilities...and there are different kinds of service to God [ministry]...All of you together are the one Body of Christ and each of you is a separate and necessary part of it."

1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-5, 27 TLB

AT NEW LIFE CHURCH

We believe there is no great divide between the "ministers" and the "congregation." Everyone has something they can do to impact the lives of others in the Kingdom of God. From our perspective, every member of New Life Church is a minister, every person is gifted in some area, and every task is important. Discover what you do well, and take steps to use your gifts to make a difference.

You can start by joining the church in Step Four of the Growth Track!

LEADERSHIP

As you consider investing your heart, time, family, and finances into the life of a church, it is important for you to feel confident in church leadership. Our goal in sharing the details of New Life's government is that you will understand that our church is structured to support the values of integrity, accountability, and spiritual authority. Our leadership is organized in these groups:

ELDERS

STAFF

TRUSTEES

OVERSEERS

NEW LIFE CHURCH GOVERNMENT

Our church government is made up of four groups

Led by _____

The Elders of New Life Church meet regularly for prayer as they seek together God's direction for the church body. Outside of their role in prayer, they are engaged in the ministry of the church as they counsel and lead small groups.

Guided by _____

The Pastoral Staff team is led by Pastor Jim. This team oversees the day-to-day ministry and operations of the church. These staff pastors serve the congregation and are responsible for the development of the spiritual life of the church.

Protected by _____

Our Trustees are members of the congregation appointed by the Senior Pastor to oversee the finances and direct the provision of the facilities needed by the church. They provide counsel to the Senior Pastor regarding the major financial commitments of the church.

Accountable to _____

The Overseers are five pastors of respected congregations and ministries who love New Life Church and are willing to provide spiritual protection to the church. They may be called upon to help in accountability matters relating to the Senior Pastor if requested to do so by the Elders or Trustees. The Overseers serve as Apostolic Elders.

CHURCH FINANCES

At New Life Church, we practice tithing for the support of Christ's body, the church, as God commands. We recognize that giving 10% of our income back to God is the biblical standard.

"Every Sunday each of you make an offering and put it in safekeeping. Be as generous as you can. When I get there you'll have it ready, and I won't have to make a special appeal."

1 CORINTHIANS 16:1-4 MSG

"Be sure to set aside a tenth of all that your fields produce each year."

DEUTERONOMY 14:22 NIV

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

MALACHI 3:10 NIV

GIVING

Giving is one of the central themes in the Bible. Jesus talked more about this subject than Heaven, Hell, or prayer. To understand what it means to be a Christ-follower, we must also understand what it means to be a giver.

TITHE

The tithe, or "first fruits" of our labor/income, belongs to God. We find this principle all through God's Word. Tithing, giving God the first 10% of our income to the local church, is the primary, practical way we acknowledge that God is first. (Proverbs 3:9-10)

OFFERINGS

An offering is giving over and above the tithe. The Bible says that by giving generously, we are able to "take hold of the life that is truly life." You aren't really living unless you are freely giving. (1 Timothy 6:18-19)

THE GIFT OF GIVING

The gift of giving is a spiritual gift that God gives to some people (Romans 12:8). It is a Spirit-given capacity and desire to serve God by giving of your material resources, far beyond the tithe, to further the work of God.

Many people love to give to God and as they do, they want to feel confident in the organization through which they give. At New Life Church, we want people to understand they are giving to God through the church, not to the church. As we openly share the honesty, integrity, and spiritual values that guide the financial practices of New Life, we believe people can focus on what God is calling them to give and trust that He is leading our church to steward it well.

The giving of tithes and offerings is worship to Jesus and an expression of the relationship between the individual giver and the Lord. That is why we don't have people fill out pledge cards or make faith promises. Funds are not "income only," they are worship and are not considered to be a business transaction but an expression of gratitude toward God.

WAYS TO GIVE

You can give in the offering during worship, in the offering boxes located in the Living Room and Hallway; through our website (newlifedenton.org/give) or the app.

BECOMING A MEMBER

NEW LIFE CHURCH MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and being in agreement with the values and ideas presented in Step One of the Growth Track, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the New Life Church family. In doing so, I make the following commitment to God and my fellow church members:

I WILL PROTECT THE UNITY OF MY CHURCH BY:

- Acting in love toward other members.
- Refusing to gossip.
- Following the leaders.

“So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony, and on the growth of our fellowship together.”

ROMANS 14:19 PH

“Live in complete harmony with each other—each with the attitude of Christ toward each other.”

ROMANS 15:5 TLB

“Have a sincere love for other believers, love one another earnestly with all your heart.”

1 PETER 1:22 GNT

“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”

EPHESIANS 4:29 NIV

“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 NIV

I WILL SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MY CHURCH BY:

- Praying for its growth and health.
- Inviting the unchurched to attend.
- Warmly welcoming those who visit.

“To the church...we always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers.”

1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-2 NIV

“Go out into the country...and urge anyone you find to come in, so that the house will be full.”

LUKE 14:23 TLB

“So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified.”

ROMANS 15:7 TLB

I WILL SERVE THE MINISTRY OF MY CHURCH BY:

- Discovering my gifts and talents.
- Using my God-given gifts to make a difference in the lives of others.
- Developing a servant's heart.

"Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you."

1 PETER 4:10 PH

"So Christ Himself gave...pastors and teachers, to equip His people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."

EPHESIANS 4:11-12 NIV

"Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus... taking the form of a bondservant."

PHILIPPIANS 2:4-5, 7 NKJV

I WILL SUPPORT THE TESTIMONY OF MY CHURCH BY:

- Attending church and Small Groups faithfully.
- Living a Godly life.
- Giving regularly.

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."

ACTS 2:42 NIV

"Let us not neglect our meeting together...but encourage one another."

HEBREWS 10:25 NLT

"But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the Gospel of Christ."

PHILIPPIANS 1:27 PH

To read through our full Statement of Faith, see Appendix page 21.

NEXT STEPS:

- Read the full Statement of Faith
- Complete the Membership Covenant and return it next week
- Review Step 1 and study scriptures in it
- Commit to completing all four steps of the Growth Track
- Come back next week for Step 2 and bring questions with you

APPENDIX

ANSWER KEY

GROW GO TOGETHER (6)

1. Know God
2. Find Community
3. Discover Purpose
4. Make a Difference

OUR SUNDAY SERVICES FOCUS ON FOUR VALUES (7)

1. A place to celebrate with others.
2. A place to encounter God.
3. A place to get equipped.
4. A place to respond to God.

HOW WE SHARE CHRIST WITH OTHERS (8)

1. Accept the personal responsibility.
2. Build a personal relationship.
3. Share your personal story.
4. Give a personal invitation.

LIFE GROUPS PROVIDE THREE THINGS (9)

1. A place to connect with others.
2. A place to protect each other.
3. A place to grow together.

NEW LIFE CHURCH GOVERNMENT (16)

1. Led by Elders.
2. Guided by Staff.
3. Protected by Trustees.
4. Accountable to Overseers.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

THE ESSENTIALS

Your pastors and elders have spent many years studying the Scriptures directly, as well as studying how great men and women of God have understood the Scriptures over the past 2,000 years. In these studies, we have become convinced of the following doctrines, which represent the beliefs of New Life Church. They are listed in our bylaws as the “New Life Statement of Faith.”

HOLY BIBLE: The Holy Bible, and only the Bible, is the authoritative Word of God. It alone is the final authority for determining all doctrinal truths. In its original writing, the Bible is inspired, infallible, and inerrant (see Prov. 30:5, Rom. 16:25-26, 2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:20-21).

TRINITY: There is one God, eternally existent in three persons Father, Son (Jesus) and Holy Spirit. These three are coequal and coeternal (see Gen. 1:26; Isa. 9:6; Matt. 3:16-17, 28:19; Luke 1:35; Heb. 3:7 11; 1 John 5 7).

JESUS CHRIST: Jesus Christ is God the Son, the second person of the Trinity. On the earth, Jesus was one hundred percent God and one hundred percent man. He is the only man ever to have lived a sinless life. He was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, performed miracles, died on the cross for humankind and, thus, atoned for our sins through the shedding of His blood. He rose from the dead on the third day according to the Scriptures, ascended to the right hand of the Father, and will return again in power and glory (see Isa. 9:6; John 1:1, 14, 20:28; Phil. 2:5-6; 1 Tim. 2:5, 3:16).

VIRGIN BIRTH: Jesus Christ was conceived by God the Father through the Holy Spirit (the third person of the Trinity) in the Virgin Mary’s womb; therefore, He is the Son of God (see Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:18, 23 25; Luke 1:27 35).

REDEMPTION: Humanity was created good and upright, but by voluntary transgression, it fell. Humanity’s only hope of redemption is in Jesus Christ, the Son of God (see Gen. 1:26 31, 3:1 7; Rom. 5:12 21).

REGENERATION: For anyone to know God, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential (see John 6:44, 65).

SALVATION: We are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ: His death, burial and resurrection. Salvation is a gift from God, not a result of our good works or of any human effort (see Rom. 10:9, 10; Acts 16:31; Gal. 2:16, 3:8; Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 3:5; Heb. 9:22).

REPENTANCE: Repentance is the commitment to turn away from sin in every area of our lives and to follow Christ, which allows us to receive His redemption and to be regenerated by the Holy Spirit. Thus, through repentance we receive forgiveness of sins and appropriate salvation (see Acts 2:21; 3:19; 1 John 1:9).

SANCTIFICATION: Sanctification is the ongoing process of yielding to God's Word and His Spirit in order to complete the development of Christ's character in us. It is through the present ministry of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God that the Christian is enabled to live a godly life (see Rom. 8:29; 12:1-2; 2 Cor. 3:18; 6:14-18; 1 Thess. 4:3, 5:23; 2 Thess. 2:1-3; Heb. 2:11).

JESUS' BLOOD: The blood Jesus Christ shed on the cross of Calvary was sinless and is one hundred percent sufficient to cleanse humankind from all sin. Jesus allowed Himself to be punished for both our sinfulness and our sins, enabling all those who believe to be free from the penalty of sin, which is death (see John 1:29; Rom. 3:10, 12, 23, 5:9; Col. 1:20; 1 John 1:7; Rev. 1:5, 5:9).

JESUS CHRIST INDWELLS ALL BELIEVERS: Christians are people who have invited the Lord Jesus Christ to come and live inside them by His Holy Spirit. They relinquish the authority of their lives over to Him, thus making Jesus the Lord of their lives as well as Savior. They put their trust in what Jesus accomplished for them when He died, was buried and rose again from the dead (see John 1:12; 14:17, 23; 15:4; Rom. 8:11; Rev. 3:20).

BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT: Given at Pentecost, the baptism in the Holy Spirit is the promise of the Father. It was sent by Jesus after His Ascension to empower the Church to preach the gospel throughout the whole earth (see Joel 2:28-29; Matt. 3:11; Mark 16:17; Acts 1:5; 2:1-4, 17, 38-39, 8:14-17, 10:38, 44-47, 11:15-17, 19:1-6).

THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT: The Holy Spirit is manifest through a variety of spiritual gifts to build and sanctify the Church, demonstrate the validity of the Resurrection and confirm the power of the gospel. The lists of these gifts in the Bible are not necessarily exhaustive, and the gifts may occur in various combinations. All believers are commanded to earnestly desire the manifestation of the gifts in their lives. These gifts always operate in harmony with the Scriptures and should never be used in violation of biblical parameters (see Rom. 1:11, 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:1-31, 14:1-40; Eph. 4:16; 1 Tim. 4:14; 2 Tim. 1:5-16; Heb. 2:4; 1 Pet. 4:10).

THE CHURCH: The Church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of Jesus' Great Commission. Every person born of the Spirit is an integral part of the Church as a member of the Body of believers. There is a spiritual unity of all believers in our Lord Jesus Christ (see John 17:11, 20-23; Eph. 1:22, 2:19-22; Heb. 12:23).

TWO SACRAMENTS:

WATER BAPTISM: Following faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the new convert is commanded by the Word of God to be baptized by immersion in water in the name of the Father, Son, and of the Holy Spirit (see Matt. 28:19; Acts 2:38).

THE LORD'S SUPPER: A unique time of communion in the presence of God when the elements of bread and grape juice (the body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ) are taken, in remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross (see Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 16:16; Acts 8:12, 36-38; 10:47-48; 1 Cor. 10:16; 11:23-21).

HEALING OF THE SICK: Healing of the sick is illustrated in the life and ministry of Jesus, and included in Jesus' commission to his disciples. Healing of the sick is given as a sign to fellow believers. It is also a part of Jesus' work on the cross and one of the gifts of the Spirit (see Ps. 103:2-3; Isa. 53:5; Matt. 8:16-17; Mark 16:17-18; Acts 8:6-7; Rom. 11:29; 1 Cor. 12:9, 28; James 5:14 16).

GOD'S WILL FOR PROVISION: The Father's will is that believers become whole, healthy and successful in all areas of life. But because of the fall, many may not receive the full benefits of God's will while on earth. That fact, though, should never prevent believers from seeking the full benefits of Christ's provision in order to serve others.

- Spiritual (see John 3:3 11; Rom. 10:9-10; 2 Cor. 5:17 21).
- Mental and emotional (see Isa. 26:3; Rom. 12:2; Phil. 4:7-8; 2 Tim. 1:7, 2:11).
- Physical (see Isa. 53:4-5; Matt. 8:17; 1 Pet. 2:24).
- Financial (see Deut. 28:1 14; Josh. 1:8; Ps. 34:10, 84:11; Mal. 3:10-11; Luke 6:38; 2 Cor. 9:6 10; Phil. 4:19)

RESURRECTION: Jesus Christ was physically resurrected from the dead in a glorified body three days after His death on the cross. As a result, both the saved and the lost will be resurrected: they that are saved to the resurrection of life; and they that are lost to the resurrection of eternal damnation (see Luke 24:16, 36, 39; John 2:19 21, 20:26 28; 21:4; Acts 24:15; 1 Cor. 15:42, 44; Phil. 1:21 23, 3:21).

HEAVEN: Heaven is the eternal dwelling place for all believers in the gospel of Jesus Christ (see Matt. 5:3, 12, 20, 6:20, 19:21, 25:34; John 17:24; 2 Cor. 5:1; Heb. 11:16; 1 Pet. 1:4).

HELL: After living one life on earth, the unbelievers will be judged by God and sent to hell where they will be eternally tormented with the devil and the fallen angels (see Matt. 25:41; Mark 9:43 48; Heb. 9:27; Rev. 14:9 11, 20:12 15, 21:8).

SECOND COMING: Jesus Christ will physically and visibly return to earth for the second time to establish His kingdom. This will occur at a date undisclosed by the Scriptures (see Matt. 24:30, 26:63-64; Acts 1:9 11; 1 Thess. 4:15 17; 2 Thess. 1:7-8; Rev. 1:7).

SPECIAL NOTE ON HOLY SPIRIT AND HIS MINISTRY

What makes becoming a Christian different from, say, becoming a Buddhist or a Muslim? Of course, there are many differences in these religions. But one of the primary aspects that separates Christianity from other religions is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. When you put your faith in Jesus and the atoning work he did on the cross, the Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit comes to dwell within you (Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19; Ephesians 1:13).

His task is to help us mature in our faith. He is the one who makes the new life God offers us a reality (called regeneration). He reveals to us when we sin (conviction). He also helps us turn from our sin to be more like God (sanctification).

To be baptized in (sometimes called “filled with”) the Holy Spirit simply means that we immerse ourselves in God’s Spirit. The first time this happened in history was at Pentecost after Jesus’ resurrection (see Acts 1-2). The disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit and they were empowered to do the work God wanted them to do (that is, to spread the gospel message).

The book of Acts shows several other instances where people are filled with the Spirit. Sometimes those filled with the Spirit spoke in other languages (Acts 2:1-13; 10:44-46; 19:1-7) and at other times they did not (Acts 4:23-31; 8:14-19; 9:17-18). Sometimes the baptism of the Spirit took place at conversion (Acts 10:44-46; 19:1-7) and at other times it happened at a later time (Acts 2:1-13; 4:23-31; 8:14-19; 9:17-18). Theologians still debate what the “normal” baptism of the Holy Spirit looks like.

What is most important is not the how of this empowering but the fact of this Spirit baptism. As Christians, we should always seek to continually immerse ourselves in God’s Spirit (Ephesians 5:18). Whether we speak in tongues or not is really not the focus. As we learn to stay immersed in the Spirit, we will:

- Receive the Spirit’s help in praying to God (Romans 8:26; Jude 20)
- Receive God’s power to share our faith with others (Acts 1:8, 4:31);
- Learn to use the special gifts God has given us to help grow his church (1 Corinthians 12:7; 14:26)
- Produce “fruit” that shows the world around us that we are truly Christians (Galatians 5:22-25)

The baptism of the Spirit is a promise of the Father for all believers (Joel 2:28-29; Luke 11:11-13; Acts 2:17-21). As a gift from God, it is received by asking for it (Luke 11:13).



THE NEW LIFE MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and having been baptized, and being in agreement with New Life Church's statements, strategies, and structure, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the New Life 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 the other members
- by refusing to gossip
- by following the leaders

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

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

I WILL SUPPORT THE TESTIMONY OF MY CHURCH

- by attending faithfully
- by living a godly life
- by giving regularly



NEWLIFE
CHURCH