



LIFE TRACK

D I S C O V E R Y O U R P U R P O S E





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A WORD FROM PASTOR GRANT

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A WORD FROM PASTOR GRANT...

What an exciting time it is to be a part of the church family at Liberty! It's not just church...it's life!

In a day where the majority of churches are declining or dying, God has been gracious to bless this church with phenomenal growth, both spiritually and numerically. It is a blessing to belong to a church family where you are loved.

Just look at what God has done throughout the history of Liberty! Thousands of lives have been changed with the Gospel. We are also seeing more people from Liberty than ever before involved with mission projects to take the Gospel to the world around us. We truly believe that our greatest days lie ahead!

I count it a high and sacred honor to be your Pastor. I thank God for you and pray that our living Lord Jesus will continue to keep His hand upon us to fulfill His mission of changing lives, communities, and the world for Jesus Christ.



INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW

KNOW GOD

You were made to know God. He is personal and relational. God has made Himself known in Jesus Christ. The Bible is ultimately about Jesus; therefore, we can know God through spending time in the Word and spending time in prayer.

FIND COMMUNITY

When you come to know God, He adopts you into His family, makes you a citizen of His kingdom, and places you in a body called the Church. No one lives for God in isolation. We find community by gathering together and growing together.

SERVE PEOPLE

We glorify God when we leverage the abilities He has given us to bless and serve others. Serving people isn't about how talented we are, but about how gracious God is to do His work through us. We can serve by loving the church and loving the community.

LEAVE A LEGACY

Our lives are so brief, but we can do something in our lives that will outlive us. No one left a bigger legacy than Jesus. No one changed this world through their life as much as Jesus did. We join that legacy when we do two things - go on the mission and give to the mission.

"We want to help you get your life on track and stay on track."

- Pastor Grant

LIBERTY'S MISSION

LIBERTY EXISTS TO CHANGE LIVES, COMMUNITIES, AND THE WORLD FOR JESUS CHRIST.

CHANGING LIVES

Liberty has a passion to reach people with the life-changing message of Jesus Christ. Liberty further desires to teach every Christian how to have a growing relationship with Christ that is evidenced by a greater love for God and the people He made.

Matthew 28:18-20 - And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

CHANGING COMMUNITIES

Liberty is committed to making a difference in the community of Hampton Roads as we serve as a witness for Christ and to seek to minister to people's needs.

Matthew 22:37-40 - And he said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

CHANGING THE WORLD

Liberty is committed to God's ultimate plan to reach the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We work strategically by sending and networking with proven and effective national and international ministries and supporting missions around the world.

Acts 1:8 - But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

FOR JESUS CHRIST

These are the 3 most important words in our mission statement at our church. Liberty is not about Pastors, personalities, or programs. We are about Jesus Christ. He is the one who drives what we do as a church as we seek to make His name known in Hampton Roads and among the Nations.

Colossians 1:15-17 - Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together."

LIBERTY'S VISION

God is moving Liberty to launch campuses within a 30-minute drive of every home in Hampton Roads and to launch groups where our people are.

They will teach the Word of God in every community so that the hope of the gospel will be launched forward both here and beyond for generations to come.

LIBERTY'S VALUES

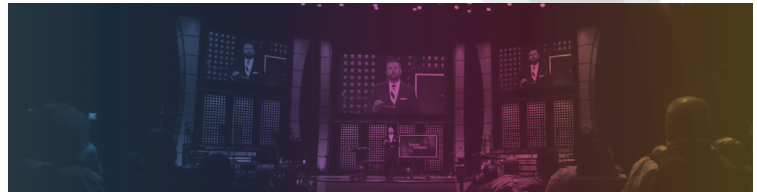
WE ARE...

- a multigenerational church
- a multiethnic church
- a multisite church

4 CORE MINISTRIES

Liberty's vision is carried out through the 4 core ministries of our church at every campus:

- Worship
- Groups
- Hospitality
- Missions





KNOW GOD

SPENDING TIME IN THE WORD

God has made Himself known in Jesus Christ. The Bible is ultimately about Jesus. Therefore, we can know God through spending time in the Word.

KEY VERSE:

Matthew 4:4 - But he answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

THE BIBLE...

- Is a collection of 66 books (39 Old Testament and 27 New Testament)
- Was written by about 48 human authors over 1,500 years
- Has one Divine Author, the Holy Spirit, who superintended the process to tell one story - the story of God revealing Himself in Jesus Christ.

Robert Plummer says, "Each word of the Bible is the word of a conscious human author and at the same time the exact word that God intends for the revelation of himself.¹" That is called inspiration.



NOTES:

"Inspiration means when you read the Bible, God is speaking to you."

1. Plummer, Robert. 40 Questions About Interpreting the Bible, p. 32

One of the main reasons people struggle to read the Bible is because they don't know how to understand the Bible. We want to provide you with a simple, three-step guide for how to read and understand a passage you are reading: Bible, Gospel, Personal.

INTERPRETING THE BIBLE:

Bible - What is this passage about?

Here are some questions that can help you get there...

- Who are the main characters?
- What is their situation?

Gospel - What does this have to do with Jesus?

Here are some questions that can help you get there...

- Where does this fit into the big story of the Bible?
- How does this passage highlight elements of the gospel (i.e. God's holiness, sin, faith, atonement, etc.)?
- Are there any characters that show us what Christ is like or any who are a clear contrast to Christ?

Personal - What does this have to do with me?

Here are some questions that can help you get there...

- How may God want me to apply this passage?
- How should I imitate the characters in this passage?
- How can I learn from their mistakes?

NOTES:

[illegible]

"If there is only one life to live in this world, and it is not to be wasted, nothing seemed more important to me than finding out what God really meant in the Bible.²"

– John Piper

2. Piper, John. *Don't Waste Your Life*, p. 24.

DIG DEEPER: SPENDING TIME IN THE WORD

GETTING STARTED:

Sometimes it can be hard to know where to start when it comes to reading the Bible. Check out some of these reading plans and tools that can help you take your next step.

BIBLE READING PLANS:

The One Year Bible Plan - Read the Bible in a year through daily readings from the Old Testament, New Testament, Psalms, and Proverbs.

52 Week Bible Reading Plan - Read the Bible in a year, with each day of the week dedicated to a different genre: Epistles, The Law, History, Psalms, Poetry, Prophecy, and the Gospels.

Two-Year Bible Reading Plan - Read the Old and New Testaments once, and Psalms & Proverbs four times.

TOOLS:

- A Bible
- A One Year Bible
- Bible App (YouVersion, ESV, CSB, etc.)
- RightNow Media: get started at libertylive.church/rightnow.

TIPS:

- Schedule some time in your day to spend in the Word.
- Get alone with God, remove distractions, your phone, tv, etc.
- Remember: pick a place, pick a plan, pick a time.

What are some excuses we make for why we don't or can't read the Bible?

MY EXCUSES:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

How can we overcome those excuses?

What is your next step in spending time in the Word?

SPENDING TIME IN PRAYER

God has revealed Himself to us in the Bible, and as we study it we learn that spending time in prayer is another important discipline for knowing God.

KEY VERSES:

Matthew 6:7 - And when you pray, do not heap up on empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words.

Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

A.C.T.S.

If you don't know what to pray, just use the acronym ACTS

- **A | Adoration:** Give God praise and honor for who He is as Lord.
- **C | Confession:** Be honest with God about your sins and struggles.
- **T | Thanksgiving:** Verbalize things you are grateful for in your life.
- **S | Supplication:** Pray for the needs of others and yourself.

NOTES: _____

[illegible]

- Pastor Grant

DIG DEEPER: SPENDING TIME IN PRAYER

Pastor Grant suggests a few more strategies as well as some tools to help you with prayer.

PRAY WITH YOUR HANDS:

Thumb: Pray for the people closest to you.

Index Finger: Pray for pastors and missionaries who point people to Jesus.

Middle Finger: The middle finger is the biggest, so pray for people in authority with big responsibilities.

Ring Finger: The ring finger is the weakest, so pray for those who are weak and vulnerable.

Pinky Finger: Finally, pray for yourself. You may just be one, small life, but your life matters to God.

TOOLS:

- Journal/paper & pen
- Walk while you pray
- Make a prayer playlist of worship songs
- GroupMe app to share your prayer requests with others

TIPS:

- Schedule some time in your day to spend in prayer.
- Get alone with God, remove distractions, your phone, tv, etc.

What is prayer? Why do you think some people could find it difficult to pray?

WHY IT'S DIFFICULT FOR ME:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What is your next step in spending time in prayer?



FIND COMMUNITY

Knowing God is just the beginning! When you come to know God, He adopts you into His family, makes you a citizen of His kingdom, and places you in a family called the Church. No one lives for God in isolation. So how do we find community? By gathering together and growing together.

GATHER TOGETHER

KEY VERSES:

Acts 2:46-47 - So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Acts 5:42 - And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

We see in these verses that the church had both large and small gatherings, and our vision involves both! We meet together for worship in a large gathering on Sundays and in small gatherings in our groups throughout the week. Groups are a huge part of our vision. You might remember seeing it earlier, but check it out:

LIBERTY'S VISION:

God is moving Liberty to launch campuses within a 30-minute drive of every home in Hampton Roads and to launch groups where our people are.

They will teach the Word of God in every community so that the hope of the gospel will be launched forward both here and beyond for generations to come.

"There is no such thing as a solo Christian life."

– Pastor Grant

DIG DEEPER: GATHER TOGETHER

KEY VERSE:

Deuteronomy 31:12 - Gather the people together, men and women and little ones, and the stranger who is within your gates, that they may hear and that they may learn to fear the Lord your God and carefully observe all the words of this law.

What is the Bible saying for people to do here?

What is the purpose of the people gathering?

What is your next step in gathering together in community?

DID YOU KNOW?

**YOU CAN FIND A GROUP TODAY!
CHECK OUT OUR ONLINE GROUP
FINDER, WITH LOCATIONS AND
INFORMATION ABOUT ALL OUR
GROUPS!**

LIBERTYLIVE.CHURCH/FINDAGROUP

GROW TOGETHER

The reality is that people gather all the time - at work, school, sports, restaurants, etc. So, what is unique about a church gathering? What makes the gathering of believers unique is the purpose behind our gathering. We gather with intentionality to help one another grow.

E.S.P.N.

The way groups grow together at Liberty is through E.S.P.N. We want all groups to:

- **E | Encourage:** encourage each other
- **S | Scripture:** spend time in God's Word together
- **P | Pray:** spend time in prayer and pray for each other
- **N | Next Step:** help each other take our next step of faith

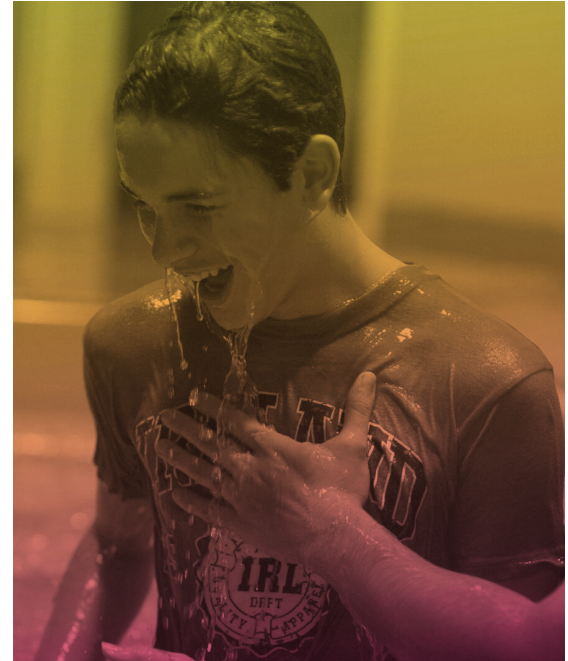
KEY VERSES:

Ecclesiastes 4:9 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor; If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.

Your community is there to help you grow and walk through life's ups and downs with you. Authentic relationships are found in groups. You're not meant to do life alone!

Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day approaching.

NOTES: _____



"God wants to use other people to grow us and He wants to use us to grow other people."

– Pastor Grant

DIG DEEPER: GROW TOGETHER

Pastor Grant says, "You can't grow spiritually unless you are connected relationally." How have you experienced that to be true in your life?

What are some excuses that you, or people in general, use that keep you from joining a group?

MY EXCUSES:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Some common excuses that people have for not finding community include:

IGNORANCE

Many people simply don't realize their need for meaningful community.

INDEPENDENT

Many people don't believe they need community. They are under the delusion that they can navigate the Christian life on their own, even though the Bible tells us otherwise.

INTROVERT

Many people use their personality as an excuse. They may feel like they aren't outgoing enough to really connect with others.

INTIMIDATION

Many are scared to find community. Going to a stranger's house with new people and having personal conversations with them can be intimidating, so they never try it.

ISSUES

Some people have relational hurts and struggles they carry with them from their past, while others have secret sin in their life and don't want to open up to others. Either way, various life issues keep them from wanting to find community.

INTERESTS

Many people have so many different interests they're committed to. They spread themselves thin, with no margin left in their schedule, so they don't make time for community.

KEY VERSES

Proverbs 27:17 - As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

Galatians 6:2 - Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:21, 27 - The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!"...Now you are the body of Christ, and each of you is a part of it.

What do these verses teach us about overcoming these excuses and the importance of finding community?



NOTES: _____

[illegible]



SERVE PEOPLE

We were made for relationships and finding community! For community to work and accomplish its purpose, the members have to participate. They have to use their God-given gifts. We glorify God when we use the abilities and talents that He has given us to bless and serve others. There are two big ways to serve people: by loving the church and loving the community.

LOVE THE CHURCH

KEY VERSES:

1 Peter 4:10-11 - Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in various forms.

1 Corinthians 12:4-5 - Now there are different gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different ministries, but the same Lord.

DISCOVERING YOUR GIFTS:

As you are deciding where and how you should serve, one of the most important things to do is consider your spiritual gifts. God has given us each unique gifts and abilities! You can discover your spiritual gifts with our online spiritual gifts survey.

Just head to libertylive.church/gifts.

JOIN THE LIFE TEAM

The Life Team is what we call the group of people at Liberty who are using their gifts to serve people here at our church! Once you discover your gifts, we want you to join the Life Team and know that you were made to impact others through serving!

Check out all the places you can serve at libertylive.church/lifeteam.

"Discover your gifting, develop it, and use it to make a difference."

– Pastor Grant

DIG DEEPER: LOVE THE CHURCH

KEY VERSE:

Romans 12:4-5 - Now as we have many parts in one body, and all the parts do not have the same function, in the same way we who are many are one body in Christ and individually members of one another.

What image does Paul use to describe the church? How does that relate to serving?

Body parts are meant to complete and not compete. How should that principle shape the way we approach serving? What are the dangers of serving out of a spirit of competition?

YOUR GIFTS:

Once you have discovered your spiritual gifts, write them down below:

TWO EXTREMES TO AVOID:

There are two extremes to avoid: believing that the supernatural gifts (tongues and healing) have completely ceased or believing that they are normative for most, if not every, believer. While godly Christians can hold either view, we take a different approach here at Liberty. The first is a non-biblical restriction of the gifts. The second is a non-biblical exaltation of the gifts. While we don't regularly practice the supernatural gifts at Liberty, we serve through the same Spirit who empowered Christians in the book of Acts. We frequently hear stories of how God is working supernaturally through His people, especially from our missionaries. Ultimately, we don't believe in a day of miracles but in a God of miracles.

What is your next step in serving people by loving the church?

DID YOU KNOW? YOU CAN JOIN THE LIFE TEAM TODAY! CHECK OUT ALL THE PLACES TO SERVE ONLINE AT [LIBERTYLIVE.CHURCH/LIFETEAM](https://libertylive.church/lifeteam)

LOVE THE COMMUNITY

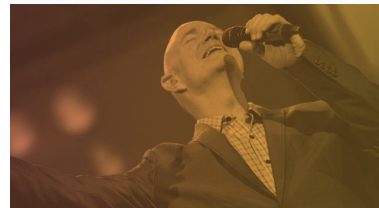
Most of the verses in the New Testament related to serving are about serving each other as believers. And yet, we see throughout the New Testament that Jesus and His followers were known for their exceptional love, not just for each other, but also for the people all around them. Here at Liberty, we want to be known as a church that loves one another and also loves the community that God has placed us in.

KEY VERSE:

Matthew 20:28 - Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many. By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

Discover your gifting, develop it, and use it to make a difference!

NOTES: _____



"God wants to position you to live out your design."

– Pastor Grant

DIG DEEPER: LOVE THE COMMUNITY

KEY VERSE:

Romans 12:9 - Let love be without hypocrisy...

What are Christians known for in our culture? Are we known as loving? Are we seen as hypocritical? Why or why not?

No one is perfect but Jesus. However, the apostles were known as people who truly lived what they preached. Peter warns us to rid ourselves of all hypocrisy (1 Peter 2:1), and Paul tells us of how he disciplined himself not to live in a way that was contrary to his message (1 Cor. 9:27). This is why we say, "It's not just church, it's life!" We want to live out our faith, and when we do that our community will see our love for God and for them.

THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS

The greatest person to ever live was a servant. His greatest act of service was to give His life to die for our sins. Jesus showed us that serving is self-sacrificing and self-giving. Although serving will be a sacrifice, it will also help you find purpose

KEY VERSE:

Matthew 20:26-28 - ...whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.

What does Jesus tell us about greatness in the kingdom of God? How did Jesus demonstrate kingdom greatness through service in His life?

In His life and ministry, Jesus served us before He saved us. How can we apply that model as we try to reach our community for Jesus Christ?

DIG DEEPER: LOVE THE COMMUNITY

S.H.A.P.E.

This is an acronym that we find helpful for determining the point at which God's will intersects with your giftedness. Take a few moments to fill out the shape profile.

S - SPIRITUAL GIFTS

List your top 3 spiritual gifts. If you don't know, remember you can find out on our online survey at libertylive.church/gifts.

H - HEART

What do you enjoy? What do you have a burden for? What are you passionate about?

A - ABILITIES

What are you good at? What skills has God given you that can be used in the church and in the community?

P - PERSONALITY

What kind of personality do you have? How might that help determine how to serve?

E - EXPERIENCES

Think through these 5 kinds of experiences - educational, vocational, spiritual, ministerial, and painful - how might they have prepared you to serve God and others?



LEAVE A LEGACY

Our lives are so brief, but we can do something in our lives that will outlive us. We want to know that our lives matter! Leaving a legacy is all about living a life for a greater purpose that will live on after us. No one changed this world through their life as much as Jesus did. We join His legacy when we do two things: go on the mission and give to the mission

GO ON THE MISSION

Our mission is all about changing lives, communities, and the world for Jesus Christ.

KEY VERSE:

Matthew 28: 18-20 - And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

GO TO OUR NEIGHBORS

God intentionally puts people in your circle of influence to show them the love of Jesus. Your nextdoor neighbors, co-workers, hairdresser, and barista at the coffee shop are not coincidentally in your life. God has placed them there purposefully and it's important to realize that God wants to use you to make a difference in their lives by sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with them. Together we can make a difference in the lives of every person we come into contact with. We are called to leave a legacy in Hampton Roads by going to our neighbors.

GO TO THE NATIONS

God has also given us the Great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20) to take the gospel to people who have no access to the good news of Jesus Christ. There are over 2 billion people who have no access to the gospel! We must take the gospel to people who don't even have the Bible in their own language and may have never heard the name of Jesus. Together we can leave a legacy in our world by serving God among the nations whether it's on a trip that is one week, one month, one year, or maybe even answering the calling to a lifetime of gospel service to the nations. At Liberty, we are thankful to be changing the world for Jesus Christ through our long-term partnerships in West Africa, Northern Africa, East Africa, The Middle East, The Amazon, El Salvador, and the Navajo Nation. We want to encourage you to leave a legacy by going to the nations.

"What will it take for the concept of unreached people to become completely intolerable to us?"

– David Platt

GIVE TO THE MISSION

KEY VERSE:

2 Corinthians 8:2-5 - During a severe trial brought about by affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. I can testify that, according to their ability and even beyond their ability, of their own accord, they begged us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in the ministry to the saints, and not just as we had hoped. Instead, they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us by God's will.

Giving your life to God results in a life of generosity. Generosity is who God is. For God so loved the world that He gave (John 3:16). God is the greatest giver, and if we are going to be like Him, then we must imitate His generosity. Here at Liberty, we have outlined a generosity pathway that helps us follow Jesus in giving. Check it out:

STARTING GIVER

BEGINNING TO LIVE A LIFE OF GENEROSITY

STEADY GIVER

CONSISTENTLY LIVING A LIFE OF GENEROSITY

SCRIPTURAL GIVER

LIVING A BIBLICAL LIFE OF GENEROSITY

SACRIFICIAL GIVER

LIVING A SELFLESS LIFE OF GENEROSITY

SUPERNATURAL GIVER

LIVING TO LEAVE A LEGACY OF GENEROSITY

"Giving to the mission is first and foremost about giving yourself wholeheartedly to God."

– Pastor Grant

DIG DEEPER: GENEROSITY PATHWAY

STARTING GIVER

BEGINNING TO LIVE A LIFE OF GENEROSITY: We all start our journey toward generosity somewhere. For many, they have simply never given to God's mission through their local church. The first step is creating a budget in order to effectively manage their money, which creates margin to give. We recommend the EveryDollar app to get started in managing your resources for Christ.

STEADY GIVER

CONSISTENTLY LIVING A LIFE OF GENEROSITY: God's generosity towards us isn't random. His love and generosity for us is steady. Therefore, starting givers should continue towards consistent generosity. This means prioritizing generosity in your budget. For many at Liberty, this step involves setting up monthly recurring gifts online at libertylive.church/give.

SCRIPTURAL GIVER

LIVING A BIBLICAL LIFE OF GENEROSITY: As we give consistently, we also begin to give proportionally. God isn't impressed with the total sum we give, but He does want us to give in proportion to how He has given to us. The Scriptural giver prioritizes 10% of their income to giving to God's mission through the local church.

SACRIFICIAL GIVER

LIVING A SELFLESS LIFE OF GENEROSITY: God's generosity towards us cost Him greatly. King David once asked, "How can I give something to God that costs me nothing?" (2 Samuel 24:24). Sacrificial giving moves beyond a focus on the minimum. Imitating God's generosity will involve sacrificing something in the present to invest into eternity.

SUPERNATURAL GIVER

LIVING TO LEAVE A LEGACY OF GENEROSITY: As we give sacrificially, God may lead us to give beyond what seems humanly possible. That was the testimony of the widow in 1 Kings 17 and the Christians in 2 Corinthians 8. However, God is faithful to supply our needs as we prioritize His kingdom above all things.

HOW TO GIVE:



ONLINE

libertylive.church/give



MOBILE

Text "libertylive"
to 77977



ENVELOPE

cash or check

DIG DEEPER: LEAVE A LEGACY

GO ON THE MISSION + GIVE TO THE MISSION

GO ON THE MISSION

What is your next step in going on the mission?

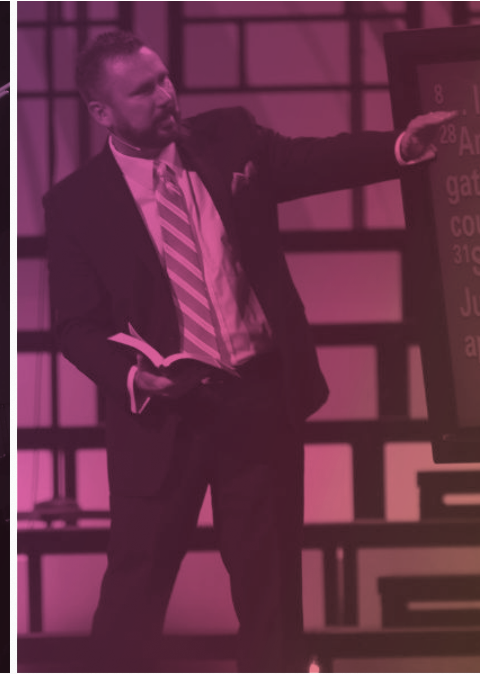
DID YOU KNOW?

YOU CAN GO TO LIBERTYLIVE.CHURCH/MISSIONS
TO SEE OUR MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES HERE AND
ABROAD!

GIVE TO THE MISSION:

Where would you currently place yourself along the Generosity Pathway?

What will you do to take your next step on the Generosity Pathway?





NEXT STEPS

HOW YOU CAN KNOW GOD

PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

You were made to know God. He is personal and relational, and He wants a relationship with you! He has made Himself known through Jesus. So how can you know God? The Bible tells us we can know God through FAITH. Each letter in the word "FAITH" helps us understand how we can know God.

F | FORGIVENESS

We cannot have a relationship with God unless we experience God's forgiveness. Why? Everyone has sinned and needs God's forgiveness.

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

This means me, this means you, this means everyone! God's forgiveness is in Jesus only.

*In Him (meaning Jesus) we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses (sin)...
- Ephesians 1:7*

A | AVAILABLE

What is available? Forgiveness is available! God's forgiveness is available for all of us.

Jesus said, "God so loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life." - John 3:16.

God's forgiveness is available for all of us, but it is not automatic.

Jesus said, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven." - Matthew 7:21

I | IMPOSSIBLE

According to the Bible, it is impossible for us to get to Heaven on our own, by our good deeds, or even by living a good life.

For by grace you are saved through FAITH, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift - not from works, so that no one can boast. - Ephesians 2:8-9

If we cannot get to heaven on our own, by our good deeds, or by living a good life, then how can a sinful person like you or me have eternal life and enter heaven?

T | TURN

Suppose you are going down a road and someone says to you, "Stop! Turn!", what would that person be asking you to do? To change direction/go a new route. In the Bible the word, "turn" is the word "repent." To repent means to change direction or to go a new way. We must make a turn in our lives. We must turn away from our sin and self.

Jesus said, "Unless you repent (turn from your sin and self), you will all likewise perish." - Luke 13:3

We must turn to the Savior. Trust Jesus only as your Savior and Lord. The Bible makes it very clear that there are not many ways to heaven, but only one way to heaven, through Jesus.

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." - John 14:6

Here is the greatest news of all for our lives.

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...with the mouth one confesses, resulting in salvation." - Romans 10:9-10

What happens if a person is willing to repent of their sins and confess "Jesus is Lord"?

H | HEAVEN

Heaven is a place where we will live with God forever in the hereafter. Listen to Jesus' promise to you:

Jesus said, "If I go away and prepare a place for you, I will come back and receive you to Myself, so that where I am you may be also." - John 14:3

You can have heaven beginning here. Eternal life begins now with Jesus.

Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life and have it in abundance." - John 10:10

The letter "H" also stands for how. The question is this: How can a person have God's forgiveness and eternal life in heaven? The answer is simple: if you will turn away from you sin and self and trust Jesus to forgive your sins, and make Him the Leader and Savior of your life.

Would you like to receive this forgiveness and trust in Jesus as personal Savior and Leader of your life? Right now you can start a relationship with God. You can choose to pray right now and ask Jesus to forgive your sin and take control of your life. Pray this prayer by faith.

Jesus, I know I am a sinner and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe that You are God and You died on the cross to pay for my sins and rose from the dead. Help me to turn from my ways and start living life Your way, be the Leader and Savior of my life. Thank you for loving me. Amen.

If you just prayed that prayer, we are so excited for you and would love to help you get started in your relationship with God! Be sure to visit libertylive.church/knowgod where we have some great resources for you as you begin your relationship with Jesus!²

BAPTISM

IMMERSION

Jesus was baptized “in the Jordan” river and “came up out of the water” (Mark 1:9-10). The Gospel of John says that John the Baptist chose where to baptize based on the fact that there was “much water there” (John 3:23). These descriptions fit immersion as opposed to sprinkling.

IDENTIFICATION

Baptism is all about identifying with Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection. When we go under the water we identify with His death and show our faith in His death for our sins. When we come out of the water we identify with His resurrection and show our faith in His resurrection. It is a way of publically saying, “I am not ashamed to follow Jesus.” (Rom. 6:4)

IMMEDIATE

In the book of Acts, when people responded to the gospel they would immediately follow in believer’s baptism (Acts 2:41, 8:36, & 16:33). Now, that doesn’t mean that it is a requirement to be baptized immediately, but it does mean that the only prerequisite to baptism is true faith in Jesus Christ. Baptism is the first major step of obedience as we repent and believe in the gospel, not something we work up to when we become more mature in Christ.

Baptism is an outward expression of inward change.



TAKE YOUR NEXT STEP

KNOW GOD: SPEND TIME IN THE WORD + SPEND TIME IN PRAYER

Have you put your faith in Jesus for salvation and surrendered to Him as Lord? Have you followed in believer's baptism since you gave your life to Jesus?

Are you spending time reading God's Word daily? If not, what can you do to prioritize the Word and prayer in your daily life?

FIND COMMUNITY: GATHER TOGETHER + GROW TOGETHER

Are you in a group? If not, what can you do to find community here at Liberty? (check out libertylive.church/findagroup)

SERVE PEOPLE: LOVE THE CHURCH + LOVE THE COMMUNITY

What areas on the Life Team interest you? There are many different areas to serve in our 4 Core Ministries: worship, groups, hospitality, or missions! Check out all of our serving opportunities at libertylive.church/lifeteam.

LEAVE A LEGACY: GO ON THE MISSION + GIVE TO THE MISSION

What will you do to change the world by taking the gospel to those who have not heard?

What will you do to continue along the journey of living a generous life?

NOTES: _____



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