



LIFE TRACK

DISCOVER
Y O U R
PURPOSE



TABLE OF CONTENTS

A WORD FROM PASTOR GRANT 1

INTRODUCTION

FOUR CORE VALUES 3

Love God
Love People
Pursue Excellence
Choose Joy

FOUR STEPS OF LIFE TRACK 4

Know God
Find Community
Serve People
Leave a Legacy

GENEROSITY 13

NEXT STEPS 14

Faith
Baptism



A WORD FROM PASTOR GRANT...

Welcome home! Everyone needs a special place where they can connect with God and other believers. God has allowed us to experience a modern-day miracle. We are part of something that is so much bigger than ourselves. It is a God-story! Our church started with 38 members. The name changed from Little Bethel to Liberty. Today, thousands of people attend at multiple campuses throughout Hampton Roads and online. We have a God-given mission of changing lives, communities, and the world for Jesus Christ! Liberty is not a great church, we just serve a great God! Not to us, Lord, not to us but to Your be name be the glory! Psalm 115:1

We want you to reach your God-given potential. That is what Life Track is all about. We want to help you take your next step on your journey of faith. What does it mean to be a disciple and follower of Jesus Christ? What does it mean to be a part of this church family? We want everyone to: Know God, Find Community, Serve People, and Leave a Legacy. So, whether you are coming to God for the first time or coming back to God, you are at the right place, at the right time.

We gather for worship and small groups, following the biblical model. In the book of Acts the church met at the Temple and "house to house." You will never reach your full potential without the love and support of others. Real life change happens in the context of relationships.

Wake up every day committed to Love God, Love People, Pursue Excellence, Choose Joy, and understand why we say, "It is not just church...It's Life!" Thank you for going on the journey with us. Tammy and I love you and are praying for you! It is a joy to be your pastor!

Because of Jesus,
Pastor Grant

IT'S NOT JUST CHURCH...

*Liberty exists to change lives,
communities, & the world
for Jesus Christ.*

IT'S LIFE.



LIBERTY'S VALUES

We have 4 core values that are life-giving to our church and people. They are:

LOVE GOD

Luke 10:27 | He 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."

What does it look like to love God with all your heart? It means you put Him first. Are you starting your day with prayer and Bible reading? Do you have times of prayer and fasting? Do you have an intimate relationship with God? Are you seeking to live a life of integrity, character, and holiness? Do you have the presence of God and anointing of the Holy Spirit on your life?

LOVE PEOPLE

John 13:34-35 | "I give you a new command: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you are also to love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

The kingdom of God is built relationally not positionally. Don't get hung up on what you are doing but who you are doing it with. Show me your friends and I will show you your future. Be encouraging to others and love them enough to share the gospel.

Together, we will be better when we are all living out these four shared values.

PURSUE EXCELLENCE

1 Corinthians 10:31 | "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God."

Excellence is not always having the best, but doing the best with what we have. We need the pace of grace. You only have so much time and energy, so give God your best not your leftovers. Are you doing your best for Jesus? Do you have a strong work ethic? Are you efficient with your time and money? What you do is important, so make every day matter. Today matters. We have a tendency to over exaggerate yesterday, overestimate tomorrow, and underestimate today. Do your best today.

CHOOSE JOY

Psalms 100:1-2 | "Make a joyful shout to the Lord, all you lands! Serve the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs."

Nehemiah 8:10b | "...the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Serve the Lord with gladness. The joy of the Lord is our strength, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. Learn to laugh and laugh a lot. A merry heart doth good like a medicine. The world is sick and needs medicine. This does not happen by accident; you have to be intentional. You have to decide every day to be joyful.

HOW DID YOU FIRST COME TO LIBERTY?

FOUR
STEPS
OF

LIFE
TRACK

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 reading the Bible and praying.

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 in groups.

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 people in the church and in our local 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 live a generous life and go tell others about Jesus.

God has made Himself known in Jesus Christ. The Bible is ultimately about Jesus. Knowing God is not a one-time thing, but it does start with an act of faith for salvation.

If you haven't taken that step of faith yet, we're going to walk through how to do that today near the end of our time together. But knowing God is a continuous journey we go on as we grow in our relationship with Him!

So how do we do that? Two ways:

- Read the Bible
- Pray

Check out what Matthew 4:4 says about the reading the Bible:

"It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

The Bible is all about Jesus. 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.

- Bible** | What is this passage about?
- Gospel** | What does this have to do with Jesus?
- Personal** | What does this have to do with me?

Another reason people struggle to read the Bible is because they don't know where to start. Having a reading plan can help you know where to begin.

One resource is the YouVersion App. You can download it on the app store and choose from a variety of reading plans. The one-year Bible is also a great plan to start with!

Finally, make sure you get alone with God, have some distance from distractions, your phone, or your TV.

You can't know the ways of God apart from the Word of God.

It's also important that you spend time praying. Spending time in prayer means talking to God.

Ephesians 1:16-17 says, **"I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. 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."**

Paul prayed. Jesus prayed. How much more do we need to pray?

If you don't know what to pray...

Pray about what you have just read in the Bible.

Use could also you the acronym: ACTS

- A** | adoration: praise God for who He is
- C** | confession: be honest about your sins and struggles
- T** | thanksgiving: things you're grateful for
- S** | supplication: needs of others and yourself

We want to encourage you to continue to know God.

- Remember:
- Pick a Place** | desk, couch, bedroom, etc.
- Pick a Plan** | you can't wish it into existence.
- Pick a Time** | put it on your daily schedule

Know God by spending time reading the Bible and praying, because He wants to know you.

But 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 body called the Church.

No one lives for God in isolation.

So how do we find community?

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 can see in these verses that the church had both large gatherings and small gatherings. Our God-size vision involves both large and small groups. We do this through launching campuses and groups.

We meet for worship in large gatherings on Sunday and in small gatherings in our groups throughout the week.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - **“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 walk through life with you, encourage you, and help you grow.

Groups are where we find authentic relationships and experience our lives together. We celebrate life’s exciting times and are there for each other in the hard times. You’re not meant to go through 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 drawing near.”**

So, what does a group look like? Here at Liberty, we define groups by E.S.P.N. We want groups to:

- Encourage** | encourage each other.
- Scripture** | spend time in God’s Word together.
- Pray** | spend time in prayer together and pray for each other.
- Next Step** | help each other take our next step of faith.

To learn more about groups here at liberty, you can go to libertylive.church/groups.

You cannot grow spiritually unless you’re connected relationally.

NOTES

When you come to know God, He adopts you into His family, For community to work and accomplish its purpose, the family members of the church must participate.

That's you!

We glorify God when we leverage our spiritual gifts, our abilities, and talents that He has given us to bless and serve people.

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

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

As you try to discern how you should serve, one of the most important things to do is to consider your spiritual gifts.

We have a helpful tool for you to discover your spiritual gifts in a simple survey. You can take one at libertylive.church/gifts. This will help you find the right place on our LIFE TEAM!

The Life Team is what we call the group of people here at Liberty who are using their gifts to serve people. Once you discover your gifts, we want you to join the Life team and know you're making an impact for God's Kingdom!

It's so important to remember that God has placed you where you are for a reason.

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."

John 13:35 - "By this all will know that you are my disciple, if you love one another."

God has placed you in that neighborhood, that school, that company, that business, that workplace, and that marketplace on purpose. It's not an accident. But let's not forget: people do not care how much you know until they know how much you care. Discover your gifting, develop it and use it to make a difference in our church and our community. Life is so much more than a paycheck. You will never truly be fulfilled until you are doing what God put you on this earth to do and that includes being active in serving people. 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!

To learn more about places you can serve here at Liberty, you can go to libertylive.church/serve.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT LIBERTY SO FAR?

NOTES

That's why our final step in Life Track is Leaving and Living a Legacy. 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.

Listen to what He said:

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.'"

God intentionally puts people in your circle of influence to show them the love of Jesus.

Your next-door 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 in Hampton Roads.

But God has given us the Great Commission 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 on 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.

Visit libertylive.church/missions for more information.

Life is short, let's make it count.

That includes being like the Macedonians in 2 Corinthians:

2 Corinthians 8:2 & 5 - "In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability... They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us."

Giving yourself to God results in a life of generosity. Generosity is who God is. For God so loved the world He gave. 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.

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GENEROSITY PATHWAY

I want to encourage you to look at the pathway and pray about where God might be calling you to take your next step in generosity.

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.

God has given us all that we have, our jobs, and our talents. He is the Author of life. As we give, we always want to do it with an attitude of gratitude. God is at work! People are coming to know Him! Marriages are being restored! People are taking the gospel to our communities and the world! And from a human perspective your generosity makes changing lives, communities, and the world for Jesus Christ possible!

NEXT STEPS

We all have places where God wants us to take our next step and grow in our relationship with Him.

We are here to help you to take your next step today, whatever that looks like in your life! It may look like joining a group to find community. You may need to join a team to begin serving others. You may want to learn more about missions or start giving. Today might even be the first time you are placing your faith in Jesus to be the Lord and Savior of your life.

If that's you, know this:

You were made to KNOW GOD.

God is personal and relational. He wants a relationship with you! He has made Himself known through Jesus. What's required of you is that you put your FAITH in Jesus.

FAITH

Forgiveness | Everyone has sinned and needs God's FORGIVENESS.

Available | God's forgiveness is AVAILABLE for all.

Impossible | According to the Bible, it is IMPOSSIBLE to get to Heaven on our own.

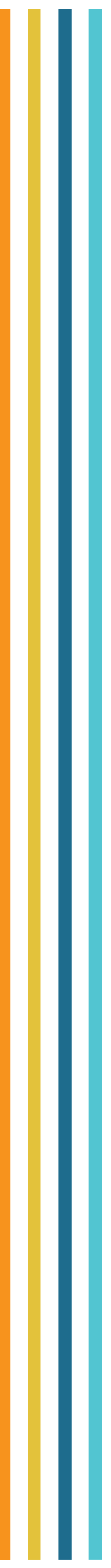
Turn | TURN away from sin and self and TURN to Jesus as Savior and Lord.

Heaven | HEAVEN is a place where we will live with God forever.

If you just made that decision, your next step with God is BAPTISM.

Baptism is all about identifying with Jesus' death, burial and resurrection and the Bible says to do it immediately and by immersion.

It is an outward expression of an inward change.





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 publicly saying, “I am not ashamed to follow Jesus.” (Romans 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). 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.

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**GOD IS UP TO
SOMETHING**



**LIBERTY
LIVE CHURCH**