

BUILD

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- City Church Culture: God works through relationships

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- City Church Culture: City Groups

BUILD 1

BIBLE PRINCIPLE – “Repentance from dead works”

- Repentance is a gift from God.
 - To repent means to change the way you think and to turn around.
 - Repentance is the beginning of our relationship with God:
 - Matthew 4:17 (NLT) “From then on Jesus began to preach, “Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near.”
 - According to Jesus, the way of God all begins with _____.
 - Questions?
- What does repentance from dead works look like?
 - Luke 18: 9-14 (NLT)
 - (9) Then Jesus told this story to some who had great confidence in their own righteousness and scorned everyone else:
 - (10) “Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector.
 - (11) The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer: ‘I thank you, God, that I am not a sinner like everyone else. For I don’t cheat, I don’t sin, and I don’t commit adultery. I’m certainly not like that tax collector!
 - (12) I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.’
 - (13) “But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, ‘O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.’
 - (14) I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”
- Turning away from dead works and turning to live works
 - Questions?

CITY CULTURE: – “God works through relationships”

- No one is strong enough to live this life by him or herself.
 - Video: “Some things you can’t do alone”
 - James 5:16 (NLT) “Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.”
 - We don’t _____, we _____.
- Discipleship/Accountability
 - City Groups & One on One discipleship
 - If we hide we _____. If we come in the light we _____.
- Question:
 - How do we overcome the challenges of connecting in relationships with each other?

BUILD 2

BIBLE PRINCIPLE – “Faith in God”

- Faith in God will change things
 - John 3:16 (NLT) “For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.”
 - Faith in God can help me change _____.
- Faith is a gift from God.
 - Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV) “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast.”
- You have faith!
 - Jesus was not as concerned with how _____ a person had but was more interested if people were using the _____ they _____ had.
- Questions?

CITY CULTURE: – “You have a place here”

- Have faith that you are here for a purpose!
 - First - For yourself
 - You are accepted in this church family.
 - Second - For others: Only you _____ what you _____ the way you _____ it!

- City Teams, volunteer opportunities (Trick or Treat, Easter Egg Hunt), contribute, worship, pray with your family, lead your family, love someone, etc.
- Question:
 - How can our faith in God help us know that we have a place here at City Church?

BUILD 3

BIBLE PRINCIPLE – “Baptisms”

- There are many different baptisms discussed in the bible:
 1. Baptism in Water (John 3:22; John 4:1; Mark 16:15-16; Matthew 3:13-17)
 2. Baptism with the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:11-12; Matthew 3:16; Luke 3:21-22; Acts 1:4-5; John 1:33; Acts 2:4; Acts 8:14-17; Acts 10:44-46; Acts 19:1-6)
 3. Baptism with Fire (Matthew 3:11-12)
 4. Baptism of Suffering (Matthew 20:20-23; Luke 12:50)
 5. Baptism into the Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:13)

- The word “Baptism” simply means to cover over, immerse or saturate.

- In BUILD we will focus on the Baptism into the Body of Christ.
- Baptism into the Body of Christ
 - The term “Body of Christ” could be generally understood as all the Christ followers on the earth today.

 - On a practical level, our baptism into the Body of Christ refers to our individual immersion and full participation in God’s purpose for City Church.

 - 1 Corinthians 12:13 “For we were _____ baptized by one Spirit into one body”.

CITY CULTURE: – “We are Diverse”

- Sunday morning is the most segregated time of the week in America.
 - God has called members of City Church to come together for a _____.

 - We have many races and cultures in our church (over 18 nations represented).

- This church is so different...how do I fit in?
 - Different is not necessarily bad.
 - Tips for how to respond to a new environment.
 - Unity vs. Conformity
 - Don't leave who you are. Keep all the good you learned from where you came and now add to it.
 - Dying to ourselves is key. God is wanting to do something new and great for each of us!
 - We don't _____ on _____.
- Our _____ in Christ is greater and more important than our individual races and cultures.
- Personal testimony
- Question:
 - Why do we tend to focus on things that divide rather than on the greater things that unite?
 - What is the value of uniting for a common purpose?

BUILD 4

BIBLE PRINCIPLE – “Laying on of hands”

- Something _____ when a Christian lays hands on someone.
- We can receive spiritual gifts and abilities from God when our leaders lay hands on us.
- II Timothy 1:6 (NLT) “This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you.”
- These spiritual gifts and abilities give us _____ to accomplish our _____.

CITY CULTURE: – “Leadership is a gift to receive”

- Ephesians 4:11-12 (NLT) “Now these are the _____ Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is *to equip God’s people* to _____ his work and _____ up the church, the body of Christ.”
- Pastors are like coaches – they help us to achieve.
- Our Pastors’ passion is to equip and develop new leaders!!!
- The diversity and accountability of our pastors
 - Pastors Kim & Renee Norris
 - Pastors David & Sumer Norris
- Questions:
 - How do you accept God’s gift of a leader in your life?
 - According to Hebrews 13:7, 17 – how should we respect and honor our leaders?

BUILD 5

BIBLE PRINCIPLE – “Resurrection of the dead & eternal judgment”

- Hebrews 6:1-2 (NIV) “Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, instruction about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. And God permitting, we will do so.”
- There are eternal _____ for living for God!
- There is also a hell. A place of judgment and eternal _____ from God.

CITY CULTURE: – “What Christ followers do”

- Knowing there are eternal rewards as well as eternal judgments, what type of life should we live?
- There are four things we do that lead us to eternal rewards:
 1. Read the bible
 - One-Year Bible
 - Find what works for you
 2. Pray
 - Wednesday from 7:00 am to 7:45 am (other times as well)
 3. Share our faith with others
 - See example below
 4. Connect in a church family
 - New Member’s Reception (where you can meet the pastors and other prospective members)

- City Teams (BUILD 6)
- City Groups (BUILD 7)
- Individual mentoring/discipleship
- Question:
 - Why do these four things seem so difficult to do at times?
 - What is the correct mindset to have when approaching these four things?

Sharing our faith with others simply means to share our story of what God has done for us personally. God only asks us to share what we know. You don't have to have a great theological understanding of the bible to share your story. When we are prepared to share what God has done for us it will be easier to communicate it with others.

Write down your story:

Life before Jesus:

How you received Jesus:

Life now:

BUILD 6

BIBLE PRINCIPLE - “Going on to maturity” (part 1)

- Maturing in our faith means that we begin to make a difference for someone else
- Christ followers who serve are _____.
- Everything in God’s kingdom is flipped upside down (serving = leading)
- Heaven sees us serve and Jesus will remember it.
 - Hebrews 6:10 (CEV) “God is always fair. He will remember how you helped his people in the past and how you are still helping them. You belong to God, and he won’t forget the love you have shown his people.”

CITY CULTURE – “City Teams”

- What are City Teams?
 - You can impact nations by serving on a City Team!!!
- Review handout of City Teams
- Introduce City Team leaders
- Questions?

BUILD 7

BIBLE PRINCIPLE - “Going on to maturity” (part 2)

- No one has ever become a mature Christ follower by _____.
- Maturing in our faith means that we continue in it, and that we continue in it _____.
- Hebrews 10:25 (NIV) “Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day (*of Christ’s return*) approaching.” (italics added)

CITY CULTURE – “City Groups”

- Video: “Safari”
- What are City Groups?
- Review list of City Groups
- Introduce City Group leaders
- Questions?