

INTRODUCTION

New River Fellowship believes men and women are "God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." (Eph. 2:10) We believe every individual is called to Gather in the church, Grow in our gifts together and to Go equip and empower in all nations. (Matt. 28:19)

We believe every person is born into a fallen world and have sinned. Jesus came to set us free from sin. His death on the cross paid the full price for our sins. We are now sanctified and through His payment receive eternal life. (Rom 6:22) Because of this we are called into fellowship with Jesus. (1 Corinthians 1:9)

1) *All people have sinned*

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

2) *The penalty for our sin is death*

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

3) *Jesus Christ died to pay the penalty for our sins (Rom. 5:8)*

Romans 5:8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Once a person has professed faith in Jesus they should be baptized. Water baptism is ceremonial representation of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. (Acts 22:16, Rom. 6:3-4, Col. 2:12)

GATHER

God has commanded his people to organize themselves into distinct communities for the great purpose of giving visibility to his kingdom, of making known the gospel of that kingdom, and of gathering those that are lost. We believe that each believer has a personal responsibility in the local gathering of believers.

1) *Worship*

John 4:23 But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.”

Psalm 2:11 “Worship the Lord with reverence and rejoice with trembling.

2) *Pray*

Acts 1:14 All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

Acts 2:42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Matthew 21:22 And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.

Mark 6:13 And they were casting out many demons and were anointing with oil many sick people and healing them.

Luke 4:40 While the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to Him; and laying His hands on each one of them, He was healing them.

Mark 1:41 Moved with compassion, Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, I am willing; be cleansed.

3) *Love*

1 Thessalonians 5:11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

John 13:34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

Galatians 5:13 For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn our freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

GROW

We are committed to growing in our gifts together as disciples of Jesus. Community life is important in the spiritual growth of a disciple. We believe that the context that best suites this growth is groups.

1) *Groups*

Hebrews 10:24-25 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Matthew 18:20 For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst.

Acts 5:42 And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

2) *Disciplines*

1 Timothy 4:7 On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness...

2 Timothy 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.

Acts 6:4 But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.

GO

We are committed to equipping and empowering disciples in their gifts, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to represent Jesus to the world. Jesus gave this mandate to all disciples, in Matthew 28:19-20. We believe it is our role as a local church to prepare believers for the work of the ministry, desire to see the glory of God taken to the ends of the earth through the gospel.

1) *Evangelize*

1 Peter 1:23, 25 for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God." "But the Word of the Lord endures forever. And this is the word which was preached to you.

2 Timothy 4:2 preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

Ephesians 2:17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far away, and peace to those who were near.

2) *Equip*

Ephesians 4:11-12 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ.

1 Peter 4:1 Therefore, since Christ has suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same purpose, because he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin.

3) *Empowered*

Acts 1:8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.

CONCLUSION

New River Fellowship believes in the need for personal discipline and corporate participation. We believe the church was designed for all believers to participate in and recognize its design for the benefit of the world. Each individual within the church gathering together, growing in our gifts and going into the world.

New River exists to gather in God's presence through prayer and worship. Catalyze the Kingdom of God through group ministry. Equip believers, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to live as witnesses of Jesus to the world.