



THE COMPASS

Next Series



RE TOLD

July 3, 2016



**THE
ASCENT
CHURCH**

Get Connected

If this is your first visit, thank you for joining us. We hope your visit is meaningful! Please fill out a Connection Card and drop it in the offering box or at the Welcome Area so we will know you were here. For all guests and attenders, below are steps you can take to engage in our community.



Explore I

Learn more about our church, meet our Campus Pastors and others on our leadership team.

- Woodmoor Campus: **TODAY**, 10:15 am in Rm 214.
- Northgate Campus: Every 3rd Sunday, 11:30 am in lobby.

No pre-registration required.



Explore II

Explore II is a workshop for those ready to make The Ascent Church their church home and to be involved in God's mission and vision in our region. Explore II includes why and how to become a member, our trail map for each family member, ministry values, doctrine, and connecting with a Base Camp. Held quarterly at both campuses.



Base Camps

Base Camps are neighborhood-based groups that meet regularly around our community. To build deeper relationships with your neighbors, visit our website at theascentchurch.com/basecamps.



Serving Opportunities

How is God calling you to help create a welcoming and inviting Sunday experience for our guests and regular attenders? Serving opportunities are available in many areas from Hosting and Greeting, Service Prep Teams, or Technical and General Set-Up Teams. Training is available for each role.

If you have any questions about hosting or serving roles, please contact Joel Witzel at joel@theascentchurch.com.



Equipping

Our Equipping Classes are designed to help further your walk with Christ. There are many short-term classes offered at both campuses, as well as ongoing women's and men's Bible studies. For more information, visit our website or contact Joel Witzel at joel@theascentchurch.com.

Community Life

WOMEN ON THE ASCENT *Family Potluck*

When: July 14th, 5:30-7:30pm

Where: Peregrine Pines Family Camp, U.S. Air Force Academy

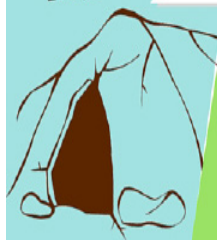
Directions: Go thru the north gate entrance (by 5:30). Take your first left onto Stadium Way. Follow signs to the Famcamp (on your left before you get to the stadium).

Bring: your family (children too) and a dish to share. Volleyball, tetherball, playground, socializing!

The Ascent Church

ADVENTURE QUEST

Everyone is Welcome!



CAVE OF THE WINDS
★ FAMILY OUTING ★

Friday, July 8th
9:30am
Sign up Today!

**SAVE THE DATE
FOR AN
IMPORTANT
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING ON JULY 24.
THE BUDGET AND
BYLAWS WILL
BE PRESENTED.**

Preschool Day

July 18, 9am-12pm.

Woodmoor Campus

A morning just for preschoolers (2-5 years old). Crafts, snacks, worship and a visit from the Kritter Karavan. Helpers needed. Register: www.theascentchurch.com/kids.



ELEVATE LOCK-IN

Incoming 5th & 6th Graders

JULY 22-23
DETAILS COMING SOON



Response Time

Each Sunday service, after the message, we have a time of response to God. We invite you to engage in worship through some tangible ways throughout our worship space.

- Communion: Available to all who profess Jesus Christ
- Prayer: Pastors or Prayer Partners available in the room
- Song: Engage in singing and expression to God
- Offering: Offering boxes and kiosks are available for giving
- Other: At times we will offer artistic/tactile worship stations

We invite you to move around the room at your own pace and in freedom to worship and respond to God as you feel led. You may engage these areas of worship in any order and at your own pace.

Financial Update

Last Week's Offering: \$21,227.30

As of 5/31/2016:

YTD Giving:	\$1,217,103
YTD Actual Expenses:	\$1,209,093
YTD Budget:	\$1,590,808

Fiscal Year 2015-16:

Avg. Weekly Giving:	\$28,304
Avg. Weekly Budget:	\$36,995
Min. Weekly Need:	\$31,314



Giving at The Ascent

- (1) Offering Boxes: Cash/check (in our worship service)
- (2) Online: From our website
- (3) Kiosk: In the lobby
- (4) Mobile/Text: The Ascent Church App (download from your App Store)

Connection Opportunities *This Week*

Ascent Student Ministry

(Middle school and high school)

ASM Tuesday Dates: ASM is off for July and will return August 2.

- Middle School: 5:30-6:45pm
- High School: 7:00-8:30pm

More information about upcoming events can be found at: www.theascentchurch.com.

Children's Ministry

(Birth - 6th grade)

Tiny Town: Birth - PreK

Adventure Quest: K - 4th grade

Elevate: 5th - 6th grade

- Woodmoor Campus: 9:00 & 11:00am
- Northgate Campus: 10:00am

Cave of the Winds Family

Outing: July 8. Children's Ministry is learning about Jesus and having fun with Cave Quest during Summer Sundays! Explore a real cave in our own town! More details and register at: www.theascentchurch.com/kids.

Preschool Day: July 18, 9am-12pm, Woodmoor Campus. Join us for a morning just for preschoolers (potty trained, ages 2-5 years old). Animal theme with crafts, snack, worship, and a visit from the Kritter Karavan! Leaders and helpers needed. Space is limited, please register early: www.theascentchurch.com/kids.

Elevate Lock-In: July 22-23, Woodmoor Campus, incoming 5th and 6th graders. More details coming soon! Register at: www.theascentchurch.com/kids.



Ascent Student Ministry Deep

ASM Deep meets Sundays for middle and high schoolers.

ASM DEEP Dates: ASM is off for July and will return on August 7.

- Northgate: 10am
- Woodmoor: 11am

Questions about ASM, email: asm@theascentchurch.com.



Equipping Ministry

Equipping classes are offered at new times.

Connections Class:

Sundays, 10:45am, Woodmoor Campus Rm 213.

Parents of Teens Class: Sundays, 10:45am, Woodmoor Campus Rm 210.

Women's and Men's Ministries

Men on the Ascent Bible Study: Tuesdays at 6:15am.

- Woodmoor Campus: Room 213
- Northgate: Cafe Communitas at Marcos Pizza.

Women on The Ascent:

Family picnic, July 14, 5:30-7:30pm, Peregrine Pines Family Camp, USAFA. Bring your family, dish to share, and join the fun!

Missions

To volunteer with the Missions Team, visit: www.theascentchurch.com/missions/outreach.



Message Notes

Sermon Passages:
2 Corinthians 3:7-18.



Shared Engagement and Preparation

The Compass is a daily devotional and study guide for individuals, families, and Base Camps. The Compass has Biblical reflections for each day, beginning on Monday and leading up to Sunday, which will help us all meditate on the week's passage. In this way, the whole of the church engages in God's Word and prepares for our time of worship and preaching.

Deep Engagement and Doable Application

In order to allow for deep impact by God through His Word, The Compass centers on one passage in three ways — as individuals, with others, in our corporate gatherings — and focuses on applying what God is showing us. Life transformation happens when God's people depend upon and live out what He has revealed to us in His Word.

Consistency Over Time

With a tool such as The Compass, we can mistakenly measure personal spiritual success or failure based on whether we've completed a given day's reflection. Instead, use The Compass as a resource for individual and community growth. If you miss a few days, move on, pick it up from the next day, and seek maturity — God will honor this.

Our prayer is that God will bless you as you seek to connect intimately with Him, intentionally with His people, and influentially in His world.

The Compass Passages for 7/04/16 – 7/09/16: Genesis 6-9:17

Monday, July 4, 2016

Read: Genesis 6-8.

Reflect:

We will study the well-known story of Noah and the flood this week. Funny movies, children's toys, and nursery decorations have all been fashioned after the story of Noah. Rather than being a story about God destroying most of mankind, it's become rather a cartoon. Perhaps this scripture is so well-known by you that it has lost deep meaning. Examine its inmost meaning this week.

From your reading of Gen 6-8 today, compose two or three fresh truths about God revealed by this story.

Reflect on the nature of mankind depicted in the flood story (vv 5-6). How do you compare to mankind at that time?

How could it happen that "every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time?" Also see Genesis 8:21.

What sets you apart today—like Noah?

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you today, and how might you put them into practice?

This is an easy story to bring up in conversation. Choose a friend and ask their thoughts about the flood story. Try to share any new or renewed truths.

Tuesday, July 5, 2016

Read: Genesis 6, Hebrews 11:7.

Reflect:

Consider Noah's character. Was he sinless? How could he be called righteous and blameless?

What motivated Noah to be obedient to God?

What motivates your obedience to God? How can you increase your motivation to obey?

What's the cost of obeying God?

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you today, and how might you put them into practice?

What opportunity might you have to be like Noah? Pray and ask for prayer from a friend as you consider your obedience to God.

Wednesday, July 6, 2016

Read: Review the story of Noah and the flood in Genesis 6-7; read Genesis 8 - 9:19 and 1 Peter 3:20-22.

Reflect:

Throughout scripture, we read stories of man's sin contrasted with God's salvation from sin. Two examples—the thief on the cross and the story of Zacchaeus. Noah and the flood story have these sin and salvation elements, as well.

List some other Bible stories or passages of scripture that also point to sin and tell of God's salvation.

The ark was deliverance in this story. Journal how you also have been delivered.

Did anyone “build an ark,” so to speak, that delivered you?

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you today, and how might you put them into practice?

Although Christ alone brings salvation by His death and resurrection, with the Spirit's guidance, you can “build an ark” when you share that gospel message. Consider how you might, out of obedience, “build an ark” for someone else's deliverance. Take the first step of ark-building this week.

Thursday, July 7, 2016

Read: Genesis 9:1-17; Hebrews 7:22 and 9:15.

Reflect:

Look specifically at 9:9-17. God is making a covenant promise to Noah and all of creation. What does this covenant promise say about God's character?

Does this covenant have any conditions?

How is this covenant with Noah like the "new covenant" instituted in Christ? (Hint: Who makes the promises and who meets the conditions?)

What are the conditions of the "new covenant?"

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you today, and how might you put them into practice?

God's deliverance of Noah's family, and God's promise to never again destroy the earth by flood are evidence of His mercy and grace. In discussing the flood with a friend this week, find the opportunity to share mercy and grace.

Friday, July 8, 2016

Read: Genesis 6-8; John 10:27 and Hebrews 11:7.

Reflect:

Consider again Noah's obedience. Put yourself in his shoes, if you can. When God spoke to Noah, how would Noah have known it was God's voice?

How do you know God's voice?

What steps can you take to be more familiar with God's voice?

Noah's grandfather, Methuselah, was destined to die outside the ark—as were many of Noah's cousins and aunts and uncles. How or why would Noah take such great risk and obey, when people close to him might ridicule him or be excluded in the plans for the ark?

Why do you obey when it comes at great cost?

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you today, and how might you put them into practice?

Pray that God would lead you to live and to believe like Noah and the rest of the "great cloud of witnesses", discussed in Hebrews 11 and 12.

Saturday, July 9, 2016

Read: Genesis 7 - 9:1-17.

Reflect:

If you had to retell the story of Noah and the flood, how would you give it proper focus? Is it an adventure? An epic action Bible story? A fantastic tale about tame animals and a giant flood? A story of family? What is the central message of Noah and the flood?

Although all these story possibilities may at times seem off-point, how are all elements--adventure, action, tame animals, a flood and family—still relevant to the central message about man's sin and God's grace and mercy?

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you today, and how might you put them into practice?

Thank God for this familiar, poignant story from early scripture, where you hear of God's judgment over sin and His deliverance and salvation—a story you likely heard early in your life. Pray God imprints the gospel message of the flood on your heart as you worship tomorrow.

Building Our Base Camp Family

This is week two of our suggested four-week pattern for Base Camps: intergenerational, adult study, mixed, invitation/service.

Preparation: Print copies of and prepare to sing “Children of the Lord” aka “The Arky, Arky Song” from <http://www.songsforteaching.com/religious/biblesongs/noahsark/arkyarky.htm>; if you don’t know the tune, Youtube has a version.

Intergenerational: Read Genesis 6:9-22. Ask children to tell the rest of the story: the flood and God’s promise. Sing “Children of the Lord” together and let them know they will return to the adult group toward the end of the Base Camp gathering.

Adult Study:

1. If needed, give group members 10-15 minutes to read Genesis 6:9-8:22. Review the Compass, and consider the question: What would you desire grade school-aged children (yours or others) to understand from the flood story? List the top three below:
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
2. Read Genesis 8:20-22.
 1. What had to happen in order for Noah to make his offering? When God smelled the aroma, what did He conclude? What promise did He make?
 2. The text doesn’t say why God chose to “never again curse the ground because of man.” What might be the reason God made this choice?
3. Read Genesis 9:1-17 and Genesis 1:28-31.
 1. What is common between these passages? What is the significance for your daily life?
 2. What has changed? What is revealed about how God sees life, values mankind, and predicts the sacrificial system? Is there a picture of Christ in this?
4. Review question 1, modify if needed, and invite children to join you. Share the lessons, and invite the children to be among adults in prayer.

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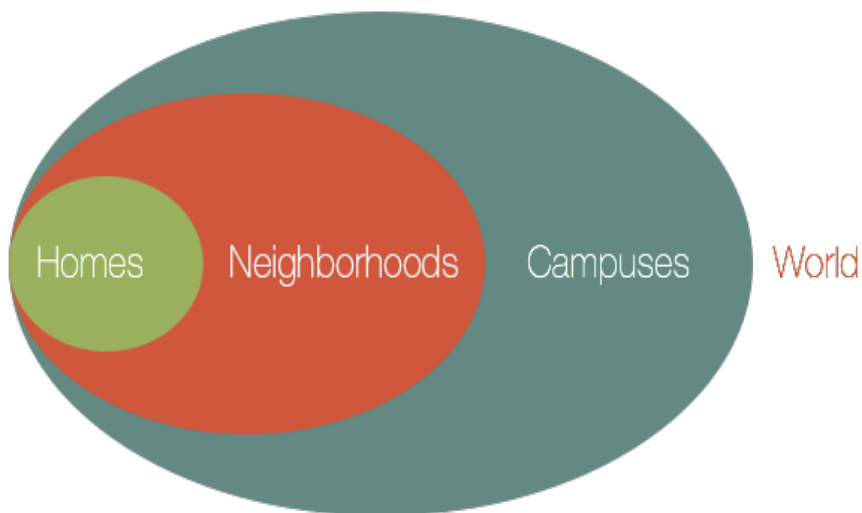
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Mission and Vision

The mission of THE ASCENT CHURCH is to help people connect: *Intimately* with God, *Intentionally* with God's family, and *Influentially* with God's world. Our vision is to develop genuine Biblical communities on every street in our region.

Our community lives out its vision and mission within three environments:

- Home—The best place for formation and nurture.
- Neighborhood—The best place for application and outreach.
- Campus—The best place for equipping, inspiration and celebration.



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Special thanks to all who contributed to The Compass

If you have questions or comments, email:

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