

THE COMPASS

Current Series



August 28, 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: will resume September 4, 10:15 am in Rm 214.
- Northgate Campus: every 3rd Sunday, 11:30 am in lobby.



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



Men's, Women's,
Neighborhood Studies,
and Sunday Morning
Classes starting soon!

FALL KICKOFF!

THEASCENTCHURCH.COM/MINISTRIES

For more info on how to sign up,
Visit: www.theascentchurch.com/equipping

Sept 13

ASM Kick-Off

Woodmoor Campus

MS 5:30-7p HS 7-8:45p

Dinner, Raffles, Inflatables,
Testimonies, Swag, Games, and
more!

ALL FREE



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: \$23,283.16

As of 7/31/2016:

YTD Giving:	\$1,321,468
YTD Actual Expenses:	\$1,373,611
YTD Budget:	\$1,775,786

Fiscal Year 2015-16:

Avg. Weekly Giving:	\$27,257
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: August 30.

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

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



Ascent Student Ministry Deep

ASM Deep meets Sundays for middle and high schoolers.

ASM DEEP Dates: ASM will return on September 11.

- Northgate: 10am, upstairs.
- Woodmoor: 11am, upstairs.

Children's Ministry

(Birth - 6th grade)

Tiny Town: Birth - PreK

Adventure Quest: K - 4th grade

Elevate: 5th - 6th grade

- Woodmoor Campus: 9am, 11am
- Northgate Campus: 10am

Woodmoor Volunteer Training:

September 20, 6:30 - 8:00pm, Woodmoor Campus. Register:

www.theascentchurch.com/kids.

Missions

Thank you for celebrating our partnership with Compassion International last weekend! Nearly 20 children living in poverty were sponsored. There will be a table at each service to sponsor more children with our church partner.

Operation Christmas Child Coordinator needed for The Ascent. Contact Micah at Missions@theascentchurch.com.



Equipping Ministry

Equipping classes are offered at new times.

Connections Class:

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

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

Women's and Men's Ministries

Men on the Ascent Bible Study:

1 & 2 Corinthians, September 6, 6:00am coffee; 6:15am start.

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

Women on The Ascent Bible

Studies: Starting soon on Tuesdays, 9am, Woodmoor Campus, Childcare available.

- **Mom's and Beyond, Spiritual Simplicity,** September 6, Room 213.
- **The Armor of God,** September 13, Room 212.

Tuesday evening study meeting in Promontory Point, **The Wired Soul** September 6, 6pm.

Wednesday evening study at Woodmoor Campus, **1 & 2 Corinthians**, September 7, 6:30pm, Room 213. Childcare available.

To register, or for more information: www.theascentchurch.com/women.



Message Notes

Sermon Passages: Genesis 3:8, Genesis 6:9, John 17:20-23, James 2:22-23, Galatians 5:22-23, John 10:4, 14 and 27, Galatians 3:24, Micah 6:8, John 15:15.



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 8/29/16 – 9/3/16: Genesis 2:2-3, Exodus 20:8-11, Mark 2:27, and Matthew 12:1-8.

Monday, August 29, 2016

Read: Luke 10:38-42.

Reflect:

Why do you think Jesus affirmed Mary's decision to sit and listen, not Martha's decision to serve?

Is there something wrong with working, serving, attending to your duties in life? If not, why did Jesus fail to praise Martha?

In what circumstances do you feel you need to serve, work, tend, care, etc? Do you ever get the impression that you should take a break from serving, working, etc., to just sit and listen to what God might have to say?

What do you think about setting aside a time each week to stop busying yourself? Instead, sit and listen to what God might have to teach you.

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

Tuesday, August 30, 2016

Read: Genesis 2:1-3.

Reflect:

Do you suppose God was tired after six days of creation?

Read Isaiah 40:28. If God does not grow weary, why would He have rested on the seventh day? What value could there be in this rest?

What might God be saying to you by resting on the seventh day?

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

Wednesday, August 31, 2016

Read: Exodus 20:8-11.

Reflect:

In this passage from the Ten Commandments, how does God defend the claim that His people rest on the Sabbath?

With these verses in mind, why do you think God rested on the seventh day?

Read Matthew 11:28-30. What do you learn about both Jesus and yourself from these verses?

Why do you think Jesus is so interested in your rest?

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

Thursday, September 1, 2016

Read: Mark 3:1-6.

Reflect:

Has Jesus violated the Fourth Commandment (that you read on Wednesday)?

Why do you think Jesus is willing to disobey the Pharisee's law and heal on the Sabbath?

Read Matthew 12:1-8. What does Jesus mean when He says "The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath?"

Spend a moment thinking about Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. In what way is Jesus "greater than the temple?" (Matthew 12:6)

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

Friday, September 2, 2016

Read: John 1:29-31 and Revelation 5:1-6.

Reflect:

Revisit the questions from Thursday. In light of these verses from John and Revelation, think again for a moment about what Jesus means when He says, “something greater than the temple is here”.

The Old Testament temple was a place of sacrifice. In light of today’s verses, how is Jesus a greater sacrifice than those of the Old Testament?

Read Matthew 5:17. In what ways has Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament law?

How does this help to explain Jesus’ statement, “The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath”?

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

Saturday, September 3, 2016

Read: Mark 2:23-28.

Reflect:

Mark's account is similar to Matthew's (Matthew 12:1-8). In Mark's account, Jesus states, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath." What does Jesus mean by this?

In Genesis 2:1-3 (from Monday's reading), God rested from His work as an example for you. How does this help explain why Jesus says the Sabbath was made for man?

Take a moment to consider what distractions might be keeping you from resting in God's presence—as Martha's distractions kept her from the feet of Jesus (Luke 10:38-42). List a few such distractions here.

How can you commit to rest from these distractions? What time can you dedicate to God in the next week, simply to quietly rest?

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

Building Our Base Camp Family

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

Prepare: Read 1 Samuel 3:1-11.

Intergenerational:

Ask everyone (especially the kids):

- Have you ever been bored?
- When you feel bored, what's the first thing you want to do?
 - *You will probably get a pretty broad list in response.*
The broader, the better!
- Have you ever thought of just sitting quietly and **listening**?
- Sometimes God speaks to you in a still, small voice.
- *Depending on the age group, you might consider paraphrasing the story of how God called Samuel (1 Samuel 3:1-11).*
 - Samuel had to quietly rest to hear God's voice. Then he had to respond.
 - It's possible that God may want to speak to you, but you won't be able to hear Him through distractions.

Close in prayer. Explain in advance that you're going to leave some extra time for quiet prayer so that everyone has a chance to listen to God. If God puts a prayer into your heart during that time, you should be encouraged to pray it aloud in the group.

If Base Camp is meeting on a Sunday, consider ending a little early so families can go home and enjoy some additional rest on this Sabbath day.

Contact Us

Church Office: 719.481.3600

(WM-Woodmoor, NG-Northgate, CS-Central Support)

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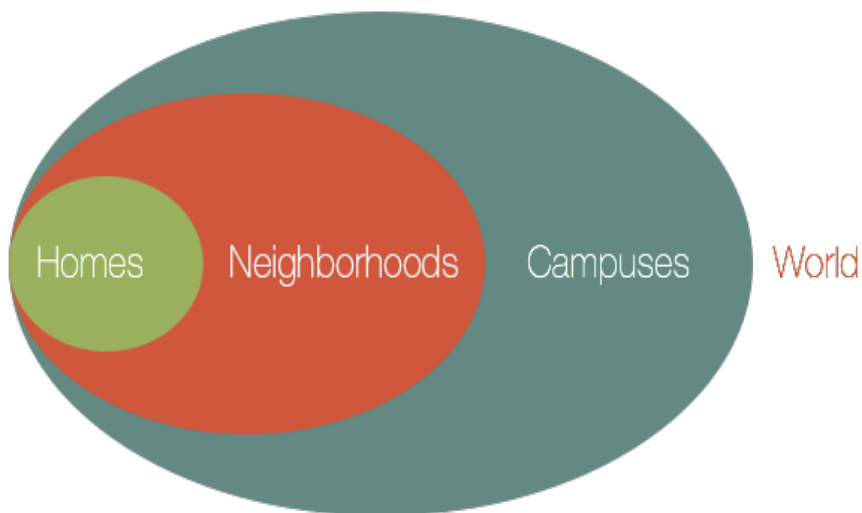
Visit us online at www.theascentchurch.com

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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719-481-3600 - TheAscentChurch.com

Special thanks to all who contributed to The Compass

If you have questions or comments, email:

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