

This manual is designed to be a tool on your journey as a disciple of Jesus Christ. It is also to help the New Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church have a baseline and united foundation concerning how to make disciples as a church body. This course takes you through the process beginning as a MEMBER that grows to MATURITY, serves in MINISTRY with the church and is on MISSION in the world.

CLASS #1: MEMBERSHIP

The first step in becoming a member of NPG is to be saved. You must believe in Jesus Christ unto salvation.

SESSION I: SALVATION

Making Sure You Are A Christian

A Christian is a FOLLOWER of Jesus Christ. After you accept Christ you must follow Christ. Followers of Jesus Christ are known as disciples. A disciple had to accept the teachings, help spread the teachings, and try to be like Jesus Christ. A Christian devotes their entire life to Jesus Christ.

How do I begin my journey with Jesus?

Take a walk down the Romans Road of Salvation

1st Stop: Why do you need salvation? Romans 3:23 ALL have sinned.

2nd Stop: Consequences for sin Romans 6:23a God is holy and must punish sin so without salvation we earn DEATH.

3RD Stop: How can I avoid the punishment of sin? Romans 6:23b God through Jesus paid the price for our sins and wants to give you a free gift which is ETERNAL LIFE.

4TH Stop: How do I accept this gift God wants to give me? Romans 10:9-10. Confess with your MOUTH and BELIEVE with your heart that God saved you by what He did through Jesus Christ.

5th Stop: What are the results of salvation? Romans 5:1. Once you accept Jesus by believing on Him in your heart you have PEACE with God.

6th Stop: How can I be sure that I am always saved? Romans 8:38-39. Once you are saved you are always saved but without commitment you will not experience the joy of your salvation.

Scriptures on assurance of salvation: John 10:28-30, I Peter 1:3-5, II Timothy 1:12

THE SYMBOLS OF SALVATION

BAPTISM

Baptism is a ceremony which symbolizes a believer's new relationship with Christ. It pictures the death of your former way of life and the beginning of your new life with Christ. (Romans 6:3-4).

Baptism is always done after a person **BELIEVES** in Christ. (Acts 2:41)

Restoring relationships Matthew 5:23-24

When and how often should we observe the Lord's Supper? Jesus never said when or how often believers should observe the Lord's Supper. He instituted it on a Thursday night. In the Bible, Christians observed the communion in small groups in homes. Here at NPG we normally observe the Lord's Supper at church on the first Sunday each month.

SESSION II: OUR STATEMENTS

What is the church? A Body of baptized believers associated by a covenant. Some images of the church are a family, a building, and a bride.

What are the purposes of the church?

Matthew 22:37-40 "The Great Commandment"

Worship – *"love the Lord thy God..."*

Ministry – *"love thy neighbor as thyself."*

Matthew 28:19-20 "The Great Commission"

Evangelism – *"Go ye therefore..."*

Fellowship – *"...baptizing them..."*

Teaching – *"...teaching them to observe..."*

The mission of New Pleasant Grove: *"We exist to Love God, Love People, and Lead others to do the same."*

The motto of New Pleasant Grove: *"I must work the works of Him that sent me while it is day, night cometh when no one can work."* John 9:4

Ministry Description: *"The growing church with a welcome, a message of hope and a way of life for all through Christ Jesus"*

"THE PLACE TO BE" (Believe in God, Belong to God's family, Become like Him)

Notes: