

LEGACY CHURCH BELONG COURSE

Week 1 | Vision : Who Is Legacy Church | 2.4.23

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. For the next 3 weeks (*February 4th, 18th and 25th*), we will be taking time during our weekend gathering to go through our Legacy Church Belong Course. Our desire is to circle back around what's essential, and important to the life of Legacy Church.
1. **Week 1—VISION**—(*Who is Legacy Church and what is it's mission*)
 2. **Week 2—INTENTION**—(*Why Legacy Church is doing what we do*)
 3. **Week 3—MEANS**—(*How Legacy Church is going to accomplish it's mission, and what's your role in our mission*)
- B. It's okay to miss one of the first two sessions. You will be able to grab both the notes and the video online and you can go through them on your own time. But, when it comes to the week 3, it's required to attend with us in person, since we will be taking a personality text together, and doing some in-person training.

II. WHO IS LEGACY CHURCH?

- A. Legacy Church is a local Church in Federal Way, WA that's committed to God's word, God's presence, and God's people. It's our desire to encounter Jesus AND the people of our culture.
- B. Legacy Church is a part of Legacy Ministers Network which is a Church network (*15+ Churches*) led by an apostolic team of trusted, biblically qualified practitioners (*all the board members have 40+ years of fulltime experience*).
1. Pastor Mike Servello—Utica, NY / Jupiter, FL.
 2. Pastor Charlie Sweet—Jupiter, FL.
 3. Pastor Dwayne Deskins—Olympia, WA.
 4. Dr. Charles Scott—Tulsa, OK.
 5. Pastor Eddie Jones—Rolla, MO.
- C. Legacy Church was originally planted in 2008 out of the International House of Prayer in Kansas City, MO (IHOPKC). In September 2015, Jennifer and I were serving as fulltime missionaries at IHOPKC when God sovereignly woke us up from a dream and told us that we were moving from Kansas City, MO to Federal Way, WA to take over this ministry. Our family moved from Kansas City to Federal Way in January 2016, and officially took over the ministry fulltime in December 2016.
- D. In 2019 the building that we were meeting in sold, forcing Legacy Church to head out on the move. We found this current space at the Hillside Plaza, and officially went ahead on a full remodel, completing the project in February 2020. In the Summer of 2022, Legacy Church handed over the lease of this current property to Anthem Church, giving us in return free rent for the life of our original lease of May 2024.
- E. Jennifer and I have been married for 18 years and have four children and two cats (*don't ask about the cats*). For most of that time, we have served in fulltime ministry as Youth Pastors, Senior Pastors, and fulltime missionaries.
- F. If you're just checking out the ministry, or coming in as a visitor, you've come at an exciting time. We believe that the best is yet ahead for Legacy Church.

III. WHAT DOES LEGACY CHURCH BELIEVE?

- A. At Legacy Church we agree with, and gather around the Nicene Creed:
1. *“We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of things visible and invisible.*
 2. *And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made.*
 3. *Who, for us men, for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.*
 4. *And we believe in the Holy Ghost (Spirit), the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father (and the Son); who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.*
 5. *And we believe in one holy Apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.”*
- B. For a fuller explanation of these various things, there are 12 essential doctrines (teachings) that Legacy Church holds onto as non-negotiable elements of the Christian faith. This statement of faith represents the core beliefs of the Church from a biblical and historical perspective.
- C. While Church members aren’t expected to fully understand or articulate all aspects of the Statement of Faith, the explicit rejection of any part of disqualifies one from membership at Legacy Church.
1. **THE TRINITY : GOD IS**
 - a. There is one true and living God, eternally existing in three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each member of the Trinity shares the divine attributes as they infinitely know, love, and glorify one another in unity and holiness. Immortal and eternal, God perfectly and exhaustively knows everything from the beginning to the end and works all things for his redemptive purposes and glory (**Genesis 1:1, 1:26-27, 3:22 • Psalm 90:2 • Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19 • 1 Peter 1:2 • 2 Corinthians 13:14**).
 2. **GOD THE FATHER**
 - a. Head among the persons of the Trinity, God the Father is the grand architect and infinitely wise designer of creation, redemption, and consummation. He sustains and sovereignly rules over all things, and he providentially brings about his eternal good purposes to redeem a people for himself and restore his fallen creation. As the giver of every good and perfect gift, he exercises his care and compassion by disciplining, correcting, and loving his adopted children (**Exodus 3:6 • Psalm 68:5 • Isaiah 63:16 • Malachi 2:10 • Matthew 23:9 • 1 Corinthians 8:6 • 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 • Ephesians 1:3, 4:6 • James 1:17**).
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3. REVELATION : GOD SPEAKS

- a. God is a speaking God who, by His Spirit, has graciously made Himself known. He has graciously shown His existence and power in creation. He has revealed himself through human words in the Bible, the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments. These writings alone constitute the verbally inspired word of God which is without error in the original writings and must not be added to, superseded, or changed by later tradition, extra-biblical revelation, or worldly wisdom. Finally, and ultimately, He has revealed himself in the person of His Son, Jesus, the Incarnate Word who is the express image of the invisible God.
- b. The Bible is complete in its revelation of God's will for salvation, sufficient for all that he requires us to believe and do, and final in its authority. All believers are exhorted to study the Scriptures and diligently apply them to their lives. God's Word guides Christian life, practice, and doctrine. Every doctrinal formulation, whether of creed, confession, or theology, must be put to the test of the full counsel of God in Holy Scripture.
- c. The Bible is to be believed, as God's instruction, in all that it teaches; obeyed, as God's command, in all that it requires; and trusted, as God's pledge, in all that it promises. As God's people hear, believe, and do the Word, they are equipped as disciples of Christ and witnesses to the Gospel (**2 Timothy 3:16-17 • 2 Peter 1:20-21 • Psalm 119:105, 160, 12:6 • Proverbs 30:5 • Deuteronomy 6:6-9**).

4. IMAGE : GOD LOVES

- a. God created human beings, male and female, in his own image; therefore, all people, regardless of culture, race, gender, ability level, age, or social status, have dignity, value, and worth.
- b. Adam and Eve, our first parents, belonged to the created order that God himself declared to be very good. Each of them imaged God fully and completely and were loved and valued by God equally. They lived in holy and devoted fellowship with their Maker and served as stewards to care for, manage, and govern creation.
- c. As part of God's design to fill the earth and demonstrate the relationship between Christ and his church, Adam and Eve were also made to complement each other in a one-flesh union. This covenantal union between one man and one woman establishes the only normative pattern of sexual relations and marriage for men and women. In God's wise purposes, men and women are not simply interchangeable, but rather they complement each other in mutually enriching ways. God ordains that they assume distinctive roles that reflect the loving relationship between Christ and the church, the husband exercising headship in a way that displays the caring, sacrificial love of Christ, and the wife submitting to her husband in a way that models the love of the church for her Lord (**Genesis 1:26-28, 2:24 • Psalm 8:3-6 • Ephesians 5:22-32**).

5. THE FALL : GOD JUDGES

- a. Adam, made in the image of God, distorted that image and forfeited his original blessedness—for himself and all his offspring after him—by choosing to sin against God. As a result, all human beings are hostile to and alienated from God, yet we are responsible to him and subject to his divine wrath.
- b. Humankind's depravity is radical and pervasive, extending to every aspect of our being (physical, mental, emotional, spiritual) and bringing us under the dominion of darkness. As fallen and sinful people, no matter our character or accomplishments, we are lost and without hope apart from salvation in Christ.

- c. The supreme need of all human beings is to be reconciled to the God under whose just and holy wrath we stand; the only hope of all human beings is the undeserved love of this same God, who alone can rescue us and restore us to himself (**Isaiah 53:6a, 59:1-2 • John 1:12, 14:6 • Romans 3:23, 5:1, 6:23, 10:9 • Ephesians 2:8-9 • Titus 3:5 • Galatians 3:25-26**).

6. INCARNATION : GOD COMES

- a. The second person of the Trinity, the eternal Son of God, is the creator and sustainer of all things, both visible and invisible. He added human nature to his divine nature and became both fully God and fully man, as Jesus Christ, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary so that he might reveal God to humankind and redeem sinful people. As Lord and Christ, Jesus accomplished salvation through his sinless life, sacrificial death, and victorious resurrection. After his witnessed resurrection, the Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven. He is now exalted at the right hand of God, where, as our High Priest, he fulfills the ministry of Intercessor, Mediator, and Advocate for those who belong to him until He returns (**Matthew 1:21-23 • Isaiah 9:6-7 • John 1:1-5; 14:10-31 • Hebrews 4:14-15 • 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 • Romans 1:2-4 • Acts 1:9-11 • Colossians 1:15 • 1 Timothy 6:14-15 • Titus 2:11-14**).

7. THE GOSPEL : GOD'S STORY

- a. The gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ and that His kingdom has come to earth. The message of the Gospel declares that Jesus, who is God, came in fulfillment of the Scriptures to be the King and Savior of this world. Jesus lived a sinless life, died a substitutionary death for our sins, and rose from the grave on the third day in order that the power of God might be revealed. It is through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection that we receive salvation, are reconciled to God, and are given eternal life.
- b. The truth of the gospel is exclusive (one can be saved by no other means), biblical (his death and resurrection are according to the Scriptures), historical (if the saving events did not happen, our faith is worthless, we are still in our sins, and we are to be pitied more than all others), apostolic (the message was entrusted to and transmitted by the apostles, who were witnesses to the risen Lord Jesus), and intensely personal (where it is received, believed, and held firmly, individual persons are saved) (**John 1:14, 3:16-17, 14:6 • Romans 6:23, 8:16-18 • 1 Corinthians 2:7-9, 15:12-19 • Revelation 20:15**).

8. THE HOLY SPIRIT : GOD EMPOWERS

- a. The third person of the Trinity, God the Holy Spirit was sent by God the Father and God the Son to convict the world concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment. As the Spirit of Life, He gives people faith to be born again in Jesus. Likewise, He baptizes all believers into the body of Christ, indwells them, and seals them unto the day of redemption. As the Spirit of truth, he works sanctification in believers by teaching us about Jesus, illuminating His Word, and empowering us to live for Jesus in loving obedience, doing the works He prepared in advance for us to do.
- b. By the Spirit's power, believers are renewed, sanctified, adopted into God's family, and given spiritual gifts. The Holy Spirit empowers our sanctification and seeks to produce His fruit in us as our minds are renewed and we are conformed to the image of Christ. Though our struggle with sin remains a reality, as we are led by the Spirit, we grow in the knowledge of the Lord and obedience to Him. Under the Holy Spirit's guidance, we are free from the power of sin, and empowered to worship Jesus. In freedom, we strive to live in the world in such a way that all people may see our good works and glorify our Father who is in heaven.

- c. The Holy Spirit indwells the believer at the moment of conversion, not as a separate event, and he continually fills each believer with increased power for Christian life, witness, and service. He imparts his supernatural gifts for the edification of the Body and for various works of ministry in the world. All the gifts of the Holy Spirit at work in the first century church are available today and should be earnestly desired and practiced. The work of the Holy Spirit through believers is vital for the mission of God (**John 14:15-17, 16:7-13 • Acts 1:8 • Romans 8:1-2 • 1 Corinthians 2:12, 3:16 • 2 Corinthians 3:17 • Galatians 5:22-25 • Ephesians 1:13-14, 5:18 • Psalm 51:11 • Matthew 3:11, 28:19 • John 14:26 • Acts 1:8, 2:4, 2:38 • 1 Corinthians 6:19 • Ephesians 1:13, 4:30 • Galatians 5:22-23 • 2 Timothy 1:14 • Titus 3:5**).

9. THE CHURCH : GOD SENDS

- a. The universal Church is not a religious institution but rather the community of all Christians throughout history and the world. It is comprised of local churches; thus, each “local church” is, in fact, the church and the household of God. As the head of the church, Jesus leads and rules his body. As the bridegroom of his church, Jesus loves and cherishes his bride. As the Chief Shepherd of his church, Jesus cares for and protects the flock of God.
- b. God’s mission to spread his glory through all the earth and reconcile all things to himself is accomplished through his church, worshipping Him in spirit and truth and faithfully serving as his ambassadors to the unbelieving world. He makes his appeal through us when the gospel is preached, disciples are made, and new churches are planted. Ultimately, God’s mission through His Church is to make disciples of Jesus who make disciples.
- c. The church is a people—sinners made saints who have been adopted as God’s children and live together in unity, love, and community as family, the household of God. God’s people are devoted to the teaching of God’s word, fellowship with each other, practicing the communion, prayer, and mission. Jesus established human leadership within the church who the Bible calls elders and deacons. Elders are the pastors of the church who minister the word of God and who oversee, protect, and care for the people. Deacons are servants who help the elders and serve the greater body.
- d. All leaders must meet biblical qualifications and set an example in love, humility, and discipleship in Jesus. As an extension of God’s created order, both men and women are encouraged to serve Christ and to be developed to their full potential in the manifold ministries of the people of God. The distinctive leadership role of the office of elder is given to qualified men and is grounded in creation, fall, and redemption and must not be changed by appeals to culture.
- e. Every Christian is part of the body of Christ and is expected to participate in the life of the body by being a member of a local church. Members of the local church build up the body of Christ by loving each other and contributing to the mission of God (**Matthew 16:18 • Acts 14:23, 14:27, 16:5, 20:28 • 1 Corinthians 11:18 • Ephesians 5:23-32 • Romans 12:5 • 1 Corinthians • Ephesians 3:6, 4:11-12**).

10. STEWARDSHIP : GOD GIVES

- a. God is the source of all blessings, temporal and spiritual. He is the giver of every good and perfect gift. He gives to all people life and breath and all things. All that we have and all that we are, we owe to Him, because all things belong to Him and we belong to Him.

- b. As our Creator, God made humankind to live and serve as stewards to care for, manage, and govern creation under His dominion. Because of the fall, our stewardship became distorted and broken. We were rescued by Christ by a great act of infinite generosity. Jesus Christ laid aside His wealth in glory and became poor in order to redeem us. He gave himself for us. He bought us. He is the example and model for generosity and stewardship. It is because of His great generosity to us, we can be generous in return. As redeemed stewards we can now willingly, sacrificially, cheerfully, and generously invest the God-given time, talent, and treasure entrusted to us for God's glory and the expansion of his kingdom (**Matthew 7:11, 25:14-30 • 1 Corinthians 9:17 • Colossians 1:25 • James 1:17 • 1 Peter 4:10**).

11. KINGDOM : GOD REIGNS

- a. Along with all creation, the Bride of Christ eagerly awaits the personal, glorious, and bodily return of our Lord Jesus and the complete consummation of his kingdom on earth. God alone knows the timing of Christ's return. The consummation includes: the resurrection of the dead and the transformation of those alive in Christ, the judgment of the just and the unjust, and Christ's renewal of creation, including establishing a new heavens, new earth, and New Jerusalem.
- b. Satan, demons, and all those who do not trust in Christ for salvation will be eternally separated from the benevolent presence of God, enduring eternal conscious punishment. The righteous, in glorious resurrected bodies, shall live and reign with Him forever. On that day, because of the obedience, suffering, and triumph of Christ, the Church will be presented pure and spotless, free and rid of all the effects of sin.
- c. Afterward, God will dwell with this people, face to face, where they will enjoy the presence of God forever, serving him and giving him unending praise and glory (**Philippians 1:6 • 1 Corinthians 15:20-28, 42, 50-58 • Revelation 21:1-8**).

12. MARRIAGE AND SEXUALITY : GOD'S IDEA

- a. It is the biblical position that marriage involves the union of one man and one woman in permanent sacred fidelity. Though various cultures and customs have evolving definitions of marriage, it is God alone who has ultimate authority to prescribe and describe the marital relationship (**Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:1-9, Mark 10:1-12**).
 - b. Furthermore, sexual intimacy is only properly exercised and pursued within the confines of this marital relationship. Sexual immorality, defined as any sexual activity outside of the boundaries of the sacred marital relationship between one man and one woman, is clearly and expressly prohibited by the Lord (**Matthew 15:19; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:3; Hebrews 13:4**).
 - c. As a consequence, the church regards any and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography, or even lustful intent toward such, as sinful and ultimately unsatisfying. Moreover, the church also regards as sinful the intent or desire to surgically alter one's biological sex to a different sex. Because the body is a creation of God, the church holds sexual identity to be biologically determined, and associated gender norms are to be observed as appropriate to biblical standards. Disagreement with one's biological sex only leads to spiritual confusion and emotional chaos (**Genesis 1:27; Romans 1:26-32; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11**).
 - d. In order to preserve the function and integrity of the church as the local Body of Christ and to provide a biblical example to the church members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by the church in any capacity or united to the church in membership should abide by and agree to this "Statement on Marriage and Sexuality" and conduct themselves accordingly.
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- e. Though sinful sexual expression is egregious (as is all sin), the gospel provides redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ (**1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Ephesians 2:1-10; Titus 3:3-7**).
- f. Furthermore, there is a difference between temptation and un-repented sin. Jesus was tempted in all ways as we are, yet He never sinned. Members, employees, volunteers, and attendees of the church wrestling with all manner of sexual temptation will find a church that is ready to point them to Jesus and join with them to fight for their obedience to Christ. Jesus called the weary and heavy-laden to Himself. As a ministry desiring to follow Christ fully, Legacy Church will be a safe place for men and women fighting sexual temptations of all kinds. For those fighting temptation and repenting of sin, Legacy Church will provide love, care, and direction (**Matthew 11:28-30; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Hebrews 2:17-18; Hebrews 4:14-16**).
- g. The church's "Statement on Marriage and Sexuality" must be expressed through compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity for all people and does not provide grounds for bigotry, bullying, or hate, as we fully believe that every person has been created in the image of God. Hateful and harassing behavior directed toward any individual are to be repudiated as sinful and are not in accordance with the Scriptures nor the doctrines of the church.
- h. The church's "Statement on Marriage and Sexuality" is based on God's will for human life as conveyed to us through the Scriptures, upon which this church has been founded and anchored, and this shall not be subject to change through popular vote; referendum; prevailing opinion of members or the general public; influence of or interpretation by any government authority, agency, or official action; or legal developments on the local, state, or federal level.

IV. WHAT IS LEGACY CHURCH'S MISSION?

- A. At Legacy Church our mission is to make disciples of Jesus that are BUILDING a solid foundation in Christ, ENCOUNTERING the presence of Christ, LIVING life in a Christ-like way, and SHARING both their lives and Christ's message with others.
- B. Building + Encountering = The Great commandment—*Loving God with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength.*
- C. Living + Sharing = The Great commission—Loving others in the way that Christ has loved us
 - 1. Building A Foundation In Christ → *Saturday Service, Discipleship Classes (Acts 2:40-47; 1st Timothy 3:14-16; Hebrews 10:25)*
 - 2. Encountering Christ → *Corporate Prayer Meetings/Spiritual Practices (John 15:8; Ephesians 1:17-18)*
 - 3. Living Life Like Christ → *Legacy Groups (Matthew 18:19-20; James 5:16)*
 - 4. Sharing Christ → *Making A Difference, Both Inside and Outside Legacy Church (Ephesians 2:10)*
- D. It's clear, everyone is on a spiritual journey, and here at Legacy Church we want to help people advance, and mature in Christ one step at a time.
 - 1. Non-believer? → Become born-again and believe!
 - 2. New follower of Christ? → Get water baptized
 - 3. Already baptized? → Become a Legacy Church member!

4. Already A Church Member? → Become an active member of the life of Legacy Church (*Welcome center, Media team, Legacy Kids, Join A Legacy Group, Join The Worship Team, Join The Prayer Team*)
5. Already an active Legacy Church Member? → Become a ministry leader (Ministry Department Overseer) or a Legacy Group co-leader or leader.
6. Already A Legacy Church Ministry Leader? → Become an elder, staff pastor, missionary, or a Church planter!

V. WHAT GATHERINGS HAPPEN AT LEGACY CHURCH?

- A. At Legacy Church our desire is to obey God in placing the first commandment first, and the second commandment second. Our desire is to love God in the same way that He loves us, and to love others in the same way that He loves others.
- B. We consider reaching people who do not know God personally to be one of our great responsibilities. Our weekend service is geared towards people at all stages of their spiritual journey, whether they are just checking out Legacy Church for the first time, or they've been a long-term disciple of Jesus.
- C. Weekend Service:
 1. Celebration—Our desire at Legacy Church is that our corporate service should be enjoyable. It's a time to gather around God's presence, together with others, and to enjoy God's goodness to us.
 - a. **Psalm 122:1** *"I was glad when they said to me, let us go into the house of the Lord."*
 2. Inspiration—I believe our corporate gatherings should be a place where people experience the presence of God, and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.
 - a. **1st Corinthians 14:24-25**, *"But...when some unbelievers or ordinary people come in, they will be convinced of their sin by what they hear. They will be judged by all they hear, their secret thoughts will be brought into the open, and they will bow down and worship God, confessing, Truly God is here among you."*
 3. Equipping—I believe that our corporate gatherings should be a place where people hear the Bible being taught, and they learn how to apply the Bible to their lives so that they can be transformed and equipped for ministry.
 - a. **Ephesians 4:11-12**, *"So Christ Himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and the teachers, to equip His people for works of service, so that they body of Christ may be built up."*
 4. Salvation—At Legacy Church, our desire is that our corporate services are a place where people can become born again and start following Jesus. I don't believe that this is the only place this can happen, but it's a great place for it to happen.
 - a. **Romans 10:13-14** *"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. But how can they call on Him to save them unless they believe in Him? And how can they believe in Him if they have never heard about Him? And how can they hear about Him unless someone tells them?"*
 - b. **Luke 14:23** *"Go into the country...and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full."*
 5. Unity—When it comes to the Church, God's deepest desire is that His family will be unified. And because it matters to God, it has to matter to us.

- a. **Ephesians 4:5-6** “There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.”
 - b. **Ephesians 4:16** “From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”
 - c. **1st Corinthians 1:10** “I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.”
 - d. **Matthew 5:23-24** “Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.”
- D. **Corporate Prayer Meeting**—At Legacy Church we value corporate prayer meetings where the larger Church family gathers around Jesus Christ and His presence, to both worship Him, and pray for various things. Our desire is that our prayer meetings become the most important gathering that happens at Legacy Church (Tuesday 7P).
1. **Matthew 21:13** “It is written, he said to them, My house shall be called a house of prayer.”
 2. **Isaiah 56:7** “Even them (Gentiles) I will bring to My holy mountain and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar; for My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.”
- E. **Legacy Groups**—At Legacy Church we believe that transformation/change takes place in the context of relationships. Legacy Groups have one simple purpose: to bring people together. God created us to live in community with others, and it is only then that we can experience the full life God intends for us. Our Legacy Group has three primary things:
1. **A Place To Connect With Others**—We were not made to do life alone. God created us for community, and Legacy Groups provide a place for you to connect with others, share life, and grow in faith together.
 - a. **1st Corinthians 9:22** “Yes, whatever a person is like, try to find common ground with him so he will let me tell him about Christ and let Christ save him.”
 2. **A Place To Protect Each Other**—When we do life together, our problems become smaller as God uses others to bring support and encouragement to our lives. Legacy Groups become a place where others don’t just know your name but care about what is happening in your life and want to support you in your discipleship to Christ.
 - a. **1st John 3:16** “We know what real love is because Jesus gave up His life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters.”
 3. **A Place To Grow Together**—We believe every person is created with God-given potential to make a difference in the world. Life Groups are a place you can grow with others to become more like Jesus and reach the potential God has put inside you.
 - a. **Proverbs 27:17** “As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.”
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VI. LEGACY CHURCH GOVERNMENT

1. As you consider investing your heart, time, family, and finances into the life of a church, it is important for you to feel confident in Church leadership. My goal in sharing the details of the Legacy Church government is that you will understand that our church is structured to support the values of integrity, accountability, and spiritual authority.
2. Legacy Church is an elder led Church. Currently, there are three elders that serve Legacy Church:
 - a. Patrick Walton—The lead elder
 - b. Pastor Dwayne Deskins—Elder (offsite elder)
 - c. Pastor Charlie Sweet—Elder (offsite elder)
3. We are also strengthened by overseers who also serve alongside Legacy Church. These overseers are outside pastors and respected congregations and ministries who love Legacy Church and are willing to provide spiritual protection to the Church. They may be called upon to help.

VII. CHURCH FINANCES

- A. At Legacy Church, we practice tithing for the support of Christ's body, the Church, as God commands. We recognize that giving 10% of our income is the Biblical standard for giving.
 1. **1st Corinthians 16:1-4** *"Every Sunday each of you make an offering and put it in safekeeping. Be as generous as you can. When I get there you'll have it ready, and I won't have to make a special appeal."*
 2. **Deuteronomy 14:22-26** *"Be sure to set aside a tenth of all that your fields produce each year."*
 3. **Malachi 3:10** *"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."*
 - B. Giving is one of the central themes in the Bible. Jesus talked more about this subject than heaven, hell, or even prayer. To understand what it means to be a Christ-follower, we must also understand what it means to be a giver.
 1. **Tithe**—The tithe, or "first fruits" of our labor/income belong to God. We find this principle all through God's Word. Tithing, giving God the first 10% of our income to the local church, is the primary, practical way we acknowledge that God is first (**Proverbs 3:9-10**).
 2. **Offerings**—An offering is giving over and above the tithe. The Bible says that by giving generously, we are able to *"take hold of the life that is truly life."* You aren't really living unless you are freely giving (**1st Timothy 6:18-19**).
 3. **The Gift of Giving**—The gift of giving is a spiritual gift that God gives to some people (**Romans 12:8**). It is a Spirit-given capacity and desire to serve God by giving of your material resources, far beyond the tithe, to further the work of God. Many people love to give to God and as they do, they want to feel confident in the organization through which they give.
 - C. At Legacy Church we want people to understand they are giving to God through the church, not to the church. As we openly share the honesty, integrity, and spiritual values that guide the financial practices of Legacy Church, we believe people can focus on what God is calling them to give and trust that He is leading our church to steward it well.
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- D. The giving of tithes and offerings is worship to Jesus and an expression of the relationship between the individual giver and the Lord. That is why we don't regularly have people fill out pledge cards or make faith promises. Funds are not "*income only*," they are worship and are not considered to be a business transaction but an expression of gratitude toward God.
- E. Questions?
- F. **Week # 2 INTENTION—Why Legacy Church Is Doing What It's Doing** (*Saturday, February 18th*)
 - 1. Great Commission
 - 2. People (*that are here, and those not here yet*)
 - 3. The Kingdom of Heaven is now (to live is Christ)
 - 4. Discipleship / Spiritual Practices
 - 5. Private Practices and Corporate Practices
 - 6. Legacy Groups
 - 7. Membership