

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Message: **I LOVE MY CHURCH – Part 4**

January 27, 2019



Connect (15min) – Share refreshments.

WONDER WORKING GOD – Did you witness the recent Blood Moon in the clear night sky?

*What is *one wonder* of God’s Creation that amazes you and what can you learn about Him through it?

FOCUS - Read [Psalm 19:1-4](#); [Romans 1:19-20](#) & the following quote -- then take a few minutes to praise & thank God for His wonderful works and character using short sentence prayers.

“For me, as a Christian believer, the beauty of the scientific laws reinforce my faith in an intelligent, divine Creator. The more I understand science, the more I believe in God, because of my wonder at the breadth, sophistication, and integrity of His Creation.” – Dr. John Lennox (Mathematician, Philosopher of Science & Professor at Oxford University)

PrayFirst Recap (10min)

*Share some highlights & feedback from your PrayFirst & Prayer Summit experiences this past week:

Sunday Message Feedback (45min)

***Speaker:** Shawn Vandop – Lead Pastor. **Message:** [I LOVE MY CHURCH](#) – Part 4.

- 1. Follow Up:** Ask your group members to share how it went this past week in regards to applying the areas we discussed and prayed about last session. Here’s quick recap: [Grow in Grace & Truth](#)
 - a. Be Bold
 - b. Always err of the side of Grace
 - c. Remain open-handed
- 2. What jumped out at you from this past Sunday’s Message?** Do you have any initial questions or feedback?
- 3. Comfort & Responsibility:**
 - a. What is the most [comfortable](#) thing you have ever done? Discuss
 - b. What is the most [responsible](#) thing you have ever done? Discuss
 - c. Which did you like more -- [comfort](#) or [responsibility](#)? Discuss.
- 4.**
 - a. What do you think of when you hear the term [“Membership”](#)?
 - b. When have you been a member of something? What privileges came with your membership?
- 5. The HOUSEHOLD of God -- Read [Ephesians 2:11-19](#)**
 - *What jumps out at you after reading these verses?
 - *How does being a part of the [Household of God](#) encourage you in your daily life?
- 6. The BODY of Christ -- Read [1 Corinthians 12:12-14](#); [1 Corinthians 6:15](#), and [Ephesians 1:22-23](#)**
 - *Why do you think Paul uses the [Body](#) as an analogy when describing the Church?
 - *How does this impact or change your perspective of what it means to be a part of the Church?

7. When it comes to **church membership/partnership** Shawn talked about the difference between a Contractual Relationship and a Covenantal Relationship. *How is a contract different from a covenant? Discuss.

NOTE: A contract says “*This is what you owe me.*” A covenant says, “*I don’t demand this of you; I become this for you.*”

8. The Church is also described as **the BRIDE of Christ** - see [Ephesians 5:25-33](#).

*How does this impact or change your perspective of what it means to be a part of the Church?

9. Responsibilities:

Do you think all Christ followers have a responsibility when it comes to their local church? & how so?
What kind of responsibilities should Christ followers have?

10. Read [1 Peter 5:2-5](#) and [Hebrews 13:17](#)

Have you considered before that your leaders are watching out for us in the ways they lead, serve, and grow?
How does that give you comfort or inspire you? How does it impact your thoughts about church membership?

“At a time when everyone bashes leadership, God calls us to show the world something different: people who love having a King and joyfully follow godly leaders. Let’s spur on one another to greater levels of surrender and radical expressions of boldness” – Francis Chan, Letter to the Church.

11. Have you gone through the membership/partnership process at Main Street Church?

*If not, the next **Partnership Class** is **Sun. February 10**, 6pm-8pm in the Chapel. Dessert & Childcare provided.

*Register online or through the Office. <http://mainstreetchurch.ca/partnership>

Application & Prayer (15-20min)

***YOUR MOVE:**

- *Consider Partnering with Main Street Church.*
- *Pray for Main Street Church and those who have invested their time, talents & treasures here.*
- *Pray that Jesus would grow our love for His Church.*

PRAYER: *Our 2019 Corporate Prayer Goals

>> Read through the 2019 Prayer Goals and then take time to pray through them as a group.

(These were highlighted at our Prayer Summit and will be highlighted throughout 2019)

We Ask You Lord...

- *To empower us to persistently pray for and share Your Gospel with at least one person in 2019.*
- *To provide all the financial and practical needs of the construction and renovation of our Kitchen and Office Space.*
- *To teach us to seek, ask for and be intentional about learning, growing and practicing the spiritual gifts You have given the church.*
- *To raise up and release at least 10 new Life Group Leaders so that 60% of our adult congregation can be connected in community.*

Announcements

Our NEXT LIFE GROUP MEETING: *DATE / TIME / LOCATION*. SNACK DUTY: _____.

Volunteer Appreciation Night

Fri. February 8th. 7pm. Main Street Auditorium. Join us with your Life Group for a fantastic evening.

Register Online: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/main-street-church-volunteer-appreciation-night-tickets-54931749341>

Partnership Class

Sun. February 10th. 6pm-8pm. Chapel.

Learn about how you can Partner with the life and ministry of Main Street Church. Register online or at Guest Services.