

## TAKE HOME SHEET



**Series:** They Will Know We Are Christians By Our Love  
**Message:** Resolve to Love Others  
**Speaker:** Rusty Coram  
**Date:** September 26/27, 2020

After reviewing the message notes, let's all take some time to prayerfully read and reflect on the following statement that describes what we at New Hope believe is God's design for us as we relate together. If possible, read this aloud with someone else or a group and then discuss the implications of what living this out could mean to you, your family, friends, community and our nation. We are God's vehicle for showing and sharing His love. Let's do it well!

### What we believe about people at New Hope Church:

In the Bible, God gives us clear guiding principles for understanding ourselves and others. Human beings are unique in all of creation because we are created in God's image (Genesis 1:26-27). This means we reflect aspects of His nature unlike anything else in the world. There is great beauty in this aspect of our lives. There is another side to us, though – we are all damaged by sin (Romans 3:23), wanting to live independently of God to have our own way. The result of our sin is that we dishonor our Creator and mistreat each other. Without help, we are without hope. This is why God sent His Son to rescue and save us (Isaiah 53:6).

New Hope's mission is simple, "To help all people become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ". All humans are created in God's likeness, regardless of their sex, language, skin color or socioeconomic status. With this understanding, we want to do everything we can to help all people understand how much God loves them and wants a personal relationship with each of them.

Jesus made this mission clear. <sup>18</sup> *Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."* Matthew 28:18-20 (NLT)  
 The word *nations* is the Greek word *ethnos*, which means all people groups everywhere. As we are faithful to pursue our God-given mandate, our church will become a diverse community of people with various backgrounds and ethnicities, who are now brothers and sisters in God's great family. As this community grows close to God and each other, it should be characterized by love, respect, honor and humble service to all as equals (Galatians 3:26-28).

Because we tend to let our differences divide rather than develop our community, we need to work hard at building unity and intercepting anything that can cause dis-unity. In fact, the word *community* is a reminder of how we can do this. As followers of Jesus, we have two important things in *common* – we are all created in God's image and we have been reborn into His family through accepting Christ as our Savior and leader. These realities are the foundation for building closeness and *unity*. As we build relationships with each other in Jesus' family, His church, we choose to let our differences and diversity strengthen rather than separate us. Because God created humankind with diversity, historic and contemporary issues will most likely impact us differently. This includes, but is not limited to, matters of oppression, discrimination and favoritism. Our goal is to acknowledge and address these issues, not to ignore or dismiss them. Our intent is to build a healthy community under the lordship of Jesus Christ, and from there be a positive influence in all our spheres of influence for His glory and the benefit of others. This will create a taste of what life will be like when history wraps up and we are in heaven, <sup>9</sup> *After this I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes and held palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup> And they were shouting with a mighty shout, "Salvation comes from our God who sits on the throne and from the Lamb!"* Revelation 7:9-10 (NLT)

Another aspect of building this kind of community together is to be an example of God's good design to a watching world. Jesus makes this very clear, <sup>34</sup> *"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. <sup>35</sup> Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."* John 13:34-35 (NLT) and also, *"In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father."* Matthew 5:16 (NLT)

We want to be a church that honors God in all we do, and to that end, we will work to build a community that reflects God's heart and shows it in how we value, respect, honor and love all people.

MESSAGE NOTES



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**Whenever we rely on our own resources and resolve, we will be seriously limited in our perspective and abilities.**

*Jesus replied, “Your mistake is that you don’t know the Scriptures, and you don’t know the power of God.”*

Matthew 22:29 (NLT)

<sup>34</sup> But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees with his reply, they met together to question him again. <sup>35</sup> One of them, an expert in religious law, tried to trap him with this question: <sup>36</sup> “Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?” <sup>37</sup> Jesus replied, “You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.” <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest

commandment. <sup>39</sup> A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ <sup>40</sup> The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”

Matthew 22:34-40 (NLT)

**Jesus’ church is the model of hope for the world.**

<sup>34</sup> So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. <sup>35</sup> Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.

John 13:34-35 (NLT)

**When we humbly choose to love and obey our Savior, we will discover wisdom, courage and power to accomplish the amazing things He has in store for us.**

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*

Acts 1:8 (NLT)

**BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:**  
 NLT – New Living Translation

## Song Lyrics

### **Glorious Day**

I was buried beneath my shame. Who could carry that kind of weight? It was my tomb, 'til I met You.  
I was breathing, but not alive. All my failures I tried to hide. It was my tomb, 'til I met You. .

Chorus:

You called my name and I ran out of that grave. Out of the darkness into Your glorious day.  
You called my name and I ran out of that grave. Out of the darkness into Your glorious day.

Now Your mercy has saved my soul. Now Your freedom is all that I know  
The old made new, Jesus when I met You.

I need rescue, my sin was heavy. But chains break at the weight of Your glory.  
I needed shelter; I was an orphan. Now You call me a citizen of heaven.  
When I was broken, You were my healing. Now Your love is the air that I'm breathing.  
I have a future; my eyes are open. Cause when You called my name...

### **Forever Reign**

You are good, You are good, when there's nothing good in me.  
You are love, You are love on display for all to see.  
You are light, You are light when the darkness closes in.  
You are hope, You are hope. You have covered all my sin.

You are peace, You are peace when my fear is crippling.  
You are true, You are true even in my wandering.  
You are joy, You are joy. You're the reason that I sing.  
You are life, You are life. In You death has lost its sting.

Chorus:

Oh, I'm running to Your arms. I'm running to Your arms. The riches of You love will always  
be enough. Nothing compares to Your embrace. Light of the world forever reign.

You are more, You are more than my words will ever say. You are Lord, You are Lord. All creation will proclaim.  
You are God, You are God. Of all else I'm letting go.

My heart will sing, no other name – Jesus, Jesus.

### **O Come to the Altar**

Are you hurting and broken within; overwhelmed by the weight of your sin? Jesus is calling.  
Have you come to the end of yourself? Do you thirst for a drink from the well? Jesus is calling.

Chorus:

O come to the altar. The Father's arms are open wide.  
Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes. Come today there's no reason to wait. Jesus is calling.  
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy. From the ashes a new life is born. Jesus is calling.

Oh what a Savior. Isn't He wonderful? Sing alleluia, Christ is risen.  
Bow down before him. For he is Lord of all. Sing alleluia, Christ is risen.

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown. Tell the world of the treasure you've found.