

TAKE HOME SHEET



Series: Church, Why Bother?
Message: I Don't Need What They Are "Selling"
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: May 4/5, 2019

Write down the names of five of your friends, neighbors, co-workers or family that are not (to your knowledge) followers of Jesus.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

In Romans 1, we read (Romans 1:16) that Paul carried "*a great sense of obligation*" for those who didn't yet know Jesus. What would that look like if you had that same attitude for the people whose names you wrote?

What kind of initiative could you take with these people you care about? [i.e. inviting them for coffee; to your home for a meal; help them with a project; invite to church; etc...]

If asked by a friend "*to give the reason for the hope that you have*" in Jesus, would you be able to do it simply and clearly? (*If not, you could learn the 3 circles illustration that was used in the message.)

Who could/will you ask to join you in praying for opportunities to be used by God to help your friends discover the new life that Jesus has for them?

MESSAGE NOTES



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Four ways the church gets it wrong and can do better:

Judging others rather than loving them.

Ranting about/to others rather than listening to them.

Acting hypocritically rather than humbly.

Accommodating what God says is wrong rather than courageously representing truth.

There are many important things Jesus' church should be involved with but there is one that is essential and should always be our priority.

¹⁴ For I have a great sense of obligation to people in both the civilized world and the rest of the world, to the educated and uneducated alike...¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile. ¹⁷ This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight.

Romans 1:14-17 (NLT)

²² Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some.

²³ I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings.

1 Corinthians 9:22-23 (NLT)

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)



WHY BOTHER?

If you are not satisfied with the church, you're not alone. It's no secret it gets a bad rap, and many who have grown up around the church don't want to have anything to do with it. Some who have never stepped foot inside are skeptical, because it is widely viewed as outdated, boring, irrelevant and filled with backbiting hypocrites. And let's face it, we don't always make it easy for people. Churches can be all-consuming, taking over your limited spare time, becoming the focus of your social life and taxing your emotions and energy...not to mention your bank account. The truth is, the church is God's family. God came to meet us squarely in the middle of our struggles where He offers us the help, empathy, and grace we need. His church is the community He created, so we can grow more and more like Him, transforming the world with His message of love. Join us as we learn how to be the church as God intended. ***This week: I Don't Need What They Are "Selling".***

FIRST TIME GUESTS

We promise we're not going to make you stand up in front of everyone or track you down, but we'd love to know you were here today! Simply fill out your communication card in the seat back in front of you and check the "First Time Guest" box. On your way out, stop by Guest Services at the front doors and get your FREE welcome gift. **We're glad you are here!**

**WE'RE
SO GLAD
YOU JOINED
US TODAY!**

newhope
CHURCH

We're honored when people choose to do church with us. New Hope is for anyone who wants to seek God - from those exploring if God even exists, to devoted Christ-followers. Wherever you are, you'll find we are committed to showing the love of Jesus and helping people establish a relationship with Him. We are casual, laid-back, and far from perfect. **ALL are welcome!**



#MADENEW

It's time to try something new!

We believe that baptism is a powerful and important step for everyone who has decided to trust and follow Jesus. Our baptism celebrations give insight on what God is doing in the lives of real people at New Hope.

We are changing things up with our next Baptism Celebration in June. We've decided to hold a special event on a Saturday afternoon for those getting baptized, plus their family, friends, and anyone who wants to witness the celebration. We will have music, an introduction from Pastor Rusty, baptisms, and dessert in the atrium afterward. We'll also have the photo booth set up so you can capture this special day. It will be a real celebration, so plan on coming to hear what God has done in the lives of others on Saturday, June 15th at 2:00, as they make a public commitment to follow Jesus.

If you have never been baptized or if you want to begin a relationship with Jesus, this is the perfect time to get connected. If you've been hesitant before because of the video taping of your story (not a requirement!) or feel unsure about getting baptized in front of a large crowd, please reconsider your decision with this new format. Learn more at one of the Baptism Information Meetings following all services the weekend of May 18/19 or contact us at baptism@newhope.org.

Your generosity provided over 200 bikes that will soon be on their way to Nicaragua. In a country where gas is often unattainable, these bikes give people in need a way to get to work to provide for their family. The proceeds from the resale of the bikes also help fund an orphanage, among other things. We love how much you love making a difference in the world.



CHECK OUT THE NEW LOOK OF OUR MOBILE APP!!

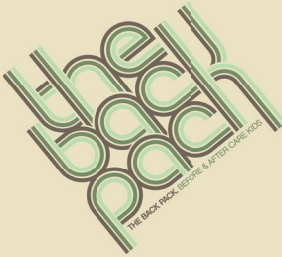


New Hope Church

Available in App Stores



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The Back Pack (TBP) is our before and after school care at New Hope. This is not your average after-school program! We aren't interested in just watching your kids. Instead, we offer a program committed to creating positive experiences. TBP provides care to students, K-6th grade, attending nearby elementary schools including Halley, Laurel Hill, Lorton Station, Newington Forest, Silverbrook and Sangster. We are currently accepting registrations for the 2019/2020 school year. For more details and online registration, please visit us at www.thebackpackonline.com.

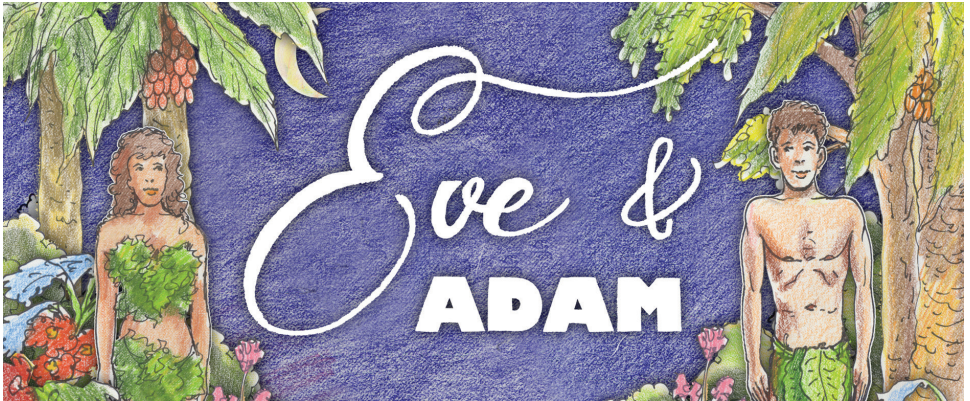
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This weekend, we are recognizing one of our All Star couples who have been serving New Hope for many years. **Lindy and Greg Butler** have been faithfully serving New Hope for over ten years! AND even more impressive, they each serve on more than one team! Lindy serves on our Medical and Guest Services Teams. Greg is one of our Head

Ushers and serves on the Tech Team for our adult weekend services. We simply could not do without them! **Thank you for serving us, Greg and Lindy!** We appreciate you! We hope you will consider joining a team. You have a gift to share with others that is needed at New Hope. Send an email to carolann.gregoire@newhope.org and let her help you find a place that's right for you.

Next weekend is Mother's Day, and we want to take a special look at what it means to be a woman in God's kingdom. Please join us next week for our message, Eve & Adam. The corresponding Father's Day message, Adam & Eve, will be the weekend of June 15/16.



God gave men and women very different, yet complimentary roles to play. Both roles are equally important, but the lines can get blurred with modern family dynamics and career aspirations. This series will help equip us to sort through the issues and discover God's good plan.

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CHURCH

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