

THE PATHWAY

GOD'S MISSION FOR YOUR LIFE



GENESIS
CHURCH

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JESUS IS OUR MODEL

Jesus is our model for life and ministry

Jesus was both fully God and fully man. Being fully God, Jesus’ death on the cross brought about our redemption and the forgiveness of sins, that we might have eternal life in Him. Being fully human, Jesus gave us a model for how to live life and do ministry, because the resources that were available to Him are the same resources available to us today. Each one of us can pattern our life and ministry after Jesus.

Jesus initiated a movement of multiplying disciples and churches

In Matthew 28:18 - 20, Jesus gave His followers the mission to go make disciples. In doing so, Jesus initiated a movement of multiplying disciples and churches that has continued for over 2000 years. We believe Jesus is still giving His followers the mission of making disciples today. At Genesis, we want to become a disciple-making church and initiate a relational movement of multiplying disciples and churches.

Jesus promises, those who abide in Him will bear much fruit

In John 15:5, Jesus gave a simple, but powerful message: abide in me. And He promised that if we abide in Him, we will bear much fruit. This is an encouraging promise! Anything of lasting value in our life will flow from a close, personal relationship with Jesus. Abiding in Jesus is the top priority for every Christ-follower.

Jesus invites all Christ-followers to multiply our lives into a few individuals

In John 1:37, Jesus began His ministry by relationally investing in two individuals, Andrew and John. In Matthew 4:19, Jesus went to four individuals and invited them to be fishers of men. By relationally investing His life into a few individuals, Jesus gave us a model we can all follow. God has given each of us a relational network of people, a circle of influence, to make disciples. What could we see God do, if we all relationally invest in a few individuals in our circle of influence?

Jesus’ church is a family on mission together

Christ-followers are described in the New Testament as brothers and sisters in Christ, united by adoption into our Heavenly Father’s family. As in any family, we need each other. There are over 40 “one another” commands in the New Testament. We can live in close relationship with one another, care for one another, pray for one another, serve one another, and more. We want to be a family on mission together. And we want to reach our world for Christ, rescuing those who are lost and looking for a savior.



Jesus is
our model
for life and ministry



OUR VISION

Genesis church started in 2003 with a passion to help people find their way back to God. For over 15 years, this passion has been evident in so many ways. I am so thankful for God’s faithfulness and so proud of our church family. But several years ago the Lord helped me to realize there was more work to be done. In 2014 a small group of us studied the life and ministry of Jesus in a way that brought about a shift in our thinking and how we view ministry. We came to the conclusion that Jesus is not only our model for life; He is our model for ministry too.

In Matthew 28:18 – 20, Jesus gave us the mission of making disciples. And in His ministry, Jesus gave us a model of how to accomplish this mission. We see Jesus leading His disciples down a pathway that consisted of just a few major steps. We believe that Jesus wants to lead our church family down a similar pathway. This pathway will help each one of us follow the model of Jesus and become a disciple-making church.

I’m excited for the journey ahead,

Paul Munroe

THE PATHWAY God’s Mission for Your Life

Each of us can pattern our life and ministry after Jesus. We hope you will join us as we become a family on mission together. Here are the four major steps to The Pathway:

1. Connect

We want to see everyone connect in community and develop a few close friendships here at Genesis. Our prayer is to see everyone find their place in this local church family.

4. Multiply

We want to see every believer learn to multiply his or her life by relationally investing in a few individuals. Our prayer is that everyone would join the mission of making disciples.



2. Encounter

We want to see everyone encounter the living Jesus. Our prayer is that everyone would respond to the Gospel by believing in Jesus and being baptized.

3. Follow

We want to see every believer learn to follow Jesus and develop a close, growing relationship with God. Our prayer is to see everyone grow, bear much fruit, and bring glory to God.



CONNECT IN COMMUNITY

Are you new to Genesis? Or have you been attending on Sundays for a while, but haven't relationally connected with anyone yet? Throughout His ministry, Jesus built a community of relationships where people could connect with Him and one another. Our hope and prayer is that you would **get relationally connected to our church family**. God intends for the church to be a family on mission together. Here at Genesis, there are a number of ways for you to meet people and develop friendships.

We're called to be a family on mission together.



CELEBRATE

Our weekly Sunday services are the simplest and quickest way to meet people. Consider showing up early, grab a cup of coffee, a bagel and introduce yourself to someone. Your kids can connect at Genesis too, through GenKids and Genesis Student Ministry.

GenKids

Parents, every Sunday, we provide a fun and engaging environment for children to connect with volunteers and other children, as we aim to help them grow in their relationship with God.



GSM

If you are a middle or high school student, we invite you to join our GSM Ministry for our weekly gatherings. These environments are designed to help you connect with other students and volunteers, as we share life together and seek to grow in our relationship with God.



CONNECT

One of the best ways to meet others, develop friendships, and grow in your relationship with God is by joining a Connection Group. We have several different types of Groups to choose from.



CONTRIBUTE

A great way to get connected is by joining one of our ministry teams. It takes dozens of volunteers on Sunday and throughout the week to do ministry. Consider serving on one of our many ministry teams on Sundays, such as GenKids, Host Team, or Café

What's My Next Step?

As you continue reviewing The Pathway on the following pages, consider where you are and which next step is best for you. Here are a few specific next steps you can consider taking to get better connected in community here at Genesis:

○ Pray

God wants to provide a church family for you. Your first step is to prayerfully ask God to bring some specific people into your life with which you can develop some meaningful friendships. This may take some time, but trust that God will answer your prayer and meet this need in your life.

○ Celebrate with us

Each week you can worship God with fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Take advantage of this by making every effort to join us weekly. Before and after the service, look for opportunities to relationally interact with those around you.

○ Join us for lunch

Every month we host Intro to Genesis, a lunch for anyone new to our church family. This is a great opportunity for us to meet you, for you to meet some of our staff, and learn more about Genesis Church. If you haven't attended an Intro to Genesis lunch yet, sign up to join us at our next one.

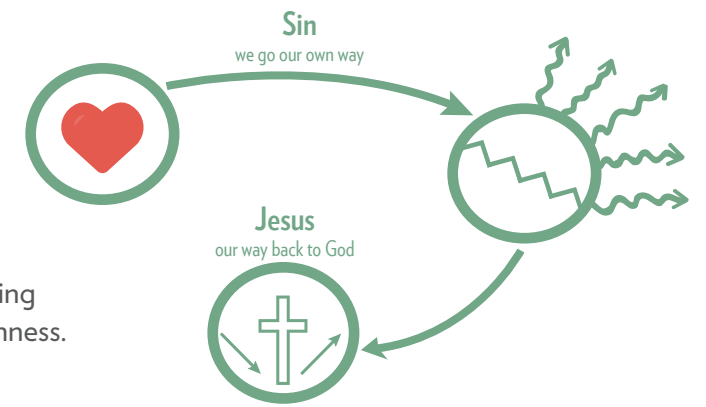
ENCOUNTER JESUS

What are you seeking? Are you searching for answers to your spiritual questions? Would you like to learn more about Jesus? In John 1:39, Jesus invited two people who wanted to learn more about Him to “come and see.” If you do not consider yourself a Christ-follower just yet, we extend the same invitation to you. Here at Genesis, our hope and prayer is that **you would encounter the living Jesus**, respond to the Gospel by believing and being baptized in Christ. To explain the Gospel, we like to use a tool called *The Three Circles*. Read the following summary and try to identify where you are in your relationship with God.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his one and only son, that **whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life.**”
John 3:16

God wants to rescue us

But the Good News is that God loves us so much, that He sent His son, Jesus, to rescue us. Jesus lived a sinless life. He never turned away from God or went His own, independent way. Jesus always obeyed His Father. He obeyed all the way to the cross where He took our place and died for our sins. Then three days later, Jesus rose from the grave. By conquering sin and death, Jesus provided a way out of our sin and brokenness. That’s good news!

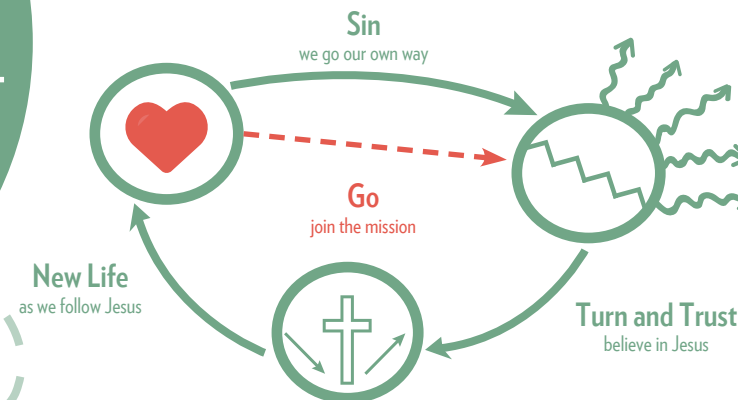


We are made new in Christ

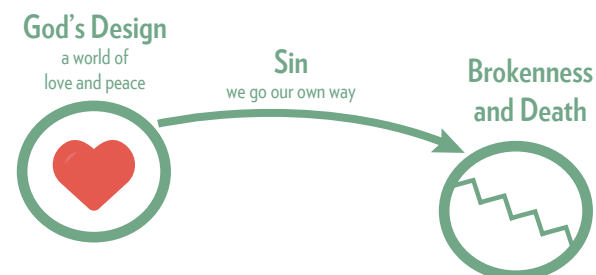
The Bible says if we turn away from our sin and turn back to God, believe in and follow Jesus, our sins are forgiven and we are given new life in Christ. With our new life in Christ, we can now follow Jesus and God’s plan for our life.

We can join God on mission

An important part of God’s plan for our life is to join the mission of helping people find their way back to God. He sends us into our broken world to share the Good News with others.



THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS

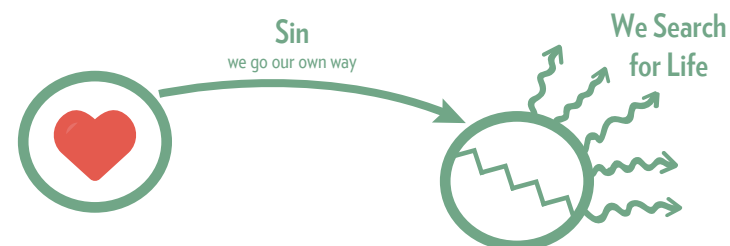


God’s design and our sin

God created the world to be a place of love, joy, and peace, where people experience a close, loving relationship with Him and with each other. But we sinned, turning away from God and selfishly insisting on going our own, independent way. When we sin, we separate ourselves from God, our source of life. This separation leads to brokenness and death, both here in this life and for all eternity.

We search for life in a broken world

At some point, we realize we are broken people, living in a broken world. So we begin searching for an escape from the brokenness; something to bring us the life, love, joy, and peace that we lost in God. But nothing in this world will bring us the life we’re searching for, and that’s bad news.



What’s My Next Step?

As you continue reviewing The Pathway, consider where you are and which next step is best for you. Here are a few specific next steps you can take to learn more about Jesus and respond to the Gospel:

○ Pray

You may not be certain what you believe about God. We encourage you to pray this simple prayer: “God, if you are real, would you please reveal Jesus to me?” Remaining in a posture of prayer, look for ways God may reveal Jesus to you in His Word and through His Church. Maybe you are ready to believe in your heart and confess with your mouth that Jesus is the Lord of your life (Romans 10:9–10). If that describes you, then take a moment to express that desire to God in prayer right now.

○ Study the Bible

The best way to learn more about Jesus is by studying the Bible. Start by reading one of the four gospels, such as the *Gospel of John*, which records the life and ministry of Jesus. Consider completing the *Encounter Jesus* study, an 8-week Bible study available at our Info Hub. And you can always listen to our Bible teaching each Sunday or on our podcast.

○ Attend our Baptism Class

If you have put your faith in Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, then your next step is to be baptized. Baptism is an outward expression of your inner faith in Jesus. In this one hour class, we will review the Gospel, study the Biblical meaning of baptism, and address any questions you may have about taking this significant step of faith.



FOLLOW JESUS

Are you a baptized Christ-follower ready to grow in your relationship with God? In John 15:5, Jesus said we grow in our relationship with God by learning to stay relationally connected to Him. We can stay connected to Jesus by following His living leadership and His life example. Here at Genesis, our hope and prayer is that ***you would learn to follow Jesus and develop a close, growing relationship with God.*** We believe there are a few fundamental ways to do this:

“Follow me”
John 1:43

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you ***remain in me*** and I in you, you will bear much fruit. Apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:5



Develop a few close friendships

God designed us to thrive in relationships. We can develop close friendships with other Christ-followers and gain the encouragement and support we need to live God’s plan for our life.

Spend time connecting with God in prayer and Word

God wants a close relationship with each one of us. We can develop intimacy with God by spending time alone in prayer and studying His Word, the Bible. Consider using the Lord’s Prayer in Matthew 6 as a guide. You may also want to use a Bible study tool such as the S.O.A.P.S. method. It is a simple Bible study format designed to help you meditate on God’s Word.



So I say,
walk by the Spirit,
and you will not gratify
the desires of the flesh.

Galatians 5:16

Learn to live by the Spirit

God wants us to live by His Spirit. We can learn to say no to the sinful desires of our flesh, and yes to the desires of the Holy Spirit. As we do, we will grow in the character of Christ, bearing fruit that glorifies God.

Love and serve others

God calls us to love others the way that Jesus has loved us. We can share the love of Christ and serve those around us at school, at work, in our neighborhoods, and in our community.



What’s My Next Step?

As you continue reviewing The Pathway, consider where you are and which next step is best for you. Here are a few specific next steps you can take to grow in your relationship with God at Genesis:

○ Pray

Develop the pattern of spending time alone with God in the Bible and in prayer. Consider using some helpful tools such as the S.O.A.P.S. study method or listen to some of our messages on podcast.

○ Join a **Connection Group**

If you are not currently part of a small group, consider making this your next step. Most of our groups are 5 – 15 people who meet weekly to develop friendships, study the Bible, pray for one another, and encourage one another as we follow Jesus together. See our website for more information.

○ Join a **Ministry Team**

We have several opportunities to volunteer and serve others here at Genesis. Serving on a Ministry team will help you develop relationships and grow in your faith as you contribute to your church family. See our website for current opportunities.

MULTIPLY A FEW

Are you a Christ-follower who is hungry for more in your relationship with God? Maybe your next step is to begin investing in others. If you have someone with whom you want to share the Gospel or if you want to begin helping other Christ-followers grow in their relationship with God, then we invite you to join the mission of making disciples. Here at Genesis, our hope and prayer is that when you are ready, **you would be equipped to invest your life into a few individuals.**

JOIN THE MISSION



In Matthew 4:18 (NIV), about a year and a half into His ministry, Jesus extended this challenge to His disciples: *“Follow me and I will show you how to fish for people.”* Jesus began training His disciples, helping them reach their circle of influence. He continued training them and in Luke 10:2 (NIV), Jesus made this statement: *“The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.”* Jesus promised that there are plenty of people in your life who are ready to follow Jesus. But the problem is there are too few workers. The good news is that we can be part of the solution.

The harvest is plentiful,
but ***the workers are few.***

Luke 10:2



Follow me,
and I will show you how
to fish for people.”
Matthew 4:18



CIRCLES OF INFLUENCE

When Jesus trained His disciples, He began by taking them fishing in their circles of influence. Start with your circles of influence. God has plans for your family and friends, your neighbors and coworkers, with the people you interact with on a daily basis.

Who are your few?

Prayerfully try to identify a few specific people with whom you could potentially invest your life. Are there one or two non-Christians that you could share the Gospel with? Are there one or two Christ-followers that you could help grow in their relationship with God? If you can't identify a few specific individuals, that's ok. Be patient. Keep praying and ask God to show you who He has prepared for you.

What's My Next Step?

As you continue reviewing The Pathway, consider where you are and which next step is best for you. Here are a couple of specific next steps you can take to begin relationally investing in others.

○ Pray

Consider telling the Lord you are ready to join His mission and make disciples. Ask the Lord to show you who He has prepared for you. Keep your eyes and heart open in the coming weeks as God reveals specific individuals He may call you to relationally invest in.

○ Complete our **Multiply Training**

Our Multiply Training is an 8-week small group training experience designed to introduce you to the fundamental skills of making disciples. If you are currently in a small group, consider doing the study together. We also offer the training in a workshop format throughout the year. Check our website for more information.

JOIN US ON THE PATHWAY

In summary, we believe that in Matthew 28:18 – 20, Jesus gave every Christ-follower the mission of making disciples. And Jesus not only gave us the mission of making disciples, but He gave us the model of how to make disciples in His own life and ministry. Each of us can pattern our life and ministry after Jesus. Just as Jesus led His disciples down a pathway consisting of a few major steps, we believe He wants to lead our church family down a similar pathway.

The Pathway is simply a visual illustration of the mission and model of Jesus. If each of us follow The Pathway, together, we can live out God’s mission for our lives. We want to see people get **relationally connected** to our church family. We want to see people who are not yet Christ-followers **encounter** the living Jesus, believe the Gospel, and be baptized in Christ. We want to see Christ-followers learn to **follow Jesus** and develop a close relationship with God. And we want to see every Christ-follower be equipped to **multiply** their life into a few individuals, joining Jesus’ mission of making disciples.

THE
PATHWAY
GOD’S MISSION FOR YOUR LIFE



SO WHERE ARE YOU?

As you consider where you are on The Pathway, prayerfully try to identify one or two next steps you could take to grow in your relationship with God and get better connected at Genesis Church. If needed, review the key next steps for each stop on The Pathway at the bottom of each section. Regardless of where you are on The Pathway, you may have noticed **prayer** is a key next step. Our greatest goal is to help you follow God’s leadership and plans for your life.

What could God do if we all follow God’s mission for our lives?

My next step(s):

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

