

Why Do Church?

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Question: Why would Jesus want me to be involved in a local Body of believers? Specifically, why would God want me involved at Lighthouse?

Answer: BECAUSE YOUR INVOLVEMENT WITH THE CHURCH WILL **TRANSFORM** YOUR LIFE BY INVOLVING YOU IN GOD'S ETERNAL **PURPOSES**.

(See 1 Corinthians 3:10-15.)

- Lighthouse purpose statement: "We are a Christ-centered community, reaching out every day to make **more and better disciples**."

(See Matthew 22:36-40.)

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you" Matthew 28:19-20a (New International Version)

- Lighthouse promotes a clear and doable **strategy** to involve believers in God's eternal purposes.

Our Strategy: **UP, IN, AND OUT**

- **UP** = Developing a **close relationship** with God

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.
Ephesians 1:17 (NIV)

I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him Philippians 3:10 (NIV)

Come near to God and he will come near to you James 4:8a (NIV)

- Next Step at Lighthouse: Be regularly present and fully involved in **weekend services**.
- Next Step, individually: The spiritual **disciplines** (See James 1:22-25)

- **IN** = Living in community with other believers by developing interdependent relationships within the family of God.

... Since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others. Romans 12:5b (New Living Translation)

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. ²⁵Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.
Hebrews 10:24-25 (NIV)

- Next Step at Lighthouse: Join a home group.
- Next Step, individually: One-on-one discipling, etc.
- **OUT** = Making an impact for God through service and outreach
 - Service = “meeting needs in love” (See 1 John 3:11 & 1 Corinthians 12:5, 27)
 - Next Step at Lighthouse: “First Serve” (Next offered on October 6)
 - Next Step, Individually: Family, community service in Jesus’ Name.
 - Outreach = Reaching out in relevant ways to people far from God to become a bridge to Jesus

“For, anyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”¹⁴But 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?” Romans 10:13-14 (NLT)

 - Next Step at Lighthouse: The Alpha Course (Begins September 18)
 - Next Step, Individually: Spend time serving, witnessing to and praying for a person far from God.