

The Bible

The Bible is the written word of God. God acted through the Holy Spirit with the Biblical writers to communicate God's character and God's plan to redeem the world through Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit works through the Bible to enable us to know Jesus more, relate us to God, and transform our lives. Reading the Bible is one of the ways we spend time with God, growing our relationship with God.

2 TIMOTHY 3:16 & 1:13 • 2 PETER 1:20-21
PSALM 119:105, 160 & 12:6 • PROVERBS 30:5

The Church

The church is a community of believers and a family of faith. We gather weekly to worship God and learn from God's word together. We are united in Christ and each one of us serves an integral role by bringing our individual and unique gifts of the Spirit. We believe in the transformative power of the local church, and shared faith of the universal Christian community. The Church is a distinct form of community for the world characterized by mutuality, interdependence, service, forgiveness, justice, and family. Though imperfect, the Church is the beginning of God's new creation in the world, a light for those in the darkness.

Now That You're a Christ-Follower

YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD:

IS FOREVER

You belong to GOD - God is holding on to you. No one and nothing will ever cause God to let you go.

Jesus told His followers, "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them away from me. For my Father has given them to me, and he is more powerful than anyone else. No one can snatch them from the Father's hand." **JOHN 10:27-29**

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ROMANS 8:38-39

IS PERSONAL

God is for you. God is with you. God is in you. You don't need someone else to talk to God on your behalf. Your relationship with Jesus gives you direct access to God. We spend time with God because we value our relationship with Him and desire to get to know Him better. Just like any other relationship, getting to know someone requires intentionality with our time. Our relationship with Jesus gives us this access. He is a friend who never leaves us or forsakes us.

On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. **JOHN 14:20**

When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God." **ROMANS 8:15-16**

To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. **COLOSSIANS 1:27**

IS DEMONSTRATED IN BAPTISM

Baptism is an outward display and celebration of your inward decision to trust Christ with your life. In baptism, we follow Jesus' example, who was baptized, and act in obedience to Jesus' command to be baptized. The New Testament describes the meaning of baptism through the rich symbolic images of dying and rising with Christ into resurrected life, cleansing of sins, being united with Christ, and with the body of believers. Baptism marks the beginning of the journey of faith and discipleship that lasts throughout one's life. We at Lake Hills Church would love to rally around you and be a part of this next step with you.

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **MATTHEW 28:19**

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with Him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. **ROMANS 6:3-4**

WILL GROW

Following Christ is a life-long journey. Your personal relationship with God began the moment you placed faith in Christ, and progresses as you learn to walk through life with God. Life as a Christ-follower is a journey of intentional decisions to grow your relationship with God, so that you become more like Jesus in your mindset and actions. Some of these Christian practices include worship, prayer, reading the Bible, connecting to a church and small group, and serving. No matter where you go on your spiritual journey, there is always a next step!

We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ.

EPHESIANS 4:14-15

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. **HEBREWS 10:24-25**