

**Bring them in.**  
**Build them up.**  
**Commission them to serve.**

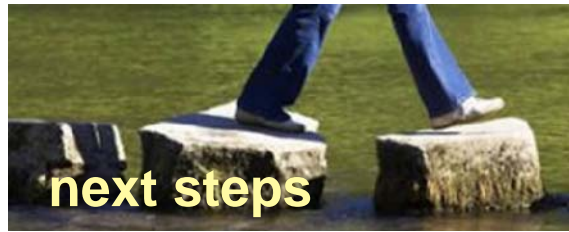
### How can I take my next step?

Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, whether at the beginning or farther along the path, making progress involves just taking the **next step**.

For some, this may be a small step that moves you forward in the right direction. For others, it may involve a huge step, a challenge you've never faced before. In either case, it will probably feel a bit uncomfortable, even risky. *And that's a good thing because that's how we grow!*

So here's what you can do.

- 1.** Prayerfully evaluate where you are now in your journey and where you most want or need to grow.
- 2.** Read through this brochure. It provides some *possible* next steps in four key areas of the spiritual life.
- 3.** Prayerfully consider what *your* next step might be, from these lists or something else altogether.
- 4.** If you want or need help with any of the above, connect with a pastor, elder, group leader or trusted friend.



*Now let's press on!*

### *Life is a journey.*

God has invited each of us to join him on a path of wonder and discovery...

*to know him  
to learn from him  
to serve him*

**next steps** is about helping you discover...

*where you are on the journey  
where you can be  
what your **next step** might be*

**next steps** is about providing opportunities and encouragement to take a **next step** in...

*worship  
small groups  
ministry  
leadership*

**next steps** is also about equipping the church to move forward by providing each of us with the necessary...

*skills  
knowledge  
experiences*

to fulfill the vision God has given us...

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**“One thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” ~ the Apostle Paul (Philippians 3:13-14)**

**Worship**

*We want to equip you to connect deeply with God through authentic, God-focused worship, teaching of God’s word, prayer and heartfelt personal response.*

**Core concept:  
“God-focused worship”**

**Next Steps**

- Come each Sunday ready to connect personally with God and others.
- Fully engage your heart and mind in worship through music and instruction.
- Commit to express your worship each week through sacrificial giving.
- Take notes on the message and reflect on them later.
- Discuss your experience of worship with family or friends over lunch.
- Commit to regular times of personal worship during the week.
- Commit to Spiritual preparedness by reading the upcoming sermon passage.

*“Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together” (Ps 34:3).*

**Small Groups**

*We want to equip you to connect meaningfully with God and others while developing Christian life skills*

**Core concept:  
“Vibrant Christian community”**

**Next Steps**

- Involve yourself in a Small Group or Bible Study Group each semester.
- Meet regularly and engage fully with the members of your small group.
- Invite a friend or newcomer to your group.
- Begin a new spiritual practice, such as regular Bible reading, scripture memory and meditation, regular prayer, fasting, and quiet reflection.
- Participate in a study, seminar or conference to enhance your life skills.
- Volunteer to host, teach or help lead a group.
- Plan and participate in a community ministry project with your group.

*“Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together... but let us encourage one another” (Heb 10:24-25).*

**Ministry**

*We want to equip you to use your gifts, talents and resources to serve others ~ in the church, in the com-*

**Core concept:  
“It’s not about me”**

**Next Steps**

- Prayerfully commit to developing an “It’s not about me” attitude.
- Sit near someone you don’t know and get to know them.
- Meet with a pastors, elders or ministry leaders to discover your gifts and passions for ministry.
- Explore the various ministry opportunities available in the church, community and around the world.
- Serve others informally through prayer, encouragement, hospitality, and personal communication.
- Volunteer to serve in an area of church ministry that fits your divine design.
- Lead or assist a ministry team.
- Volunteer at a local ministry organization, such as the BPAC or Harvest House.
- Support a missionary, both financially and through prayer.
- Participate in a short-term mission trip, on your own or with a group.
- Join the worship team.

*“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve” (Mark 10:45).*

**Leadership**

*We want to equip you to lead others and help them take next steps ~ in the church,*

**Core concept:  
“Step up to lead”**

**Next Steps**

- Commit to being a godly role model at home, at school, at work and/or in the church.
- Discover your gifts and aptitude for leading others, and develop them.
- Meet one-on-one with a leader you trust to further discuss and develop your leadership abilities.
- Serve as a prayer warrior or children’s ministry leader for one of our Youth or Kids.
- Read a book on biblical leadership.
- Join a leadership team in a ministry you care strongly about.
- Mentor someone else who has an interest and potential for spiritual leadership.
- Offer to lead or co-lead a small group.
- Lead a ministry team.
- Start a new ministry to help meet a real need in the church or community.
- Lead a short-term mission trip.
- Enhance leadership skills by participating in a seminar or conference.

*“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers...” (1 Tim 4:12).*