



## Growth Track

Essentials

Church

Connecting

TeamCalvary

101

201

301

401

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Church



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TeamCalvary



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## INTRODUCTION

CALVARY GROWTH TRACK is designed to help you discover your purpose and become a fully-devoted follower of Jesus Christ. From growing as a believer in Jesus, exploring the mission of Calvary Church, connecting with the people and finding a fulfilling place to use your talents through volunteer service on TeamCalvary, we will provide you with a path to experience growth and fulfillment.

In a natural progression of a person's faith journey, they discover Jesus and decide to follow Him. Learning the Bible, prayer, connecting with other believers in a local church comes next. An invitation to follow Jesus is common at Calvary. The next steps of growing in faith is what CALVARY GROWTH TRACK is all about. Essentials 101 - Learn some basic steps and tools so that you can continue growing spiritually. Church 201 - Find out why Calvary is such a great place for you and your family to put down roots and grow deeper. Connecting 301 - Connect with a smaller group of people so that you are walking down the faith road with others. TeamCalvary 401 - Use your gifts and and serve on volunteer teams giving back to community.

Growth Track is comprised of four specifically designed classes listed below. Each one helps you take a step towards Jesus and God's plan of fulfillment for your life. Ultimately, our goal is for you to encounter Christ and to help you connect with a group of people where your life can touch the lives of others. Each class runs for 60 minutes at 9am in the Fireside Room (Rm124 across from the Nursery on the lower level).

### **ESSENTIALS 101** (First Sunday of month)

This class will help guide you through the essential steps that every believer needs to take to become fully devoted followers of Christ. Topics include: prayer, reading & studying the Bible, giving and water baptism.

### **CHURCH 201** (Second Sunday of month)

This class will give you a basic introduction to the mission, vision, and story values of Calvary Church. You'll also learn about church membership.

### **CONNECTING 301** (Third Sunday of month)

This class is your opportunity to get connected to a small group. Sharing life with others is a big part of your journey. Even Jesus had the 12 disciples. You'll also learn more about our church web portal called CALVARYCONNECT.

### **TEAMCALVARY 401** (Fourth Sunday of month)

This class will help you discover more about serving and volunteer opportunities, growth, and the fulfillment that comes from being on TeamCalvary. Learn about some specialized ministry groups and activate your God-given giftings to become the minister you were created to be.

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DEVELOPING THE ESSENTIAL HABITS OF A HEALTHY BELIEVER

## **ESSENTIALS 101** - Vital components to your faith journey

### **OUR HOPE FOR YOU**

Today at CALVARY GROWTH TRACK 101 our hope is to help you learn and put into practice what we believe are four essential habits of every follower of Jesus. It is through these habits that we develop a deeper relationship with Christ. By learning how the Bible is alive and that Jesus speaks to us today, how to fellowship with other believers, by living a Spirit led life, and by giving of ourselves we will deepen our faith.

*“So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.”* **Colossians 2:6-7**

### **UNDERSTANDING BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY**

We'll take time to look at each of these habits, so make sure to jot your questions down for a Q&A after the teaching time. *“And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.”* **Acts 11:26** (NASB) Before followers of Jesus were called “Christians”, they were known as disciples. As disciples, we develop a deep relationship with Christ through:

- **Bible study and prayer**

*“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching ... and to prayer.”* **Acts 2:42**

- **Fellowship with other believers**

*“They devoted themselves to...fellowship.”* **Acts 2:42**

- **Living a Spirit-led life**

*“Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the Apostles.”*  
**Acts 2:43**

- **Giving of ourselves**

*“They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need”* **Acts 2:45**

## HABIT ONE: BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER

*“The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right. It is God’s way of making us well prepared at every point, fully equipped to do good to everyone.”* **2 Timothy 3:16-17** (LB)

A vibrant relationship with God is sustained through Bible study and prayer. We recommend the YouVersion for Bibles versions (like NIV), devotionals, reading and sharing. Check out [www.calvary.ca/apps](http://www.calvary.ca/apps)



YouVersion

### HOW DO I GET MORE FROM MY BIBLE?

1. I must \_\_\_\_\_ its authority.

We believe that the Holy Bible, and only the Bible, is the authoritative Word of God. It alone is the final authority in determining all doctrinal truths. In its original writing, it is inspired, infallible and inerrant.

- \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Word with an open heart.

*“The earth is filled with your love, Lord; teach me your decrees.”* **Psalms 119:64**

- \_\_\_\_\_ to God’s word with obedience.

*“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”*  
**James 1:22**

*“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.”* **2 Timothy 3:16**

2. I must \_\_\_\_\_ its truths, and here are 5 ways to do that.

- \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Word.

*“Faith comes by hearing the word of God.”* **Romans 10:17**

- \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Word.

*“Happy is the one who reads this book ... and obeys what is written in it!”*  
**Revelation 1:3** (GN)

- \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Word.

*“They accepted the message eagerly and studied the Scriptures every day.”*  
**Acts 17:11** (Ph)



- \_\_\_\_\_ God's Word.

*"Guard my words as your most precious possession. Write them down, and also keep them deep within your heart."* **Proverbs 7:2-3** (LB)

- \_\_\_\_\_ on God's Word.

*"Those who are always meditating on His Laws ... are like trees along a river bank bearing fruit ... they never wither and whatever they do prospers."* **Psalms 1:2-3** (LB)

### 3. I must \_\_\_\_\_ its principles.

*"Once you know these things you will be blessed if you do them."* **John 13:17**

There are many great paper and digital tools to get into the habit of Bible reading and journaling. One that we use at Calvary is available through our Calvary App along with our weekly interactive message notes.

- Join our church in reading through the One Year Bible plan on our Calvary App.
- Gather one truth from your reading to reflect on.
- Record what you learn in a journal or share it with someone.

*"Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."*  
**James 1:22**

## TALKING WITH GOD

*"Always be joyful. Never stop praying."* **1 Thessalonians 5:16-17**(NLT)

Jesus exemplified a personal relationship with God through prayer that gave Him great strength. Every person who has ever been effective in service for God has developed this habit. The only way to be a healthy Christian is to spend time with God daily through prayer.

### 1. In my daily prayer time, I am:

- \_\_\_\_\_ devotion to God.

*"(Hezekiah) was successful, because everything he did ... he did in a spirit of complete devotion to his God."* **2 Chronicles 31:21** (GN)

- \_\_\_\_\_ direction from God.

*"Show me the path where I should go, O Lord; point out the right road for me to walk. Lead me."* **Psalms 25:4-5** (LB)

- \_\_\_\_\_ in my relationship with God.

*"Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them."* **John 17:25-26**

## **2. Use the model for prayer that Jesus gave us.**

*"One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When He finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray.'"* **Luke 11:1**

This, then, is how you should pray:

*"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever."*

### **Matthew 6:9-13**

1. Connect with God \_\_\_\_\_

*"Our Father in heaven"*

2. Run to \_\_\_\_\_

*"Hallowed be your name"*

3. Pray \_\_\_\_\_ first

*"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven"*

4. Depend on Him for \_\_\_\_\_

*"Give us today our daily bread"*

5. Keep your \_\_\_\_\_ with God and people.

*"Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors"*

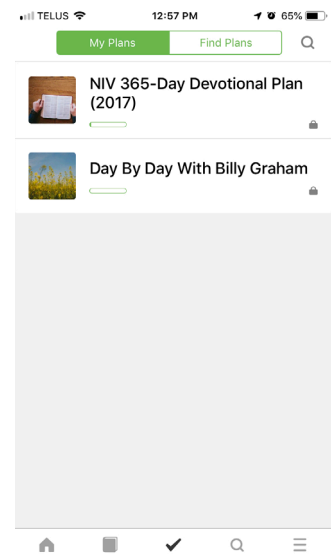
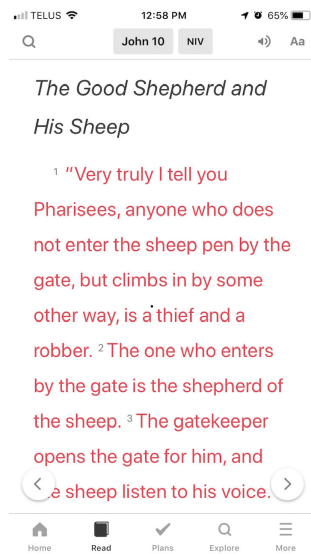
6. \_\_\_\_\_ against the enemy.

*"And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."*

7. \_\_\_\_\_ in God's ability.

*"For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever."*

Go to [calvary.ca/apps](http://calvary.ca/apps) for Bible versions and devotional plans



## HABIT TWO: FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHER BELIEVERS

*“Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing. Instead, let us encourage one another.”* **Hebrews 10:25** (GN)

God never intended for us to go through life alone. Throughout the Bible, we see the importance of being in community. In fact, authentic life-change happens in the context of relationships.

At Calvary Church, we believe our church must grow LARGER and SMALLER at the same time. LARGER because new people are making decisions to follow Jesus, and SMALLER via small groups so that you can personally connect with people in faith, not just in the large group Sunday Worship experience, but throughout the week.

*“They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”* **Acts 2:46-47**

*“They met day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house.”* **Acts 5:42**

*“You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house.”* **Acts 20:20**

How can the church grow larger yet maintain close relationships? Its all about being a part of a smaller grouping. Every member needs to be a part of a small group of some sort.

CALVARY GROWTH TRACK 301- discusses this in depth, but here are some highlights. Every encouragement will come to you to be in a small group. There are three main types of small groups. Home Groups, Service Groups and Special Interest groups. Pastoral Care, prayer, and ongoing support will come from the small group. **When we talk about ‘the church’, it is always about the people.** Everyone leads busy, full lives, and in order to get the best experience out of Calvary, time should be set aside for a small group.

### **HABIT THREE: LIVING A SPIRIT-LED LIFE**

*“May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”* **2 Corinthians 13:14**

Having close relationships with other people is only part of God’s plan for our lives. He desires to be our most intimate friend.

### **WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

There are some fantastic Greek and Hebrew words used in the original languages of the scripture to describe the Holy Spirit.

**Ruwach** – a wind, breath, a violent exhalation, blast of breath.

*“Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.”* **Genesis 1:2**

**Pneuma** – a current of air, blast of breath, a strong breeze.

*“The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.”* **John 6:63** (NIV 1984)

**1. The Holy Spirit is a \_\_\_\_\_ .**

*“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever.”* **John 14:16** (NASB)

**2. The Third Person in the \_\_\_\_\_.** We understand God to be one yet three distinct persons. Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Each equal and essential to making up who God is.

*“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.”* **John 14:26** (NASB)

## THE HOLY SPIRIT'S ROLE IN OUR LIVES

*"Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.""* **Acts 1:4-8** (NASB)

### 1. The Holy Spirit enables us to know God's:

- \_\_\_\_\_ .

*"And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever."* **John 14:16** (KJV)

- \_\_\_\_\_ .

*"But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart." But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment."* **John 16:5-8** (NASB)

### 2. The Holy Spirit empowers us to live with Christ like:

- \_\_\_\_\_ .

*"For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like Him as we are changed into His glorious image."* **2 Corinthians 3:17-18** (NLT)

*"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."* **Galatians 5:22-23** (NASB)

- \_\_\_\_\_ .

*"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* **Acts 1:8**

### 3. The Holy Spirit equips us with:

- \_\_\_\_\_ .

*“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit... Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.”* **1 Corinthians 12:4-11**

● \_\_\_\_\_ .

*“In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth. 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**

The Gospel is the ultimate demonstration of God’s generous nature towards mankind. The Bible consistently teaches that God blesses us so that we may bless others.

## **HOW DO I LIVE A SPIRIT-LED LIFE?**

### **1. Remove all \_\_\_\_\_ to hearing from the Lord**

*“Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’”* **Acts 2:38**

### **2. Request the \_\_\_\_\_ .**

*“Now suppose one of your fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?”* **Luke 11:11-13** (NASB)

### **3. Receive Him \_\_\_\_\_ .**

*“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.”* **Peter 4:10**

### **4. Relate to Him \_\_\_\_\_ .**

*“The amazing grace of the Master, Jesus Christ, the extravagant love of God, the intimate friendship of the Holy Spirit, be with all of you.”* **2 Corinthians 13:14** (Message)

5. Release your \_\_\_\_\_ with confidence.

*"Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in gifts that build up the church."*  
**1 Corinthians 14:12**

## **HABIT FOUR: GIVING OF OURSELVES**

*"Give happily to those in need, and always be ready to share whatever God has given you. By doing this, you will be storing up real treasure for yourselves in heaven - it is the only safe investment for eternity!"* **1 Timothy 6:18-19** (LB)

## **AREAS OF GIVING**

1. Give of our \_\_\_\_\_ .

*"Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil."* **Ephesians 5:15-16** (NASB)

2. Give of our \_\_\_\_\_ .

*"If your gift is... giving, give generously."* **Romans 12:8** (NLT)

*"Yes, you should tithe, but do not neglect the more important things"*  
**Matthew 23:23** (NLT)

3. Give of our \_\_\_\_\_ .

*"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work."* **1 Corinthians 12:4-6**

A comprehensive Spiritual Gifts test is taken in Week 4 to see how best your gifts can be used.

## **BENEFITS OF GIVING**

1. Giving draws us \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

*"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."* **Matthew 6:21**

2. Giving is the remedy to \_\_\_\_\_ .

*"Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to be generous rich and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life."* **1 Timothy 6:17-19**

3. Giving strengthens our \_\_\_\_\_ .

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding... Honor the Lord by giving him the first part of your income, and he will fill your barns to overflowing."*

**Proverbs 3:5,9-10**

*"Give and it will be given to you... For with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you."* **Luke 6:38**

4. Giving is an investment in \_\_\_\_\_ .

*"earth below... And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."*

**Acts 2:17-21**

- God's dream for my life.
- Vision to see the next steps.
- Biblical truths to effect an eternal result.

**BIBLICAL GENEROSITY IS:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

*"For if the willingness is there, your gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one doesn't have."* **2 Corinthians 8:12**

*"Each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion."* **2 Corinthians 9:7a**

2. \_\_\_\_\_

*"...for God loves a cheerful giver!"* **2 Corinthians 9:7b**

3. \_\_\_\_\_

*"They gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service."*

**2 Corinthians 8:3-4**

4. \_\_\_\_\_

*"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly; and whoever sows generously also will reap generously."* **2 Corinthians 9:6**

*"They gave themselves first to the Lord."* **2 Corinthians 8:5**



## WHAT ABOUT WATER COMMUNION AND BAPTISM?

### THE MEANING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Jesus never asked His disciples to remember His birth. But He did instruct them to remember His death and resurrection. He gave the church two visible symbols (called "ordinances") as reminders of His death. These two ordinances are: Baptism and The Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper is an object lesson that represents a great spiritual truth for believers.

#### I. WHAT IS THE LORD'S SUPPER? (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

1. IT IS A \_\_\_\_\_.

"The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread." (vs. 23)

2. IT IS A \_\_\_\_\_.

"...and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; eat it in remembrance of me.'" (vs. 24)

3. IT IS A \_\_\_\_\_.

"In the same way, He took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; drink it to remember me.'" (vs. 25)

4. IT IS A \_\_\_\_\_.

"For whenever you eat the bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes back." (vs. 26)

#### II. WHO SHOULD TAKE THE LORD'S SUPPER?

Only those who are already BELIEVERS. (Mark 14:22-26)

"For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment upon himself." **2 Corinthians 11:29**

#### III. HOW DO I PREPARE MYSELF FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER?

"Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A person ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup." **1 Cor. 11:27-28** (NIV)

By...

1. Self-Examination - **1 Corinthians 11:27**
2. Confessing My Sins - **1 John 1:9**
3. Recommitment - **Romans 12:1**
4. Restoring Relationships - **Matthew 5:23-24**

## IV. WHEN AND HOW OFTEN SHOULD WE OBSERVE THE LORD'S SUPPER?

Jesus never said when or how often believers should observe The Lord's Supper. At Calvary we celebrate Communion on the 1st Sunday of each month, during the morning services.

## ESSENTIAL HABITS OF A HEALTHY BELIEVER

Personally and Corporately

1. Bible Study and Prayer: Dedicated daily time. Helpful guides can be found on the churches online portal, Calvary Connect.
2. Fellowship with Others: Find Your Small Group.
3. Living a Spirit-led Life: Discover Your Purpose.
4. Giving of Ourselves: Join #TeamCalvary.

## THE MEANING OF BAPTISM

Are you taking this class for baptism? The Baptism Form can be found on Appendix 5 (page 58).

### I. WHY SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

#### 1. TO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE SET BY \_\_\_\_\_ .

*"One day Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River."* **Mark 1:9** (NLT)

#### 2. BECAUSE CHRIST \_\_\_\_\_ IT.

*"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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."* **Matthew 28:19-20** (NIV)

#### 3. IT DEMONSTRATES THE DEPTH OF OUR \_\_\_\_\_ .

*"...many of the people who heard Him believed and were baptized."* **Acts 18:8** (Ph)

*"We know that we have come to know Him, if we obey His commands."* **1 John 2:3** (NIV)

### II. WHAT IS THE MEANING OF BAPTISM?

#### 1. IT ILLUSTRATES CHRIST'S \_\_\_\_\_ AND RESURRECTION.

*"Christ died for our sins... He was buried...and He rose again."* **1 Cor 15:3-4** (Ph)

*"Having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead."* **Col. 2:12** (NIV)

## 2. IT ILLUSTRATES MY \_\_\_\_\_ AS A CHRISTIAN.

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"* **2 Corinthians 5:17** (NIV)

*"We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."* **Romans 6:4** (NIV)

Baptism doesn't make you a believer — it shows that you already believe. Baptism does not "save" you, only your faith in Christ does that. Baptism is like a wedding ring — it's the outward symbol of the commitment made in your heart.

*"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith...it is the gift of God —not by works, so that no one can boast."* **Ephesians 2:8-9** (NIV)

### III. WHY BE BAPTIZED BY IMMERSION?

BECAUSE \_\_\_\_\_ WAS BAPTIZED THAT WAY.

*"As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water."* **Matthew 3:16** (NIV)

EVERY BAPTISM IN THE \_\_\_\_\_ WAS BY IMMERSION.

(Example) *"...then both Philip and the man went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water..."* **Acts 8:38-39**

THE WORD "BAPTIZE" MEANS TO \_\_\_\_\_ WATER."

The Greek word baptizo means, "to immerse or dip under water."

**IT BEST SYMBOLIZES A BURIAL AND RESURRECTION!**

The founders of denominations agree:

- Martin Luther..."I would have those who are baptized to be entirely immersed, as the word imports & the mystery signifies."
- John Calvin..."The word 'baptize' signifies to immerse. It is certain that immersion was the practice of the ancient church."
- John Wesley..."Buried with Him, alludes to baptizing by immersion according to the custom of the first church."

#### IV. WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

**EVERY PERSON WHO HAS \_\_\_\_\_ IN CHRIST.**

*“Those who believed and accepted His message were baptized.” Acts 2:41 (Ph)*

*“Simon himself believed and was baptized..” Acts 8:13 (NIV)*

*“But when they believed Philip as he preached the Good News...and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.” Acts 8:12 (NIV)*

#### BABY DEDICATIONS

At Calvary, we wait until children are old enough to believe and understand the true meaning of baptism before we baptize them. We practice a ‘Child Dedication’ for babies and young children. This ceremony is intended to be a covenant between the parents or guardians and God on the behalf of the child. The parents promise to raise their child in the faith until the child is old enough to make his/ her own personal confession of Christ.

We also pray a prayer of blessing over the child, and as a church family commit to stand and believe for the child to grow with a knowledge of who Jesus Christ is and a clear understanding of His purpose for their lives. This custom began about 300 years after the Bible was completed. This is different from the baptism talked about in the Bible, which was only for those old enough to believe. The purpose is to publicly confess your personal commitment to Christ.

#### V. WHEN SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

**AS SOON AS YOU HAVE BELIEVED!**

**“Those who believed...were baptized...that day!” Acts 2:41 (Ph)**

*“Then Philip began with the scripture and told him the Good News about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water, and the man said, ‘Look, here is water! Why shouldn’t I be baptized right now?’ Philip said, ‘If you believe with all your heart, you may.’ The man answered, ‘I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.’ So they went down into the water and Philip baptized him.” Acts 8:35-38 (Ph)*

There is no reason to delay. As soon as you have decided to receive Christ into your life, you can and should be baptized. If you wait until you are “perfect”, you’ll never feel “good enough!”

#### CAN MY FAMILY BE BAPTIZED TOGETHER?

Yes! If each family member understands fully the meaning of baptism, and each one has personally placed his/her trust in Christ for salvation, we encourage families to be baptized at the same time. It is a wonderful expression of commitment. However, it is important to remember that baptism is a personal statement of faith, not a family tradition. It is usually

not wise to delay your baptism while waiting on other family members to accept Christ, particularly children. This puts an undue pressure on them, and delays your obedience.

### **WILL I HAVE TO SAY ANYTHING?**

YES! But don't worry, it not will not be at the live event. Testimonies are pre filmed in the weeks leading up to your baptism. That way our media team can make sure that all the Sunday time considerations are honored, and you say what you mean to say for your public declaration of faith. Sometimes having the lights shine at you and hundreds of people watching can rattle even the strongest of nerves. At the beginning of the service, the Pastor will briefly explain the meaning of baptism. Your prepared video will be shown, and you will be baptised by the pastor, elder, or small group leader. You will be mailed or presented with a certificate the following Sunday. We encourage you to invite all your relatives and friends to attend your baptism. The Lord has done great things!

### **NEXT STEPS**

1. Commit to daily spiritual growth of reading your Bible, prayer, fellowship, living a spirit led life and giving generously of yourself.
2. Complete the next GROWTH TRACK Church 201 - This class will give you a basic introduction to the story, mission, and values of Calvary. Learn to connect with others and have an opportunity to join the church as a member.
3. Would you like to be baptized? Please speak to the class leader or a pastor.

Essentials

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BECOMING AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY

## **CHURCH 201 - We Are Calvary**

### **OUR HOPE FOR YOU**

Today at CALVARY GROWTH TRACK 201, our hope is to give you a basic introduction to our church family. Since we have members from many different backgrounds, this class is designed to clearly explain who we are and what we believe. Whether you are new to your walk with Jesus, or have been following Him for decades is not important. Every church has a different flavour and history, and we're glad you've chosen to find out more about Calvary's journey.

### **What is "The Church?"**

That is a layered question that can get muddled up because of language. I go to a church, we meet at a church, we are the church and Calvary is a church are all accurate statements. It is an interesting question because of these variety of responses.

The answer that we focus on at Calvary is, we are the church. I am the church. That idea is very transformational in a person's life. It conveys that you are an active, world changing agent, not passively waiting for something to happen for you. Jesus said in **Matthew 16:18** (MSG)

*"God bless you, Simon, son of Jonah! You didn't get that answer out of books or from teachers. My Father in heaven, God himself, let you in on this secret of who I really am. And now I'm going to tell you who you are, really are. You are Peter, a rock. This is the rock on which I will put together my church, a church so expansive with energy that not even the gates of hell will be able to keep it out."*

From this beginning declaration of Jesus, followed up by the book of ACTS, we see a church of mission and passion pro-actively engaging in the work of the kingdom. We are the church, and the church is always about people. This missional view of what the church is chases away incorrect perceptions of what the church is not. Sometimes the church is viewed as a magical building where magical things happen if you wish it into being.

'I wish the church would do more for the homeless.' 'I wish the church could call the shut-ins and arrange a visit.' 'I wish the church would arrange an outreach program for the local school.'

There is no 'the church' except the people of the church. If YOU are the church, the answer to all these things seems clearer. There is no group of people waiting beside a big red phone, eager to engage in what the Lord is talking to YOU about. If you are the church, what are you doing to make it happen? You are the church! Let's get out there and BE the church. A building does not make a church, an incorporated name does not make a church. If we were hiding underground in Albania we would still be the church, and that is exciting!

Over the next segments of Growth Track, we will talk about Calvary in particular and how we here carry out the function of the church. In addition, Growth Tracks weeks 3 and 4, we discuss connecting to the people and using your giftings to bless others.

## What Calvary Is

There are many great churches where Jesus is doing great things. You may be new to faith and church life or have previously attended somewhere else where things are done a little differently. This class will help bring clarity and unity to WHAT CALVARY IS. Feel free to store up your questions for Q&A at the ends of each class.

*"I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought."* **1 Corinthians 1:10** (NIV)

Being at Calvary does not mean we all agree on every last point. There are diverse views on some subjects, but there is only one good news of Jesus Christ, the son of God, who died for our sins that we might connect with our Father in Heaven.

At Calvary, we have an expressive worship experience, where you are encouraged to sing BIG to our God, clap hands and raise up hands as a sign of surrendering our lives to Jesus. We use contemporary media to illustrate the messages, and encourage generosity in tithes and offerings during service times. We offer premium children and youth programs where kids will be taught about Jesus and the Bible. We are active in international missions and serve our local community. We practice an open communion and baptize by full immersion. Church community happens through small groups and all of this is about Jesus.

## OUR VISION (Mission vs. Vision)

It's important to also understand the difference between mission and vision.

**Mission:** Our mission is unchanging. It is set by Jesus Himself in the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. "To love God and love people while leading them to become fully devoted followers of Christ."

**Vision:** Our vision on the other hand is contextual. It's how we fulfill our mission in our culture and community in the time we're living in and what we see and believe for the future.

## OUR MISSION

What We Do

**To love God and love people while leading them to become fully devoted followers of Christ.** (Based on the following two scriptures)

**The Great \_\_\_\_\_:** Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." **Matthew 22:36-40** (NIV)



**The Great \_\_\_\_\_**: *“Jesus said, **Go and make disciples** of all nations, **baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.**” **Matthew 28:19-20** (NIV)*

## **OUR VISION**

### **How We Do It**

**\* The church we see keeps \_\_\_\_\_.**

We're not a church content to stay who we are. We have a Holy dissatisfaction. There's always more in Him.

*“...the righteous shall **MOVE onward and forward**; those with pure hearts shall become **stronger and stronger.** **Job 17:9** (TLB)*

We see a church where every member is a minister. Young and old, equipped as disciples and serving on teams; all using their God given gifts and abilities to serve our Creator and one another.

Calvary is a multi-cultural, multi-campus church of small groups providing care and connection, getting bigger and smaller at the same time. We celebrate our differences.

We see a church of dreamers and doers filled with faith, ready to risk our comfort for the cause of the Kingdom.

In other words, we will do everything short of sin to reach people for Jesus Christ and bring Hope to the hopeless.

**\* The church we see \_\_\_\_\_.**

Sometimes we need to stir ourselves up to truly demonstrate what He's done in our lives.

We see a Spirit empowered church that knows how to celebrate and passionately worship God. Through music, drama, dance; using the arts to convey the Gospel.

Calvary is encouraging, exciting and full of life.

We see a church that is extravagant in generosity toward God and one another.

**\* The church we see is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.**

May God helps us to always be a church that is cheering on and supporting the next generation and may they always know that we're in their corner.

We see a church filled with children who are the church of today, not the church of tomorrow.

Calvary is a church that actively makes a place for our young people to be all that they've been called to be.

We see a church filled with honour, where the wisdom of one generation and the passion of the next are both celebrated in one place.

**\* The church we see is \_\_\_\_\_.**

Your mission field could be on the other side of the ocean or the other side of your fence?

We see a church BIG enough to reach a world. but SMALL enough to feel like home.

*“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in **Jerusalem**, and in all **Judea** and **Samaria**, and to the **end of the earth**.” Acts 1:8 (NKJV)*

We love our community, our city, our nation, and the nations of the world and it is reflected in how we plan, deploy our resources, and pray.

## **OUR CORE**

### **What We Value**

#### **Jesus**

We value Jesus as our centre. He is at the centre of everything we do as a church, it all comes back to Christ.

#### **The Bible**

We value the Word of God and its transforming power. In these changing times we believe that the Bible remains the one constant that is practical, applicable, timeless and true.

#### **Prayer**

We value prayer as our first response not our last resort. Together we faithfully seek God first, trusting in His power alone to create lasting impact in our lives, our church and our world.

#### **All Generations**

We value the family. We celebrate all generations and acknowledge that each is essential in the Kingdom of God. We honour those who have gone before us and empower those who are following.

#### **Community**

We value community and the sense of belonging that comes from choosing to do life together. We are one church, represented by many nations reflecting the beautiful diversity of our city.

#### **Honour**

We value honour as the core of our church culture and community. We love and honour God with our worship, our committed service, and our generous living.

#### **Creativity**

We value creativity, innovation and excellence in how we accomplish our mission. We are created in the image of God and we are His most creative work reflecting Him to the world.

## **OUR STORY**

### **Who We Are**

Calvary Church began its ministry in May 1994 after the merge of two well-established churches, Surrey Christian Fellowship and Calvary Community Church. Pastor Gordon McDonald and Pastor Harvey Schroeder joined together to provide spiritual leadership for

their growing congregations. To respond to the rapid growth in the Fraser Heights community, the church expanded also. On October 12, 1997, the congregation held their first service in their new auditorium.

As the diversity of the community continued to increase, a small group was started in September 2001 to minister to the needs of the Mandarin speaking families that began attending Calvary. As this group continued to grow and the burden for the Chinese community intensified, the Mandarin campus of Calvary was born in May of 2003. What started as a small group Bible study has now grown significantly to a thriving and active ministry to the Chinese community of the Lower Mainland that now meets together for Calvary's weekly Mandarin service, as well as ongoing activities and classes throughout the week.

Pastor Gordon and his wife Glenda faithfully served and led the church for 40 years. On June 22nd, 2014 he retired as the senior pastor and in recognition of his years of exemplary service to Calvary he was given the honorary title of Pastor Emeritus. At our Annual General Meeting on June 8th, 2014 Pastor Steven MacDonald was unanimously elected as the new Senior Pastor of Calvary Church after more than 9 years of committed pastoral service and leadership here at the church. He was later installed as Senior Pastor on Sunday, June 22nd, 2014 and the shepherd's staff was passed from Pastor Gordon to Pastor Steven.

Pastor Steven and his wife Susan see a church that is a centre of hope ministering the Good News to our city in a creative, caring and credible way. Today under Pastor Steven's leadership, serving alongside a gifted and passionate pastoral team, an amazing staff, and the most committed volunteer team on the planet; our future is bright and exciting. New families and individuals are continually becoming a part of our mission to love God and love people while leading them to become fully devoted followers of Christ. With five worship experiences each weekend at 9AM, 10:30AM, 12PM and 9AM & 10:30AM in Mandarin, we continue to grow and multiply as the vision moves forward and more than 1600 people call Calvary their home.

## **GOD'S PROMISES FOR MY LIFE**

The God of the universe has made you some big promises. WE see him first engage mankind in the Old Testament:

*"Therefore, say to the Israelites: 'I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians.'" Exodus 6:6-7 (NIV)*

**These promises remain at the core of His heart and have never changed. They are the key to your fulfillment and his plans for you.**

- "I will bring you out." \_\_\_\_\_
- "I will free you from being slaves." \_\_\_\_\_

- "I will redeem you." \_\_\_\_\_
- "I will take you as my own people." \_\_\_\_\_

At Calvary Christian Church, we organize ourselves around these four promises:

## WEEKEND SERVICES

Our Weekend Services focus on four values:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

*"I was glad when they said to me, let us go into the house of the Lord."*

**Psalms 122:1** (NKJV)

*"True worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks."* **John 4:23-24**

2. \_\_\_\_\_

*"But if an unbeliever or someone who does not understand comes in...he will be convinced by all that he is a sinner and will be judged by all, and the secrets of his heart will be laid bare. So he will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, 'God is really among you!'"*

**1 Corinthians 14:24-25** (NIV 1984)

3. \_\_\_\_\_

*"It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."* **Ephesians 4:11-12** (NIV 1984)

4. \_\_\_\_\_

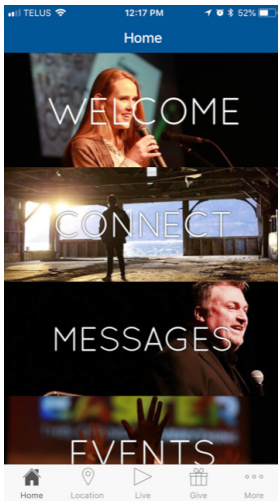
*"Anyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. But who can ask them to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?"*

**Romans 10:13-14** (LB)

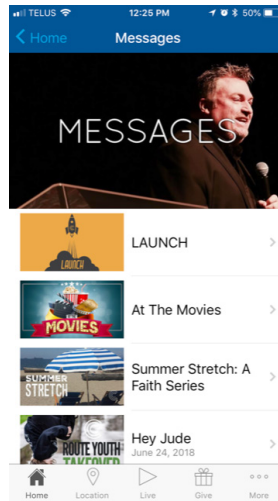
If you miss out on a Sunday service you can listen to it on our app.  
Visit [www.calvary.ca/apps](http://www.calvary.ca/apps)



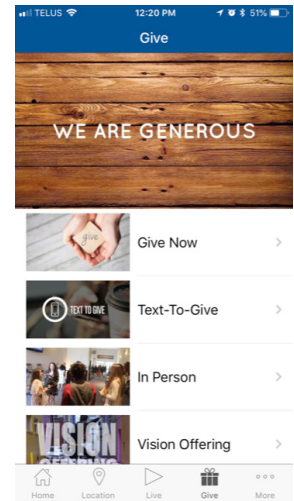
Calvary Church CA



Home Page: here you can choose what to do.



Messages Page: all sermons are listed here if you missed a message or want to listen to it again.



Giving Page: this is where you can give one time or set up a recurring gift.

## SALVATION

We consider reaching people with the love of Jesus to be one of our greatest responsibilities. Salvation is believing in your heart that Jesus is Lord and that God raised him from the dead. He did these things so our lives could move from spiritual darkness to light. Our weekend services serve people at all stages in their spiritual journey and are easily accessible to the unchurched as well as those who believe in Jesus.

## PEOPLE STARTING ON THEIR FAITH JOURNEY

Everyone is at a different point in their Christian walk. Some have been walking with Jesus for decades, others are new to hearing the good news that Jesus brings, and still others haven't experienced the love and life that Jesus offers. Every one of us can do our part to encourage others along by following these four principles:

1. **Accept the personal Responsibility to help each person regardless of where they are at in their journey.**
2. **Build a personal Relationship with a person regardless of where they are at in their journey**
3. **Share your personal Story with everyone**
4. **Give a personal Invitation to experience Jesus at a weekend service or small group.**

## **REACHING OUT** (Local, Regional, and International Outreach)

Jesus gave His Church the job to reach out to the world around them in three areas:

*"You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* **Acts 1:8**

### 1. "In Jerusalem" - \_\_\_\_\_ - **Surrey.**

*"Real religion, the kind that passes muster before God the Father, is this: Reach out to the homeless and loveless in their plight."* **James 1:27** (Message)

The primary way we reach our city is through our support of NightShift ministries, the local schools, and the consistent witness of the congregation in our homes, neighbourhoods and workplaces.

### 2. "In Judea and Samaria" - \_\_\_\_\_ - **the Lower Mainland GVRD.**

*"Whatever a person is like, I try to find common ground with him so that he will let me tell him about Christ and let Christ save him."* **1 Corinthians 9:22** (LB)

The primary way we reach the lower mainland is through our small groups and individual outreach efforts. Our small groups span from Coquitlam through Langley and are run by Calvary members.

### 3. "To the ends of the Earth" - \_\_\_\_\_.

The primary way we do this is through international missions. Both student and adult missions teams are sent from Calvary to assist with building project and to minister to the needs of people. Our mission work includes church plant in Turkey, and Ukraine and our ongoing ministry in Haiti. Every second year, we send a team to serve and minister in these parts of the world. Based on the need and the skills of the team we do building projects, kids programs, and medical clinics. Our secondary international missions have included family ministry trips in the Dominican Republic and Mexico.

The Canadian network of churches that we belong to is the Pentecostal Holiness Church of Canada ([www.phcc.ca](http://www.phcc.ca)) run internationally through the International Pentecostal Holiness Church ([www.iphc.org](http://www.iphc.org)). We partner and support these established and thriving ministries to provide a purposeful, consistent and safe way to do what we can on the world scene. We are better together.

## **WHAT CAN I DO?**

The most valuable way you can participate in reaching out is to engage in all three of these.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ - *"Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.'"*  
**Matthew 9:37-38**

2. \_\_\_\_\_ - "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!' He said, 'Go and tell this people.'" **Isaiah 6:8-9**

3. \_\_\_\_\_ - "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." **Matthew 6:19-21** (NIV 1984)

"The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,' says the Lord Almighty. 'And in this place I will grant peace,' declares the Lord Almighty." **Haggai 2:9**

## **CALVARY AND GOVERNING STRUCTURE**

"For God is not a God of disorder; but of peace...Everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way." **1 Corinthians 14:33, 40**

## **CHURCH LEADERSHIP**

Believers who invest their hearts, time, families, and finances in the building of a local church deserve to have confidence in church leadership. People are looking for leaders who conduct themselves with integrity and respect when making decisions that affect their families.

Our church government is made up of the Lead Pastor, Pastor's Executive Team, the Church Board, and our Small Group Leadership:

### **1. GUIDED BY \_\_\_\_\_.**

The Executive Team is led by the lead pastor, Steve MacDonald. His team oversees the day-to-day ministry and operations of the church. Pastors on this team serve the congregation and are responsible for the development of the spiritual life of the church. The lead pastor is hired by the church board, and the lead pastor hires the pastoral staff and support staff to serve with him.

### **2. PROTECTED BY THE \_\_\_\_\_.**

The church board is made up of 8 elected members of the congregation and led by the lead pastor as Chairman of the Board. They serve on rotating 3 year terms. The church board hires the lead pastor and gives 8 elected directors oversight and direction to the business of the church. It has internal committees for special projects, benevolence, building maintenance and improvement. All Calvary members in good standing are eligible to be recommended for the board. Written nomination to apply for these posts need to be submitted to the lead pastor 2 weeks before the Annual General Meeting held each spring.

### 3. STRENGTHENED BY \_\_\_\_\_.

Small group leadership takes on many forms, from leading home groups, special interest groups and service groups. Leading our FIT teams, BIGtime Kids/Route Youth and home group ministries are highly valued examples of small group leadership. Calvary operates because of the commitment and care of these leaders and the value they place on seeing the congregation grow to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

#### **MEMBERSHIP at Calvary Church**

New Members are publicly recognized and prayed for at the church during our Sunday Service on the same day as our AGM. **You can submit your member application ANYTIME throughout the year.** Give it to your Growth Track teacher or at the Welcome Centre. It will be reviewed by our senior leadership and you can expect a confirmation call or email within 2 weeks. After that verification step you are considered a member of the church. (Members stand and unite with the congregation in prayer as a public declaration of their intent.)

1. Every member is a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Every task is \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Every member is a "10" in \_\_\_\_\_.

As a member, you represent Calvary Church in our congregation and to the community. Members need to have received Jesus as their Lord and Savior and be in agreement with the values and ideas presented in this Growth Track 101 class. Becoming a member is indicative of your intent to lay down long roots in the church, protecting the unity of the church, acting in love towards other members, refusing to gossip and by following the church's leadership. Becoming a member indicates your desire to share in the responsibility of praying for the church and your personal growth, inviting the unchurched to hear about Jesus' love and warmly welcoming those regardless of where they are in their faith journey. Membership also indicates your desire to serve in the church's ministries by discovering your talents, being equipped by the pastors and developing your servant's heart. Becoming a member indicates your intent to develop your spiritual life and those of others by faithfully engaging in small groups, living a godly life and regular financial giving.

We understand this based on the scriptures in APPENDIX 3.



## OUR BELIEFS

### What We Believe

- **In essential beliefs - we have \_\_\_\_\_.**  
*"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all,..."*  
**Ephesians 4:4-6** (NIV)
- **In non-essential beliefs - we have \_\_\_\_\_.**  
*"Accept the one whose faith is weak, without passing judgement on disputable matters...  
Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To their own master, servants stand or fall. So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God. So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God."* **Rom 14:1,4,12,22** (NIV)
- **In all our beliefs - we show \_\_\_\_\_.**  
*"...If I hold in my mind not only all human knowledge but also the very secrets of God, and if I have the faith that can move mountains - but have no love, I amount to nothing at all."* **I Corinthians 13:2** (Ph)

### WE BELIEVE:

1. There is one living and true God revealed as three equal persons of one substance: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
2. Jesus Christ is God's Son. He became a man and was crucified on the cross to pay the punishment for all sins. He was fully God and perfect man.
3. After he was crucified, Jesus rose from the dead and ascended into heaven. He will return on the last day.
4. The Bible is the Word of God. It is the full and complete plan and history of how God has saved His people.
5. The reward for accepting Jesus Christ into your heart is eternal life with God in heaven. The consequence of sin is eternal separation from God. (**Matthew 25:46; Psalm 9:7; Revelation 21:7, 8**)
6. Jesus Christ shed His blood to pay for past and present sins. He will give new life to those who seek Him. (**Romans 3:25; I John 3:5-10; Ephesians 2: 1-10**)
7. We are saved by faith in Jesus alone.
8. Sanctification is both a definitive experience and a process of growth continuing throughout the life of a Christian. (**John 15:2; Acts 26:18**)
9. Every Christian can be baptized in the Holy Spirit. This is an act of faith on the part of the believer. The initial evidence of the reception of this experience is speaking with other tongues as the Spirit leads. (**Luke 11:13; Acts 1:5; Acts 2:1-4; Acts 8:17; Acts 10:44-46; Acts 19:6**)

10. God has the power to heal and does heal today in answer to prayer. (**Isaiah 53:4, 5; Matthew 8:16, 17; Mark 16:14-18; Exodus 15:26**)

11. Jesus will return to earth again soon to establish His Kingdom.

12. It is the responsibility of every believer to dedicate his or her life to sharing the gospel message. (**Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-20; Acts 1:8**)

13. Christ modeled and established water baptism by immersion (**Acts 19:5; 10:47, 48; 8:37, 38**) and the Lord's Supper for His followers. (**I Corinthians 11:23-32**)

## **OUR HOPE FOR YOU**

### **NEXT STEPS**

1. Become a member of Calvary Church.
2. Attend the next GROWTH TRACK Connecting 301. You'll learn about small groups and our online portal called CALVARY CONNECT.

Calvary Apps ([www.calvary.ca/apps](http://www.calvary.ca/apps)) available Google Play and at the App Store.



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DISCOVERING THE IMPORTANCE OF CALVARY CONNECTIONS

## CONNECTED 301 - SMALL GROUPS

### OUR HOPE FOR YOU

Today at CALVARY GROWTH TRACK 301, our hope is that you will discover the importance of small groups in the church, our philosophy as to what small groups are, how to create, lead and attend a small group. You will learn about our church's online portal called CALVARY CONNECT, and have a chance to sign-up so you can see what is happening throughout the week. Real life change happens in the context of relationships in small groups. In the Bible, believers worshipped in the temple but often ministry happened house to house.

*"You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house."* **Acts 20:20**

We have three types of small groups at Calvary.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

We'll get into more specifics later on, but there's is one unifying thing that happens within all of these groups: prayer. Though the groups gather for varying reasons, you will always find people to pray with you. This could be the time you share a little bit with the whole small group or separately with the leader. We all face different struggles and victories and having someone join with you in prayer is valuable and comforting. Here are some other things you can expect from small groups.

### SMALL GROUPS PROVIDE THREE THINGS:

**A place to \_\_\_\_\_** *"...yes, whatever a person is like, I try to find common ground with him so he will let me tell him about Christ and let Christ save him."* **1 Corinthians 9:22** (LB)

**A place to \_\_\_\_\_** *"We know what real love is because Christ gave up His life for us. And so we also ought to give up our lives for our Christian brothers and sisters."*  
**1 John 3:16** (NLT)

**A place to \_\_\_\_\_** *"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."*  
**Proverbs 27:17**

### PEOPLE STARTING ON THEIR FAITH JOURNEY

Everyone is at a different point in their Christian walk. Some have been walking with Jesus for decades, others are new to hearing the good news that Jesus brings, and still others haven't experienced the love and life that Jesus offers. Every one of us can do our part to encourage others along by following these four principles:

**1. Accept the personal Responsibility to help each person regardless of where they are at in their journey.**

2. Build a personal Relationship with a person regardless of where they are at in their journey
3. Share your personal Story with everyone
4. Give a personal Invitation to experience Jesus at a weekend service or small group.

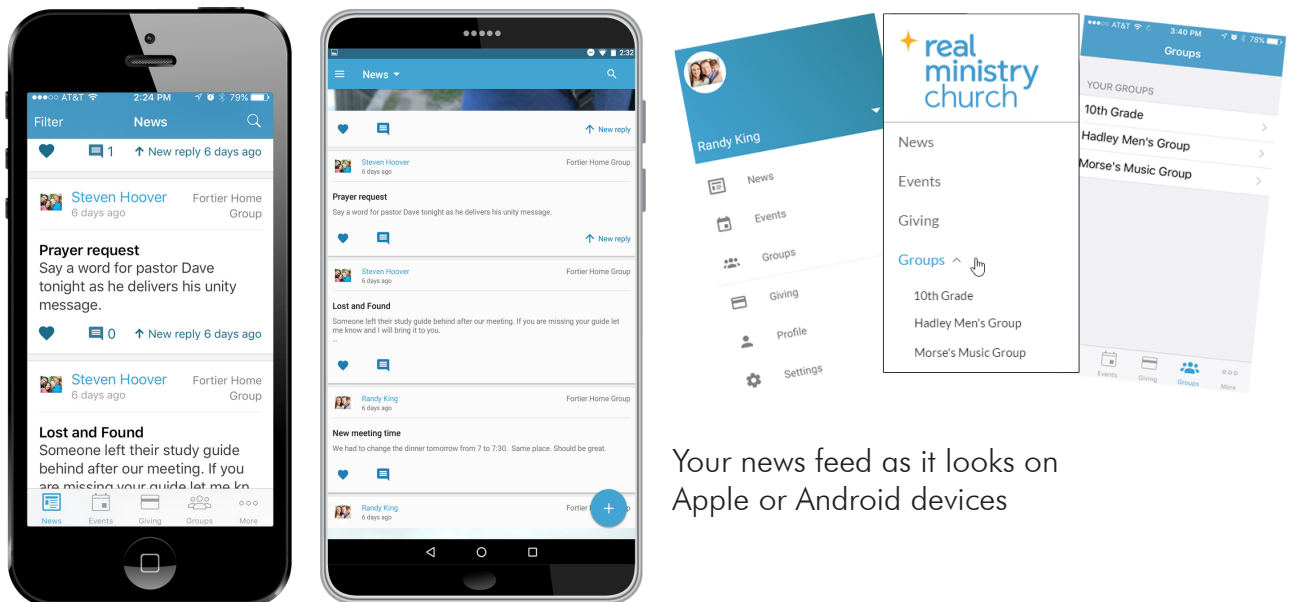
## ORGANIZING SMALLER GROUPS AT CALVARY CALVARY CONNECT

<https://calvary.ca/connect>



CALVARY CONNECT is where you will find currently available small groups, events, general church updates & giving. Set up your account.

We will pause for a moment to make sure you are signed in. Go to [www.calvary.ca/apps](http://www.calvary.ca/apps) for our all apps. Every member, every small group, every event, every leader can be contacted through CALVARY CONNECT. It is this infrastructure that allows people to find groups, for the various groups to interact with one another, and for the entire church to work collaboratively.



Your news feed as it looks on Apple or Android devices

When you see life and church by looking at the whole picture, you realize it's far more beautiful than you imagined, and all those seemingly disconnected pieces are being brought together by God in an amazing way.

## HOW SMALL GROUPS WORK

Depending on the small group, they usually meet once a week or bi-weekly in places all around our city providing a place for you to connect, grow, and discuss the issues and challenges of life. Regardless of your age, interest, or location, we are sure there is a group out there for you. Small groups are also where we pray, care for one another, and are missed if we don't show up! If you would like to join a small group, open up CALVARY CONNECT -->GROUPS and at the bottom of the list, you'll see a button for FIND GROUPS. If you are struggling to find one or would like assistance in finding one, Pastor Vince would love to help you directly and can be contacted on CALVARY CONNECT or by email (vince@calvary.ca). We would love for you to get connected and are more than happy to walk with you through this process.

There are three things you should know about Calvary's small groups:

1. They are "free market" groups. - Our groups are as varied as we are; group leaders use their gifts and passions to create a group that allows others to join with them in serving God, bible study and prayer. Whatever the age, interest, or location there is a group that is just right for you.
2. Special Interest Groups meet seasonally for specific projects. Performing Arts at Christmas, and offer Geocaching in the summer. You get the idea. They are as short and varied as necessary to connect people in the time they have.
3. You can host a group.

We believe that everyone has areas of strength and gifting that could benefit others. The second step is attending a small group and come along side an existing leader. These classes are offered throughout the year to give you an overview of what it takes to start a group. You'll discover that it's easier than you think.

As an example of a home group evening... it may be just under 2hrs long. It would have people arriving and fellowshiping for the first 15 minutes. DVD training and work curriculum for 30 minutes. Fellowship time for 15 minutes, then discussion and prayer for the remaining 45 minutes. Again, the groups are as individual as the leadership and attendees. A group may revolve around fishing or a book club and it would look as different as the people make it.

*"Let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity."*

**Hebrews 6:1** (NIV 1984)

## WHY ARE SMALL GROUPS IMPORTANT?

Small Groups provide opportunities for:

1. Bible Study - I need people to strengthen and balance the Word of God in my life.
2. Fellowship - I need people who really know me.

3. Prayer - I need people to pray for me personally.
4. Support - I need people who will protect me.
5. Outreach - I need people with whom I can share my story.

*“So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.”* **John 13:34-35** (NLT)

## SMALL GROUP VIDEO TESTIMONIES

### HOW DO I GET CONNECTED WITH A SMALL GROUP?

1. Find a group - are small groups can be found online through our portal CALVARY CONNECT. Make sure your account is setup. Let's pause to make sure that is done. LOGIN at [www.calvary.ca/connect](http://www.calvary.ca/connect)
2. If you have any grief with the process, it can be walked through by emailing [vince@calvary.ca](mailto:vince@calvary.ca)
3. Read through the lists of small groups to see if there is one that catches your interest. Message a small group leader directly on CALVARY CONNECT.
4. Make friends through social functions and service groups and find out where those people are going for small group.
5. Start a NEW group. Through quarterly training sessions, you will have opportunity to make a group yourself that fits into your passions and time availability. Perhaps there are others that are in the same boat as you!

You'll never fully experience all that Calvary Church has to offer until you connect in a small group! Small groups were vital to the first century church's growth, and they are just as vital today.

### NEXT STEPS

1. You should leave today signed up for CALVARY CONNECT.
2. Attend the next GROWTH TRACK - TeamCalvary 401. Learn about finding your passion and opportunities to use your spiritual gifts while serving on a team. This is also a good way to connect.



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TeamCalvary

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401

SERVING AND VOLUNTEERING ON TEAMCALVARY



## **TeamCalvary 401** - Service and volunteer opportunities

### **OUR HOPE FOR YOU**

Today at CALVARY GROWTH TRACK 401, our hope is to provide you with clear “next steps” to move onto a team and into your purpose. Giving back changes us. Jesus’ words were that the greatest would be the servant of all. There is nothing that is beneath us.

### **AS A MEMBER OF TeamCalvary, WE ALL ARE CALLED TO...**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ **with** \_\_\_\_\_. People matter to God, so they matter to us. - *“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”* **Philippians 2:3-4**
2. \_\_\_\_\_ **relationships with my** \_\_\_\_\_. Real Life change happens... real leaders are developed... when we take a step towards intentional relationships. - *“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.”* **Phil. 1:3-5**
3. \_\_\_\_\_ **each other**. We are a people of purpose, working together on purpose *“He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ.”* **Colossians 1:28**
4. \_\_\_\_\_ **the wins**. There is nothing more powerful than a life changed by Christ. - *“In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”* **Philippians 4:8-9, 13**

## SPIRITUAL GIFTS QUESTIONS

Give yourself a rating between 1-5 for how much each statement applies to you.  
(1 being almost never, 5 being all the time)  
Use the sheet provided to keep track of your scores.

1. I like organizing services and events.
2. I enjoy starting new churches.
3. Working with my hands is fun for me.
4. I can tell when someone is insincere.
5. I pray for the lost daily.
6. Encouraging others is a high priority in my life.
7. Believing God for our daily needs is important to me.
8. Influencing others for the kingdom of God through finances is extremely important to me.
9. I look for opportunities to pray for the sick.
10. I enjoy doing the little things that others do not.
11. Having people over to my house is something I do often.
12. Spending hours in prayer for other people is very enjoyable to me.
13. Education is very important to me.
14. I tend to motivate others to get involved.
15. My heart hurts when I see others hurting.
16. I believe God will use me to enact His miracles.
17. I enjoy sharing the gospel with other people groups and nationalities.
18. I've devoted considerable time to mastering my voice and or instrument.
19. Caring for the hurting is paramount in my eyes.
20. The willful sin of others really aggravates me.
21. I enjoy serving behind the scenes.
22. I like creating outlines of the Bible.
23. God has used me to interpret a heavenly language.
24. I enjoy the book of Proverbs more than any other book in the Bible.
25. I am passionate about managing details.
26. I prefer to pioneer new ministry projects.
27. I consider myself a craftsman or craftswoman.
28. I sense when situations are spiritually unhealthy.
29. I am greatly concerned about seeing the lost saved.
30. I try to come across loving and caring.
31. Asking God for a list of big things is exciting to me.
32. I find ways to give offerings above my tithe.
33. I believe miraculous healing is for this day and age.
34. Helping others is one of my highest achievements.
35. Creating a warm and welcoming home is important to me.
36. I am burdened to pray for situations in the world.
37. People seek me out to learn more about the Kingdom of God.
38. I prefer to take the lead whenever necessary.
39. I'm very sensitive to sad stories.
40. Miracles often happen when I'm nearby.
41. Living in another country to benefit the gospel is exciting to me.
42. I desire to serve the church through worship.

43. I enjoy connecting, caring for, and coaching others.
44. Confronting someone with sin in their life is not hard.
45. It bothers me when people sit around and do nothing.
46. I share Biblical truth with others in hopes of their personal growth.
47. I pray in tongues daily.
48. When I study scripture God gives me unique insights.
49. Creating a task list is easy and enjoyable for me.
50. I am attracted to ministries that start new churches.
51. Building something with my hands is very rewarding to me.
52. I can pinpoint issues or problems before others.
53. I enjoy sharing the gospel with a total stranger.
54. I look for ways to be an encouragement to other people.
55. I trust that God has my back in every situation.
56. Making more money means that I can give more.
57. God has used me to bring healing to those who are sick.
58. Being a part of the process is fulfilling to me.
59. I tend to make total strangers feel at home.
60. People often describe me as a prayer warrior.
61. I enjoy knowing biblical details and helping others to understand.
62. I delegate responsibilities to accomplish tasks.
63. I am motivated to help those who are less fortunate.
64. I have a constant hunger to see God's miraculous power.
65. I focus a lot on reaching the world for Christ.
66. I gain my deepest satisfaction through leading others in vocal or instrumental worship.
67. I enjoy walking with someone in times of difficulty.
68. I enjoy hearing passionate and clear preaching of the truth.
69. I like to do small things that others pass over.
70. I prefer to teach the Bible topically rather than verse by verse.
71. Praying in the Spirit is encouraging and important to me.
72. When faced with difficulty I tend to make wise decisions and choices.

## SPIRITUAL GIFT RATINGS

1 Almost Never      2 Seldom      3 Sometimes      4 Frequently      5 Almost Always  
TOTAL

1. _____	25. _____	49. _____	A. _____
2. _____	26. _____	50. _____	B. _____
3. _____	27. _____	51. _____	C. _____
4. _____	28. _____	52. _____	D. _____
5. _____	29. _____	53. _____	E. _____
6. _____	30. _____	54. _____	F. _____
7. _____	31. _____	55. _____	G. _____
8. _____	32. _____	56. _____	H. _____
9. _____	33. _____	57. _____	I. _____
10. _____	34. _____	58. _____	J. _____
11. _____	35. _____	59. _____	K. _____
12. _____	36. _____	60. _____	L. _____
13. _____	37. _____	61. _____	M. _____
14. _____	38. _____	62. _____	N. _____
15. _____	39. _____	63. _____	O. _____
16. _____	40. _____	64. _____	P. _____
17. _____	41. _____	65. _____	Q. _____
18. _____	42. _____	66. _____	R. _____
19. _____	43. _____	67. _____	S. _____
20. _____	44. _____	68. _____	T. _____
21. _____	45. _____	69. _____	U. _____
22. _____	46. _____	70. _____	V. _____
23. _____	47. _____	71. _____	W. _____
24. _____	48. _____	72. _____	X. _____

Add the scores from each row and put the total next to the corresponding letter. Determine your top three and find the definition of the spiritual gifts on the next four pages.

### TOP THREE SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

### PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Look for the volunteer opportunities that best fit with your spiritual gifts and interests. Pick an area in which to serve and begin serving. Search for the service group you are interested on Calvary Connect or email Pastor Vince (vince@calvary.ca).

## **GIFT DEFINITIONS AND SCRIPTURE REFERENCES**

The following contains definitions of the Spiritual gifts. While not meant to be dogmatic or final, these definitions and supporting scriptures do correspond to characteristics of the gifts as expressed in the Gifts Questionnaire. The team list following the supporting scripture provides suggested teams with serving environments where the corresponding gifts can be most effective.

### **A. ADMINISTRATION**

The gift of administration is the divine strength or ability to organize multiple tasks and groups of people to accomplish these tasks. **Luke 14:28-30; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Corinthians 12:28**  
(Media Team, F.I.T. Welcome Centre, Small Group Leadership, Ushers)

### **B. APOSTLESHIP**

The gift of apostleship is the divine strength or ability to pioneer new churches and ministries through planting, overseeing, and training. **Acts 15:22-35; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Galatians 2:7-10; Ephesians 4:11-14**  
(Small Group Leadership)

### **C. CRAFTSMANSHIP**

The gift of craftsmanship is the divine strength or ability to plan, build, and work with your hands in construction environments to accomplish multiple ministry applications. **Exodus 30:22, 31:3-11; 2 Chronicles 34:9-13; Acts 18:2-3**  
(BIGtime Kids, Route Youth, Media Team, Design and Construction Team, Performing Arts)

### **D. DISCERNMENT**

The gift of discernment is the divine strength or ability to spiritually identify falsehood and to distinguish between right and wrong motives and situations. **Matthew 16:21-23; Acts 5:1-11, 16:16-18; 1 Corinthians 12:10; 1 John 4:1-6**  
(Prayer Team, NightShift, BIGtime Kids, Route Youth)

### **E. EVANGELISM**

The gift of evangelism is the divine strength or ability to help non-Christians take the necessary steps to becoming a born-again Christian. **Acts 8:5-6, 8:26-40, 14:21, 21:8; Ephesians 4:11-14**  
(BIGtime Kids, Route Youth, Prayer Team, NightShift, Small Group Leadership)

### **F. EXHORTATION**

The gift of exhortation is the divine strength or ability to encourage others through the written or spoken word and Biblical truth. **Acts 14:22; Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 4:13; Hebrews 10:24-25**  
(Hospitality, F.I.T. Hosts, BIGtime Kids, Route Youth, F.I.T. Parking, Preschool/Nursery, NightShift, Small Group Leadership, Ushers, F.I.T. Welcome Centre)

### **G. FAITH**

The gift of faith is the divine strength or ability to believe in God for unseen supernatural results in every arena of life. **Acts 11:22-24; Romans 4:18-21; 1 Corinthians 12:9; Hebrews 11**  
(All Teams)

## H. GIVING

The gift of giving is the divine strength or ability to produce wealth and to give by tithes and offerings for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God on earth. **Mark 12:41-44;**

**Romans 12:8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-7, 9:2-7**

(All Teams)

## I. HEALING

The gift of healing is the divine strength or ability to act as an intermediary in faith, prayer, and by the laying-on of hands for the healing of physical and mental illnesses. **Acts 3:1-10,**

**9:32-35, 28:7-10; 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28**

(Prayer Team)

## J. HELPS

The gift of helps is the divine strength or ability to work in a supportive role for the accomplishment of tasks in Christian ministry. **Mark 15:40-41; Acts 9:36; Romans 16:1-2; 1 Corinthians 12:28**

(Hospitality, Ushers, F.I.T. Hosts, F.I.T. Welcome Centre)

## K. HOSPITALITY

The gift of hospitality is the divine strength or ability to create warm, welcoming environments for others in places such as your home, office, or church. **Acts 16:14-15; Romans 12:13, 16:23;**

**Hebrews 13:1-2; 1 Peter 4:9**

(Hospitality, F.I.T. Hosts, Growth Track Team, Route Youth, F.I.T. Parking, Ushers, F.I.T. Welcome Centre)

## L. INTERCESSION

The gift of intercession is the divine strength or ability to stand in the gap in prayer for someone, something, or someplace, believing for profound results. **Hebrews 7:25;**

**Colossians 1:9-12, 4:12-13; James 5:14-16**

(Prayer Team, Small Group Leadership)

## M. KNOWLEDGE

The gift of knowledge is the divine strength or ability to understand and to bring clarity to situations and circumstances often accompanied by a word from God. **Acts 5:1-11;**

**1 Corinthians 12:8; Colossians 2:2-3**

(NightShift, BIGtime Kids, Prayer Team)

## N. LEADERSHIP

The gift of leadership is the divine strength or ability to influence people at their level while directing and focusing them on the big picture, vision, or idea.

**Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 3:1-13, 5:17; Hebrews 13:17**

(All Teams)

## O. MERCY

The gift of mercy is the divine strength or ability to feel empathy and to care for those who are hurting in any way. **Matthew 9:35-36; Mark 9:41; Romans 12:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:14**

(NightShift, Small Group Leadership)

## **P. MIRACLES**

The gift of miracles is the divine strength or ability to alter the natural outcomes of life in a supernatural way through prayer, faith, and divine direction.

**Acts 9:36-42, 19:11-12, 20:7-12; Romans 15:18-19; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 28**

(NightShift, Prayer Team)

## **Q. MISSIONARY**

The gift of missions is the divine strength or ability to reach others outside of your culture and nationality, while in most cases living in that culture or nation. **Acts 8:4, 13:2-3, 22:21;**

**Romans 10:15**

(NightShift, Missions, Small Group Leadership)

## **R. MUSIC / WORSHIP**

The gift of music/worship is the divine strength or ability to sing, dance, or play an instrument primarily for the purpose of helping others worship God. **Deuteronomy 31:22; 1 Samuel 16:16;**

**1 Chronicles 16:41-42; 2 Chronicles 5:12-13, 34:12; Psalm 150**

(BIGtime Kids, Route Youth, Worship, Small Group Leadership, Performing Arts)

## **S. PASTOR / SHEPHERD**

The gift of pastor/shepherd is the divine strength or ability to care for the personal needs of others by nurturing and mending life issues.

**John 10:1-18; Ephesians 4:11-14; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; 1 Peter 5:1-3**

(BIGtime Kids, Route Youth, Small Group Leadership)

## **T. PROPHECY**

The gift of prophecy is the divine strength or ability to boldly speak and bring clarity to scriptural and doctrinal truth, in some cases foretelling God's plan. **Acts 2:37-40, 7:51-53, 26:24-**

**29; 1 Corinthians 14:1-4; 1 Thessalonians 1:5**

(Prayer Team, Small Group Leadership)

## **U. SERVICE**

The gift of serving is the divine strength or ability to do small or great tasks in working for the overall good of the body of Christ. **Acts 6:1-7; Romans 12:7; Galatians 6:10; 1 Timothy 1:16-18;**

**Titus 3:14**

(Hospitality, BIGtime Kids, Route Youth, Preschool/Nursery, F.I.T. Hosts, F.I.T. Parking, Ushers)

## **V. TEACHING**

The gift of teaching is the divine strength or ability to study and learn from the Scriptures primarily to bring understanding and depth to other Christians. **Acts 18:24-28, 20:20-21;**

**1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:11-14**

(Small Group Leadership, BIGtime Kids, Route Youth)

## **W. TONGUES (and Interpretation)**

The gift of tongues is the divine strength or ability to pray in a heavenly language to encourage your spirit and to commune with God. The gift of tongues is often accompanied by interpretation and should be used appropriately. **Acts 2:1-13; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 14:1-14**

(Prayer Team)

## X. WISDOM

The gift of wisdom is the divine strength or ability to apply the truths of Scripture in a practical way, producing the fruitful outcome and character of Jesus Christ. **Acts 6:3,10;**

**1 Corinthians 2:6-13, 12:8**

(Prayer Team, Small Group Leadership, Route Youth, BIGtime Kids)

### **TO BEGIN SERVING ON TeamCalvary**

1. Attend the 401 class.
2. Complete an interview with a team leader for your next steps.

There are many areas to serve based on the passions that Jesus has already put inside you.

*“Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.”* **Psalms 37:4**

How are you wired? Do you love food service and preparing a welcoming environment? Perhaps hospitality is an area for you to serve. Do you enjoy teaching kids truths from the Bible? Perhaps childrens ministry is for you! Do you love to sing to the Lord and have been blessed with a solid on-key voice? Perhaps serving on the worship team is for you! Here are some ideas on places that need you!

### **TeamCalvary:**

#### **TEAMS WITH CONSISTENT SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

**BIGtime Kids:** This team creates an environment where children are consistently exposed to the real love of Jesus. They intentionally invest in the lives of our children through worship, videos, skits, small groups, greeting, games and more.

**\*Connect/F.I.T. Hosts:** This friendly team loves people and makes them feel at home here at Calvary. They welcome guests with a smile, encouragement and personal touch so that hearts are open to the Gospel message.

**\*Connect/F.I.T. Parking:** This fun and enjoyable team is truly the first impression of Calvary! If you relish the great outdoors, love people and have a good smile, this is the team for you!

**\*Connect/F.I.T. Welcome Centre:** This team connects guests to the church community, providing resources and information on all of our current events, ministry opportunities and services at Calvary.

**\*Connect/F.I.T. Hospitality:** This energetic team connects with guests by preparing fresh coffee and tea every Sunday morning.



**Media:** Bring your creativity and tech savvy to this team that reaches thousands by delivering the Word and worship through camera, lighting, and other visual elements.

**Prayer:** This team of intercessors prays for people every Sunday, preparing the way for the Lord. Join this team that is blazing the trail for God in our city!

**Preschool/Nursery:** This team leads children into a real relationship with Jesus through Bible stories, prayer, hands-on activities and personal interactions.

**\*Connect/F.I.T. Ushers:** These mighty men and women prepare people for a positive worship experience by welcoming and assisting them to a seat, facilitating the offering and maintaining a distraction-free environment.

**Worship:** Through vocals, instruments, or audio engineering, this dynamic team prepares the way for our guests to encounter the presence of the living God.

(\*Connect/F.I.T. First Impression Teams)

## TEAMS WITH FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE

**Design and Construction Team:** This team builds sets for church productions and sermon series as well as working on building beautification.

**Facilities Team:** Skilled trades? Handy-person? Just love working with others and getting stuff done? As the Church grows, the demands on the building do as well. The Facilities Team steps up to ensure the long-term function of the church building for the people. Carpentry, painting, tile, plumbing, electrical, woodworking, landscaping, eating pizza...we got something for everyone.

**NightShift:** On Tuesdays teams from Calvary make meals and serve at NightShift street ministries in Whalley.

**Performing Arts Ministry:** People who love theatre, either performing or backstage, come together to produce plays and illustrations for outreach and for Sunday services.

**Route Youth:** Join the team that is building the next generation, one dynamic worship experience, relevant Small Group, and impactful retreat at a time. If you love to pour into the lives of young people, this is the group for you.

**Small Group Leadership:** We believe that real life change takes place in the context of relationships. As a Small Group Leader, you have the greatest opportunity to connect with others, fulfill your passions, develop your gifts and live out the Great Commission.

All of us were created by God to make a difference in the life of another person. God has a place for you where your unique abilities and passions can touch the lives of others. We believe that your life will never make sense until you find, develop, and fulfill that purpose.

*“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”* **Ephesians 2:10**

*“However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me.”* **Acts 20:24** (NIV 1984)

The key to finding the right fit for you is to combine your interests with your spiritual gifts.

## **SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

*“Now God gives us many kinds of special abilities...and there are different kinds of service to God (ministry)...All of you together are the one Body of Christ and each of you is a separate and necessary part of it.”* **1 Corinthians 12:4-5, 27** (LB)

How does your uniquely designed personality, coupled with the spiritual gifts God has given you, help reveal a fulfilling path to your destiny? **Proverbs 25:2** says it is God’s privilege to conceal things and our privilege to discover them. Together, let’s discover all that God has planned for our generation and make a positive difference for the Kingdom.

*“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.”* **John 14:12** (NASB)

## **SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE NOT**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

We all have natural abilities that we’ve learned from those around us regardless of Christian faith. Many times our natural abilities and strengths are redeemed by the Lord to become spiritual gifts.

2. \_\_\_\_\_

We are all called to have character and our gifts should produce the nature of Jesus Christ in each person. A person should not say he has the “gift of peace” when we are all encouraged to develop that characteristic. Spiritual gifts offer opportunities for us to exemplify Christ.

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Spiritual gifts often lead to titles or positions but a person may have the gift without the role or the role without the gift. Regardless, we should serve whenever we are given the opportunity. Working in the area of your gifting will allow you to “be” the person that God has called you to be rather than just “doing” good things.

4. \_\_\_\_\_

Spiritual gifts are endowments given by God to His people for accomplishing His purpose on the earth. Spiritual gifts are given for the glory of God.

*“Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts... try to excel in gifts that build up the church.”* **1 Corinthians 14:1**

#### **HOW DO I RECEIVE SPIRITUAL GIFTS?**

- A. Accept Jesus Christ as Lord of your life.
- B. Acquire faith and truth in the area of spiritual gifts.
- C. Apply yourself to learning about spiritual gifts.
- D. Ask for the Lord to give you spiritual gifts.

*“Then Jesus said to the centurion, “Go! It will be done just as you believed it would.” And his servant was healed at that very hour.”* **Matthew 8:13**

#### **NEXT FOR YOU**

1. Done Weeks 1, 2, & 3
2. Fill in Ministry Fair Card and hand it in. You will be contacted that week.

## **APPENDICES**

### **APPENDIX: 1**

#### **QUESTIONS ABOUT TITHING**

##### **What is tithing?**

"Tithe" means "a tenth part."

##### **What is the difference between a tithe and an offering?**

A "tithe" is giving the first tenth of my income.

An "offering" is anything I give in addition to my tithe.

##### **Why should I tithe?**

Because God commands it.

"A tenth of all you produce is the Lord's." **Leviticus 27:30**

##### **Because Jesus commended it.**

"Yes, you should tithe, and you shouldn't leave the more important things undone either."

**Matthew 23:23**

##### **Tithing demonstrates that God has first place in my life.**

"The purpose of tithing is to teach you to always put God in first place in your lives."

**Deuteronomy 14:23** (LB)

##### **Tithing reminds me that everything I have was given to me by God.**

"Always remember that it is the Lord your God who gives you the ability to produce wealth."

**Deuteronomy 8:18**

##### **Tithing expresses my love to the Lord.**

"Each of you should bring a gift in proportion to the way the Lord your God has blessed you." **Deuteronomy 16:17**

##### **God says that refusing to tithe is stealing from Him.**

"God says 'Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing me!' But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' God says 'In tithes and offerings ... Bring your whole tithe to My house.' "

**Malachi 3:8-10**

##### **Tithing gives God a chance to prove He exists and wants to bless you.**

"Bring your whole tithe to My storehouse. Test me in this" says the Lord, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you won't have room enough for it!" **Malachi 3:10**

##### **What should I tithe?**

The tithe should come from the first part of what I earn.

"Honor the Lord by giving him the first part of all your income." **Proverbs 3:9-10**

### Where should I give my Tithe?

The tithe should be given where I worship.

“Bring your whole tithe to My Storehouse (Temple).” **Malachi 3:10**

### When should I Tithe?

The tithe should be given weekly.

“On the first day of every week, set aside some of what you have earned and give it as an offering. The amount depends on how much the Lord has helped you earn.”

**1 Corinthians 16:2** (LB)

## APPENDIX 2

### TeamCalvary 401 LEADERSHIP APPLICATION

Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Team/Service Time: \_\_\_\_\_

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Male Female

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Marital status (circle one): Single Engaged Married Divorced Widowed

Spouse's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Children:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

### PREVIOUS CHURCH EXPERIENCE AND BELIEFS

Name of church: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State of church: \_\_\_\_\_

How long did you attend this church?: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of pastor: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a born again Christian?  Yes  No How Long? \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the statements that apply to you. I believe:

\_\_\_ the virgin birth and deity of Jesus Christ.

\_\_\_ that Jesus is God's Son and only sacrifice for sin.

\_\_\_ that Jesus rose bodily from the dead.

\_\_\_ that a person must be born again to receive eternal life.

\_\_\_ in the infallibility of the Holy Bible.

\_\_\_ in the eternal damnation of the lost.

How long have you regularly attended Calvary Church?

Are you a member of Calvary Church?  Yes  No

Do you tithe regularly?  Yes  No

Briefly explain why you would like to serve at Calvary Church: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Has anyone ever brought or threatened to bring a civil or criminal claim against you alleging physical or sexual abuse or sexual harassment?  Yes  No

Have you ever been charged, arrested, or convicted of a felony or misdemeanor?  
 Yes  No

Have you ever terminated your employment or had your employment terminated for reasons relating to allegations of physical or sexual abuse or sexual harassment?  Yes  No

Have you ever been reprimanded as a student or employee for harassment of another individual or other inappropriate behavior with another individual?  Yes  No

Is there anything in your past or present that might create confusion in the minds of others regarding your involvement in a leadership role at Calvary Christian Church?  
 Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

## QUALIFICATIONS & LEADERSHIP COMMITMENT OF A TEAMCALVARY MEMBER

*“The same goes for those who want to be servants in the church: serious, not deceitful, not too free with the bottle, not in it for what they can get out of it. They must be reverent before the mystery of the faith, not using their position to try to run things. Let them prove themselves first. If they show they can do it, take them on. No exceptions are to be made for women—same qualifications: serious, dependable, not sharp-tongued, not overfond of wine. Servants in the church are to be committed to their spouses, attentive to their own children, and diligent in looking after their own affairs. Those who do this servant work will come to be highly respected, a real credit to this Jesus-faith.”*

**I Timothy 3:8-13** (The Message)

A TEAMCALVARY MEMBER:

- Is sincere, worthy of respect, and of a good reputation.
- Tithes regularly to Calvary Church.
- Has a genuine desire to serve and minister to other people.
- Leads, motivates, and teaches other people.
- Creates positive group dynamics and resolves conflict within the group.
- I believe that I meet the qualifications for serving, and I agree to the following.  
(Initial each statement)

- \_\_\_\_\_ to become a member of Calvary Church.
- \_\_\_\_\_ to fulfill the mission, vision and purpose of Calvary Church.
- \_\_\_\_\_ to fulfill the responsibilities outlined in this TeamCalvary 401 training.
- \_\_\_\_\_ to abide by the Leadership Honour Code as outlined above in **1 Timothy 3**.
- \_\_\_\_\_ to complete Growth Track in the next 4-6 weeks.

By signing below, I certify that the information contained in this application is complete, accurate, and not misleading in any way. Should my application be accepted, I agree to submit to the policies and procedures of Calvary Church membership, and to refrain from unscriptural conduct in the performance of my services on behalf of Calvary Church.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

### **APPENDIX 3**

*“So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony, and on the growth of our fellowship together.”* **Romans 14:19** (Ph)

*“Live in complete harmony with each other - each with the attitude of Christ toward each other.”* **Romans 15:5** (LB)

*“Have a sincere love for other believers, love one another earnestly with all your heart.”* **1 Peter 1:22** (GN)

*“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs.”* **Ephesians 4:29**

*“Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.”* **Hebrews 13:17**

*“To the church...we always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers.”* **1 Thessalonians 1:1-2**

*“Go out into the country...and urge anyone you find to come in, so that the house will be full.”* **Luke 14:23** (LB)

*“So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified.”* **Romans 15:7** (LB)

*“Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you.”* **1 Peter 4:10** (Ph)

*“God gave...some to be pastors and teachers to prepare God’s people for works of ministry, so that the body of Christ may be built up.”* **Ephesians 4:11-12**

*"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus...by taking on the very nature of a servant."* **Philippians 2:4-5, 7** (NIV 1984)

*"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."* **Acts 2:42**

*"Let us not give up meeting together...but let us encourage one another."*  
**Hebrews 10:25**

*"But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the Gospel of Christ."* **Philippians 1:27** (Ph)

*"Each one of you, on the first day of each week, should set aside a specific sum of money in proportion to what you have earned and use it for the offering."*  
**1 Corinthians 16:2** (LB)

*"A tenth of all you produce is the Lord's, and it is holy."* **Leviticus 27:30**

*"We hope that your faith will grow and that the boundaries of our work among you will be extended."* **2 Corinthians 10:15** (NLT)



## APPENDIX 4

### CALVARY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

#### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex (M/F)    Single     Married     Widowed     Divorced

My Occupation is: \_\_\_\_\_ Business: \_\_\_\_\_

I have the following expertise: \_\_\_\_\_

My interests include: \_\_\_\_\_

#### INFORMATION OF FAMILY MEMBERS

Spouse`s Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Does your spouse attend Calvary? Yes  No

Children/Age: \_\_\_\_\_

#### SPIRITUAL HISTORY

Where have you last attended church? \_\_\_\_\_

How long \_\_\_\_\_ ? Member \_\_\_\_\_

Position of Service: \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you attended Calvary Church? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you regularly attend (2 or more services a month)? Yes  No

When did you accept Christ as your Saviour? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been baptized? Yes  No

If so, when and where? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been filled with the Holy Spirit (according to Acts 2:4)? \_\_\_\_\_

#### MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Agree with the Calvary Statement of Faith (see pages 31-32)

Initial

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Complete Calvary Growth Track 101, 201, 301, 401.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Meet a Calvary Ministry Coach to review gift analysis and discuss potential ministry involvement.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Serve on a ministry team for the 3 month Discovery Process.

\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill in completely and hand in to Growth Track class leader, the Welcome Center, or church office (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm).

\*Once processed you will receive an acknowledgement letter.

## APPENDIX 5

### BAPTISM APPLICATION

I wish to be baptized in water in accordance with scripture and following the example of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I received Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour on \_\_\_\_\_. (Date)

I have completed Calvary Growth Track 101. \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

All baptism candidates make a brief video testimony 2 weeks prior to our Baptism Sunday. This allows us time to arrange for filming and editing.

Date of Baptism Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check off which service time you attend. 9am \_\_\_ 10:30am \_\_\_ 12pm \_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_





16293 - 104th Ave, Surrey, BC V4N 1Z7  
604.583.5551 [calvary.ca](http://calvary.ca)