

## GBPC Values

Jesus Christ is the cornerstone on which Great Bridge Presbyterian Church is built. We believe that Jesus Christ is the only Son of God. We invite and encourage everyone to discover Him through: Grace, Bible Study, Prayer and Community.

**GRACE:** We are saved through God's gift of Grace and we demonstrate God's unconditional love in gratitude to God and service to others.

**BIBLE:** The Holy Bible reveals God's Word and is the sole foundation for daily living, providing exposure to God's truth and person. We desire that each individual know God personally and discover God's will for their life through intentional regular study, prayer and meditation.

**PRAYER:** We accept God's invitation to come into His presence and seek His will through prayer.

**COMMUNITY:** We believe spiritual growth is nurtured by personal relationships within the church community. We invite all people to participate in a fellowship that loves our neighbor, serves one another and speaks the truth in love.

## Marks of Discipleship

What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus Christ? A disciple is one who follows Jesus Christ. What does a disciple look like? That's exactly what the marks of discipleship attempt to describe. At GBPC, we are committed to offering a wide range of activities with the intent of helping everyone to grow in all the marks of discipleship. A **HEART FOR CHRIST ALONE** is the foundational mark of discipleship and spiritual growth.

Spiritual growth encompasses reading the Bible (**MIND TRANSFORMED BY THE WORD**), praying (**KNEES FOR PRAYER**), welcoming others and living in community as Jesus did (**ARMS OF LOVE**), sharing about the gospel with others (**VOICE TO SPEAK THE GOOD NEWS**), and acknowledging God as the source of everything and seeking to serve others (**SPIRIT OF SERVANTHOOD AND STEWARDSHIP**).



*Sharing Christ's love, equipping God's people.*

# Your Spiritual Road Map



Want to **GROW**  
in your relationship with Jesus  
Christ? Here's how!

## Fall 2009

## Assessment Questions—What Stage Are You?

With the help of the Reveal Spiritual Life Survey taken by our congregation in February 2009, GBPC has identified four spiritual stages based on how important Christ is in your life. The first step in spiritual growth is to honestly assess yourself:



Exploring Christ

### Stage 1

#### Exploring Christ

Do you believe in God, but are not sure about Christ and His role in your life? Faith does not play a significant role in your day-to-day life. Survey results indicated 17% of respondents fall into this category.



Growing in Christ

### Stage 2

#### Growing in Christ

Do you believe in Jesus? Are you working on what it means to get to know him? Do you trust Christ with your eternity, but are just beginning to learn what it means to be in a relationship with Him? The largest percentage of GBPC respondents, 45%, are in this stage.

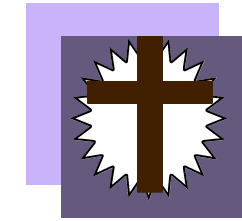


Close to Christ

### Stage 3

#### Close to Christ

Do you feel close to Christ? Do you depend on Him daily for help and guidance for issues you face? DAILY is the key word in this stage of spiritual growth. About a quarter, 25%, of GBPC respondents are in this stage.



Christ-centered

### Stage 4

#### Christ-Centered

Is your relationship with Jesus the most important relationship in your life? Does this relationship guide everything you do? The people in this group, 13% of the survey respondents, see their lives as fully surrendered to Jesus, subordinating everything to His will and His desires.

**What stage are you on the spiritual continuum? Turn the page for ideas to help you grow in your relationship with Christ.**

*We must all take steps to grow closer to Christ, but remember, He's the one who accomplishes the changes. Our task is to align ourselves with God's will and purposes and allow the Holy Spirit to do the work.*

Check out the following classes, resources & service opportunities designed to help you grow!



**Classes**

*Inquirers' Class*  
Alpha (Wed)  
God Stories (Sun)

**Opportunities**

Attend worship services  
Join a small group or Presbyterian Women's circle

Exploring Christ

Attend senior lunches  
Attend special events during Advent

**Ways to Serve at Church**

Help with fellowship opportunities (Sunday mornings and Wednesday night dinners)  
Volunteer in the Wisdom Well  
Help at the Welcome Desk or serve as a greeter on Sunday mornings  
Serve as a Sunday School shepherd in a children's classroom  
Serve as a chaperone for youth events

**Ways to Serve Those in Need**

Fill a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child  
Help prepare AIDS meals  
Participate in Stop Hunger Now  
Bring food for the food pantry

**Spiritual Practices**

Worship  
Spend time in prayer thanking God for blessings

**Resources**

*\*The NRSV Discipleship Study Bible*

*\*Bible Handbook*

*More Than a Carpenter* by Josh McDowell  
*A Case for Christ* by Lee Strobel  
*Know What you Believe* by Paul E. Little  
*Dinner with a Perfect Stranger* by David Gregory  
*The Shack* by William P. Young

**\*Bible study tools recommended by GBPC pastors and staff and available in The Wisdom Well bookstore**



**Classes**

*Inquirers' Class*  
*Experiencing God* (Wed)  
*Revelation Bible Study* (Sun)  
*Financial Peace University* (Wed)

**Opportunities**

*Growing in Christ*  
Attend worship services  
Join a small group  
Attend a Walk to Emmaus/Pilgrimage weekend

**Ways to Serve at Church**

Lead in worship (audio-visual team, liturgist, flower guild, sign language)  
Teach children's Sunday School, KICK or VBS  
Lead a youth small group  
Help with KICK (Kids in Christ's Kingdom)  
Join the choir or the praise team  
Serve in the KIT (Keeping in Touch) care ministry

**Ways to Serve Those in Need**

Be a part of the Congo Sister Church team  
Participate with a mission team for Vida Joven (Nicaragua), Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (New Orleans), Living Waters for the World  
Help with a Brush with Kindness project

**Spiritual Practices**

Worship  
Read your Bible regularly  
Engage in a class or small group Bible study  
Pray regularly, confessing sins and listening to God  
Begin working toward a tithe  
Develop spiritual friendships

**Resources**

*\*Concordance (NRSV or NIV)*

*\*One Volume Bible Commentary*

*\*Bible Dictionary*

*What's So Amazing About Grace?* By Philip Yancey  
*Discipleship Essentials* by Greg Ogden  
*Prayer* by Philip Yancey  
*How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth* by Gordon D. Fee and Douglas Stewart



**Classes**

*Inquirers' Class*  
*Discipleship Class: The Great Omission* (Wed)  
*The Reason for God* (Wed)  
*What's My Gift?* workshop

Close to Christ

**Ways to Serve at Church**

Lead a small group  
Teach adult Sunday School or Wednesday night class  
Serve as a deacon  
Serve as an elder  
Participate in prayer group/chain  
Serve as a confirmation mentor  
Help lead Walk to Emmaus/Pilgrimage weekends

**Ways to Serve Those in Need**

Participate in local jail ministry  
Serve in leadership for GBPC mission trips  
Participate on a Kairos prison ministry team

**Spiritual Practices**

Worship  
Read your Bible daily  
Spend time in prayer adoring and praising God  
Practice additional spiritual disciplines  
Tithe  
Develop spiritual friendships

**Resources**

*The Ragamuffin Gospel* by Brennan Manning  
*Celebration of Discipline* by Richard Foster  
*Prayer* by Richard Foster  
*Spirit of the Disciplines* by Dallas Willard  
*Conspiracy of Kindness* by Steve Sjogren  
*Knowing God* by JI Packer



**Classes**

*Inquirers' Class*  
*Discipleship Class: The Great Omission* (Wed)

**Ways to Serve at Church**

*Christ-centered*  
Teach Sunday School  
Lead Bible studies  
Serve as a mentor for a discipleship group  
Help lead Walk to Emmaus/Pilgrimage weekends  
Participate in prayer group/chain

**Ways to Serve Those in Need**

Serve in leadership for GBPC mission trips  
Develop one's own mission

**Spiritual Practices**

Worship  
Study your Bible systematically  
Pray throughout the day  
Tithe to the church and generously give to other mission opportunities  
Seek out mentoring opportunities  
Seek out leadership opportunities  
Seek relationships with non-believers in order to share your faith

**Resources**

*Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by a Relentless God* by Francis Chan  
*Holy Discontent* by Bill Hybels  
*Living Beyond the Sanctuary* by Glenn McDonald  
*Soul Revolution* by John Burke  
*The Great Omission* by Dallas Willard

Group study suggestions available in the Small Group Ministries Spiritual Life brochure.

More detail about all of these suggestions is available on our website, [www.gbpres.org](http://www.gbpres.org).