

*The*  
FOUNTAIN  
*of*  
PRAISE

# NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

**“In that day there shall be a fountain...-  
for sin and for uncleanness”  
Zechariah 13:1**



# *The* FOUNTAIN *of* PRAISE

*"In that day there shall be a fountain... for sin and uncleanness."*

*Zechariah 13:1*

## Mission

The Fountain of Praise is committed to spreading the powerful life-changing gospel of Jesus Christ to the world through positive ministries.

## Vision

The Fountain of Praise is a Christ centered Bible-based ministry focused on the restoration of the lost and broken. We serve in the spirit of high praise with fervor and God's anointing to minister with compassion and excellence. God has revealed that we will continue:

- Rejoicing in energetic praise and services, giving God the glory, and ultimately promoting permanent change in the lives of our men, women, and children.
- Revitalizing and establishing ministries that teach and encourage believers to return to spiritual integrity, and restore emotional and physical health to all of God's people.
- Reinforcing individual and family living with biblical principles - providing support and the transformational tools needed to live with power and a sense of purpose.
- Rebuilding our local and global communities both economically and educationally, through faith-based programs that combine spiritual teachings with social reforms.

## Affirmation

The Fountain of Praise is a Christ-centered and Bible-based church that believes in:

- **REACHING UP** in Praise and Worship
- **REACHING IN** into personal lives through Fellowship and Discipleship and
- **REACHING OUT** to the world in Compassion and Love

Reaching up, Reaching in and Reaching out to build the kingdom of God one person at a time!



### **Greetings in the mighty name of Jesus Christ!**

The Bible declares, "Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!" **2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)**

We are truly grateful and excited that you have chosen to begin—or continue—your faith journey with us at The Fountain of Praise. Whether you come with years of Christian experience or you are brand new to the faith, we want you to know this: you are welcome here, you are valued here, and you belong here.

### **Welcome to the Fountain Family!**

Your decision to join this church family is not accidental. We believe God has divinely ordered your steps and placed you here for a purpose. You are an important part of His plan, and your presence strengthens who we are as a body of believers. At The Fountain of Praise, we don't simply attend church—we grow together, serve together, and impact lives together.

We are living in a defining moment in history. While progress continues in many areas of society, we also see pain, uncertainty, and brokenness all around us. Yet in the midst of it all, God has entrusted His Church with a message of hope, healing, and transformation. By choosing to connect with The Fountain of Praise, you are joining a community committed to making a difference—not only spiritually, but in the lives of families in our city, nation and the world.

You may be asking, "What's next for me?"

That is exactly why we have created our New Members Orientation and discipleship process. These classes are designed to help you grow in your faith, understand what we believe, discover how you are gifted, and find meaningful ways to serve. We want you to feel confident, equipped, and empowered to live out your purpose. We also value your voice. Whether you already sense where you would like to serve or you bring new ideas and creative insight, we welcome you and your contributions. The Fountain of Praise is a church that continues to grow, adapt, and move forward—together.

In closing, we want you to know how honored we are to serve as your pastors. From our hearts to yours, welcome to your new church home. May God richly bless you as you grow, connect, and flourish here.

In His Service,

Dr. Remus E. Wright, Senior Pastor  
Dr. Mia K. Wright, Co-Pastor

# FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH



## **BELIEF – Salvation**

Discover the foundational truth of the Christian faith—salvation through Jesus Christ. This class unpacks what it means to be saved, why salvation is essential, and how accepting Christ transforms your life now and for eternity.

## **BRIDGE – Prayer**

To connect heaven and earth—prayer as the link between you and God. This class explores the purpose and power of prayer, practical ways to deepen your prayer life, and how communication with God shapes your spiritual growth.

## **BUILD – Stewardship**

Learn how to build a life of faith through wise stewardship. This class covers biblical principles of giving, time management, and honoring God with your resources.

## **BLESS – Praise and Worship**

Engage in wholehearted worship. This class explores the biblical basis of praise, the power of worship, and how it draws us closer to God's presence.

## **BECOME – Spiritual Gifts**

Find your place in the body of Christ. This class helps you identify your spiritual gifts and understand how they connect you to community and purpose.

## **BELONG – Ministries**

Step into service. This class guides you in discovering ministry opportunities and equips you to serve with excellence, compassion, and purpose.



# BELIEF—Salvation

HOW BELIEF BEGINS THE NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

## Class Objective

To understand what salvation is, why we need it, and how belief in Jesus Christ forms the foundation for a transformed life in Him.



### I. THE FOUNDATION:

#### BELIEF IS WHERE NEW LIFE BEGINS

Salvation begins with belief.

Before a life can change, a heart must believe the truth about:

1. God
2. Ourselves
3. Jesus Christ
4. God's promise to save

*"If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."*

—Romans 10:9 (NIV)

#### Salvation = deliverance from sin AND entrance into new life.

This class will help new believers understand:

- Why salvation is needed
- What salvation means
- How salvation is received
- How salvation transforms daily living

### II. A BELIEF FRAMEWORK FOR SALVATION

This course uses four pillars of belief:

1. **Believe the Problem** —  
What sin is and why it separates us
2. **Believe the Person** —  
Who Jesus is and what He accomplished
3. **Believe the Promise** —  
What God guarantees to those who trust Him
4. **Believe the Process** —  
How salvation begins a lifelong journey

### III. BELIEVE THE PROBLEM —

#### The Truth About Sin

Sin = disobedience, missing the mark, falling short of God's standard.

Effects of Sin

- Separation from God
- Spiritual death
- Brokenness in heart, mind, and purpose

*"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." —Romans 3:23 (NKJV)*

*"For the wages of sin is death..." —Romans 6:23 (NKJV)*

## IV. BELIEVE THE PERSON —

### God's Plan to Rescue Us

God did not leave humanity without hope.  
He initiated a rescue mission.

### God's Plan of Salvation

- ALL people are sinners - Romans 3:23 (NKJV)
- Sin leads to death - Romans 6:23 (NKJV)
- God loves us and provides a way - Romans 6:23 (NKJV)
- Salvation is available to EVERYONE who believes - Romans 10:9 (NKJV)
- Jesus is the Savior sent to deliver us - Romans 5:1 (NKJV)

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son..." —John 3:16 (NIV)*

### Salvation is a Person.

Not a ritual.  
Not a denomination.  
Not behavior modification.  
Salvation is Jesus Christ.

## V. BELIEVE THE PROMISE —

### How We Are Saved

Salvation is received through:

#### 1. Acknowledging your sins

Owning your need for rescue.

#### 2. Confession

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive..." —1 John 1:9 (NKJV)

#### 3. Repentance

Turning away from sin toward God.

#### 4. Acceptance of New Life

"Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person..." —2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

#### 5. Living a transformed life

"Be transformed by the renewing of your mind..." —Romans 12:2 (NIV)

## VI. BELIEVE THE PROCESS —

### Salvation as a Journey

Salvation is **past, present, and future:**

#### 1. I HAVE BEEN SAVED (Justification)

Saved from the penalty of sin  
— the moment you believed.

#### 2. I AM BEING SAVED (Sanctification)

Being transformed from the power of sin  
— daily growth through the Holy Spirit.

#### 3. I WILL BE SAVED (Glorification)

Delivered from the very presence of sin  
— when we see Christ face-to-face.

*"The sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory..." —Romans 8:18 (NKJV)*

## VII. LIVING OUT SALVATION —

### What Happens After You Believe

Salvation is not the end—it is the beginning.

New believers can:

- Grow through prayer and Scripture
- Join community (fellowship, small groups)
- Serve (Find ministry — BELONG class)
- Worship (BLESS class)
- Discover gifts (BECOME class)
- Build stewardship habits (BUILD class)

## VIII. CLASS SUMMARY —

### BELIEF IS THE FOUNDATION

By embracing a belief-driven foundation, you can:

**Own the truth of your need and God's solution.**

Sin is real—but so is God's rescue.

**Rest fully in Christ's accomplished work.**

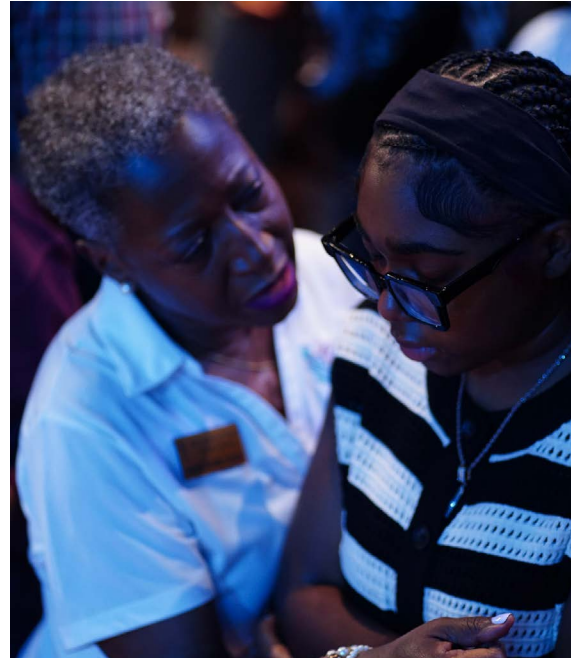
You are saved because of Him.

**Stand confident in God's unshakeable promises.**

Your salvation is secure.

**Live boldly as evidence of a transformed faith.**

Your new life begins now.



## Living Out Salvation

You grow by:

Talking to God (BRIDGE – Prayer)

Studying Scripture

Worshipping (BLESS – Worship)

Walking in community

Serving (BELONG – Ministry)

Discovering your gifts (BECOME – Spiritual Gifts)

Building stewardship (BUILD – Stewardship)

# BRIDGE -Prayer

## Connecting the Natural to the Supernatural Through Belief

### Class Objective

To understand what prayer is, why believers pray, and how a strong prayer life forms the bridge between our natural circumstances and God's supernatural power and presence.

By the end of this session, each new member should understand:

1. **What prayer is**
2. **Why prayer matters**
3. **How belief activates prayer**
4. **How God answers prayer**
5. **What blocks effective prayer**
6. **How to build a lifestyle of prayer using A.C.T.S.**
7. **How prayer bridges the natural and supernatural**

### I. THE FOUNDATION OF PRAYER: BELIEF

Prayer begins with **belief**—before we speak a word, we must believe:

- **God hears us.**
- **God sees us.**
- **God responds to us.**
- **God desires a relationship with us.**

"The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." —James 5:16 (NIV)

Prayer is the **life force** of the Christian—it is how we communicate, connect, and commune with God. Through prayer we express gratitude, confess sins, seek guidance, and make our requests known. Prayer is how we experience God's peace, strength, and presence in everyday life.

### II. PRAYER AS A BRIDGE

#### A. Prayer bridges earth and heaven

We live in the natural realm—limitations, challenges, emotions, and unknowns.  
God reigns in the supernatural—wisdom, power, comfort, provision, healing.

#### B. Prayer is the bridge God gives us to cross from human effort to divine intervention.

When we pray, we step onto that bridge by belief.  
When God answers, He steps onto the bridge with power.



### III. THE PURPOSE, PRINCIPLE & POWER OF PRAYER

#### 1. The Purpose of Prayer

To build communication, fellowship, and relationship with God.  
It strengthens our trust and aligns our heart with His will.  
*"Call to me and I will answer you..." —Jeremiah 33:3 (NIV)*

#### 2. The Principle of Prayer

To pray according to the will of God and seek to be pleasing to God.  
Prayer is not informing God—it is involving God.

#### 3. The Power of Prayer

Prayer moves the heart of God, opens heaven's resources, and brings results.

### IV. FORMING A CONSISTENT PRAYER LIFE: THE A.C.T.S. & BRIDGE MODELS

This class uses **two helpful prayer frameworks** for new believers:

- **A.C.T.S. Model (classic prayer structure)**
- **B.R.I.D.G.E. Model (TFOP-developed structure tied to this series)**

Experts say it takes **21 days to form a habit**.

We encourage 21 days of praying through the **A.C.T.S. pattern**:

#### **A – Adoration**

Begin with praise—who God is.

#### **C – Confession**

Acknowledge sin, repent, and realign your heart.  
Confession clears the bridge between us and God.

#### **T – Thanksgiving**

Express gratitude for God's blessings and goodness.

#### **S – Supplication**

Bring your requests—your needs, desires, and intercession for others.

### PRAYER AS A BRIDGE

In the Christian life, prayer functions as a bridge:

#### **1. A Bridge Between the Natural and Supernatural**

We bring our earthly needs.  
God responds with heavenly resources.

#### **2. A Bridge Between Our Limitations and God's Ability**

Where our strength ends, God's power begins.

#### **3. A Bridge Between Relationship and Response**

Prayer is not transactional — it is relational.

#### **4. A Bridge Between Confusion and Clarity**

God gives wisdom generously - James 1:5 (NIV)

# THE B. R. L. D. G. E. PRAYER MODEL

## BEGIN WITH PRAISE (Adoration)

Start your prayer by acknowledging who God is. Shift your focus from your problems to God's power.

Scripture: "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise." —Psalm 100:4 (NIV)

Practice: Speak God's attributes: "Lord, You are faithful, holy, merciful, powerful..."

## REPENT AND RELEASE (Confession & Cleansing)

Confess sins, weaknesses, wrong motives, or attitudes. Release any unforgiveness, bitterness, or guilt that creates distance with God.

Scripture: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive..." —1 John 1:9 (NKJV)

Practice: Ask God to cleanse your heart and align your will with His.

## INTERCEDE FOR OTHERS (Pray for People & Needs)

Stand in the gap for family, friends, leaders, the church, and the world. Prayer is an act of love and spiritual responsibility.

Scripture: "Pray for each other so that you may be healed." —James 5:16 (NIV)

Practice: Keep a list of people and situations you consistently pray for.

## DEVOTE YOUR REQUESTS TO GOD (Personal Supplication)

Share your needs, desires, fears, and hopes.

Entrust every request to God's wisdom and timing.

Scripture: "In every situation... present your requests to God." —Philippians 4:6 (NIV)

Practice: End your request time with surrender: "Lord, I trust You with the outcome."

## GIVE THANKS (Gratitude & Praise)

Gratitude strengthens faith and shifts your mindset from worry to trust. Thank God for what He has done and what He will do.

Scripture: "Give thanks in all circumstances." —1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NIV)

Practice: Name three blessings or answered prayers at the end of every prayer.

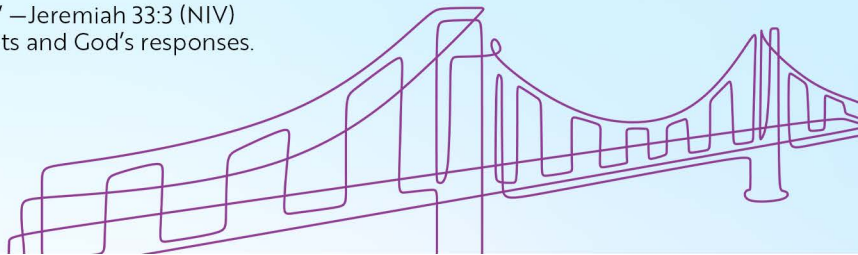
## EXPECT AND EMBRACE GOD'S ANSWER

God answers prayer in four ways: YES — WAIT — NO (with peace) — DIFFERENT (better)

Be open to God's method and timing.

Scripture: "Call to me and I will answer you..." —Jeremiah 33:3 (NIV)

Practice: Use a prayer journal to track requests and God's responses.



## V. HOW GOD ANSWERS PRAYER

Jesus gives a kingdom guarantee:

"If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you." —John 15:7 (NIV)

God answers prayer in **four biblical ways**:

### 1. YES — Sometimes immediate

Peter sinking in the water: Matthew 14:22–32 (NIV)

### 2. WAIT — Sometimes delayed

Lazarus' story: John 11:1–4 (NIV)

### 3. NO — But with peace

Philippians 4:6–7 (NIV)

God's peace is often His first answer.

### 4. DIFFERENT — A better or refining answer

Sometimes we pray for patience, and God sends situations that grow patience.

Romans 5:3–5 (KJV)

## VI. HINDRANCES TO PRAYER

Certain attitudes and behaviors disrupt our connection on the prayer bridge:

- **Wrong motives**
- **Selfish requests**
- **Unforgiveness**
- **Lack of faith**
- **Doubt that God can deliver**
- **Disobedience**
- **Unconfessed sin**
- **Fear and guilt**
- **Asking outside God's will**

### **Biblical Warnings:**

Isaiah 59:1–2(NIV) — Sin creates distance

Psalm 66:18 (NIV) — Unconfessed sin blocks prayer

## VII. PRAYER FOR NEW BELIEVERS

Even those new to faith can begin the conversation with God.

**The first prayer** God always answers is the prayer of repentance, where a person accepts Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior - Romans 10:9–10 (NIV)

Prayer is not only for the mature—

It is the bridge by which all believers begin and continue their journey with God.

# BRIDGE -Prayer

Connecting the Natural to the Supernatural Through Belief

### VIII. CLASS SUMMARY

By embracing this BRIDGE framework, participants will:

**Believe that God desires communication with them.**

**Build confidence in approaching God in prayer.**

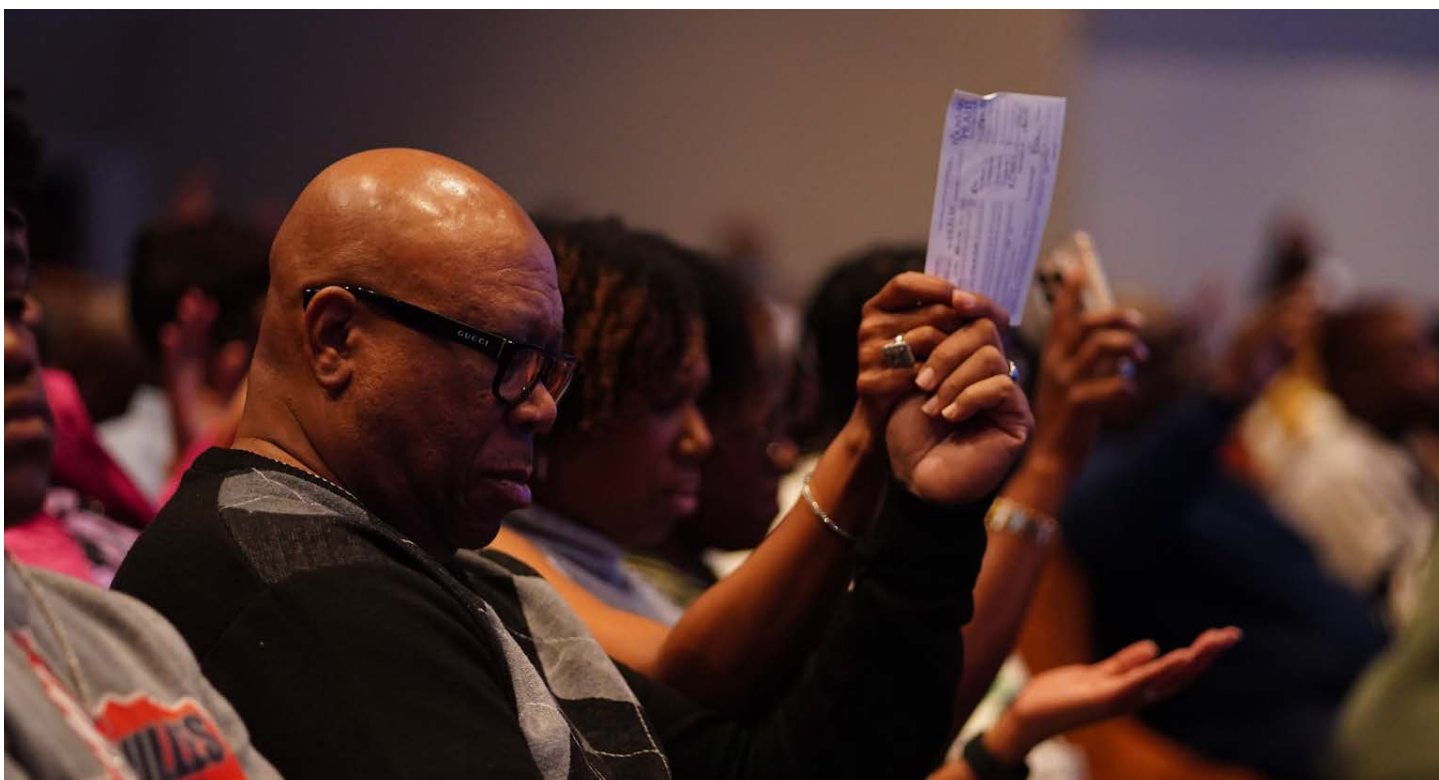
**Bridge the gap between natural challenges and supernatural responses.**

**Develop a consistent prayer life using structured models.**

**Experience peace, clarity, and spiritual growth.**







# BUILD

## – Stewardship

LEARN HOW TO BUILD A LIFE OF FAITH THROUGH WISE STEWARDSHIP.

THIS CLASS COVERS BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES OF GIVING, TIME MANAGEMENT, AND HONORING GOD WITH YOUR RESOURCES.

### Class Objective

To help believers understand stewardship as an act of belief, embrace God's ownership of all things. Believers will learn how to faithfully manage their time, talent, treasure, and total life in a way that strengthens the mission of the church and glorifies God.

By the end of this session, new believers will understand:

**B — Believe God owns everything.**

**U — Understand their role as faithful trustees.**

**I — Invest time, talent, and treasure into God's Kingdom.**

**L — Live generously from a transformed heart.**

**D — Demonstrate stewardship through action and lifestyle.**



## I. FOUNDATION OF STEWARDSHIP: BELIEF

Stewardship begins with one core truth:

**Belief shapes behavior.**

What we *believe* about God determines how we manage what God gives us.

**\*\*Stewardship is not fundraising.**

It is spiritual formation.\*\*

“Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.”

—1 Corinthians 4:2 (NIV)

A **steward** is a person entrusted with something that belongs to someone else.

At The Fountain of Praise, we teach that God has entrusted every believer with:

- **Time**
- **Talent**
- **Treasure**
- **Total life**

We are managers.

**God is the Owner.**

## II. BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

**Tithing: God’s Covenant Principle**

“Tithe” means **one-tenth**.

God gives us 100% and asks for the first 10% as worship.

“Bring the whole tithe into the store house... and see if I will not open the windows of heaven...”

—Malachi 3:10–11 (NIV)

**Why we tithe:**

- God commands it
- It acknowledges His ownership
- It rebukes the devourer
- It funds God’s mission
- It aligns our hearts with God
- It breaks materialism

TFOP is able to do global missions, local outreach, youth programs, worship, benevolence, and community work because faithful believers invest in the Kingdom through tithing.

**Offerings: Expressions of the Heart**

Offerings go **beyond** the tithe—given in gratitude and worship.

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart...”

God loves a cheerful giver.” —2 Corinthians 9:7 (NIV)

### III. THE BUILD FRAMEWORK FOR STEWARDSHIP

#### **B** — **Believe God Owns It All**

Stewardship starts with belief—not budgeting.  
God is Creator, Sustainer, and rightful Owner.

“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it...” —Psalm 24:1 (NIV)

“In Him all things hold together.” —Colossians 1:17 (NIV)

**When we believe God owns it all, we hold everything with open hands.**

#### **U** — **Understand Your Role as a Trustee**

We are trustees, not owners.

Your life, resources, gifts, and influence were entrusted to you **for God’s purpose.**

“The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden... to work it and take care of it.” —Genesis 2:15 (NIV)

A trustee manages what belongs to someone greater.  
Your responsibility includes:

- **Care**
- **Guidance**
- **Oversight**
- **Management**
- **Accountability**

#### **I** — **Invest in God’s Kingdom (Time, Talent, Treasure)**

We invest what God has given us into God’s work.

##### **1. Time — “How much of my time belongs to God?”**

All of it.

We give back intentionally through:

- **Worship**
- **Prayer**
- **Serving**
- **Growing**

“Be very careful, then, how you live...

making the most of every opportunity.” —Ephesians 5:15–16 (NIV)

##### **2. Talent — God-given skills and spiritual gifts**

Every gift has a Kingdom assignment.

“Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.”  
—1 Cor 12:7 (NIV)

At TFOP, your gifts strengthen the body through worship, ministries, outreach, and service.

##### **3. Treasure — Tithes and Offerings**

This is worship, not donation.

This is faith, not fundraising.

# BUILD

## – Stewardship



### **L – LIVE GENEROUSLY**

Generosity is a lifestyle, not a transaction.

#### **Why we give:**

- In response to God's greatness - Matt 7:11 (NIV)
- To stay focused on God as our source - James 1:17 (NIV)
- To bless others - Acts 20:35 (NIV)
- To break materialism - Hebrews 13:5 (NIV)

#### **Law of Spiritual Reciprocity**

"Give, and it will be given to you..." —Luke 6:38 (NIV)

"Whoever sows generously will reap generously." —2 Corinthians 9:6 (NIV)

Generosity is evidence of our belief in God's provision.

### **D – DEMONSTRATE FAITH THROUGH ACTION**

Stewardship is visible.

#### **Believers demonstrate stewardship by:**

- Serving faithfully
- Giving consistently
- Managing their lives wisely
- Growing spiritually
- Caring for their physical and emotional health

#### **Total Life Stewardship**

"Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice..." —Romans 12:1 (NIV)

This includes:

- Health
- Habits
- Lifestyle
- Mindset
- Relationships

Every part of life becomes worship

# BUILD

## – Stewardship



### IV. ADDRESSING COMMON HINDRANCES TO GIVING

#### **Hindrance #1: “Tithing is Old Testament only.”**

Truth: Tithing existed before the Law and is affirmed by Jesus.  
[Gen 14:18; Matt 23:23](NIV)

#### **Hindrance #2: “I can’t afford to tithe.”**

Truth: You can’t afford not to.  
Malachi 3:11(NIV) promises divine protection.

#### **Hindrance #3: “I’ve been hurt, and it affected my giving.”**

Truth: Healing comes through prayer, forgiveness, and restored trust in God.  
John 10:10 (NIV)

### V. BUILDING A STEWARDSHIP LIFESTYLE AT TFOP

At The Fountain of Praise, we believe stewardship is a spiritual identity:

- We serve with excellence
- We give with joy
- We grow with intention
- We invest in God’s Kingdom
- We partner to advance God’s mission

TFOP’s impact—locally and globally—is the result of **faithful stewards** like you.

### CLASS SUMMARY

By embracing the BUILD framework, participants will:

**B — Believe God owns everything.**

**U — Understand their role as faithful trustees.**

**I — Invest time, talent, and treasure into God’s Kingdom.**

**L — Live generously from a transformed heart.**

**D — Demonstrate stewardship through action and lifestyle.**



# BLESS

## – Praise & Worship

A BELIEF-CENTERED INTRODUCTION TO HONORING GOD



### Class Objective

To help new believers understand who we praise and worship, why worship is essential to the Christian life, and how our belief shapes authentic expression of praise and worship to God.

**By the end of this session, new believers will understand:**

1. **Who** we worship — the one true God revealed through Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
2. **Why** we worship — because of our belief in God's character, works, and promises
3. **How** we worship — through biblical expressions that flow from a surrendered heart

## I. THE FOUNDATION OF BELIEF

Christian praise and worship begins with belief—what we believe about God determines how we respond to Him.

### We Believe...

- **God alone is worthy** of praise and worship.  
“For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise.” —Psalm 96:4 (NIV)
- **Jesus Christ is Lord**, our Savior and Redeemer.
- **The Holy Spirit** empowers our worship and aligns our hearts with God.

Because we *believe* this, our praise becomes expression, and our worship becomes devotion.

## II. WHAT IS PRAISE?

**Praise** is the joyful, vocal, and visible expression of **adoration**, **honor**, and **thanksgiving** to God. It celebrates what God has done and declares who God is.

### Biblical Aspects of Praise

#### 1. Inclusiveness — Everyone is invited to praise

“Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!” —Psalm 150:6 (NIV)  
Praise is the responsibility of every living believer.

#### 2. Awareness — Recognizing God’s identity and sovereignty

“Know that the Lord, He is God... we are His people.” —Psalm 100:3 (NKJV)  
Praise begins with awareness of God’s greatness.

#### 3. Thankfulness — Gratitude for what God has done

“Enter His gates with thanksgiving...” —Psalm 100:4(NIV)  
Praise is rooted in a grateful heart.

#### 4. Accountability — Responding to God’s calling

“You are a chosen people... that you may declare the praises of him...” —1 Peter 2:9 (NIV)  
We praise because we belong to God.

#### 5. Mutuality — Personal and collective praise

“I will bless the Lord at all times...” —Psalm 34:1 (NKJV)  
“Oh, magnify the Lord with me...” —Psalm 34:3 (KNJV)  
Praise is both individual and corporate.

## III. WHAT IS WORSHIP?

**Worship** is a life posture of **reverence**, **surrender**, and **devotion** to God.

The biblical word for worship means “to bow down,” pointing to both a physical act and an internal posture of the heart.

### Worship focuses on:

- **Who God is (His character)**
- **Our response (surrender, reverence, obedience)**
- **The sacrifice of our lives - Romans 12:1 (NKJV)**

Worship is not just something we do at church—it’s how we live before God.

## IV. THE EFFECTS OF PRAISE & WORSHIP

Praise and worship are spiritual weapons and sources of strength.

### Biblical Examples

#### Old Testament — Praise shifts the battle

"When they began to sing and praise, the Lord set ambushes..."

—2 Chronicles 20:22 (NKJV)

Praise invites God's supernatural intervention.

#### New Testament — Praise brings freedom

"And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises... and every one's bands were loosed."

—Acts 16:25–26 (KJV)

Praise breaks chains—spiritually and emotionally.

## V. HOW BELIEVERS EXPRESS PRAISE & WORSHIP

**1. Verbal Expression** — To speak forth His praise (spoken word, declarations)

Scripture: Psalm 34:1 (NLT)

**2. Postural Expression** — To kneel or bow down in reverence

Scripture: Psalm 95:6 (NLT)

**3. Physical Expression** — To lift holy hands in surrender

Scripture: Psalm 134:2 (NLT)

**4. Musical Expression** — To sing unto the Lord

Scripture: Psalm 100:1–2 (NLT)

## VI. UNDERSTANDING OUR ROLES IN WORSHIP

### The Worship Leader

- Guides the congregation toward God
- Sets a tone that honors Scripture and fosters unity
- 

### The Praise Team

- Leads corporate singing
- Models engagement and spiritual sensitivity

### My Role as a Member of The Fountain of Praise

- Come prepared to worship
- Participate fully, not passively
- Honor God with authenticity and humility

# BLESS

## – Praise & Worship

A BELIEF-CENTERED INTRODUCTION TO HONORING GOD



### CLASS SUMMARY – BELIEF THAT BLESSES GOD

Praise and worship flow from **what we believe** about God.

When our belief is clear, our worship becomes authentic, and our praise becomes powerful.

By the end of this session, new believers should be able to confidently say:

- **I know who I worship**  
The one true God — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — alone worthy of praise.
- **I understand why I worship**  
Because of God's character, His mighty works, and His unchanging promises.
- **I recognize how belief shapes my worship**  
What I believe about God determines how I respond to Him.
- **I can distinguish praise from worship**  
Praise is what I express outwardly.  
Worship is how I live inwardly and daily.
- **I know how to express praise and worship biblically**  
Through words, posture, physical expression, music, obedience, and lifestyle.
- **I understand my role in worship at The Fountain of Praise**  
I come prepared.  
I participate fully.  
I honor God sincerely and humbly.

### Final Truth

Praise is an expression.

Worship is a posture.

**Belief is the foundation of both.**

When we believe rightly, we bless God with lives that reflect His glory.



# BECOME – Spiritual Gifts

FIND YOUR PLACE IN THE BODY OF CHRIST. THIS CLASS HELPS YOU IDENTIFY YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND UNDERSTAND HOW THEY CONNECT YOU TO COMMUNITY AND PURPOSE.



## Discovering Who You Are in the Body of Christ

### Class Objective

To help believers understand what spiritual gifts are, why every believer has them, and how belief shapes their identity, purpose, and function in the Body of Christ. This class clarifies how God has uniquely designed, equipped, and called each believer to serve.

# BECOME – Spiritual Gifts

## I. THE FOUNDATION:

### BELIEF SHAPES CALLING

Spiritual gifts begin with one foundational truth:

#### **God has gifted YOU.**

Not the person next to you.

Not just leaders.

Not only pastors.

#### **You.**

"Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good."

—1 Corinthians 12:7 (NIV)

### **Belief unlocks activation.**

When believers understand what God has placed inside them, they begin to discover who they are in Christ and how they fit into God's purpose.

## II. A BELIEF FRAMEWORK FOR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

### – THE "BECOME" MODEL

#### **B – Believe God Has Gifted You**

God gives gifts to every believer, without exception.

You are designed with purpose, intention, and divine assignment.

#### **E – Embrace Your Identity in Christ**

You are part of the Body – with a role only you can fill.

You are needed. You belong.

#### **C – Connect Your Gift to Community**

Gifts are not for personal elevation – they are for the building of the church.

No gift operates in isolation.

#### **O – Operate in Your God-Given Ability**

Once you discover your gifts, you begin to use them – with humility and boldness.

#### **M – Mature Your Gifts Through Practice**

Gifts grow stronger with use, obedience, and development.

#### **E – Express Your Gifts for God's Glory**

Your gifts point people to Christ.

You shine so He shines.

### III. WHAT ARE SPIRITUAL GIFTS?

Spiritual gifts are God-given abilities distributed by the Holy Spirit to believers:

- **To strengthen the church**
- **To build unity**
- **To accomplish God's mission**
- **To reveal Christ through us**
- 

Definition:

A spiritual gift is a God-given enablement that equips believers to serve effectively within the Body of Christ.

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them."

—1 Corinthians 12:4 (NIV)

### IV. WHO GIVES SPIRITUAL GIFTS?

God alone distributes the gifts.

Believers don't choose their gifts — **the Spirit does.**

"The Spirit distributes them to each one, just as he determines."

—1 Corinthians 12:11 (NIV)

This means:

- **No gift is an accident**
- **No gift is inferior**
- **No believer is ungifted**
- **Every gift is intentional and necessary.**

### V. WHY SPIRITUAL GIFTS MATTER

For the Church:

- **Gifts build the Body**
- **Gifts strengthen unity**
- **Gifts advance God's mission**
- **Gifts reflect the diversity of Christ's Body**

For the Believer:

- **Gifts affirm identity**
- **Gifts reveal calling**
- **Gifts shape purpose**
- **Gifts activate ministry**
- 

For God:

- **Gifts bring Him glory**
- **Gifts display His power**
- **Gifts manifest the Holy Spirit**

## VI. WHAT ARE THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS?

### A BIBLICAL OVERVIEW

We present the gifts as Scripture presents them — across the three major lists:

#### 1. Romans 12 — Motivational Gifts

These shape how we naturally respond and serve:

- Prophecy
- Serving
- Teaching
- Encouragement
- Giving
- Leadership
- Mercy

#### 2. 1 Corinthians 12 — Manifestation Gifts

These reveal the power and presence of the Holy Spirit:

##### **Revelation Gifts (Reveal something)**

- Word of Wisdom
- Word of Knowledge
- Discernment of Spirits

##### **Power Gifts (Do something)**

- Faith
- Healing
- Miracles
- 

##### **Inspiration Gifts (Say something)**

- Prophecy
- Tongues
- Interpretation of Tongues

#### 3. Ephesians 4 — Ministry/Leadership Gifts

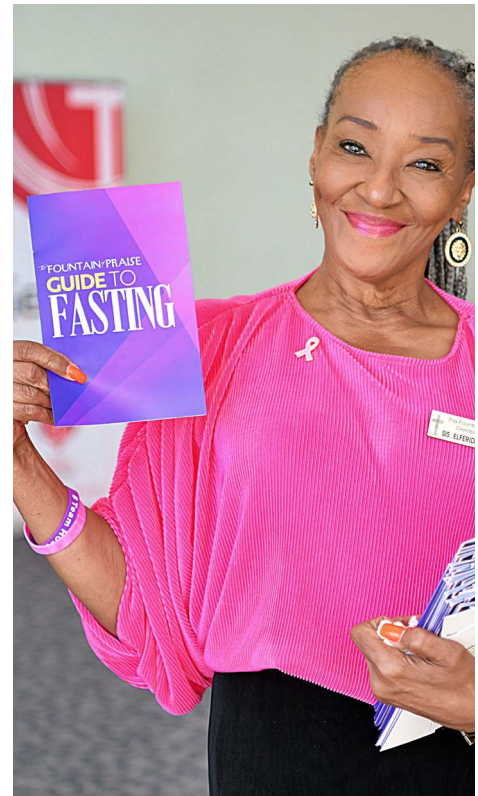
These gifts equip and build the Body:

- Apostle
- Prophet
- Evangelist
- Pastor
- Teacher

#### 4. Additional Biblical Gifts

Scripture also references:

- Hospitality (1 Peter 4:9–10) (NIV)
- Voluntary Poverty (1 Cor 13:1–3) (NIV)
- Martyrdom (1 Cor 13:1–3) (NIV)
- Celibacy (1 Cor 7:7) (NIV)





# BECOME

## – Spiritual Gifts



### VII. THE BODY OF CHRIST – MANY PARTS, ONE PURPOSE

Paul compares the church to a human body:

- Different parts
- Different functions
- One united body
- All necessary

“The body is not made up of one part but of many.”

—1 Corinthians 12:14 (NIV)

There are no useless parts of the Body – and no useless believers.

### VIII. HOW BELIEVERS SEEK TO DISCOVER THEIR GIFTS

Believers discover their gifts through:

#### 1. Belief

You must believe God has gifted you.

#### 2. Desire

Spiritual gifts awaken through hunger and willingness.

#### 3. Prayer

Ask God to reveal your gifts.

#### 4. Serving

Gifts emerge as you step into opportunities.

#### 5. Affirmation

Others recognize and confirm what God has placed in you.

#### 6. Scripture

Study what the gifts are and how they operate.

**\*\*YOU CAN TAKE A SPIRITUAL GIFTS TEST AT [spiritualgiftstest.com](http://spiritualgiftstest.com)**

## IX. CAN YOU LOSE YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFT?

**No.**

Spiritual gifts are permanent.

"For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance."  
—Romans 11:29 (KJV)

Gifts are not taken away — they can grow, be strengthened through use, or weaken through neglect.

### **CLASS SUMMARY — WHAT YOU BECOME THROUGH BELIEF**

By embracing this BECOME framework, participants will:

**B — Believe God has gifted them**

**E — Embrace their identity in Christ**

**C — Connect their gifts to the community**

**O — Operate in their God-given calling**

**M — Mature their gifts through practice**

**E — Express their gifts for God's glory**

You are gifted.

You are needed.

You belong in the Body.

# BELONG

## – MINISTRIES

STEP INTO SERVICE. THIS CLASS GUIDES YOU IN DISCOVERING MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AND EQUIPS YOU TO SERVE. STEPPING INTO SERVICE WITH PURPOSE, COMPASSION, AND EXCELLENCE



### Class Objective

To help believers understand how their spiritual gifts connect to the mission of The Fountain of Praise, how they can use their gifts to serve with excellence, and to provide clear next steps for joining ministry opportunities.

This class is the connection between calling and action, identity and impact, and discovering your gifts and using them in the Body of Christ.

### Church Motto:

The Fountain of Praise believes in -

**Reaching UP in praise and worship,**

**Reaching IN with fellowship and discipleship,**

**Reaching OUT to the world in compassion and love.**

**Reaching UP, IN, and OUT as we build the kingdom one person at a time.**

# BELONG

## – MINISTRIES

### I. FOUNDATION: BELIEF LEADS TO BELONGING

The first truth every believer must embrace:

**You belong in the Body of Christ.**

**You were created with purpose.**

**You have a role no one else can fill.**

**You are gifted — and you are needed.**

"From him the whole body... grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."

—Ephesians 4:16 (NIV)

At The Fountain of Praise, we believe:

- **You were saved to serve.**
- **You were gifted to give.**
- **You were called to contribute.**
- **You were placed here for a purpose.**

### II. HOW YOUR GIFTS CONNECT TO THE BODY (BECOME LEADS TO BELONG)

**The "BECOME" class teaches that every believer:**

- Has God-given gifts
- Is placed in the Body on purpose
- Is empowered by the Holy Spirit
- Belongs to the community
- Functions best when serving

"BELONG" takes the next step:

**"Now that I know my gifts... where do I use them?"**

**"How do I find my place?"**

**"Where do I fit at TFOP?"**

This class answers those questions.

# BELONG – MINISTRIES



## III. WHY MINISTRY MATTERS AT TFOP

At The Fountain of Praise, ministry is not just activity — it is **purpose in motion**.

### **Ministry helps believers:**

- Develop spiritual maturity
- Build community
- Strengthen the body
- Demonstrate Christ's love
- Experience fulfillment
- Walk in purpose
- Grow closer to God
- Increase accountability

### **Ministry helps the church:**

- Expand outreach
- Care for members
- Strengthen worship
- Lead families
- Equip the next generation
- Serve the community
- Advance the Kingdom

## IV. WHAT DOES SERVICE LOOK LIKE? (IDENTITY LEADS TO ACTION)

### **At TFOP, service looks like:**

- Hospitality that makes people feel seen
- Worship that ushers people into God's presence
- Teaching that builds lives
- Outreach that transforms communities
- Support teams that strengthen the whole ministry
- Prayer teams that cover the church
- Service that reflects excellence and compassion

**Service = your spiritual gifts in action.**

**How does our motto align to a service model in action?**



## V. MATCHING SPIRITUAL GIFTS TO MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Here is a broad overview of how the major 'gift groups' connect to typical ministry pathways:

### Romans 12 Gifts: Relational & Serving Ministries

- **Encouragement:** Care Disciples, Pastoral Care, Prayer, Hospitality, Agape Zone, Dance & Music Ministries
- **Serving:** Outreach, Hospitality, Helps, Logistics, Productions, BIG, Armor Bearers, Worship Arts, WMU
- **Giving:** Stewardship Teams, Benevolence, Missions Giving
- **Leadership:** Ministry Coordination, Team Lead Roles, Deacons Ministry
- **Mercy:** Counseling, Caregiving, Pastoral Care, Hospital Ministry, Funerals
- **Teaching:** Christian Education, Small Groups, ROCK Youth, ROCK Children, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School

### 1 Corinthians 12 Gifts: Spirit-Empowered Ministries

- **Faith / Healing / Miracles:** Prayer Ministry, Intercession
- **Wisdom / Knowledge:** Counseling, Mentoring, HOPE Counseling, The Calling Ministry
- **Discernment:** Intercession, Care Discipleship
- **Prophecy (Scripture-based):** Teaching, Exhortation
- **Tongues / Interpretation:** Intercessory and Prayer Teams

### Ephesians 4 Gifts: Leadership & Equipping

- **Apostles:** Outreach, Missions, Ministry Expansion
- **Prophets:** Intercession, Exhortation
- **Evangelists:** Street Ministry, Missions, Outreach, Prison Ministry, Crisis Ministry
- **Pastors:** Pastoral Leadership, Young Adults, The Rock Youth Church, The Rock Children's Church, The Calling Ministry
- **Teachers:** NMO, Bible Teaching Ministries, Sunday School

## VI. WHERE DO I FIT AT THE FOUNTAIN OF PRAISE?

(High-level guidance —not a full ministry directory.)

Here are examples of ministry types new members commonly align with:

#### Worship & Arts

- Music
- Dance
- Drama
- Media & Production

#### Pastoral Care & Helps

- Care Disciples
- Prayer Teams
- Hospital Visitation
- Family Support

#### Hospitality & Guest Services

- Greeters
- Ushers
- Parking
- Welcome Teams

#### Outreach & Community Impact

- Missions
- Food Distribution
- Prison Ministry and Fellowship
- Local Partnerships

#### Teaching & Discipleship

- New Members
- Bible Studies
- Senior Adults, Young Adults, Youth & Children's Ministry

#### Administrative & Support Ministries

- Communications
- Logistics
- Administrative Support

**These are NOT assignments — they are open doors.**

# **BELONG**

## **– MINISTRIES**

### **VII. MINISTRY PLACEMENT NEXT STEP**

After this class, each participant will:

- 1. Identify their top 1–2 spiritual gifts (from BECOME).**
- 2. Choose one ministry category that aligns with those gifts.**
- 3. Complete the TFOP Ministry Interest Form**  
(QR code / link provided at the end of class)
- 4. A Ministry Connections Team Member will contact them** within 10-15 days to:
  - Discuss interests
  - Share opportunities
  - Answer questions
  - Guide them through placement
- 5. Attend a ministry meeting, orientation or shadow a team member.**
- 6. Begin serving with excellence, compassion, and joy.**

Service at TFOP is not an obligation — it is an opportunity.

### **CLASS SUMMARY**

By the end of this BELONG class, new members will:

**Understand that service is part of their identity**

**Know how their gifts connect to ministry**

**See where they can fit in the Body of Christ**

**Recognize that TFOP has a place for them**

**Take a practical step toward activation**

**Walk away ready to serve with confidence and clarity**

# Ministry Team

## CHURCH COUNCIL (BOARD OF DIRECTORS)

George Anderson  
Chief Operating Officer

Brenda Mayes, CPA  
Treasurer, Finance Chairperson

Monica Williams, PhD  
Director

Worley Anthony Barker  
Director

Charley E. Reado  
Chief Administrative Officer

Earnest Greg Wilson  
Vice Chairperson of the Board

Pamela Britton  
Chairperson of the Board

Dr. Remus E. Wright  
Chief Executive Officer

## LEGAL COUNCIL

Dwayne Mason, Esquire

## Staff

### Ministry

LaTroy Scott-Reado  
Pastoral Care Associate

Jeremy Wright  
Young Adults Pastor

La Kecia Banks  
Executive Assistant

William Cumby  
Youth Pastor

Dr. Mary E. White  
Children's Pastor

Mia K. Wright  
Executive Director of Ministries

Lola Johnson  
Pastoral Care Associate

Charles Wiseman  
Minister of Pastoral Care

Dr. Remus E. Wright  
Senior Pastor

### Operations

Betty M. Jones  
Database Manager

Glenda Wilson  
Finance Director

George Anderson  
Chief Operating Officer

Dwayne Woodard Jr.  
Graphics Director

Patrick Jones  
Maintenance Associate

Rose Wallace  
Administrative Support Associate

Mary Earls  
Administrative Support Associate

Corey Phillips  
Executive Director of Operations

### Worship Arts

Nakitta Clegg-Foxx  
Praise & Worship Associate Director

Jason Monroe  
Associate Director of Worship Arts

Pamela J. Davis  
Director of Worship Arts

Daethan Lewis  
Youth Choir Director

Stephanie Wright  
Children's Choir Director

Clenton Thompson  
Sound Engineer

Greta Williams  
Production Manager

## PHONE NUMBERS

Baby Blessings/Baptism Info  
Benevolence  
Contribution Inquiries  
Facility Scheduling  
Pastoral Care

713-358-2720  
713-433-1824  
713-358-2750  
713-433-1824  
713-358-2720

Pastors Executive Assistant  
Member Services (Data Updates)  
ROCK Youth Church Information  
Sunday School  
Worship Arts Ministry

713-358-2712  
713-358-2774  
713-358-2717  
713-433-1824  
713-358-2715