

WE ARE COASTAL



connect



grow



serve



commit





**WE ARE
COMMITTED
TO DEVELOPING
AUTHENTIC
FOLLOWERS
OF JESUS
CHRIST.**

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WELCOME TO **WE ARE COASTAL**

It is our desire that through this course you will come to know our local church body on a deeper level. You will learn the history of our church and see the vision that God put before our first church leaders. This same vision He continues to reinforce to the current leadership. We will cover our statement of beliefs and how they influence our structure as well as each decision that is made.

As you consider Coastal, we will also look at how you are wired. What are your gifts and how can they be used to help build the Kingdom of God? If you choose to join our Coastal family, we believe that God has a specific purpose in mind for you here, and we want to help you find that fit.

Together, we can continue to spread the name and fame of Jesus Christ. We can be a part of what God is doing on the Peninsula, and as we link arms together, we can see many come to accept the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Will you join us on this journey?

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MISSION, VISION AND CORE VALUES

Our mission is to develop authentic followers of Jesus Christ who connect to God, grow in community, and serve in a ministry and mission.

We _____ to God through corporate worship on Sunday mornings and at corporate prayer meetings.

We _____ in community through small groups and spiritual formation classes.

We _____ in ministry and mission through various opportunities at Coastal, on the Peninsula, and around the world.

In all we do, we value:

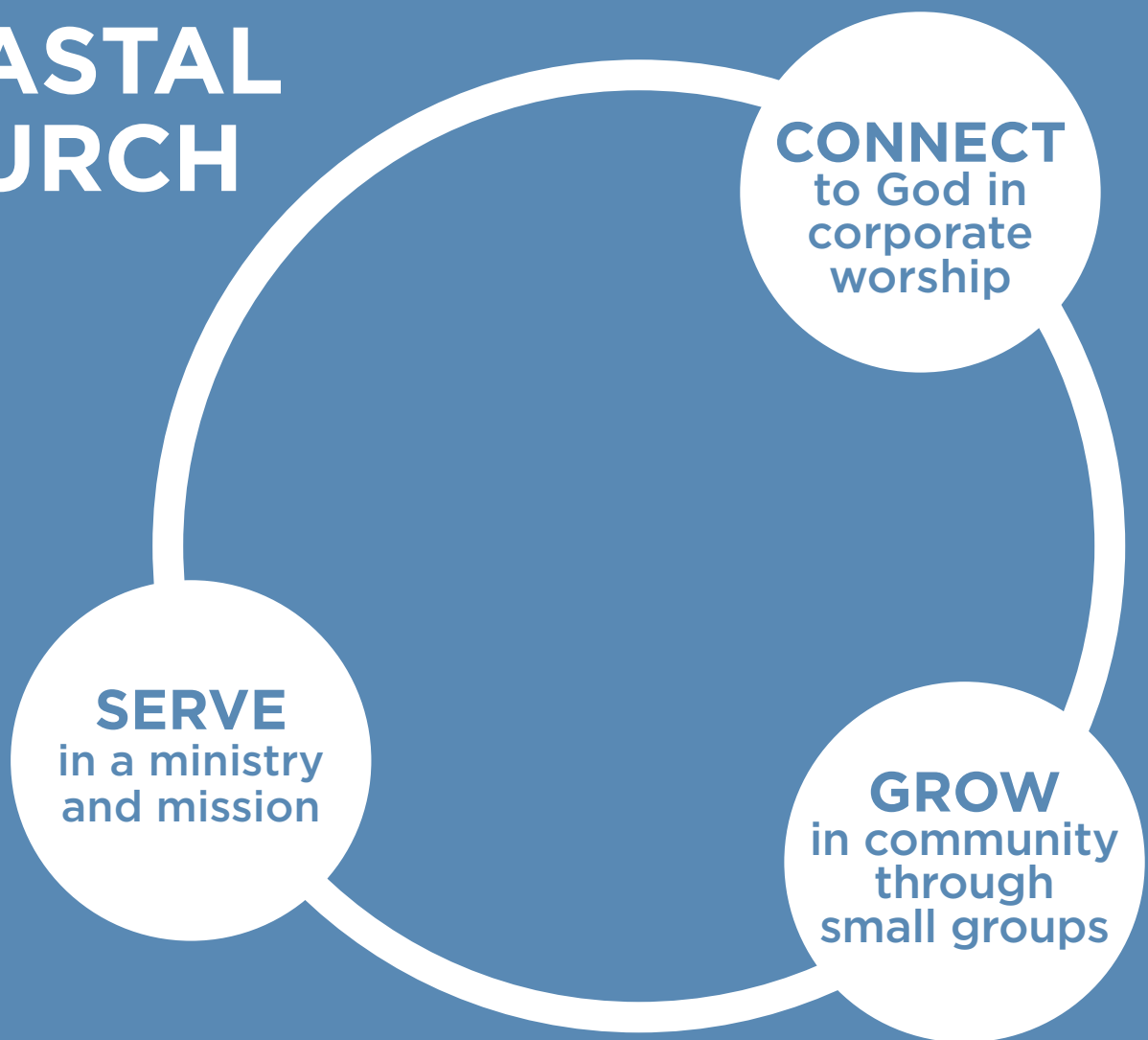
_____ - Knowing the truth of God's Word so that we can guard the Gospel of Jesus Christ, in ourselves and for the culture, protecting ourselves from the world.

_____ - Living a holy life in honesty and transparency with others so the gospel will be clearly seen.

_____ - Doing the most loving thing because all people matter to God and because God is love.

_____ - Giving an account to one another in response to owning the truth of God's Word.

THE TRACK OF AN AUTHENTIC FOLLOWER OF JESUS CHRIST AT COASTAL CHURCH





CONNECT

*The gospel of **Jesus Christ** is the heart of the matter.*

CONNECTING AT COASTAL

First, we connect to _____.

- God is _____.
 - Wayne Grudem – “God is separated from sin and devoted to seeking His own honor.”
 - Exodus 20:1-21 – God reveals His holiness through the Law.
- Man _____.
 - What is sin?
 - Sin is the failure to conform and abide by the Law of God.
 - Sin is the failure to find one’s ultimate trust and delight in the person and work of Christ. (1 John 3:4)
 - Man has a natural desire to be the _____ and ignore God’s principles for living. (Romans 3:23; Romans 5:12; 1 John 1:10)
- The consequence of sin is _____. (Romans 6:23, Romans 1:22-25)
- Man’s need is two-fold.
 - _____ from the penalty of sin, death
 - _____ to God the Father
- God’s Plan for Redemption
- The 3 Core Facts of the Gospel
 - Jesus is _____.
 - He is fully God and man.
 - He lived a sinless life thus qualifying Him to intercede for mankind.

Connecting at Coastal

Continued

- The 3 Core Facts of the Gospel (Continued)
 - Jesus _____.
 - Jesus paid our debt to God. It was self-satisfaction through self-substitution.
 - Jesus _____ rose again.
 - He defeated death, sin's consequence.
- We must _____ Romans 10:9-10; 1 John 1:9
 - If you have done this, we would love to hear your story! There is a section in your response book to share your testimony with us.
 - If not, now is the time.
 - Repent: Confess and _____ from your sinfulness.
 - Believe: You _____ salvation through Jesus Christ.
 - Receive: _____ as Lord and Savior and live according to your profession.
 - Sample sinner's prayer
 - Dear Lord Jesus, I repent of my sin, turning from it and believing that you died and rose from the dead to pay my penalty. I receive you as my Lord and Savior. Guide my life and help me do your will. In Jesus name I pray, Amen.

Second, we connect to God _____.

- Worship is more than _____.
 - We worship God in our everyday lives through work, school, relationships, etc.
 - We worship God _____ as a local body of believers. We come together.
Hebrews 11:25



- What does corporate worship look like at Coastal?
 - Welcoming and sensitive towards guests without minimizing the _____
 - Worship through _____
 - Worship through _____ of tithes and offerings
 - Worship through _____
 - Done _____ and _____

- _____ observed during corporate worship
 - _____
 - The purpose of baptism – Baptism is the outward confession of an inward commitment.
 - The meaning of baptism – It illustrates Christ's death, burial and resurrection and my new life as a Christian.
 - The act of baptism – Believer's baptism by immersion.
 - At Coastal
 - To be a member, we ask that you have followed the Lord in _____ baptism. That is that you were baptized after salvation. If you were baptized as an infant (or at any time before salvation) we ask that you are baptized again as a believer.
 - Immersion – while we practice immersion, we _____ those who have been baptized by other means.
 - Each person who is baptized is asked to share his/her story on video.
 - Each person is permitted to choose who will baptize him/her.
 - The Lord's Supper – _____ – 1 Corinthians 11
 - Look _____ – Reflect on Christ's sacrifice for us (11:23-26)
 - Look _____ – Examine yourself to see if there is unconfessed sin (11:27-32)
 - Look _____ – To Christ's return (11:26)



GROW

Grow **in community** through small groups and spiritual formation.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

First, we grow in _____ .
1 Corinthians 2:14 – you cannot grow that which is not born

- In the essential beliefs, we have _____ . Ephesians 4:4-6
- In the non-essential beliefs, we have _____ . Romans 14:1, 4, 12, 22
- In all our beliefs, we show _____ . 1 Corinthians 13:2

Statement of Faith – The _____ We Believe
(For a full explanation of our essentials, please refer to our Constitution & By-laws and our Statement of Religious Beliefs included in the Coastal Handbook.)

- The Bible is God's revelation to man.
- There is one true and living God revealed in the three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This is the doctrine of the Trinity.
- Man's condition is one of sin and separation from God.
- God has acted in Jesus Christ to save/deliver us from sin.
- Jesus established the church to continue His mission and ministry on earth.
- Jesus Christ will return and God's plan for eternity will be carried out.
- Everyone will face judgement before God; some to eternal life, others to eternal condemnation.
- The devil is a real being.

What we Believe

Continued

What we practice in our culture at Coastal

- ---

 - God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption.

- ---

 - Adam and Eve were made to complement each other in a one-flesh union that establishes the only normative pattern of sexual relations for men and women, such that marriage ultimately serves as a type of the union between Christ and His Church. In God's wise purposes, men and women are not simply interchangeable, but rather they complement each other in mutually enriching ways. God ordains that they assume distinctive roles, which reflect the loving relationship between Christ and the church, the husband exercising headship in a way that displays the caring, sacrificial love of Christ, and the wife submitting to her husband in a way that models the love of the church for her Lord.

Marriage is the only legitimate and accepted sexual relationship. Coastal Church holds to the biblical definition of marriage as a permanent union between one man and one woman. This union reflects Christ's relationship to His bride, the Church.

- ---

 - Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents.

- ---

 - In the ministry of the church, both men and women are encouraged to serve Christ and to be developed to their full potential in the manifold ministries of the people of God. The distinctive leadership role of eldership and ordained pastor within the church given to qualified men is grounded in creation, fall, and redemption and must not be sidelined by appeals to cultural developments.
 - Elders – Men at Coastal who provide spiritual oversight to the staff and vision to the church.
 - Pastors (Men) & Ministry Leaders – Men and women called to equip the saints to do the work of the ministry.
 - Ministry Teams and Deacons – Men and women, paid and unpaid, who work according to their giftedness to minister to the body of believers at Coastal.

Second, we grow in _____ through _____ .

- Why are small groups important?
 - It is a primary means of _____ .
 - _____ about the Bible makes it stick.
 - _____ - It helps to keep you on track.
 - Ministry is easier and more effective _____ .
 - Shepherding _____ is better when done organically rather than professionally.
- What do small groups look like?
 - Vary in age, stage and interest
 - Focus on the Scripture used in the Sunday sermon
 - Participate in and sponsor activities that _____.
- When do small groups meet?
 - Small Group Seasons are February – April and September – November.
 - Some small groups meet all year long.
 - Groups meet on each day of the week at varying times throughout the day.
- Spiritual Formation Classes
 - In January, May, June, July, and August, we offer a variety of classes to help people grow spiritually.
 - Small groups often break to participate in these classes.
 - Some small groups sponsor these classes and open their groups to everyone in the church.





SERVE

*When we embrace how we are wired, our service will have **eternal impact**.*

SERVING IN A MINISTRY & MISSION

- At Coastal,
 - Our goal is that each member serves in a ministry and mission. (This will be discussed in the videos so there is no need to expound here.)
 - Ministries serve the people of Coastal.
 - It takes hundreds of volunteers each week to conduct services at Coastal: children's workers, parking attendants, ushers, greeters, and musicians are just the beginning. Through the weeks and months, we also have several special events and small groups that provide more opportunities for service.
 - Missions serve the people outside of Coastal.
 - We have local and international missions opportunities. You can participate by praying, giving, and/or going. Our prayer is that each member of Coastal will one day participate in an international mission trip.
- As we explore how God has wired us, it is important to note the following:
 - When we _____ how we are wired, we can _____ a ministry.
 - When we _____ how we are wired, we can _____ in ministry.
 - When we _____ how we are wired our service will have _____.

Serving in a Ministry & Mission

Continued



- Personality

- D - _____

- Typically, extroverted – energized by _____
- Positive characteristics:
 - Self-confident
 - Leader
 - Goal-oriented
 - “Big Picture” thinkers
- Negative characteristics:
 - Workaholic
 - Unemotional
 - Insensitive
- Service Opportunities in the church
 - Ministry Leader
 - Small Group Leader
 - Event Organizer

- I - _____

- Typically extroverted – energized by _____
- Positive characteristics:
 - Optimistic
 - Enthusiastic
 - Magnetic personality
 - Spontaneous
 - Meets people easily
- Negative characteristics:
 - Prone to a lack of discipline
 - Short sighted
 - May talk too much
- Service Opportunities in the church
 - Small Group Leader
 - Follow Up Team
 - Evangelism Team
 - Up-front opportunities

Serving in a Ministry & Mission

Continued

- Personality (Continued)

- S - _____

- Typically introverted – energized by _____
- Positive characteristics:
 - Easy going
 - Peacemaker
 - Good listener
- Negative characteristics:
 - Lacks motivation
 - Resists change
 - Non-confrontational
- Service Opportunities in the church
 - Support teams
 - Small Group Leader or Assistant
 - Prayer team

- C - _____

- Typically introverted – energized by _____
- Positive characteristics:
 - Creative
 - Good at planning and organizing
 - High standards and reliable
- Negative characteristics:
 - Easily offended
 - Critical
 - Perfectionist
- Service Opportunities in the church
 - Count team
 - Security team
 - Creative teams

- Spiritual Gifts

- Spiritual Gifts are not:

- A Natural _____
 - The _____ of the Spirit
 - The Spiritual _____
 - A Christian _____

- A Spiritual Gift is God's Grace In Action

- This is the definition we will use in our discussion. If you would like to know more about where Coastal stands on the sign gifts, you can talk to one of the leaders afterward. For this discussion, we are going to look at the service gifts and how you can serve in a ministry and mission at Coastal.

- Leading Gifts

- ADMINISTRATION focuses on _____ projects and goals
 - INFLUENCE focuses on motivating and organizing _____
 - PASTOR/SHEPHERD desires to meet the needs of a _____ group of people for a _____ period of time

- Proclamation Gifts

- EVANGELIST focuses on sharing the Gospel message and _____ others to do the same
 - EXHORTATION focuses on _____ and those with this gift are often the best teachers
 - TEACHING focuses on _____ and details
 - CONFRONTATION focuses on knowing the _____ of God's Word and identifying when others are in violation of the truth

- Giving Gifts

- GENEROSITY is giving _____ and _____
 - HELPS is giving of talent to complete a _____
 - SERVICE is giving of time and abilities to lighten the load of _____

- Caring Gifts

- HOSPITALITY desires to meet physical needs to make others feel "at home"
 - MERCY desires to meet physical and emotional needs of those who cannot help themselves.



COMMIT

*The difference between attenders and members can be summed up in one word, **commitment**.*

BECOMING A MEMBER

- The difference between “attenders” and “members” can be summed up in one word: _____.
- Why membership?
 - _____ is committed to the church.
 - The church is the people, not the building.
 - Commitment always builds _____ and is an antidote to our society.
 - We live in an age where few want to be committed to anything – a job, a marriage, our country. This attitude has even produced a generation of “church shoppers and hoppers.” Membership swims against the current of America’s “consumer religion.” It is an unselfish decision.
 - More is caught than taught. We can influence our society with our example.
 - It defines who can be _____ .
 - Every team must have a roster. Every school must have an enrollment. Every business has a payroll. Every army has an enlistment. Membership identifies our family.
 - It produces _____ as we develop as authentic followers of Jesus Christ.
 - The New Testament places a major emphasis on the need for Christians to be accountable to each other for spiritual growth. You cannot be accountable when you are not committed to any specific church family.
 - At Coastal, we exercise _____
 - Matthew 18:15-17
 - If there is an offense, first, _____ go that that person and try to reconcile.
 - If unsuccessful, take two or three others _____ you. This is most often people in your small group or ministry.
 - Finally, bring it to the church _____.
 - If the member still refuses to listen, confess and repent, membership will be revoked.

Becoming a Member

Continued

- Why membership (Continued)

- 2 Corinthians 2:7-8

- Church discipline will _____ happen without a path to reconciliation.
 - At Coastal, we provide a _____ for reconciliation and restoration. This plan includes:
 - Action Steps
 - Benchmarks
 - Accountability Partners

- God _____ us to be members of a _____ church.

- The Membership Commitment

- At Coastal, we never ask our members to do more than the Bible clearly teaches. We only expect our members to do what the Bible expects every Christian to do.
 - The Membership Commitment includes the member's commitment to the body and leadership's commitment to the member. The leaders referred to in this commitment are those elder/pastor approved leaders throughout the church. They include but are not limited to elders, pastors, ministry staff, ministry leaders, deacons and small group leaders.

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The Member

I will protect the unity of my church...

- by acting in love toward other members
- by refusing to gossip
- by following the leaders

Your participation and accountability to a small group is the vehicle we use to promote the unity of the church.

I will share the responsibility of my church...

- by praying for its growth
- by inviting the unchurched to attend
- by warmly welcoming those who visit

Your participation by giving, prayer, and/or personal involvement in a mission is the vehicle we use to share the responsibility of the church.

I will serve the ministry of my church...

- by discovering my gifts and talents
- by being equipped to serve my pastors and leaders
- by developing a servant's heart and demonstrating a servant's actions

I will serve the testimony of my church...

- by attending corporate worship faithfully
- by living a God-glorifying lifestyle
- by giving a tithe

The Leadership

We will protect the unity of our church...

- by acting in love toward our members
- by protecting the confidentiality of private situations
- by providing leadership and clear direction
- by providing growth opportunities through small groups

We will share the responsibility of our church...

- by praying for its growth
- by providing an environment in which the unchurched can be presented with the Gospel
- by providing a welcoming environment
- by providing missions opportunities
- by faithfully giving financially to those in need and giving to local, national, and international missions

We will serve the ministry of our church...

- by assisting you in discovering your gifts and talents
- by equipping you to do the work of the ministry
- by leading you with a servant's heart
- by providing opportunities for you to serve and lead within the church

We will serve the testimony of our church...

- by providing spiritual check points for our membership commitment
- by encouraging, correcting, and disciplining as defined by Scripture
- by being responsible stewards of the finances God provides to the ministry

• Termination of Membership

- Members will be removed from membership for the following reasons:

- Death
- Notification that the member has joined another church
- Failure to renew annual membership commitment
- By personal request of the member in writing
- Dismissal by Elder Team according to the following conditions: The member's life and conduct are not in accordance with the membership commitment in such a way that the member hinders the ministry influence of the church in the community. Procedures for the dismissal of a member shall be according to Matthew 18:15-17.

• Restoration of Membership

- Members dismissed by the Elder Team will be restored by the Elder Team according to the spirit of 2 Corinthians 2:7-8, when their lifestyles are seen to be in accordance with the membership commitment. This is determined by the written plan of action provided to the member at dismissal.

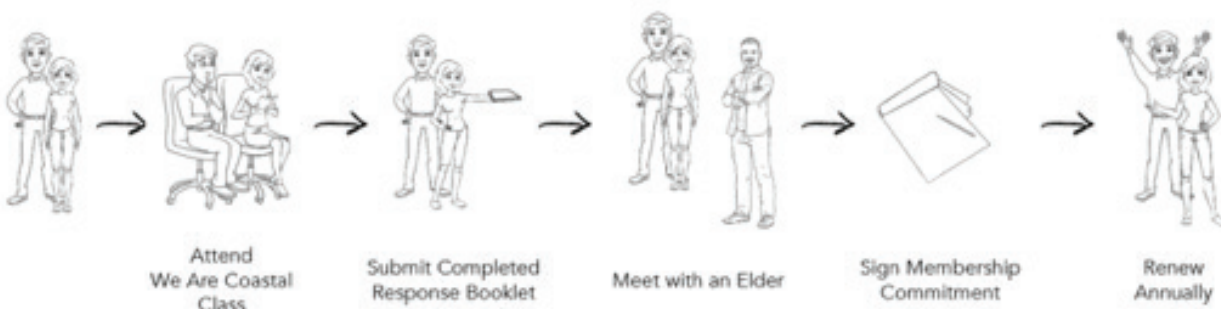
- Now what?

Becoming a Member

Continued

How do I become a member?

- 1** The FIRST step is attending our “We Are Coastal” Class. Attending the class does not make you a member.
- 2** At the end of the class, you will have the opportunity to let us know how you would like us to follow up with you. If you want to be a member, please indicate this on your “We’d Like To Get To Know You” Form.
- 3** You will be assigned to an elder who will contact you to discuss membership.
- 4** At that meeting, you will have the opportunity to sign a membership commitment. If you do not want to speak to someone at this time, we will contact you once for good communication, but after that, you will need to contact us if you decide to pursue membership.
- 5** Every year, you will be asked to renew your Membership Commitment.



Notes

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COASTAL
CHURCH

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gocoastal.org