

WE ARE COASTAL



connect



grow



serve



multiply





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

WELCOME TO **WE ARE COASTAL**

At the appointed start time, pray for the meal with those who are there, and release them to get food. (Saturday, 5PM and Sunday 12:15PM)

15 minutes after the start time, play the “Welcome” video.

As soon as the “Welcome” video is complete play the “History” video.

It is our desire that through this course you will come to know this church’s model for discipleship. We will discuss our mission and vision and practical ways you can grow as an authentic follower of Jesus Christ.

Together, we can continue to spread the name and fame of Jesus Christ. We can be a part of what God is doing in our communities, 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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The Lead Pastor will go through the model.

COASTAL'S MODEL FOR DISCIPLESHIP

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 **CONNECT** to God through corporate worship on Sunday mornings and at corporate prayer meetings.

We **GROW** in community through small groups and spiritual formation classes.

We **SERVE** in ministry and mission through various opportunities at Coastal, in Virginia, and around the world.

We **MULTIPLY** by making disciples for the advancement of the Gospel. We support by praying, by giving financially, by making disciples who will be sent, by making disciples who will continue the work where they are, and by going to help establish new Coastal campuses.

In all we do, we value:

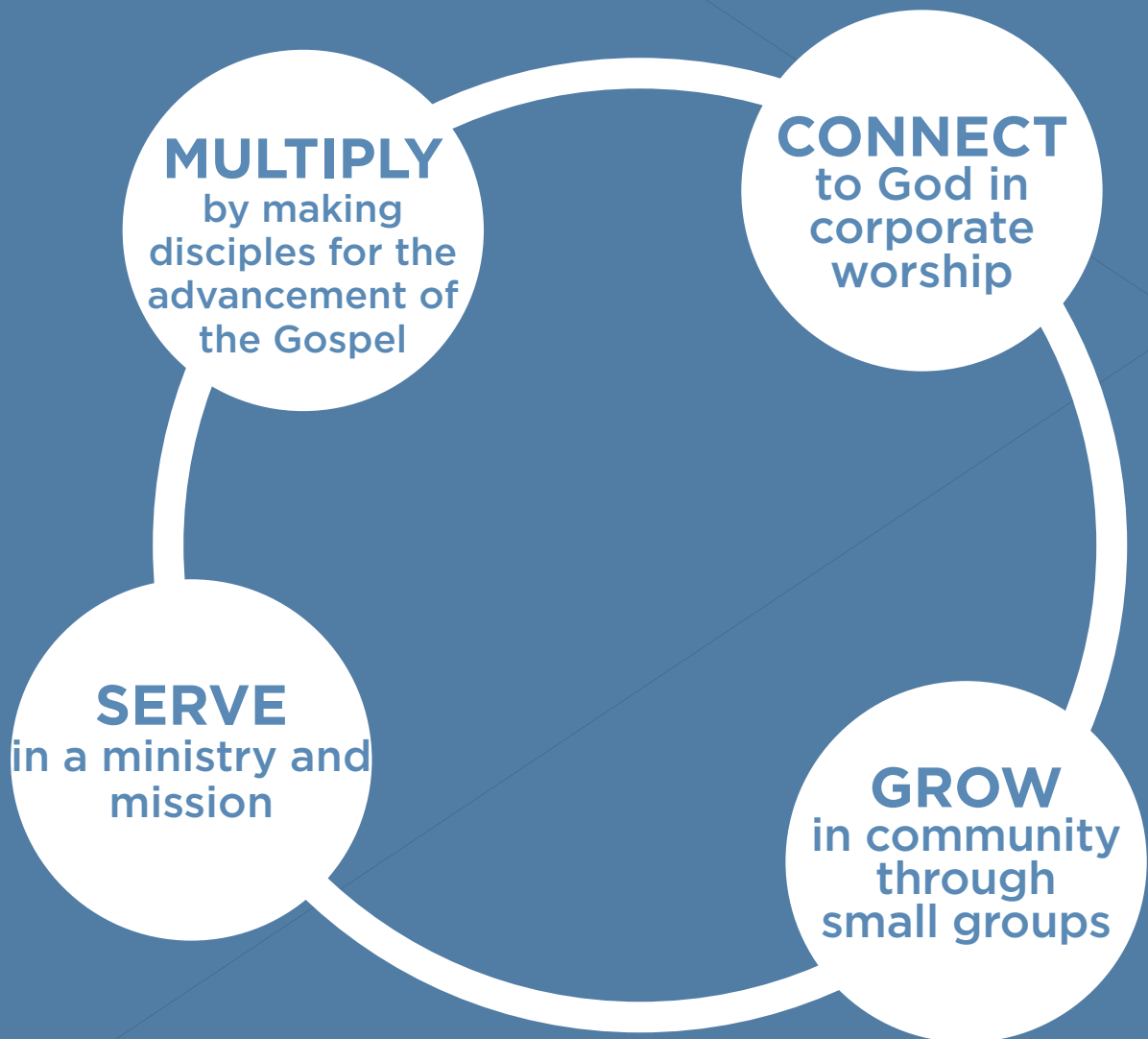
WATCHFULNESS: Knowing the truth of God's Word so that we can guard the Gospel of Jesus Christ, in ourselves and for the culture, protecting ourselves from the world.

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

LOVE: Doing the most loving thing because all people matter to God and because God is love.

ACCOUNTABILITY: 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

As an authentic follower of Jesus Christ connects to God in corporate worship, the goal is that he will develop a solid, biblical foundation for his faith. This solid foundation begins with the Gospel.

The 3 Core Facts of the Gospel (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

1. Jesus is **GOD**.
 - He is fully God and fully man.
 - He lived a sinless life, thus qualifying Him to intercede for mankind.
2. Jesus **DIED** on the cross for our sins.
 - Jesus paid our debt to God. It was self-satisfaction through self-substitution.
3. Jesus **BODILY** rose again.
 - He defeated death, sin's consequence.

What do we do with the Gospel?

We must **REPENT, BELIEVE, AND RECEIVE**. 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 **TURN** from your sinfulness. (1 John 1:9)

Believe: You **NEED** salvation through Jesus Christ. (Acts 16:31, Romans 10:9-10, John 1:12)

Receive: **JESUS** 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.

Connect

Continued

What happens to the Christian after the Gospel is received?

JUSTIFICATION: • The righteousness of Christ covers us.

- I pursue holiness through Christ.

SANCTIFICATION: • When I sin I don't like it anymore.

- I want to pursue the things of God.
- Read the Scripture
- Pray personally
- Attend church with other Christians

GLORIFICATION: • I am assured of eternal life with Christ and other Christians

Play the "Gospel Presentation" video.

This section can be taught by any staff member or deacon

First, we connect to God **THROUGH THE GOSPEL.**

Second, we connect to God **THROUGH CORPORATE WORSHIP.**

- Worship is more than **MUSIC.**
 - We worship God in our everyday lives through work, school, relationships, etc.
 - We worship God **CORPORATELY** as a local body of believers. We come together. (Hebrews 10:25)
- What does corporate worship look like at Coastal?
 - Welcoming and sensitive towards guests without minimizing the **WORD OF GOD**
 - Worship through **PREACHING OF THE WORD**
 - Worship through **GIVING** of tithes and offerings
 - Worship through **SINGING**
 - Worship through **PRAYER**
 - Worship is done **DECENTLY** and **ORDERLY.** At Coastal we do not practice the sign gifts.
1 Corinthians 14:37-40 says, in relation to the use of spiritual gifts, that "all things should be done decently and in order."

Third, we connect to God **THROUGH ORDINANCES**

1. **BAPTISM**

- The act of baptism – Believer’s baptism by immersion.
- At Coastal
 - To be a member, we ask that you have followed the Lord in **BELIEVER’S** 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.
 - While we practice immersion, we **ACCEPT** those who have been baptized by other means.
 - Each person who is baptized is asked to share his/her story, either written or on video to be shared during the baptism service.
 - Each person is permitted to choose who will baptize him/her.

2. **LORD’S SUPPER** (1 Corinthians 11:23–32)

At Coastal, we partake of the Lord’s Supper (Communion) a minimum of four times per year.

- The Lord’s Supper reminds us to look:
 - **BACKWARD:** Reflect on Christ’s sacrifice for us and bodily resurrection (11:23–26)
 - **INWARD:** Examine yourself to see if there is unconfessed sin (11:27–32)
 - **FORWARD:** To Christ’s return (11:26)



Connect

Continued

Finally, we connect to God with a **STRONG BIBLICAL FOUNDATION**.

The **ESSENTIALS** of faith at Coastal.

(The speaker simply draws attention here. There are not blanks to fill in, and it does not need to be read. Almost all of this has been touched on in this first section. Details can be found in the Coastal Handbook, and people can ask specific questions.)

(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 judgment before God- some to eternal life, others to eternal condemnation.
- The devil is a real being.



The CULTURAL practice of Coastal.

(Speaker needs to read this section.)

FAMILY

- 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.

MARRIAGE

- 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

- 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.

LEADERSHIP AND FOLLOWERSHIP

- 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.

Show the "Break Instructions 1" Video



GROW

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

WHAT WE BELIEVE

As an authentic follower of Jesus Christ has a solid foundation in the Gospel, she desires to find her place in the church community. She grows in community through small groups.

The three Pillars of Small Groups

1. COMMUNITY

- a. Our mission is to grow in community through small groups.
- b. Ministry is easier and more effective together.
- c. Our small groups vary in age, stage of life, and common interests.
- d. Groups meet for a minimum of two seasons each year: February – April and September – November. Some groups will choose to meet all year.
- e. Groups are available every day of the week at various times of the day.

2. CARE

- a. Shepherding care is better when done organically rather than professionally.
- b. Care includes meeting physical, relational, and spiritual needs.
 - Hospital visits
 - Gifts in kind: Meal train, clothes, gift cards, etc.
 - Soul care (Hebrews 3:12-13; James 5:16).
 - “One-another” passages
 - Encouragement.

What we Believe

Continued

3. **DISCIPLESHIP**

- a. Interaction about the Bible makes it stick. Our small groups discuss the sermon passage from the prior Sunday.
- b. Small groups provide accountability that keeps you on track.
- c. Small groups participate in Coastal's discipleship process by
 - connecting in corporate worship by discussing the sermon passage.
 - growing through faithfully meeting together.
 - serving in one outreach project each year.
 - multiply by filling in the gap at a new Coastal campus.
- d. In the "off-season", small groups will participate together (or sponsor) a Spiritual Formation class.
 - These classes meet in January, May, June, July, and August.
 - Topics include (but are not limited to) parenting, book studies, Bible studies, leadership training, emotional support, and theology.

Finding a Small Group

(The speaker will go through the website demonstration and app.)

For a real-time list of open small groups, go to <https://www.gocoastal.org/smallgroups/>

Small Groups in Family Ministries

Small Groups have two roles in our Family Ministries area

1. Serving Our Young People
 - a. Small Groups may choose to serve in our Coastal Kids area. Some groups do this together on occasion while others send individuals who will help regularly. They help with events like Trunk or Treat, summer camp, and Family Serve Days.
 - b. Small Groups may choose to serve in our Coastal Students area. This may be as chaperones for camp or in our weekly meetings.
 - c. Small Groups may choose to help launch a new Coastal Campus. Together they commit to attending a new campus for a year to help establish the Family Ministries area on the new campus.

2. Discipling our Young People

- a. Coastal Students follow the same Small Group season as the adults. During that season, they have a sermon on the same passage of Scripture and answer Small Group Questions just like the adults.
- b. When students move to college and adulthood, we want them to understand what it means to “grow in community through small groups.”

Show the “Break Instructions 2” Video





SERVE

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

SERVING IN A MINISTRY & MISSION

After discovering his place in community, a person's natural response is to fulfill the role that God has given him to advance the Gospel. At Coastal, authentic followers do this by serving in a ministry and mission of the local church.

The book of Ephesians, like most of Paul's epistles, starts by telling the truth of the Gospel. When we get to chapter 4, his discussion turns to the response believers have when they receive the Gospel. Our approach to service at Coastal is based on this passage.

Ephesians 4:11-13 – "So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." (NIV)

The pastors, elders, deacons and staff are the ADMINISTRATORS.

The members are the MINISTERS. As a member, it is important to:

- **KNOW** how you are wired, so you can **FIND** a ministry.
 - Our Office of Membership and Engagement has tools to help you learn more about how you are wired. Take the online assessments. Serve Coaches are also available to help you navigate the material.
- **UNDERSTAND** how you are wired, so you can **GROW** in ministry.
 - Each ministry and mission provides training opportunities so that you will know exactly what you need to do. Take advantage of these times to also develop relationships with others in the church.
- **EMBRACE** how you are wired, so your service will have **ETERNAL IMPACT**.
 - We believe that if you call Coastal your "home" God has a place for you to serve. We hope that as you know, understand, and embrace this service, God will use you to impact and develop others to do likewise.

Serving in a Ministry & Mission

Continued

We serve in MINISTRY. These are the things we do INSIDE the walls of Coastal.

Opportunities for ministry at Coastal include the following areas:

- Administration – Office and at home
- Coastal Kids
- Coastal Students
- Counseling
- Creative Arts
- Engagement
- Facilities
- First Impressions
- Leadership Development
- Membership
- Men of Coastal
- Music
- Prayer
- Production
- Security
- Small Groups
- Spiritual Formation Classes
- Women of Coastal

We serve in MISSIONS. These are the things we do OUTSIDE the walls of Coastal.

Our philosophy of missions includes the following:

- Ten cents of every dollar received in our general offering goes to missions.
- Where we send money, we send people. Missions like all other things at Coastal is meant to be relational.

Opportunities for missions at Coastal are in the following areas:

- Campus-sponsored Missions
 - Family Missions: Backpack Drive and Angel Tree
 - Feeding Programs: Food Mission, PRM, and Full Circle
 - Skilled Programs: Sewing, Auto repair
 - For a full list of Coastal sponsored missions, go to <gocoastal.org/localmissions/>
- Local Partnerships
 - Fellowship of Christian Athletes
 - Freekind
 - Peninsula Care Net
 - Village Green Initiative
 - For a full list of our local partners, go to your campus webpage

- International Partnerships
 - o Children's Impact Network: Bolivia, Honduras and Puerto Rico
 - o Hunger Corp: Puerto Rico
 - o International Mission Board: Georgia
 - o Sparrow Missions: Honduras
 - o Impact International: Africa
 - o For a full list of our International Partners go to <gocoastal.org/global/>
- International Trips
 - o It is our goal that every member who is physically able, participate in a short term mission trip at some point.
 - o Short-term missions can:
 - Increase your understanding of the global need and impact of the Gospel.
 - Increase your conviction to share the Gospel at home.
 - Provide a tangible perspective in order to better pray for people around the world.
 - o We design trips for:
 - Families
 - Men, women, and combined groups
 - Construction projects
 - Children's ministry opportunities
 - Leadership Development Conferences
 - School ministry
 - Medical missions
 - Human trafficking rescue
 - o We help our members prepare for each trip spiritually and financially.
 - o For a full list of upcoming missions trips, go to <gocoastal.org/global/>

Technology Tools

- Opportunity finder
- App

The speaker will give a website demonstration of the opportunity finder and the app.



MULTIPLY

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

BECOMING A MEMBER

We multiply by making disciples for the advancement of the Gospel by:

- Praying for the advancement of the Gospel.
- Giving financially.
- Making disciples who will be sent
- Making disciples who will continue the work where they are
- Going to help establish a new Coastal campus

A significant step toward multiplying is **MEMBERSHIP**. The difference between “attenders” and “members” can be summed up in one word: **COMMITMENT**.

Why membership?

- **CHRIST** is committed to the church.

The church is the people, not the building.

- Commitment always builds **CHARACTER** 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 **COUNTED ON**.

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 **SPIRITUAL GROWTH** 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.

Becoming a Member

Continued

Why membership (Continued)

At Coastal, we exercise CHURCH DISCIPLINE.

- Matthew 18:15-17
 - If there is an offense, first, YOU go that person and try to reconcile.
 - If unsuccessful, take two or three others WITH you. This is most often people in your small group or ministry.
 - Finally, bring it to the church LEADERSHIP.
 - (If the member still refuses to listen, confess and repent, membership will be revoked.)
- 2 Corinthians 2:7-8
 - Church discipline will NEVER happen without a path to reconciliation.
 - At Coastal, we provide a PLAN for reconciliation and restoration. This plan includes action steps, benchmarks, and accountability partners
- God EXPECTS us to be members of a LOCAL church.

Play “Multiply Membership Testimony” video.

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.



The Member

I will connect to God by:

- faithfully participating in corporate worship
- regularly studying God's word to guard the Gospel
- worshiping Him with my tithes and offerings

I will grow in community by:

- participating in a small group
- warmly welcoming those who visit
- acting in love toward other members and refusing to gossip
- living an authentic godly life, and protecting the unity of the church

I will serve the ministry of my church by:

- discovering my gifts and talents and being equipped to serve by my pastors and leaders
- participating in an area of service in the church
- being held accountable to developing a servant's heart and demonstrating a servant's actions

I will multiply disciples by:

- praying for the development of Gospel outposts
- making disciples who make disciples
- being in relationship with and inviting the unchurched to attend
- being open to help with the goal of establishing and revitalizing Gospel-centered outposts

The Leadership

We will help you connect to God by:

- providing corporate worship weekly
- providing preaching and teaching that is true to God's Word
- responsibly using the tithes and offerings to further God's Kingdom

We will help you grow by:

- providing opportunities in small groups for Biblical teaching, recovery, & Christian fellowship
- training leaders who will be true to God's Word.
- protecting the privacy of our members when counseling
- exercising church discipline to protect the unity of the church

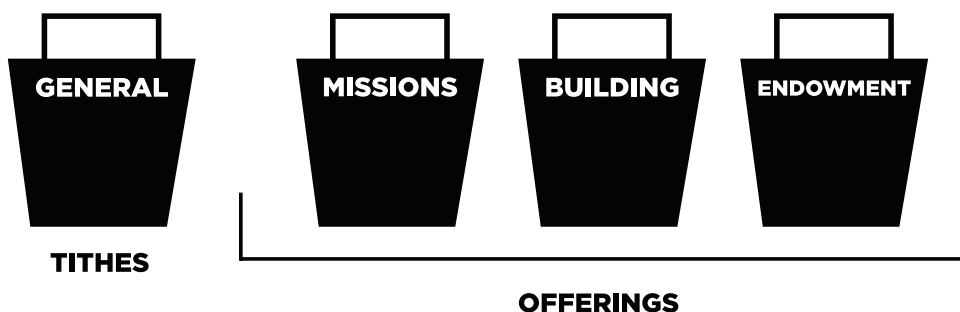
We will serve by:

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

We will multiply disciples by:

- providing training to each of our members in leadership development
- helping our members make disciples who make disciples
- adopting, revitalizing and developing new Gospel outposts around the world.

4 GIVING BUCKETS



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 February 28.
- 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.

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. Complete the response booklet and leave it tonight or return it to the welcome desk at your campus. If you would prefer to submit your response booklet online, request link from engagement at engagement@gocoastal.org.
- 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 and indicate that you have read the summary of the Constitution and Bylaws. If you do not want to speak with someone at this time, we will contact you once in about six months 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.

Leadership Development

Members are given the opportunity to participate in our Leadership Development Program. If you have questions, speak to your small group leader, staff member, campus elder or lead pastor.

The expectation of our leaders is that they will go out and make disciples, who will make disciples...who connect, grow, serve, and multiply.

Notes

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COASTAL
CHURCH

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gocoastal.org