

**“Catch The Vision”
New Members Orientation
Attendance Sheet**

Student: _____ Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Lesson 1: Introduction and History of New Creation Christian Fellowship (Page 3)

Name: _____ DATE: _____

Lesson 2: What We Believe (Page 7)

Name: _____ DATE: _____

Lesson 3: The Benefits of Church Membership (Page 14)

Name: _____ DATE: _____

Lesson 4: Membership Expectations, Covenant, & Stewardship (Page 18)

Name: _____ DATE: _____

Lesson 5: The Importance of Spiritual Growth (Page 25)

Name: _____ DATE: _____

Lesson 6: Church Government & Order (Page 30)

Name: _____ DATE: _____

Lesson 7: The Holy Spirit – Three Part Series (Page 37)

Name: _____ DATE: _____

Lesson 8: Get Connected (Page 53)

Name: _____ DATE: _____

Welcome to Catch The Vision (CTV)

The New Creation “Catch The Vision” (CTV) New Members Orientation is designed to provide members information regarding the biblical doctrine that NCCF believes, the organizational structure of the church, the expectations of members, the Holy Spirit and how to get connected (Sunday School, Life Groups, Peer Group Ministries, and Volunteering). The class also teaches basic biblical principles that will empower you in your Christian walk. If you are newly saved or recently rededicated your life, this course will help jumpstart your new life in Christ. It is our prayer that each person that attends this course will be empowered with the tools needed to live a successful Christian life, and fully understand what we believe as a local body.

The CTV Orientation is the first step to getting connected at NCCF. It is our desire that each member will **CONNECT, GROW, SERVE, and GO**. We want you to **CONNECT** with the ministry by faithfully attending worship services, and being an active participant in an area of ministry. **GROW** in God’s Word as a believer. **SERVE** in an area of ministry, and **GO** transform lives through Jesus Christ in your community and the world.

Completion of the CTV Orientation is essential for all members to be eligible to volunteer in all NCCF auxiliary departments. While attending this course we ask that you will begin to pray about an area of service that you can be active in. After completion of New Creation Orientation you are highly encouraged to serve in an area that your gifts and talents can be utilized for the glory of God.

Certificate of Membership will be given to each member on the **Fourth Sunday** after the completion of the eight weeks lesson series during **NCCF Right Hand of Fellowship**.

Lesson 1

Introduction and History of NCCF The Beginning of New Creation Christian Fellowship Affectionately known as “NCCF”

New Creation Christian Fellowship began as a **Prayer Group** at the home of Brother Alfred and Pearlene Conyers in November of 1984. This group gathered together to pray for a spiritual renewal in the city of San Antonio.

Their prayers were answered, as NCCF was chartered **March 5, 1985**. The first public worship service began **April 25, 1985** at Wyatt's Cafeteria. **On June 6, 1985**, NCCF had its first service in an area rented within the industrial complex named **STETSON PARK**.

NCCF through the dynamic leadership of its visionary pastors no longer wanted to be renters, but owners. The church board and the people of NCCF came into agreement concerning the purchase of **STETSON PARK, DECEMBER 31, 1987**. It was dedicated as **NCCF PLAZA on March 20, 1988**. Through the years as our Pastor's vision expanded and as the people of God came into **AGREEMENT WITH THE WORD OF GOD**, we have accomplished many things.

Our Church Logo

The logo for NCCF reflects the Biblical and Theological thrust of our ministry. The logo contains an open Bible, crimson cross, and a new creature along with the scripture of 2 Corinthians 5: 17.



- **The open Bible:** reflects the uncompromised Word of God.
- **The crimson or blood stained cross:** reflects the New Covenant fixed in the Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ that redeems us from the curse of the Law (Galatians 3:13-14).
- **The butterfly interwoven with a man:** signifies the New Creature in Christ. It reflects the transformation from the old low life of sin and death to the new risen life of freedom, power and creativity in Christ.

Lesson 1

Introduction and History of NCCF

The Mission Statement of NCCF

*We will engage all people to become New Creations IN Christ, through Inspired Worship, Inviting Evangelism, Innovative Discipleship, Invested Lifestyles of Salvation, Stewardship, and Service”
... God will grant the Increase!*

The Vision Statement of NCCF

Transforming Lives Through Jesus Christ.

Our Core Values

As a ministry and members, we strive to exemplify the following Core Values in our daily lives.

Christ-Centered & Bible Proclaiming: We derive our preaching, craft our policies, and order our practices based on the transforming grace of God, revealed in Jesus Christ.

Adoring: We practice public worship in a variety of styles and expressions, to create an atmosphere of freedom for the Holy Spirit.

Evangelistic: We actively seek to serve and save the lost, in any place, at all times, by any means necessary.

Training & Equipping: We model, encourage and support the stewardship of the mind through education of clergy, laity and youth. We lead people to maturity and develop future leaders.

Family Strengthening: We aim to reach and teach each person, in each stage of life, for lasting nurturing and healthy kinship. We will honor the historical past, and propel the future generations of our spiritual family.

Giving and Serving: We will generously lend our time, talent, and treasure to the poor, outcast, and under-served; and for societal causes that honor the cause of Christ.

Innovative: We will remain open to the progressive Creativity of God, who sends new plans and untried methods to serve humanity and build God's church.

Lesson 1

Introduction and History of NCCF

Kingdom Council of interdependent Christian Churches and Ministries

In June of 1996, over 30 churches from across the nation gathered at New Creation Christian Fellowship for the third annual TKBF Conference, which focused on Economic Empowerment. Under the leadership of Dr. David M. Copeland, those who had come to the conference as advisors and participants came together to discuss forming an organization. This organization would not only provide fellowship for Christian Pastors, ministries and leaders, but also education, training, and an opportunity that very few organizations or conferences offered the chance to work collectively to make an economic impact in the earth so that the kingdom of God might be further advanced.

The pastors and ministers unanimously agreed that they should establish an organization and that Dr. David M. Copeland should lead them. During this time, Dr. Copeland was elected as Bishop of the newly formed organization. Thus, the *Kingdom Council of interdependent Christian Churches and Ministries* ("the Kingdom Council") was birthed. Bishop Copeland felt led to form this organization out of his desire to be to others what few others had been to him. His desire is to make a deposit in the lives of pastors, ministers, and church leaders by providing insight, guidance and the sharing of lessons he has learned from both his success and failures in ministry.

The Kingdom Council exists to assist churches in taking the kingdom by force. Whether it's management and administration, economic development or principles that will enable a church to become debt free, the Council exists to make it happen.

The Council is headquartered at New Creation Christian Fellowship and is staffed by one person who serves as Executive Director. The director oversees the daily operations of the Council and ensures that the organization's goals and objectives are successfully met. The Kingdom Council is currently comprised of churches from various parts of the nation, as well as overseas, and provides the benefits and services to its members through:

- **Ecclesiastical covering**
- **Fellowship**
- **Network of Pastors and Ministers**
- **Opportunities for collective investment**
- **Education and Training**

Lesson 1

Introduction and History of NCCF

Our Founders

Bishop David Michael Copeland and his wife **Pastor Claudette Anderson Copeland** are both natives of Buffalo, NY. They met while in school and became high school sweethearts. Together they founded New Creation Christian Fellowship after serving seven years in the United States Air Force Chaplaincy. They were the first African American active duty couple to attain the office of Chaplaincy in the U.S. Force. Historically, they are the first African America Couple to attain that position of any of the Armed Services.

Bishop Copeland completed his undergraduate education at the State University of New York at Brockport where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Sociology and Speech Communications with a minor in Philosophy. In May 1992, Bishop Copeland earned a Doctorate of Ministry at Perkins School of Theology from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. In December 2000, Bishop Copeland along with the 2,000 membership of New Creation purchased a new facility that included a 2,500 seat sanctuary and office complex in Windcrest, Texas.

Dr. Claudette Anderson Copeland received her undergraduate education at the University of Connecticut where she concentrated her studies in the field of Psychology. She went on to earn her Master of Divinity in Pastoral Care and Counseling from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia. She earned her Doctorate of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, where she also served for several years as a visiting professor and mentor for doctoral studies.

Lesson 2

WHAT WE BELIEVE

Key Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:16-17, John 3:16, 2 Corinthians 5:17, John 13:4-17

Objective: To review the biblical doctrine that NCCF believes as a ministry.

Introduction:

New Creation Christian Fellowship is an inter-denominational church. Because we are not affiliated with a specific denomination, we have a cross section of backgrounds of different denominations represented in our church. This lesson will help you to be informed and to inform others about what our church believes, according to the Word of God.

WE BELIEVE IN

1. **The Bible:** The Old & New Testament **Inspired and authoritative Word of God**. In the Bible we find the revelation of God's will for the salvation of humanity and the divine final authority for Christian life. God has taken the initiative to be made known through His word, so we can: 1) come to God through Christ Jesus; 2) identify with God; 3) begin to understand God; 4) point others to God and share God's plan of salvation. (Ref: 2 Tim. 3:16-17).

2. **The Trinity:** There is one **God** the Creator of all things who is infinitely

perfect and eternally existent in three persons **Father**,

Son, and **Holy Spirit**.

3. **The Redemption of Man:** Man was created in the image of God, but fell into sin and is therefore lost. Only through regeneration by the Holy Spirit can salvation and spiritual life be

obtained. The **shed blood of Jesus Christ and His Resurrection** provided the only grounds for justification and salvation. (Ref. Romans 8:2, Galatians 1:4).

Lesson 2 What We Believe

Lesson Activity: What is Justification and Salvation?

JUSTIFICATION

Justification is a divine act whereby an infinitely Holy God judicially declares a believing sinner to be righteous and acceptable before Him because Christ has borne the sinner's sin on the cross and has become "to us righteousness" (1 Corinthians 1:30; Romans 3:24).). In this marvelous operation of God, the infinitely holy Judge judicially declares righteous the one who believes in Jesus (Romans 8:31-34). A justified believer emerges from God's great courtroom with a consciousness that another, his Substitute, has borne his guilt and that he stands without accusation before God (Romans 8:1,33-34) (Justification = Just As If I Had Never Sinned)

SALVATION

Salvation proceeds from the love of God, is based upon the atonement wrought by Christ, is realized in forgiveness, regeneration, and sanctification, and culminates in the resurrection and glorification of all true believers. It is freely offered to all men but is conditioned upon repentance and faith in Christ (see John 3:16; Hebrew 2:3).

4. The Ordinances: Water Baptism, The Lord's Supper, and Foot Washing are ordinances to be observed by the church during the present age. (Ref. Luke 22:19-20, John 13:11-17). However, they are not to be regarded as means of salvation.

A. WATER BAPTISM: The purpose of baptism is to identify the believer with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

BAPTISM: Read Matthew 28:19, Romans 6:1-14 What does baptism accomplish?

Definition: *The Greek word is "**baptizo**" to make fully wet, to dip, immerse fully in.*

Lesson 2

What We Believe

- 1) This ordinance is the first act of obedience after repentance.
- 2) It is an outward showing, of what has happened on the inside. A burial in water (the old man), and a resurrection to new life (the new man).
- 3) Baptism identifies you with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection.

Baptisms are conducted at 10:45 A.M on the 4th Sunday if there are baptism candidates. Prior to being baptized, you must complete the Baptism class conducted on the 2nd Sunday at 9:45 A.M during the Sunday School hour.

B. LORD'S SUPPER: The purpose of the Lord's Supper is to, *Remember the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ*. It is an act of continued fellowship with the Lord and with our fellow believers. A frequent appearance at the Lord's Table is the exercise of great spiritual privilege. The Lord's Supper is every 1st Sunday during the 7:45 AM & 10:45 AM services at the Windcrest campus, and 9 AM at the Northwest campus.

COMMUNION: A celebration of the Lord's Supper

Read: Matthew 26:26, Mark 14:22, Luke 22:17

Lesson Activity:

- When Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper what did the bread represent?

Answer: *His physical body that would be broken, beaten, and pierced.*

- What did the wine represent?

Answer: *His blood that would be shed for the sins of the world.*

Lesson 2

What We Believe

Read: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 What is the meaning of the communion service?

- The communion service is an ordinance that is done in remembrance of the sacrifice that Jesus made when He suffered, and died for us all.
- This is a sacred time to reflect and understand that in spite of us, Jesus paid it all.
- As often as we do this we proclaim His death until He returns.

Read 1 Corinthians 11:27-31 How should you prepare for the Lord's Supper?

- Take this ordinance very seriously. Begin to prepare the weekend before.
- Examine yourself, are you worthy to partake?
- Is there un-forgiveness in your heart? Are you at ought with your brother or sister? Is there un-confessed sin? Is your relationship with your spouse well? These are examples of the types of questions that you should be asking yourself.
- Understand whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

C. FOOTWASHING: Some denominations do not consider this an ordinance. Jesus said, "**For I have given you an example that ye should do as I have done to you**" (Ref: John 13:15). The purpose of this is to show the humility and the servant-hood of Christ and how we should be willing to serve one another. The ordinance of foot washing is held on Maudy or Maundy Thursday during Holy Week, which is the week before Resurrection Sunday.

Lesson 2

What We Believe

FOOT WASHING: An ordinance symbolizing service.

Read: John 13:1-17 What is the meaning of the act?

Answer: To be willing to humble yourself and serve others. Regardless of your position in life you should live a life of service. Are you willing to wash the feet of others?

Read: Matthew 20:25-26
How can this be generalized to daily life?

Answer: Jesus' act of humility and servant hood is our example. True greatness comes by service.

D. HOLINESS: Every born-again, Spirit filled believer should maintain a consistent personal devotional life, both by praying with the understanding and praying with the spirit and by daily study and application of the Word of God. This is evident by holiness of lifestyle, **Godliness of Character and a Love of Your Brothers and Sisters.** (Ref. John 13:34-35).

E. WOMEN IN MINISTRY: Here at NCCF we believe women are allowed to minister the Gospel of Jesus Christ. (Ref. Joel 2:28-29; Judges 4, Judges 5, Romans 16:1-4, 1 Corinthians 16:19)

What NCCF believes and teach about Christ? 1 Corinthians 2:1-2

1. **His birth** - Matthew 1:23, He was born of a virgin conceived by the Holy Spirit.
2. **His deity** - John 1:14, He was God incarnate. The Word became Flesh.
3. **His death** - 1 Peter 2:24, He died and saved us from sin, sickness, lack, death and hell.
4. **His resurrection** - 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, Most importantly He rose again. He got up from the grave and was given all power and authority in heaven and on the earth.
5. **His second coming** - 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, **He is returning!**
6. **He is our high priest** - Hebrews 9:11-12

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

He came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,

and was made man.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory

to judge the living and the dead,

and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father [and the Son].

With the Father and the Son

He is worshipped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. AMEN.

Lesson 3

The Benefits of Church Membership

KEY SCRIPTURES: Acts 2:41-47; Colossians 1:18; Hebrews 10:25

OBJECTIVE: To understand the importance of being a part of a local church.

INTRODUCTION: Another key that opens doors of spiritual growth and maturity in your life is found in the local church. It is vital that you become a part of a local church, because it is here that the child of God is fed, nurtured, and grown up in the things of God. Participation in the local church is not optional for the child of God. It is imperative and yields eternal benefits.

ASK CLASS QUESTION - THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION -- What was it that caused you to come to New Creation the first time? If you are a member, why did you join?

I. THE CHURCH - What is it all about?

Definition: In the Greek, the New Testament word for church is *ecclesia*.
ecclesia = "the called out" (assembly)

A. A brief look at the early church assembly (ecclesia) Read: Acts 2:41-47

Question: What happened when they came together?

Answer: They:

- gladly received the Word
- were baptized and souls were added to the kingdom of God.
- continued in the apostles' doctrine (teachings) and fellowship.
- broke bread and prayed together (corporate)
- were on one **accord**.
- shared all things so that there was no lack

The result: → **Signs and wonders followed!**

Note: *In the local modern-day church signs and wonders will follow when we get on one accord following the vision and teaching of the "house".*

Lesson 3

The Benefits of Church Membership

B. What is our part? Where should we fit in? Why is it difficult for some of us to be "in" church and not allow the church to be "in" us? HEBREWS 10:25

Question: From the above scripture, how do we obey God's instruction?

- Attend Sunday school, and don't just send your children.
- Attend regular church services, and not just special days like **Christmas, Mother's Day, and Easter**. (Don't be a "**C.M.E.**" member)
- Consistently attend Bible study, not just when trouble comes.
- Socialize together with strong, positive, Word and Spirit filled Christians, "sheep", vs. negative, complaining, self-opinionated, carnal Christians, "goats". **Avoid the goats of the church!**
- Attend various church fellowships (e.g. revivals, conferences, Care Groups, events (Couples, Singles, Seniors, &etc.).

"As we become part of the Church, the Church becomes part of us."

C. The Body of Christ: Read Colossians 1:18, 1 Corinthians 12:13-27

In the above scripture: The entire church is compared to a **body** of which Christ is the **head** and the individual believers are the **members** or parts.

"We are connected parts of the whole ". (i.e... John 15:5)

D. The Thessalonian Church - A Good Example. Read 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Work of faith, **Labor** of love and **patience** of hope. Received God's word with joy despite affliction.

Paul lets the Thessalonian Church know that what he has been teaching, they have received. They have become excellent examples of the Word throughout the land. ***We in the local church should be excellent examples of what we are taught.***

II. THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

A. Why is the church here? Why should we participate?

Lesson 3

The Benefits of Church Membership

- Romans 10:17; A basic purpose of the church is to hear the Word.
- Acts 20:7, Corporate worship yields awesome benefits when God's presence enters the assembly.
- Matthew 18:15-17, 2, & Thessalonians 3:6, For discipline, training, & guidance.
- 1 Peter 5:1-3, Pastoral covering serves as a shield from the storms.
- Hebrews 10:25, Instructed by God (not optional)
- Malachi 3:10-12, Provides a storehouse for your tithe
- Ephesians 4:11-16, Provides a place for you to **serve**, and give back to God the talents and gifts He has blessed you with.
- Acts 1:8, Proverbs 11:30, Equips you for evangelism. Your life becomes a witness of the saving power of Jesus Christ.

B. What are the benefits of being part of a local church? Acts 2:41-47

The benefits of being part of a local church are the same today as they were in the first church as noted in the above scripture. They are:

- You receive instruction, guidance and vision for your life from an accountable source in your pastor.
- A place where you can have fellowship with other believers in a corporate setting.
- A place where you can celebrate the Ordinances of the church. Namely, baptism, communion, and foot washing.
- When the church prays and fast together on one accord God releases His blessing. God moves when there is **unity**.
- Corporate prayer and fasting is an awesome weapon against the enemy.
- We have a Common Cause as the Vision given to our Pastors is accomplished. There is strength in unity.
- Mutual assistance becomes more evident as we become part of the local church family. You have fellow brothers and sisters that love you and will help you when needs arise.
- A safe haven for times of crisis.
- The church becomes an abode (dwelling place) to your spiritual growth.

In summary, potted plant's growth is limited to the container it is in. However, when a plant is put in good ground and given the proper nourishment and environment it will flourish. Don't be a potted member, get planted.

MEMBERSHIP EXPECTATIONS, COVENANT, & STEWARDSHIP

Key Scripture: Hebrew 12:24; Hebrew 13:20; Luke 12:42

Objectives: To provide the definition of covenant
To discuss the responsibility as a member
To explain Stewardship

Introduction:

We're engaged in the Heavenly Father's business, and we should take this business very seriously. We are custodians of the most precious thing given to man: Divine Grace; as the church universal and the local body.

Our Membership Expectations

At New Creation Christian Fellowship, the care and feeding of your soul and spirit with regular attendance at worship services is important to us. Likewise, your personal bible study and devotions are also vital. Additionally, we expect our members to serve the ministry with their gifts and talents, share in the responsibility of the church, and be connected with a small group ministry. When you make a commitment to these five areas, you are fulfilling your role to keep our church strong, connected, and vibrant.

Commitment is a requirement for any covenant in the Word of God. Formal ceremonies and commitments are found throughout the Bible. Membership means you are taking responsibility for your church, as well as receiving fellowship and covenant relationship.

COVENANT RELATIONSHIP

The word **Covenant** means a coming together, which implies a mutual understanding between two or more parties, each binding themselves to fulfill obligations. The Hebrew term for covenant is **berit**, meaning "to bond or fetter." It is translated into the Greek as **syntheke**, "binding together". In the Bible a covenant is a relationship based upon mutual commitments. It typically involves promises, obligations, and rituals.

Lesson 4

Membership Expectations, Covenant, & Stewardship

Covenants are basic, because they establish the basis on which personal relationships, between God and humanity are possible. God invites us to have a personal relationship with him. Likewise, in the local church, you as members are invited to have relationship with the other members of the church and then you are inviting the organized church to have an impact in your life.

Spiritual Covenant originated in the Garden of Eden. It was initiated by God and extended to man. In Old Testament times, ancient cultures adopted the concept of a covenant to express a range of interpersonal and social relationships. Between persons, a covenant might express a business contract or a pledge of friendship.

A Covenant is essentially a pledged and defined relationship. There are three basic reasons for entering a covenant:

1. Protection: The weak gains the strength and power of the strong.
2. Business: To ensure that neither party will take advantage of or try to destroy the other.
3. Love: To become bonded --as extended family

Membership Covenant

I Will Protect the Unity of My Church

Act in love toward other members. Look for opportunities to show kindness.

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

“Have a sincere love for other believers, love one another earnestly with all your heart.” -1 Peter 2:22

Avoid gossip & refuse to gossip about other members. It's necessary for each member to make a concerted effort in not speaking ill or spreading rumors about others.

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

Lesson 4

Membership Expectations, Covenant, & Stewardship

Align yourself with the leadership & vision of the house. Our job is to trust our leaders will make wise decisions and obey the will of God.

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

I will share the responsibility of my church

Intercede for the growth of the church. The word “intercede” means to make a request on behalf of another. We need to pray for the growth of this church, not just for its numerical growth, but its spiritual growth as well.

“To the church ... We always thank God for you and pray for you constantly.” -1 Thessalonians 1:1-2

Invite the unchurched to attend. A simple invitation may be the answer to someone’s prayer.

“The Master said to the servant, ‘go out to the roads and highways, and urge the people to come so my house will be full.’ -Luke 14:23

Interact hospitably & warmly welcome those who visit. Show the love of Christ to everyone.

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

I will serve the ministry of my church

Discover your gifts and talents. Don’t make excuses about not serving. Find out what you’re passionate about & give back to God what He has given you.

“Serve one another with the gifts God has given each of you.” -1 Peter 4:10

Lesson 4

Membership Expectations, Covenant, & Stewardship

Equip yourself to serve. God has given the believer spiritual gifts that are unexpected abilities that are uniquely designed for building up the church; universal and local. 1 Corinthians 12:8-11

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

Develop a servant’s heart. “Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also the interest of others. Your attitude should be the same as Christ Jesus: Who ... took on the very nature of a servant.” -Philippians 2:3-4,7

I will support the testimony of my church

Attend worship services faithfully. The church was not built for spiritual isolation. It was built on the premise of family. You now belong to God’s family with other believers.

What are some things that might keep you out of fellowship?

- Work
- Over scheduling
- Lack of commitment
- Not feeling connected

“And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see “the Day approaching.” -Hebrews 10:24-25

Live a Godly life. Trying to live in your own power is not sufficient. Your intentions may be good, but they are not enough. Godly living can’t be accomplished without the help of the Holy Spirit who lives within us.

“Whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the gospel of Jesus Christ.”
Philippians 1:27

Lesson 4

Membership Expectations, Covenant, & Stewardship

Share through cheerful giving & tithes. Tithing is giving God a tenth of your income. The tithe belongs to God

“Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in my house, and prove me now herewith, says the Lord of Host, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it” (Malachi 3:10).

Lesson 4

Membership Expectations, Covenant, & Stewardship

STEWARDSHIP

The Old and New Testament teaches the principles of Stewardship in the life of the believer. The word "steward" means the "man (person) over the house" or "the guardian". Stewardship deals with those who are left in control of, or are to oversee the affairs of another on behalf of the Master. This makes us stewards over the time, talent, and treasure, which have been given to us by God, and we are to live responsibly so as to bring great honor to our God.- Divine Grace.

As stewards of God's possessions New Creation teaches the following biblical principles for God's stewards concerning their financial obligations to the Church and the work of the ministry of Jesus Christ: During this part of the lesson, we will discuss giving practices that are taught at New Creation.

During the time of offering and tithes at New Creation, ***you will hear the pastors or the coordinating official shout excitedly, “New Creation, it is receiving time”!!!!*** During this time of the service you will see members stand, and begin to shout and clap their hands with excitement. The time of giving is a form of worship, so we give God praise for the harvest He has blessed us with, and the seed that He gives us to sow.

The pastors or the coordinating official will ask, ***“How is this ministry supported”?***

The congregation responds, ***“By God’s tithes and my offerings”***. The next statement that the pastors or the coordinating official will ask is, ***“How are we moving this ministry forward”?*** The congregation responds, ***“By Legacy 20/20”***.

Lesson 4

Membership Expectations, Covenant, & Stewardship

1. **Tithes** is giving a tenth of your increase. The bible teaches that the tithe is the first portion of your increase (income) given to the Lord.
2. **The Offering** may have various meanings. The offering in the church today is not obligated to God like the tithe, but rather it is a free will offering of fellowship.
3. **Alms** (Benevolence) are given to the poor and less fortunate:
 - This is not done in the place of the tithe or offering to God's house.
 - This may be done personally by you or designated through NCCF to a benevolent or mission need as indicated on the offering envelope. Matthew 6: 1 - 4
4. **Seed offerings** are sown into particular lives of people and/or ministries. It's another free will offering and it has a great reward of return.

Legacy 20/20

When Bishop Copeland and Pastor Copeland considered the future of New Creation, their hearts were moved to seek God for a plan to ensure that they handed a healthy and vibrant ministry to the next generation. From their focus on prayer and hearing the voice of God, the vision for Legacy 20/20 was born. God provided them with the plan to reach more souls for Jesus Christ, eliminate the debt on the existing property, add new sites to the ministry and to develop leaders for the next generation. All of these initiatives were designed to meet the needs of the people currently in the ministry and those who are to come. Since 2013 Legacy 20/20 has been the vehicle used to move the ministry forward into the year 2020 and beyond.

Legacy 20/20 has four key components; Souls, Sites, Stewardship and Succession.

- **Souls** – Everything we do in Legacy 20/20 is about winning souls for Jesus Christ. It's all about being a resource for the people God sends to New Creation for ministry.
- **Sites** – It is God's desire to use Legacy 20/20 to expand the reach of New Creation to other areas around San Antonio and the world.
- **Stewardship** – In an effort to be good caretakers of all that God has entrusted to us, Legacy 20/20 opens the door for us to give back to God and for God to fulfill His promises for those who are found faithful.

Lesson 4

Membership Expectations, Covenant, & Stewardship

- **Succession** – As the church achieves the goals of Legacy 20/20 (additional sites) members with various spiritual gifts will have the opportunity to use those gifts to expand the ministry and Kingdom of God.

Who is eligible to participate in Legacy 20/20? Our prayer is that ALL New Creation members will participate in Legacy 20/20. 100% participation is one of the goals of the campaign so that all can enjoy the fruits of our labor, corporately and individually. We ask each member to pray and ask God, what their contribution to Legacy 20/20 should be.

“Legacy is not leaving something for people, it’s leaving something in people. – Peter Strople

First Fruits

Proverbs 3:9 says, “Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the **First Fruits** of thine increase”. New Creation is a ministry that practices the principle of First Fruit! ***Tithing is not the same as First Fruits***. The tithe is the first tenth. The First Fruits is the whole of the first...the root...the foundation of the blessing. Romans 11:16 says, ‘For if the first fruit is holy, the lump is also holy; and if the root is holy, so are the branches. At New Creation we give God what is equivalent to one week’s pay. Beginning January 1st through Resurrection/Easter Sunday this seed can be sown over time. Partners can divide this seed into weekly or monthly amounts that can be sown over time, or sow the total amount at one time. On Resurrection/Easter Sunday we will celebrate Jesus being the “First” as our risen Savior who was buried, and rose again according to the Word of God!

When you offer God your first fruits and bring the Lord the fullness of the first, you establish the foundation that the “whole thing” for your entire life will be holy and blessed. Yearly, there are testimonies of those who benefit from being obedient to this simple giving principle. We encourage every member to have faith to trust God and participate. First Fruits are not mandatory; however, we do highly encourage each member/partner to participate, so they can receive the harvest and blessing of the principle.



The Importance of Spiritual Growth

KEY SCRIPTURES:

Romans 7:14-25, Galatians 2:15-20, Romans 1:16-17, Habakkuk 2:4, Romans 8:9-11

OBJECTIVE:

To show how Jesus Christ, living in us should direct our pathway and how we can't do it on our own.

QUESTION FOR THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION:

How do you think growing spiritually helps us to avoid carnality?

INTRODUCTION:

When we place our faith in Jesus Christ, He comes and dwells within us by way of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 8:9) His purpose for dwelling in us is so that He (Jesus) might live His life through us. Many Christians are trying to live in their own **finite** power not knowing or understanding that there is an **Infinite Power** available.

To understand how one can experience the victorious life of Christ, we will look at three types of people in the world today, **the non-Christian**, the **spiritual** Christian, and the **carnal** Christian. The ultimate goal is to live a Christ-centered, Spirit-controlled life and avoid being a carnal, flesh-controlled Christian.

We are spirit; we have a soul; and we live in a body. The soul is the link to the spirit or Voice of God (Holy Spirit) and the world is the voice of men. The spirit of man was created to be the authority. At the fall when Adam committed sin, the soul refused the rule of his spirit.

At salvation when you are born again your spirit is reborn (regeneration); your spirit is saved and your soul is being saved as it slowly comes under the control of the spirit. This is what happens as you renew your mind. Process...progress.

THE CARNAL CHRISTIAN → SELF CENTERED LIFE

The ego has asserted itself. It has seized the throne of one's life, and Christ has stepped down. Therefore, this fellowship with God is lost.

Some Characteristics of a Carnal Christian

Lesson 5

The Importance of Spiritual Growth

Read 1Corinthians 3:1-3, “Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual but as worldly – mere infants in Christ. I give you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere men? “Babe in Christ” (Lacks maturity)

The carnal person is not the same as the natural man.

A carnal person is a spiritually immature Christian, a spiritual infant. **The natural man** is the unsaved man.

CARNAL: the flesh is still the controller of the person’s wants, desire, appetites and attitudes.

IMMATURE: Having the potential to obtain complete growth of development, but lacking fulfillment of the potential.

Read Galatians 5:19-21 -Operations of /in the flesh.

Christians operate according to the flesh. The unsaved man operates in the flesh.

What is the relationship between God and the carnal mind?? Romans 8:7

ENMITY= complete and active *ill will* against God

➤ **What is the solution? 1John 1:9**

Answer. Confess *and* repent of your sins

➤ **How do we enjoy the Spirit controlled life and avoid being carnal?**

Philippians. 2:12-13...Work out your soul salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God who works in you both to will and do for His good pleasure.

Soul →mind, will, and emotion

A. Develop a relationship with God: Spend time with God in prayer and study of His Word without regards to life circumstances. (God will give you peace even in the storm) Isaiah 26:3; Philippians 4:6-8; **John 17:3**(eternal life consist of a growing knowledge of the only true God)

Lesson 5

The Importance of Spiritual Growth

B. Renew your mind, Romans 12:1-2: Therefore, I urge you brothers in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God- this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not be conformed any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will. **Present your body...do not be conformed.**

Steps of the New Man

Conformed means “to form” or “mold”. World is the normal word for age or era the time in which we live. Instead of being molded by the values of this world, the believer should be **transformed; changed by the renewing of the mind. Spiritual transformation starts in the mind and heart. (You are only going to do different when you start thinking differently)** A mind dedicated to the world and its concerns will produce a life tossed back and forth by the current culture. But a mind dedicated to God's truth will produce a life that can stand the test of time. **We can resist the temptation of our culture by meditating on God's truth and letting the Holy Spirit guide and shape our thoughts and behavior. You renew your mind in the word of God. Let your thinking line up with the word.**

WORDS WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF

Justification: is the divine act declaring sinners to be righteous on account of their faith in Jesus. He paid the price for their sins completely and finally on the cross, and through faith in Him their sins can be forgiven. Romans 3:21; 4:5; 5:1

Closely related to justification is **Regeneration:** in which the Spirit of God indwells a repentant sinner and imparts eternal life to his or her spiritually dead soul. Eph. 2:1-5

Sanctification: is the process in which God develops the new life of the believer and gradually brings it to perfection. Rom 6:11 Phil 1:6

Glorification: is the ultimate salvation of the whole person. This occurs when we are face to face with our Savior in His coming kingdom. At that time God will completely mold us into the image of Christ. Romans 8:29, 30; Phil 3:21

Lesson 5

The Importance of Spiritual Growth

- **Be careful of who and what you listen to. Psalm 1:1-3 Eph.4:29** Avoid ungodly verbal advice, take delight and meditate on the Word
- **Allow God to shepherd you, lead you and restore you Psalm 23:1-4**, How do we do that? By Acknowledging Him in all we do. **Prov.3:5, 6.**
- **Allow God to shepherd you, lead you and restore you Psalm 23:1-4**, How do we do that? By Acknowledging Him in all we do. **Prov.3:5, 6.**
- **Application James 1:14-15**, become a doer of the Word and not just a hearer only.
- **Have confidence in God. 1 John5:14-15**, “this is the confidence that we have in Him that if we ask anything according to His will He hears us. And if we know that He hears us whatever we ask we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of him”. **So know that if you ask anything according to His will it will be given to you.**
- **Have Faith in God Heb.11:6**, “without faith it is impossible to please God”. Romans 1:17, “For in the Gospel the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith as it is written “the just shall live by Faith”. 2Corinthians 5:7, “We walk by faith and not by sight”. **Pleasing God is walking by faith and not by fear.**
- **Confess the Word of God over your life;** Romans 4:17, “Call those things which are not as though they were”.
- **Don’t look at your circumstances ,look to Jesus**, 2Corinthians 4:16-18, “Therefore do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal”.

Lesson 5
The Importance of Spiritual Growth

Reference Scriptures for Study

ROMANS 7: 14-25

GALATIANS 2:15-20

GALATIANS 5:22-23

ROMANS 1:16-17

HABAKKUK 2:4

EPHESIANS 2:1-3

JEREMIAH 17:9

II PETER 3:9

REVELATION 3:20

JOHN 15:5

ROMANS 8:9-11

I CORINTHIANS 3:1-3

I JOHN 1:9

PHILIPPIANS 2:12-13

JOHN 17:3

EPHESIANS 4:29

Lesson 6

Church Government and Order

KEY SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 1:17-23

OBJECTIVE: To introduce the organizational structure of NCCF and to explain the ecclesiastical attire worn by the clergy of NCCF.

INTRODUCTION: In our society we have a governmental structure to ensure order and peaceable living. There is also structure in the church, the Body of Christ. This structure follows the mandates of biblical principles for the Church. It also follows the laws of the land, which govern a non-profit organization such as a church.

A. GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE OF THE CHURCH

THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH - Eph. 1:17 – 23

The Lord Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church Universal. It is Jesus the Christ, through the Holy Spirit who empowers men and women to govern His church. In Ephesians 4:7-16, it states "Christ gave gifts to His church for the purpose of governing the church."

OFFICE OF BISHOP - I Timothy 3:1 – 7; & Titus 1:5-7

In terms of hierarchy in NCCF, the Office of Bishop is the undersheperd under the Lord Jesus Christ. A Bishop is given responsibility for being the oversheperd of other Pastors.

Historical Significance:

Peter is widely held to be the first Bishop of the church. He was the first Bishop of Rome. This position soon became of high regard because other Bishops around the world would consult the Bishop of Rome in major decisions concerning the churches under them. We also can see a HEAD of Council of churches in Acts 15:5 – 20.

OFFICE OF PASTOR – Jeremiah 3:15; Ephesians 4:11 – 12; Acts 20:23-31, & Titus 1:5

The Pastor serves as the under-shepherd over the local church. The word "*pastor*" comes from the old Latin noun *pastor* which meant "a keeper", "a herdsman", "a shepherd". It also means to One Who Guards, Watches Over Or Protects.

Lesson 6

Church Government and Order

The Pastors are charged, by God, to watch over the lives of all the members of the church. Since this can be an overwhelming job, the Pastor has followed scriptural principles and has ordained elders to assist.

ELDERS - James 5:14; Titus 1:5

The Elders are ordained representatives of NCCF. This means that they are approved not only by NCCF, but by the laws of the land and able to perform all the sacraments of the church as well as perform marriages, funerals and baby dedications. In short, they are extensions of the Pastor. The elders work in different areas of ministry as they support the Pastors. Some of the areas of ministry are Pastoral Care, Nursing Home, Intercessory prayer and more.

MINISTERS - Ephesians 4:11-12

To be a minister in NCCF means to be in a place of service and mentoring under the guidance and direction of the Elders and Pastors. The word minister means

To Serve. While the ministers are being mentored, they are learning to perfect their ministerial gifts according to Ephesians 4:11-12. Jesus called the disciples to walk with him. They did so for three years receiving much training and experience. It is important to remember that the office of minister, although not an ordained office, is licensed by NCCF and is not given out lightly.

DIACONATE – 1 Timothy 3: 8-13; Acts 6:3

The diaconate serves the same function in NCCF as they did in the early church. Their service allows the hands of the Pastors to be freed, in order that they may dedicate themselves to hearing from God on behalf of the people.

Lesson 6

Church Government and Order

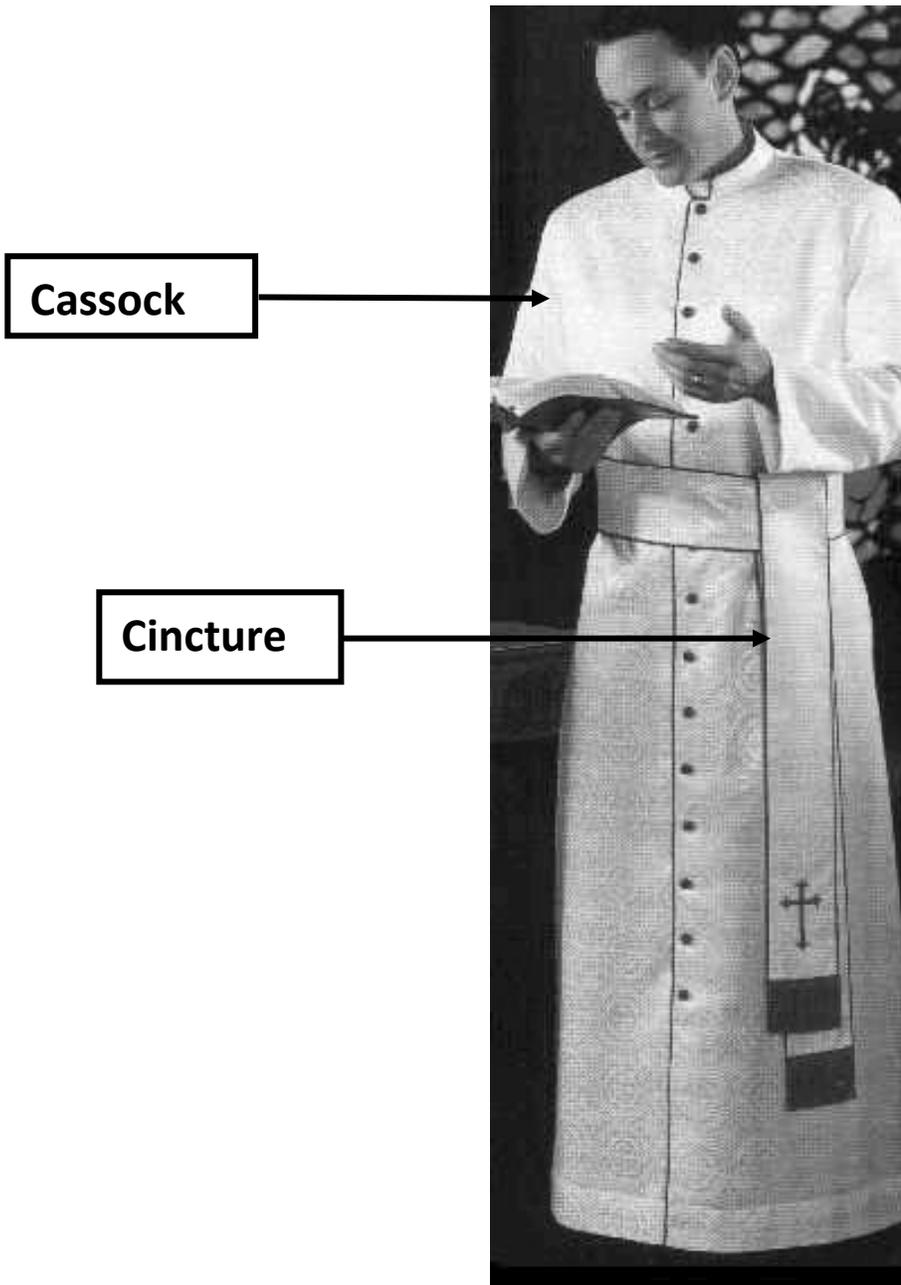
B. ECCLESIASTICAL ATTIRE

At NCCF, the spirit of Excellence resides in everything that we do, for the glory of God. So there will be times that our Bishop, Pastor and other clergy will be clothed in Liturgical Vestments.

Following is a brief description.

1. **Cassock** - is a close fitting garment that reaches the feet. All clergy may wear the Cassock as a symbol of servant-hood. The Bishop continues to wear this garment because Jesus instructed, "that they who would be chief among you, shall be servant of all" (Matthew 20:27).
2. **CINCTURE** - a girdle worn about the waist with the Cassock. The scripture tells us that we must be girded with the truth and one such truth is that ministers are humble servants. The Cincture also symbolizes the fact that "Jesus girded himself with a towel to wash His disciple's feet" (John 13:4-5). The Cincture is typically the same color as the Cassock.
3. **ROCHET**- a linen or cotton loose fitting garment that reaches the floor with bell shaped sleeves gathered at the wrist. The Rochet is a symbol of the Priesthood, which was given to Aaron and his sons (Ex. 28:4). The Rochet represents the white linen ephod (pronounced Ē-fod). The white Rochet, worn by the Bishop and the **Surplice**, worn by the Elders, is a symbol of the wearer's role as celebrant of the ordinances and chief worship leader among God's people. Only the Bishop wears this garment or those designated to wear the garment.
4. **CHIMERE**- a sleeveless outer robe of the Bishop, made a little shorter than the Cassock. The Chimere symbolizes the Bishop's role as Prophet. Only the Bishop wears this garment to reflect that he is the chief proclaimer of the Gospel.
5. **CROSS AND CHAIN**- the Cross and Chain are worn around the Bishops' neck. The cross is the universal symbol for salvation through Christ Jesus. The cross also represents the suffering that all must endure who follow Christ.
6. **RING**- The Ring usually worn by the Bishop is a signet or jeweled ring. It is always worn on the right hand. It is symbolic of the Bishop's marriage to the Church and his spiritual parentage. The ring also symbolizes the Bishop's commitment and dedication to Christ and the Church.

CASSOCK and CINCTURE



ROCHET



Rochet



SURPLICE



Surplice

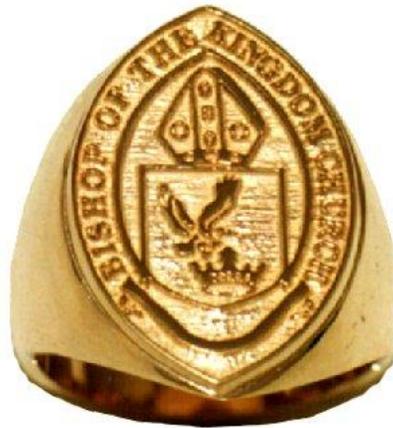
Chimere



Chimere

Bishop's Ring

The Ring usually worn by the Bishop is a signet or jeweled ring. It is always worn on the right hand. It is symbolic of the Bishop's marriage to the Church and his spiritual parentage. The ring also symbolizes the Bishop's commitment and dedication to Christ and the Church.



The Holy Spirit, Who is He, and Why did He come?



LESSON 7 (Part I)

The Holy Spirit, who is He, and why did He come?

KEY SCRIPTURES: Romans 8:9, John 16:7-15, John 14:16-17

OBJECTIVE: To become acquainted with the Holy Spirit and to understand His purpose and His relationship to every Christian.

QUESTION FOR THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION -- What does the term Holy Spirit mean to you?

INTRODUCTION: The previous lessons have shown you what it takes to grow as a Christian. You have also learned how one can mature in the things of God. However, the real power of God is manifested through the Holy Spirit. It is an important link to walking in power, influence, and victory.

I. WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

A. What are His attributes?

1 Corinthians 2:11, Romans 11:33. 1 John 3:20.

Reading these scriptures we learn that:

- The Holy Spirit **knows** the things of God.
- God **knows** everything.
- Therefore, the Holy Spirit **knows** everything. He has **Intellect**

Conclusion: The Holy Spirit has **Infinite Intellect**

Romans 15:30, Ephesians 4:30

Reading these scriptures we learn that:

1. The Holy Spirit loves,
2. The Holy Spirit can grieve.

Conclusion: The Holy Spirit has **Emotion**

1 Corinthians 12:11

This scripture tells us that: The Holy Spirit distributes gifts as He wills.

Conclusion: The Holy Spirit has a **Will**

Lesson 7 (Part I)

The Holy Spirit, who is He, and why did He come?

Definition: Personality

1. *The embodiment of distinctive traits of mind and behavior.*
2. *The pattern of collective character, behavioral, temperamental, emotional, and mental traits of an individual.* (The American Heritage Dictionary, 2nd ed.)

* The Holy Spirit has: Intellect + Emotions + Will = Personality = **Person**

His Attributes

1. The Holy Spirit is a Person

The Holy Spirit is not some vague, intangible substance, force, or cloud. He is a **Person**. In fact He is called the **Third** Person of the Godhead. He is in every way equal with the Father and with the Son. He has all the **Divine** attributes ascribed to the Father and the Son, but He has a different function and purpose.

2. The Holy Spirit is God (Deity): His Divine Nature

- a) He was **Present** at the Creation Genesis 1:2
- b) He is **eternal** Hebrews 9:14
- c) He is **omnipotent** - has unlimited power and authority

Genesis 1:1-3, Romans 8:11

Omniscient - knows all things, unlimited knowledge,

Omni – all encompassing **1 Corinthians 2:10,**

Omnipresent - present everywhere at the same time

Psalms 139:7-13,

Sovereign - supreme in power, rank, and authority,

1 Corinthians 12:7-11 (God does what He wants,

He only answers only to Himself (His Word))

II. WHAT IS HIS NATURE?

A. The Holy Spirit:

1. **Romans 8:2** Free you from law of sin and death

2. **John 16:13-15** Leads you in all Truth.

Lesson 7 (Part I)

The Holy Spirit, who is He, and why did He come

3. Hebrews 10:29, &Zechariah 12:10 Spirit of grace. He gives grace

4. Romans 1:4, 15:16, 2 Thessalonians 2:13, &1 Peter 1-2, He is Holy.
He is the Spirit of Holiness that sanctifies you. (purifies, consecrates)

5. 1 Corinthians 12:13, Luke 4:18, &Micah 3:8

The Holy Spirit:

- Baptizes you into the Body of Christ,
- Anoints you for ministry, and
- Empowers you for service.

B. WHAT IS HIS ROLE OR FUNCTION?

1. John 14:17, &1 Corinthians 3:16. He dwells within you.

Definition: Dwell in the Greek is meno (men-o), to stay in a given place, state, relation, or expectancy.

2. John 14:16, 26 The Holy Spirit is your Comforter, Helper.
Jesus said I will send you another (Like Me). He will be your Helper and Comforter. In the Greek, the word is Parakletos (par-ak-lay-tos) intercessor, counselor, comforter, advocate.

3. John 14:26 The Holy Spirit is a Teacher. He will teach you all things and will bring all things to your remembrance.

What things? Those things that Jesus the (Word) has said to you.

"The Holy Spirit and the Word work hand in hand."

{No Word >> No Remembrance}

Lesson 7 (Part I)

The Holy Spirit, who is He, and why did He come

4. **John 16:13-14** The Holy Spirit **Guides** you in all Truth.

Question: How does the Holy Spirit guide you?

Answer: There are several ways; however, one special way is that Inner **voice** that brings peace, comfort and does not **violate** God's Word.

Note: *to receive direction from a guide you must follow.*

5. **2 Corinthians 5:17, 4:16, 3:16-18, &5-6.**

The Holy Spirit brings **Transformation**, New Life, and **Liberty**.

6. **Ephesians 2:1-6**, The Holy Spirit gives us a **New Condition**.

No longer are we dead in trespasses and sin rather we are alive in Christ.

7. **Ephesians 2:18**, The Holy Spirit gives us **Access** to God.

8. **Romans 15:13**, The Holy Spirit gives us **Hope**.

9. **Acts 16:6**, The Holy Spirit brings protection when you follow His leading.

10. **Acts 10:44-48**, The Holy Spirit gives you a **new language**.

11. **1 Corinthians 12:4-11**, The Holy Spirit gives **gifts** as He wills.

12. **John 15:26&John 16:14** The Holy Spirit is your **Helper**.

He **Testifies** of Jesus, and He **glorifies** Jesus.

Note: *Jesus came to Glorify and testify of the Father so the Holy Spirit Glorifies and testifies of Jesus.*

Lesson 7 (Part I)

The Holy Spirit, who is He, and why did He come

III. HOW IS THE HOLY SPIRIT RELATED TO EVERY CHRISTIAN?

A. Can a person be a Christian and not have the Holy Spirit dwelling in him?
Romans 8:9-11. **Ans. No**

B. At time of Spiritual birth the Holy Spirit:

1. John 3:5-6, John 1:12-13, 2 Corinthians 5:17

➤ **Regenerates** your dead spirit and you are born again

2. 1 Corinthians 3:16

➤ Comes and **dwells** within you.

Definition: *Indwells = to exist as an activating force.*

3. Ephesians 1:13, Ephesians 4:30

➤ **Baptizes** you into the Body of Christ. You are the marked property of God.

Definition: *Seal = Stamped with a private mark of ownership for security, preservation, and protection.*

The seal of the king tells all that the one who has the seal has the king's favor and protection.

4. 2 Corinthians 5:5, Ephesians 1:14

➤ Gives you a **Guarantee** of your Inheritance.

5. 1 Corinthians 12:13, Galatians 3:27, & Romans 6:3-4

➤ **Baptizes** you into the Body of Christ. You become one with Christ.

Home work: Read Acts Chapters 1 and 2.

* Acts 1:8 - Being filled produces power!

Lesson 7 (Part II)

The Baptism with the Holy Spirit - Understanding the gift of Tongues.

KEY SCRIPTURES: Acts 1:8, Romans 8:2-11, 26-27, 1 Corinthians 2:1-5,
1 Corinthians 2:9-14, John 7:37-39

OBJECTIVE: To recognize and understand the importance of being filled with the Holy Spirit in order to live a victorious life, and to usher in the baptism with the Holy Spirit.

QUESTION FOR THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION: What does being filled with the Holy Spirit mean to you?

INTRODUCTION: Now that you understand who the Holy Spirit is and His relationship to every Christian, it is important to know why you need to be filled with the Holy Spirit and the power you can have through this filling. The missing link to power, influence, and victory that most Christians are looking for is found by being filled with the Holy Spirit.

I. Why do I need to be filled with the Holy Spirit if I have the Holy Spirit dwelling within?

Special note:

The indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit after salvation produces your legal rights

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit (Being Filled) produces the "power" to execute your right!

1. Acts 1:8 You Receive Power *definition:* Power = Dunamis: might, ability

* **POWER** (dynamite) to "blow up" The obstacles, enemies, and weaknesses that come against you.

2. Acts 4:29-31 You receive a boldness to witness and testify.

definition: Boldness = To be fearless and daring, exhibiting courage and bravery, to be clear and distinct. "*outspoken*".

3. The Holy Spirit equips you for service in the Kingdom.

Jesus as our example: Luke 3:21-23, 4:1, 4:14-21, Matthew 3:16,
Mark 1:9-11, and John 1:32-34

Lesson 7 (Part II)

The Baptism with the Holy Spirit - Understanding the gift of Tongues

When the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus, He was **equipped**, and **empowered** to carry out His ministry. Before Jesus was filled there is no biblical account of any miracles that He performed. Jesus received “**dunamis**” after he was filled.

4. You receive a new language. (your prayer language) Acts 2:1-4, 10:44-48

II. The gift of tongues- a two-fold purpose.

1. For Public ministry and Corporate Worship - Certain rules apply.

1 Corinthians 12:1-31, 1 Corinthians 14:1-40

Paul was trying to bring and establish order to the Corinthian church, and to promote a spirit of unity among the body in their relationships and their worship

a) Speaking in tongues aloud in a public setting is to benefit and edify the body as a whole, especially when interpreted.

b) There needs to be order and unity. God is not the author of confusion.

c) God speaks and reveals Himself to the congregation (the body) as a whole. The church receives a corporate revelation.

2. For your own private, personal devotion (your prayer language)

a) Initial evidence of receiving the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Acts 2:4

b) It benefits and edifies you personally. 1 Corinthians 14:4
(You are spiritually built up and energized, or recharged.)

c) Your Spirit is speaking directly to God. 1 Corinthians 14:2
You receive a private, personal revelation.

d) Your spirit makes intercession for you and others when you don't know what to pray for. Romans 8:25-28.

(He, the Holy Spirit, prays God's perfect will.)

Lesson 7 (Part II)

The Baptism with the Holy Spirit - Understanding the gift of Tongues

e) A private praise and worship to God. To pray and sing in the spirit.

Tehillah -- The highest level of praise. To sing from your spirit, to sing with the spirit, a hymn of spontaneous praise and worship glorifying God.

Scripture references: Psalm 40:3, Psalm 22:3, Ephesians 5:19.

Summary: Two-fold purpose of the gift of tongues

Public Ministry	Personal Devotion	Reference
Benefits and edifies the Body as a whole. God Speaks from heaven, through a man to His people.	Edifies you personally You (your spirit) speaks: from earth to heaven.	I Corinthians 14:4
Must have order, to avoid confusion Interpretation is required	Interpretation may be desired, not required	I Corinthians 14:13, 27-28
Enter into God's presence corporately	Enter in to God's Presence personally	Acts 2 Acts 4:31
God reveals himself to the church body corporately	God reveals himself to you personally	1 Corinthians 14:1-25
Evidence of God's presence in the service	Initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit	Acts 2:1, 10:44, 19:5-6
God Speaks to the Body - Congregation through someone	Your Spirit speak directly to God	1 Corinthians 14:2-5
Bishop or Pastor may ask for corporate intercessor	Your Spirit makes intercession	Romans 8:26
Corporate Praise and Worship	Personal Praise and Worship Tehillah praise	Ephesians 5:18-21

Additional notes: _____

Lesson 7 (Part II)

The Baptism with the Holy Spirit - Understanding the gift of Tongues

III. Biblical examples of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

1. (a) **Acts 2:1-21** The first filling-The Day of Pentecost
Those in the upper room receive the Promise.

(b) **Acts 10:44-46** Gentiles are filled- Cornelius and his household
They believed were saved, filled, and then baptized.

(c) **Acts 19:1-7** John the Baptist disciples filled at Ephesus.
They were baptized and hands were laid on them.

(d) **Acts 8:14-17.** Samaritans received the Holy Spirit
After Peter and John lay their hands on them.

2. A biblical example -- Effects after being filled:

a.) **Peter before:** Fearful and ashamed. He denied Jesus three times.
Luke 22:31-34, 22:54-62

Peter after: Boldly speaks the Word without fear or shame
Acts 5:29-42

IV. Benefits of Being Filled with the Spirit.

A. John 15:5-11, Your **joy** will be full regardless of circumstances.

B. Ephesians 5:17-18, It becomes easier for you to **allow** the Spirit to control your feelings, emotions, and actions.

C. Ephesians 4:23-32, You put on **Christ** the "new man".

D. Galatians 5:22-26, You begin to produce more spiritual fruit.

Fruit = the ripened product of growth.

* Spiritual Fruit = the ripened product of **growth** in the Christian's life.
Spiritual Fruit brings glory and honor to God.

Lesson 7 (Part II)

The Baptism with the Holy Spirit - Understanding the gift of Tongues

Remember: *To live the victorious Christian life, overcoming defeats & frustrations, habits & hungers one should walk in the Spirit. The first step to take is to be filled with the Spirit.*

Home work

(Review these pages in preparation for LESSON 3)

WHY ARE SO FEW BELIEVERS FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT ?

We have looked at why we need to be filled with the Holy Spirit and we've seen the wonderful results of receiving the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. So why aren't more Christians filled with the Holy Spirit and walking in His power?

The following questions point to things that hinder our receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit:

1. James 4:1-10

- a. Have you submitted to God and His agenda rather than yours? **v6-7**

- b. Have you asked God to fill you for the right reason ? Do you want the more of God? **v3**

- c. Are you still trying to be a friend of the world, thus making yourself an enemy of God ? **v4**

- d. Have you humbled yourself before God, resisted the devil and given him no place ? **v7**

- e. Are you drawing nearer to God, thus allowing Him to draw nearer to you? **v8**

- f. Are your hand clean and is your heart pure toward God? **v8**

2. Ephesians 5:15-21,

- a. Are you allowing the Spirit to take control? As you renew your mind your flesh will get in line.

Philippians 2:1-13

- b. Just as Christ humbled Himself, took the form of a servant and became obedient to the point of death so should you. Are you?

Lesson 7 (Part II)

The Baptism with the Holy Spirit - Understanding the gift of Tongues

Hebrews 13:17

c. Have you learned to submit to others, especially your leaders ?

If you can't submit to the people that you can see, how can you submit to the Holy Spirit who you can't see?

3. John 1:12, 1 Peter 2:9

Do you understand that you are God's child and He wants to bless you and fill you?

4. Isaiah 14:12-14, 1 Peter 5:5-7

Just as pride hindered the enemy, pride can hinder you.

Is pride hindering you?

5. Luke 9:26, Are you ashamed of God Is fear hindering you?

6. Mark 11:24-26, 1 John 1:8-9, Psalm 44:21

Do you harbor secrets or un-forgiveness?

7. 1 John 2:15-17, Matthew 6:24-33

Is you mind on worldly things or the things of God?

8. Proverbs 3:5-6 Do you lack trust in God?

9. Psalm 147:11 Do you reverence who God is? Or do you take Him for granted?

Conclusion:

As this study ends let's examine ourselves, looking at this list of items that hinder us from receiving from God and being filled the more with His presence. Ask yourself what on this list is hindering me from receiving from God. As you go down this list, when an item applies to you confess it and ask God to forgive you and cleanse you. Then ask God to fill you with more of His Spirit, in Jesus name. Amen.

Remember: *To live the victorious Christian life, overcoming defeats & frustrations, habits & hungers one should walk in the Spirit. The first step to take is to be filled with the Spirit.*

Lesson 7-3

Receiving Power Through the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

KEY SCRIPTURES: Ephesians 5:18, John 7:37-39, Acts 4:29-31, Acts 8:12-19

OBJECTIVE: To understand and to appropriate personally the filling of the Holy Spirit.

QUESTION FOR THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION: When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, how do you think your life will change? If you are already filled how has your life changed?

INTRODUCTION: Being filled with the Holy Spirit is a gift of God just as salvation is a gift. Remember to receive a gift simply requires talking it (picking it up). This lesson is an introduction of how to walk in power, victory, and abundance by the empowering of the Holy Spirit.

I. What must I do to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

Being filled with the Holy Spirit is a gift of God just as salvation is a gift. Remember to receive a gift simply requires talking it (picking it up). When you receive this gift you will begin to walk in power, victory, and influence as never before...

1. **John 3:3-7**, You must be BORN again, saved.
2. **Matthew 5:6 & Matthew 6:33**, You must Hunger and Thirst for righteousness.
3. **Romans 12:1-2**, You must PRESENT your body ... HOLY...
4. **Matthew 7:7-11, 1 John 5:14-15**

You must believe that God will fill you when you ask...

a) **James 1:2-6**. You ask in Faith

b) **John 16:23-24**. You receive it by faith.

c) **James 2:22-26**. faith without works is dead. You must act on what you believe by faith.

Lesson 7-3

Receiving Power Through the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

II. What is faith?

Hebrews 11:1-6, 2 Corinthians 4:18, 5:7, Mark 11:23-24, Romans 10:17,

- Faith is the **substance** of things hoped for, the **evidence** of things not **seen**.
- When you pray you must **believe** you have **receive** what you prayed for.
- Faith comes by **hearing** and **hearing** by the **Word** of God.
- Faith is **acting** on God's word.
- You thank and praise God, "**in faith**", by the **fruit** of your lips. **Proverbs 18:20**.
- As you praise and **delight** yourself in God, He will give you the **desires** of your heart. **Psalm 37:4**.

III. How can I know I'm filled?

A. Galatians 5:22-26, You produce **more Spiritual Fruit**.

B. Acts 1:8, You receive **Dunamis**, overcoming **Power** to "blow up" obstacles in your life.

C. Acts 2:4, You receive your **prayer language** ("tongues")

Special Note: Understand that there is one **Baptism** in the Holy Spirit, but there are many **fillings**.

Biblical examples: **Acts 2:4**, and **Acts 4:29-31**.

- 1) In the first filling those in the upper room spoke with new tongues.
 - 2) Those disciples that were in the upper room asked and received a **second** filling and they received boldness to witness and testify
- Sample prayer asking God to fill you with the Holy Spirit.**

Lesson 7 (Part III)

Receiving Power Through the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

“**Father** God, I need You. I acknowledge that I have been in control of my life; and that, as a result, I have sinned against You. I thank You that You have forgiven my sins through Christ's death on the cross for me. I now invite Christ to take control of my life. I ask that You fill me with the Holy Spirit as You commanded me to be filled and as You promised in Your Word that You would do if I asked in faith. I

Pray this in the name of Jesus. As an expression of my faith, I now thank You for taking control of my life and for filling me with the Holy Spirit, in Jesus name, Amen.”

(Now begin to thank and praise God for filling you with His Spirit, and receive it.)

NOTE: When you are filled by the Holy Spirit Jesus is no longer a guest in your home, rather you have given Him the keys and the title deed to your body temple. You should allow Him to have **control** and **access** to every room.

You become yielded to Christ, as His purpose is fulfilled through you.

Today is a day to remember:

Day of the week: _____, **Date:** _____

I received the Baptism with the Holy Spirit and my prayer language.

Praise the Lord! I will never be the same. I now walk in power, victory, influence, and abundance as never before. Thank you Jesus!

Notes: _____

Lesson 7 (Part III)

Receiving Power Through the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Final Assignment

(Review these scriptures and suggestions)

How do I continue to walk in the fullness of the Spirit?

EPHESIANS 5:18

To be filled with the Spirit means to allow the Spirit to have control rather than the flesh (body) or the Soul (mind, intellect, will, emotions).

FILLED = To keep on being filled constantly and continually.

➤ Some Suggestions:

1. Pray and meditate on the scriptures:

Romans 6:11, Colossians 2:9-10, Philippians 4:13, 1 John 2:6, JOHN 14, John 15, John 16, Matthew 6, Colossians 3, Ephesians 5, Hebrews 11, Galatians 5, Romans 12, Psalm 1, Psalm 37.

2. Spend time **daily** talking to God in your **prayer language**.

1 Corinthians 14:2-4, 1 Corinthians 14:14. You **build up** your inner man.

3. Spend time daily reading and studying God's Word. **Study Psalm 119.**

4. Do not grieve the Holy Spirit. Confess and turn away from sinful practices.
Live a yielded Holy life.

5. Do not quench the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is Omniscient and will lead us in all truth. Be sensitive to His leading. Don't deny Him. Obey His Leading.

NOTE: When you are filled by the Holy Spirit Jesus is no longer a guest in your home, rather you have given Him the keys and the title deed to your body temple. You should allow Him to have **control** and **access** to every room.
You become yielded to Christ, as His purpose is fulfilled through you.

Lesson 8

Getting Connected

You will understand the Bible better in a Group Ministry. Acts 2:42

In Group ministry settings, you can ask questions in a discussion of the text, hear others share insights and illustrations of the truth you are trying to grasp. The Bible must be applied to your own personal situations and one of the best ways to increase your faith and allow that to happen in your life is hearing the testimonies of others, sharing with others, and praying with others.

You will begin to really feel like part of God's family. Acts 2:44

Most people who have been a part of a group ministry say the greatest benefit is the close relationships and friendships that develop over time. They call and text each other regularly, share prayer request, and have lunch, barbeques, and share celebrations (birthday, graduation, promotion, & etc.) together. Group ministries offer a place to connect and to be and feel a part of God's family.

Prayer will become more meaningful to you. Acts 2:42

Many people are shy about praying in front of others, especially in a large church. The numbers of people are smaller in group ministries, and you will learn to participate in prayer by having a conversation with God. There are many promises in the Bible related to prayer. In praying together with a few others, we are drawn closer and we find answers to the needs in our lives. (James 5:16, Philippians 4:6)

You will be able to handle stress and pressure better. Acts 2:45

Group ministries provide excellent support in times of crisis, change, and stress. You'll have a sense of stability and security knowing there are people who really care for you and are committed to standing with you.

Many people in our church could testify that they would not have made it through a difficult time if it hadn't been for the support of their group. In addition, we have a number of special support groups that deal with problems like alcoholism, abuse, and other needs.

GETTING CONNECTED

They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. – Acts 2:42-47

NCCF Group Ministries

At New Creation we believe that it is vital that each member gets connected within the New Creation community. Studies indicate that churchgoers are more fulfilled, active, and successful in handling difficult times in life when they are connected with a group of believers. Being involved with a group provides a stream of support that may otherwise be vacant. It is God's design and purpose for people to be connected in meaningful relationships with Him and with others.

*Community is one of the most powerful concepts in the Bible. Genesis begins with it, and Revelation closes with it. It is God's people living together with God at their center. It is the way of life out of which evangelism and discipleship emerge. Community is where we learn the truth about ourselves, where we are deeply loved, where walls are broken down and where people are usually excluded are included. **Nancy Ortberg***

A Model for Group Ministries in the NCCF Community – Acts 2:42-47

The purpose and design of NCCF Group ministries is to connect people, help people grow together, serve God together, and live life together, so others may experience the love of God through their lives. In Group Ministries, people typically have something in common such as where they live, work, or other personal characteristics such as marital status, children, gender, and age group. There are no requirements for joining any group ministry. Getting together with others who share your walk of life is a great way of developing meaningful relationships with people who genuinely care for you. As you connect and grow spiritually with your group(s), you are also growing from being one individual in the midst of many, to being a connected member within a smaller community.

Lesson 8

Getting Connected

You will have a natural way to share Christ with friends, relatives, and work associates. Acts 2:46

It may be that some of your friends, who don't know the Lord, are not willing to attend church. They may have a preconceived idea about church and are not open to the idea of going to a regular church service. However, those same people may be open to an invitation to a casual group outing or group discussion in a home or another relaxed setting.

NCCF Group Ministries

Life Groups: New Creation's version of small groups. Members meet in homes, restaurants, and other sites throughout San Antonio.

Celebrate Recovery: The purpose of the Celebrate Recovery ministry is to fellowship and celebrate God's healing power in our lives through the "Eight Recovery Principles," based on the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-10).

Community Care Council: The Community Care Council serve as the outreach ministry for NCCF. The ministry provides services to the city of San Antonio and surrounding communities in several capacities. Some of the areas they serve include: Local prisons & jails, Haven for Hope, and nursing homes. The ministry also works in conjunction with the Deacons to distribute Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets to those in need within the church and the community.

Sunday School: New Creation offers Sunday School for ages 4 & up each Sunday at 9:45 am with the exception of special services when the classes may be canceled.

Marriage Ministry: Couples meet for Marriage Enrichment sessions and fun fellowship outings.

CYC (Children & Youth Council): Children & Youth ministry

Master's Men (Men Ministry): Single & married men meet to discuss various topics regarding men. (Save Our Seed; offspring of the men ministry for mentoring)

Lesson 8

Getting Connected

5:17 Young Adult Ministry: Mixed group of men & women ages 18-30

Sunday School: Mixed groups for elementary, middle school, high school, young adults, adults, & seniors. Groups meet each Sunday at 9:45 on the New Creation campus.

Silver Sneakers Seniors: Mixed group of men & women ages 60 & up.

New Creation Special Events

Baby Dedications: Baby Dedications are conducted on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 10:45 am. Parents must complete an application to request for their child to be dedicated. The application must be turned in 30 business days prior to the date the family desires to have their child dedicated. The schedule will be reviewed to see if the Pastors will be present on the requested date. If the Pastors are going to be absent on the Sunday requested, the family will have the option of waiting until the Pastors return, or the Pastors can select an Elder to perform the Dedication.

On the day of the dedication, the family will meet with an assigned Elder at 10:30 am to ensure all documents are signed, and ensure that the name of the child is spelled correctly. The assigned elder will also walk the family thru the dedication process to inform them of what will take place during the dedication.

Founder's Month: March is annually recognized as Founders month at NCCF. During this time, Bishop & Pastor Copeland are celebrated as the founder's of NCCF. Various guest speakers visit and a day of celebration is scheduled during the month.

Holy Week: This week commemorates the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus and is the **HIGHEST** point of the Christian year. Join in when we have creative, dramatic arts and Lenten fasting and prayer vigils. Watch for Good Friday and Easter reenactments like you have never experienced.

Ash Wednesday: NCCF annually recognizes Ash Wednesday as a part of the Christian calendar. **Ash Wednesday** marks the first day of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count). The Lenten season is when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation, and spiritual discipline. A noon day service is held, and burnt ashes from palm leaves are placed on the forehead of participants to represent humility and sacrifice.

Men's Month: February is the month when the men of NCCF gather to recognize the value of men. Watch for the men's retreat, special service projects, and other gatherings to honor and celebrate men. They also meet the 3rd Saturday morning of the month, unless otherwise indicated.

Sisterhood (Women's Ministry): Single & married women meet to discuss various topics regarding women.

Black History Month: NCCF recognizes the historical contributions of African Americans past and present.

Education Sunday: Is annually held in June. This is a time when NCCF recognizes the educational success of its members who have graduated and received various educational accolades.

Women's Month: September is the month when women of all ages mobilize with Pastor Claudette Copeland to celebrate womanhood and sisterhood. They also meet every 4th Tuesday @ 6:45pm, unless otherwise indicated.

TKBF: Taking The Kingdom by Force Conference – is annually held in June and is the “Holy Convocation”. The conference serves NCCF and the Bishop's covenant churches (KCICCM); by offering various training and education forums for those involved in ministry and lay members.

Youth Month: Is annually held in August and is focused on ministering to children, teens, and college students as they prepare to kick off the new school year.

Hispanic Heritage Recognition: NCCF celebrates National Hispanic Heritage month annually September 15 thru October 15 to recognize the contributions of Hispanics past and present.

Church Anniversary: The month of October is recognized as the Church Anniversary. Prepare to celebrate all month long as we thank God for the ministry of NCCF. We also celebrate “Super Sunday” during this month as we bring our best financial seed to bless the ministry.

Christmas Cantata & Watch Night: Get involved in the holiday music and drama celebrating the Birth of our Savior at our annual **Christmas Cantata**. Then come out and be blessed as we hold our high praise service on New Year's Eve, called “**Watch Night**”.

THE MINISTRY OF SERVICE

Volunteering at NCCF

"And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healing, HELPS, governments, diversities of tongues." (I Corinthians 12:28).

The Volunteer Ministry at New Creation Fellowship (NCCF) is the consolidation of various groups of born-again, spirit-filled individuals, forming a nucleus surrounding Bishop and Pastor Copeland, along with their assistants to aid them in meeting the operational demands of the Ministry and the spiritual needs of the people who participate in the worship, study and social activities of NCCF.

PURPOSE AND FUNCTION:

The purpose and function of the Volunteer Ministry is threefold.

1. To assist the Pastors in carrying out their God-given vision in spreading the Gospel.
2. To work, share, and participate together with the Pastors as one body, *"for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the Body of Christ: till we all come in the unity of the faith, and unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:" (Ephesians 4:12-13)*
3. To support the Pastor's vision by setting a good example to those in and outside the membership of NCCF through a consistent display of spiritual strengths, moral fortitude, and personal integrity.

The Ministry of Service

The goals of the Helps Ministries are:

- 1.** To be an asset and a credit to the Heavenly Father as a Co-laborer and joint heir with the Lord Jesus Christ in assisting the Pastors in spreading the Gospel.
- 2.** To be an asset and a credit to the Body of Christ through the promotion of brotherly love, Christian camaraderie, and fellowship.
- 3.** To be an asset and credit to the Pastors and congregation of NCCF in assisting them in meeting the spiritual needs and operational demands of the Ministry for both membership and guest alike.
- 4.** To be an asset and a credit to oneself by developing spiritual stability through continuous study and application of the Word to one's life.

How Do I Join A Volunteer Ministry Team and What is the Process?

You must complete a Volunteer Ministry Volunteer form. A form can be completed at a Sunday Service, Mid-Week Service or e-mailed to you. As a result of strategizing new ways to get more members involved, the Volunteer Ministry form is also available on the New Creation Website. Once the Volunteer Ministry form is submitted, Membership Services will verify all information is completed and your selection(s) were made. A copy of your request will be given to the director of the department of which you desire to volunteer.

Membership Services will confirm that you have completed the New Creation Orientation classes. If an applicant has not completed the Orientation Classes at the time the application is submitted, the applicant is required to complete the classes within six months of applying.

Upon completion, the applicant will submit their New Creation Membership Card as proof of class completion. A Background Check will be submitted for processing for those applicants that have selected an area that requires Background Checks (CYC, Finance, &etc.).

The Ministry of Service

Once the volunteer form is received, the information is entered in the Database. The volunteer will then receive a phone call from the Ministry Leaders of the volunteer areas that were selected. An Approval Report will be sent to the Church Administrator, and will be placed on file.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

In order to participate in any of the ministries as a volunteer at NCCF, the following requirements MUST be met:

- 1.** Be a member in good standing, having become born-again, and baptized in water.
- 2.** Be living a lifestyle that is consistent with Christian principles, the Bishop's vision, and the rules and regulations governing the Helps Ministries.
- 3.** Have the temperament and capability of performing the duties that have been established for the particular Volunteer Ministry Team to which application is made.
- 4.** Consistently be in physical attendance in Sunday worship services, and Mid-Week Bible study.
- 5.** Be in attendance at a majority of the scheduled meetings established for the Volunteer area to which application is made.
- 6.** Be willing to support the Ministry, both prayerfully and financially on a consistent basis.
- 7.** No Volunteer will be allowed to work in more than three (3) functioning areas of ministry without approval from the Church Administration.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

See special requirements indicated under each individual group listing.

No individual can print or reproduce any material bearing the name of NCCF for Ministry use or his/her own personal use without notifying the Administration. No individual or Department Head is to plan a program and/or invite a speaker without the approval of Bishop and Pastor Copeland.

The Ministry of Service

No Volunteers or Team Leaders are to engage in soliciting and collecting funds to assist them or a fellow group worker who may have been a victim of adversity. If an individual volunteer wants to be a blessing to assist a person, they may do so. Not engaging in these activities decreases opportunities for scams and people being taken advantage of. In many cases, the church may have already been a blessing to the individual or family through our Benevolence Ministry.

Volunteers should not solicit business for their personal gain while on the premises of NCCF (i.e. passing out business cards, fliers, etc).

Volunteers should not engage in any private counseling of visitors or other members on the premises of NCCF. All needs for counseling are to be referred to the Director of Pastoral Care or Ministerial Staff.

No volunteer is to receive training or be placed on any assignment before being approved by the Department Head.

Volunteers are not to receive offering envelopes personally. ***All offerings should be placed in the appropriate container or be given to approved personnel only.***

The Church Administration is to be informed at all times of the current address, phone numbers (both work and home) and marital status (particularly as it relates to a name change) of all volunteers. Volunteers are to adhere to the established rules and regulations as set by Church Administration, governing leaves of absences, disciplinary actions, and church membership.

If the conduct of a volunteer is unbecoming or contrary to a Christian lifestyle, that worker will be relieved of his/her position for a period of three months, after which time, he/she may be considered for reinstatement. When a volunteer is relieved of his/her position for a second time the probation period is at the discretion of Administration and the Director of the Department. All ID's of the volunteer will be confiscated.

Anyone who has completed the appropriate training and is a regular volunteer may terminate their serving status by informing the proper Department Head, Guest & Membership Services, or the Church Administration by submitting his/her resignation, preferably in writing.

The Ministry of Service

All volunteers are to report to their respective stations at least 30 minutes prior to the service they will work, unless otherwise specified. Either the Department Head or Assistant must be in service at all times to cover their area. All volunteers are required to wear their identification cards at all times when serving.

Male volunteers cannot wear earrings while serving. Female volunteers can wear earrings in their ears only.

Make sure your personal hygiene is proper and includes.

1. Clean Clothes
2. Hair well-groomed and neat
3. Carry breath mints with you always
4. Wear cologne or perfume
5. Ladies are encouraged to wear makeup & lipstick
6. Men must keep haircut and neat

DRESS CODE:

Some of our areas of ministry require specific dress requirements. All volunteers are asked to follow through with the dress requirements as scheduled. Ministry directors or the coordinator will provide you with more detailed information. The purposes of our dress code are as follows.

1. Uniformity through color coordination:
 - a) Appealing for recruitment
 - b) Organization.

Female Workers in Children's Ministry may wear pants for those activities requiring bending, NO SHORTS.

2. Ladies may wear a dress or skirt and blouse, and hosiery, and are encouraged to wear makeup and lipstick. Upon permission, business casual attire is permitted for Special Events and summer months.

3. Men may wear a shirt and tie, slacks, jackets, socks and shoes. Upon approval, business casual attire is permitted for Special Events and summer months.

Conclusion: We pray that you will seek the Lord in regards to the area that you would like to serve. We thank God in advance for your gifts of service and look forward to ***transforming lives through Jesus Christ*** with you.



NEW CREATION CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

GET CONNECTED Ministry of Service Volunteer Form

NEW MEMBERS INFORMATION			
Last Name:	First:	M.I.	Date:
Street Address:		Apartment/Unit #	
City:	State:	ZIP:	
Phone:	E-mail Address:		
Profession/Occupation:			
<p>1. How long have you attended NCCF? _____</p> <p>2. Have you completed the new members Orientation class? _____ If no, what lessons # do you have remaining? _____</p>			

*"I feel that God is calling me to serve and if required I'm willing to submit to: applications, *background checks, auditions, team meetings...."*
***NOTE: Background checks are normally required to work with youth.**

Comments:
What are your gifts, and what do you love doing? (Order of preference)

1. _____

2. _____

****Please select only the Top 1-3 areas of service – My one to three choices are: (Please number)***

CHILDREN/YOUTH COUNCIL - children@nccf-sa.org

- Children's Sunday School (4-12 yr) Youth Sunday School (13-18 yr) Children's Church Worker (4-12 yr)
children@nccf-sa.org
- Rainbow Tots (1-3 yr) Jr. Rites of Passage Boys (5-13 yr) [<shemar8888@msn.com>](mailto:shemar8888@msn.com)

EVANGELISM (COMMUNITY CARE COUNCIL)

- Prison Fellowship Worker johnmickeljr@hotmail.com
- Haven for Hope worker (Homeless Services) e.marlenej@hotmail.com & kbonner06@sbcglobal.net
- Spanish Translation Sign Language Interpreter
- Senior Care (Nursing Home/Assisted Living) Worker [<whateverbp@satx.rr.com>](mailto:whateverbp@satx.rr.com)

Food Pantry/Clothing Boutique Worker [<brownlin.7922@gmail.com>](mailto:brownlin.7922@gmail.com)

Cathedral Choir (Adults) mrbcross@gmail.com

FINE ARTS/WORSHIP COUNCIL

Youth Choir

Praise Dancers (Vessels of Praise)

Praise Band (Musicians) rob.cockfield@nccf-sa.org

Praise Singers (Judah) paul.cockfield@nccf-sa.org

Joyful Noise Mime Team Member

PRAYER TEAM

Intercessory Prayer Deaconess Terresa Simon [<nicoleteresasimon@gmail.com>](mailto:nicoleteresasimon@gmail.com)

COMMUNICATIONS/MULTIMEDIA <http://www.nccfonline.org/communication-cast-members>

Camera Operator clif@nccf-sa.org

LEADERS DEVELOPMENT

*Elder Transfer seniorelders@nccf-sa.org

*Minister (Already Licensed) seniorelder@nccf-sa.org

*Minister (Desire Licensing) diaconatedir@nccf-sa.org

*Deacon (Already Licensed) diaconatedir@nccf-sa.org

TRANSPORTATION

Van / Shuttle Driver mpactech1@gmail.com

FIRST RESPONDERS/HELPS

Greeters dgricks@hotmail.com

Ushers

Hospitality sgross@nccf-sa.org

Medical Guild mrstiffanycross@gmail.com

Safety shermandg@yahoo.com

DISCIPLEHIP

Membership Services [<darhutch@sbcglobal.net>](mailto:darhutch@sbcglobal.net)

LIFE Group Host caregroups@nccf-sa.org

Email volunteer interest to the director(s) of choice; Cc Deacon Kenneth Bonner at diaconatedir@nccf-sa.org and Elders Juan & Sharon Moore at followup@nccf-sa.org.

NCCF Staff Directory

Church Office: 210-646-7997 or 877-567-NCCF

Office Secretary: Ext. 106

Senior Church Administrator & Executive Asst. to the Bishop: Ext. 112

Executive Asst. to Pastor: Ext. 115

Director of Communications & Public Relations: Ext. 123

Director of Operations: Ext. 111

Director of CYC & Young Adult Ministries: Ext. 124

Director of Discipleship & Fellowship: Ext. 116

Director of Events & Helps Ministry: Ext. 119

Director of Facilities: Ext. 104

Director of Music & Fine Arts: Ext. 122

Senior Accountant: Ext. 119

Finance Clerk: Ext. 101

Administrative Asst. to the Church Administrator: Ext. 125

Communications Asst: Ext. 121

Graphics & Print Productions: Ext. 102

followup@nccf-sa.org

newmembers@nccf-sa.org

diaconatedir@nccf-sa.org

Media Broadcast & Social Media Outlets

Internet Broadcast

Lifestream TV (lifestream.tv) Sunday at 8:00AM AND 11:30 AM CST

Television Broadcast

IMPACT NETWORK on Comcast, Direct TV, & DISH TV
Mon/Wed/Fri: 5:30 am & 2:30 pm

Facebook

Friend us on face book at New Creation Christian Fellowship

Twitter

NCCF-San Antonio@nccf_sa

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