

#winfmc

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# Community Growth Track

win**101**

committed & faithful

Explore how the ministries of winfmc achieve community through commitment to Jesus and faithfulness to His invitation and call.

## **We seek to be a community of committed and faithful followers of Jesus who live, love, and serve with passion and purpose.**

As we focus on our vision for what God has called us to be in Him, we believe that the core of this vision is

### **COMMUNITY**

We believe that God has invited us into **community with Himself** and He has called us into **community with other believers**.

### **GOD HAS INVITED US INTO COMMUNITY WITH HIMSELF**

Sin breaks our close relationship with God. It causes us to fear God and try to live our lives outside of His will.

*The wages of sin is death, BUT the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Romans 6:23

*But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

Romans 5:8

*God is on one side and all people are on the other side, and Christ Jesus is between them to bring them together, by giving His life for all mankind.*

1 Timothy 2:5-6

God has already done His part to restore our relationship to Him. He took the initiative. Now He waits for each of us to individually accept what He has done for us.

### **GOD CALLS US INTO DEEPER COMMUNITY**

#### WORSHIP

1. Communion
2. Scripture
3. Prayer
4. Fasting

#### GIVING

1. Treasure
2. Talent
3. Time

#### SHARING

1. One Another
2. Others

## HOW TO RESTORE YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

1. **Realize** that God has not been first place in our life, and ask Him to forgive your sins.

*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*

1 John 1:9

2. **Believe** that Jesus died to pay for your sins and that He rose from the dead and is alive today.

*If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved.*

Romans 10:9-10

*Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name [Jesus] under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.*

Acts 4:12

*We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.*

1 Thessalonians 4:14

3. **Accept** God's free gift of salvation. Don't try to earn it.

*For it is by grace you are saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is God's gift — not by works, so that no one can boast.*

Ephesians 2:8-9

4. **Invite** Jesus to come into your life and be the Lord of your life

*To all who received him, he gave the right to become children of God. All they needed to do was to trust him to save them. All those who believe this are reborn!—not a physical rebirth resulting from human passion or plan—but from the will of God.*

John 1:12-13

## **You can restore your relationship with God today by praying a simple prayer to Him.**

*Dear Jesus, thank you for creating me and for loving me even when I've ignored you and gone my own way. I realize I need you in my life, and I'm sorry for my sins. I ask you to forgive me. Thank you for dying on the cross for me. As much as I know how, I want to follow You from now on. Please come into my life and make me a new person inside. I accept your free gift of salvation. Please help me to grow now as a Christian.*

*Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*

Romans 10:13

## **CONFIRMING YOUR RELATIONSHIP THROUGH BAPTISM**

We practice baptism by immersion in water, which is the way Jesus was baptized and the way the Bible describes.

*At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove.*

Mark 1:9-10

*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

Matthew 28:19

*Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.*

Matthew 10:32-33

### **BY BEING WATER BAPTIZED YOU ARE**

1. Following the example set by Christ
2. Demonstrating your changed life
3. Declaring your commitment publicly

Water baptism declares publicly what has happened privately.

## COMMUNITY THROUGH WINFMC

**COMMUNITY GROUPS** are groups of individuals who come together to share struggles and encouragement, share in relevant Biblical discussions, pray for one another, serve together, and mature in their walk with Jesus.

- **DISCUSSION GROUPS** (typically 5-35 people) are focused around a book of the Bible, passages of Scripture or topical matters or the Christian life. Discussion groups exist to facilitate relevant Biblical discussions and practical guidance for following Jesus.
- **DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS** (typically 3-6 people) are groups of individuals of the same gender that meet together weekly to build relationships, share in accountability, and receive direction. Discipleship groups exist to intentionally raise up disciples of Jesus who raise up disciples of Jesus.

### Next Steps

#### Committed & Faithful

1. Consider your current commitment and faithfulness to Jesus and, if you have never been baptized, consider taking that step in your faith journey.
2. Commit to being a part of a Community Group.
3. Complete the next steps of the Community Growth Track
  - win101 – committed and faithful
  - win201 – community & covenant
  - win301 – vision & values
  - win401 – passion & purpose