

# GOSPEL COMMUNITIES

The mission of God is to restore all things to himself in and through the work and person of Jesus Christ. His chosen vehicle through which he is accomplishing his mission is the church.

The church is the family of God called to together to himself and sent out on his mission. Gospel communities are the primary means through which New City Church mobilizes people together on mission and connects people to a caring community.

## WHAT IS A GOSPEL COMMUNITY?

A gospel community (GC) is a committed group of believers who live out the mission of God together in a specific area or to a particular people group by demonstrating and proclaiming the gospel—both to those who believe and those who do not yet believe. To clarify, a gospel community is **not** primarily a small group, Bible study, support group, social activist group, or weekly meeting, but a family of missionary servants committed to making disciples of Jesus.

Our desire is that every person who is committed to New City Church's vision and mission will be fully involved in a gospel community.

Consider this fact from early church history. The life of the church as recorded in Acts 2:42-47 came as a result of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit into the lives of a people collectively committed to the mission of God. The events we read about in Acts were not the means of becoming a great church, but the results of God working through a people committed to him and his mission.

We believe that we exist to partner with God to further his mission in every part of our city.

## GOSPEL COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS

1. A GC will be led by a team committed to leading, shepherding, equipping, and organizing a community on mission.
2. A GC will grow together in our Identities in Jesus as Family, Servants, Missionaries, and Disciples.
3. A GC will live out the everyday Rhythms of a family on mission together: Story-formed, Listen, Celebrate, Eat, Bless and ReCreate. A GC will be the church together throughout the week.
4. A GC will identify, equip and, release new leadership to begin new gospel communities

## PATHWAYS INTO A GOSPEL COMMUNITY

1. Fill out a Connect Card and note that you're interested in connecting with a gospel community. A leader will get in touch with you.
2. Talk to a GC leader or New City elder.
3. Go with a friend and check out their GC.
4. Check out the GC map to find one near you and contact a leader.