



# [RE]DISCOVER

PARK CITIES

MISSION | VALUES | STRATEGY | MEASURES



PARKCITIES  
BAPTIST CHURCH



# [RE]DISCOVER

PARK CITIES

## PARTICIPANT GUIDE

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## Welcome to Rediscover Park Cities!

Almost 80 years ago, famed First Baptist Dallas Pastor George W. Truett said, “There ought to be a church” in the Park Cities. Amazing stories have been told through these years as thousands of lives have been changed through the work of Christ. It was the vision of just a few that now allows us the joy of the fruits of this dream of a church so many years ago.

A question for us to consider at this point is, “What is next for Park Cities Baptist Church?” As we lean into our future, we must realize we are building upon a great foundation not for us now, but for those who have yet to come to Christ through the ministry of PCBC. We must always be thinking of those who are not here YET. Thinking, planning and preparing for those who are not here yet communicates the latter half of the great commandment—to love others. Our actions now will dictate our future - a future filled with people who are not yet part of the PCBC family, acknowledging that WE were once those very people!

Rediscover Park Cities is about communicating the path to those who have not heard the story of Christ nor experienced the love of Christ through a people who seek to follow Him every day.

Our prayer is that you will embrace the mission, values, strategies and measures that will guide us and those who are coming to PCBC. We do all these things because our desire is to see a Spirit-led renewal of PCBC, by aligning our lives and all of our ministries to the mission Christ, resulting in a rediscovery of a vibrant local and global influence of the Gospel in our world.

## The Vision Before Us

Rediscover Park Cities starts with each of us celebrating what God has done and is going to do as we embrace our future together. Together as a church family, let's be unified around this vision to revitalize:

- Our Priority of Prayer - devoting ourselves to call upon God to move among us.
- Our Guest Experience - loving newcomers and guests with the love of Jesus.
- Our Spirit-filled Worship Gatherings - pouring our hearts out to Him every week.
- Our Multi-year focus in Four Key Areas: Family Ministry, Leadership Development, Mission Deployment and Overflowing Generosity.

## Praying Together to Pursue the Heart of God

Perhaps most importantly, our journey of rediscovery will guide us through daily Bible readings and a 30-day prayer focus through the month of November. We are fully dependent on His power and spirit to lead our Park Cities Baptist Church mightily in the days ahead.

All of the great revivals throughout the history of the Church have started with prayer. Prayer leads us to a rediscovery of God's great love for us and His mission among us.

In the little town of Herrnhut, Saxony (modern-day Germany), Nikolaus Zinzendorf (1700-1760) helped refugees fleeing religious persecution to establish on his estate. Out of this group was born a spiritual revival that began with prayer gatherings which fueled a desire to follow Christ to the ends of the earth.

Zinzendorf's words ring true today: "I have but one passion: It is He, it is He alone. The world is the field and the field is the world; and henceforth that country shall be my home where I can be most used in winning souls for Christ."

The Moravians were passionate about gathering with one another, praying with one another, and spreading the Gospel together. Zinzendorf said, "There can be no Christianity without community." It was a radical call to prayer, obedience in community, and an outward focus on all who did not know Christ.

May the Holy Spirit empower each one of us - and our PCBC community - with that call!

I'm thankful to be on this journey of rediscovering with you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff" with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

Dr. Jeff Warren  
Senior Pastor

## 30 Days of Prayer and Bible Reading

Matthew 9:35-38

The Workers Are Few

35 Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

Jesus saw people with eyes of compassion. He saw their spiritual needs for a shepherd for their souls. He pointed out that there are plenty of people who don't know His love. He sees the people who do not know Him as a “Harvest Field.” He asked them, and he asks us, to pray that God would send workers into the harvest field.

In essence, this is “Rescuing one another from cultural Christianity to follow Jesus every day.” As you read the selected scriptures over the next 30 days, ask Jesus to show you how you can become one of those who works His harvest (the people who don't know Him) in your sphere of influence. Pray that you will see people as they really are, harassed and helpless, and have compassion on them. For the next 30 days, ask Jesus to help you rediscover how God wants to work through you personally and PCBC.

**“Brethren, we shall never see much change for the better in our churches in general till the prayer meeting occupies a higher place in the esteem of Christians.”**  
- Charles Haddon Spurgeon

### November 1-4

#### Daily Bible Reading Plan and Personal Prayer Time

- **Thursday** - Mark 9:35—Jesus, may I follow your example as I pass through my neighborhood, workplace and community by sharing how You have transformed my life.
- **Friday** - Mark 9:36—Jesus, give me eyes to see the people in my world and have compassion for their spiritual needs as much as I do for their physical needs.
- **Saturday** - Mark 9:37-38—Jesus, send me and our church out into the world to share with the people who are ready to hear what Jesus has done in my life.
- **Sunday** - **Lord, help me rediscover how You want me to share Your love with others, in and through my church, and throughout my life, as I follow You every day.**

## Churchwide, Unified Prayers Throughout November

**As a church family, all are invited to gather at 8:30 am on Sunday mornings in November in the Fellowship Hall and pray each of these prayers as one body:**

- **Nov 4** - We join our hearts in prayer to express our gratitude that You have called us to this church at this time for Your purpose. We are seeking to rediscover and accept our mission to follow You as Your true disciples and not to become cultural Christians. Help us be faithful to Your word, our call to love others, and share the good news that Jesus came to restore us to relationship with You. May we be a church who constantly fights our drift into cultural Christianity, but seeks to follow Jesus every day individually, and as a church. In Jesus' Name, Amen.
- **Nov 11** - We join our hearts in prayer as one church on Your mission to rescue one another from cultural Christianity to follow Jesus every day. We want to do this by opening our heart to be the true worshippers You are seeking by worshipping You in spirit and in truth. We recognize our need to connect with other Christians in Your word and for regular encouragement. We accept Your call to serve in our communities and globally as we tell people in our world about Who You are and what You did in overcoming the sin of the world through the cross of Christ. Help each one of us rediscover our true calling to be Your disciple as evidenced in the way we worship, connect, serve and multiply. In Jesus' Name, Amen.
- **Nov 18** - Together we pray that we as individuals and our church will value what you value. Help us never deny the power of the Gospel. We pray that we will experience the wonder of Your grace more and more as we offer Your grace to each other and our community. May that grace stir up an overflowing generosity through our members who value Your work more than worldly pursuits. Make us willing to follow You courageously and not be resistant to changes You may be drawing us to make to reach the lost. Make us mindful that "night cometh" and our time to love and serve you as individuals and as a church is short. In Jesus' Name, Amen.
- **Nov 25** - What does God say? How can I obey? Whom will I tell? As you did in Ezra's time we ask you to do in our time. Restore our hearts and our church to the true worship that You are seeking. May we be a church and a people who know your voice, obey with love, and freely share the love that You pour into our hearts into the communities where we live and throughout the world. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

# [MISSION]

IS WHAT WE ARE DOING.

Park Cities Baptist Church is more than buildings. It is a family of believers, founded to be a Great Commission Church, with all of us moving passionately together toward a common mission.

## A brief timeline of PCBC

### 1939

PCBC is officially chartered on October 29, 1939 and gives \$66.91 as a Lottie Moon International Missions offering.

### 1940

First Missions Committee formed.

### 1945

PCBC acquires 10 acres of land on the outskirts of Dallas at Northwest Highway and Preston Road.

### 1964

PCBC begins broadcasting Sunday services on WFAA-TV.

### 1966

Park Cities participates in a series of layman's crusades in the United States, Canada and the Caribbean.

### 1982

The church begins two Sunday worship services and two Sunday School sessions.

### 1989 50th Anniversary

Park Cities is honored as one of the strongest mission-supporting churches in the Southern Baptist Convention.

### 2001

PCBC ministers to the city with a memorial worship service on Sept. 14.

### 2006

The Community Life Center is completed and worship services begin in the Great Hall during October.

### 2007

PCBC ordains its first women deacons.

### 2008

Spanish-language worship service begins on Sunday mornings in the Gym.

### 2009

PCBC increases local and global mission efforts through the Acts 1:8 initiative.

### 2010

PCBC establishes a technology-enhanced Prayer Room as part of its Prayer Ministry.

### 2012

PCBC launches Faith@Home, a wealth of resources for families to strengthen their relationships and make their faith real at home.

### 2013

Through lay leaders, The Joshua Project presents vision for coming decades.

### 2014 75th Anniversary

Outdoor Baptism Celebration marked more than 7,040 baptisms since the first baptism on Dec. 17, 1939.

### 2016

PCBC leads city in a time of prayer and racial healing, following the tragic killing of 5 police officers.

### 2017

PCBC opens new west side access to Sanctuary and launches new Worship and Connect Schedule.



## life. on Purpose.

Park Cities is a church that was planted *with* purpose and *on* purpose.

## Park Cities Baptist Church Mission

“To the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, we exist to make \_\_\_\_\_ by  
\_\_\_\_\_ one another from \_\_\_\_\_  
to follow \_\_\_\_\_ every day.”

## What is God rescuing us FROM?

\_\_\_\_\_ Christianity

## Marks of Cultural Christianity

- Denying the \_\_\_\_\_ of scripture. (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21)
- Ignoring true \_\_\_\_\_ as the first step toward knowing God. (Matthew 4:17; Acts 2:38)
- Focusing on Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_ and acceptance to the exclusion of His teachings on hell, obedience, and self-sacrifice. (Mark 9:42-47; Luke 12:5)
- Tolerating or even celebrating ongoing \_\_\_\_\_ while claiming to know God. (Romans 1:32; 1 Corinthians 5:1-2; 1 John 3:9-10)
- Redefining scriptural truths to \_\_\_\_\_ culture. (Numbers 23:19; Malachi 3:6)
- Claiming God’s \_\_\_\_\_ while ignoring the requirements included with them. (Psalm 50:16-17; Jeremiah 18:9-10)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus’ claim that He is the only way to God. (John 3:15-18; 14:6)
- At great peril, \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus’ clear warning in Matthew 7:21-23.

## To summarize, cultural Christianity is:

- Religion vs. Relationship
- Law vs. Grace
- Doing vs. Being
- Consumerism vs. Discipleship
- Weekly vs. Daily Walk with God

## What is God rescuing us TO?

To \_\_\_\_\_ every day.

God is rescuing us to:

- \_\_\_\_\_

Let the peace of Christ keep you in tune with each other, in step with each other. None of this going off and doing your own thing. And cultivate thankfulness. Let the Word of Christ—the Message—have the run of the house. Give it plenty of room in your lives. Instruct and direct one another using good common sense. And sing, sing your hearts out to God!

- Colossians 3:15-17

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Class discussion questions:

What does following Jesus every day look like?

- In YOUR life?
- In the life and ministry of our CHURCH?

Read Acts 2:42-47

**Q:** What specific ways did this church express what God had rescued them TO?

Together as a class, brainstorm ways we can show evidence that we've been rescued from cultural Christianity, and ways we are engaged in rescuing others.

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This week, pray that the Lord will open your eyes to evidences of cultural Christianity... not only in the lives of those around you, but also in your own life.

## Daily Bible Reading Plan and Personal Prayer Time

Read the attached scripture passages and consider the phrase “Follow Jesus Every Day.” What does it mean when Jesus says “Follow Me?”

Pray that the Holy Spirit will encourage you to faithfully follow Jesus.

- **Monday** – John 12:26—Jesus, show me how to follow and serve You by seeing the spiritual needs of my neighbors, co-workers, and family.
- **Tuesday** – Matthew 16:24—Jesus, show me how I need to deny myself in order to follow Jesus’ mission for me to tell others about His love.
- **Wednesday** – John 8:12—Jesus, give me a passion to pray, invite, and reach out to people in my sphere of influence who do not know Jesus because they are dying in their sins.
- **Thursday** – Mark 10:21—Jesus, show me what I lack and reveal how I am trying to be too much a part of the world and am holding back from following You.
- **Friday** – Luke 9:59—Jesus, reveal to me the excuses I rationalize for why I don’t follow You by sharing my personal experience with You with people in my sphere of influence.
- **Saturday** – John 10:27—Jesus, help me hear Your voice so that I can affirm that I am truly following You.
- **Sunday** – **Jesus, help me rediscover how God wants to work through me and PCBC.**



## Confessions of a Cultural Christian: Stan Knight

“I was a pretty good guy, but Jesus wasn’t the center of my life.”

That’s how Stan Knight describes his life as a successful attorney, raised in a strong faith community, and a member of Park Cities Baptist Church for 40+ years along with his wife, Elizabeth.

When Stan met a man named Charlie Bruton, everything changed. Charlie was a client of Stan’s, facing a 10-year felony sentence - and Stan was prompted to visit him in prison, something he had never been inclined to do before.

“It wasn’t until later that I realized God had directed that path,” Stan recalls. It became the first of many visits to Charlie during his prison time.

For the 10 years Charlie was behind bars, he and Stan exchanged letters. And during all those years, God was working in Stan’s life in a whole new way. “God was calling me to follow Him more closely, to get off the bench and get in the game.”

Stan and Charlie’s friendship grew, and Stan began sharing the gospel with

Charlie - and Charlie later accepted Christ! Stan began to interact with leaders of the prison outreach, Weekend of Champions, and soon began volunteering.

**“GOD WAS CALLING ME TO FOLLOW HIM MORE CLOSELY, TO GET OFF THE BENCH AND GET IN THE GAME.”**

“The more I got involved in ministering to prisoners, the more I lost interest in my law practice,” shares Stan. He knew God was turning his heart toward full time prison ministry. But how, with a daughter about to head to college? In a matter of days, two complete strangers offered financial support in the exact amount Stan needed to close his law practice and begin ministering to prisoners every day.

Ordained at PCBC as a minister in 1999, Stan has never looked back and has never been more convinced that he was indeed “rescued from cultural Christianity to follow Jesus every day!”

# [VALUES]

ARE **WHY** WE ARE ON MISSION.

Values are \_\_\_\_\_ that guide our \_\_\_\_\_  
and reveal our \_\_\_\_\_.

## The Five Guiding Values Of PCBC

### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ **Gospel**

Read Ephesians 3:14-21

**Q:** What are some of the descriptive words/phrases Paul uses here to describe the Gospel?

For more study on this topic, go to [www.gotquestions.org](http://www.gotquestions.org) and type in “What is the gospel?” into the search bar. Discuss why the gospel is of such great value to us as we are on mission together.

### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ **Grace**

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

**Q:** How does this passage describe the grace that has been bestowed upon us through Christ?

Additional verses describing grace: Ephesians 2:4-5; 8-9, 2 Corinthians 9:8, Romans 3:22-25. Discuss these with those around you. Go to [www.openbible.info/topics](http://www.openbible.info/topics) and type “grace” into the search bar. What are some additional meaningful scriptures about grace? Alternatively, use your concordance to look up “grace.”

### 3. \_\_\_\_\_ **Generosity**

Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Discuss with those around you: In what ways can we begin to overcome our natural tendency to keep what we believe is our own and become radically generous in kingdom giving?

To find additional scriptures that describe generosity, go to [www.openbible.info/topics](http://www.openbible.info/topics) and type “generosity” into the search bar. Discuss your findings with those around you.

### 4. \_\_\_\_\_ **Innovation**

Read 1 Corinthians 9:19-27

**Q:** In what ways was Paul describing his ability and willingness to be innovative in sharing the Gospel?

Why is it important that we be willing to adapt our methodologies in sharing Christ with those around us?

### 5. \_\_\_\_\_ **Urgency**

Read John 9:4-5

**Q:** Why is it urgent that we be on mission for Christ?

## Questions/Discussions

As you fill in the blanks and read the scriptures that help to guide our 5 core values at PCBC, discuss:

- What are some actions, ministries, and results of the fact that we hold these things to be valuable? How do we LIVE OUT these values?
- Think: How can I personally be involved in allowing these values to shape my ministry to my church and to those living in darkness around me? How will these values change my life and the lives of those I am seeking to rescue?
- How can our class show evidence of having embraced these values as we serve together?

How will these values change my personal engagement with the mission of PCBC as I genuinely begin to adopt them?

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## Daily Bible Reading Plan and Personal Prayer Time

Read the attached scripture passages and consider why we are on mission together.

Pray that your understanding of our values grows this week.

- **Monday** – Romans 1:16—Jesus, show me ways I have been ashamed to share that I know You and help me be bold to share how much You love me.
- **Tuesday** – Deuteronomy 31:6—Jesus, make Your presence known in my life today; help me see the people in my world the way You see them.
- **Wednesday** – 1 Corinthians 15:1-4—Jesus, may Your death, burial and resurrection not be an empty belief. Help Your cross take on dramatic significance in my thinking today.
- **Thursday** – Hebrews 4:16; Romans 11:6—Jesus, may my understanding of grace increase as I give grace to someone today who does not deserve it.
- **Friday** – Acts 20:35; Psalm 112:5—Jesus, may I treat others in a way that pleases You. Please help me see Your blessing for what I have done.
- **Saturday** – Romans 13:11; Revelation 1:3; 3:11—Jesus, keep me ever mindful that my life here is short and help me not waste the days You give me on empty pursuits.
- **Sunday** – **God, help me follow Your will to share Christ with others, offer inexhaustible grace to all, think and live generously, be creative in using the gifts You have given me, and do it all with urgency to bring glory to Your Name!**





## A Church for Your Whole Life: Innovations for All Generations

### Kids Worship

Launched in August 2018, Kindergarten - 2nd grade kids at PCBC now have a new worship gathering that is geared just for them! Kids Worship is designed to capture their heart, spirit and learning style by teaching Gospel truths through stories, humor, music and activities.

**“My kids love the energy in Kids Worship. Leaders are great at being fun and also calming the room down when we need to focus on God’s Word.”**

- Chris Darwin

“Kids Worship is wonderful for our younger kids who are just learning what worship is about. Jay and his team have done a great job of incorporating the traditional elements of worship (praising the Lord, prayer, message, offering, etc.) into ways that our little ones can understand and participate fully in. My 2nd grader looks forward to it every week!”

- Lauren Stewart

### In-Home & Visitation Ministry

PCBC’s In-Home Ministry was created to serve our members who have been active and generous in the past, but for many different reasons, cannot attend our worship gatherings and other events in person. Volunteers make regular visits to dozens of homebound members, lead Bible studies, bring cards and flowers on special occasions and encourage these treasured men and women who remain vital to the life of our church.

The Deacon Visitation Ministry began with a handful of deacons committed to visiting and praying with those in hospitals - and has grown to over 80 volunteers who visit hospitals, rehab facilities and nursing homes across Dallas. “We bring loving, Christian support to church members and to their families and friends,” explains Deacon Vice-Chair, Laura Dronzek.

Honoring and serving wherever and to whomever they are sent, PCBC visitation volunteers are making a difference in the lives of our foundational members and in our community as a church that loves, cares and provides comfort.





# [STRATEGY]

IS **HOW** WE ARE FULFILLING OUR MISSION.

Our church strategy clarifies a \_\_\_\_\_ of involvement for all who are on mission with us.

Our strategy is more a \_\_\_\_\_ than a \_\_\_\_\_.

Our strategy answers the key questions:

- Where do I go?
- What do I do next?

## PCBC 4-step Strategy

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (weekly)

### Discuss:

What is “worship?” Worship has to do with the attitude of our hearts toward our God, and is expressed in our work, our family life, our financial decisions, and our interactions with others.

Scriptures describing worship:

- John 4:24
- Romans 12:1
- Hebrews 13:15
- Psalm 29:2

2. \_\_\_\_\_ (weekly)

**Discuss:**

What is the value of connecting:

- With others at PCBC
- With God's Word
- With our mission

Discuss: What are ways you have found to connect at PCBC?

3. \_\_\_\_\_ (regularly)

**Q:** In addition to “on campus” opportunities, what are other service options available to us through PCBC?

Check our website at [PCBC.ORG/SERVE](http://PCBC.ORG/SERVE) to learn more about the ways you can serve:

- On Campus
- Locally
- Globally

4. \_\_\_\_\_ (always)

As a lifestyle, we seek to make disciples who themselves become disciple-makers.

**Discuss:**

What are ways we can become disciple makers (Multipliers)?

- Before you become a multiplier, ensure you are a follower. (One who follows and obeys...) Jesus said repeatedly to His disciples, “Come, follow me.” Find places Jesus said “Come, follow me” in scripture. Go to [openbible.info/topics/come\\_follow\\_me](http://openbible.info/topics/come_follow_me) or use your concordance to find many of these.
- Become a mentor.
- Build a habit of making new friends as you come across people in all walks of your life. (I can more effectively pray for and share my testimony with people I know and with whom I regularly interact.) See [www.pray4everyhome.org](http://www.pray4everyhome.org) for a great tool to get to know your neighbors.
- Regularly share your testimony and the gospel. (Read John 4:39. for the value of a testimony.)
- Pray for the non-believers you know.
- Keep a prayer journal so you can more often share how God has answered prayers in your life.

Why is it so vital that we take responsibility for multiplying disciples?

Go to [www.gotquestions.org](http://www.gotquestions.org) and type “Why is making disciples important?” into the search bar. With two or three people around you, discuss your findings.

For additional scriptures, go to [www.openbible.info/topics](http://www.openbible.info/topics) and type in “multiply disciples.” Find 2-3 additional scriptures to support your answer(s). Prepare to share with the large group why this is so important.

My personal strategy as I participate in the mission of PCBC will be to:

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## Daily Bible Reading Plan and Personal Prayer Time

Read the attached scripture passages and consider why we are on mission together.

Pray that your understanding of our strategy grows this week.

- **Monday** – Matthew 24:35—Jesus, help me to invest my time in reading Your Word because it is an investment in my own eternity.
- **Tuesday** – Hebrews 12:28—Jesus, help me to see how awesome You are in my life today and to have courage to tell someone else what I experienced today.
- **Wednesday** – 2 Timothy 2:2—Jesus, show me someone today with whom I can share what I have been taught by You.
- **Thursday** – Colossians 3:16—Jesus, show me someone today with whom I can share my gratefulness for what You have done for me.
- **Friday** – Luke 4:8—Jesus, help me see if I am serving myself or something else above serving You.
- **Saturday** – Psalm 29:2; 95:6—Jesus, as I kneel in prayer right now, help me connect more deeply with the honor I am given to worship You.
- **Sunday** – **Lord, help me rediscover my commitment to worship, connect, serve and disciple others through my faithful attendance and involvement at PCBC.**

## The Heart of a Servant: Chad Salge

*Chad wasn't quite sure what to expect on his first mission trip to South Texas. He knew he wanted to help meet practical needs, but more than anything, he wanted to learn from and identify with the people he was serving. There's no better way to share this story than for Chad himself to tell it!*

I would venture to say that a lot of us have lived a life that is very comfortable and haven't had to worry too much about safety or housing or food or clothing. But what if God placed you in a family that was entirely different than that? What if you grew up in an area with very little opportunity for prosperity?

What if when you actually made it to a place of hope and promise, you ended up scratching for every last penny to simply feed your wife and children and had no other money to provide clothing or shoes or any such necessities?

What if this was your house?



*PCBC men's team serving with Pastor Victor Ramirez in South Texas.*

Eight people in one room. No bathroom, no flooring, simply carpet over dirt, no roof, only plywood with no shingles.

What if you had to come home to these two sweet daughters and weren't sure how you were going to provide for them?



It was hard to imagine such things until I was able to walk a few days in the shoes of the people of South Texas...and what an incredibly humbling and rewarding experience it was. To see the

impoverished conditions was eye opening. To see Pastor Victor Ramirez (Iglesia Vino Nuevo) being the hands and feet of Jesus was encouraging. To serve alongside our Christian brothers was reinforcing. And, to see the hope in the families we served who have such a steep mountain to climb was simply inspiring.

Although none of us are professional contractors, we managed to roof, sheetrock, tape and mud. Although none of us are professional carpenters, we managed to build and deliver beds to people who otherwise would have to sleep on the floor. Although none of us are professional pastors, we managed to witness to and pray for these sweet families. Although I may not be an empathetic person, this experience managed to open my eyes and my heart to a people who could really use my friendship and contribution.

I have attended PCBC for nearly 10 years now and have always heard that the South Texas mission trip was incredibly impactful. I must say that I regret that it has taken me so long to partake. So, don't be like me! The next time you get a chance to serve with and witness to the people of South Texas, do everything you can to make it happen. It will surely bless you just as much or maybe even more than the people you are serving!



# [MEASURES]

HOW WE KNOW **WHEN** WE ARE SUCCEEDING.

## 3 Key Measurements for Members of PCBC

1. What is God \_\_\_\_\_ to me?

Read Psalm 1

- What two types of people are described in this passage?
- What is the primary mark of a righteous person according to this passage?
- What is the difference between reading/knowing and delighting in God's Word?

2. How will I \_\_\_\_\_?

Read John 14:15

It is important to remember that our obedience to God is not solely a matter of duty. We obey Him because we love Him (John 14:23). Also, we understand that the spirit of obedience is as important as the act of obedience. We serve the Lord in humility, singleness of heart, and love.

We must beware of using a veneer of obedience to mask a sinful heart. Living the Christian life is not all about rules. The Pharisees in Jesus' time relentlessly pursued acts of obedience to the Law, but they became self-righteous, believing they deserved heaven because of what they had done. They considered themselves worthy before God, who owed them a reward; however, the Bible tells us that, without Christ, even our best, most righteous works are as "filthy rags" (Isaiah 64:6). The Pharisees' external obedience still lacked something, and Jesus exposed their heart attitude. Their hypocrisy in obeying the "letter of the law" while violating its spirit characterized their lives, and Jesus rebuked them sharply: "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which indeed appear beautiful outside, but inside they are full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. Even so you also appear righteous to men outwardly, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity" (Matthew 23:27-28). The Pharisees were obedient in some respects, but they "neglected the weightier matters of the law" (Matthew 23:23, ESV).

Today, we are not called to obey the Law of Moses. That has been fulfilled in Christ (Matthew 5:17). We are to obey the “law of Christ,” which is a law of love (Galatians 6:2; John 13:34). Jesus stated the greatest commands of all: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the prophets hang on these two commandments” (Matthew 22:36–40).

If we love God, we will obey Him. We won’t be perfect in our obedience, but our desire is to submit to the Lord and display good works. When we love God and obey Him, we naturally have love for one another. Obedience to God’s commands will make us light and salt in a dark and tasteless world (Matthew 5:13–16).

### 3. Whom will I \_\_\_\_\_?

Read John 4:39–43 and John 1:35–42.

- What is the value of you telling others about how Christ has changed your life?
- In the passage about the woman at the well, what was the impact of her simple testimony, “He told me all that I ever did.”
- Who in your sphere of influence needs to hear about Jesus from you?

Read John 13:35.

- What about our lives and interactions with those around us who are living in darkness will be a proof to them that we are Christians? “By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”
- What was Jesus’ response in Mark 12:28–31 when He was asked what the greatest commandment was? “...you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

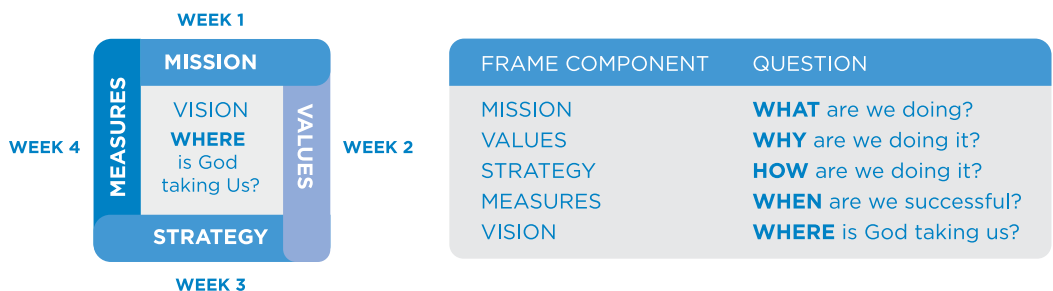
For additional study on this topic, go to [www.gotquestions.org](http://www.gotquestions.org) and type “How can I evangelize my friends and family without pushing them away?” in the search box.



## The Vision Frame

With your class, discuss the elements of the VISION FRAME, as a summary of what has guided our study these past few weeks.

Pray with your class that we will better understand and become more personally engaged in the mission, strategies, values, and measures that guide the vision of Park Cities Baptist Church.



## Daily Bible Reading Plan and Personal Prayer Time

Read the attached scripture passages and ask these three questions of each:

*What is God saying? How will I obey (is this a command, or an example to follow)? Whom will I tell?*

Pray that your understanding of and obedience to these scriptural challenges will grow this week.

- **Monday** - 1 Corinthians 13:1-7—Jesus, may the love I show to others make them wonder how I can be so patient, kind, gentle, not easily angered, etc.
- **Tuesday** - 2 Corinthians 4:16-18—Jesus, help me not get overly focused on the hard things that You allow in my life, but make my hope in eternity.
- **Wednesday** - 2 Timothy 2:1-2—Jesus, show me who You have placed in my life to teach what I know about You.
- **Thursday** - 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17—Jesus, may I receive Your strength to do the good deeds You put before me.
- **Friday** - Colossians 3:12-14—Jesus, help me be as faithful to forgive as You have forgiven me through love that brings unity.
- **Saturday** - Hebrews 5:12-14—Jesus, may I be mature in my faith.
- **Sunday** - **Lord Jesus, help my faith in You to grow, continue to speak to me and lead me to anyone that I can tell about Your amazing grace. Today and in the days ahead, pour out Your Spirit on Park Cities Baptist Church! Lord, do it again!**





## How Will I Obey? Little Things That Matter Most: Candi and Jack Hollingsed

PCBC has been home for Candi Hollingsed and her family since 2013. She and her 13-year-old son Jack were both baptized here. It's a place where they belong and regularly connect with friends, classmates and neighbors. But if there's anyone who believes that faith extends far beyond Sunday's four walls, it's Candi.

Last Christmas, Candi rallied the families in Jack's 6th grade class at White Rock Elementary, several of whom are members at Park Cities, to provide Christmas gifts for all 57 elderly residents at DiversaCare, a nursing facility for elderly patients battling dementia, Alzheimer's and other challenges.

"It all started with a divine 'nudge,'" shares Candi. "I just felt like I needed to stop in. I asked if they had any plans for Christmas and if I could help."

Inside, she was greeted by a lone Christmas tree, adorned with 57 paper angels. Inscribed on the backs were each resident's meager requests. Socks. Slippers. Pajamas. No one asked for much. Without hesitation, Candi took five angels from the tree.

"Then I started thinking, 'What if no one else sponsors the other residents? What if only a few even receive gifts at all?'" She returned to collect all 57 angels.

"I had no idea how it would come together. It just started with an e-mail."

These simple actions led to Jack's class raising \$1,400 to purchase the gifts, with the local J.C. Penney manager also chipping in to provide a discount!

Donned in Santa hats, Jack's class delivered the gifts, sang carols and hugged patients, many of whom have never had a visitor. "It really was a miracle. A beautiful moment for everyone there."

In the small, quiet, in-between moments of life, our faith often grows the most. "The littlest things—things that seem insignificant—matter to God. We are terrified of rejection and it keeps us from acting on what the Holy Spirit is saying to us. Listen to that small voice—it doesn't have to be grand or ornate—or even hosted by the church—for it to be a service to God."

# THE REST

## OF THE STORY

You might hear the phrase, "The Rest of the Story," and remember the great Paul Harvey cleverly weaving one anecdote after another on his daily radio program. Harvey was a master at his craft. During his 40+ year broadcasting career, he created the sense that he was in each listener's living room, that he was your closest friend just sharing his heart. In short, Paul Harvey made an impact through his gift of storytelling.

Now we come to "the rest of the story" for Park Cities Baptist Church! God Himself is the Author, and WE are the storytellers. We are the ones with the opportunity to share our hearts and make an impact. We are the ones God has called to take the next steps that will add to the rich, vibrant legacy of PCBC. What an exciting assignment! We must act in order to build upon the foundation of those who have gone before us by providing a place for those whom God will bring to our door, and be the "church for their whole lives."

What will the next five years look like for us? As we boldly look to our future, it will take all of us seeking to follow Jesus every day and asking the irreducible questions:

What is God saying to me?

How will I obey?

Whom will I tell?

Our Rediscover Park Cities sermon series and Connect Group lessons have helped us all prepare for the days ahead. The vision is before us. Let's give it all of our hearts, souls and energies to be a part of claiming generations to come for His glory. It's really a remarkable journey!

Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

- Ephesians 3:20-21



## Worth the Jump: Camille Dameron

Fresh out of college and new to Dallas, Camille Dameron was looking for a church home, a place she could lay down roots.

“I wasn’t really connecting at the other churches I visited. The first time I went to Park Cities, I fell in love almost immediately. People were so warm and kind. I saw seven-year-olds worshipping alongside 85-year-olds, and that felt like my own family—multigenerational, but everyone very close.”

Camille kept attending worship services every week, and was compelled after one message to introduce herself to Dr. Jeff Warren.

“He just listened to me and said, ‘I really think you’re supposed to be here.’ It was confirmation for what God was already telling me to do. After that, I immediately signed up for a Discover class and to get baptized.”

Every step toward getting plugged in was a step of faith for Camille. One week, she walked into a singles Connect

class without knowing a soul. “Meeting Catie Bennet was really the foundation of my jumping in at PCBC!” Camille smiles. “I can’t emphasize enough how significant that was for me. Her inclusivity and friendliness gave me the courage to get involved.”

Camille now serves in the High School ministry, putting her days as a camp counselor to good use.

“It’s been such a surreal experience. Every time I tried something new, I thought I’d be alone, but instead, it felt like I was being greeted by friends.”

For those who still aren’t sure how to get plugged in, or if its worth the risk, she has some parting advice:

**“It only takes meeting or reaching out to one person for it all to come together. You’ll get to be a part of something really significant—to this city, to society. It’s 100 percent worth the jump!”**

## Answer Key

### Week 1

#### Mission

Glory  
Disciples  
Rescuing  
Cultural Christianity  
Jesus

#### Rescuing us FROM

Cultural

#### Marks of Cultural Christianity

Inspiration  
Repentance  
Love  
Sin  
Accommodate  
Promises  
Denying/Minimizing  
Ignoring

#### Rescuing Us TO

Follow Jesus  
Himself  
His Church  
The World

### Week 2

#### Values

Convictions  
Decisions  
Strengths

#### Guiding Values

Boundless  
Inexhaustible  
Overflowing  
Courageous  
Relentless

### Week 3

#### Strategy

Simple Pathway  
Map  
Menu

#### 4-step Strategy

Worship  
Connect  
Serve  
Multiply

### Week 4

#### Measures

Saying  
Obey  
Tell







## OUR MISSION

To the glory of God, we exist to make disciples by rescuing one another from cultural Christianity to follow Jesus every day.



# [RE]DISCOVER

PARK CITIES

Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

- Ephesians 3:20-21



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