



FINDING YOUR DESTINY
growth track

STEP TWO: GET CONNECTED

- How to share Christ with others
- Getting connected through connect groups and classes
- Getting connected with what's happening at Destiny
- Destiny finances and government

HOW TO SHARE CHRIST WITH OTHERS

One of our primary purposes as a church is to reach people who don't yet have a relationship with God. Each and every one of us can do our part by following these four principles:

1. Accept the personal _____
2. Build a personal _____
3. Share your personal _____
4. Give a personal _____

IN OUR CITY, OUR NATION, AND OUR WORLD

Jesus gave His church a mandate to reach the world in three areas:

"You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." **Acts 1:8**

1. "In Jerusalem" — _____

"Real religion, the kind that passes muster before God the Father, is this: Reach out to the homeless and loveless in their plight." **James 1:27 MSG**

The primary way we reach our immediate community is through our Sunday services, special outreach opportunities, and the intentional relationships with our community in which we are established: partnerships with the Cornerstone Rescue Mission, Love INC, Crisis Pregnancy Center, International Students Inc, Carenet Pregnancy Center, Black Hills Healing Rooms, etc.

2. "In Judea and Samaria" — _____

"As they traveled from town to town, they presented the simple guidelines the Jerusalem apostles and leaders had come up with. That turned out to be most helpful. Day after day the congregations became stronger in faith and larger in size." **Acts 16:4-5 MSG**

The primary way we reach our nation is by equipping new leaders, starting new churches, and strengthening existing churches through the Gateway District of Foursquare Churches

Learn more about the Gateway District at gatewayfoursquare.org.

3. "To the ends of the earth" — _____

"Jesus said to His followers, 'Go everywhere in the world, and tell the Good News to everyone.'"
Mark 16:15 NCV

The primary way we reach our world is through strategic missions. At Destiny, we intentionally invest a portion of our resources in missions work all around the world with a focus on unreached people groups, children, and church planting.

HOW YOU CAN JOIN US:

1. _____

Pray that we might reach people in each of these areas with the Good News of Jesus.

*“Then He said to His disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field.’” **Matthew 9:37–38***

2. _____

Serve in these areas and help show God’s love to those who are “forgotten.”

*“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!” He said, “Go and tell this people: “‘Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.” **Isaiah 6:8-9***

3. _____

Give your time and resources to reach people for Christ.

*“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be.” **MATTHEW 6:19–21***

GET CONNECTED: CONNECT GROUPS

We believe life change happens in the context of relationships. Connect Groups have one simple purpose: to bring people together. God created us to live in community with others, and it is only then that we can experience the full life He intends for us.

DESTINY CONNECT GROUPS PROVIDE THREE THINGS

1. **A place to _____ with others.**

*“Yes, whatever a person is like, I try to find common ground with him so he will let me tell him about Christ and let Christ save him.” **1 Corinthians 9:22 TLB***

We were not made to do life alone. God created us for community, and connect groups provide a place for you to connect with others, share life, and grow in faith together.

2. **A place to _____ with each other.**

*“We know what real love is because Jesus gave up His life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters.” **1 John 3:16 NLT***

When we do life together, our problems become smaller as God uses others to bring support and encouragement to our lives. Connect groups become a place where others don’t just know your name but care about what is happening in your life and want to support you in your spiritual journey.

3. **A place to _____ together.**

*“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.” **Proverbs 27:17***

We believe every person is created with God-given potential to make a difference in the world. Connect groups are a place you can grow with others to become more like Jesus and reach the potential God has put inside you.

HOW CONNECT GROUPS WORK

We base our connect groups model on the early church as described in the book of Acts. There you can read about how small gatherings in homes helped lay the foundation for tremendous growth in the first church in Jerusalem.

“Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.” Acts 5:42

“You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house.” Acts 20:20

FOUR THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT DESTINY’S CONNECT GROUPS

1. Our groups are “free market.”

We want people to gather together based on things they enjoy and are important to them. Essentially, the things you are already doing in your life are the things that we want to make up our connect groups! From sports groups to lunch groups, parenting groups to student groups, Bible study groups to creative arts groups — our groups are as varied as we are. Our groups fall within eight hubs:

Men • Women • Marriage and Family • Students • Freedom • Prayer • Outreach • Financial

2. There are three semesters every year.

Life flows in seasons, and we want to make it easy for you to be in the right connect group for you in each season. This is why we have new groups that start and stop three times a year in what we refer to as “semesters.”

Winter/Spring – 13 Weeks Summer – 6 Weeks Fall – 13 Weeks

3. Everyone can join a group.

Our hope is for every person at Destiny to be connected in meaningful community. We are confident there is a group that is a great fit for you. You can search groups by topic, location, day, and time in our online directory at www.mydestiny.family/groups. Once you find a few groups that interest you, contact the leaders to learn more and make plans to check them out in person.

4. Anyone can lead or host a group.

We believe hosting a group is simple because we all have something to offer others. Whether it’s something you are passionate about, an experience you’ve had that can help others, or an area in which you are looking to grow, hosting a group is a great way to bring people together in meaningful community.

If you feel unsure, you can also sign up to be a host. What does this mean? A host simply provides a meeting place for a small group.

To learn more about becoming a small group leader or host, you’ll need to attend a Small Group Leadership Training after completing the Growth Track. Even if you’re not sure if you’re ready to host a group, we invite you to come to a training.

DESTINY CHURCH GOVERNMENT

As you consider investing your heart, time, family, and finances into the life of a church, it is important for you to feel confident in church leadership. Our goal in sharing the details of Destiny's government is that you will understand that our church is structured to support the values of integrity, accountability, and spiritual authority.

Our church government is made up of three groups of elders:

1. Guided by _____

The pastoral staff team is led by Pastors Shawn and Deanna. This team oversees the day-to-day ministry and operations of the church. These staff pastors serve the congregation and are responsible for the development of the spiritual life of the church.

2. Protected by the _____

Our Council Team are several members of the congregation recommended by the Lead Pastors and voted in by the congregation to oversee the finances and direct the provision of the facilities needed by the church. They provide counsel to the Lead Pastors regarding the major financial commitments of the church.

3. Strengthened by _____

The Gateway District of Foursquare Churches serves, oversees, pastors, trains, and disciples Foursquare leaders and pastors in our region. There are teams and leadership in place to provide spiritual protection to the church. They may be called upon to help in accountability matters relating to the Lead Pastors, if requested to do so by the staff Pastors or Council.

CHURCH FINANCES

"Every Sunday each of you make an offering and put it in safekeeping. Be as generous as you can. When I get there you'll have it ready, and I won't have to make a special appeal." **1 Corinthians 16:1-4 MSG**

At Destiny Foursquare Church, we practice tithing for the support of Christ's body, the church, as God commands. We recognize that giving 10% of our income is the Biblical standard for giving.

"Be sure to set aside a tenth of all that your fields produce each year." **Deuteronomy 14:22-26**

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it." **MALACHI 3:10**

Giving is one of the central themes in the Bible. Jesus talked more about this subject than heaven, hell, or prayer. To understand what it means to be a Christ-follower, we must also understand what it means to be a giver.

Tithe

The tithe, or "first fruits" of our labor/income belong to God. We find this principle all through God's Word. Tithing, giving God the first 10% of our income to the local church, is the primary, practical way we acknowledge that God is first (Proverbs 3:9-10).

Offerings

An offering is giving over and above the tithe. The Bible says that by giving generously, we are able to "take hold of the life that is truly life" (1 Timothy 6:18-19).

The Gift of Giving

The gift of giving is a spiritual gift that God gives to some people (Romans 12:8). It is a Spirit-given capacity and desire to serve God by giving of your material resources, far beyond the tithe, to further the work of God.

Many people love to give to God and as they do, they want to feel confident in the organization through which they give. At Destiny, we want people to understand they are giving to God through the church, not to the church. As we openly share the honesty, integrity, and spiritual values that guide the financial practices of Destiny, we believe people can focus on what God is calling them to give and trust that He is leading our church to steward it well.

The giving of tithes and offerings is worship to Jesus and an expression of the relationship between the individual giver and the Lord. Funds are not “income only,” they are worship and are not considered to be a business transaction but an expression of gratitude toward God.

STEP 2: NEXT STEPS

1. BECOME A MEMBER OF DESTINY FOURSQUARE CHURCH

You've been hanging out with us. Maybe it's time to take the next step?

2. JOIN A CONNECT GROUP

Browse our online directory of groups at www.mydestiny.family/groups. Find a group that interests you, contact the leader, and make plans to try it out in person.

3. COMPLETE ALL STEPS OF THE GROWTH TRACK

Step One - KNOW GOD

Step Two - GET CONNECTED

Step Three - DISCOVER PURPOSE