

# Membership Class

# MISSION & VISION

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Making fully devoted followers of Jesus.

Saturating our cities with the Gospel  
by multiplying Gospel Communities.

# WHAT WE BELIEVE

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**Fundamentals**

**Doctrinal Distinctives**

**Values**

# ABOUT US

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## What We Believe

We as elders and leaders of Cross+Crown Church believe that there are both open-handed issues and closed-handed issues in matters of theology. We affirm the eloquent words of the German theologian Rupertus Meldenius, “In essentials unity, in non-essentials liberty; in all things love.” For us, the following are essential.

# Fundamentals

## TRINITY

There is one Triune God, eternally existing in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; co-eternal in being, co-eternal in nature, co-equal in power and glory, having the same attributes and perfections ([Deuteronomy 6:4](#); [2 Corinthians 13:14](#)).

In the words of the Athanasian Creed, “we worship one God in Trinity, and Trinity in Unity; neither confounding the Persons; nor dividing the Essence. For there is one Person of the Father; another of the Son; and another of the Holy Ghost. But the Godhead of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, is all one; the Glory equal, the Majesty coeternal.”

## **Deuteronomy 6:4**

“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.”

# Fundamentals

## DEITY OF CHRIST

The Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinful man ([John 1:1-2](#); [John 1:14](#); [Luke 1:35](#)).

## **John 1:1-2**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.



# Fundamentals

## **SALVATION BY GRACE**

Salvation is the gift of God brought to man by grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, whose precious blood was shed on Calvary for the forgiveness of our sins. This salvation is not by works but by grace through faith in the finished work of Jesus on the cross in our place for our sin ([Ephesians 2:8–10](#), [John 1:12](#); [Ephesians 1:7](#); [1 Peter 1:18–19](#)).

## **Ephesians 2:8–10**

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

## **1 Peter 1:18–19**

...knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

# Fundamentals

## INERRANCY AND AUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE

The Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the verbally inspired word of God, the final authority for faith and life, inerrant in the original writings, infallible, and God-breathed (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Matthew 5:18; John 16:12-13).

## **2 Timothy 3:16–17**

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

## **2 Peter 1:20–21**

...knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

# Fundamentals

## RETURN OF CHRIST TO RULE, REIGN AND JUDGE

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where, as our High Priest, He fulfills the ministry as Representative, Intercessor, and Advocate ([Acts 1:9-10](#); [Hebrews 7:25](#); [Hebrews 9:24](#); [Romans 8:34](#); [1 John 2:1-2](#)). We believe Jesus is coming again to rule, reign and judge the living and the dead ([1 Peter 4:5](#); [Romans 14:9](#); [2 Timothy 4:1](#); [Revelation 19:15-16](#)).

## **Hebrews 7:25**

Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.



## **Hebrews 9:24**

For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

## **2 Timothy 4:1**

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom...

# ABOUT US

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## Doctrinal Distinctives

+ GOSPEL CENTRALITY

+ CONCERNING SALVATION

+ SPIRIT EMPOWERED MINISTRY

+ COMPLEMENTARIAN RELATIONSHIPS

+ THE MISSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LOCAL CHURCH

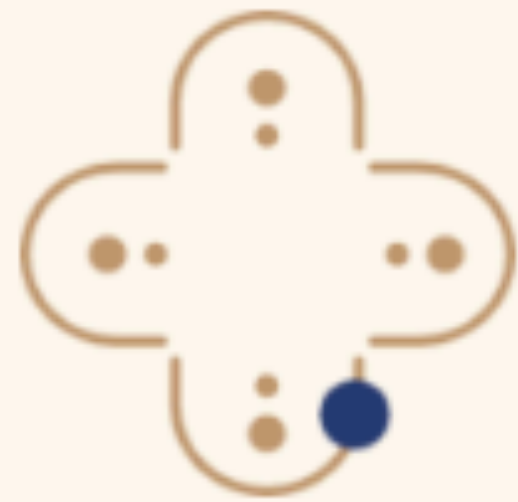


# VALUES

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**BIBLICAL TRUTH**



**AUTHENTIC  
COMMUNITIES**



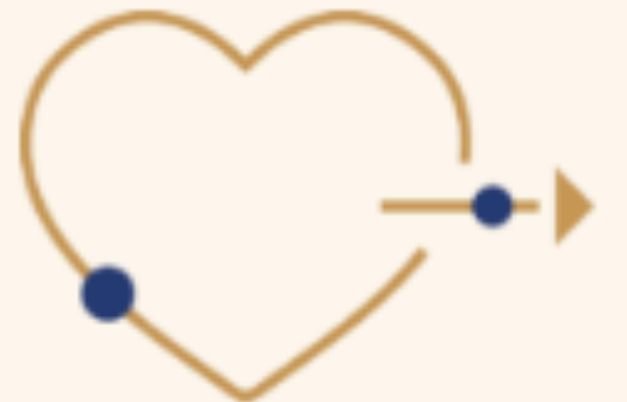
**INNOVATION**



**BEAUTY**



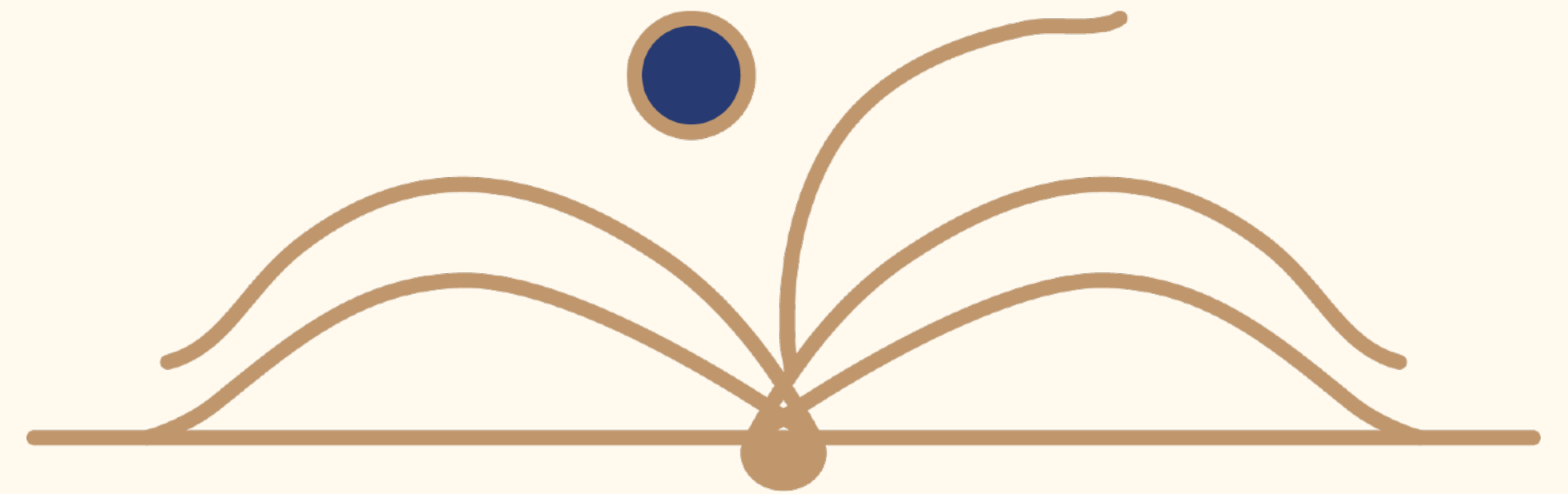
**SERVICE &  
PARTICIPATION**



**GENEROSITY**

# BIBLICAL TRUTH

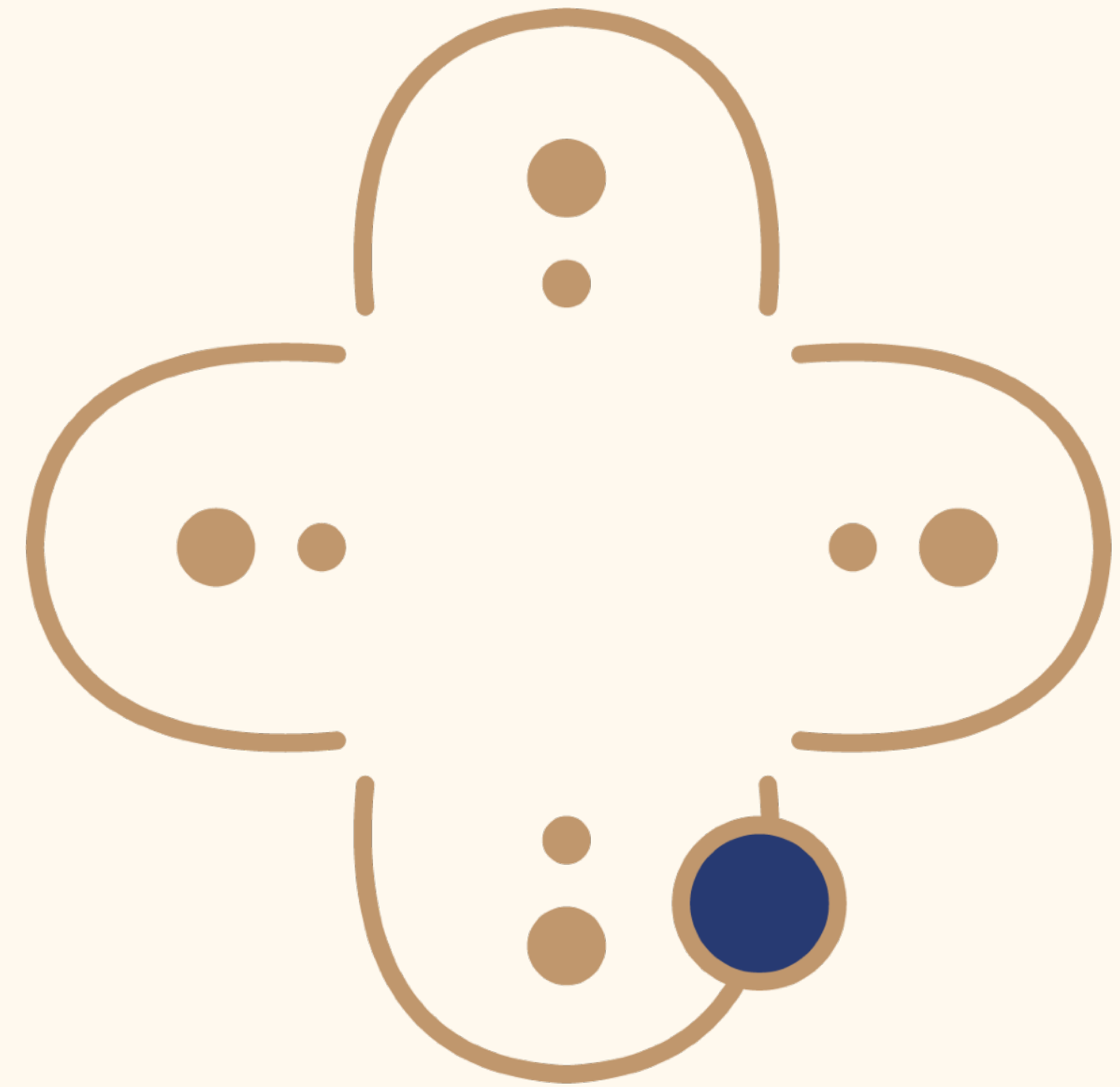
We value Biblical truth instead of cultural relativism. We value the teaching and application of the Bible as the source of truth and the standard for life.



**CROSS + CROWN**

# AUTHENTIC COMMUNITIES

We value authentic communities  
instead of people living in isolation.  
Compelled by the love of Christ, we  
value people from diverse nationalities,  
ethnicities, generations and  
backgrounds.

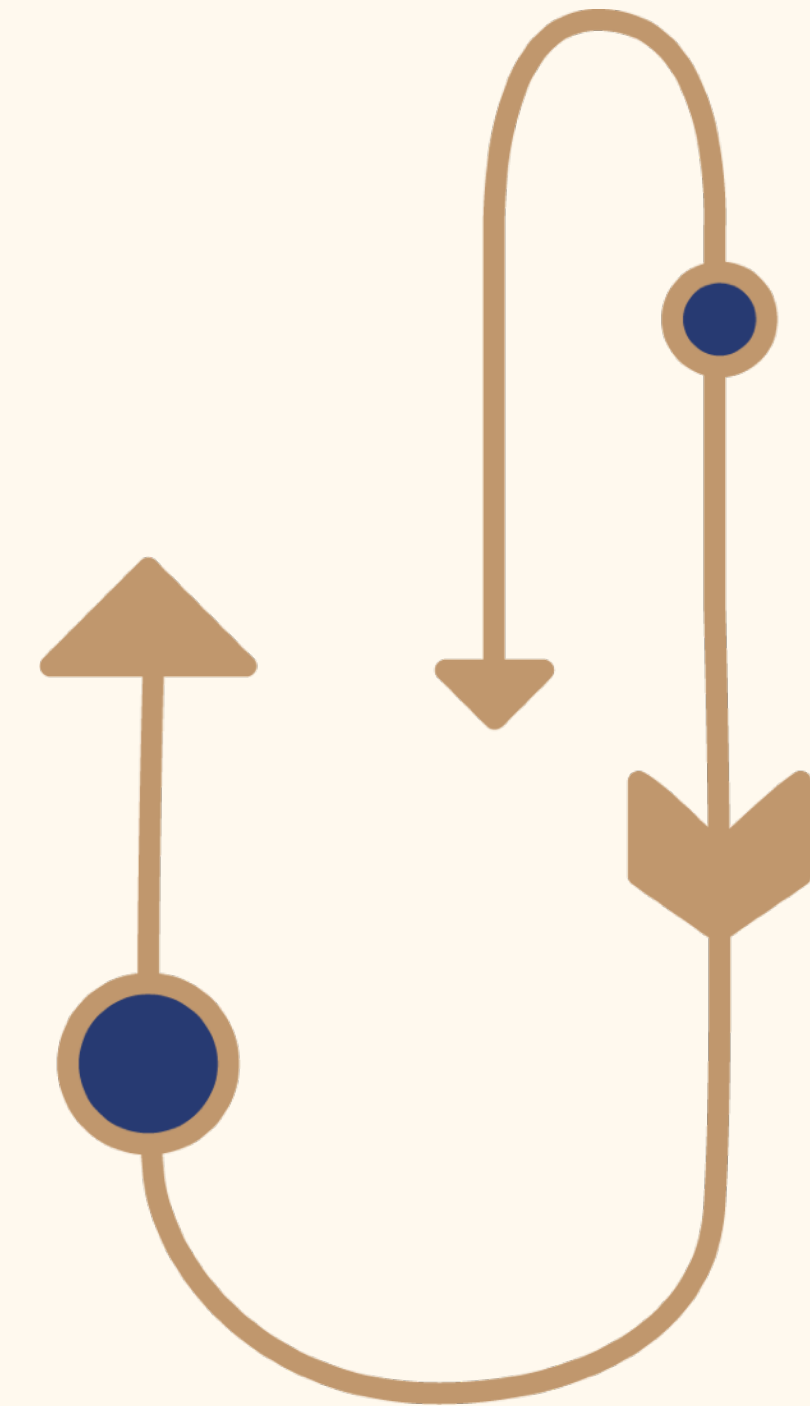


**CROSS + CROWN**

# INNOVATION

We value innovation instead of preserving the status quo. While the message of the Gospel is timeless, communicating it to an ever changing culture must be continuously reinvented.

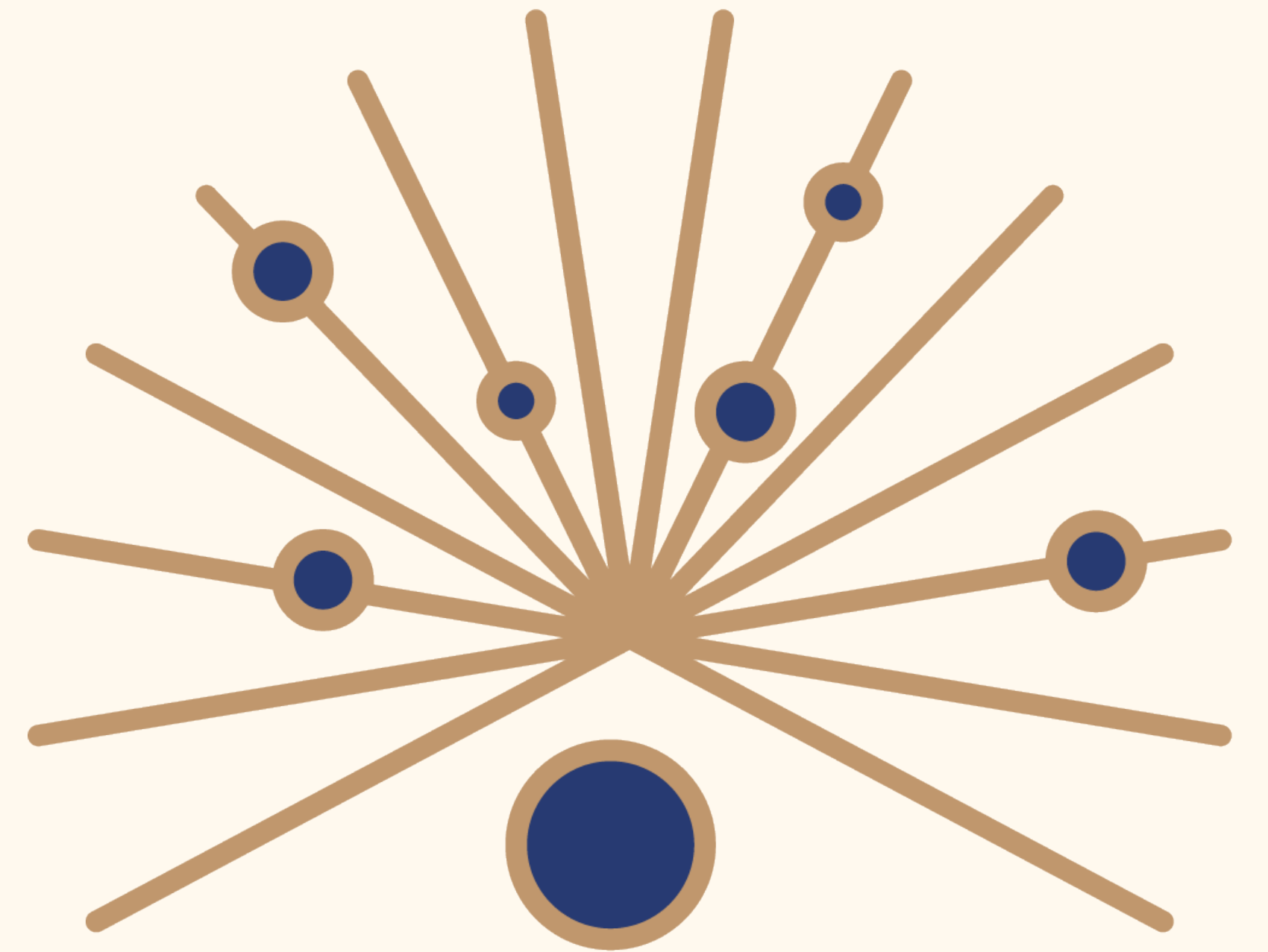
**CROSS+CROWN**





# BEAUTY

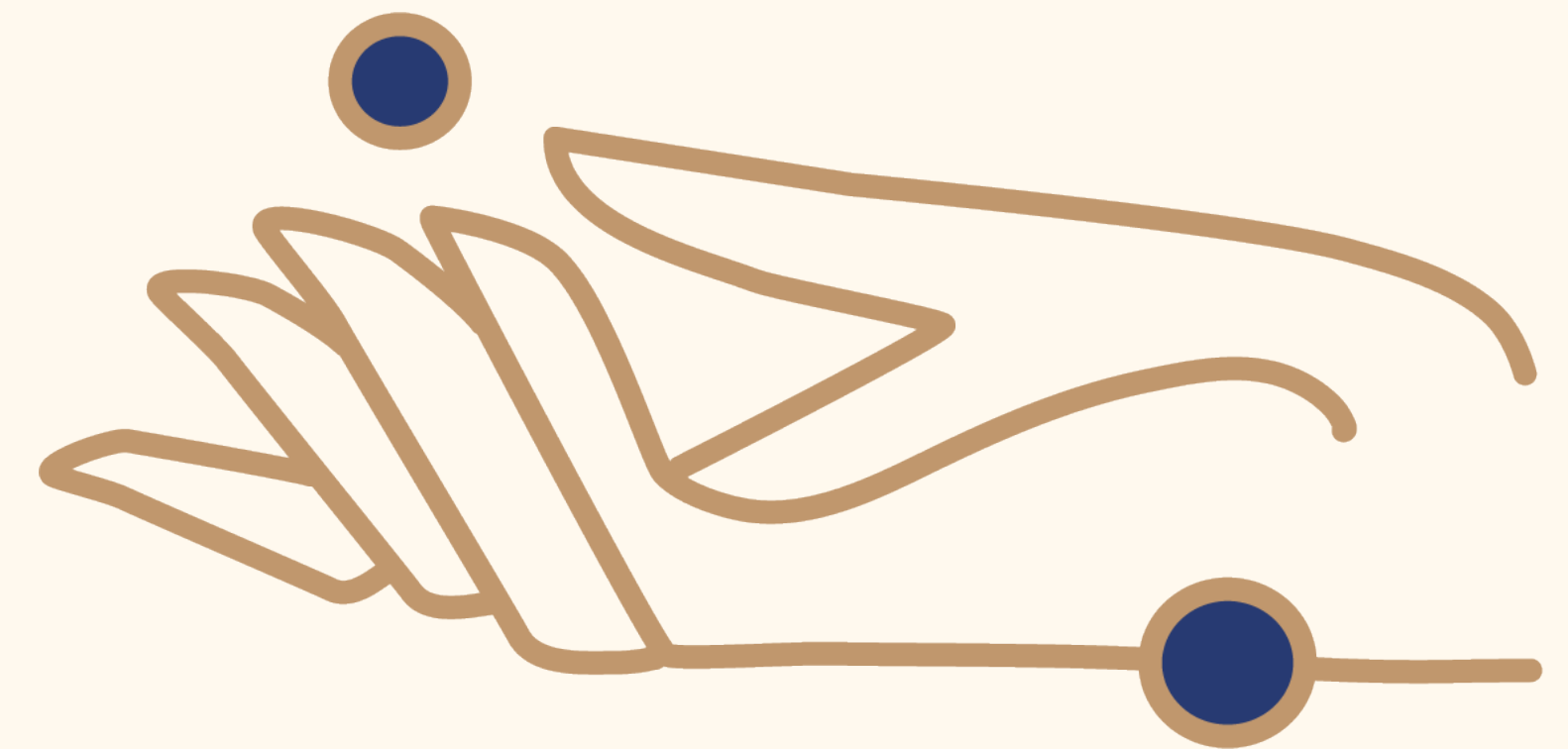
We value beauty instead of mediocrity.  
The beauty of Christ and the glory of  
God propels us to pursue excellence in  
all we do.



**CROSS + CROWN**

# SERVICE & PARTICIPATION

We value service and participation instead of spectating. We desire for every person to be involved in worship and service, reflecting their various talents, gifts and unique personalities.

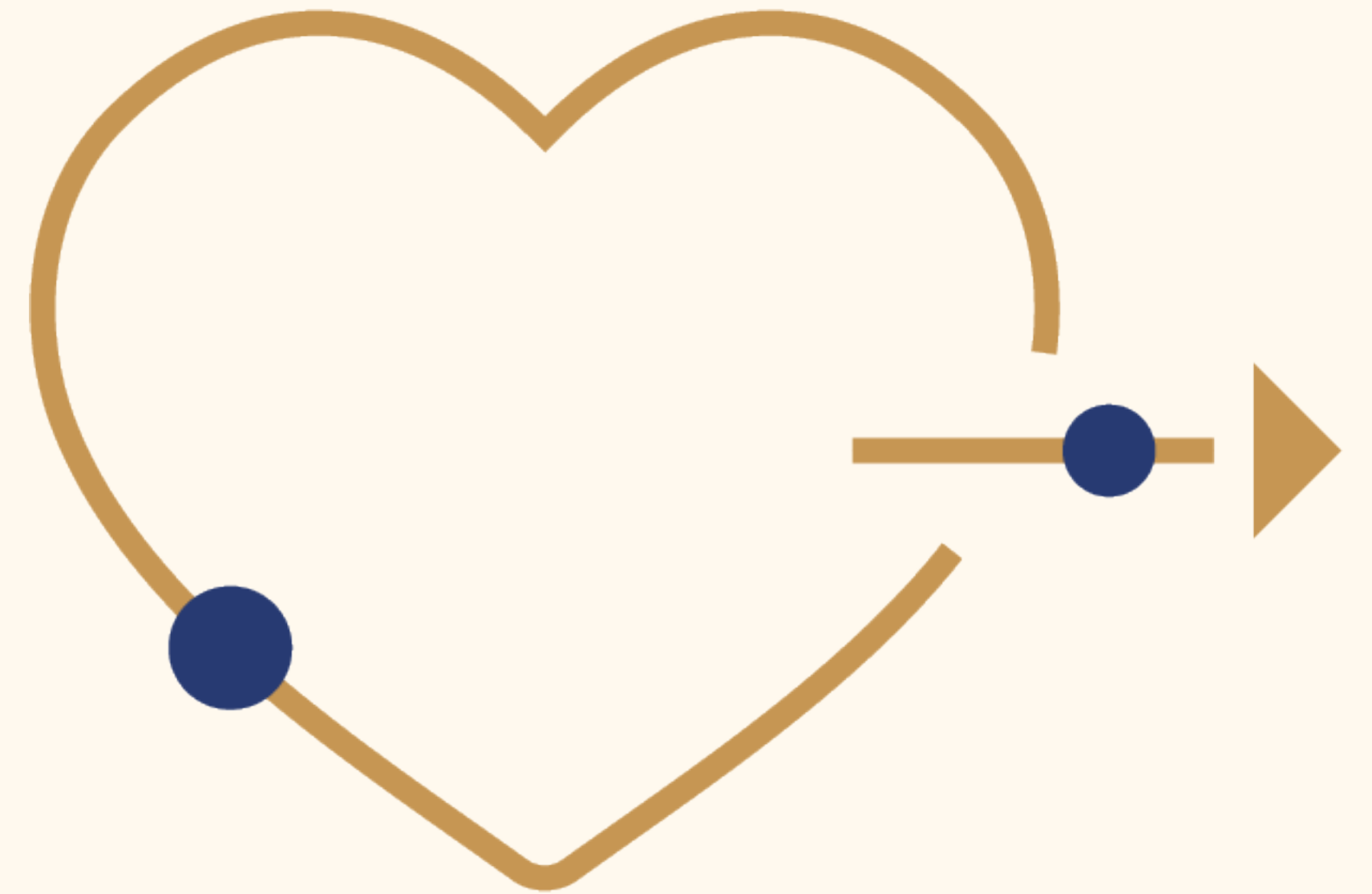


**CROSS + CROWN**

# GENEROSITY

Living generously instead of allowing a poverty mentality. We believe that we can be a conduit of all that God has graciously entrusted to us as His stewards so that our resources do not terminate on ourselves.

**CROSS + CROWN**





# Membership

# Membership

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## REQUIREMENTS

**+ CHRISTIAN**

**+ COMMUNITY GROUP PARTICIPANT**

**+ ATTENDING SERVICE REGULARLY**

**+ SERVING WITH TIME & TALENTS**

**+ AGREE WITH FUNDAMENTALS**

**+ SUBMITTING TO LEADERSHIP**

## **Romans 12:4–6a**

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them...

# ***Mission & Vision***



# MISSION & VISION

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Making fully devoted followers of Jesus.

Saturating our cities with the Gospel  
by multiplying Gospel Communities.

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# Leadership Structure

# FAMILY OF CHURCHES

As an organization we exist as a family of churches in multiple locations. We are committed to Biblical eldership. The organization is led by an executive leadership team of qualified elders. The local churches are led by elders that operate under the leadership of the local lead pastor. As a group, the local elders support the lead pastor and hold him accountable.

Our local congregations operate in a marriage of independence and interdependence, but never autonomously. While the local churches share a common vision and mission, resources, best practices, organizational leadership and systems, they are locally-staffed, locally-led and locally-responsible to own the lostness of their geography.

# FAMILY OF CHURCHES

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## Church Planting Strategy

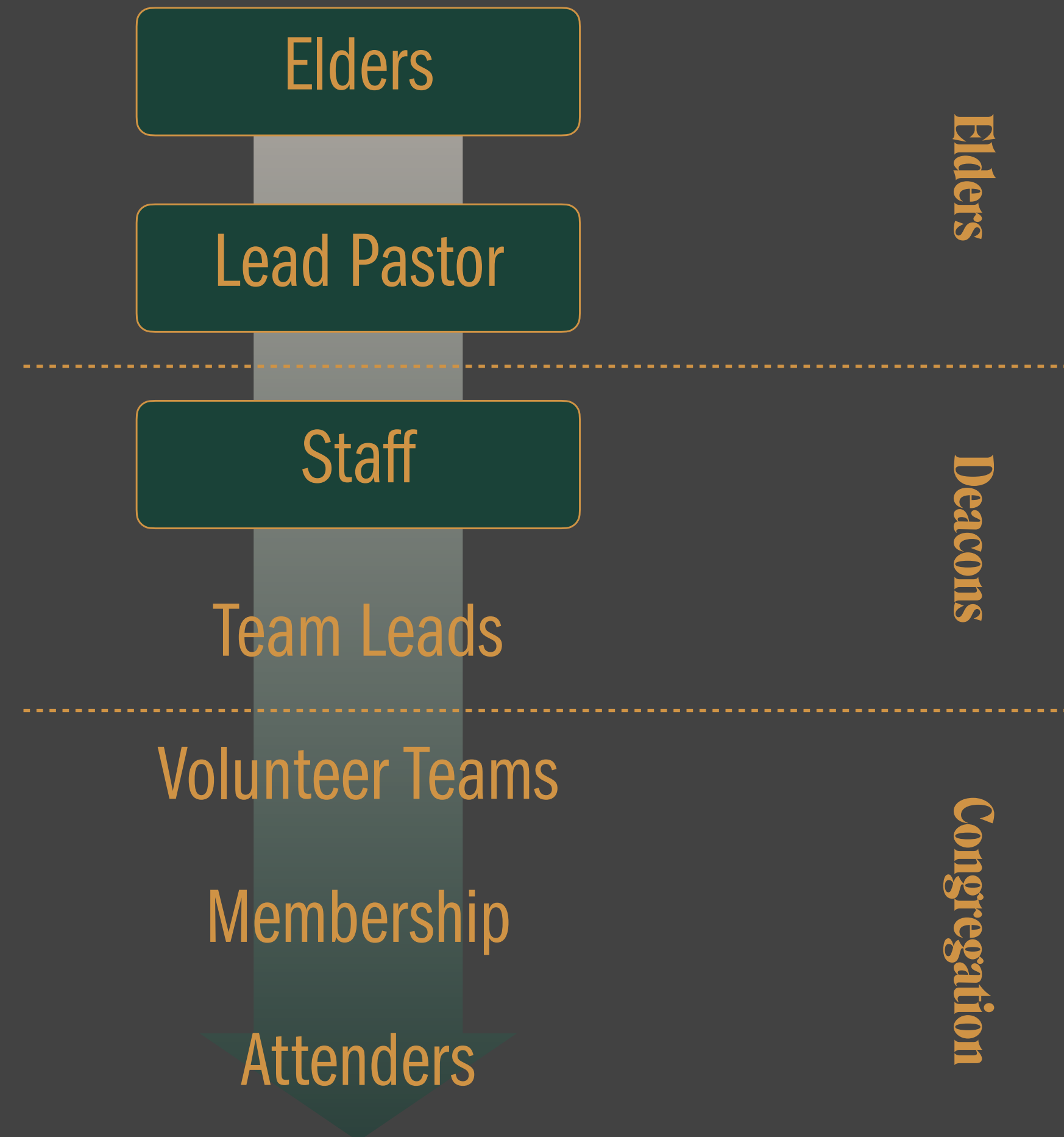
**+ SHARED VISION**

**+ SHARED LEADERSHIP**

**+ SHARED RESOURCES**

# Local Church Leadership Structure

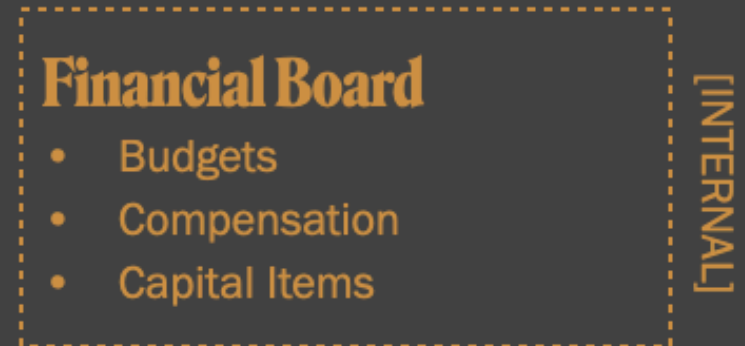
JESUS - Chief Shepherd



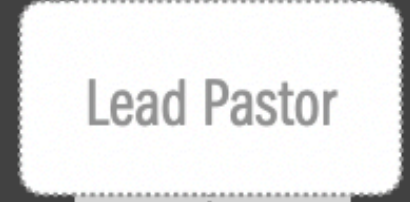
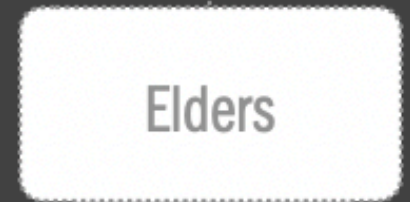
**Localized mission: owning the lostness of our geography.**

# JESUS - Chief Shepherd

## Family of Churches



## Local Church



Team Leads

Team Leads

Team Leads

Team Leads

Volunteer Teams

Volunteer Teams

Volunteer Teams

Volunteer Teams

Membership

Membership

Membership

Membership

Attendees

Attendees

Attendees

Attendees

Elders

Deacons

Congregation

**Localized mission: owning the lostness of our geography.**

# Interdependence

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- + SHARED VISION**
- + COMMON MISSION**
- + OUR FUNDAMENTALS, DOCTRINAL DISTINCTIVES, CORE VALUES**
- + UNITED LEADERSHIP TEAM (EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM)**
- + SENIOR PASTOR, EXECUTIVE PASTOR**
- + ORGANIZATIONAL STAFF**
- + RESOURCES**
- + FINANCES**
- + SYSTEMS**
- + BEST PRACTICES**



# Independence

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## **+ LOCAL LEADERSHIP**

- LEAD PASTOR, LOCAL ELDERS, STAFF

## **+ CONTEXTUALIZED MISSION**

- LOCATION SPECIFIC MINISTRIES, SERVICE TIMES, CARE

## **+ OWNING THE LOSTNESS OF THEIR GEOGRAPHY**

- PARTNERING WITH LOCAL CHURCHES, MINISTRIES, SPECIFIC EVANGELISM AND OUTREACH

## **+ LOCAL AUTHORITY**

- ALLOCATION OF APPROVED BUDGET, SERVICE TIMES, CHURCH DISCIPLINE, STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

8

# Discipleship

# Familiarity with Terms

## DISCIPLE



CHRISTIANS

NON-CHRISTIANS

## DISCIPLESHIP



CHRISTIANS

NON-CHRISTIANS

■ VERY FAMILIAR ■ SOMEWHAT FAMILIAR ■ NEVER HEARD OF

# Familiarity with Terms

## DISCIPLING SOMEONE



CHRISTIANS

NON-CHRISTIANS

## DISCIPLE MAKING



CHRISTIANS

NON-CHRISTIANS

■ VERY FAMILIAR ■ SOMEWHAT FAMILIAR ■ NEVER HEARD OF

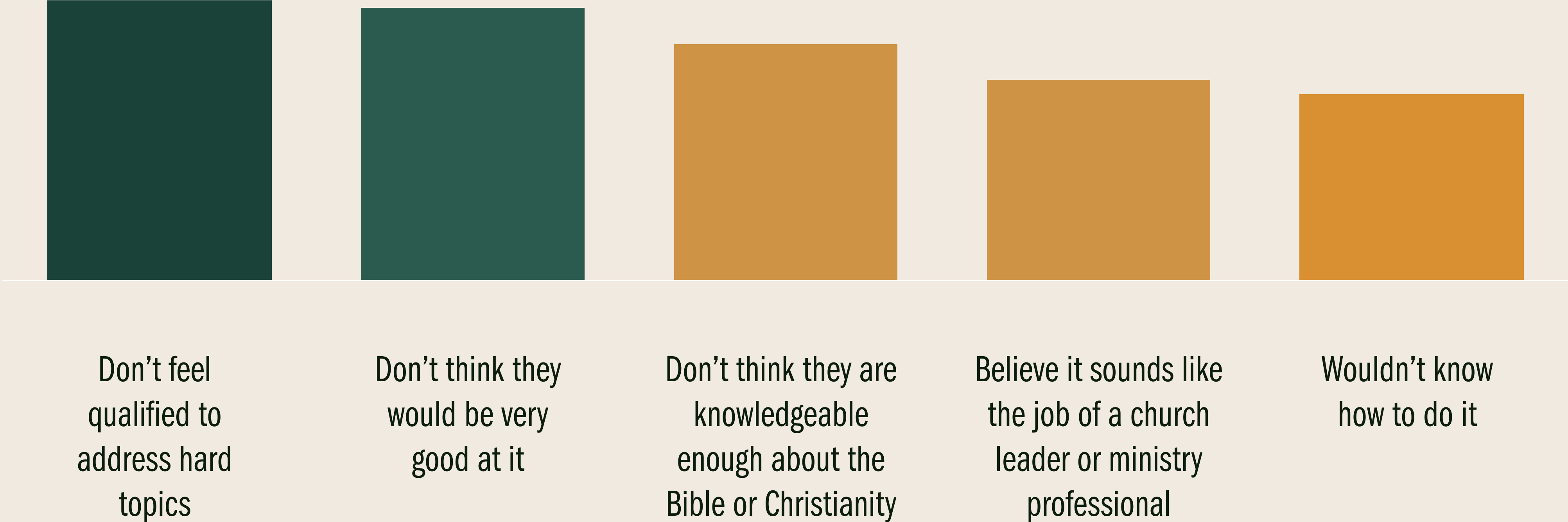
n=2,930 U.S. adults, June 1-July 4, 2020. Research conducted by Barna Group.

# Challenges or Barriers for American Christians INTERESTED in making disciples...



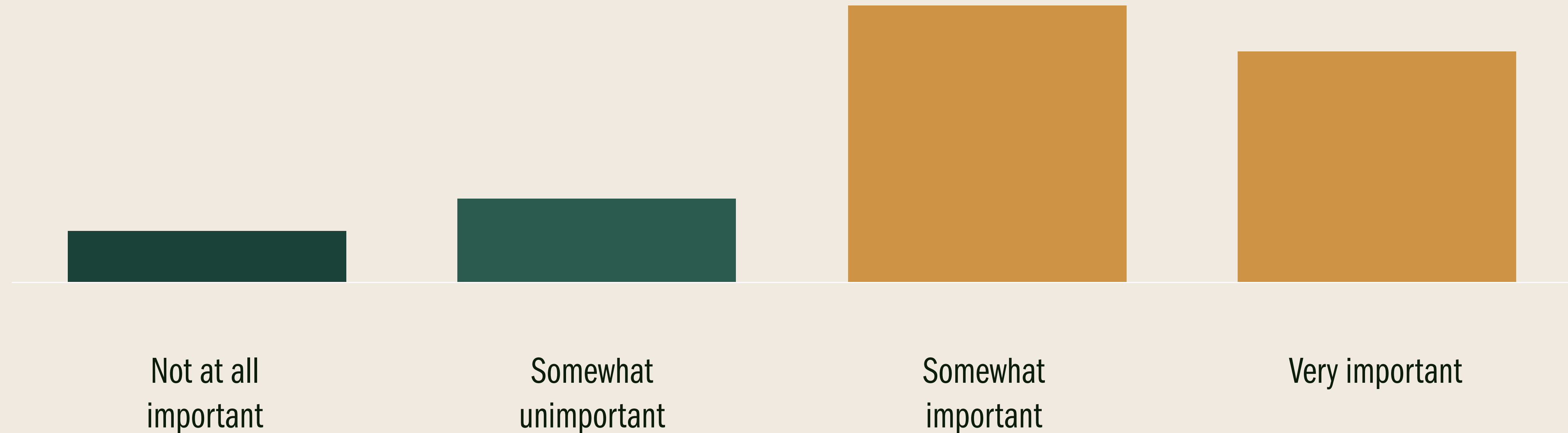
Current statistics regarding disciple making in the U.S. from *How to Save the World; Disciplemaking Made Simple* by Alice Matagora, 2022

# Challenges or Barriers for American Christians NOT INTERESTED in making disciples...



n=1,536 U.S. Christian adults at least maybe interested in becoming a disciple maker, June 1-July 4, 2020. Research conducted by Barna Group.

# How important do you believe One-on-One discipling/disciplemaking relationships are for Christians' spiritual growth?





# Is discipling others something that is expected of you?



# FOUR MARKS

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Discipleship is a journey



• BELIEVING •



• BELONGING •



• BECOMING •



• BUILDING •

8

# Mission-Driven Culture

# Culture of Church

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- + Church is a place you go to
- + Church is a part of your week/month/year
- + Church is a dispensary of services
- + Worship is for inspiration and enjoyment
- + Ministry is for professionals
- + Service means activities that keep the organization running
- + An unbelievers first point of contact with the church is the largest programmed event

# Culture of Mission

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- + Church is a people on mission everywhere
- + Church is a people on mission every day
- + Church is a productive community
- + Worship is for pleasing God
- + Ministry is the opportunity of every believer
- + Service means actions that kindly help one's neighbor
- + An unbelievers first point of contact with the church is their relationship with a believing friend outside church walls



# Membership Covenant

# Statement of Biblical Doctrine

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- + I agree with the fundamental beliefs of Cross+Crown Church, which are founded upon historic creeds (e.g. Apostles' Creed and Nicene Creed).
- + I understand the importance of submission to church leadership and will be diligent to preserve unity and peace; I will adhere to Cross+Crown Church's position on primary theological issues, and I will not be divisive over secondary issues (Eph. 4:1-3; Heb. 13:7, 17).
- + I agree to submit to the authority of Scripture as the final arbiter on all issues (Ps. 119; 2 Tim. 3:16-17).



# Commitment of Cross+Crown Church Leadership to its Members

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- + We commit that your elders and deacons will meet the criteria assigned to them in the Scriptures (1 Tim. 3:1-13; 5:17-22; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Pt. 5:1-4).
- + We commit to seek God's will for our church community to the best of our ability as we study the Scriptures and follow the Spirit (Acts 20:28; 1 Pt. 5:1-5).
- + We commit to care for you and seek your growth as a disciple of Christ, in part by equipping you for service (Eph. 4:11-13) and praying for you regularly, particularly when you are sick (Jam. 5:14).
- + We commit to provide teaching and counsel from the whole of Scripture (Acts 20:27-28; Gal. 6:6; 1 Tim. 5:17-18).

# Commitment of Cross+Crown Church Leadership to its Members

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- + We commit to be on guard against false teachers (Acts 20:28-31).
- + We commit to exercise church discipline when necessary (Matt. 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 5; Gal. 6:1).
- + We commit to set an example and join you in fulfilling the duties of church members (1 Cor. 11:1; Phil. 3:17; 1 Tim. 4:12).

# My Commitment to Cross+Crown Church as a Member

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- + I am committed to Jesus as my Lord and Savior (Rom.5:6-11; Eph.2:1-9).
- + I commit to submission to the biblical leadership of the Cross+Crown elders (Eph. 4:1-3; Heb. 13:7, 17).
- + I commit to regular participation in corporate worship at Cross+Crown (Acts 2:42-47; Heb. 10:23-25).
- + I commit to active participation in a Community Group. (Acts 2:46-47)
- + I commit to serve at Cross+Crown regularly (Eph.2:10).

# My Commitment to Cross+Crown Church as a Member

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- + I commit to steward the resources God has given me, including my time, talents, and treasure (Prov. 3:9-10; Rom. 12:1-2; Gal. 5:22-26; Eph. 4:1-16; 5:15-18). This includes regular financial giving, service, and participation in community that is sacrificial, cheerful, and voluntary (Rom. 12:1-8; 2 Cor. 8-9; 1 Cor. 12:7-31; 1 Pt. 4:10-11).
- + I commit to the mission of Cross+Crown of making fully devoted followers of Jesus to the glory of God (Matt. 28:18-20).

# My Commitment to the Mission of Cross+Crown Church

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- + The mission of Cross+Crown Church is to make fully devoted followers of Jesus. I commit to participate in this mission as a diligent, faithful disciple of Jesus, that my identity would be in him, my worship would be for him, my fellowship would be through him, and my life would be for his glory. I understand that this covenant binds me to the members of Cross+Crown and is an acknowledgment of my submission to the elders of the church. If at any time I can no longer commit to this covenant, or if I have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding Cross+Crown I will commit to communicating those issues with the elders of Cross+Crown Church.

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Next Steps

# NEXT STEPS

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- + GET CONNECTED TO A COMMUNITY GROUP**
- + JOIN A SERVICE TEAM**
- + PLEDGE A FINANCIAL COMMITMENT**
- + MEET WITH A PASTOR**
- + COMPLETE A MEMBERSHIP COVENANT**
- + DISCIPLESHIP 101/BAPTISM**



# MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENT CARD

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