

**BELONG**

# **GROWTH TRACK**



WEEK TWO | **BELONG**

**BELONG**



**BELIEVE**

**BELONG**

**BECOME**

**BUILD**

# WELCOME HOME

Our church loves God and loves people. Our prayer for you is to:

## BELIEVE

Have a relationship with Jesus.

## BELONG

Find your place in community through H2oGroups.

## BECOME

Discover your God-designed purpose through Growth Track.

## BUILD

Get on Team to start building God's House.

Over the next weeks we will continue going over these objectives. We're committed to seeing you live your fullest, best life that God has created you uniquely for.

# WELCOME

I see a church that is big enough to dream on a global scale, yet personal enough for every ONE to find their place. I see a church that beckons 'WELCOME HOME' to every man, woman and child that walks through the doors.

This week of Growth Track, it's our hope and prayer that you realize there is a place for you in our church. We're honored you've taken the time to invest into learning more about our church, and invest into your own personal growth. "Welcome Home" is a message that we extend to all who walk through our doors, and we hope that this sense of HOME is one that connects with you.

## BELONGING TAKES CONNECTION.

At H2o, we connect through H2oGroups and by being on Team.

Like any house - there's work to be done, to keep it up and running. After attending the first 3 weeks of Growth Track, you'll be invited to Week 4 where you will learn how to BUILD on Team. There are lots of ways to get involved, and today we will look at our H2oGroups, Church Life, and what it means to be on Team.

# WELCOME



**BELONG**

STEP TWO

**BELONG**

STEP TWO

**BELONG**

**H2oGROUPS** 10

**CHURCH LIFE** 16

**SERVING**

WHY WE SERVE 21

HOW WE SERVE 22

YOUR COMMITMENT 24

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU 26

ON THE DAY 27

**REFLECTION** 31





# H2oGROUPS

H2oGroups are the heartbeat of H2o Church, modeling the early church. H2o isn't a church that HAS H2oGroups - rather we are a church OF H2oGroups. By creating a sense of family and enabling us to build relationships, they make big cities feel like home. No matter what your interests, career, stage of life or zip, there's an H2oGroup that's a great fit for you. They mean that you can be known, and cared for, running weekly throughout the year.

*“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” 1 ACTS 2:42 – 47 (NIV)*

## TYPES OF H2oGROUPS

H2oKids, H2oYouth, H2oMen, H2oGirls, Marriages, and Entrepreneur Network Groups.

If you don't belong to one of our H2ogroups yet, at the end of this class you will have an opportunity to do so.

## **H2oKIDS (AGES 1-11)**

Our Kids Team love children and consider it an honor to be serving the kids of our church community and their families. We take great care in presenting Jesus in a way that is fun, relevant and age appropriate. During our weekend church services we provide quality programs with crafts, music, and bible teaching. Registration commences half an hour before each service. Ask our hosts in the Welcome Lounge or one of our H2oKids Team for directions to the nearest Kids Program check-in for service. Our H2oKids Team would love to answer any parental questions you have about programing, kids leader training, safety, or even H2oKids groups for families to help you stay connected to our church. If working with children is something that you are passionate about, in Week 4 of Growth Track, you can nominate to be on our H2oKids Team. We will train you in Week 4, and once all interviews and background checks are completed and approved, we'd love to have you serve with us on Team!

## **H2oYOUTH**

H2oYouth is the Junior and High School aged community of our church. Through H2oYouth Groups and our MonthlyYouth programs, young people from all backgrounds, interests and walks of life, find fun, friendship and dedicated Leaders committed to supporting their growth. H2oYouth groups meet every day throughout the week across all our Locations. For more info on Youth at your Location

talk to your Growth Track Team. If you're interested in working with young people as an H2oYouth Leader, complete all 4 weeks of Growth Track, and be trained in Youth Leadership. Once you satisfy all background checks, we'd love to have you on Team.

## **H2oGIRLS**

The H2oGirls are every day girls in our church, finding their place and purpose, responding to a simple invitation to Be The Change and make a positive difference in their local communities. Our H2oGirls Groups gather weekly across all our Locations, all throughout the week. At some of our Locations we gather monthly for our H2oGirls Nights. We also look forward to our annual women's conference Women Elevate, which our Global Senior Pastor Yarisette Baez leads and presents the ongoing vision for our Global H2oGirls Movement. Talk to your Growth Track Team about how to get involved in the H2oGirls at your Location.

## **H2oMEN**

H2oMen is about, you guessed it; men gathering together to help grow one another, we believe that iron sharpens iron. Our H2oMen Groups gather daily across all our Locations all throughout the week. At some of our Locations we gather monthly for our H2oMen Nights. We also look forward to our annual Men's conference "Heroes" which our Global Senior Pastor Dionny Baez leads and presents the ongoing vision for our Global H2oMen Movement. Talk

to your Growth Track Team about how to get involved in the H2oMen at your Location.

## **MARRIAGE GROUPS**

We love strong, healthy marriages! If you are engaged, or recently married, CONGRATULATIONS!!! For any married or engaged couples who want their relationship to thrive, our Marriage groups will connect you with other couples in that same exciting season of life, and give you tools to love God and each other, for the long haul. For information on how our Marriage Groups is facilitated at your Location, please talk to your Growth Track Team.

## **ENTREPRENEUR GROUPS**

Entrepreneur Groups is a way for our church to connect with individuals within our professional community. They meet weekly at different places. For more information about our Entrepreneur Groups gatherings ask your local Growth Track Team.

## **HOSTING AN H2oGROUP**

If you have an interest in hosting an H2oGroup, we would love to equip and train you.

### **TO DO:**

1. Join an H2oGroup today
2. Complete all 4 weeks of Growth Track
3. Go thru your Peniel
4. Complete the School of life classes



# CHURCH LIFE

In addition to H2oGroups, through other areas of church life there are other connection points – ways to find where you BELONG – as a part of our church.

## SUNDAY SERVICES

On Sundays we gather together for praise and worship, to give together as part of our worship, and to be encouraged by the Word. You'll learn all about what we BELIEVE about Church at Growth Track, Week 1. Our services are geared toward those who need to hear the life changing message of Jesus.

## FAMILIES

H2o is full of families, in every stage of life. When children are involved, we recognize that it's not always easy getting your family out the door to church, but we also believe that it's always worth the effort. If you're in the "kid season" of life, be sure to meet your local H2oKids Team. They'd love to say hi and explain any aspect of H2o Kids that you have questions about. If you'd like to host a Kids H2oGroup, join a H2oGroup yourself today, and complete Growth Track. In Week 4 we will be able to train you to potentially start hosting a H2oKids Group during our next School of life Semester.



## **PARENTS ROOM**

At all our Locations, for all our services on a Sunday, we have a Parents Room, where parents can care for babies too young for our H2oKids Program. Here your baby can play while you enjoy a live-stream of the Service. You can also comfortably feed and change your baby, and nursing mothers have a private space to care for their little ones.

## **BABY DEDICATIONS**

We believe that baptism is a choice that we make as adults – to make a public declaration about an inward decision for Jesus. So, instead of baptizing babies, at H2o Church we invite parents to dedicate their babies with public prayer. If you have recently had a baby (CONGRATULATIONS!!!) and would like to dedicate your child to God as part of a special moment in one of our Sunday morning services you can talk to the H2oKids Team about when the next dedication is scheduled at your Location.

## **CREATIVE TMNGHT**

Made up of far more than just musicians and singers, our H2o Creative Team encompasses all areas from the seen to unseen, including (but not limited to) Production, TV, Social Media, Filmmaking, Photography, Graphic Design, Visual Art, Writing, Lighting and Audio. Whether you're a beginner, a pro or just enjoy

the company of incredible people, our monthly gatherings will lift and encourage you. For more information on our Creative Team and how to get involved, complete Growth Track and be trained on Week 4 to be on the Creative Team. Talk to your local Growth Track Team for more information.

## **H2o PARTNERS**

H2o Partners exists to partner your generosity with the vision of our church. It is giving above and beyond our tithes and offerings to take new ground and help more people in need. Many people are uniquely gifted in this area by God. This is something that you might discover is a part of your gifting, on Week 3 of Growth Track when you'll take your Questionnaire to help you BECOME all God has called you to be. You can also learn more about this area of church life in Week 1 of Growth Track. H2o Partners is a team that everyone can join; anyone who calls H2o HOME. Talk to your local Growth Track Team if this is something you would like to do.

## **H2o CITYHOPE**

CityHOPE is how H2o loves and serves our local community. Though CityHOPE we bring the Good News of Jesus through our love and service by practically being the hands and feet of Jesus in our communities. We serve our local communities by coming alongside those who are often overlooked by our society. We believe that caring and meeting the needs of our local community is not the

job of the “missions department” but it is who we are as a church. We believe that we are ALL called to be part of Jesus’ solution in our communities, so we give our church different avenues to be involved.



## WHY WE SERVE

Being on Team is another way for you to find where you BELONG in our church. H2o has Teams, to practically fulfill the mission of the local church, but also to give people opportunities to fulfill their personal call to build God's House. Jesus gave His life for us, so we give our time, talent and treasure in response, to see His Kingdom come.

*“Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ. Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.” | EPH 4:11-16 (NLT)*

# HOW WE SERVE

H2o's culture is personified by our WELCOME HOME message. You'll learn in Week 1 what we BELIEVE about church, and this week is all about our role in it.

As a church we endeavor to create a place that is safe, welcoming and a most importantly a place where people can meet Jesus and start the process of becoming all that God has called them to be. Just like you would in your home, as part of being on Team, we commit to creating a gracious, loving environment.

We welcome people, we seek out those who are new, we give up our seats, we prefer others over ourselves, we are willing to sacrifice personal comfort for our guests. We don't point people to the nearest bathroom, we walk them there instead. We find families with children, and walk them to where H2oKids is. We don't usher, we host.

## AMBASSADORSHIP

*"Therefore we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God." | 2 COR 5:20 (BSB)*

We serve with excellence on Team as ambassadors of Jesus and His Church. Our goal is to do that well, to represent Kingdom culture, to

become all God wants us to be and invite others to belong to our family of faith.

*“God has given us the task of telling everyone what he is doing. We’re Christ’s representatives. God uses us to persuade men and women to drop their differences and enter into God’s work of making things right between them. We’re speaking for Christ himself now: Become friends with God; he’s already a friend with you.” | 2 COR 5:20 (MSG)*

# YOUR COMMITMENT

We have a strong value-driven culture that is woven in and through all that we say and do. If you decide to be on Team, even if only by association, your decisions and actions will be a reflection of our church's values to the people around you. In addition to our Statement of Beliefs that you'll learn in Week 1 of Growth Track, knowing what we value as a church assists in the unified and authentic delivery of who we are, especially if you decide to be on our Team.

**WE respond to need with love.** This means remembering that everyone is on their own journey and deserving of grace and respect - those we are welcoming home, those we serve with, and those who lead us.

**WE believe in the potential OTHERS.** This means we're committed to continuing to grow ourselves and helping others find their next steps in their relationship with Jesus, their personal relationships, and their leadership.

**WE live everyday life with WHOLENESS.** This means we are not meant to do life alone. H2o is a small church with a lot of people. H2oGroups are essential to developing these areas in everyday life and in the context of community.

**WE create and innovate through GOD'S INSPIRATION.** This means we are committed to seeking God in every situation, dreaming of what can be, and embracing change with full ownership.



**WE care for GOD'S MESSAGE OF GENEROSITY.** This means we live out what we say by not making it about ourselves through finding how we can each contribute on Team, living a life of excellence, and seeking out opportunity to be generous in everything.

# OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

## TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

It's our desire to see everyone on Team thriving in a place that they absolutely love to serve. We want to see people grow in their gifts, have full understanding of their role and continue to be used by God in new ways, inside and outside our church.

If you decide to be on Team, we as a church will support you with:

- Leadership Development Training
- A Volunteer Experience team that will help make sure you feel equipped and empowered to fulfill your role on Team. You can think of them as the HR department of all our Teams, minus the hiring and firing, of course.
- Access to Team Leaders and pastors for any pastoral needs that arise.

In Week 3 of Growth Track, we'll also highlight some of the ways our church will support you in your ongoing personal development.

# ON THE DAY

If you decide that you'd like to be on Team and BUILD our church, during your Week 4 team orientation, here are some important things to look out for:

## **CHECK IN TIME**

This is the time you'll need to be present and ready to serve. It can vary depending on the team, so make sure you are clear when you are expected to arrive. During check in, you'll be given a name tag to be worn while you're serving. Please remove when you are finished serving so that you can simply attend and participate in service. This will also make it clear to our guests who they should be asking for help if needed.

## **ROSTERS**

When on Team, you'll be rostered to one or more services, depending on your Team and Location. You will check and confirm your roster with your team leader.

## **TEAM HUDDLE**

Prior to the Team Prayer Meeting, you will meet for a quick huddle to discuss the service and share any important information for the day.

## **TPM (TEAM PRAYER MEETING)**

Every Sunday before we serve, we gather all our teams together to hear from one of our Pastors, connect with one another, and pray.

This is a meeting that's not to be missed. It's a great reminder that what you are part of is bigger than the part you play, and that you are part of a much larger team than the one you check in for.

## **DRESS CODE**

Depending on your Team and function, there may be requirements - check with your Team Leader for details on Week 4.

## **SIT ONE + SERVE ONE**

This is the goal. Find out when your Team is finished serving so you can plan your day and aim to not only serve one service, but to sit in a service as well. We base this idea on Mary and Martha who in Luke 10 both served Jesus in different ways. Mary served Jesus by worshipping at His feet, while Martha was busy in the kitchen. On Team, it's important that we do both if you're able to at your Location. We worship with our church family,<sup>1</sup> and we also serve with our church family.<sup>2</sup>

These are all dependent on which Team you're on. After completing weeks 1-3 of Growth Track, if you'd like to be on Team, when trained, your Team Leader will be able to give you more information specific to your area of responsibility.

- 
1. Hebrews 10:25
  2. Galatians 5:13

## NEXT STEPS

Be sure to come back next week, when together we will learn what it means to BECOME all God has created us to be. We'll each be doing a personality profile and spiritual gifts Questionnaire to illuminate the way that you were uniquely designed and created. We'll give you suggested areas of church life that you might like to serve on Team. We'll also learn other ways that our church can support you in your ongoing personal development, as we become more like Jesus – the ultimate-goal in life.

If you missed out on last week, Week 1 of Growth Track, where we went over what we BELIEVE, be sure to also come back next month. Weeks 1, 2 and 3, together, will complete for you the picture of what we'd like you to learn before you join us for week 4 when, if you'd like to, you'll be trained to be on Team in your chosen area.



# REFLECTION - THERE GOES THE NEIGHBORHOOD

A PRIVATE STUDY.

*“...Go to the lost, confused people right here in the neighborhood. Tell them the kingdom is here. Bring health to the sick. Raise the dead. Touch the untouchables. Kick out the demons. You have been treated generously, so live generously.” 1 MATTHEW 10:2 MSG*

The age old “there goes the neighborhood” indicates that something bad is about to happen, perhaps a fight, an insult a robbery. We need to flip this motto on its head and begin to bring Jesus into every “neighborhood.” This might be hospitals, nightclubs, prisons or even your work place, family, or block that you live on.

Missions trips are amazing, but start here, start with you and start with the place where God has you right now. We are not a Mega Church. We are a micro church with a mega vision for our neighborhood.

The best way to change your world is to change YOUR life. Not your neighbors, or anyone else’s, but yourself. Start with an inventory of your own life everyday. You don’t need to walk a mile in someone else’s shoes when you have a mirror. You are the beginning of the neighborhood.

The danger is that we lose the power of the supernatural because we are looking for the spectacular. We all want to see the spectacular, the miraculous moves of God, the person who has been in a wheelchair their whole life, get up and walk, but we cannot underestimate the power of reading your bible everyday, the miracle of being nice to your spouse, and refusing to bow to the temptation of your past.

1. You are qualified. Start serving and start leading because Jesus qualified you.
2. Your brokenness is what empowers you to be used by God. This is our mandate to go to the broken people in our lives and help them realize they're qualified.
3. God doesn't care if you have things, He cares if things have you. Hold what you have lightly. Be willing to give up what you think you need.



# REFLECTION - THERE GOES THE NEIGHBORHOOD

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1 Take an inventory of your life. What is one area you are committed to change in YOU?

2 Where is your “neighborhood,” the place God has you right now, where you can make difference?

3 What is your personal story, that you can share with the people in your neighborhood?

# NOTES



**BELUNG**

