

Volume VIII

The Essentials



Mission & Vision

We'd like to welcome you to the educational series "The Essentials". These series of study books are designed to equip the believers of Christ with the essentials to live the life the scripture say we should have. This series will also help us to understand and embrace our anointed call to change our view about ourselves and give ourselves to become ambassadors of change in world around us.

To properly understand the calling of Christ it is mandatory that we give ourselves to grasping some clarity related to His call. The central resource to discover what Christ has called us to is the Bible. In the pages of the bible, we will discover that we have been made for a purpose. As a matter of fact, "we have been made for this time and this time is made for us". Since so much of who we are and who we are to be is held within the sacred scripture, we must develop a new mind-set in seeking to learn about our Lord's plan for us.

We must embrace this reality: “Our assured purpose is rooted in the word of God. To understand our assignment and the father’s destined will for us, it is imperative that we engage the searching of the scriptures as a lifetime journey”. 1 John 3:2 ...it doth not appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear we shall be like him...

There are principle fundamentals that God has laid out for our benefit that will help us to understand that “there is nothing that has happened to us that God is not aware of and has made to work for us”. We discover these truths as we study our God and His ways.

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**THE MISSION AND VISION
OF THE CHURCH OF GOD
“Worship Center”
INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this lesson is to provide an overview of the Mission and Vision of The Church of God “Worship Center”. It is extremely important for every member to understand why The C.O.G. “Worship Center” exists, and what is expected of each of its members.

THE HISTORY OF THE C.O.G.”WORSHIP CENTER”:

The Church of God was founded in the 1880’s by D. S. Warner, who emphasized unity and holiness. The name Church of God is used to identify a particular movement within the Protestant Christianity. The name Church of God is also used in a universal

sense to refer to all persons who believe in Jesus. However, our movement is non-denominational, and “we reach our hands in fellowship to every blood-washed one.”

When the name is used to designate the movement, it is written as Church of God (Anderson, Indiana), which is where our national headquarters is located. We are also affiliated with the National Association of COG. Our membership and association with both of these bodies is voluntary, and they in no way dictate or direct the affairs of this local assembly. Church of God Worship Center is autonomous in terms of government and does not answer to any “higher” assembly or board. We believe by faith that what God has prepared for us is far greater than what we are now, and we are maturing into the fullness of God’s divine plan.

“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the

heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him. (1 Corinthians 2:9)

STATEMENT OF FAITH:

We believe in the worship of the trinity of one God in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. We believe that sin resulted in the fall of all humanity and separation from God. We believe humanity is sinful by nature and by choice and is in need of a savior for redemption and restoration of fellowship with God. We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God; God's only Son, fully God and fully man (John 3:16; 14:6). Christ proved Himself to be God in flesh by His life, death, burial and resurrection (2 Corinthians 5: 21; Isaiah 53; Luke 24: 3-8; Acts 1:22).

We believe that the shed blood of Jesus Christ is the only atonement for the sins of Man (Matthew 1: 21; Acts 4: 12; Hebrews 9: 14; Revelation 5:9). We believe that every

child of God must be born again (John 3: 3), confessing that Jesus Christ is Lord (Romans 10:9; Philippians 2:10-11).

We believe that the Holy Spirit initiates the process of salvation and is active in the conviction, conversion, and regeneration of the Believer. The Holy Spirit further performs a special work in the heart and life of the Believer that is subsequent to and apart from the conversion experience through the process of sanctification; whereby, the Holy Spirit cleanses and purifies the heart and fills the cleansed heart with the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, enabling the Believer to live a holy life free from sin. We also believe that the Holy Spirit endows each Believer with spiritual gifts for the purpose of furthering the work and the Kingdom of God.

1 Church's Jubilee", Hymnal of the Church of God

2 Association Church of God, West Middlesex, PA

We believe that the transforming power of God renews of the mind (Romans 6:4; 12:3) and enjoins the Believer in Communion with Christ (John 15:4-11) in living out the principles and doctrines of the Holy Bible, God's inerrant word (2 Timothy 3:16). We believe that the Believer is to practice in everyday life faith in God (John 4: 23) through Christ (Romans 3: 25) to fulfill his charge to reconciliation (Matthew 28: 19-20).

We believe in the Second Coming of Jesus Christ to ransom the Church and to judge the world. We believe in the new heaven and the new earth and that God will judge and reward us according to our works.

**HISTORY OF THE C.O.G."WORSHIP CENTER":
Reverend George C. Evans, Jr. was residing in Indiana when God put upon his heart to begin a work in Canton, Ohio, which is his**

hometown. He and his family moved back to Ohio, and on September 5, 1990, the first meeting was held in the home of Brother and Sister Downing. There were eight souls present at this meeting. The second meeting found the group doubled in number. The Word of God was delivered with power that evening and two souls came forward to be saved. The meetings quickly outgrew the Downing home, and the small group began to prayerfully search for a building to worship in. The church moved into a building located on Harmont Avenue, Northeast. The building seated eighty people and was filled to capacity within the same year. The church then began holding it's services at the Northeast Community Center located on 25th Street, Northeast, then in August of 1991, God blessed the church to move into a building located at 327 Trump Avenue, Northeast.

Under the leadership of the founding pastor, George C. Evans, Jr., the first meeting was

held at the Trump Avenue Church of God on September 1, 1991.

The Congregation continued to worship at the Trump Avenue Church from 1991 until August of 1994 when the congregation moved into a church building on Winfield Way, Northeast. On September 11, 1999 the church accepted Reverend Joseph W. Glover Jr. as their new Sr. pastor. Under the leadership of pastor Joseph W. Glover Jr. a building was purchased in 2009. On March 15 2009, the church had it's first service its current building located at 1014 Harrison Ave. S.W. The church is now known as The Church of God "Worship Center". The church building also has a detached fellowship hall. The Congregation experienced the hand of God at work from the beginning. The work that began with God moving in the heart of a young preacher in Indiana continues on. Paul says it well in Philippians 1:6: "He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

OUR MISSION:

Our Mission is to help people experience, by the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, the love and grace of Jesus Christ. Sharing with them the design and purpose of God for our life through fellowship, support and encouragement in order to magnify the name of God. (Matthew 22: 37-40; 28: 19-20).

OUR VISION AND PURPOSE:

It is our Vision to assemble together a group of God's people for the purpose of evangelizing the lost unto Jesus the Christ; for this body of blood-washed Believers to function by the empowerment of the Holy Spirit under the anointing, communicating the Gospel to the poor, healing the brokenhearted, proclaiming deliverance to the captive, reestablishing sight to the blind, sharing liberty to those that are bruised and disclose with jubilee the acceptable year of the Lord; for each one to reach one with the Good News!!

(Luke 4: 18-19; Matthew 28: 18-20)

OUR EXPECTATIONS:

We firmly believe that when a person becomes a part of a local church body of Believers, it is because the Lord has led them there. Every member has both something to give to the Body of Christ and something to gain from it. Each member should seek to have some sense of understanding in the following areas as we seek to minister reconciliation to the lost.

Vision (the ability to see God's presence and plan) and conviction.

Purpose (what we're called to do) and commitment.

Priority (how we pursue life) and communication.

Person (who we are) and consensus.

Each member of The C.O.G “Worship Center” are expected:

To be faithful as stewards of God’s gifts and grace. We must exhibit faithfulness, and there must be a sense of consistency and steadfastness in our efforts to live out the Will of God for our lives.

To be focused. We are seeking to minister reconciliation to the lost back to the Lord. Your growth in Christ will be enhanced as you focus on our Mission, our Vision and Purpose, and practicing basic things such as, praying each day, reading the Word of God daily, meditating on God’s Word and principles, memorizing the Word of God, obeying God moment by moment, making personal application of his Word and principles, trusting God for the details of your life and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide you, and letting God’s love shine in your witness, worship and fellowship.

To be fruitful. Every Believer has been given at least one spiritual gift that is to be used for the building of the Kingdom of God. In accordance with the biblical mandate “Go and make disciples” (Matthew 28:19-20), each member of The Church of God “Worship Center” is called upon to be an active participant in our church mission.