

1 WHO WE ARE

**WOGThe Next Move** stepONE "Who We Are"

#### **VIDEO ONE**

# Love God, love people, serve the world.

We as a church are called to make fully devoted followers of Jesus that grow in loving God, people. This is a reciprocal statement that serves others with God's love to lead them to growing in loving God, loving people and serving the world as well.

# **WOG Family**

We are better together...so because of that we value one another and look at our church like a family table. Imagine if you were at a restaurant and the food wasn't cooked to your specifications and you had poor service...you probably wouldn't want to go back. Now, what if you ate food that wasn't cooked all that well at your family table? You wouldn't abandon your family because of a bad meal...that is because the reason you sit at the family table, the things that keeps you connected isn't the food...it is the love for one another...the relationships. That is who Word of Grace desires to be...not the restaurant that is driven by the consumer but rather a family that is driven by love. A group of people who are serving one another and serving others together because they love God and are united in purpose.

#### **VIDEO TWO**

Acts 2:42-47 Values

- 1. We keep Jesus at the center
- :: because Christ alone is the hope of the world
- 2. We are willing to give up what we believe for truth
- :: because scripture defines truth, not our ideas
- 3. We prioritize prayer
- :: because when we pray, we deepen our dependance on God

## 4. We do life together

:: because we are better together

#### 5. We are contributors, not consumers

:: because we recognize what we have been given isn't just for us

## 6. We are people first

:: because we want people to know they are valued by God

## 7. We say yes to the greater things

:: because we are called to live in light of eternity

#### **VIDEO THREE**

#### **Relational Connection**

We believe that we are called to make disciples, or fully devoted followers of Jesus, who are growing in loving God, loving people and serving the world. We believe that discipleship happens best in the context of relationship. That means that you build trust with people through investing in relationship. We have three primary ways to help people connect at Word of Grace to begin and deepen that investment:

- 1. Community Groups
- 2. TeamWOG
- 3. Weekly Worship Gatherings

# **Communication & Expectations**

We are people first and we want to make sure as someone that calls Word of Grace their church home, that you feel valued by God and part of that is how we communicate with one another. We value excellence and clear communication. We never want to give a handle to offense or cause frustration unknowingly. We also understand you may have come from a different church background and your expectations are shaped by your previous experiences. These basic guidelines help us preserve unity in our church concerning communication by bringing clarity and setting healthy expectations:

- 1. Our staff communicates to the church body through e-mails and phone calls with a 24-hour response time policy. We ask that social media not be used as a primary way of communicating to the staff. We do not want to miss an important message to which you need a timely response.
- 2. Our office is open Monday through Thursday 9:00-3:00.
- Our church-wide emails/texts, social media pages and stage announcements are also another great way to be in the know at WOG.

We want to make sure you can communicate with our staff and leadership and stay in the know at our church. Here are the best ways we communicate at WOG:

- 1. wog.church
- 2. Social Media
- 3. Email

## **Financial Giving**

We operate off of the generosity and faithfulness of our church family because we are contributors, not consumers. We also live in light of eternity with our management of time, talent and resources. We recognize that giving may be a touchy subject for some because we all have seen it abused but we do believe that giving to the local church is a spiritual and biblical practice. We may teach on these things from time to time but we will never teach from a standpoint of putting guilt on people, a give to get mentality or condemnation. The pastoral staff do not have knowledge of what you give, we believe that is between you and God.

We also hold a high standard when it comes to transparency with the management of our finances. We publish an annual report and have regular audits both internal and external. Our church has a generous heart when it comes to finances and there are several ways you can give at WOG:

- 1. General weekly offerings in the service
- 2. Online through www.wog.church (where you an setup ACH auto draft giving or one-time gifts)

- 3. Our Guest Services can process a credit or debit card.
- 4. We also are setup to receive stock donations if God leads you to give in that way.

We also have various funds that you can give towards at WOG:

- 1. General Fund
- 2. Tithe Fund
- 3. WOGForward

#### What's Next?

We constantly want to say yes to greater things and increase our impact on eternity. This means that we change and continually look for ways to move the church forward. We believe God desires for more people to be added to His Kingdom and so we believe our church should grow in many ways both spiritually and numerically. We want to see people go deeper in their faith and commitment to Christ and, as scripture states, see people added to His church regularly!

We have a big heart for moving the church forward in specific areas:

- 1. Help hurting and disconnected Christians get healthy and reconnected to church
- 2. Expand the ministry of WOG through leveraging technology for communicating the Gospel. Taking the online video campus into places and communities to help spread the Gospel. Places like jails, nursing homes, and even people's homes all over the world.
- 3. Make room to further develop our physical campus to enable us to reach more people with the Gospel.
- 4. Continue to expand Community Groups to truly become a church of groups of people growing in Christ together and doing life together.
- 5. Invest in the next generation by having excellent children's and youth ministries that are equipping the next generation to take the Gospel forth

in the world and to their generation.

6. Plant churches and raise up pastors and ministers to send out all over the world to make a global impact on eternity.

If you have any questions regarding this class reach out via email to <a href="mailto:info@wog.church">info@wog.church</a>.

