



Fellow Laborers,

We greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ who is the head of our lives, where we honestly believe that the favor of the Lord is pouring down blessings upon His church that is transforming people lives.

We feel that "Mission-Minded" people should have the same perspective that Christ demonstrated throughout His earthly ministry on His way to the cross. Our goal is to equip today's godly leaders to train our next generation to make a powerful impact for Jesus Christ by directing their focus outward. "Every day, approximately 150,000 people die; the majority of these people are not saved, and far too many have never even heard God's Good News of salvation," "How can we sit back and hear the Gospel again and again, while many are still waiting to hear it for the first time? Today's Christian families desperately need to remember that our purpose in this world involves so much more than what we can attain for ourselves. We're here to reach the lost."

The "Mission-Minded" Church Family experience a God-infused energy that motivates them to do what is required in growing believers for the cause of Christ. "There's a focus on God's worldwide purpose and a passion for the lost." There's a spiritual depth and hunger that reaches beyond the maintenance mode of cultural Christianity."

"One by one" is our challenge to our church family this year. People are called by God "one by one" to walk with him. "And He said to 'Follow Me'. God can use ordinary people, even me, God can use unworthy people, even me, He can take one who's unlikely, He can take one, no one knows, God can use anyone who's willing, even me.

Marcus D. Holman, Sr.
Lead Pastor | One Church at True Light
One Light, One Mission, One Church

Ministry Scripture: **John 1:9** This true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world

OCTL MISSION STATEMENT:

- At One Church, our mission is to glorify God by being a unified body of believers passionately committed to making disciples of Jesus Christ. We strive to embody the light of Christ through faithful worship, intentional community, generous giving, and sacrificial service. Rooted in the Word of God and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we aim to impact our families, neighborhoods, and the world with the transformative power of the Gospel, guiding all people toward a deeper relationship with Christ and one another.

ONE CHURCH AT TRUE LIGHT PILLARS OF FAITH

1. Faithful Worship

We prioritize honoring God through Spirit-filled worship, prayer, and the teaching of His Word, seeking to glorify Him in all that we do.

2. Authentic Community

We believe in cultivating a Christ-centered community where relationships are built on love, trust, accountability, and mutual encouragement.

3. Radical Generosity

We are committed to living out a spirit of generosity, stewarding our time, talents, and resources to advance God's Kingdom and bless others.

4. Transformative Discipleship

We are passionate about equipping believers to grow in their faith, live out their purpose, and make disciples of Jesus Christ.

5. Compassionate Service

We seek to reflect the love of Christ by serving our neighbors, meeting needs, and standing for justice in our local and global communities.

6. Unwavering Unity

We value the power of unity as the body of Christ, celebrating our diversity and working together to build God's Kingdom.

7. Bold Evangelism

We are devoted to sharing the Gospel with courage and love, inviting all people to experience the hope and salvation found in Jesus.

THE POWER OF HOPE!

Delegation is something a leader must do to multiply and grow in ministry. There is one task a leader must never delegate, especially in the church—HOPE!

The church is in the hope business. In the world today most people are easily deflated, sensitive to defeat and criticism, and de-motivated by setbacks. They look for a leader who has optimism, who radiates a sense that together we can do what needs to be done. When people see this kind of leader, they tend to decide not to waste their energy wondering about “if” but focus their energy going after “how.”

We of all people ought to be known most for our hope, because our hope is founded on something deeper than human ability or wishful thinking. Yet, churches can become places of cynicism, resistance and pessimism. Both hope and pessimism are deeply contagious. And no one is more infectious than a leader.

Will you learn the art of hope management? Learn the activities, practices and people who build hope, as well as the activities, practices and people who drain hope. Identify people in your life who breathe energy and hope and be that kind of person to others.

OUR PASTOR:
Marcus D. Holman, Sr. | Lead Pastor

Marcus D. Holman is a man that lives passionately by two things: His love for God and his Love for family. He is enthusiastically married to his wife Jaime Holman for 25 years. By this union God has blessed them with four beautiful God-Fearing children: Vinchelle, Marcayla, Marcus Jr. and Faith. His family is his mainstay! This steadfast belief in these two pillars is confirmed in his lifetime scripture Acts 20:24 "But none of these things move me, nor do I count my life dear to myself. That I may finish my course with joy and testify of grace of the gospel of Jesus Christ" His greatest joy in life is spending time with his cherished family.

Pastor Holman Currently serves as the Executive Pastor at the Church at Bethel's Family under the leadership of Walter August, Jr. With successful tenures as a counselor at the prestigious International Institute for Christian Counseling, Business Banker and Financial Advisor at Chase Bank as well as Northwestern Mutual. As an accomplished Author "Blessed Beyond Borders" his first of many publications as well numerous training materials his proven leadership skills that are constantly establishing him as the preeminent leader in international missions and pastoral development. Pastor Holman is a sought-after entrepreneurial leader in counseling and Christian education as well as Church Development and Training. He was given the distinct privilege to lead Bethel's Global Reach as President | CEO for 9 years. In that time, he led over 115 international Missions trips abroad, with over 5000 missionaries. A Pastor, Christian Counselor and Biblical studies expert with over 22 years of experience in worldwide ministry, trained multiple leaders in several fields of production. His education includes Texas Southern University, College of Biblical Studies and Rice University Glasscock School of Philanthropic Studies and recent achievements of Honorary Doctorate Degree from Alliance Theological Seminary. He holds several distinctions of honor such as: Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition, Honor of Recognition from the Texas Senate, City of Houston Philanthropic Awards and Presidential Service Volunteer Awards as well as many more.

With an unrivaled and highly effective ability to organize and build leading initiatives and develop new and dynamic community services in both domestic and international contexts in multiple fields, Pastor Holman is continually pushing his work past the expectations with proven and effective expertise. Education, counseling and international outreach were central areas of focus, Pastor Holman has planted churches and trained pastors on several different continents. Leading the field of educated skilled and knowledgeable Christian ministers. With, a track record of unparalleled achievement at each waypoint in his career, and a deep knowledge and understanding of both the education and counseling fields, Pastor Holman brought together a wide-ranging body of knowledge and a peerless work ethic to establish a standard by which all other ministries may be measured.

The gift of his ministry led him around the world to places such as: Kenya Africa, Gil Gil Africa, Miguta Africa, Nakuru Kenya, Nairobi Kenya, Kakamega Kenya, Massai Mara Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia, Port-Au-Prince Haiti Jacmel Haiti, Grand Goave Haiti, Butte Boyer Haiti, Kakanada India, El Salvador, United Emirates Dubai London, England, Czech Republic, Grafinil Angola, Johannesburg, South Africa, Amsterdam, Paris, France, Istanbul, Jerusalem, Israel, Costa Rica, Bamboo, Jamaica, Belize City, Belize, Honduras, Bahamas, South America, St Lucia, Jalapa Guatemala, Chiquimula, Mexico, Guatemala, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guatemala City, Belize City Belize, Gale Point Belize, as well as many states right here in the U.S. The Elevate leadership Conference has been used to train Pastors and leaders in several different countries.

The Great Commandment:

Matthew 22:36-40

³⁷ Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."



THE GREAT COMMISSION:

Matthew 28:18-20

⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."



THE GREAT COMMISSION



FAITH IN MOTION

Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. (Romans 10:17)

In the Biblical concept of faith, faith is believing what God has said. That means that faith is integrally related to the Word of God. If it is not related to the Word, then it is not faith.

According to Paul's statement above, which he addressed to the Christians at Rome, there is a particular way in which faith arise within, or comes to a person. There are also particular ways in which it may **not** be said that faith comes.

1. Faith does not come by seeing. Paul said, "We walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7). Some people say, "I'll believe it when I see it." But the trouble is that our eyes can so easily deceive us. We do not see in order to believe, we believe in order to see.

2. Faith does not come by feeling. Biblical faith is not an emotion. It may often be accompanied by an emotional elation, but it is not itself an emotion. Real faith endures even when the emotional high fades away. Emotions do not lead us into faith, but faith leads us into healthy emotional balance.

3. Faith does not come by thinking. Biblical faith is not a matter of the mind, but of the spirit. It is not antithetical to thinking, or logic or reasoning, but it transcends them. Faith goes beyond where our limited thoughts can take us. We do not understand to believe, we believe in order to understand.

4. Faith does not come by will-power. Biblical faith is not a matter of volition. It is not a choice, though it may involve a choice. It is not a matter of "bucking up" and believing. A faith driven by will-power may be very sincere and yet be sincerely wrong. Faith must have a proper basis. We do not make something true by choosing to believe it, we discover the correct choice by believing the Word of God.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF OCTL?

1 Corinthians 1:10a "Let there be real harmony so that there won't be splits in the church. I plead with you to be of one mind, united in THOUGHT and PURPOSE.

I. THERE ARE KEY ISSUES THAT COMBINE TO GIVE US OUR PURPOSE AS OCTL.

1. A **Biblical Bases** for identifying God's purpose for a Church.

John 20:21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you."

Matthew 22:37-40 Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Matthew 28:19-20 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

2. **Mastering the Minors**

- **Love** people to Christ. That is called **EVANGELISM**.

2 Peter 3:9 He isn't really being slow about his promised return, even though it sometimes seems that way. But he is waiting, for the good reason that he is not willing that any should perish, and he is giving more time for sinners to repent.

Colossians 2:19 ...the entire body, (of Christ) being supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth which is from God.

3. **We have also been told by God to be passionate about helping people in their journey with God and each other. Why? Because**

- God wants every Christian to **GROW UP** and mature.

Hebrews 6:1 Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity

Ephesians 4:12-13 so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature

- God has given us the responsibility of **HELPING** each other mature.

Ephesians 4:11-14 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12 to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ

may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. 14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming.

- Help people in their journey with God and others. That is called **DISCIPLESHIP**.
- When we **love others to Christ and help them in their journey with God and each other, we are doing church with a PURPOSE.**
- God loves **PEOPLE**.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

- God **COMMAND** us to reach out. It is His Will for the churches to **Grow**.

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Luke 14:23 "Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full.

- A person who dies without Christ spends eternity in **HELL**.

John 3:18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

Revelations 20:15 If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

- Part of maturing spiritually has to do with knowing how to love God **BETTER**.

Matthew 4:10 Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

John 14:15 "If you love me, you will obey what I command.

- Part of maturing spiritually has to do with knowing how to love **OTHERS** better.

John 13:34-35 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Five Marks of Participating Membership

Membership at The One Church at True Light is more than about **belonging**; it is about **becoming**. A participating member of One Church at True Light is committed to becoming a fully devoted follower of Christ by committing to these marks of membership:

SALVATION

A participating member has received salvation through Jesus Christ's death and resurrection, and he or she has proclaimed that salvation through public baptism by immersion.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

A participating member engages in disciplines and practices that will nurture his or her faith as encouraged by our Steps to Spiritual Maturity (see section About Us).

SMALL GROUPS

Optimally, a participating member values community and has joined a small group Bible Study (Sunday Morning Adult Bible Fellowship Class and/or weekday small group); minimally, he or she has established close relationships with fellow believers who will help form Christlikeness in him or her.

SERVICE

A participating member has identified his or her spiritual gifts and seeks to offer those gifts in service with the body through involvement in at least one ministry or service activity.

STEWARDSHIP

A participating member subscribes to the value of tithing ten percent of his or her income to the local body so that the kingdom of Christ will advance locally and globally, and does so to the best of his or her ability

OUR STRATEGY

Steps to Spiritual Maturity

Because membership is meaningful at One Church at True Light, I have committed to becoming a **fully devoted disciple** who Knows Christ, grows in Christ, and Shows Christ to others by striving to build these **behaviors** into my Christian life:

First Step: DECISION

Commitment to Membership

Required Class: Exploring Church Membership

- I have committed my life to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. (John 3:16; Acts 4:12)
- I have committed to follow Christ in believers' baptism by immersion. (Acts 2:38)
- I have committed myself to meaningful membership at SHBC. (Acts 2:42-47))

Second Step: DISCIPLESHIP

Commitment to Maturing

Required Class: Discovering Spiritual Gifts

- I have committed to participate regularly in a small group Bible study and corporate worship. (Hebrews 10:25)
 - I have committed to spend time daily with God. (Psalm 1:1-3)
- I have committed to give regularly to support God's work through this church. (1 Corinthians 16:2)
 - I have committed to serve in at least one ministry or service activity. (1 Peter 4:10)

Third Step: DEVOTION

Commitment to Ministry

Recommended Read: Habits of Highly Effective Churches (Barna)

- I have committed to lead in a ministry and to encourage and support those who work with me. (Galatians 5:13; Luke 6:40)
- I have committed to excellence in ministry through ongoing training/skills development. (2 Peter 3:18)
- I have committed to give a tithe (ten percent) or above of my income to support God's work through this church. (Malachi 3:10)
 - I have committed to model an authentic Christian lifestyle. (1 Peter 2:9; 3:8)

Fourth Step: DISCIPLE-MAKING

Commitment to Multiplication

Recommended Read: Share Jesus without Fear

- I have committed to build relationships with un-churched persons so that I can share Christ with them. (Philemon 6)
- I have committed to bring un-churched persons to church. (1 Corinthians 9:22; Luke 14:23; Acts 2:12)
- I have committed to mentor believers and help them mature in Christ through all four steps. (Colossians 1:27-28)

A Final Thought... What is my Role in all of this?

I once heard it said, "A dream without a plan is just a wish." This is true when it comes to growing your church. You have a vision that you feel the Lord has planted in your heart for your church. However, a lot of times, that vision fails to connect with our congregation or when we find ourselves stuck, asking, "Why is my church not growing?" The answer is found within the bridge between your church's vision and reality.

We find ourselves compromising on our vision and mission to try and create action and movement. We attempt to stimulate growth through continually changing the big picture or outline; when in all reality, it has more to do with the breakdown of the steps to make the vision a reality.

We cannot expect an outcome if the steps are not in place. Imagine trying to build a skyscraper without detailed plans of what to do next. You will have a lot of construction workers standing around with

Focused Action

If we get too broad, we will lose people. If there is not a blueprint for *how*, then they will not know what the next step to take is. As a result, people standstill, or walk back to what is familiar.

At the same time, if we are broad in our action, we will find there are *too many* steps to take. Herbert Simon once said, "**A wealth of information creates a poverty of attention.**" Your congregation may not be engaged in the vision and growth of the church because they are on sensory overload.

How do we do this? Well, here are three steps to take to use action to build a bridge between your church's vision and reality.

1. Start Small | Start small and worked their way up, guided by broad vision and focused actions.

Please remember this: It is *not* a competition. You are not in competition with the other churches in your district or city, the "big player" churches, or even with yourself. You are walking on a specific journey designed and curated by the God of the Universe. **Your only job is to follow His guiding and the vision He planted in your heart.**

There is power in starting small and working in the process.

2. Maintain Consistency | **One of the biggest mistakes seen in churches is the lack of maintenance and consistency.** A lot of pastors are dreamers. We understand the big vision and want to run towards it, leaving a wake behind us. As dreamers, it is vital to prioritize maintenance and consistency as much as dreaming.

Walt Disney was a dreamer. You can't discount that. His brother, Roy, was a doer. Without Roy Disney, we would not see Baby Yoda in *The Mandalorian* on Disney+. Why? Because Roy was able to take Walt's visions and dreams and bring them into reality, but he didn't stop there; he maintained them with consistency.

We must maintain the actions we take with consistency. What does that mean? Let's look at Pastor John again. He has started his small group initiative at Life Church. He connected his question, "What do I need to do to help my church grow?" with his vision and instituted small groups starting small with four small groups (matching the proper ratio).

3. Communicate Often | Communication is key, especially when attempting to create a bridge between your church's vision and reality. I think we can all agree on this. However, not many of us (including myself) prioritize communication as we should. Assumption is the lowest form of communication.

