

ABOUT THE EXISTENCE PARTNERSHIP TRACK

The Existence Partnership Track is designed to help you become a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ. From your initial decision to find out more about the vision of Existence Church, to getting involved in an area of ministry, we will provide you with a path to experience growth and fulfillment.

The Partnership Track is comprised of four specifically designed monthly classes listed below. Each event helps you take a step toward God's plan of fulfillment for your life. Ultimately, our goal is to help you connect with a group of people where your life can touch the lives of others.

CHURCH 101 (first Sunday of every month)

Become better acquainted with the story, vision and values of Existence Church. Come to connect with others and have the opportunity to become a church partner.

ESSENTIALS 201 (second Sunday of every month)

Explore the essential tools and beliefs that produce a more meaningful relationship with Christ.

DISCOVERY 301 (third Sunday of every month)

Discover and understand how your personal and spiritual makeup reveals a path to your purpose. We believe God created every person with a specific plan for their life.

PARTNERSHIP 401 (fourth Sunday of every month)

Find out more about the community, growth and fulfillment that comes from partnering with your church family.

WELCOME TO CHURCH 101!

At Church 101, our hope is to give you a basic introduction to our church family. Since we have partners from many different church backgrounds, this class is designed to clearly explain who we are and what we believe. We're glad you've chosen to find out more about Existence Church!

OUR STORY

Existence Church began out of a vision that God put on Pastor Josh Hotsenpiller's heart in Nyack, New York in 2002. It was a vision to see men and women of all different backgrounds, ages and stages of life come to know, love and serve Jesus in the city of San Diego and together form an inclusive, missional, community.

In the summer of 2003, Josh made the trek from New York to San Diego to turn this vision into a reality. With the help of his wife, Kim, and his friend, Pastor Shawn Kennedy, the first service was held on the campus of a charter school at UCSD in September of that year. While the beginnings seemed meager, with only a handful in attendance, those first seeds have grown into a flourishing community of believers over the last 12 years.

The name Existence expresses our specific vision as a local church. One evening while Josh was working at Chili's, he asked someone how their day was. That person responded, "My day was horrible. I felt like I didn't exist." Later God impressed on Josh the name Existence, a community where people could know their existence matters to others and, more importantly, to God.

Over the last year God has opened several opportunities outside of church for Pastor Josh to use his gifts in the marketplace. He continues to love and serve Existence Church through Sunday teaching and Elder Board leadership. Pastor Shawn has stepped into the lead pastoral role and continues to serve our church through Sunday teaching, as well as community, elder board and staff leadership.

Our desire is for these visions and values of being an inclusive, missional community to begin taking root in your heart as you journey through the Partnership Track and move toward partnering with us, your church family.

Welcome to Existence Church!

PART I: OUR VISION, BELIEFS & PURPOSE

I. OUR VISION

Vision is important, essential and empowering. It guards and guides, protects and directs, clarifies and unifies.

At Existence, God has given our church family an inspiring, compelling and prevailing vision. It is rooted in the Great Commission and out of the Great Commandment of Jesus to love God, love others and make disciples.

THE VISION OF EXISTENCE CHURCH IS TO BE AN:

- INCLUSIVE

As a church family, we desire to include the disconnected from all backgrounds and stages of life to EXPERIENCE AN INITIAL OR DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST. (John 3:16, Romans 10:14-15, 1 Timothy 2:3-6)

- MISSIONAL

As a church family, we desire to gather together from varying backgrounds and stages of life to EXPRESS THE LOVE OF GOD THROUGH SERVING OTHERS. (1 John 3:16-18, 1 Corinthians 13:13, John 13:35)

- COMMUNITY

As a church family, we desire to gather together from all backgrounds and stages of life to ENGAGE IN LIFE GIVING RELATIONSHIPS WHERE WE GROW WITH GOD AND OTHERS. (Mark 12:28-31, 1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12)

II. OUR BELIEFS

OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

In essential beliefs – we have _____ (Ephesians 4:4-6)

In nonessential beliefs – we have _____ (Romans 14:1,4,12,22)

In all our beliefs – we show _____ (1 Corinthians 13:2)

ABOUT GOD

There is only one living God who exists in three distinct persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God is not only knowable, but also personal. He is not only our creator, but our sustainer. The term Trinity has come to identify the relationship between the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, expressing their individual uniqueness, while affirming equality. The Bible makes it clear: the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God. (Genesis 1, Deuteronomy 6:4; Genesis 1-2; John 17, Luke 3:21-22, Matthew 28:19-20, Luke 15; Romans 8:15; Matthew 6:9-15)

ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is coequal with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Jesus was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died on the cross and rose from the dead three days later. By doing this, Jesus demonstrated His power over sin and death and His validity as the Son of God. He will one day return to fully bring His Kingdom to this Earth. (Matthew 1:22, 23, Isaiah 9:6, John 1:1-5; 3:16, 14:10-30, Hebrews 4:14-15, 1 Corinthians 15, Romans 1:3-5, Acts 1:9-11, 1 Timothy 6:14-15)

ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God. He convicts the world of sin, draws people toward Christ, cultivates godly character, gives spiritual gifts and provides needed comfort in all seasons of life. As Christians, we seek to live under His control daily. (John 14:15-21; Acts 1:8; Galatians 5:22-23; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, 2 Corinthians 3:17, Ephesians 1:13)

ABOUT THE BIBLE

The Old and New Testament are inspired by God and are God's revelation of Himself to man. Divine inspiration extends equally and fully to all 66 books of the Bible. The Scriptures are without error and completely trustworthy. It is the supreme standard for conduct and reveals the way of salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord. Scripture is used to teach us, direct us and empower us to understand who God is and what it means to have a relationship with Him. (Deuteronomy 4:1-2, Psalm 19:7-10, John 5:39, Romans 15:4; 2 Timothy 3:15-17, Hebrews 1:1-2; 4:12, 2 Peter 1:19-21)

ABOUT SALVATION

From birth, man is separated from a relationship with God because of sin. As a result, there is nothing man can do to earn salvation. Only by trusting in what Jesus Christ has done on the cross can man enter into a relationship with God. Salvation is not based on what man can do to get to God, but rather what God has done to get to man. Salvation is by grace alone, and achieved through faith in Jesus. (Romans 3:22-24, 6:23-24, 10, Ephesians 2:8-9, John 3:16, Titus 3:5, Galatians 3:26)

ABOUT THE CHURCH

The church is the body of Christ in the world. It is not a building or a denomination, but rather a group of called out people who have put their faith in Jesus Christ. The church exists for the primary purpose of bringing glory to God. (Ephesians 5, Romans 8, 1 Corinthians 12:13, 1 Peter 2:5, 2 Corinthians 11:2)

III. PURPOSE

*“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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”
Matthew 28:19-20*

We believe God is an on purpose God. He created the local church on purpose with a purpose. We believe our purpose at Existence is to fulfill each aspect of the Great Commission:

1. _____ - Share the Gospel with others
2. _____ - Help believers grow in their faith and correct behaviors that don't line up with the teachings of Scripture
3. _____ - Teach believers what they need to know to live a fruitful Christian life, with an emphasis on the core spiritual disciplines outlined in the Bible
4. _____ - Help believers partner in an area that utilizes their spiritual gifts

1. EVANGELISM: _____ & _____

A. Weekend Services:

Our weekend services focus on:

- Showing grace
- Speaking truth
- Pointing people toward Christ

We believe it is every believer's responsibility to help point people to Christ. You can do that by:

- Making a decision to follow Christ.
- Building a personal relationship with Jesus.
- Sharing your personal story with others.
- Giving a personal invitation to your sphere of influence.

B. Missions:

In obedience to the Great Commission, we strive to reach out to others, both locally and abroad, with the Good News. Regardless of where you are in your faith journey, we believe that everyone can be involved in our missional efforts through:

- Praying for the mission
- Going on the journey
- Giving to the cause

2. ACCOUNTABILITY: _____

Small Groups at Existence Church are called Life Groups. Life Groups are where people are able to grow in their faith in a small group setting. It is a place where people can know others and be known by others, where they can pray and be prayed for, encourage and be encouraged.

- Why join a group?

Life is extremely difficult and draining. We were never meant to “do life” alone. We were designed to walk with each other, to grow with one another and to glorify God together. We are convinced at Existence that everyone needs the support and encouragement of other people. Everyone needs community.

“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.” Proverbs 27:17

While it can be easy to get lost or hide in a Sunday morning service, Life Groups facilitate an environment to actually be known with 812 people just like you. Through these relationships, we mutually challenge and encourage one another in our faith.

- What should you expect?

The great thing about Life Groups is that they are all different, but have the same goal and purpose. They exist to help people grow in their faith by facilitating an environment of encouragement, challenge, support and love. The format and atmosphere for each group will be different depending on the leader and the people in the group. Here are some things you can expect from Life Groups:

- Expect to Laugh - We like to have fun and enjoy life with one another.
- Expect to Grow - We want to help people take forward steps in their relationship with God.
- Expect to be Loved - We will not make you feel judged, criticized or stupid. We are all works in progress. We believe in taking slow steps together.

3. DISCIPLESHIP: _____ & _____

A. Existence Partnership Track

The Existence Partnership Track offers the information and experiences necessary to help you discover and develop your redemptive purpose. The Partnership Track is designed to lead you through a step-by-step process of growth and leadership through the following classes:

- Church 101 - This class is a basic introduction to the ministry of Existence Church and will help you understand church partnership. Church 101 is held on the first Sunday of every month
- Essentials 201 - This class develops the essential habits that every believer needs to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ. Essentials 201 is held on the second Sunday of every month.
- Discovery 301 - This class will help you discover your personality, gifts and purpose in life and see how God combines them for the best fit in ministry. Discovery 301 is held on the third Sunday of every month.
- Partnership 401 - This class will help you better understand the community, growth, fulfillment and expectations that come from partnering with your church family. It will also provide info about some of our available areas of partnership. Partnership 401 is held on the fourth Sunday of every month.

God's ultimate goal for your life is to glorify Him and enjoy Him forever. We believe that part of that process includes making a difference in the lives of others. The Partnership Track is complete when you join or start a ministry team.

B. One-On-One Discipleship

We are so thankful for the privilege and opportunity to help you follow Jesus. It is with this in mind that we offer the opportunity for people to be involved in a one-on-one, seven week long discipleship journey. Whether you are a new believer, a seasoned Christian or just checking things out, this is for you.

- What is a disciple?
In the New Testament, the word disciple is used over 200 times, while the word Christian is used only three times. Every person who has put their faith, hope and trust in Jesus is a disciple of Jesus. The word disciple is used to describe someone who has come to know, love and serve Jesus.

- It's all about relationships
- As we look at churches that have made the discipleship journey for others a priority, one thing is clear: There is no magic formula for making disciples. The process looks different in each church. Discipleship is based on a relationship, not a secret formula. Jesus chose His disciples and developed a close relationship with them. He taught them how to be His followers within a context of relationship.
- The journey & the discipleship guide
Why a one-on-one relationship? It's simple; we want you to spend a short amount of time in a safe, transparent relationship alongside someone with whom you can share your ideas, questions and heart. After you sign up to be discipled, we will contact you, pair you with one of our disciple makers and help you get started when our next round of discipleship begins. We offer the one-on-one discipleship journey at specific times as a church. If you would like to be a disciple maker at Existence, we ask that you first go through the discipleship journey.

The material that will guide you through your seven week, one-on-one relationship is the book *Kingdom Come: A Gospel Centered Guide to Discipleship*. In this book you will come to understand the story of the Kingdom of God and learn what it means to be a fully devoted follower of Jesus. You will be inspired, educated, encouraged and challenged to not just admire Jesus, but radically commit your life to seeing His Kingdom come in and through you.

4. MINISTRY: _____

All of us were created by God to make a difference in the life of another person. While we do life through school, jobs, relationships and our location, our platform and roles in life ARE NOT our purpose. These are merely vehicles by which we live out the true purpose God uniquely created us for. God has a place for you where your unique abilities and passions can touch the lives of others, not only in your everyday life, but also in and through our ministries at Existence Church. We believe that your life will never make sense until you find, develop and fulfill that purpose.

Here at Existence Church you are NEEDED and you will be KNOWN!

At Existence Church:

- Every partner is a _____.
- Every task is _____.
- Every partner brings _____ gifts and abilities that are vital to our church.

PART II: EXISTENCE CHURCH LEADERSHIP & FINANCES

“For God is not a God of disorder but of peace...Everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.” 1 Corinthians 14:33 & 40

Believers who invest their hearts, time, families and finances in the building of a local church deserve to have confidence in church leadership. People are looking for leaders who conduct themselves with integrity and respect when making decisions that affect their lives. Here is some information about the elder board that leads Existence.

ELDER BOARD VISION

Existence Church is led by an elder board that is committed to glorifying God, forwarding the vision and values of Existence and loving and leading the church family. The primary role of an elder board is to discern, shepherd and serve as the overall spiritual and organizational guardians of the church.

“Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.” Acts 20:28

ROLES & QUALIFICATIONS OF AN ELDER

The roles and qualifications for an elder include but are not limited to the following: Men who are leading their families well, consistently serving Jesus, growing in their knowledge of the Bible, praying for those who are sick, exemplifying the character trait of humility, settling disputes, solving problems, advancing the Kingdom and maintaining a good reputation both in and out of the church. (1 Timothy 3:17, Titus 1:59, and 1 Peter 5:17)

Current Elders: Jason Burns, Nick Bonner, Kyle Baker, Josh Hotsenpiller and Shawn Kennedy

ELDER COMMITMENTS

- Once a month elder meeting. In that meeting they discuss present and future goals, pray for the church family, review and make financial decisions and more. If you would like for us to pray for you, please contact Shawn Kennedy.
- Consistent weekly prayer. Elders pray on a regular basis for the present needs and future direction of Existence Church.
- Encourage leadership team. Elders reach out on a regular basis to affirm and encourage our leadership team. They are an invaluable source of wisdom and support.
- Various special needs or meetings. As they come up during the month or year, the elder board will meet to address specific needs or meetings.

CHURCH FINANCES

“A tithe of everything...belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord.” Leviticus 27:30

At Existence Church we practice tithing for the support of Christ’s Body, the church, as God commands. We recognize that giving ten percent of our income is the Biblical standard of giving. However, we know there are people God has gifted to give more and people who are in a place in life where they are just learning what it means to sacrificially give. We as a church family want to walk with you through this journey. We have an open door for you to ask any questions you may have. We also have a finance board that works in conjunction with our elder team and executive pastoral team to steward our church finances well. Additionally, we periodically offer finance courses to educate our partners on biblical principles regarding personal financial stewardship.

Many people love to give to God, but need to have confidence in the methods and purposes used by organizations to which they give. Therefore, there are a great number of people willing to give if they are able to see honesty, integrity and genuine spiritual values reflected in the lifestyles of their church leaders.

The giving of tithes and offerings is worship to Jesus Christ and is an expression of the relationship between the individual giver and the Lord. That is why we don’t have people fill out pledge cards or make faith promises. Funds are not “income only;” they are worship and must not be considered as a business transaction, but as an expression of gratitude toward God.

PART III: NEXT STEPS

“We hope that your faith will grow so that the boundaries of our work among you will be extended.” 2 Corinthians 10:15

NEXT STEPS

- Complete the Partnership Track.
- Become a partner of Existence Church by signing our partnership covenant (see Appendix 1).
- Join a Life Group.
- Serve in an area of ministry.

OUR HOPE FOR YOU

Today at Essentials 201, our hope is to help you learn and put into practice what we believe are five essential tenets of every follower of Jesus. It is through these tenets that we develop a deep relationship with Christ.

*“So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.”
Colossians 2:6-7*

Our tenets of partnership are rooted in what we believe to be biblical christianity.

UNDERSTANDING BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY

“And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.” Acts 11:26

Before followers of Jesus were called “Christians,” they were known as disciples. As disciples, we develop a deep relationship with Christ through:

- Praying
“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching ... and to prayer.” Acts 2:42
- Growing
“Like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation.” 1 Peter 2:2
- Sharing
“Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the Apostles.” Acts 2:43
- Gathering
“They devoted themselves to...fellowship.” Acts 2:42
- Giving
“They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.” Acts 2:45

I. PRAYING: TALK WITH GOD

Prayer is far more than a way people talk to God around a dinner table before they eat. Prayer is a powerful way that God's Kingdom is advanced here on earth as it is in heaven. A powerful, prevailing church is a praying church! (Matthew 21:13)

1. In my daily prayer time, I am:

- _____ devotion to God.

"(Hezekiah) was successful, because everything he did...he did in a spirit of complete devotion to his God." 2 Chronicles 31:21

- _____ direction from God.

"Show me the path where I should go, O Lord; point out the right road for me to walk. Lead me." Psalm 25:4

- _____ in my relationship with God.

"Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them." John 17:25-26

2. Use the model Jesus gave us:

"One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When He finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray.'" Luke 11:1

*"This, then, is how you should pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever."
Matthew 6:9-13*

- Connect with God relationally
"Our Father in heaven..."

- Worship His name
"Hallowed be your name."

- Pray His agenda first
"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

- Depend on Him for everything
“Give us today our daily bread.”
- Get your heart right with God and people.
“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.”
- Engage in spiritual warfare.
“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”
- Express faith in God’s ability.
“For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.”

II. GROWING: STUDY GOD’S WORD

We don’t want to be a church that is just limping along, barely surviving, content with the status quo. We want to be a church that is growing! That means seats being filled, more resources being available for ministry and more men and women showing up with passionate, full hearts. (Mark 4:30-32)

One of the best ways to make sure our church family is consistently growing is for our partners to stay in God’s Word. Studying the Bible provides reminders of God’s truth, love and promises and helps these things take root in our lives.

HOW DO I GET MORE FROM MY BIBLE?

1. I must _____ its authority.

We believe that the Holy Bible, and only the Bible, is the authoritative Word of God. It alone is the final authority in determining all doctrinal truths. In its original writing, it is inspired, infallible and inerrant.

- Receive God’s Word with an open heart.
“The earth is filled with your love, Lord; teach me your decrees” Psalm 119:64
- Respond to God’s Word with obedience.
“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” James 1:22

2. I must _____ its truths.

- Hearing God’s Word
“Faith comes from hearing the message.” Romans 10:17
- Reading God’s Word
“Happy is the one who reads this book ... and obeys what is written in it!” Revelation 1:3

- Studying God's Word
"They accepted the message eagerly and studied the Scriptures everyday." Acts 17:11
- Memorizing God's Word
"Guard my words as your most precious possession. Write them down, and also keep them deep within your heart." Proverbs 7:2-3
- Meditating on God's Word
"(Those) who are always meditating on His Laws ... are like trees along a river bank bearing fruit...they never wither and whatever they do prospers." Psalm 1:2-3

3. I must _____ its principles

"Now that you know these things you will be blessed if you do them." John 13:17

We suggest:

- Downloading the YouVersion bible app and utilizing the bible reading plans available there.
- Joining a small group to engage in bible study alongside others who are working through the same Scripture (see next section).
- Taking part in our one-on-one, seven week long discipleship journey. (See Church 101 curriculum for more information or ask your instructor.)

"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says." James 1:22

III: GATHERING: FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHER BELIEVERS

We were always meant to gather in community. When we gather together, we position our lives to experience God and be encouraged by others. Existence is a church where you are needed and desired to be known. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

God never intended for us to go through life alone. Throughout the Bible, we see the importance of being in community. In fact, authentic life change happens in the context of relationships.

At Existence Church, we believe our church must grow LARGER and SMALLER at the same time. We grow larger through extending our reach in the community and inviting our friends and families to attend. We grow smaller through maintaining close relationships, which occurs when each partner is part of a Life Group.

WHY ARE LIFE GROUPS IMPORTANT?

Life Groups provide opportunities for:

- _____ - I need people to strengthen and balance the Word of God in my life.
- _____ - I need people who really know me.
- _____ - I need people to pray for me personally.
- _____ - I need people who will protect me.
- _____ - I need people with whom I can share my story.

“So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.” John 13:34-35

HOW DO I GET CONNECTED WITH A SMALL GROUP?

- Find a group.
 - Contact our Community Coordinator, Samantha Yoboud (sam@existencechurch.com) or ask a friend to find a group. Then, contact the leader of that group.
 - Contact our Community Coordinator, Samantha Yoboud (sam@existencechurch.com) to inquire about starting your own life group.
- Commit for a season.
 - Most groups are open to new partners throughout the year.
- Experience life change.
 - You’ll never fully experience all that Existence Church has to offer until you connect in a life group! Life groups were vital to the first century church’s growth, and they are just as vital now.

IV: SHARING: LIVE A SPIRIT-LED LIFE

We live in a city where everyday men and women go to bed at night and wake up each morning actively doing life without God, and they will spend an eternity apart from God. God has allowed us to play a role in helping others come to know, love and serve Jesus. (Romans 1:16)

Perhaps the most effective way to impact others is by the way we live our lives. When we allow the Holy Spirit to lead us daily, people will notice, and we will ultimately be able to point them to our heavenly Father, who enables and strengthens us to do all things.

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

Ruwach – a wind, breath, a violent exhalation, blast of breath.

“Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.” Genesis 1:2

Pneuma – a current of air, blast of breath, a strong breeze.

“The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.” John 6:63

- The Holy Spirit is a person
“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever.” John 14:16
- The Third Person in the Trinity
“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.” John 14:26

THE HOLY SPIRIT’S ROLE IN OUR LIVES

“Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, ‘Which,’ He said, ‘you heard of from Me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.’” Acts 1:4-8

1. The Holy Spirit enables us to know God’s:

- Comfort
“And I will pray to the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever” John 14:16
- Conviction
“But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.” John 16:5-8

2. The Holy Spirit empowers us to live with Christ-like:

- Character
“For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.” 2 Corinthians 3:17-18

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.” Galatians 5:22-23

- Power

“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.” Acts 1:8

3. The Holy Spirit equips us with:

- Spiritual gifts

“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit...Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.” 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

- Spiritual direction

“In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below...And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” Acts 2:17-21

HOW DO I LIVE A SPIRIT-LED LIFE?

- _____ all barriers

“Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’” Acts 2:38

- _____ the gift of the Holy Spirit

“Now suppose one of your fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?” Luke 11:11-13

- _____ Him by faith

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10

- _____ to Him daily
"The amazing grace of the Master, Jesus Christ, the extravagant love of God, the intimate friendship of the Holy Spirit, be with all of you." 2 Corinthians 13:14
- _____ your spiritual gifts with confidence.
"Since you are eager for gifts of the Spirit, try to excel in those that build up the church." 1 Corinthians 14:12

GIVING: SACRIFICIALLY GIVE OF YOURSELF

Giving protects our hearts and guides our life toward Kingdom vision. It should be motivated out of gratitude instead of guilt and out of a sense of opportunity instead of obligation. When you give to Existence it goes to support our ministries, our efforts to reach others in San Diego and beyond with the good news of Jesus, our leadership team, our facilities and our support for new church plants and world missions. (Matthew 6:19-21)

AREAS OF GIVING:

- _____
"Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil." Ephesians 5:15-16
- _____
"If your gift is... giving, give generously." Romans 12:8

"You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things." Matthew 23:23

BENEFITS OF GIVING

- Giving draws us closer to God.
"Where your treasure is, there your heart is also." Matthew 6:21
- Giving is the remedy to materialism
"Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life." 1 Timothy 6:17-19
- Giving strengthens our faith

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase; So your barns will be filled with plenty.” Proverbs 3:5, 9-10

“Give, and it will be given to you...For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” Luke 6:38

- Giving is an investment in eternity
“Give happily to those in need, and always be ready to share whatever God has given you. By doing this, you will be storing up real treasure for yourselves in heaven it is the only safe investment for eternity.” 1 Timothy 6:18-19

BIBLICAL GENEROSITY IS:

- _____
“For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have.” 2 Corinthians 8:12

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion.” 2 Corinthians 9:7a
- _____
“For God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:7b
- _____
“They gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service.” 2 Corinthians 8:3-4
- _____
“Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.” 2 Corinthians 9:6

“They gave themselves first of all to the Lord.” 2 Corinthians 8:5

ESSENTIAL HABITS OF A HEALTHY BELIEVER

Personally and Corporately

“But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.” Psalm 33:11

“Now when David had served God’s purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep.” Acts 13:36

1. PRAY: Talk with God:

- Set aside daily prayer time.

2. GROW: Study God’s Word:

- Read the Bible and commit to meditating on, discussing and applying its principles.

3. GATHER: Fellowship with Other Believers:

- Attend weekly services and find a life group.

4. SHARE: Live a Spirit-led Life:

- Share your story and point others to God through your attitude, actions, words and spiritual gifts.

5. GIVE: Give Sacrificially of Yourself

- Partner in ministry.

OUR HOPE FOR YOU

Today at Discovery 301, our hope is that you take a step toward understanding how your uniquely designed personality coupled with the spiritual gifts God has given you help reveal a fulfilling path to your destiny. Proverbs 25:2 says it is God's privilege to conceal things and our privilege to discover them. Together, let's discover all that God has planned for our generation and make a positive difference for the Kingdom.

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." Ephesians 2:10

THE GOALS OF THIS CLASS:

- To discover how my design helps to reveal my destiny
- To discover the amazing purpose of my life

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father." John 14:12

DISCOVERING YOUR PERSONALITY:

Examining Four Personality Types

"D" - Dominance

"I" - Influence

"S" - Steadiness

"C" - Conscientiousness

"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Psalm 139:14

Elements that Help to Develop Your Personality:

- A. Family History
- B. Training
- C. Mentors
- D. Life Experiences

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" 2 Corinthians 5:17

*****Please see the Simple DISCOVERY Personality Assessment in Appendix 7, located at the back of this book. For instructions on how to complete the assessment, please see instructions in Appendix 6.**

DISCOVERING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

“Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant.” 1 Corinthians 12:1

SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE NOT:

1. _____
We all have natural abilities regardless of whether we observe the Christian faith. Many times the Lord will redeem our natural abilities and strengths to become spiritual gifts.
2. _____
We are all called to have character and our gifts should produce the nature of Jesus Christ in each person. A person should not say he has the “gift of peace” when we are all encouraged to develop that characteristic. Spiritual gifts offer opportunities for us to exemplify Christ.
3. _____
Spiritual gifts often lead to titles or positions but a person may have the gift without the role or the role without the gift. Regardless we should serve whenever we are given the opportunity. Working in the area of your gifting will allow you to be the person that God has called you to be rather than just doing good things.
4. _____
Spiritual gifts are endowments given by God to His people for accomplishing His purpose on the earth. Spiritual gifts are given for the glory of God.

“Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit...try to excel in those that build up the church.” 1 Corinthians 14:1, 12

HOW DO I RECEIVE SPIRITUAL GIFTS?

- A. Accept Jesus Christ as Lord of your life.
- B. Acquire faith and truth in the area of spiritual gifts.
- C. Apply yourself to learning about spiritual gifts.
- D. Ask for the Lord to give you spiritual gifts.

“Then Jesus said to the centurion, ‘Go! Let it be done just as you believed it would.’ And his servant was healed at that moment.” Matthew 8:13

*****Please see the Spiritual Gift Questionnaire in Appendix 7, located at the back of this book. For instructions on how to complete the assessment, please see instructions in Appendix 6.**

GIFT DEFINITIONS AND SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

The following contains definitions of the Spiritual gifts. While not meant to be dogmatic or final, these definitions and supporting scriptures do correspond to characteristics of the gifts as expressed in the Gifts Questionnaire.

The team list following the scripture references provides suggested teams with serving environments where the corresponding gifts can be most effective.

A. ADMINISTRATION

The gift of administration is the divine strength or ability to organize multiple tasks and groups of people to accomplish these tasks. Luke 14:28-30; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Corinthians 12:28
(Administration, Partnership Track, Offering, Kids Life, Setup/Teardown, Technical Production, Worship, Military Life, Event Staff, Finance)

B. APOSTLESHIP

The gift of apostleship is the divine strength or ability to pioneer new churches and ministries through planting, overseeing and training. Acts 15:22-35; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Galatians 2:7-10; Ephesians 4:11-14 (Partnership Track, Small Group Leadership, Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry, Kids Life, Discipleship, Couples Ministry)

C. CRAFTSMANSHIP

The gift of craftsmanship is the divine strength or ability to plan, build and work with your hands in construction environments to accomplish multiple ministry applications. Exodus 30:22, 31:3-11;
2 Chronicles 34:9-13; Acts 18:2-3 (Facilities, Kids Life, Art/Creative, Setup/Teardown, Technical Production, Missions/Outreach, Hospitality)

D. DISCERNMENT

The gift of discernment is the divine strength or ability to spiritually identify falsehood and to distinguish between right and wrong motives and situations. Matthew 16:21-23; Acts 5:1-11, 16:16-18; 1 Corinthians 12:10; 1 John 4:1-6 (Partnership Track, Prayer, Discipleship, Couples Ministry, Finance)

E. EVANGELISM

The gift of evangelism is the divine strength or ability to help non-Christians take the necessary steps to becoming a born again Christian. Acts 8:5-6, 8:26-40, 14:21, 21:8; Ephesians 4:11-14 (Missions/Outreach, Kids Life, Prayer, Small Group Leadership, Discipleship, Collide)

F. EXHORTATION

The gift of exhortation is the divine strength or ability to encourage others through the written or spoken word and Biblical truth. Acts 14:22; Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 4:13; Hebrews 10:24-25 (Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry, Missions/Outreach, Event Staff, Greet, Partnership Track, Kids Life, Kids Life Check In, Hospitality, Small Group Leadership, Coffee House, Couples Ministry)

G. FAITH

The gift of faith is the divine strength or ability to believe in God for unseen supernatural results in every arena of life. Acts 11:22-24; Romans 4:18-21; 1 Corinthians 12:9; Hebrews 11 (All Teams)

H. GIVING

The gift of giving is the divine strength or ability to produce wealth and to give by tithes and offerings for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God on earth. Mark 12:41-44; Romans 12:8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-7, 9:2-7 (Finance, Missions/Outreach)

I. HEALING

The gift of healing is the divine strength or ability to act as an intermediary in faith, prayer and by the laying on of hands for the healing of physical and mental illnesses. Acts 3:1-10, 9:32-35, 28:7-10; 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28 (Prayer, Hospitality)

J. HELPS

The gift of helps is the divine strength or ability to work in a supportive role for the accomplishment of tasks in Christian ministry. Mark 15:40-41; Acts 9:36; Romans 16:1-2; 1 Corinthians 12:28 (Administration, Offering, Missions/Outreach, Event Staff, Facilities, Worship, Coffee House, Greet, Kids Life Check In, Hospitality)

K. HOSPITALITY

The gift of hospitality is the divine strength or ability to create warm, welcoming environments for others in places such as your home, office or church. Acts 16:14-15; Romans 12:13, 16:23; Hebrews 13:1-2; 1 Peter 4:9 (Event Staff, Greet, Kids Life Check In, Partnership Track, Collide, Hospitality, Kids Life, Offering, Coffee House, Women's Ministry)

L. INTERCESSION

The gift of intercession is the divine strength or ability to stand in the gap in prayer for someone, something or someplace believing for profound results. Hebrews 7:25; Colossians 1:9-12, 4:12-13; James 5:14-16 (Prayer, Small Group Leadership, Elder Board)

M. KNOWLEDGE

The gift of knowledge is the divine strength or ability to bring clarity and to understand situations and circumstances often accompanied by a word from God. Acts 5:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:8; Colossians 2:2-3 (Missions/Outreach, Prayer, Finance, Hospitality)

N. LEADERSHIP

The gift of leadership is the divine strength or ability to influence people at their level while directing and focusing them on the big picture, vision or idea. Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 3:1-13, 5:17; Hebrews 13:17 (All Teams)

O. MERCY

The gift of mercy is the divine strength or ability to feel empathy and to care for those who are hurting in any way. Matthew 9:35-36; Mark 9:41; Romans 12:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:14 (Missions/Outreach, Small Group Leadership, Men's Ministry, Women's Ministry, Couples Ministry, Collide)

P. MIRACLES

The gift of miracles is the divine strength or ability to alter the natural outcomes of life in a supernatural way through prayer, faith and divine direction. Acts 9:36-42, 19:11-12, 20:7-12; Romans 15:18-19; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 28 (Missions/Outreach, Prayer)

Q. MISSIONARY

The gift of missions is the divine strength or ability to reach others outside of your culture and nationality; while in most cases living in that culture or nation. Acts 8:4, 13:2-3, 22:21; Romans 10:15 (Missions/Outreach, Small Group Leadership, Prayer, Discipleship, Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry, Greet, Kids Life Check In, Kids Life, Military Life)

R. MUSIC/WORSHIP

The gift of music/worship is the divine strength or ability to sing or play an instrument primarily for the purpose of helping others worship God. Deuteronomy 31:22; 1 Samuel 16:16; 1 Chronicles 16:41-42; 2 Chronicles 5:12-13, 34:12; Psalm 150 (Kids Life, Worship, Technical Production, Small Group Leadership, Event Staff, Collide)

S. PASTOR/SHEPHERD

The gift of pastor/shepherd is the divine strength or ability to care for the personal needs of others by nurturing and mending life issues. John 10:1-18; Ephesians 4:11-14; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; 1 Peter 5:1-3 (Partnership Track, Kids Life, Small Group Leadership, Elder Board, Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry, Couples Ministry, Collide)

T. PROPHECY

The gift of prophecy is the divine strength or ability to boldly speak and bring clarity to scriptural and doctrinal truth, in some cases foretelling God's plan. Acts 2:37-40, 7:51-53, 26:24-29; 1 Corinthians 14:1-4; 1 Thessalonians 1:5 (Prayer, Small Group Leadership)

U. SERVICE

The gift of serving is the divine strength or ability to do small or great tasks in working for the overall good of the body of Christ. Acts 6:1-7; Romans 12:7; Galatians 6:10; 1 Timothy 1:16-18; Titus 3:14 (Administration, Offering, Event Staff, Kids Life, Setup/Teardown, Coffee House, Hospitality, Military Life, Collide)

V. TEACHING

The gift of teaching is the divine strength or ability to study and learn from the Scriptures primarily to bring understanding and depth to other Christians. Acts 18:24-28, 20:20-21; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:11-14 (Small Group Leadership, Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry, Pastoral Internship, Collide)

W. TONGUES (and Interpretation)

The gift of tongues is the divine strength or ability to pray in a heavenly language to encourage your spirit and to commune with God. The gift of tongues is often accompanied by interpretation and should be used appropriately. Acts 2:1-13; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 14:1-14 (Prayer)

X. WISDOM

The gift of wisdom is the divine strength or ability to apply the truths of Scripture in a practical way, producing the fruitful outcome and character of Jesus Christ. Acts 6:3,10; 1 Corinthians 2:6-13, 12:8 (All Teams)

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

*“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.”
Hebrews 12:1-2*

- Investigate your feelings.
 - Your gift may tie in directly with your temperament and personality. The same God who gives spiritual gifts also made up our total being.
 - Know your potential strengths and weaknesses.

- Identify the opportunities.
 - Look for needs.
 - Based upon your gifting find out where you can be useful.
 - Do it.

- Inspect your results.
 - Your spiritual gift should work.
 - Gifted people get results. If you have the gift of healing, sick people will get well.

- Invent a small group or join a team.

What is my personality type and leadership style?

_____ (D, I, S, C) _____ (People or Task Oriented)

What are two primary spiritual gifts I have?

1. _____ 2. _____

In what two areas am I most experienced and/or interested?

1. _____ 2. _____

Based upon the answers above, with what team or small group do I need to connect?

OUR HOPE FOR YOU

Today at Partnership 401, our hope is to provide you with clear next steps to move you onto a team and into your purpose.

AS PARTNERS AT EXISTENCE CHURCH, WE ARE ALL CALLED TO:

1. _____ with new people - People matter to God, so they matter to us.

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others” Philippians 2:3-4

2. _____ relationships with my team - Real life change happens, real leaders are developed, when we take a step toward intentional relationships.

“And I am praying that you will put into action the generosity that comes from your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ. Your love has given me much joy and comfort, my brother, for your kindness has often refreshed the hearts of God’s people.” Philemon 1:6-7

3. _____ each other - We are a people of purpose, working together on purpose.

“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.” Philippians 1:3-5

4. _____ conflict biblically - We grow when we are honest with ourselves and others, exhibiting both grace and truth in our interactions.

“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Matthew 18:15-17

5. _____ the wins - There is nothing more powerful than a life changed by Christ.

“In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” Luke 15:10

TO BEGIN PARTNERING:

1. Contact the leader of the ministry with which you are interested in partnering.
2. Complete and sign the Partnership Application and Honor Code.
3. Complete a one-on-one interview with a team leader for your next steps.
4. Complete attendance of all Partnership Track classes and become a church partner if you have not already done so.

Existence Ministry Teams: Descriptions & Contact Info

Administration: The administration team utilizes their gifts of administration and organization to serve alongside church staff and Partnership Track leaders to seamlessly transition new people into serving.

Contact: Samantha Yoboud - Sam@ExistenceChurch.com

Art/Creative: Bring your creativity, artistic ability and brainstorming to this team to see our church transform for special events, message series and special occasion Sundays.

Contact: Weston Ring - j.weston.ring@gmail.com

Coffee House: Do you love the smell of freshly brewed grounds? Do you love to smile and serve joyfully? Do you enjoy watching as eyes light up when caffeine hits the brain? This ministry is for you! We have Sunday opportunities at both services as well as special events.

Contact: Becky Bond - brbbond@aol.com

Collide: Are you a young professional looking for Bible study or simply a group of like-minded believers in your stage of life to spend time laughing and growing together? If so, this ministry is for you!

Contact: Adam Dixon - collideatexistence@gmail.com

Couples Ministry: Are you a wife or a husband who loves to see healing, growth and reconciliation in marriages? Through small group leadership and annual couples events you will have the opportunity to walk alongside couples growing to know, love and serve Jesus.

Contact: Brian & Sarah Reiswig - brian.reiswig@gmail.com

Discipleship: We offer the opportunity for people to be involved in a one-on-one, seven week long discipleship journey. Whether you are a new believer, a seasoned Christian or just checking things out, this is for you.

Contact: Samantha Yoboud - sam@existencechurch.com

Elder Board: Existence Church is led by an elder board that is committed to glorifying God, forwarding the vision and values of Existence and loving and leading the church family. The primary role of an elder board is to discern, shepherd and serve as the overall spiritual and organizational guardians of the church.

Contact: Josh Hotsenpiller - jhexistence@gmail.com

Event Staff: Retreats, Easter, Christmas and special church-wide events are creatively planned and energetically hosted by this team, which places priority on the value of people and excellence in service.

Contact: Samantha Yoboud - sam@ExistenceChurch.com

Facilities: This team works diligently behind the scenes to maintain a spirit of excellence in every area of our church. Serving opportunities include baptism, weekly maintenance and special events

Contact: Pat Wynn - wynn.patrick@gmail.com

Finance: If you have a love for crunching data and stewarding finances this is the ministry for you.

Contact: Derek Tye - tye.derek@gmail.com

Greet: This team creates a welcoming first impression through charming visitors with a bright smile, engaging conversation and a heart for service. They also provide guidance for event sign-ups and opportunities to partner with Existence.

Contact: Samantha Yoboud - sam@ExistenceChurch.com

Hospitality: Do you love to serve those in need or care for the poor in spirit? Join this team to provide prayer, encouragement, meals and other needs to those in our church family, as well as those in our surrounding community.

Contact: Mikala JvR - mikalanicole@gmail.com

Kids Life: This team leads children into a real relationship with Jesus through Bible stories, worship, prayer, hands-on activities and personal interactions. (*There are team partners for all aspects so don't worry if you feel like you can't do one of these items!)

Contact: Krystal Thomson - Krystal@existencechurch.com

Kids Life Check In: This team welcomes families as they arrive at our Kids Life area and facilitates the check-in process that ensures children are cared for effectively and efficiently.

Contact: Krystal Thomson - Krystal@existencechurch.com

Men's Ministry: Are you a man with a desire to see the men of Existence church lead in their God-given gifts and talents? We pray for, plan for and create opportunities for men to lead at a high level. Through large group Man Up events, small group leadership and the Men's Retreat you will have an opportunity to walk alongside other men looking to step up and lead our church family.

Contact: Shawn Kennedy - skexistence@gmail.com

Military Life: Do you have a heart to love and serve those in the armed forces? With our location directly across from a military base, we have several service members in our church family, and we have a deep desire to love on them and those who serve with them. We gather together in prayer and community to love and serve those who so selflessly keep our country and community safe.

Contact: Rebekah Schmotter - rebekah.schmotter@gmail.com

Missions/Outreach: Reach others through international missions trips, local outreach and prayer. We believe in the spirit of givers and goers, and we welcome any and all hearts for this team!

Contact: Weston Ring - j.weston.ring@gmail.com

Offering: This team ushers our offering time during weekend services. We also encourage this team to be in prayer throughout the week for faithful givers.

Contact: AJ Rios - andrew.d.rios@gmail.com

Partnership Track: As the official hosts of our Partnership Track, this team greets guests as well as provides materials and assistance throughout our four classes.

Contact: Samantha Yoboud - sam@existencechurch.com

Pastoral Internship: Existence Church believes in encouraging pastoral leadership in our community. If you have a calling on your life for pastoral leadership here or in another community we would love to have you walk alongside us.

Contact: Shawn Kennedy - skexistence@gmail.com

Josh Hotsenpiller - jhexistence@gmail.com

Prayer: We need passionate people who love to spend time in sincere prayer for those in our church and in our community. If you enjoy lifting others up to the Lord in their time of need, we need you! We have opportunities on Sundays and throughout the week to be engaged in our prayer team.

Contact: Michelle Sanchez - msanchez@capincrouse.com

Real Life (Youth): Real Life is place for students of all backgrounds and struggles to feel the welcoming presence of Jesus. If you are passionate about youth and spreading the gospel, this is the place for you. From open houses, to discipleship and partnerships with CRU, Real Life inspires and provides a space for youth of all ages to come and grow.

Contact: Ryan Miller - ryan.miller@cru.org

Setup/Teardown: This team facilitates the Existence experience by setting up before service and taking down after service.

Contact: Samantha Yoboud - sam@existencechurch.com

Small Group Leadership: We believe that real life change takes place in the context of community relationships. As a small group leader, you have the greatest opportunity to connect with others, fulfill your passions, develop your gifts and live out our mission of being an inclusive, missional, community. We provide materials, training and guidance for anyone with the desire to lead a small group!

Contact: Samantha Yoboud - sam@existencechurch.com

Technical Production: Bring your creativity and tech savvy to this team that reaches people by delivering the Word and worship through camera, live stream, lighting and other visual elements. Don't worry if you are a tech newbie or just love the idea; we can walk alongside you to train you into geek status!

Contact: Pat Wynn - wynn.patrick@gmail.com

Women's Ministry: Are you a woman who loves to see women live in their chosen purpose? We pray for, plan for and create opportunities for the women of Existence Church to do just that. Through retreats, large group Bible studies, game and craft nights and a variety of other opportunities, we encourage our women to know, love and serve Jesus.

Contact: Krystle Brown - existencewomen@gmail.com

Worship: Bring your musical excellence through voice or instrument to this team to serve Jesus on Sundays, at large group meetings and various other special events. We have opportunities for all levels, from serving as a tech assistant to leading Sunday services.

Contact: Weston Ring - j.weston.ring@gmail.com

APPENDIX: 1: EXISTENCE CHURCH PARTNERSHIP COVENANT

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and being in agreement with the values and ideas presented in the Church 101 class, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the Existence Church family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other partners to do the following:

- **PARTNER TOGETHER THROUGH PRAYER**

Prayer is far more than a way people talk to God around a dinner table before they eat. Prayer is a powerful way that God's Kingdom is advanced here on earth as it is in heaven. A powerful, prevailing church is a praying church! By partnering at Existence you are committing to praying! (Matthew 21:13)

- **PARTNER TOGETHER THROUGH SHARING**

We live in a city where everyday men and women go to bed at night and wake up each morning actively doing life without God, and they will spend an eternity apart from God. God has allowed us to play a role in helping others come to know, love and serve Jesus. By partnering at Existence you are committing to sharing! (Romans 1:16)

- **PARTNER TOGETHER THROUGH GATHERING**

We were always meant to gather in community. When we gather together, we position our lives to experience God and be encouraged by others. Existence is a church where you are needed and desired to be known. By partnering at Existence you are committing to gathering! (Hebrews 10:24-25)

- **PARTNER TOGETHER THROUGH GROWING**

We don't want to be a church that is just limping along, barely surviving, content with the status quo. We want to be a church that is growing! That means seats being filled, more resources being available for ministry, and more men and women showing up with passionate, full hearts. By partnering at Existence you are committing to growing! (Mark 4:30-32)

- **PARTNER TOGETHER THROUGH GIVING**

Giving protects our hearts and guides our life toward Kingdom vision. It should be motivated out of gratitude instead of guilt and out of a sense of opportunity instead of obligation. When you give to Existence it goes to support our ministries, our efforts to reach others in San Diego and beyond with the good news of Jesus, our leadership team, our facilities and our support for new

church plants and world missions. By partnering at Existence you are committing to giving!
(Matthew 6:19-21)

NAME: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

APPENDIX 2: EXISTENCE CHURCH STATEMENT OF FAITH

HOLY BIBLE

The Holy Bible, and only the Bible, is the authoritative Word of God. It alone is the final authority in determining all doctrinal truths. In its original writing, it is inspired, infallible and inerrant (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Proverbs 30:5; Romans 16:25-26).

TRINITY

There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. These three are coequal and co-eternal (1 John 5:7; Genesis 1:26; Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19; Luke 1:35; Isaiah 9:6; Hebrews 3:7-11).

JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ is God the Son, the second person of the Trinity. On earth, Jesus was 100% God and 100% man. He is the only man ever to have lived a sinless life. He was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, performed miracles, died on the cross for mankind and thus, atoned for our sins through the shedding of His blood. He rose from the dead on the third day according to the Scriptures, ascended to the right hand of the Father and will return again in power and glory. (John 1:1,14, 20:28; 1 Timothy 3:16; Isaiah 9:6; Philippians 2:5-6; 1 Timothy 2:5).

VIRGIN BIRTH

Jesus Christ was conceived by God the Father, through the Holy Spirit (the third person of the Trinity) in the virgin Mary's womb; therefore, He is the Son of God (Matthew 1:18, 25; Luke 1:35; Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:27-35).

REDEMPTION

Man was created good and upright, but by voluntary transgression he fell; his only hope of redemption is in Jesus Christ, the Son of God (Gen. 1:26-31, 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-21).

REGENERATION

For anyone to know God, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential (John 6:44, 65; Matthew 19:28; Titus 3:5).

SALVATION

We are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ; His death, burial and resurrection.

Salvation is a gift from God, not a result of our good works or of any human efforts (Ephesians 2:8-9; Galatians 2:16, 3:8; Titus 3:5; Romans 10:9-10; Acts 16:31; Hebrews 9:22).

REPENTANCE

Repentance is the commitment to turn away from sin in every area of our lives and to follow Christ, which allows us to receive His redemption and to be regenerated by the Holy Spirit. Thus, through repentance we receive forgiveness of sins and appropriate salvation (Acts 2:21, 3:19; 1 John 1:9).

SANCTIFICATION

Sanctification is the ongoing process of yielding to God's Word and His Spirit in order to complete the development of Christ's character in us. It is through the present ministry of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God that the Christian is enabled to live a godly life (1 Thessalonians 4:3, 5:23; 2 Corinthians 3:18, 6:14-18, 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3, Romans 8:29, 12:1-2, Hebrews 2:11).

JESUS' BLOOD

The Blood that Jesus Christ shed on the Cross of Calvary was sinless and is 100% sufficient to cleanse mankind of all sin. Jesus allowed Himself to be punished for both our sinfulness and our sins, enabling all those who believe to be free from the penalty of sin, which is death (1 John 1:7; Revelation 1:5, 5:9; Colossians 1:20; Romans 3:10-12, 23, 5:9; John 1:29).

JESUS CHRIST INDWELLS ALL BELIEVERS

Christians are people who have invited the Lord Jesus Christ to come and live inside them by His Holy Spirit. They relinquish the authority of their lives over to him, thus making Jesus the Lord of their life, as well as Savior. They put their trust in what Jesus accomplished for them when He died, was buried and rose again from the dead (John 1:12; John 14:17, 23; John 15:4; Romans 8:11; Revelations 3:20).

BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Given at Pentecost, it is the promise of the Father, sent by Jesus after His Ascension, to empower the Church to preach the Gospel throughout the whole earth (Joel 2:28-29; Matthew 3:11; Mark 16:17; Acts 1:5, 2:1-4, 17, 38-39, 8:14-17, 10:38, 44-47, 11:15-17, 19:1-6).

THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is manifested through a variety of spiritual gifts to build and sanctify the church, demonstrate the validity of the resurrection and confirm the power of the Gospel. The Bible's list of these gifts are not necessarily exhaustive, and the gifts may occur in various combinations. All believers are commanded to earnestly desire the manifestation of the gifts in their lives. These gifts always operate in harmony with the Scriptures and should never be used in violation of Biblical parameters. (Hebrews 2:4; Romans 1:11, 12:4-8; Ephesians 4:16; 1 Timothy 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:6-7; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31, 14:1-40; 1 Peter 4:10).

THE CHURCH

The church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of Jesus' Great Commission. Every person who is born of the Spirit is an integral part of the church as a member of the body of believers. There is a spiritual unity of all believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 1:22, 2:19-22; Hebrews 12:23; John 17:11, 20-23).

TWO SACRAMENTS:

Water Baptism: Following faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the new convert is commanded by the Word of God to be baptized in water in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Acts 8:12, 3638; 10:4748). The Lord's Supper: A unique time of communion in the presence of God when the elements of bread and grape juice (the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ) are taken in remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross (Matthew 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 10:16, 11:23-25).

HEALING OF THE SICK

Healing of the sick is illustrated in the life and ministry of Jesus and included in the commission of Jesus to His disciples. It is given as a sign, which is to follow believers. It is also a part of Jesus' work on the Cross and one of the gifts of the Spirit. (Psalm 103:2-3; Isaiah 53:5; Matthew 8:16-17; Mark 16:17-18; Acts 8:6-7; James 5:14-16; 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28; Romans 11:29).

GOD'S WILL FOR PROVISION

It is the Father's will for believers to become whole, healthy and successful in all areas of life. But because of the fall, many may not receive the full benefits of God's will while on earth. That fact, though, should never prevent all believers from seeking the full benefits of Christ's provision in order to better serve others.

- Spiritual (John 3:3-11; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Romans 10:9-10).
- Mental and Emotional (2 Timothy 1:7, 2:11; Philippians 4:7-8; Romans 12:2; Isaiah 26:3).
- Physical (Isaiah 53:4,5; Matthew 8:17; 1 Peter 2:24).
- Financial (Joshua 1:8; Malachi 3:10-11; Luke 6:38; 2 Corinthians 9:6-10; Deuteronomy 28:1-14; Psalm 34:10, 84:11; Philippians 4:19).

RESURRECTION

Jesus Christ was physically resurrected from the dead in a glorified body three days after His death on the cross. In addition, both the saved and the lost will be resurrected; they that are saved to the resurrection of life and they that are lost to the resurrection of eternal damnation (Luke 24:16, 36, 39; John 2:19-21, 20:26-28, 21:4; Acts 24:15; 2 Corinthians 15:42, 44; Philippians 1:21-23, 3:21).

HEAVEN

Heaven is the eternal dwelling place for all believers in the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Matthew 5:3, 12, 20, 6:20, 19:21, 25:34; John 17:24; 2 Corinthians 5:1; Hebrews 11:16; 1 Peter 1:4).

HELL

After living one life on earth, the unbelievers will be judged by God and sent to Hell where they will be eternally tormented with the Devil and the Fallen Angels (Matthew 25:41; Mark 9:43-48; Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 14:9-11, 20:12-15, 21:8).

SECOND COMING

Jesus Christ will physically and visibly return to earth for the second time to establish His Kingdom. This will occur at a date undisclosed by the Scriptures (Matthew 24:30, 26:63-64; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8; Revelation 1:7)

APPENDIX 3: QUESTIONS ABOUT TITHING

- What is tithing?
 - “Tithe” means “a tenth part.”

- What is the difference between a tithe and an offering?
 - A “tithe” is giving the first tenth of my income.
 - An “offering” is anything I give in addition to my tithe.

- Why should I tithe?
 - Because God commands it.
“A tenth of all you produce is the Lord’s.” Leviticus 27:30
 - Because Jesus commended it.
“Yes, you should tithe, and you shouldn’t leave the more important things undone either.” Matthew 23:23
 - Tithing demonstrates that God has first place in your life.
“The purpose of tithing is to teach you to always put God in first place in your life.” Deuteronomy 14:23
 - Tithing reminds me that everything I have was given to me by God.
“Always remember that it is the Lord your God who gives you the ability to produce wealth.” Deuteronomy 8:18
 - God says that refusing to tithe is stealing from Him.
“God says ‘Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing me!’ But you ask, ‘How do we rob you?’ God says ‘In tithes and offerings ... Bring your whole tithe to My house.’” Malachi 3:8-10
 - Tithing gives God a chance to prove He exists and wants to bless you.
“Bring your whole tithe to My storehouse. Test me in this’ says the Lord, ‘and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you won’t have room enough for it!’” Malachi 3:10

- What should I tithe?
 - The tithe should come from the first part of what I earn.
“Honor the Lord by giving him the first part of all your income.” Proverbs 3:9-10

- Where should I give my tithe?
 - Where I worship.
“Bring your whole tithe to My Storehouse (Temple).” Malachi 3:10

- When should I tithe?
 - The tithe should be given weekly.
“On the first day of every week, set aside some of what you have earned and give it as an offering. The amount depends on how much the Lord has helped you earn.” 1 Corinthians 16:2 (LB)

APPENDIX 4: Existence Leadership Application

Date: ___/___/___

Please indicate where you would like to serve: _____

VITAL INFORMATION:

Name: _____ Birth Date: _____ Male
Female

Address: _____ Email:

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone:

Marital Status (circle one): Single Married Engaged Divorced Widowed

Spouse's name: _____

Children:

Name: _____ Age: _____ Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____ Name: _____ Age: _____

CHURCH HISTORY AND WHAT YOU BELIEVE

How long have you regularly attended Existence Church? _____

Which of the following Partnership Track courses have you completed?(Please check)

____ Church 101 ____ Essentials 201 ____ Discovery 301 ____ Partnership 401

Do you tithe regularly? ____ Yes ____ No

INFORMATION ON PREVIOUS CHURCH ATTENDED

Name of church: _____ City/State of church: _____

How long did you attend this church?: _____ Name of pastor: _____

Have you chosen to follow Jesus as your Lord and Savior? ___ Yes ___ No How Long?

Please check the statements that apply to you. I believe:

___ that Jesus is God and was born of a virgin.

___ that Jesus is God's Son and the only sacrifice for sin.

___ that Jesus rose bodily from the dead.

___ the Holy Bible is accurate and without fault.

Briefly explain why you would like to serve at Existence Church: _____

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Has anyone ever brought or threatened to bring a civil or criminal claim against you alleging physical or sexual abuse or sexual harassment? ___ Yes ___ No

Have you ever been charged, arrested or convicted of a felony or misdemeanor? ___ Yes ___ No

Have you ever terminated your employment or had your employment terminated or has your employer ever reprimanded you for reasons relating to allegations of physical or sexual abuse or sexual harassment by you? ___ Yes ___ No

Have you ever been reprimanded as a student for harassment of another individual or other inappropriate behavior with another individual? ___ Yes ___ No

Is there anything in your past or present that might create a question in the minds of others about whether you should be involved in a leadership role at Existence Church? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, please explain: _____

QUALIFICATIONS & LEADERSHIP COMMITMENT OF AN EXISTENCE LEADER

“The same goes for those who want to be servants in the church: serious, not deceitful, not too free with the bottle, not in it for what they can get out of it. They must be reverent before the mystery of the faith, not using their position to try to run things. Let them prove themselves first. If they show they can do it, take them on. No exceptions are to be made for women — same qualifications: serious, dependable, not sharp-tongued, not overfond of wine. Servants in the church are to be committed to their spouses, attentive to their own children and diligent in looking after their own affairs. Those who do this servant work will come to be highly respected, a real credit to this Jesus-faith.” 1 Timothy 3:8-13

1. Sincere, worthy of respect and of a good reputation.
2. Tithe regularly to Existence Church.
3. Have a genuine desire to serve and minister to other people.
4. Able to lead, motivate and teach other people.
5. Able to create positive group dynamics and resolve conflict within the group.

I believe that I meet the qualifications for serving, and I have read and agree to the following (please write your initials beside each statement):

_____ to become a partner of Existence Church.

_____ to fulfill the responsibilities outlined in the Partnership 401 training.

_____ to abide by the Leadership Honor Code as outlined above in 1 Timothy 3.

_____ to help fulfill the mission, vision and purpose of Existence Church.

_____ to embrace and teach Christian principles as stated in the Statement of Faith.

_____ to complete the Partnership Track in the next 4-6 weeks.

By signing below, I certify that the information contained in this application is complete, accurate and not misleading in any way. Should my application be accepted, I agree to submit to the policies and procedures of Existence Church partnership and to refrain from unscriptural conduct in the performance of my services on behalf of Existence Church.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: ____/____/____

APPENDIX 5: LEADERSHIP HONOR CODE

As an essential part of the leadership family at Existence, you have a responsibility to develop and exhibit mature Christian behavior. This should be the basic premise of your desire to participate in a servant-leader position here at Existence.

While serving the Body of Christ as a servant-leader at Existence, you pledge to present a good appearance at all times. In both attire and behavior, you should strive to demonstrate Biblical standards in all situations.

As Christians, the way we present ourselves to others is of vital importance to the way others perceive Christ. Our conduct should never be an embarrassment to Christ, but should exemplify the best qualities of a mature believer and servant-leader.

Exemplifying the highest moral commitment, Existence leaders are to maintain a life committed to growth in the areas of knowing, loving and serving Christ.

By providing an example in speech and action, we encourage others to grow in Christ and become servant-leaders themselves. This is a way of life measured by the heart and commitment of each leader at Existence. We should regard it as an essential part of our development, not as an imposition or restriction.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

APPENDIX 6: STEPS FOR DISCOVERY 301

How to take the simpleDISCOVERY Personality Assessment:

Step 1: Answer each question in boxes 1-4 honestly by circling the number that best describes you. Allow yourself 2 ½ minutes to complete this step.

Step 2: Add the total of circled numbers in box 1 and write the number on the total line. Do the same in box 2, 3, & 4.

Step 3: Identify the box with the highest totaled number and the second highest totaled number which will specify your dominant personality traits. Box 1= the “D” personality. Box 2= the “I” personality. Box 3= the “S” personality. Box 4= the “C” personality. Write your dominant personality traits sequence in the top right hand corner (DI, ID, SC, CD and so on).

Step 4: Read the description of your dominant personality trait (D, I, S, C) and the description of your two highest personality traits together (DI, ID, SC, CD and so on).

How to take the simpleGIFTS Assessment:

Step 1: Answer the Spiritual gifts questions honestly with the corresponding number

1 almost never – 2 seldom – 3 sometimes – 4 frequently – 5 almost always. Allow yourself six minutes to answer all questions.

Step 2: Add each line left to right and place the totaled number in the total column.

Step 3: Identify your highest totaled number with the corresponding letter and the spiritual gift it represents.

Step 4: Read about your gifts.