



Discovery at New Heights Chapel

Welcome! We're glad you've chosen to find out more about the local church meeting at New Heights Chapel. We have designed *Discovery* as a two-step process:

Step One: this document, which summarizes who we are, what we believe and how we function; what a personal relationship with Jesus Christ is; and what to expect during our services and church life.

Step Two: a brief class, combined with lunch after services on fifth Sundays in 2012. This class offers a Q&A opportunity, a time to meet some in leadership, ways to get involved and an explanation of our vision statement.

The last page of this document is a place to write a brief description of your spiritual journey or testimony; this helps the elders know how to pray for, strengthen and encourage you.

Membership?

The Christians in fellowship at the Chapel make up the membership...those who have:

- personally received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior
- undergone believers' baptism
- committed themselves to be actively involved in this local church

At the end of every *Discovery* lunch/class, we offer the opportunity to commit yourself to this church family as God leads. This helps the leadership know who considers this their church home, for pastoral care and "the equipping of the saints."

Discovery Overview

- I. Our Story: *who we are and where we came from*
- II. Our Salvation: *what Jesus Christ offers each person*
- III. Our Faith: *key doctrines we believe*
- IV. The Ordinances: *practices we observe*
- V. Our Structure: *our church government and how we function*
- VI. Our Strategy: *our mission statement and the Four L's*
- VII. Your Spiritual Journey



I. Our Story

In the mid-1950's, a handful of Christians in Murfreesboro began studying the Bible to learn more about Scripture, the Lord Jesus Christ and the early Church.

Eventually, this Bible study around a dining room table turned into public services at a laundromat. In 1959, a red-brick College Heights Chapel was built on Main St., near MTSU. Over the years, the congregation grew slowly, two additions to the building were built, and staff members were hired to assist the leadership with programming, teaching, youth, music and office work.

In 2008, with the building at maximum capacity every week, the facility was sold to MTSU and plans for a new building were made. In 2009, the new building was finished and a grateful congregation moved across town to continue the Lord's work.

We hold to the New Testament government of elders and deacons, supplementing that with assistance and ministry by staff members. Our services include the Lord's Supper each Sunday.

Our desire is to be a nondenominational church practicing New Testament principles and honoring the Lord Jesus Christ through our lives.

II. Our Salvation

What's The Problem?

People have a natural desire to manage their own lives and ignore God's principles for living. The Bible calls this attitude **sin**.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. Isaiah 53:6

Sin breaks our close relationship with God. It causes us to fear Him and to try to live our lives outside of His will.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23

When our relationship to God is not right, it causes problems in every area of our lives: marriage, career, relationships, finances, etc. Even if we know our deepest need is God, we often try wrong ways of getting to know Him, such as:

"My mother was a Christian so..."
"It doesn't matter what you believe, just be sincere."
"I'll give up all my bad habits."
"I'll be religious and go to church."

These are wrong because they don't enable us to meet God's standard of perfection and they don't pay the punishment our sin deserves. We can't earn our way to heaven, and God's judgment for our sin is eternal punishment in hell.

What's The Solution?

Jesus Christ said, "**I Am the Way**, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father, except **through me!**" (John 14:6). Because God loves us and wants us to know Him, He provided a payment for our sin – His Son, Jesus Christ, who never sinned, so He could die in our place and bear the judgment for sinners.

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

God has already done His part to restore our relationship to Him. He took the initiative. Now He waits for each of us to individually make a choice to rely upon what He has done for us.

What Does God Want Me to Do to Be Saved?

CONFESS your sin to God and ask Him to forgive you.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. I John 1:9

BELIEVE that Jesus died to pay for your sins and that He rose again on the first day of the week, and is alive today.

...if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9

ACCEPT God's gift of salvation. You cannot earn it. Our relationship to God is not restored by anything we do, but on the basis of what Jesus did for us.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. Ephesians 2:8-9

ACKNOWLEDGE Jesus Christ as Lord of your life.

You call me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. John 13:13

You can take these steps by praying a simple prayer of commitment to God. Prayer is a personal conversation with your Creator, but the words of the prayer won't save you. A prayer of salvation is an act of the will and a change of heart – a deliberate decision to rely on what Jesus has done, instead of what you can do.

Your prayer should be a simple one of confession and commitment and could be something like this:

"Dear Jesus, thank you for making me and loving me, even when I've ignored you and gone my own way. I realize I need You in my life and I'm sorry for my sins. I ask You to forgive me. Thank you for dying on the cross for me. Please help me to understand it more. As much as I know how, I want to follow You from now on. I choose to rely on Your death alone as all that is necessary to pay for my sins. Please come into my life and make me a new person inside. I accept your gift of salvation. Please help me to grow now as a Christian."

God hears the cry of a sincere heart, even if you don't have the "right" words.

"For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." Romans 10:13

III. Our Faith

A. The Inspiration of the Scriptures

The Bible is God's Word to us. It was written by human authors under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme and final source of truth and authority for Christian faith and conduct. Because it is inspired by God, it is the truth without any mixture of error.

II Timothy 3:16

B. The Trinity

God is Triune; that is, He has eternally existed as three Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God.

Genesis 1:1 Genesis 1:26-27 Matthew 3:16-17 Matthew 28:19

God the Father is the Ruler of the universe, Who involves Himself in the affairs of men, hears and answers prayer, and saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

Genesis 1:1 Exodus 3:6 John 3:16

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is co-equal and co-eternal with the Father. Jesus became a man, lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. He arose bodily from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory and will return again someday to earth to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Matthew 1:22, 23 Isaiah 9:6 John 1:1-5 John 14:10-30
Titus 2:13 Hebrews 4:14,15 1 Corinthians 15:3,4 Romans 1:3,4
Acts 1:9-11 I Timothy 6:14,15

The Holy Spirit is co-equal and co-eternal with the Father and the Son of God. He is present in the world to make people aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. He gives believers spiritual gifts when they are saved. As Christians, we seek to live under His control daily.

II Cor. 3:17 John 16:7-13 John 14:16,17 Acts 1:8
I Cor. 2:12, 3:16 Eph. 1:13, 5:18 Gal. 5:25

C. Salvation

Salvation is God's gift to us but we must accept it. In order to enter God's heaven we must be free of any sin. We can never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can anyone be saved from sin's penalty. When we confess our sins and rebellion against God, turn from our self-ruled life and pray to Jesus in faith, we are saved. Everlasting life begins the moment one trusts Jesus Christ as Savior by faith.

Romans 6:23

Ephesians 2:8,9

John 14:6

John 1:12

Titus 3:5

Galatians 3:26

Romans 5:1

John 3:16

D. Human Beings

People are made in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character. But when the first man, Adam, disobeyed God and sinned, his spirit died. Since Adam was the father of the human race, all his descendants are born "spiritually dead." Without a spiritual rebirth through faith in Christ, all people sin habitually in thought, word, and deed and so deserve death, the only payment for sin.

Genesis 1:27

Psalms 8:3-6

Isaiah 53:6a

Romans 3:23

Isaiah 59:1, 2

E. Eternity

People were created to exist forever. We will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or eternally with God through forgiveness and salvation. Those eternally separated from God will be doomed to Hell, while Christians will be eternally in union with Him in heaven. Heaven and Hell are real places of eternal existence.

John 3:16

John 14:17

Romans 6:23

Romans 8:17-18

Revelation 20:15

I Cor. 2:7-9

F. Satan

We believe that Satan is a real created being, a fallen angel, who tempted man to join him in rebelling against God. He is the open and declared enemy of God and man, and shall be eternally punished in the lake of fire.

Job 1:6-7

Isaiah 14:12-17

Ezekiel 28:12-19

Matthew 4:2-11

Matthew 25:41

Ephesians 6:11-12

James 4:4

I Peter 5:8

Revelation 20:10

Living Out Our Faith

Beliefs are not worth much unless they are translated into actions. We believe it is important to live out the Bible's teachings. :

G. The Bible Is Our Sole Authority

Since God's Word is the only completely reliable and truthful authority, we accept the Bible as our manual for living. Our first question when faced with a decision is "What does the Bible say?" We all should practice daily Bible reading, Bible study, and Bible memorization. The Bible is the basis for all we believe.

II Tim. 3:15

H. The Universal Church, the Local Church and Leadership

The universal church (in Christian creeds, the word "catholic" means "universal") is composed of all born-again persons regardless of geography and time. Our local church, New Heights Chapel, is a part of that church, as a group of believers in a given location. We recognize the value of associating and cooperating with other groups of Christians, but we believe a local church should be self-governing and independent from any denominational control.

While Christ is the recognized Head of our local church – not any person, group, or religious organization – we appoint as leaders from among our fellowship those who are qualified for the offices of elder and deacon. For more information on their qualifications and roles, please see p. 14.

I. The Priesthood of Believers

The Bible teaches that every Christian has direct access to God through prayer and Bible reading, without the need for a human priest to interpret or intercede. We practice the truth that every believer is a minister by encouraging every member to find a place of service and ministry. We also believe that every Christian is called to serve God "full-time," regardless of vocation.

I Pet. 2:9

J. Giving

At New Heights Chapel we practice giving for the mission of Christ's body, the Church, as God commands. We recognize that the Bible teaches "giving liberally and with a cheerful heart." We believe that giving is a privilege as well as a command.

II Cor. 9:7

Lev. 26:30

K. Eternal Security

Because God gives us eternal life through Jesus Christ, the Christian is secure in that salvation for eternity. If you have been saved, you cannot “lose” it. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian. As a result, we are free to live the life God designed for us, in full relationship with Him, without being consumed with maintaining our salvation.

When Christians sin after being saved, we have a loss of fellowship with God, not a loss of salvation. Fellowship with God is restored when we repent by confessing and forsaking sin.

John 10:29

2 Timothy 1:12

Hebrews 7:25

Hebrews 10:10, 14

1 Peter 1:3-5

Romans 13:13-14

1 John 1:5-10

L. Spirit-led Living

We believe the only possible way to live the Christian life is by God’s power within us. So we seek to practice a daily dependence on God’s Spirit to enable us to do what is right.

John 14:26

M. Spiritual Gifts

We believe that God desires to give every Christian at least one gift. These gifts are listed in Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12 and Ephesians 4 to confirm the message of salvation (Hebrews 2:3-4); as a sign to the Jews (1 Corinthians 1:22; 14:22); and to edify (1 Corinthians 14:12, 26) and perfect (Ephesians 4:12) the church. We believe sign gifts like prophecy, tongues, and healing were given to the early church to establish the credibility of its message. Each believer should desire and seek gifts from the Holy Spirit to develop and to equip the Body of Christ (Romans 12:1-8; Ephesians 4:7-12; 1 Corinthians 14:1).

N. Telling Others About Christ

We are to be witnesses of what God has done in our lives. For some, that means going to faraway places to share the Gospel; but all believers should obey the command to share the good news of salvation with their friends and neighbors. In addition, New Heights Chapel supports many missionaries and Christian workers.

Matthew 28:19-20

Matthew 5:16

O. Roles of Men and Women

Because the New Testament qualifications for elders and deacons refer to “husbands,” our leadership is made up of men who meet the scriptural standards for those offices. While women may not bear those titles, they are essential to the life of our church and serve and lead in many ministries.

One will notice that some women wear a head covering in worship services. Those with the conviction to do so are following the teaching of I Corinthians 11. It is recognized that there are several interpretations regarding this passage of Scripture and believers are encouraged to study the Bible to determine their conviction regarding this teaching and practice.

P. The Future

We look forward to the personal, imminent coming of the Lord Jesus Christ to take His Church from the earth; and we believe He will subsequently return to the earth in power and glory to establish His permanent kingdom. We believe in the bodily resurrection of all people, the saved to everlasting life and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment.

John 14:1-3

Acts 1:11

Revelation 22:12

IV. Our Practices

We observe two key ordinances at New Heights Chapel (“ordinances” simply means “laws” or “commands”): Baptism and the Lord’s Supper (Communion).

A. Baptism

Why be baptized?

1. To follow the example set by Christ.
It came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Mark 1:9
2. Because Christ commanded it.
Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matt. 28:19
3. It demonstrates a person is a believer.
Then Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his household. And many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed and were baptized. Acts 18:8
4. It illustrates Christ’s burial and resurrection.
For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures. I Cor. 15:3-4
5. It illustrates new life as a Christian.
Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. Romans. 6:4

Baptism doesn’t make you a follower of Christ – it shows that you already believe. It is one of the first acts of obedience by a new Christian, but it doesn’t save you – only your faith in Christ does that. Baptism is like a wedding ring: an outward testimony of a heart commitment.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. Ephesians 2:8-9

Why Be Baptized By Immersion?

1. Because Jesus was baptized that way. *When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.* Matthew 3:16
2. Because every baptism in the Bible was by immersion. For example: *And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water...* Acts 8:38-39

Who Should Be Baptized?

Every person who has believed in Christ.

Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. Acts 2:41

At New Heights Chapel, we wait until children are old enough to believe and understand the true meaning of baptism before we baptize them. Every Christian should be baptized the way Jesus demonstrated, even though many of us were “confirmed” as children.

B. The Lord’s Supper (see I Corinthians 11:23-26)

The bread and cup of the Lord’s Supper are memorials or pictures of the body and blood of Christ. He was saying that His death would provide a way for a holy God to forgive sin. This is what we remember each time we celebrate the Lord’s Supper.

1. It is a reminder.
and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." (vs. 24)
2. It is a symbol.
In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." (vs. 25)
3. It is a statement of faith.
For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. (vs. 26)

Who Should Take The Lord's Supper?

The Lord's Supper is for those who are in fellowship with God – that is, they are trusting Christ as Savior and are not harboring unconfessed sin in their hearts. Preparing to take the Lord's Supper is important.

1. A Right Relationship with God

- a. Salvation – the purpose of the Lord's Supper is for us to remember the Lord Jesus Christ. The greatest "remembrance" is acknowledging Him as Lord and trusting Him as Savior. If someone has not yet trusted Christ, there is no better time to do so than before thanking Him for His dying on the cross.

Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation. II Cor. 6:2

- b. Self-Examination – if we are aware of some sin that we habitually do, we need to confess it, repent, ask God to forgive us, and purpose in the strength of the Holy Spirit to overcome that sin.

Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. I Cor. 11:27-28

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. I John 1:9

2. Right Relationships with Others – gathering around the Lord's Supper is a time of fellowship as well as worship. God desires that His people not have divisions among them, so making things right between Christians leads to freedom in worship.

Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.
Matt. 5:23-24

When and How Often Should We Observe The Lord's Supper?

Jesus never said when or how often believers should observe The Lord's Supper; He simply commanded that we do so. Following the example of the early church, we celebrate the Lord's Supper weekly.

Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread.... Acts 20:7

In all these - doctrines, actions for living out our faith, and the ordinances - we recognize that Christians may have varying interpretations and preferences regarding nonessentials, so we have three guiding principles:

We have unity.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. Eph. 4:4-6

We have liberty.

Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things.... Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand.... So then each of us shall give account of himself to God....Do you have faith? Have it to yourself before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves. Romans 14:1,4, 12, 22

We show charity (love).

And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. I Cor. 13:2

What About Children's Participation in Baptism and the Lord's Supper?

Jesus commanded His followers to acknowledge Him as Savior through baptism and to remember Him in the taking of bread and wine or juice. From the days of the early church through the twelfth century, children were baptized with their families and included in the practice of Communion. As the church became divided by theologies and practices, children were required to learn a catechism, to publicly profess their faith, and to satisfy those in spiritual authority before being baptized or participating in the Lord's Supper.

While this is still the case today, in many churches, including New Heights Chapel, it is left to the parents to determine when their young disciples should observe the ordinances. It is helpful to consider two terms when making this decision:

1. **Salvation.** Baptism and Communion are intended for and are open to all who trust in Jesus Christ alone for forgiveness of sin and eternal life. Both are times of reflection and celebration for the family of God. Where the Bible gives directives for the Lord's Supper, they are intended for believers.
2. **Self-examination.** While baptism is a one-time event, Communion is a repeated action. Those desiring to participate in Communion should first examine themselves and take part "in a worthy manner" – not self-righteously, but by confessing sin, accepting forgiveness and repairing relationships with others.

The Bible does not specify the age at which a child can be saved, baptized or participate in the Lord's Supper; there is no test or class to determine readiness. A young child may be aware of sin and his/her need for a Savior, be ready to be baptized as a sign of obedience, and then to take the Supper with regular guidance from parents. An older child may be better able to appreciate the significance of the Lord's Supper and understand what a privilege it is to participate, while telling others about his/her decision to follow Christ by being baptized. Parents should also consider whether the child's heart is set on following Christ or is simply obeying the rules of good behavior.

Prayer, talks between parents and child about participation, a conversation with an elder, a Sunday School lesson, a baptism class – all of these can help guide a family and it is wise for parents to seek the insights of church leaders regarding readiness.

When Christ established the ordinances, he chose actions that are meaningful for adults and yet are simple enough for children: being immersed in water, eating and drinking. Children of all ages experience life through their senses and bodies, and they have a strong need to belong. Baptism is a way of their telling others they belong to Christ; the Lord's Supper is a reminder from their Lord that they belong to Him.

Parents have a wonderful privilege to observe their children in light of these opportunities and commands, and to encourage them to participate when the time is right.

V. Our Structure

From the very beginning, our local church has done its best to pattern its structure, government, ministries and various functions after the New Testament church. The nature of the church determines its structure.

- A. The Church is a fellowship, and the top priorities in a fellowship are harmony and unity. A good structure promotes unity and downplays differences.

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. Acts 2:42

...endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
Ephesians 4:3

Now in giving these instructions I do not praise you, since you come together not for the better but for the worse. For first of all, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you, and in part I believe it.
I Cor. 11:17-18

- B. The Church is a family, so we operate on the basis of relationships, not rules.

Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father, younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, younger as sisters, with all purity.
I Tim. 5:1-2

In matters of overt sin in the membership, the elders are responsible for following church discipline as mandated by Scripture. Any discipline is undertaken in love, with the goal of correcting error and restoring relationships.

Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. Gal. 6:1

- C. The Church is a body, not a business...an organism, not an organization. Therefore, we function on the basis of spiritual gifts, not elected offices. In an organization, the focus is maintenance. When the church functions as an organism, the focus is ministry. At New Heights, people are the ministers and many ministries are begun and continued by members.

For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith. Rom. 12:4-6

- D. The Church is a flock (Jesus' frequent description of the Church), so it is cared for and led by shepherds.

So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs." He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep." John 21:15-17

Therefore take heed to yourselves and to 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

Our congregation is not vote-driven; elders and deacons that meet the spiritual qualifications in I Timothy 3 and Acts 6 are recognized after they have accepted responsibility, shown a willingness to help others in various ways, and demonstrated a certain maturity. They do not serve terms of office, although for various reasons they may step down from their responsibilities.

At New Heights the **elders** serve as the spiritual overseers and shepherds of the flock. They guide the local church in areas such as spiritual concerns, what is preached, exhortation, teaching, finances, and personnel.

According to Acts 6, the major purpose of **deacons** is to help the elders, especially in the area of physical responsibilities, to allow the elders to do more of the spiritual work. At New Heights Chapel, deacons provide leadership for ministries, encourage and assist and serve as needed, and help communicate needs to the elders and congregation.

Teaching ministers are committed members who are gifted to teach and preach publicly. Though they do not necessarily serve as elders, they work with the elders in carrying the responsibility of the public preaching ministry.

The **staff** answers to the elders and works with the elders, deacons, and congregation in specific areas. They may assume public leadership roles because they possess unique gifts to help New Heights Chapel ministries function.

VI. Our Strategy

A. Mission Statement

New Heights Chapel's mission statement is **Changing Lives Through Jesus Christ**. This has a more than one meaning:

1. **Lives are permanently changed** when a person trusts Christ as Savior: salvation is secured; "the old has passed and the new has come." In theological terms, this is known as "justification." It happens once, instantly and is permanent.
2. **Lives are continuously changed** by Christ: old habits are replaced with new, heart and soul and mind become yielded to Him and produce different fruit. In theological terms, this is known as "sanctification." It is a lifelong process fueled by grace and our willingness to be changed.

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. II Peter 3:18

B. Discipleship Process: The Four L's

In order to carry out these goals, New Heights Chapel has adopted the following four methods and goals of our discipleship process. They are the essence of our ministries, services, relationships, services and provide a standard for evaluating everything we do.

1. **LEARNING**
Transformed minds as people are stirred by the study of God's Word
2. **LIVING**
Transformed character as people struggle well with life together
3. **LOVING**
Transformed relationships as people serve others
4. **LEADING**
Transformed influence as people share their faith with others

Our *Discovery* lunch/class provides an opportunity to discuss any of the items in this document, as well as cover our mission statement and discipleship process in more detail.



Your Spiritual Journey

This document is designed to tell you more about New Heights Chapel, and now we would ask you to return the favor!

We would like to know a little of your spiritual background – how you came to know Christ as Savior if you have, or what questions you may wrestle with about God or the church or following Jesus as Lord.

Please write and tell us about your spiritual journey. Please plan to share this with the elder who leads your *Discovery* class. It will be shared only among the elders as needed.