

# GO

Going out into the world to serve as a believer in Jesus Christ comes directly from Jesus' teachings. In Mark 9:35, Jesus said, *"If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all."*

In John 13, Jesus began washing his disciple's feet. In doing this, he gave the example to us of serving others. He said that even though he was their Lord, he still was called to be a servant.

When asked what the greatest commandment is, Jesus said that the Greatest is to *love God*, and the second is to *love your neighbor as yourself* (Matthew 22:34-40).

## Port Charlotte United Methodist Church

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### Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:30am to 4:00pm  
Friday 8:30am to 2:30pm

### **Sunday Morning Services**

8:00 am & 11:00 am — Traditional  
Worship

### **Sunday Evening Service**

6:00 pm — Church@6  
Contemporary Worship



# KNOW

## Salvation through Jesus

God wants a relationship with us. He loves us, but the sin in our lives separates us from Him because He's perfectly holy. Romans 6:23 explains that *"the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."* This means there's nothing we can do in our own power to pay for our sin. Without redemption, we live life disconnected from God. So God sent His Son Jesus to pay our debt through the only acceptable sacrifice: His shed blood on the cross. This is God's gift to us—a gift we don't deserve but can freely receive today.

# Today's the Day

We believe there is no greater moment in life than when you personally decide to follow Jesus. To receive His gift of forgiveness, you simply need to ask for it. Why not do this right now?

Tell God you know you have sinned.

Tell Him you no longer want to live a life separated from Him.

Believe that Jesus paid your sin debt in full.

Accept the grace (forgiveness) He's shown you.

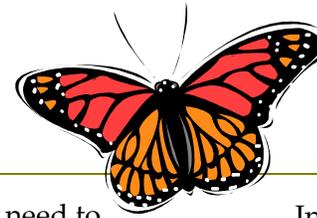
## Now What?

When you make the decision to accept Christ as your Savior, your life changes. Colossians 1:14 tells us that we receive forgiven of all our sins—regardless of how overwhelming they may seem.

Romans 8:1 provides assurance that "there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." Your slate is wiped clean. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "...anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!" Your future is transformed. We still have all of life's challenges, but we have God's assurance of eternal life. John 5:24 explains that you will spend eternity in heaven with God and your new family of believers.

**Our Purpose, Vision, and Mission:** KNOW (Christ) - our daily purpose is to introduce people to Jesus Christ as Savior; GROW (to love Christ) - our ongoing vision is to have everyone in our body actively growing in their relationship with Christ; GO (to serve Christ) - our unwavering mission is to send people out to serve Christ.

# GROW



If this were a religion, you would need to begin to learn the rules, rituals, and requirements. There are things that people who have a relationship with Christ decide to make a part of their life, but the things we do are a reflection of how we feel about the relationship, not the relationship itself.

When you asked Jesus into your life, you did not join a religion. You began a *relationship* - With God – through Jesus!

So, how do you GROW in that relationship?

## Ways To Grow

### 1. **Scripture**

Reading, studying and meditating on God's Word daily. I Peter 2:2 tells us to, "Long for the pure milk of God's word, so that by means of it, you may grow."

### 2. **Prayer**

Communicating with God. Just like any personal relationship, we cannot get to know one another or build a healthy relationship without healthy communication. The same applies to our relationship with God.

In Psalm 62:8, David urges us to "pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge."

Conversing with God, communing with him at the deepest levels of our soul and listening to his voice are non-negotiable elements of spiritual growth.

### 3. **Accountability**

Accountability enables us to share our lives with one another in a deep, introspective way. This helps us to get to know ourselves and others in a deeper manner. Even though most of our relationships in life tend to be casual and superficial, we need deep connections with accountability partners to help us to move forward in our life with Christ. Philippians 2:4 says, "not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

If you have questions, please contact our pastor through the Church Office: 625-4356.